



CHRIST COLLEGE
THE HONORS COLLEGE

Christ College SYMPOSIUM

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

Fall 2009

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

August 27 **Dean's Address to Christ College**

Mel Piehl '68, Dean of Christ College

- In this annual decanal address to Christ College students, faculty, and staff, Dean Mel Piehl will introduce new members of the community and preview the 2009-10 academic year at Christ College. To celebrate the redesign of the Mueller Courtyard, a dessert reception will be held in the Courtyard following the Symposium.

September 3 **Global Warming and the Earth's Future**

David Archer, Professor of Geophysical Sciences, University of Chicago

- Using computer simulations to explain the impact of rising carbon dioxide levels in the oceans and atmosphere on global climate, Dr. Archer will present evidence and conclusions from his new book, *The Long Thaw How Humans are Changing the Next 100,000 Years of Earth's Climate*. He is also the author of *From Here to Eternity: Global Warming in Geologic Time* and *Global Warming: Understanding the Forecast*, a textbook for undergraduate non-science majors.

September 10 **The Divine Handiwork: Evolution and the Wonder of Life**

Community
Room

**Owen Gingerich, Professor Emeritus of Astronomy and the History of Science
Harvard University**

Christopher
Center

- One of the nation's most distinguished astronomers and historians of science, Owen Gingerich, will address prominent issues concerning the intersection of science and religion. Besides conducting his own astronomical research, Dr. Gingerich is a renowned scholar of the revolutionary 16th-century astronomers Nicolaus Copernicus and Johannes Kepler. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he is the author of more than 600 articles and 20 books, including *The Eye of Heaven: Ptolemy, Copernicus, Kepler* and *The Great Copernicus Chase*. In 1980 the Harvard University Observatory named Asteroid 2658 "Gingerich" in his honor.

September 17 **Gender Terrorism:**

The War Against Women in South Africa and the Law's Limitations

Penelope Andrews, Professor of Law, Valparaiso University

- The alarmingly widespread violence against women in South Africa today has led many women's advocates to describe the situation in the country as "a war against women" or "a state of terrorism." Penny Andrews will examine the cultural and institutional patterns that generate this violence, and the law's constraints in the face of such ingrained forces. A native of South Africa, Andrews is a respected expert in international human rights law who has written extensively on human rights issues in South African and Australia. Ms. Andrews is co-editor of *The Post-Apartheid Constitutions: Perspectives on South Africa's Basic Laws* and *Law and Rights: Global Perspectives on Constitutionalism and Governance*.

September 24 **The Shape of a New Era:**

Ballroom
Harre Union

Valparaiso's Chapel of the Resurrection in Historical Context

**Gretchen Buggeln, Duesenberg Chair in Christianity and the Arts,
Associate Professor of Art History and Humanities in Christ College**

- The architect of Valparaiso's Chapel of the Resurrection, Charles Stade, participated in an international conversation among architects and theologians about the proper style and form of religious buildings in modern communities. This presentation will examine the chapel in light of this architectural movement and consider its relationship to contemporary thought about the place of religion in the revolutionary post-World War II world. Dr. Buggeln is the author of *Temples of Grace: The Transformation of Connecticut's Churches, 1790-1840* (2003). Her current book project is "Churches for Today: Modernism and Suburban Expansion in Post-WWII America," which features Charles Stade as one of her principal subjects.



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October 1 *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.

October 8 *Faith and Work, Love and Life*

Homecoming Symposium – A Christ College Alumni Panel

- In this popular annual Homecoming event a panel of Christ College graduates will reflect upon the ways their Valparaiso and Christ College experiences shaped essential aspects of their careers, relationships, and spiritual lives.

October 22 *Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities & the Arts: The Postdoctoral Fellows*

Joseph Creech, Acting Program Director
Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts

- 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. Two new Fellows have joined the Valparaiso University faculty in Christ College and in their respective departments: Linn Tonstad, theology; and Jason Crawford, English. They join second year Fellows Susanna Childress, English and creative writing; Karin Fransen, philosophy; and Samuel Graber, American studies.

October 29 *Memorial Mania: Public Feeling in America*

Erika Doss, Professor of American Studies, University of Notre Dame

- Erika Doss will address the significance of the explosion of public memorials in contemporary America examined in her current book project, “Memorial Mania: Public Feeling in America.” A popular and prolific scholar of American material and visual culture, Dr. Doss is the author of numerous books on American art and religion, including *Benton, Pollock, and the Politics of Modernism* (1991); *Spirit Poles and Flying Pigs: Public Art and Cultural Democracy in American Communities* (1995); *Elvis Culture: Fans, Faith, and Image* (1999); and *Twentieth-Century American Art* (2002). Besides “Memorial Mania,” she is also writing a book on “Picturing Faith: Twentieth-Century American Artists and Issues of Religion.”

November 5 *City Beautiful: Celebrating the Burnham Plan Centennial*

Jeff Mishur, Art Historian, Art Excursions

- The year 2009 marks the centennial of architect Daniel Burnham’s visionary plan for Chicago and its environs. Burnham’s plan shaped the city and suburbs for generations of residents and visitors to enjoy. The full scope of the 1909 plan, its precedents in Europe and America, and the early City Beautiful Movement will be examined by art historian Jeff Mishur. A lifelong resident of the Chicago area, Mr. Mishur is a member of the Illinois Humanities Council’s “Road Scholars” program and has led tours of architectural sites and museums in Chicago and other cities for over fifteen years.

November 12 *The 2009 Christ College Freshman Production*

- In just ten weeks of intense collaboration, the 80-member Christ College first-year class writes and performs an original 90-minute play with music based on themes encountered in the Christ College Freshman program – Texts and Contexts: Traditions of Human Thought. This creative project complements the analytical and expository emphases in the coursework. Alumnus Daniel Cobbler ’05 leads the Freshman Drama Workshop and directs the Freshman Production for the Mueller Hall Refectory stage.

Thursday, November 12, at 6:30 pm **Friday, November 13, at 6:30 pm and 9:00 pm**
Saturday, November 14, at 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

November 19 *The 2009 Christ College Freshman Production in Review*

- Members of the Christ College community will offer musings, reflections, and interpretations concerning the 2009 Freshman Production. This Christ College tradition promises spirited discussion and thoughtful critique from members of the freshman class and from their peers and instructors.
