

# Clarke Forum

## for Contemporary Issues

DICKINSON

Spring 2025

All Events are Free and Open to the Public

Visit [www.clarkeforum.org](http://www.clarkeforum.org)  
for more information on our programs

**Monday, February 10, 2025 \* ♦**

Anita Tuvín 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](http://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.

**EVENT POSTPONED**

**Thursday, February 20, 2025**

Anita Tuvín 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

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***Bridging Differences in Difficult Times: A Science-Based Approach***

**Juliana Tafur** UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center

Americans are more isolated and divided than ever, fueling a loneliness epidemic and deepening distrust. Yet, most want a more united future and feel a responsibility to connect across differences. Tafur will introduce research-backed strategies for fostering connection. Focusing on practical approaches—like finding shared goals—she will offer tools to navigate divides in meaningful, effective ways. Grounded in science and interactive by design, this session provides a hopeful, actionable path toward unity in a fragmented society.

**Sunday, March 23, 2025**

Althouse 106, 4 p.m.

**Film Screening of *Call My by Your Name***

**Monday, March 24, 2025**

Anita Tuvín 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.

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**Breaking Issue**

***A World Transformed? Foreign Policy in the Current Moment***

**Faculty Panel Discussion**

The current administration's approach to world politics appears to represent a radical departure from eighty years of US foreign policy consensus on a range of issues. In just two months, crucial US relationships to the outside world, including to Russia, NATO, the Middle East, Greenland, Canada, and many more, has been transformed dramatically. This panel will attempt to help us understand the causes, consequences, and durability of these dizzying changes in the US global role.

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025 ♦**

Anita Tuvín 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 Tuvin 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 Tuvin 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 Tuvin 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.

***EVENT POSTPONED***

**Tuesday, April 22, 2025 +**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

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

**Mayanthi Fernando**, University of California Santa Cruz

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](http://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 5/15/25

