Clarke Forum for Contemporary Issues

Spring 2018
All events are free and open to the public
www.clarkeforum.org
717-245-1875

Monday, January 29, 2018 *
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
The Glover Memorial Lecture
Einstein, Black Holes and Gravitational Waves
Gabriela González, Louisiana State University
More than a billion years ago, the merger of two black holes produced gravitational waves that were observed traveling through Earth on September 14, 2015. González will explain how Einstein predicted the existence of gravitational waves more than one hundred years ago, and describe the latest exciting discoveries with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) detectors.

Monday, February 5, 2018
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
2018 MLK Jr. & Black History Month Symposium
Donald Trump, Race, and the Crisis of American Democracy
Christopher S. Parker, University of Washington, Seattle
The Democratic Party likes to make the argument that Trump can be defeated by wooing working-class whites. Parker argues that a classed-based strategy must be scrapped in favor of one that emphasizes race.

Thursday, February 8, 2018 *
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Food Access & Poverty
Alyssa Feher, Tapestry of Health
Becca Raley ’94 (moderator), Partnership for Better Health
Risa Waldoks ’12, The Food Trust
Robert Weed ’80, Project Share
Food security allows all people to have access to regular, culturally appropriate food sources to ensure a healthy existence. Increased reliance on national and state food assistance programs reflect rising poverty and food insecurity in our community. Panelists will discuss both the systemic nature of persistent poverty and food insecurity and innovations designed to address these root concerns.

Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Part of Love Your Body Week Programming
The Adiposity Project
Substantia Jones, founder & photographer, The Adiposity Project
Jones discusses (and displays) a decade of body politics activism promoting fat acceptance and physical autonomy by subverting that most commonly used tool of what she calls the angst industrial complex: photography.

Friday, February 16, 2018
Adams Hall, Basement Kitchen, 4:30 p.m.
Part of Love Your Body Week Programming
I’m Smiling Because I’m Uncomfortable
Emma Howard, performer and writer
Why do we eat? Why do we stop eating? This one woman show is an autobiographical story traveling from early childhood experiences of queerness and lessons on body image, to a college eating disorder, to the present challenges of eating and living in a human body.

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 *
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
The Strange Career of the Jim Crow North:
A Dickinson Story?
Komozi Woodard ’71, Sarah Lawrence College
In the 1960s, the Congress of African Students at Dickinson College began the study of the Strange Career of the Jim Crow North with the early development of Africana Studies and the Black Arts Movement. This is the story of those Dickinson roots.

Monday, February 26, 2018 *
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
A Conversation with President Margee Ensign and Global Entrepreneur Martin Burt
Martin Burt, Fundación Paraguaya
Margee Ensign, Dickinson College
Ensign and Burt will discuss what it means to be a social entrepreneur; ways to envision a life in the areas of social innovation, advocacy, and social change; and the possibilities of entrepreneurship as a mechanism for reducing poverty.

Wednesday, March 7, 2018 ♦
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
The 1001 Black Men Online Sketchbook and the Art of Social Justice
Ajuan Mance, Mills College
Mance created 1001 Black Men: An Online Sketchbook as a reaction against the controlling images that have limited and defined media representations of Black men. Mance will use a slideshow of images from her series as the basis of a wide ranging discussion of art, Black maleness and gender performance, and representation.

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 ♦
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
An Evening with Yoko Tawada
Yoko Tawada, award-winning writer
Known internationally for her novels, poems and essays in German and Japanese, author Yoko Tawada creates worlds in which foreigners, outsiders and animals, always aware of their strangeness, navigate and read their surroundings with wonder and minuteness. Tawada will collaborate with Bettina Brandt (Pennsylvania State University) in a multilingual performance which includes German and Japanese as well as English translations.

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 *
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Seeing = Believing?
Eitan Grinspun, Columbia University
Steven Malcic, Dickinson College
Tabitha Peck, Davidson College
Gregory Steirer (moderator), Dickinson College
Where is computer-generated imaging and sound technology, including virtual reality, going next? Our panel of experts will discuss new developments in these technologies and what they mean for the politics of media production and consumption.
Reece Jones, University of Hawaii

Over 40,000 people died trying to cross a border in the past decade around the world. Jones argues these deaths are part of a long history of states using movement restrictions to protect privileges and to contain the poor.

Nicole Guidotti-Hernández, University of Texas at Austin

This lecture charts out the histories of how we went from using Mexican American and Puerto Rican to Chicano and Nuyorican and then to the latest iterations, Latina/o and now Latinx. While millennials are leading the charge with the Latinx conversation, Guidotti-Hernández argues their boomer intellectual forerunners are often outright resistant to the use of Latina/o let alone Latinx, indicating the futurist potential and political necessity of the term.

Jacob Udo-Udo Jacob, Dickinson College

Religious identity, Jacob argues, has far greater normative influence on extremist recruitment and radicalization than religious beliefs and other appeals, but it has rarely been accounted for in counter-narrative campaigns and deradicalization programs in the West African Sahel region.

Friday, April 27, 2018
Althouse Hall, Room 106, 4:30 p.m.

The Good Fight: America’s Ongoing Struggle for Justice

Rick Smolan, National Geographic Photographer

Smolan will share images and stories from his new book The Good Fight. The book captures the sporadically violent, often triumphant, always risky struggles of Americans who have experienced hatred, oppression or bigotry because of their gender, skin color, country of origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability or beliefs over the past 100 years.

For directions, more information about our events, and to access interviews and past lectures, visit www.clarkeforum.org.

The Clarke Forum’s Leadership in an Age of Uncertainty Series

The Clarke Forum established a series of programmatic events dedicated to the theme of leadership in an age of uncertainty. This initiative is grounded on the reality that today’s generation of Dickinson students confronts a large number of intractable political, economic, and social problems. How Dickinsonians respond to these challenges presents us with an opportunity for reflection on the meaning of leadership in the contemporary world. This series is partially supported by a fund created by Betty R. ’58 and Dan Churchill.

* Denotes a program that is part of the series

2018 Spring Semester Theme
Citizen/Refugee

Citizenship indicates a legally constituted set of rights, privileges, and duties afforded to people born in or naturalized by a nation-state. To claim one’s citizenship is to express a sense of belonging within a polity; to seek citizen status is to aspire to such belonging. Refugees are historical subjects who, displaced by war, persecution, economic crisis, or natural disaster, are compelled to seek citizenship anew. The precariousness of their political status often calls into question definitions of citizenship and the professed ideals of nation-states.

This seminar will explore the categories of citizen and refugee from several disciplinary perspectives, examining how these categories have been constructed amid specific historical, political, economic, cultural, and environmental dynamics. How do the conditions of global capital bear on values and practices of citizenship? How have cultural producers, academics, policy-makers, and activists envisioned citizens, immigrants, and displaced persons—whether in contrast or complement to their legal definitions? What are our obligations, as “citizens” of an institution of higher learning, to contribute to critical understandings of the lived experiences of citizens and displaced communities? Questions of citizenship status are always pressing, yet this seminar could not be timelier, prompted as it is by current global crises, national debates about immigration, and local events.

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