



Christ College SYMPOSIUM

Christ College Symposium gathers honors college sophomores, juniors, and seniors and welcomes members of the wider University and local communities to join in convivial discussion on a different thought-provoking topic each week.

CHRIST COLLEGE
THE HONORS COLLEGE

Fall 2007

Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm ♦ Christ College Refectory
Mueller Hall, Valparaiso University

August 30 **40th Anniversary Celebration of Christ College—The Dean's Address**

Mel Piehl '68, Dean of Christ College

• In the decanal address to Christ College students and faculty Dean Mel Piehl will welcome the community and preview CC's celebration of its 40th anniversary during the 2007-'08 academic year. A reception will follow.

September 6 **Religion and Politics: The Western Apostasy**

Francis C. Oakley, President Emeritus, Williams College

• Francis C. Oakley is the President Emeritus of Williams College and President Emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies. A leading scholar of Western religion and politics, he is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College (Oxford University), and Senior Fellow at the Oakley Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences at Williams. He is the author of six books on medieval and early modern intellectual and religious history, including *Kingship: The Politics of Enchantment* (2006), *Natural Law, Laws of Nature, Natural Rights* (2005), and *Politics and Eternity* (1999). His book *Community of Learning* (1992) is widely regarded as a classic study of the American liberal arts college. This Symposium is offered in conjunction with the year-long Valparaiso University faculty seminar *Liberal Education in the Twenty-First Century*, part of the Christ College 40th anniversary observance.

September 13 **Making Martyrs:**

Thoughts on the Radical Reformation, Memory, and Identity after 9/11

Julia Kasdorf, Poet, The Pennsylvania State University

• Julia Spicher Kasdorf has published two collections of poetry with the University of Pittsburgh Press, *Eve's Striptease* and *Sleeping Preacher*, as well as a collection of essays, *The Body and the Book: Writing from a Mennonite Life*, and a biography, *Fixing Tradition: Joseph W. Yoder, Amish American*. Most recently, she co-edited an anthology, *Broken Land: Poems of Brooklyn*. Currently, she is working on a collection of essays about sacrifice and forgiveness as viewed through the lenses of Anabaptist and Mennonite history and culture, motherhood, and post 9/11 experience. Kasdorf directs the MFA program in creative writing at The Pennsylvania State University. Her campus appearance is co-sponsored by the Department of English.

September 20 **A Filmmaker Speaks: The Making of Flourish**

Kevin Palys '00, Independent Filmmaker

• Following his graduation from Valparaiso University as a Christ College Scholar in 2000, Kevin Palys earned an MA in the Social Sciences at the University of Chicago, and studied at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts in Los Angeles. His first professional film, *Flourish*, debuted at the Cinequest Film Festival in 2006 and is available worldwide on DVD. The movie, which Palys both wrote and directed, features Jennifer Morrison and Jesse Spencer, leading actors on Fox TV's award-winning medical drama *House*. Palys will discuss the making of *Flourish* and other film projects, and how his Valpo and CC education have served his craft.

September 27 **The Lilly Fellows in Humanities and the Arts**

John Steven Paul '73, Director, Lilly Fellows Program

• Valparaiso University is home to the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts, a national postdoctoral teaching fellowship program for teacher-scholars who expect to make their careers at church-related colleges and universities. Three new Fellows have joined the faculty for 2007-'09: Matthew Lundin (history), Justin Poché (history), and Bryan Stewart (theology). The new Fellows join second-year Fellows Stephanie Johnson (English) and James Skillen (natural resource policy). LFP Director John Steven Paul will introduce the Fellows, who will speak briefly about their scholarly work, the courses they plan to offer in their departments and at Christ College, and their experiences as Lilly Fellows. A reception will follow.

(continued on reverse side)

October 4 ***Faith and Work, Love and Life***

Homecoming Symposium – A 40th Anniversary Christ College Alumni Panel

• In this popular annual Homecoming event a panel of Christ College alumni will discuss life after Valparaiso University, with particular emphasis on the ways in which their Valpo education and experience in Christ College shaped essential aspects of their spiritual lives, careers, and personal relationships. This year's special Symposium will mark the 40th anniversary of Christ College with speakers reflecting on CC life in each of the College's four decades. Panelists are David Paul Schreiber '77, Lead Pastor, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Indianapolis; Jane Knetzger '84, Director of Development for History, Bedford/St. Martin's Press, Boston; Philip C. Spahn '92, Attorney, Sidley Austin LLP, Chicago; and Vanessa Burrows '01, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Washington, D.C.

October 18 ***Christ College Student Scholarship Symposium (Session I)***

• The Christ College Student Scholarship Symposium will feature analytical, critical, creative, and research projects by current Christ College students. Authors will present their work and respond to questions. (Session II will be held as part of the winter 2008 Symposium Series.)

October 25 ***Defending Human Dignity***

Leon R. Kass, Former Chair of the President's Council on Bioethics

Community
Room

Christopher
Center for
Library and
Information
Resources

• Leon R. Kass, M.D., Ph.D., is Addie Clark Harding Professor at the University of Chicago and Hertog Fellow in Social Thought at the American Enterprise Institute. His numerous articles and books include: *Toward a More Natural Science: Biology and Human Affairs* (1984); *The Hungry Soul: Eating and the Perfecting of Our Nature* (1994); *The Ethics of Human Cloning* (1998 with James Q. Wilson); *Wing to Wing, Oar to Oar: Readings on Courting and Marrying* (2000 with wife Amy A. Kass); *Life, Liberty, and the Defense of Dignity: The Challenge for Bioethics* (2002); and *The Beginning of Wisdom: Reading Genesis* (2003). Kass chaired the President's Council on Bioethics 2002-'05. His published essays in biomedical ethics address issues of in vitro fertilization, cloning, genetic screening and genetic technology, organ transplantation, aging research, euthanasia and assisted suicide, and the moral nature of the medical profession. This Symposium is offered in conjunction with the year-long Valparaiso University faculty seminar on *Liberal Education in the Twenty-First Century*, part of the Christ College 40th anniversary observance.

November 1 ***Sports in American Society***

**Richard E. Lapchick, Director, DeVos Sports Management Program
College of Business Administration, University of Central Florida**

• Human rights activist, pioneer for racial equality, internationally recognized expert on sports issues, scholar and author Richard E. Lapchick is often described as "the conscience of sport." He currently practices his commitment to equality and his belief that sport can be an effective instrument of positive social change at the University of Central Florida, where he accepted an endowed chair in August 2001. Lapchick became the only person named as "One of the 100 Most Powerful People in Sport" to head up a sports management program. He serves as president and CEO of the National Consortium for Academics and Sport.

November 8 ***2007 Christ College Freshman Production***

Thursday, November 8, at 6:30 pm

Friday, November 9, at 6:30 pm and 9:00 pm

Saturday, November 10, at 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

• In just ten weeks of intense collaboration, the 85-member Christ College freshman class writes, stages, and performs an original 90-minute play with music based on themes encountered in the CC Freshman Program. This creative project complements the analytical and expository emphases in the first-year Christ College coursework. Alumnus Daniel Cobbler '05 coordinates the Freshman Drama Workshop and directs the play for the Mueller Hall Refectory stage. Professor John Steven Paul '73 is executive producer.

November 15 ***Reflections on the 2007 Christ College Freshman Production***

• Members of the Christ College community will offer musings, reflections, and interpretations concerning the 2007 Freshman Production. This Christ College tradition promises spirited discussion and thoughtful critique, both from members of the freshman class and from their peers and instructors.
