Fall 2003

October 1, 2003
“Print and Broadcast Media in the Middle East”
Orayb Najjar, Ph.D., Department of Communication

October 8, 2003
“Wet Dogs and Gushing Oranges: Winespeak for a New Millennium”
Sean N. Shesgreen, Ph.D., Distinguished Research Professor, Department of English

October 15, 2003
“Modern Unitarianism: Heresy Trials, Historical Amnesia, and the American Religious Milieu”
Jerome D. Bowers II, Ph.D., Coordinator, History and Social Sciences Secondary Teacher Certification, Department of History

October 22, 2003
“Reading the Family Dance”
John V. Knapp, Ph.D., Department of English

October 29, 2003
“DNA Analysis and Genetic Engineering”
Patricia S. Vary, Ph.D., Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

November 5, 2003
“Blue Nippon: Authenticating Jazz in Japan”
E. Taylor Atkins, Ph.D., Department of History

Winter 2004

January 21, 2004
“Sports and Race”
Stanley Arnold, Ph.D., Department of History

January 28, 2004
“The Case of Michael Moore: Politics Enters Entertainment”
Jeffrey Chown, Ph.D., Department of Communication

February 4, 2004
“The Arab Israeli Conflict”
Tomis Kapitan, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy
Spring 2004

March 17, 2004
“As She Likes It: Shakespeare’s Surprising Women”
Alexandra Bennett, Ph.D., Department of English

March 24, 2004
“NIU’s Center for Black Studies”
LaVerne Gyant, Ed.D., Director, Center for Black Studies

March 31, 2004
“The Prairie Parkway Project”
John Lewis, Ph.D., Center for Governmental Studies

April 7, 2004
“Do Good Looks Win Votes?”
James N. Schubert, Ph.D., Department of Political Science

April 14, 2004
“Immigration, Religion, Gender, Marriage, and Sex in Early America”
Aaron Fogleman, Ph.D., Department of History

April 21, 2004
“NIU’s Anthropology Museum”
Ann Wright-Parsons, M.A., Director, Anthropology Museum, Department of Anthropology

April 28, 2004
“Henry D. Thoreau at NIU”
Elizabeth Hall Witherell, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief, The Writings of Henry D. Thoreau Project, University Libraries

May 5, 2004
“Four Arguments in the Intelligent Design Debate”
Larry Arnhart, Ph.D., Department of Political Science

Summer 2004

July 14, 2004
“The Red Planet’s River Valleys”
Wei Luo, Ph.D., Department of Geography
July 21, 2004
“The History of Blues Music as an Expression of Black Culture”
Brian Thornton, Ph.D., Department of Communication

July 28, 2004
“NIU Huskies Football”
Joe Novak, NIU Head Football Coach, NIU Athletics

Fall 2004

September 22, 2004
“NIU Regional History Center”
Glen Gildemeister, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University
Director, NIU Regional History Center, University Archivist

September 29, 2004
“The History of Medicare”
Beatrix Hoffman, Ph.D., Rutgers University
Associate Professor, Department of History

October 6, 2004
“NIU Huskies Basketball”
Rob Judson, NIU Head Men’s Basketball Coach

October 13, 2004
“Film and Literature”
Robert Self, Ph.D., University of North Carolina
Professor, Department of English

October 20, 2004
“The Acoustics of Music”
Thomas Rossing, Ph.D., Iowa State University
Distinguished Research Professor, Professor, Department of Physics

October 27, 2004
“Perceptions and Misperceptions of Egypt and the Arab World”
Hanan Hegazi, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Visiting Scholar, Women’s Studies

November 3, 2004
“Life in a Mega-Science Experiment”
Gerald C. Blazey, Ph.D., University of Minnesota
Co-Director, Northern Illinois Center for Accelerator and Detector Development
Distinguished Research Professor, Associate Professor, Department of Physics
November 11, 2004
“The 2004 Presidential and Congressional Elections”
Gary Glenn, Ph.D., University of Chicago
Presidential Teaching Professor, Professor, Department of Political Science

Winter 2005

January 19, 2005
“Lost in Translation? Issues in Translating American, German, and French Films”
Katharina Barbe, Ph.D., Rice University
Associate Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

January 26, 2005
“NIU Center for Burma Studies”
Catherine Raymond, Ph. D., La Sorbonne, Paris, France
Director, Center for Burma Studies

February 2, 2005
“Treasures of Mexico”
Michael Gonzales, Ph. D., University of California-Berkley
Director, Center for Latino and Latin American Studies
Presidential Research Professor, Department of History

February 9, 2005
“The Poetry of Love”
Stephen Franklin, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English

Spring 2005

March 23, 2005
“John Gray is from Mars: Popular Advice vs. Gender Communication Research”
Lois Self, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin
Chair, Associate Professor, Department of Communication

March 30, 2005
“Paul Douglas and Post World War II Liberalism”
Roger Biles, Ph.D., University of Illinois-Chicago
Visiting Professor, East Carolina University
Department of History
April 6, 2005
“Using Personal Resources to Keep in Charge of Your Life!”
Judith Hertz, Ph. D., RN, University of Texas-Austin
Assistant Professor, School of Nursing
2002-2004 John A. Hartford Foundation Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity
Post Doctoral Scholar

April 13, 2005
“The New Vietnam”
Clark Neher, Ph.D., University of California-Los Angeles
Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science
Distinguished Presidential Teaching Professor

April 20, 2005
“Albert Einstein and the World of Physics 2005”
David Hedin, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin
Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Physics
Patricia Sievert, Outreach Coordinator, Department of Physics

April 27, 2005
“The Changing Demographics of Northeastern Illinois”
Ruth Ann Tobias, ABD, Northern Illinois University
Senior Research Associate, NIU Center for Governmental Studies

May 4, 2005
“Heroines, Harlots, and Homebodies: Women in Popular Literature Collections at NIU”
Lynne Thomas, MLS, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana
Head of Rare Books and Special Collections, Founders Memorial Library

May 11, 2005
“The NIU Forensics Team”
Judith Santacaterina
Director of Individual Events, NIU Forensics, Department of Communication
Advisor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Summer 2005

July 6, 2005
“Before the Land of Lincoln: Taming the Wild Prairie”
Drew VandeCreek, Ph.D., University of Virginia
Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project, and
Northern Illinois University Libraries Digitization Unit
July 13, 2005
Frank VanBuer, Ph.D., University of Illinois
Mayor, City of DeKalb, Illinois

July 20, 2005
“For the Love of the Bard”
William Baker, Ph.D., University of London
Professor, Department of English, University Libraires

July 27, 2005
“From Polytheism to Monotheism in Ancient Greece”
Sharon Sytsma, Ph.D., Loyola University
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy

Fall 2005

September 21, 2005
“Using 4-D Confocal Microscopy to Study the Effect of Load on How Cells Build Skin, Cornea, Tendon and Bone”
Barbara Johnson-Wint, Ph.D., Michigan State University
Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

September 28, 2005
“Critiquing a Presidential Speech”
Ferald Bryan, Ph.D., University of Missouri
Associate Professor, Department of Communication

October 5, 2005
“Acuity’: A Memory Enhancement Game for Seniors”
Alan Robinson, Ed.D., Northern Illinois University
Director, Outreach, College of Health and Human Sciences

October 12, 2005
“Behind the China Gate: Teaching and Living in Contemporary China”
Kenton Clymer, Ph.D., University of Michigan
Chair, Department of History

October 19, 2005
“First Amendment Center and Freedom of Information”
David Bennett, Executive Director, Illinois Press Association
Beth Bennett, Director of Legislative Affairs, Illinois Press Association
October 26, 2005
“‘I Have Created a Monster’: Genetic Explanations for Halloween’s Legendary Creatures”
Rick Johns, Ph.D., University of Oregon
Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

November 2, 2005
“Of Windmills and Warriors: Spanish Politics and Character Through the Eyes of Don Quixote”
Carl Atlee, Ph.D., University of Arizona
Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

November 9, 2005
“Government Information Policy: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly”
Earl Shumaker, M.S., Louisiana State University
Associate Professor and Head, Government Publications Department
Coordinator of the Branch Library System, University Libraries

Winter 2006

January 25, 2006
“Autobiographical Memory”
John. Skowronski, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Psychology

February 1, 2006
“Pollution Under Your Feet: How Groundwater and Soil Influence Contamination”
Melissa Lenczewski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences

February 8, 2006
“Barbarism Exposed: Journalism and Mormonism in the Late 1800s”
Walter Atkinson, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Department of Communication

February 15, 2006
“Making Music History Style!”
E. Taylor Atkins, Sean Farrell, Jason Hawke, Beatrix Hoffman, Eric Jones, James Schmidt
Department of History, Professorial Band

Fall 2006
September 20, 2006
The World of Independent Filmmaking Up Close and Personal
Laura Vazquez, Ph.D., Northwestern University
Assistant Professor, Department of Communication

September 27, 2006
Huskie Core Values: Delivering a “World Class” Student-Athlete Experience
Carol Owens, Head Coach
Northern Illinois University Women’s Basketball

October 4, 2006
The Politics of Marbury v. Madison and the Lasting Legacy of Judicial Review
Artemus Ward, Ph.D., Maxwell School of Citizenship, Syracuse University
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

October 11, 2007
Ancient Greek Influence on the American Founding Fathers
George Kourvetaris, Ph.D., Northwestern University
Professor, Department of Sociology

October 18, 2007
Why Does Our Landscape Look So Monotonous?
Ann Sorensen, Ph.D., University of California-Berkeley
Director, Center for Agriculture in the Environment

October 25, 2006
Soil Carbon, Agricultural Land-Use, and Global Change Relationships
Michael Konen, Ph.D., Iowa State University
Associate Professor, Department of Geography

November 1, 2006
Intersections of State and Federal Political Affairs
Kathryn Buettner, M.P.A., Northern Illinois University
Vice President and Executive Director, External Affairs and Economic Development

November 8, 2006
How Is the Constitution Relevant to Political Disagreement?
Three Cases: Immigration, the Iraq War and the Marriage Amendment
Gary Glenn, Ph.D., University of Chicago
Presedential Teaching Professor, Department of Political Science

Winter 2007
January 17, 2007
The 2006 Congressional Elections Revisited
Matthew Streb, Ph.D., Indiana University
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

January 24, 2007
Hidden Faults Beneath Our Feet:
Illinois Earthquakes Past, Present and Future
Phil Carpenter, Ph.D., New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Professor, NIU Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences

January 31, 2007
Origins of Monumental Architecture: Hawaii in the 13th Century
Michael Kolb, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Anthropology

February 7, 2007
Contemporary Cuba
Sarah Blue, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, NIU Center for Latino and Latin American Studies

Spring 2007

March 14
Anti-Immigration Municipal Codes: A Fractured Legal Template
Guadalupe Luna, J.D., University of Minnesota
Professor, NIU College of Law

March 21
Elections & Voting: Report From the Frontlines
Sharon Holmes
DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder

March 28
Report From the Ends of the Earth: Drilling in the Antarctic
Ross Powell, Ph.D., Ohio State University
Professor, NIU Department of Geology & Environmental Geosciences

April 4
Native Soil: A History of the DeKalb County Farm Bureau
Eric Mogren, J.D., University of Colorado; Ph.D., University of Michigan
Associate Professor, NIU Department of History
April 11
Mr. Kiss Kiss Bang Bang: James Bond and Cultural Politics
Christoph Lindner, Ph.D., University of Edinburgh
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of English

April 18
Challenges in the Global War on Terrorism
Christopher Jones, Ph.D., Syracuse University
Chair & Associate Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

April 25
American Sign Language: The Language of Deaf Americans?
Nancy Castle, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University
Professor, NIU Department of Communicative Disorders

May 2
Language Diversity & Our Schools:
The Impact of Immigration on Teaching & Learning
Rick Orem, Ed.D., University of Georgia
Professor, NIU Department of Literacy Education

Summer 2007

July 11, 2007
Double Standard, A Double Life, and the Double Helix: A Brief history of Women in Science
Lesley Rigg, Ph.D. University of Melbourne
Associate Professor, Department of Geography & Department of Biological Sciences

July 18, 2007
The Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project
Drew VandeCreek, Ph.D., University of Virginia
Director of Digital Projects, Founders Memorial Library

July 25, 2007
Alternative Energy and Power Systems
Donald Zinger, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin
Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering

August 1, 2007
Storytelling for Life
Peggy Sullivan, Ph.D., University of Chicago
Dean & Professor Emeritus, University Libraries & College of Professional Studies
Fall 2007

Sept 19, 2007
Honey Bee Disease and the National Economy: Why You Never See Honey Bees in Your Garden Any More
Christopher Hubbard, Ph. D.  Wake Forest University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Biological Sciences

Sept 26, 2007
The Resurgence of Cambodian Buddhism
Judy Ledgerwood, Ph.D. Cornell University
Associate Professor and Chair, NIU Department of Anthropology

Oct 3, 2007
Aquifers and Ground Water Resources of Northern Illinois
Colin J. Booth, Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University
Professor, NIU Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences

Oct 10, 2007
Romance and Memory of the Civil War: The Death of ‘Latane’ in Verse and on Canvass
Bradley G, Bond, Ph.D. Louisiana State University
Associate Dean, NIU Graduate School, Assistant Professor NIU Department of History

Oct 17, 2007
Financing and Delivery of Health Care for Seniors
James Ciesla, Ph.D. University of South Carolina
Associate Professor, NIU School of Allied Health Professions

Oct 24, 2007
The Sources and National Security Implications of America’s Dependency on Foreign Oil
Christopher Jones, Ph.D., Syracuse University
Chair and Associate Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

Oct 31, 2007
The Life of Early Medieval Women: From the Silence of the Sources
Valerie Garver, Ph.D University of Virginia
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of History

Nov 7, 2007
Choosing a Pope: A Board Game Simulating Papal Elections
Stephen Haliczer, Ph.D.  St. Andrews University, Scotland
Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus, NIU Department of History

Winter 2008
Jan 23, 2008
An Anthropological and Local View of Our Midwestern Food System
Kendall Thu, Ph.D., University of Iowa
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Anthropology
Jody and Beth Osmund, Cedar Valley Sustainable Farm

Jan 30, 2008
The Social and Economic Consequences of Globalization in Northern Illinois
Robert Gleeson, Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University
Associate Director, NIU Regional Development Institute
Director, Center for Government Studies

Feb 6, 2008
The Economics of Poor Health and Working
Virginia Wilcox-Gok, Ph.D., Washington University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Economics

Feb 13, 2008
Physical Geography of the Mississippi River System:
Big River Meets Bigger Glacier and Some Pesky Humans
Michael Konen, Ph.D., Iowa State University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Geography

Spring 2008

May 7, 2008
Representing Guantanamo Detainees
Marc Falkoff, Ph.D., Brandeis University; J.D., Columbia University
Assistant Professor, NIU College of Law

April 30, 2008
Religion and Violence: Historical Considerations
Brian Sandberg, Ph.D., University of Illinois
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of History

April 23, 2008
How Do Genes Influence Political Decision Making? Clues from Gender Differences
Rebecca Hannagan, Ph. D., University of Nebraska
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

April 16, 2008
Cultural Considerations in Global Business
Tanuja Singh, D.B.A., Southern Illinois University
Chair & Associate Professor, NIU Department of Marketing
April 9, 2008
Why Hiroshima? Why Nagasaki?: Truman, Stalin, and the A-Bomb
Albert Resis, Ph.D., Columbia University
Professor Emeritus, NIU Department of History

April 2, 2008
Artificial Intelligence
Joel Jeffrey, Ph.D., University of Colorado
Professor, NIU Department of Computer Science

March 26, 2008
Islamic Cultures
Andrea Molnar, Ph.D., Australian National University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Anthropology & Center for Southeast Asian Studies

March 19, 2008
Post-Mortem on the 2008 Presidential Primaries
Matthew Streb, Ph. D., Indiana University
Director of Undergraduate Studies & Assistant Professor
NIU Department of Political Science

Summer 2008

July 30, 2008
The Economics of Poor Health and Working
Virginia Wilcox-Gok, Ph.D., Washington University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Economics

July 23, 2008
The Past, Present, and Future of the Book
Lynne Thomas, M.L.S., University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and M.A. in English Northern Illinois University
Rare Books Librarian, NIU University Libraries

July 16, 2008
Tornadoes: Fatalities Due to Nature's Most Intense Windstorm
Walker Ashley, Ph.D., University of Georgia
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Geography

July 9, 2008
What Sport Management Really Is: We Are the Business of Sport
Rodney L. Caughron, Ph.D., University of Iowa
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Kinesiology & Physical Education

Fall 2008
September 17, 2008
Russia Resurgent: Implications for Russians and the World
Daniel Kempton, Ph.D., University of Illinois
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

September 24, 2008
Who Will Take Care of Us?
Judith Hertz, Ph.D., University of Texas
Associate Professor & Director of Graduate Studies, NIU School of Nursing & Health Studies

October 1, 2008
Confronting Genocide: Prediction, Prevention, and Punishment
J. D. Bowers, Ph. D., Indiana University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of History
Director, Genocide & Human Rights Institute

October 8, 2008
Does Illinois Need Another Constitutional Convention?
James Banovetz, Ph.D., University of Minnesota
Professor Emeritus, NIU Division of Public Administration

October 15, 2008
Race, Gender, and Economic Knowledge
Kate Cady, Ph.D., University of Iowa
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Communication

October 22, 2008
Can Goodness Evolve?
Neil Blackstone, Ph.D., Yale University
Professor, NIU Department of Biological Sciences

October 29, 2008
The Role of Neighborhoods in Crime Prevention and Control
Keri Burchfield, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Sociology

November 5, 2008
Elections 2008
Matthew Streb, Ph.D., Indiana University
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Political Science

Winter 2009

January 21, 2009
Top Ten Misconceptions about American Paternity Laws
Jeffrey A. Parness, J.D., University of Chicago
Professor Emeritus, NIU College of Law

January 28, 2009
The Ethics of Stem Cell Research: Can a Conservative on Abortion
Condone Stem Cell Research?
Sharon Sytsma, Ph.D., Loyola University
Associate Professor, NIU Department of Philosophy

February 4, 2009
The Gun and the Pen: Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Faulkner, and
the Fiction of Mobilization
Keith Gandal, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
Professor, NIU Department of English

February 11, 2009
“Struck by Lightning”: Mortality in the United States
Walker Ashley, Ph.D., University of Georgia
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Geography

Spring 2009

March 18, 2009
Current Status of Health Care Reform
James Ciesla, Ph.D., University of South Carolina
Professor, NIU School of Allied Health

March 25, 2009
Particles and Forces We Take for Granted
David Hedin, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin
Distinguished Research Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, NIU Department of Physics

April 1, 2009
Searching for Huskies: Recruiting at NIU
Jerry Kill, B.A., Southwestern College
Head Football Coach, NIU Intercollegiate Athletics

April 8, 2009
Protecting Yourself from Fraud
David Sinason, Ph.D., Florida State University
PricewaterhouseCoopers Professor, NIU Department of Accountancy

April 15, 2009
Crazy for Koreana: Korea’s Cultural Impact on Imperial Japan
E. Taylor Atkins, Ph.D., University of Illinois – Urbana/Champaign
April 22, 2009
Shakespeare: From Page to Stage
William Johnson, Ph.D., University of Iowa
Distinguished Teaching Professor, NIU Department of English

April 29, 2009
What Are You Truly Hungry For: Food or Freedom?
Amy Ozier, Ph.D., University of Alabama
Assistant Professor, NIU Department of Family, Consumer, and Nutrition Sciences

May 6, 2009
The Financial Crisis and Economic Ramifications
Jeff Reynolds, Ph.D. candidate, Northern Illinois University
Instructor, NIU Department of Economics,
and Assistant to the Dean, NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences