

Clarke Forum

for Contemporary Issues

DICKINSON

Spring 2025

All Events are Free and Open to the Public

Visit www.clarkeforum.org
for more information on our programs

Monday, February 10, 2025 * ♦

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Citizenship in an Age of Perpetual Conflict

Phil Klay, Marine Corps veteran and author

Though the war in Afghanistan ended in failure and the war in Iraq wound down to a small troop presence, America remains enmeshed in military conflicts around the world. From Africa to the Middle East, we have troops directly in harm's way, while in countries like Ukraine and Israel we provide support of various kinds, from munitions to critical intelligence. How should we think about our role as citizens of a country so deeply involved in warfare, and how might literature help us better understand the stakes of the killing done in our name? For more information on speaker, please visit www.prhspeakers.com.

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Stern Center, Great Room, 7 p.m.

Love Your Body Week Keynote

Out of Time: Fatness, Disability, and Fat Crip Time

April Herndon, Winona State University

This talk explores how fat and disabled bodies are seldom part of imagined futures and instead are often disciplined in an attempt to change

or eliminate them. The concept of Fat Crip Time, which involves acknowledging the ways that fatness and/or disability can mean experiencing time differently, can, however, help us understand how normative time disciplines fat and disabled bodies so that we can live in the present, know fat and disabled bodies as potential sites of joy rather than only hardship, and offer a framework for justice and liberation.

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Black History Month Keynote

We Are Called to Be a Movement

Rev. William J. Barber II, Repairers of the Breach, Poor People's Campaign & Author

For years the Rev. William J. Barber II of the Poor People's Campaign has been one of the most gifted moral fusion organizers, strategists and orators in the country. As an indispensable figure in the public policy and public theology landscape, he believes it's time for everyone who cares about the state of our nation to heed the call and join forces to redeem the soul of America. It's time to come together and renounce the politics of rejection, division and greed, and to lift up the common good, move up to higher ground and revive the heart of democracy. During this inspiring keynote, the Rev. Barber makes an impassioned argument with a message that could not be clearer: It's time for change and the time needs you.

Monday, March 24, 2025

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

On Being from Elsewhere

André Aciman, author of *Call Me by Your Name*

This talk will explore what being a foreigner means. By foreigner one doesn't just

mean being a person from somewhere else but a person whose entire psychological configuration is totally different from those in the hosting nation.

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 ♦

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Rainbows and Mud: Pathways to Queer Thriving in a Marginalizing Society

Nic Weststrate, University of Illinois Chicago

With over 500 bills introduced in 2024, anti-LGBTQ+ legislation is experiencing a frightening revival in the United States. Curriculum censorship and books ban threaten LGBTQ+ people's access to knowledge necessary for surviving and thriving in an increasingly hostile society. Summarizing findings from several studies, this lecture explores how LGBTQ+ people resist such limitations through intergenerational connection, storytelling, and wisdom-sharing.

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Joseph Priestley Award Celebration Lecture
Misinformation in the Age of AI

Marcia McNutt, National Academy of Sciences

For decades now, the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation has been taking its toll. This pernicious spread of false rumors and intentional misdirection is hindering our ability to make more progress on many of our most critical challenges, such as human health and climate change. With the advent of AI-enabled Large Language Models, this problem has reached crisis proportions. This lecture will explore the impacts of mis- and disinformation and solutions that will enable everyone to be better equipped at discerning fact from fiction such that they can make more informed decisions.

Monday, April 7, 2025 + ♦ *

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

The Revitalization of the American Indian Food System

Michael Kotutwa Johnson, University of Arizona

Johnson will talk about his effort to revitalize the American Indian food system under the topics of biodiversity and conservation. This lecture will also take a look at some of the health problems that plague American Indian communities and offer solutions to help bring back not only Indigenous-based foods but also culture.

Thursday, April 10, 2025 *

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Open Inquiry and the Collegiate Mission

Jacqueline Pfeffer Merrill, Campus Free Expression Project

Free expression and open inquiry are under threat in our country. Merrill will speak on how colleges can uphold open inquiry and raise the bar for civic discourse.

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

What Does It Mean to Be a Human Translator in the Age of AI?

Amélie Josselin-Leray, University of Toulouse

The advent and fast development of generative AI is affecting the field of language-related trades significantly, and in particular the field of translation and interpreting: will AI take over the jobs of translators and interpreters? Josselin-Leray has 17-years of experience as trainer in a program belonging to the EMT (European Master's programs in Translation) network, under the umbrella of the Directorate General for Translation at the European Commission. She will argue in favor of an even more pressing need to educate future translators and speak

about the way to train them in specific skills so they will be able to integrate successfully in a labor market, that is more and more highly technologized.

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 +

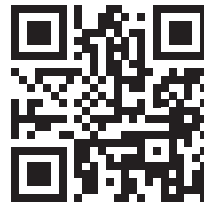
Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Muslim France and the Contradictions of Laïcité: A History of the Present

Mayanthi Fernando, University of California Santa Cruz

In 1989 three Muslim schoolgirls from a Paris suburb refused to remove their Islamic headscarves in class, igniting a debate – still raging more than 30 years later – about the place of Muslims in the French Republic and its governing tradition of laïcité (secularism). Fernando's talk reconsiders the dominant narrative about laïcité, both in France and in the US media, that in 1905, church and state were fully separated and religion restricted to the private sphere. She complicates the history of the present and shows how laïcité has entailed not the separation of religion from politics and the public sphere but rather the French state's intervention into religious life, including defining what counts as religion, belief, practice, and symbol, and how those definitions have significant consequences for Muslim French.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE



STUDENT INITIATED PROGRAMS

Each semester the Clarke Forum student employees propose program ideas that address contemporary issues. Two programs are then selected by a group vote to be developed as events for the following semester.

+ Denotes a student-initiated program

**2024-25 THEME
ALTERNATIVE MODELS**

Having two directors is a novelty for the Clarke Forum and while we are still experimenting with this new approach, our events for the current year explore a range of alternative models that offer possibilities beyond the mainstream, investigate roads not taken and propose solutions expanding the traditional, be it in science and technologies, art and humanities, or business and politics. How can unconventional ideas reframe critical questions and promote innovative perspectives on contemporary issues?

♦ Denotes a program that is part of the theme

**LEADERSHIP IN AN AGE OF
UNCERTAINTY SERIES**

The Clarke Forum established a series of programmatic events dedicated to the theme of leadership in an age of uncertainty. This initiative is grounded on the reality that today's generation of Dickinson students confronts a large number of intractable political, economic, and social problems. How Dickinsonians respond to these challenges presents us with an opportunity for reflection on the meaning of leadership in the contemporary world. This series is partially supported by a fund created by Betty R. '58 and Dan Churchill.

* Denotes a program that is part of the series

For more information about our events, and to access interviews and past lectures visit:

www.clarkeforum.org

This schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, so please refer to the website for the most updated information.



Updated 1/26/25

