

Life Long Learning Winter-Spring 2011

Free Lecture Series All programs 7:00 p.m. 130 Noble Hall or as noted

Co-sponsored by the Office of the President and the Professional Associates of FLC.

Dionysus Does Durango: The Lessons of Euripides' *Bakkhai* by Katherine Burgess

Thursday, January 27, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

Can you imagine Durango without Snowdown, its beloved Bacchanalia? According to Euripides, in ancient times King Pentheus of Thebes did away with the Theban celebration of the god Dionysus with disastrous consequences. What can we learn from his experience? Burgess teaches the humanities, literature, and philosophy at Southwest Colorado Community College. A self-professed late bloomer, she pursued and completed a doctorate in philosophy in 2006 at age 59.

The Physics of Musical Instruments by Daniel E. Farmer

Thursday, February 03, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

A non-mathematical presentation for the non-scientist about the nature of sound, pitch, tone color, and the ways musical instruments produce them all. Farmer is a retired attorney turned Native American-style flute builder with a life-long interest in science and music.

A Conversation with Esther Belin by Connie Jacobs

Thursday, February 10, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

Esther Belin won rave reviews for her first book, *From the Belly of my Beauty*, (1999). Since then Belin continues to be an important voice in American Indian literature. She is a graduate of Berkeley, IAIA, and Antioch University and currently teaches in the Fort Lewis Writing Program. Connie Jacobs, professor emerita from San Juan College, has known Belin for 15 years and will interview the poet in an informal setting about her work. Belin will conclude with a reading.

Death and Politics: How mortality reminders may change how we vote by Brian Burke

Thursday, February 17, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

Terror management theory was developed more than 20 years ago to help explain the ubiquitous need for meaning and self-esteem. Burke, an associate professor of psychology at Fort Lewis, will highlight recent research and several experiments that have shown how death awareness impacts our politics – without our conscious awareness. In 2004-5, Burke won the FLC New Faculty Teaching Award and is the 2010-11 Featured Scholar.

Experiences of an Amateur Archaeologist by Jill Patton

Thursday, February 24, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

A volunteer on archaeological digs around the world, Patton will discuss her experiences in Russia, France, and Northern Ireland, as well as Colorado and Texas. Born in Australia, Patton was educated in her home country, studied in Japan, and earned a doctorate in industrial engineering from Arizona State University. Her life-long interest in archaeology and anthropology may be obvious in the title of her dissertation: *A Numerical Taxonomy of Kinship Systems*.

Globalization or Fragmentation? Yes! by Ronald D. Garst

Thursday, March 03, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

As communication and transportation improve, links between countries are increasing and improving standards of living. At the same time, many people are rejecting globalization and returning to their ethnic roots. Garst will examine these simultaneous and diametrically opposed developments. Holding a doctoral degree from Michigan State University, Garst has had a long college-level teaching career and is provost emeritus of the National Defense Intelligence College in Washington, D.C.

SPRING BREAK

Percussion: An Orchestral Perspective by *Jonathan Latta*

Thursday, March 17, 7:00 pm, Roshong Recital Hall (Jones Hall)

One of the key ingredients of an enjoyable symphonic concert may well come from the percussion section. Among the drums, gongs, bells and whistles, what's really back there? Latta is assistant professor of music at Fort Lewis College. Prior to completing his doctorate at the University of Arizona, he performed with the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West and orchestras from California to North Carolina. A dynamic percussionist and inspiring teacher, Latta will demonstrate the many voices that emanate, often with considerable surprise, from the back of the stage.

Climate Change: Where we are now, and where we're going by *James White*

Thursday, March 24, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

Professor Jim White is the director of the Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research at the University of Colorado at Boulder where he also teaches geological sciences and environmental studies. He will review the basic science behind the Earth's climate system, how humans are impacting it, and put the current climate situation into the context of natural variability. White earned his doctorate at Columbia University in 1983, and today his research primarily focuses on the loss of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through land plants.

Impact of Islamic Achievements on Western Civilization by *Dennis Aronson*

Thursday, March 31, 7:00 pm, Roshong Recital Hall

During its golden age, Islamic civilization made advances in the arts and sciences that contributed to the Renaissance in the West. The presentation will focus on contributions in several areas including astronomy, art, literature, medicine, architecture, language, and music. Aronson lived and worked in Muslim countries for eight years. He and his late wife served as Peace Corps volunteers in Afghanistan in the mid-60s. He earned a master's degree at American University/Beirut and a doctorate at Florida State University. Before retiring, Aronson was senior instructional designer for the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Thriving in the Rapids of Change by *Charly Heavenrich*

Thursday, April 7, 7:00 pm, 130 Noble Hall

Author, photographer, and Grand Canyon River Guide, Heavenrich will share inspiring stories of ordinary people who have had extraordinary experiences in the Grand Canyon. In addition, Heavenrich will give strategies for managing life transitions rather than being managed by them. This will include why many people tend to resist change, what needs to happen to overcome resistance, and a model that outlines stages of transition brought about by change. A graduate of the University of Michigan with an MBA, Heavenrich jumped into a second career when most people would look ahead to retirement.

Submitted by Judith Reynolds and Rich Hoehlein, LLL volunteer organizers.

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For the last 10 years, the Life-Long Learning Lecture Series has offered free presentations on a wide variety of subjects. Co-sponsored by the Office of the President and the Professional Associates of Fort Lewis College, the series aims to enrich the intellectual life of the college and the community. Thursday evening programs begin at 7:00 p.m.