The McAuley Lectures feature outstanding faculty members from the University of Hartford. The lectures take place once a month on Fridays at 2 p.m. at The McAuley Retirement Community, Asylum Avenue and Steele Road, West Hartford. Visitors should take the Steele Road entrance and park in visitors parking. The lectures are held in the main building, at the foot of the hill.

Non-residents of McAuley who are Fellows of the Presidents’ College may attend the lectures without charge. Non-residents who are not Fellows, may register for $15. A reception follows each lecture.

**SPRING 2017**

- **THE VOYAGES OF STRANGERS: THE JEWISH PRESENCE IN THE CARIBBEAN**—Leslie DesMangles  
  Fri., Feb. 3; 2 p.m.

- **ITALIAN POETRY FOUND IN TRANSLATIONS**—Maria Esposito Frank  
  Fri., March 3; 2 p.m.

- **LOVE, SEX, AND MARRIAGE IN THE MIDDLE AGES**—Amanda Walling  
  Fri., April 7; 2 p.m.

- **DISEASES OF SHARKS**—Joanna Borucinska  
  Fri., May 5; 2 p.m.
FEBRUARY 3

» THE VOYAGES OF STRANGERS: THE JEWISH PRESENCE IN THE CARIBBEAN—Leslie DesMangles

The Jewish religious presence in the Caribbean can be traced to the 16th century, and it tells a fascinating story of a people who have left an indelible imprint on the history of the Caribbean. The early Jewish settlers who came to the Caribbean were escaping the religious persecution of the Spanish Inquisition. Despite the hardships that they endured throughout the centuries, they managed to maintain their culture and preserve their religious traditions in the Caribbean diaspora. Their members' religious fervor not only helped to ensure the survival of the Jewish religious traditions in the region, but also to touch the lives of many Jews in several regions of the United States.

LESLIE DESMANGLES graduated from Eastern University in 1964 with a BA in music, from Palmer Seminary in Philadelphia with an MDiv in theology, and from Temple University in 1975 with a PhD in anthropology of religion, specializing in Caribbean and African studies. He has taught at Ohio Wesleyan University from 1969–76, at De Paul University from 1976–78, and at Trinity College since 1978.

MARCH 3

» ITALIAN POETRY FOUND IN TRANSLATIONS—Maria Esposito Frank

Description: A presentation of some of among the best Italian short poems of the 20th century. The focus of the presentation is a comparison/contrast of different English renditions for one and the same Italian poem, in order to better evaluate and appreciate poetic aspects of the Italian original text.

MARIA ESPOSITO FRANK is professor of Italian and Renaissance studies at the University of Hartford. Her main interests are in the field of 14th and 15th century literature and history of ideas, religion and literature, poetry (of all ages), and translation studies.

She has authored a book on Renaissance humanism, Le insidie dell’allegoria: Ermoalo Barbaro il Vecchio e la lezione degli Antichi (Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti, 1999), and several essays on 20th century poets as well as on late Medieval and Renaissance thinkers, literary figures/works, and intellectuals.

She also co-edited The Translator As Mediator of Cultures (Benjamins, 2010). Her current research focuses on Giovanni Boccaccio’s Decameron.

APRIL 7

» LOVE, SEX, AND MARRIAGE IN THE MIDDLE AGES—Amanda Walling

Love, sex, and marriage were as contentious in the Middle Ages as they are now, and beliefs about them were full of contradictions: from the ideals of courtly love to the realities of politically arranged marriages, and from the church’s teaching that sexuality was sinful, to the popular appetite for dirty jokes and explicit stories about cheating spouses. Walling will explore some of the widespread medieval attitudes toward these fundamental areas of human experience, showing how they conflicted with each other and with how people actually lived, and will explain how these contradictory ideas gave rise to some of the great art and literature of the European tradition.

AMANDA WALLING is assistant professor of English at the University of Hartford, where she teaches courses on medieval literature, mythology, drama, and the history of the English language. She received her PhD from Stanford University and has published articles on the work of Geoffrey Chaucer and other medieval authors.

MAY 5

» DISEASES OF SHARKS—Joanna Borucinska

Somewhat like canaries in coalmines, sharks provide critical information on the status and degradation of their environment. Borucinska's lecture on diseases of sharks will discuss diseases/injuries found in large pelagic sharks including the blue, mako and treasher sharks collected from sports fishing tournaments held in New York and Massachusetts since 1998. She will center on infectious, traumatic lesions, and cases of cancer and their causes. Additionally, a brief presentation of biomarkers of water quality/pollution will elaborate on human activities impacting the health of sharks and the environment.

JOANNA BORUCINSKA was born in Warsaw, Poland. She earned a veterinary degree in 1983 from Warsaw Agricultural University, and a PhD in veterinary pathology from the University of Connecticut in Storrs in 1995. She has been at the University of Hartford since 1995 in the Biology Department as a full professor, studying sharks since 1990, and serving on the editorial board of Journal of Fish Diseases.