Spring 2011 Schedule

All events are free and open to the public

Wednesday, February 2 - Morgan Lecture
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

“Fracking” Our Food: A New Threat to Sustainable Farming
Sandra Steingraber, world renowned ecologist, author and cancer survivor

In this lecture, Steingraber will explore the tangled relationship between petrochemicals and farming, with a special focus on how the extraction of natural gas from shale bedrock threatens the ecological conditions of our food system. A reception and book signing will follow.

Tuesday, February 8
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

People Power in the Middle East: Challenges for U.S. Policy
Faculty Panel Discussion
The wave of Arab protests sweeping through Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan and Yemen caught American policymakers by surprise, posing the dilemma of choosing between apparently reliable autocratic allies and democratic principles.

Thursday, February 10
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

Untying the Knot
Tamara Metz, assistant professor, political science and humanities, Reed College

As the issue of same-sex marriage wends its way to the Supreme Court, Metz claims that state control of marriage conflicts with basic liberal principles and threatens families. Drawing a parallel to religion, Metz argues that marriage should be disestablished and that the state should use other means for supporting intimate caregiving.

Wednesday, February 16
The Depot, 7:00 p.m.

Sexual Empowerment: A World Without Rape
Jaclyn Friedman, writer, performer, and activist

Based on her hit book Yes Means Yes: Visions of Female Sexual Power and a World without Rape, Friedman explains how the culture shames women for expressing their sexuality, how the media uses empty images of female sexuality to fuel sales, and how rape is allowed to function in society.

Thursday February 17
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

Mexico, Drugs and Crime
David T. Johnson, former assistant secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs

For the last decade, Mexico and its border regions, has suffered high murder rates and a breakdown in public safety driven by a surge in drug-fueled organized crime. The “Merida Initiative,” first crafted in 2008, was an attempt by the U.S. to help its neighbor, but the violence today continues unabated. Johnson, the senior U.S. government official responsible for this “initiative” from its inception until January 2011, will address how it was crafted, what it has delivered, and the prospects for bringing down Mexico’s high rates of murder and violence.

Tuesday, February 22
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

Obama: The Way Forward
Stuart Rothenberg, editor and publisher of The Rothenberg Political Report

What’s next for Obama, Democrats and the GOP? Rothenberg will look back to the midterm elections and ahead to the 112th Congress and the 2012 presidential race.

Thursday, February 24
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

A Minskian Explanation of the Economic Crisis
L. Randall Wray, professor of economics, University of Missouri–Kansas City

Relying upon the theories and assumptions of Hyman Minsky, Wray will explore and expound upon the factors that contributed to the current economic and financial crisis.

Tuesday, March 1
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.

Maryellen Borges Memorial Lecture, a joint venture with St. John’s Episcopal Church
The Cultural Impact of the Book of Revelation
Elaine Pagels, Harrington Spear Paine Foundation Professor of Religion, Princeton University

Pagels will address who wrote the Book of Revelation, why it was written, how it became a part of the Bible, and how it became influential in politics, art and culture over the last 2,000 years.

Thursday, March 3
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

Eating Your Way to Athletic Success
Heidi Skolnik, sports nutrition consultant to the New York Giants, New York Knicks, The Juilliard School and The School of American Ballet

Nutrient Timing for Peak Performance is a strategic approach in what, when, and how much to eat of selected foods to maximize athletic conditioning, training and performance. Learn some of the tools that athletes can use to reduce risk of injury, maximize muscle repair, maintain a healthy immune system and increase endurance.

Tuesday, March 8
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.

Feeding Dickinson
Panel Discussion
Panelists: Jennifer Halpin, director of the college’s
organic farm, Jay Myers of Feeser’s Inc., food distributor, Keith Martin, director of dining services, Ben Riggs ’86, Four Seasons Produce Distributors, Scott Wagner, John Gross Distributors and Andy Skelton professor of psychology will moderate. Each day, Dickinson College provides thousands of meals for students and employees. How does an institution feed so many people, with such a variety of tastes and needs? Where does all this food come from and how is its quality assured? Our panel will address these and related questions, offering a glimpse behind the scenes of how a residential college feeds its population.

Wednesday, March 9
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
Readings by Ellen McLaughlin
Ellen McLaughlin, playwright and actress
McLaughlin will read excerpts from several of her plays, including Infinity’s House, Iphigenia and Other Daughters, Helen, The Persians, Oedipus and Ajax in Iraq. She is most well known for having originated and developed the part of the Angel in Tony Kushner’s Angels in America, having appeared in every U.S. production from its earliest workshops through its Broadway run.

Tuesday, March 22
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
The Politics of Fat
Paul Campos, professor of law, University of Colorado Law School
America is in the grip of a moral panic about fat. The “obesity epidemic” is the “reefer madness” of our time, and the sooner we recognize this fact the sooner we will stop demonizing body diversity.

Wednesday, March 23
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
Autobiography of Illness/Biography of Cure
Mary Cappello ’82, award-winning author; Metzger-Conway Fellow
An illustrated reading that brings together writing about self in the form of “rituals in transfigured time” and writing about the other in the form of lyric biography. Cappello will discuss her entry into cancer treatment as a patient-writer and her new book on Chevalier Jackson, a Pennsylvania physician-artist, a pioneering laryngologist, and a foreign body specialist.

Thursday, March 24
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
The Art of Writing
Colson Whitehead, author of The Intuitionist, John Henry Days, Sag Harbor and other novels
Whitehead will provide micro-lectures on craft, style, and what we can all learn from the Donna Summer version of “MacArthur Park.”

Tuesday, March 29 *
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
Developing Entrepreneurial Graduates
Arlen Meyers ’68, professor of otolaryngology, dentistry and engineering, University of Colorado, Denver; and Metzger-Conway Fellow
Entrepreneurship is not only about creating new businesses. It is a facilitating mindset that should permeate all academic disciplines, not just those that have a technological basis. Meyers will discuss how colleges and universities looking for a competitive edge should place entrepreneurship at the center of their academic programs.

Tuesday, April 5
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
America’s Role and Image in the World
Speaker(s) to be announced
This event will explore how foreign countries and cultures perceive the role that the U.S. plays in the world in contrast to what role it should play.

Tuesday, April 12
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
Thought for Food
Marion Nestle, professor of nutrition, food studies, and public health, New York University
Agricultural sustainability is intimately linked to public health because agricultural production methods not only affect food availability, but also food product development, food distribution systems, climate change, as well as the health of farm animals, communities and individuals.

Saturday, April 16
Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
David Blight Lecture, sponsored by the House Divided Project
David Blight, professor of history, Yale University
Blight will provide a keynote address for the opening of the Civil War 150th anniversary and the House Divided Project launch weekend. Renowned author of Race and Reunion: The American Civil War in American Memory (2001), Blight will explore the meaning of the conflict on its 150th anniversary. A book signing will follow.

Wednesday, April 20 *
Stern Center, Great Room, 7:00 p.m.
Leading Greatly: Why a Liberal Arts Education Matters
Michael Shenkman ’68, founder and president, Arch of Leadership; and Metzger-Conway Fellow

Carlos Ball, professor of law, Rutgers School of Law
This lecture will reflect on the legal and political debates over same-sex marriage and on what they say about us as a nation and the future of civil rights in America.