



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMBERS-ONLY LECTURES

Stars in Human Culture

Dr. Varadaraja V. Raman

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

This lecture will discuss how stars have influenced humanity in human culture: in mythology, religion, art, music, literature, and politics.

Dr. V.V. Raman is emeritus professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is a philosopher-physicist who has authored 14 books and many articles on a variety of subjects.

WikiLeaks, Journalism, and the First Amendment

W. Mark Witherspoon

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

WikiLeaks' massive release of classified documents has been deified and demonized by journalists, politicians, and the general populace. Its relevance to the First Amendment could be everything or nothing, depending on where you are and what you believe. The repercussions for journalism and various governments are still being sorted out. We will discuss this fallout and how it will affect the future of the Fourth Estate, all in the light of the First Amendment.

Mark Witherspoon is the editorial adviser to the Iowa State Daily. He was inducted into the National College Media Advisers Hall of Fame in October 2010 and helped found Iowa State's First Amendment Day celebration in 2003.

The Obama Administration: A Foreign Policy of Change?

James McCormick

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

We examine the foreign policy approach and policies of the Obama administration and assess how well it has achieved its campaign pledges for change. We identify the basic values and beliefs and foreign policy approach that President Obama brought to American foreign policy, assess the key foreign policy actions of the administration, and evaluate how well they comport with its stated goals and priorities. Finally, we draw some preliminary conclusions about the degree of foreign policy change during President Obama's first two years in office.

James McCormick, ISU professor and chair of political science department, recently completed a comprehensive assessment of Obama's foreign policy efforts thus far for a book -- tentatively titled "The 'Big Bang' Presidency" and edited by Steven Schier -- which will be published later this year.

Mozart's Juggling Act

Eric McIntyre

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

We often hear about Mozart's remarkable exploits as a young musician, but much of his truly brilliant composition work was created near the end of his life. In this presentation we will examine one such example, where the mature composer performs a rather mind-blowing compositional "juggling act" in his final symphony. Along the way, we will consider ideals of the classical symphony and learn about the fundamental craft of great composers. No previous experience with classical music is necessary to appreciate the content of this discussion.

Eric McIntyre is a professional conductor, composer, hornist, and serves on the faculty of Grinnell College. He is the music director of the Central Iowa Symphony and the Fort Dodge Symphony.

Is There a Future in Journalism?

Richard Doak

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

Has the Web made journalism obsolete?

Richard Doak is the former editorial page editor of the Des Moines Register and now a lecturer for the ISU Greenlee School of Journalism.

Getting to the Heart of Matter

Thomas Meyer

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at the CERN Laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland, has received a lot of press recently. The ISU High Energy Physics group has been involved with the LHC project for many years. This talk will discuss what the LHC is, what we hope to learn, what some of the challenges are, and why its results could be very interesting.

***Tom Meyer** is a recently retired experimentalist in the ISU particle physics group working at Stanford and CERN.*

The Inquisition and the Telescope

Sam Wormley

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

Galileo (1564-1642), is one of the most remarkable men who ever lived. More than any one of his predecessors or contemporaries he introduced “controlled experiment” as a means of gaining knowledge of nature. Join us as we explore how Galileo helped change our view of our place in the universe on this 400th anniversary of using a telescope to view the heavens.

***Sam Wormley** has taught many courses for OLLI and is retired from Iowa State University’s Center for Nondestructive Evaluation.*

What’s in Store for Wind Energy and the Ames Electric Utility

Donald Kom

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Reiman Ballroom, ISU Alumni Center

Donald Kom will talk about the city's power supply portfolio and the challenges facing electric utilities today and in the future. Topics and areas of interest will include Ames wind, transmission constraints, retail costs vs. the energy market, and demand side management.

***Donald Kom** is the director of Electric Service for the City of Ames.*