

RIVIER COLLEGE HUMANITIES LECTURE SERIES (FALL 1999 TO SPRING 2006)

Martin Menke, Ph.D.*

Associate Professor, Department of History, Law & Political Science, Rivier College

Humanities Lecture Series 1999-2000

September 28, 1999, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Colonial New Hampshire: Why Does New Hampshire Exist?”

Professor Jere Daniell, Dartmouth College

October 25, 1999, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“The Films of Woody Allen: A Philosophical Approach”

Professor Sander Lee, Keene State College

December 1, 1999, 7:00 pm

“An Introduction to Dante Alighieri”

Ms. Christiana Fordyce, Boston College

February 1, 2000, 7:00 pm

“The U.S. Supreme Court: How Does It Operate?”

Professor Richard Hesse, Franklin-Pierce Law Center

February 15, 2000, 7:00 pm

“Anglo-American Relations at the Beginning of the Cold War”

Michael Paul, Boston College

Humanities Lecture Series 2000-2001

Spring 2001

"Il etait une fois. . . (Once upon a time. . .)"

Julien Olivier, a French folklorist

Spring 2001

Jim Moor, a philosopher

March 25, 2001

"A Taste of the Old Country in the New"

Robert Perrault

Mr. Perrault gave a slide lecture on the francophone migration to Manchester and Nashua and talked about remaining traces of francophone Nashua.

Humanities Lecture Series 2001-2002

October 16, 2001, 7:00pm, Dion Center Board Room

“The Classical as Image: Unearthing the ‘Spearbearer’ of Polykleitos”

Norm Thurston, Daniel Webster College

Professor Thurston of Daniel Webster College used a discussion of a particular statue stemming from antiquity to give an introduction to the ideals of the classical world.

January 29, 2002, 7:00pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Dracula and other Terrors”

Raymond McNally, Boston College

Professor McNally of Boston College discussed the life and myth of Vlad the Impaler, Frankenstein, and other mythical terrors.

February 19, 2002, 7:00pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Computer Ethics”

Richard Spinello, Boston College

Professor Spinello of Boston College gave an introduction to current issues relating to computer ethics, business ethics, and issues of privacy.

March 14, 2002, 7:00pm, Dion Center Board Room

“The Science Wars and Sociobiology”

Val Dusek, University of New Hampshire

Professor Dusek of the University of New Hampshire gave an introduction to current issues in the philosophy of science, particularly to the topic of sociobiology.

Humanities Lecture Series 2002-2003

October 2, 2002, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Might and Right: An Ancient Chinese View of Power, Ceremony and Tradition”

Brother Andrew Thornton, Saint Anselm College

Brother Andrew offered thoughts on the relationship between ideas and power in ancient China.

October 17, 2002, 7:00pm, Dion Center Board Room

"Not Just a Poor Little Rich Girl: Edith Wharton's Contributions to American Fiction"

Melissa Pennell, University of Massachusetts at Lowell

Dr. Pennell is an officer in the Edith Wharton Society. She offered remarks on the importance of Edith Wharton.

Humanities Lecture Series 2002-2003 (*continued*)

Spring 2003

“Ethical Implications of Human Cloning and Stem Cell Research”

Timm Triplett, University of New Hampshire

Dr. Triplett is associate professor of philosophy at the University of New Hampshire, Durham. He specializes in epistemology. He has published on relativism and is currently preparing a book on the philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars. He presented his research at national and international conferences.

Spring 2003

“Global Transformation and the Thinking of Peter Drucker”

Al Jacobbe

Mr. Jacobbe has taught philosophy, history, and other humanities courses at Rivier College, Daniel Webster College, Boston College, and other institutions. He has also served as a consultant to a number of state and federal agencies, as well as to institutions of higher learning. Mr. Jacobbe has traveled extensively in the Mediterranean region and has taught in Tel-Aviv and Haifa.

Spring 2003

“John Muir and the Roots of Modern Environmentalism”

Mark C. Long, Keene State College

Dr. Mark C. Long joined the faculty at Keene State College in the Fall of 1998 and currently serves as assistant professor of English and American studies. He has published widely on the subject of environmental literature. He is a referee for the journal *Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture*, and serves as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the journal *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*.

Humanities Lecture Series 2003-2004

September 23, 2003, 7:00 pm

“Academic Cheating: Who Gets Cheated?”

Bernard Gert, Dartmouth College

Bernard Gert received his Ph.D. from Cornell University. He is the Stone Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy at Dartmouth College.

October 15, 2003, 7:00 pm

“Shakespeare’s Wonderfully Gifted Sisters”

Nona Fienberg, Keene State College

Nona Fienberg received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. She is Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities and Professor of English at Keene State College.

Humanities Lecture Series 2003-2004 (*continued*)

November 11, 2003, 7:00 pm

“Andre Malraux... The 21st Century Will Be Religious or Will Not Be”

Brian Thompson, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Brian Thompson received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He is Professor of French at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

January 22, 2004, noon

“The Liberal Arts Foundation of the Thought of Peter Drucker”

Albert G. Jacobbe, Daniel Webster College

Albert Jacobbe received his Master's from Marquette University. He is a senior lecturer at Daniel Webster College. He has taught at many institutions of higher education, including Rivier College. He also has worked for a number of state and federal agencies.

February 3, 2004, 7:00 pm

“Charismatic and Transformative Leadership: Alexander and Augustus”

Norman Thurston, Daniel Webster College

Norman Thurston received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He is Professor of Social Sciences and Humanities at Daniel Webster College.

April 7, 2004, 7:00 pm

“Denise Levertov”

Emily Archer, Independent Scholar

Emily Archer received her Ph.D. from Georgia State University. She is an independent scholar, freelance writer, teacher, and workshop leader, who enjoys the interrelationship of art, literature, and religion.

Humanities Lecture Series 2004-2005

September 23, 2004, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Reception Room

“Life as an Artist”

Elliott Fisk, Classical Guitarist

Elliott Fisk is an accomplished guitarist with strong views about the role of the arts in contemporary America. He frequently performs with the Nashua Symphony Orchestra. He gave a brief performance and offered insights into the life of today's American artists.

October 5, 2004, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Mary Shelley and the Lives of Frankenstein”

William Stroup, Keene State College

William Stroup is a professor of literature at Keene State College. He discussed *Frankenstein* and its early nineteenth-century author in its literary-historical context.

Humanities Lecture Series 2004-2005 (*continued*)

October 28, 2004, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Reception Room

“The Utility of Science”

Rose-Mary Sargent, Merrimack College

Rose-Mary Sargent is a philosophy professor at Merrimack College. She discussed the various ways in which the social, political, moral and economic consequences of science have been used historically (as well as currently) to justify the pursuit of science.

November 15, 2004, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Scattered Leaves: Personal Stories of the Greek Civil War”

Niki Karavasilis, Independent Scholar

She talked about her book on the experiences of Greek villagers during the Greek Civil War, the spark that ignited the Cold War.

February 7, 2005, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Catholic Priests in Hitler’s Germany”

Kevin Spicer, C.S.C., Stonehill College

Kevin Spicer is a history professor at Stonehill College. He addressed the challenges facing German Catholics, and priests in particular, during the Nazi years. His research shows a wide range of responses to national socialism, from resistance to enthusiastic cooperation.

April 25, 2005, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm, Dion Center Reception Room

Cryptography Through the Ages: A Layman's View

Bryan Higgs, Ph.D., Rivier College

Dr. Bryan Higgs is Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Rivier College, and teaches a number of courses, including Database Systems, Web Development, and Programming in Java, C++, and Perl. He has recently developed a course in Computer Security, and in that course has implemented a number of Java programs to illustrate the concepts of Cryptography and some of the underlying mathematical principles behind modern cryptography, plus discussions of a number of other security areas, including viruses, worms, and browser security. Slides are available at

<http://www.rivier.edu/departments/mathcs/Resources/LectureSeries/CryptographyThroughTheAges.ppt>.

Professor Higgs recently developed a course on Computer Security, and became fascinated by the rich and colorful history of the science and art of cryptography – the creation and transfer of secret messages. This was surprising, because he never considered himself either a historian, or even a student of history. What appealed to him was the diversity of the subject: how many significant historical events were impacted by cryptography, and the amazing number of interesting people who were influential in this history. You might be surprised at the number of these people you are already familiar with from your own knowledge of history, or from other disciplines. The history of cryptography starts in ancient Egypt, progresses through Greek and Roman wars, European city and nation states, Mary Queen of Scots, two world wars, the establishment of the National Security Agency, and the cold war. It culminates in Quantum Cryptography, which is based on the Quantum Theory and the theoretical possibility of Quantum Computers, and promises theoretically unbreakable ciphers. The focus of this presentation was on the historical events, and the people involved, including their motivations, and the consequences of their actions; no knowledge of computers or mathematics was presumed.

Humanities Lecture Series 2005-2006

October 27, 2005, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Ethics and Property”

Rev. Michael McFarland, SJ, President of the College of the Holy Cross

In addition to serving as president of the College of the Holy Cross, Father McFarland also is an accomplished computer scientist, Father McFarland has published articles in the Proceedings of the IEEE (the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers), the IEEE Transactions on Computers, the IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems, Formal Methods for System Design, the Journal of Systems and Software, Computer, and Technology and Society. He was an associate editor of the IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems for three years and has been on numerous program committees for conferences such as the Design Automation Conference, the International Conference on Computer Design, the International Conference on Computer-Aided Design and the High-Level Synthesis Workshop.

November 2, 2005, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Reception Room

“U.S.-French Relations”

François Gauthier, Consul General of France

The newly arrived Consul General discussed the current state of Franco-American relations and other related topics.

April 11, 2006, 7:00 pm, Dion Center Board Room

“Robert Frost’s New Hampshire”

David H. Watters, University of New Hampshire

David Watters, Ph.D., Brown University, serves as the James Hayes and Claire Short Hayes Chair in the Humanities at the University of New Hampshire. He has published extensively on American literature and culture.

Spring 2006

“The Media and U.S. Politics”

Harry Wessel, Merrimack College

Harry Wessel, Ph.D., SUNY-Buffalo, serves as associate professor of political science at Merrimack College. Recent research and publications include a study of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, studies of corporate takeovers, and the public impact of minor league baseball teams.

* **Dr. MARTIN MENKE** is Associate Professor of History and Director of Secondary Social Studies Education at Rivier College. His primary research interest is in twentieth-century German political Catholicism. He holds a B.A. from Tufts University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Boston College. He has published a number of encyclopedia articles, online chapters for a hybrid US History textbook. His most recent publication is the article "Thy Will Be Done: German Catholics and National Identity in the Twentieth Century" in the spring 2005 edition of *The Catholic Historical Review*.