

## DAY OF HUMAN UNDERSTANDING

### AN ALL-DAY EVENT

March 5, 2013



**Keynote Speaker: Alice O'Connor**  
**AMERICA'S FORGOTTEN WAR:**  
**THE POLITICS OF FIGHTING POVERTY**  
**FROM THE GREAT SOCIETY TO THE NEW GILDED AGE**  
**Old Main Chapel 3:30**

As a historian, and in light of the fact that we are approaching the 50th anniversary of the war on poverty next year, Alice O'Connor will discuss the extended period when ending poverty was embraced as an official policy goal, and describe the initiatives launched during this period that were remarkably broad in scope and that raised issues of equity and social justice that are still very much with us today.

Alice O'Connor is Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Director of the UCSB Washington Center program in Washington, DC. She teaches and writes about poverty and wealth, social and urban policy, and inequality in the United States. Among her publications are *Poverty Knowledge: Social Science, Social Policy, and the Poor in Twentieth-Century U.S. History* (2001); *Social Science for What? Philanthropy and the Social Question in a World Turned Rightside Up* (2007), and the co-edited volumes *Urban Inequality: Evidence from Four Cities* (with Chris Tilly and Lawrence Bobo), and *Poverty and Social Welfare in the United States: An Encyclopedia* (with Gwendolyn Mink).

#### **INTRODUCTORY SESSION AND REFRESHMENTS - 8:00-9:15 - CUB 119**

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: SARA GROVE, JD PhD**

#### **EMBRACING DIVERSITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY:**

##### **A PANEL DISCUSSION ON IMMIGRATION AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZING**

This session will consist of a panel of community leaders in Chambersburg who will initiate a conversation on a range of topics facing immigrant youth and adults including the ability to access affordable education, gain language skills, overcome the cycle of poverty, find adequate medical treatment, etc. This session will delve into the struggles immigrants face in our area and projects that are currently being carried out in Chambersburg to empower the immigrant community. Finally, the panel will discuss ways that students and faculty at Shippensburg University can get involved in immigrant advocacy at the Chambersburg Hispanic American Center and gain first-hand experience in community organizing.

##### **Panel:**

Jessica Miller, Parent Coordinator for Title I and Title III at Chambersburg School District; Pete Lagiovane, Mayor of Chambersburg; Diana Martes, Executive Director of the Chambersburg Hispanic American Center; Lilly Rodas, Americorps volunteer at the Chambersburg Hispanic American Center, José Ricardo, Associate Professor, Modern Languages

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS- SEE DESCRIPTIONS BELOW:**

9:30 to 10:45	<b>HOMELESSNESS</b>	<b>CUB 103</b>
9:30 to 11:30	<b>EXPLORING CLASS VALUES AND INITIATING CROSS-CLASS DIALOGUE</b>	<b>CUB 105</b>
11:00 to 12:15	<b>HUMAN TRAFFICKING- EXPLOITATION FOR SLAVE LABOR AND SEX</b>	<b>CUB 103</b>
	<b>EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ON POVERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES</b>	<b>CUB 104</b>
	<b>RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: "THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN" PART I</b>	<b>Orndorff Theater</b>
12:30 to 1:45	<b>BREAKING THE CYCLE OF WHITE PRIVILEGE IN THE FIELD OF ACCOUNTING</b>	<b>CUB 103</b>
	<b>CHILDREN IN POVERTY: THE CASE OF GROS-MANGLES, HAITI</b>	<b>CUB 104</b>
	<b>RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: "THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN" PART II</b>	<b>Orndorff Theater</b>
2:00 to 3:15	<b>CONVERSATIONS ON DISABILITY</b>	<b>CUB 103</b>
	<b>POVERTY LOOKS LIKE ME</b>	<b>CUB 104</b>
	<b>DEHUMANIZATION AND THE PATH TO GENOCIDE</b>	<b>CUB 105</b>
	<b>MINEFIELD OF DIVERSITY: WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO GET TO THE OTHER SIDE?</b>	<b>CUB 119</b>

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**SILENT AUCTION**  
**FUNDRAISER FOR THE SAFE HARBOUR HOMELESS SHELTER IN CARLISLE**  
**CUB HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF THE CAFETERIA**  
**MARCH 5- 8AM-7PM.**

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**SPECIAL EVENT**

***Who Killed Chea Vichea?***

Thursday, March 7, 2013 6:30 PM **Grove Hall - 101 - Grove Forum**



Talk: Rich Garella -- "Life and Death in a Fledgling Democracy" Film Description: Cambodian union president Chea Vichea was assassinated in broad daylight in 2004. As international pressure mounted, two men were swiftly arrested and convicted of the crime, each sentenced to twenty years in prison. Filmmaker Bradley Cox's five-year investigation reveals an elaborate cover-up that reaches the highest levels of Cambodian society. For more information click here:[http://calendar.ship.edu/EventList.aspx?view=EventDetails&eventidn=23030&information\\_id=46064&type=&syndicate=syndicate](http://calendar.ship.edu/EventList.aspx?view=EventDetails&eventidn=23030&information_id=46064&type=&syndicate=syndicate)

**BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS:**

**9:30 to 10:45**

**HOMELESSNESS – CUB 103**

Presentation centers on homelessness in Cumberland and Franklin County. Discussion will include statistics, causes of homelessness, resources to help the homeless and ways to get involved.

**Presented by:**

Social Work Students- Jill Cox, Elizabeth Olendorf, Robyn Ross, and Jenna Simmons

**9:30 to 11:30**

**EXPLORING CLASS VALUES AND INITIATING CROSS-CLASS DIALOGUE- CUB 105**

Social class values and experiences shape our personal identity and relationships. However these factors are rarely discussed due to pervasive social myths of the United States as a "classless society." Discomfort with social class differences often prevents us from acting to address economic injustice. In this workshop we will explore our personal class values, and learn strategies for effective cross-class dialogue. Participants will receive resources for future educational use.

**Presented by:**

Kathryn Newton, Assistant Professor, Counseling & College Student Personnel

### **11:00 to 12:15**

#### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING- EXPLOITATION FOR SLAVE LABOR AND SEX - CUB 103**

This presentation will focus on both labor and sex human trafficking. Many people do not realize that trafficking is something that occurs in the Cumberland Valley. Many products used today in the United States consist of ingredients produced by forced labor somewhere along the supply chain. The interactive session will include discussion about the ways consumers can use their purchasing power to influence elimination of forced labor and examination of dynamics that influence the severity and prevalence of labor and sex trafficking.

**Presented by:**

Cheryl Hershey, Social Work Student

#### **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ON POVERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES - CUB 104**

Poverty affects people all over the world, from remote far-away places to our own neighborhood and communities. As a society, we have an obligation to ensure that the less fortunate are also able to live a fruitful life. Social justice dictates that persons should receive equal opportunities to achieve success and lead a happy life. Unfortunately, this ideal has yet to be fully realized, not only in developing countries but also right here in the place that we all call home. In this experiential learning activity, participants will be introduced to poverty that occurs right here in South Central Pennsylvania. We will start by asking the question “Who are our neighbors?” and showing median income levels and rates of poverty, especially concentrating on children. We will then discuss the difficulties these families have in making ends meet. This will lead us to juxtapose economic outcomes that would result from having a *living wage* rather than merely a *minimum wage*. Local housing costs will be examined to determine the amount of hours a citizen working a minimum wage job will have to work in order merely to pay the rent. Our focus will then turn to identifying disparity in income, home ownership, and wage rates between different racial groups. We will lastly provide a hard look at childhood poverty and deliberate the adverse societal effects (the human cost) of this unacceptable status quo. We wish to draw attention to the fact that the workshop organizers come from many different disciplines, and we believe that this will allow for a more meaningful discussion on this important issue.

**Presented by:**

Jerry Carbo, Associate Professor, Management and Marketing

Viet Dao, Associate Professor, Accounting and Management Information Systems

Steve Haase, Associate Professor, Psychology

Ian Langella, Associate Professor, Finance and Supply Chain Management

Petra Rueter, Instructor, Modern Languages

#### **RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: “THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN” PART I- CUB 119**

This two-part session will **not** focus on individual behaviors and attitudes, but on how our institutions shape and create race, giving different groups vastly unequal life chances, particularly related to the creation of wealth in the United States. The video, “The House We Live In,” will be the springboard for this two-part session.

Part I will include: introductory questions for participants to consider prior to viewing the video; watching the video; as well as brief discussion afterwards as time permits.

Part II will allow the opportunity to engage in discussion about the video including:

How race-driven policies made in the 1940s and 1950s had, and continue to have, significant impact (both negative and positive) on our society today in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; the subtle, yet powerful and far reaching ways that some of the ordinary social institutions quietly channel wealth and opportunity; how certain segments of our society benefit from a racist system without personally participating in the racist act; how the playing field is still not level today, with “colorblind” policies only continuing to perpetuate inequities.

**Presented by:**

Nicole Monastra-Hewitt, Instructor, Social Work/Gerontology

**12:30 to 1:45**

**BREAKING THE CYCLE OF WHITE PRIVILEGE IN THE FIELD OF ACCOUNTING- CUB 103**

Historically, the field of accounting was dominated by white men. During the Women's Movement, white women began to enter the field, but minorities continued to be excluded. Today the field is dominated by white men at the upper echelons and white women at the lower echelons. The field created programs to bring minorities into the profession more than 40 years ago, yet these programs have had little impact. This workshop discusses the demographic trends in the field of accounting, and the educational and employment opportunities available to minorities. The purpose of the workshop is to help break the cycle of white privilege in the field of accounting.

**Presented by:**

Patricia A. Patrick, Associate Professor, Accounting

**CHILDREN IN POVERTY: THE CASE OF GROS-MANGLES, HAITI- CUB 104**

The CIA World Factbook gives a set of startling statistics in regards to Haiti. It states that "80% of the population [is] living under the poverty line and 54% in abject poverty. It adds that "[t]wo-fifths of all Haitians depend on the agricultural sector, mainly small-scale subsistence farming, and remain vulnerable to damage from frequent natural disasters, exacerbated by the country's widespread deforestation". Based on our field observations, we will address the case of the rural community of Gros-Mangles, on the island of La Gonâve, and center on the issues faced by children in this remote area. We will discuss their socialization within the family and the community; the expectations family and community have for them; their access to education; and their access to basic necessities, including food and medical care. Finally, we propose to examine how the NGOs and international aid efforts have often failed to actually help the Haitian nation (in spite of the large sums of money donated), and we will explore possible solutions. A series of photos taken on site will illustrate the issues debated.

**Presented by:**

Blandine Mitaut, Assistant Professor, Modern Languages

Agnes Ragone, Professor, Modern Languages

**RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: "THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN" PART II- CUB 119**

This two-part session will **not** focus on individual behaviors and attitudes, but on how our institutions shape and create race, giving different groups vastly unequal life chances, particularly related to the creation of wealth in the United States. The video, "The House We Live In," will be the springboard for this two-part session

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**Presented by:**

Nicole Monastra-Hewitt, Instructor, Social Work/Gerontology

**2:00 to 3:15**

### **CONVERSATIONS ON DISABILITY - CUB 103**

This event will promote an interactive discussion about the experiences of people with disabilities on the SU campus and beyond. The panel will be composed of persons who experience various disabilities and interact with the SU campus in different ways, some as students, some as employees, and some as participants in SU groups and programs. The organizers will develop a series of questions to help guide discussion. These questions will encourage discussion of topics such as the physical and attitudinal barriers faced by people with disabilities, their aspirations and the supports that enable individuals to attain their aspirations, issues related to interpersonal communication and relationships, and the ways that policies enable or disable people in participating in the SU community. Because the theme for the Day of Human Understanding is poverty and social justice this year, we will also ask questions related to equality, accommodations, and the economic and educational barriers that contribute to the low employment rate and high poverty rate of people with disabilities. The audience will be encouraged to ask questions and actively engage in the discussion.

**Panel:**

Drs. Allison Carey (Sociology), Marita Flagler (Social Work), Sue Morin (Psychology), and Cheryl Zaccagnini (Educational Leadership and Special Education) will organize and facilitate a panel of speakers who each have disabilities, including SU students with disabilities and participants in People Involved Equally (a student group that works with adults with disabilities who reside in the community).

### **POVERTY LOOKS LIKE ME - CUB 104**

Discover the face of poverty through a series of stories and interactive discussion. Participants will explore the causes and consequences of poverty and work through an exercise designed to provide a glimpse into what it means to be poor in the US.

**Presented by:**

Becky Ward, Associate Professor, Teacher Education

### **DEHUMANIZATION AND THE PATH TO GENOCIDE- CUB 105**

Genocides are not random bloodlettings; in fact, perpetrators need time to plan and organize. The path to genocide requires the classification, subjugation and a denial of the humanness of the victims. This session explores how perpetrators of genocide willingly subvert human identity and discusses why people often “stand by” and allows this human rights tragedy to occur.

**Presented by:**

Mark Sachleben, Associate Professor, Political Science

### **MINEFIELD OF DIVERSITY: WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO GET TO THE OTHER SIDE? - CUB 119**

This interactive workshop will focus on the impact of stereotypes on the attitudes and behaviors of Shippensburg University students, faculty, staff and administration. The aim of this workshop is to highlight the impact of culture both in and out of the classroom while offering student leaders the opportunity to facilitate a common understanding with workshop participants. Through discussion and interaction participants will be provided with strategies to navigate the Diversity Minefield.

**Presented by:**

Ms. Diane L. Jefferson, Ms. Shauntae Doughty, Ms. Kapri Chase, Ms. Sharicka Peters and MSA Student Leaders