THE PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM SHOWCASE 2012

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

A DAY-LONG PROGRAM OF LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS AND PERFORMANCES FEATURING THE BEST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

The symposium will have three themes:

THE STATE OF THE STATE
What is going on in Connecticut and what can we expect in the future?

STYLE
What do we mean by style, and what are such phenomena as musical style, artistic style, and literary style?

SCIENCE AND THE CITIZEN
What does the voter need to know about science and technology in order to make sound decisions?

June 1, 2012
Number 104

Coming Up…

Art Show Opening
Sunday, August 26

Showcase 2012
Sunday, September 9

Literary Paris
October 17-24
attended courses during May included “Verdi and Shakespeare,” which Willie Anthony Waters and I taught together, and Jilda Aliotta on the U. S. Supreme Court. We called it “A Round-Up of the Supreme Court,” but perhaps it should have borne the title “Never a Dull Moment.” Right now, Kathleen McGrory’s course on James Joyce and song is going on – and after that we come to a fallow period until we start up again in the fall.

This is a time of year for thank-yous and reunions. The Volunteers got together on May 22 at the charming Merrywood, in Simsbury, giving us an occasion to thank them for all the work that they have put in over the past year to assure the success of the Presidents’ College programs. By assisting us in so many ways with the administration of the program, they essentially make it possible. We could not offer such a range of courses at such modest prices without their involvement.

On June 2, alumni of previous international trips got together at our house for tea and reminiscence. We have been running such trips in various forms for many years. Some of the attendees began traveling with us back in the 1990s. On this occasion we were joined by Michele Troy, who is leading our fall trip to Paris, and some of the Paris participants.

This June newsletter is mostly merely a preview of the fall’s activities. We will be putting out a full schedule, with details on dates, times, and fees, a few weeks from now. But you can sign up now as a Fellow for the coming year – and, if you do, take advantage of the lower rate for Showcase 2012. This lower rate is an extraordinary bargain, if you consider that it includes lunch, no less than five sessions (if you go to them all) over five hours, and a reception at the end of the day. We would like every PC Fellow to attend. Do try to clear your calendar for Sunday, September 9, and come along and join us.

As we plan for next year, we are looking to expand our activities: more courses, more trips, and – more administration. Specifically, we hope to be able to hire a half-time administrator for those aspects of the program that Judy and I don’t cover or that threaten to overwhelm us as the program expands (we have other things to do as well!). The job won’t make its incumbent rich, but let us know if you might have an interest in such a position and we’ll send you a job description.

Finally, in addition to thanking the Volunteers, led by Nancy Mather, for the successes of the year just past, I would like to thank all our Fellows and all those who take the occasional course in the Presidents’ College or participate in our various activities. It is a pleasure to work with you all. My colleagues echo that sentiment: there is something uniquely rewarding in telling you what we know and hearing from you about your experiences and knowledge. It’s teaching and learning for their own sake — with no papers, no exams, no grades, no anxieties. And the more we share the knowledge, the more knowledge there is to go round.

HUMPHREY TONKIN
FAQ:

Where do we meet?
Most courses take place in the Mortensen Library, but sometimes we must move elsewhere and can't always secure classroom space until shortly before a program or course begins. We do our best to get the word out to participants about location before each event starts. If in doubt, call Judy Kacmarcik at 860.768.4269 or Humphrey Tonkin at 860.768.4448.

Am I Enrolled?
We try to acknowledge registrations as soon as we receive them, but we are not perfect! If you are concerned about whether we have received your registration, call Judy Kacmarcik at 860.768.4269.

Should I start reading in advance?
It’s always a good idea. The U. of Hartford Bookstore (part of the Gray Center) stocks most of the basic texts recommended by our lecturers.

Duncaster Art Show

All Presidents’ College Fellows and all residents of the Duncaster Retirement Community are invited to submit paintings or other two-dimensional art works to an Art Show being held at Duncaster Retirement Community, 40 Loeffler Road, Bloomfield, from August 26 through September 30, 2012. Approximately 40 works will be included in the show, 20 from each group.

The framed paintings should be no larger than 36” x 36”. Please bring your paintings to Nancy Mather’s office at Mortensen Library on August 20 from 10am to 4pm. An art committee member will be there to accept them. They will then be delivered to Duncaster for hanging. Staff at Duncaster will print and place art work labels, and also print postcards to announce the show. Postcards will be available to artists for their own distribution.

An opening reception will take place at Duncaster on August 26 from 4 to 5:30pm.

For further information contact Marcia Cornell at mcornell06022@comcast.net or call 860.242.5927.
Upcoming Programs

THE PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE
LOOKS FORWARD TO A
STIMULATING ACADEMIC YEAR

“Something for Everyone” in the Fall
Offerings

With over 200 Fellows (compared with 160 in the previous year), the Presidents’ College continues to grow by leaps and bounds — and as it grows it broadens its offerings.

Among courses scheduled to begin in September are Patrick McCaughey on Rome, Michael Schiano on Haydn, and Jane Barstow on Edith Wharton. Patrick McCaughey will examine the art and antiquities of Rome from the classical period through the Renaissance to the era of the Grand Tour in the eighth century. Michael Schiano will examine the work of one of the most versatile and in many respects under-appreciated composers, Franz Joseph Haydn. Would the achievements of Mozart, Schubert, and Beethoven even have been possible without the work of the pioneering Haydn? Maybe not. Jane Barstow’s Edith Wharton book club, participants will read Wharton’s short stories.

In Jane Barstow’s Edith Wharton book club, participants will read Wharton’s short stories. In preparation for the Hartt School’s fall production of Sophocles’ Antigone, directed by Malcolm Morrison, we will be offering a course on Greek tragedy, taught by Amanda Walling.

A lecture series in October will feature retired English professor Virginia Hale on the Troilus and Cressida story, tracing its establishment in Chaucer, through Henryson and others in the fifteenth century, to Shakespeare in the early seventeenth century.

Newcomer Zee Onuf, an outstanding teacher from the University’s Art History Department and a newcomer to the Presidents’ College, will offer a course on that most mysterious and intriguing of artists, Hieronymus Bosch.

Meanwhile, Jake Harney, chair of the University’s Biology Department will look at the field of stem cell research, explaining in layperson’s terms why such research matters and what its social and biological implications may be.

Edward Gutierrez, whose lecture on the Great War was such a hit in the recent Downton Abbey course, will tackle a broader question: Is there such a thing as a just war? From the time of Saint Augustine down to today, people have sought to define what constitutes a just war — an issue that is still with us as the United States contemplates withdrawal from Afghanistan and confronts sanctions in Iran.

FAQ:

What do I do if the University closes?
Closings are announced on line at www.hartford.edu, the University’s website. You can also call the University: 860.768.4100. WTIC - 1080 AM/96.5 FM, WRCH - 100.3 FM, Channel 3 (WFSB), and WWUH - 91.3 FM announce closings. Local television stations use automated systems with limited choices for colleges and universities. So please follow up by checking www.hartford.edu or by calling 860.768.4100.

Parking on Campus
If, as a Fellow of the Presidents’ College, you have been issued a parking permit, please hang it on the inside rearview mirror of your vehicle whenever you park on campus. You may park in any legal and unreserved space in any of the faculty, student or visitor lots at any time of the day, but if you park in a student or faculty lot without displaying the permit you will be ticketed. If you run into problems or have questions, please call the Presidents’ College at 860.768.4269 or the Office of Public Safety at 860.768.7985.

Presidents’ College

t: 860.768.4269   f: 860.768.4274   e: pcollege@hartford.edu   w: www.hartford.edu/presidentscollege
John Pike will return with a course on some aspect of American musical theater, still to be determined. Steve Miller, a local historian and a leading expert on the Shakers, will explore the work and the artifacts of that remarkable religious community, in a course entitled “Shaker Grown and Shaker Made,” and Charles Turner, of the Hartt School, will offer a course on the folk origins of American symphonic music.

In October, Michele Troy will lead a group for a one-week trip to Paris. When we announced this trip in the spring, it filled up within a matter of days, and there is a long waiting list. We’re thinking about other trips in the future and would be interested in your thoughts on possible destinations.

That’s the story so far – but by the time registration for fall courses opens in about a month’s time, there will be other course offerings too. We’ll be publishing a full list of courses, times, fees, and registration procedures, so stay posted!

Shakespeare this Summer
Humphrey Tonkin recently completed a four-lecture series featuring discussions of Shakespeare plays to be presented in the area in coming months. The critically acclaimed Hartford Stage production of The Tempest is now in its final week (closing on June 10). This summer, Shakespeare & Company (Lenox, MA) will perform King Lear (opening on June 16) and The Tempest (opening on July 19) on their main stage.

Capital Classics will bring Twelfth Night to St. Joseph College for an open-air production (directed by David Watson, of The Hartt School), beginning on July 26 and running weekends until August 12.

Visitors to Cape Cod can also see a new version of Shakespeare’s Henry IV at the Monomoy Theatre in Chatham, MA, August 7-11.

SHOWCASE 2012 – a must for the active Presidents’ College participant

If you’re planning to take courses in the Presidents’ College this coming academic year and you want to get a flavor of the programs we offer,

Or if you’re curious about the University of Hartford and its programs,

Or if you’re an intellectually curious person who likes a challenge,

Come to the Presidents’ College Annual Symposium, Showcase 2012, on Sunday, September 9.

We’re offering a full day of lectures and discussions grouped under three headings: Style, The State of the State, and Science and the Citizen. Beginning at 9:30, we’ll present three offerings, one for each of the three topics. A further three will take place at 10:30, and so on through the day.

You can pick and choose among the sessions as you wish. Included under “Style” will be lectures and discussions on artistic style, on popular music, on theatre, and on various other subjects. “The State of the State” will include a review of the Connecticut economy, and sessions on the environment, on the upcoming elections, and on education. “Science and the Citizen” will explore such issues as stem cell research, ubiquitous computing, and sustainability.
A box lunch will be provided. There will be musical entertainment during the lunch hour, and the day will end with a reception hosted by President Harrison.

Registration

All rates include box lunch

Regular rate: $95

Fellows of the Presidents’ College for 2012-2013: $80 ($70 if you register before July 31).

Couples, if both are Fellows, $150 ($140 before July 31).

Friends. Fellows who wish to introduce or reintroduce a friend to the Presidents’ College may register him or her for $25 (to cover lunch and registration costs). Only one friend per Fellow, please. A friend is anyone who has not been a Fellow for the past three years (since 2008-2009).

Full-time members of the faculty or staff (accompanied by one friend) may register for $25 per person (to cover lunch and registration costs).

BECOME A FELLOW OF THE PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE FOR 2012-2013

To make the most of your association with the Presidents’ College, you should sign up as a Fellow. Fellows enjoy significant discounts on courses and other programs; they have free parking privileges on campus; they have complete access to the University Libraries, including borrowing privileges and access to data bases.

In addition to all of the above, your support for the Presidents’ College assists the Libraries themselves, because any surplus generated by the College at the end of the year goes to support the Libraries, thereby helping to assure the very best services and the most extensive collections that our resources allow. Membership in the Fellows of the Presidents’ College costs just $100 for the full academic year.

If you were a Fellow last year, now is the time to renew! Take advantage of all the discounts and opportunities that membership allows.

If you sign up now, you can register for Showcase 2012 for just $70, including lunch — a real bargain!
Please check relevant items and indicate amount paid at right.

☐ I wish to renew / register as a Fellow of the Presidents' College for 2012-2013. $100

☐ Registration for Showcase 2012 (September 9):
  Fellows: $70 before July 31 $80 thereafter
  All others: $95
  Couples, if both are Fellows: $140 before July 31; $150 thereafter
  Friend $25; one friend per Fellow (please add name and address in space below)
  Full-time faculty or staff: $25

Total: _______

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________

STREET  CITY  STATE  ZIP

Telephone: DAYTIME: (___)___-_________ EVENING: (___)___-_________

To receive correspondence from course coordinators, please include your email address, if available.
E-mail: ________________________________.

Fee may be paid by:  ☐ Check  ☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ Discover  ☐ American Express

Credit Card# ___________________________ Exp. Date ___________________________

Signature _____________________________ Date ______________

Checks payable to: University of Hartford.
Send form and (where appropriate) check to:

Presidents' College: Education for a Lifetime
Mortensen Library
University of Hartford
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117-1599.

Questions? 860.768.4269 or pcollege@hartford.edu.