



Pioneer Symposium 2015
Friday, Sept. 25 - Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015
University of Denver Campus

Experience the joy of discovering a new idea, especially when guided by an inspiring teacher or leader. The University of Denver has gathered an expert assembly of accomplished alumni and distinguished professors to engage your mind around critical current issues and delight you with new knowledge. With numerous lectures, panels and keynote luncheon speakers over two days, you're sure to find something to ignite your intellectual passion.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, 2015

10:00 a.m. -
4:00 p.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: REGISTRATION

Experience the joy of discovering a new idea, especially when guided by an inspiring teacher or leader. The University of Denver has gathered an expert faculty of accomplished alumni and distinguished professors to engage your mind around critical current issues and delight you with new knowledge.

Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law
Room: First Floor Hallway - West Entrance
Cost: \$40 fee covers all sessions and lunches on Friday and Saturday

11:30 a.m. -
1:30 p.m.

WELCOME LUNCHEON & PANEL DISCUSSION: STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Join University Chancellor Rebecca Chopp as she leads a discussion on how education, both in and outside of the classroom, must be shaped to support the needs and aspirations of 21st-century students and their workplaces and communities. Panelists include Dr. Cynthia Cherrey (PHD '88), former director of Driscoll University Center, outgoing Vice President for Campus Life at Princeton University and incoming President & CEO for the International Leadership Association; Dr. Douglas Knowlton (BA '72), Vice President for Student Academic Success at Metropolitan State University of Minnesota; and Richard Maez (BA '15), current graduate student in Morgridge College of Education and the 2015 Founders Day award recipient for Outstanding Undergraduate Student.

Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Room: The Forum
Cost: \$40 fee covers all sessions and lunches on Friday and Saturday

2:00 -3:15 p.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: FACULTY SESSIONS

Join us for stimulating, interactive sessions with DU faculty.

Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Sessions:

“The Right to Health in Practice: Lessons and Challenges”

Alejandro Ceron, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

The Right to Health has become a ubiquitous paradigm. Experts, politicians and activists have increasingly developed global, national and subnational legislation and programs that take the right to health as their core concept. Furthermore, many funding institutions and local organizations are adopting the right to health as part of their mission statements. The right to health can be understood as a legal right, a moral claim, an ideology, a desire, a strategy, and a topic of jurisprudence. What does the right to health mean in these various contexts? And what does the language of the “right to health” accomplish?

“Mental Illness and the Courts: Myths, Challenges, and... Hope?”

Neil Gowensmith, Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Professional Psychology

Jails and prisons are the largest psychiatric treatment facilities in the United States. Approximately 16% of all inmates experience serious and persistent mental illness, and more than half report at least one psychiatric symptom. However, the criminal justice system was never designed to deal with mental illness. What caused this problem, and what solutions are available to fix it? How can people in need access treatment without involving the police, courts, and jails? We will discuss the public forensic mental health system and related issues, such as the insanity defense, the Aurora theater trial, and the reliability of forensic evaluations.

“Globalization & Governance: Exploring Business and Human Rights”

Tricia Olsen, Assistant Professor, Business Ethics & Legal Studies, Daniels College of Business

Claims against companies for human rights abuses persist, despite major advances in human rights around the world, including the spread of democracy, global human rights protections, increased corporate social responsibility, and industry-specific agreements regarding improved

business conduct. This session will explore current initiatives around business and human rights and discuss the challenges states, business, and human rights advocates face in improving human rights around the globe.

“Positive Sport: Just a Dream? On Social Responsibility in the World of Sport”

Artur Poczwardowski, Professor, Graduate School of Professional Psychology

As society, we all are aware of negative consequences of intense sport participation. Beyond working with athletes, teams, and sporting organizations, sport psychologists engage in initiatives that aim at enhancing the public good through socially responsible agendas. Dr. Artur Poczwardowski and his Polish colleagues introduced an umbrella term of positive sport that has a potential to unite positively charged philosophies and initiatives in sports. In this session, positive sport will be defined as an approach that aims at accomplishing two equally important objectives such as (i) physical and psychological development, health and balance, and (ii) highest possible sport performance accomplishments. How do you think this combination can be valuable?

“TBD Title”

Matt Taylor, Associate Professor, Geography, Natural Sciences & Mathematics

TBD description.

“Understanding the Persistence and Transformation of Fraud in the U.S.”

Lisa Victoravich, Associate Professor, Accountancy, Daniels College of Business

Despite the passage of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act by Congress over a decade ago, fraud at U.S. companies continues to be on the rise. In this session, we will examine the mechanics behind financial statement frauds (e.g., cooking the books) including how the breakdown of corporate governance enabled the perpetration of the fraud. This examination will entail an in depth look at actual fraud cases. As well, we will discuss recent trends in frauds which do not involve the manipulation of financial statements such as bribery and corruption, cybercrime, and bank fraud.

3:30 -4:45 p.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: FACULTY SESSIONS

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Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Sessions:

"TBD Title"

Ali Azadani, Assistant Professor, Mechanical & Materials Engineering, Ritchie School of Engineering & Computer Science

TBD description.

"Marijuana Legalization in Colorado: Lessons Learned"

Sam Kamin, Professor, Sturm College of Law

In 2012 Colorado became the first jurisdiction in the world to legalize marijuana and to tax and regulate its production and sale. How well has this experiment gone and what can it tell us about the future of drug law and policy in the United States in the years to come?

"Do Not Drop: Why biologics advertised on TV have such scary potential side effects"

Corinne Lengsfeld, Professor and Associate Provost for Research, Mechanical & Materials Engineering, Ritchie School of Engineering & Computer Science

In recent year's biologic therapeutics have taken the US market place by storm. Many of these drugs have dramatically changed the lives of patients with chronic diseases. Unfortunately, 30 to 50% of all Rheumatoid Arthritis patients loose drug efficacy and many other suffer life threatening side effects. Data gathered on patients treated by biologics for other chronic diseases show similar outcomes. We will discuss why this is occurring and why the work of a fluid dynamist at the University of Denver has got the attention of the FDA.

"Film as Religion"

Gregory Allen Robbins, Associate Professor and Chair, Religious Studies, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

We tend to label activities as "religious" chiefly because they exhibit patterns we recognize from religion traditions we know. Certain aspects of popular culture have a "religious" side to them. Take film, for example. This session samples clips from recent, popular films that present a vision of how the world is as well as how it might be. In the ritual context of viewing films, we "entertain" the truths of their storytelling and their values, even as they "entertain" us. For "Nones," those who have abandoned institutional religion, taking in a movie can be viewed as an alternative religious activity.

“Preserving our Digital Cultural Heritage”

Heather Ryan, Assistant Professor, Library & Information Services, Morgridge College of Education

With the dawn of digital information comes new challenges to maintaining access to our digital cultural heritage over the long term; much more so than books and paper. What makes it so challenging? Are we heading for the “digital dark age” some news sources have mentioned? In this lecture, Dr. Heather Ryan will answer these questions and will discuss methods that cultural heritage institutions use to preserve access to our digital history over time. Dr. Ryan will also share a few tips to help you preserve your own digital heritage for future generations.

“Fostering Healthy Futures for Maltreated Children: 15 Years of Intervention Research”

Heather Taussig, Professor, Graduate School for Social Work

Fostering Healthy Futures (FHF) is a mentoring and skills group program for preadolescent maltreated children in foster care. Through rigorous research, FHF has been named an evidence-based program, and current efforts include disseminating the program nationally and internationally as well as piloting a teen adaptation. Other current research projects include a longitudinal study examining the transition to independence for young adults with a history of foster care. The rationale behind FHF, the results obtained, and future directions will be discussed through the use of stories, pictures, and video. Come learn how we foster healthy futures among vulnerable youth!

5:00 p.m. -
6:00 p.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM SOCIAL HOUR

Join fellow Symposium attendees over drinks and share ideas, insights and more following the first day of academic stimulation.

Location: Leo Block Alumni Center

Room: Outside

Cost: \$40 fee covers all sessions and lunches on Friday and Saturday

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26, 2015

8:00 a.m. -
10:00 a.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: REGISTRATION

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new knowledge.

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9:00 -10:15 a.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: FACULTY SESSIONS

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Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Sessions:

“Food Marketing and Perspectives on Food Decision Making”

Ali Besharat, Assistant Professor, Marketing, Daniels College of Business

Obesity has risen to 28% and about 33% of American youth are now either obese or overweight. This presentation examines current food marketing practices to determine how they may be influencing food intake. In addition, it explores whether consumers are susceptible to a wide range of social, cognitive, affective, and environmental forces when making food decisions. My hope is to provide a lens that directs our food decision making and empowers us to become healthier eaters.

“Youth Sports in God Bless 'merica! What's wrong and how to fix it! #DUSportCoaching”

Brian Gearity, Director MA Coach & Sports Education, Graduate School of Professional Psychology

In this session, attendees will receive the secrets behind making your child a super-star, multi-million dollar athlete! You'll receive a blueprint for success and soon your little Billy and Suzy will be crushing their teenage peers. We will even show you how to have your adolescents dominate those other toddler weaklings. Time permitting, we will also spend a couple of minutes doing that other academic stuff like exploring the landscape of what's right and what's wrong with youth sports in the USA, and how we can solve our self-created problems.

“The Iran Nuclear Agreement: Should Congress Support It?”

Nader Hashemi, Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Middle East Studies, Josef Korbel School of International Studies

After two year of intense negotiations between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran, a final comprehensive nuclear agreement was reached on July 14, 2015. The key questions that have emerged are the following: will this deal ultimately prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon? Will it significantly inhibit a nuclear arms race in the

region? How will Israel and the Arab Gulf Cooperation Countries be affected by this agreement and to what extent will Iran be able to expand its regional influence after the lifting of sanctions? This lecture will examine the pros and cons of the Iran nuclear agreement with eye to the future of the Middle East.

"TBD Title"

Roddy MacInnes, Associate Professor, Art & Art History, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

TBD description.

"Twentysomething's Romantic Relationship Experiences: What Happens in College Stays in College?"

Galena Rhoades, Research Associate Professor, Psychology, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Twentysomethings often find themselves in romantic relationships that can be described by the phrase "it's complicated". This lecture will examine what young adults' romantic relationship experiences are like today and what these early experiences mean for later marriage. The hooking up culture, pathways toward committed relationships, and the significance of the rise in cohabitation in the United States will be discussed. Innovative means of educating young adults about healthy relationship will also be reviewed.

"The United Nations into the 21st Century: Taming International Conflict"

Tim Sisk, Professor of International Comparative Politics and Associate Dean of Research, Josef Korbel School of International Studies

Violence within countries such as Afghanistan, Central Africa Republic, Iraq, Syria, or Sudan presents the principal, realized threat to international peace and security into the 21st century. At the forefront of global efforts to tame such violence lies the United Nations... an institution that was created to address wars between states, not within them. How effective has the United Nations been in transforming its institutions, and its methods - such as peacekeeping - to tame the threats posed by contemporary intrastate conflicts? This lecture presents scholarly research on the effectiveness of the UN to prevent, manage and build peace in intrastate conflict.

10:30 -11:45 a.m.

PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: FACULTY SESSIONS

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Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Sessions:

“The Surprising Importance of Early Math”

Doug Clements, Professor and Executive Director of the Marsico Institute of Early Learning and Literacy; and Julie Sarama, Professor, Education, Morgridge College of Education

We discuss five surprising research findings about early mathematics, including its predictive power, children’s math potential, educators understanding of that potential, the need for interventions, and what we know about effective interventions.

“How the Brain Learns: 3 Secrets for More Impactful Communication with Others”

Allison Friederichs, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Assistant Professor, University College

The emerging field of neuroandragogy offers fascinating insights into the intersection of neuroscience and andragogy (the theory of adult learning). In this interactive workshop, Dr. Friederichs explores neuroandragogical concepts to illustrate what we know about how the adult brain learns, and offers three tips for utilize that knowledge to craft more impactful communication with others.

“The Collapse of the Federal Government Process and the Case for Reforming the Filibuster”

Peter Hanson, Assistant Professor, Political Science, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Is it time to abolish the Senate filibuster? DU political scientist Peter Hanson presents evidence from his recent book to show how the Senate is disproportionately responsible for the collapse of the federal budget process. The Senate’s tradition of unlimited debate and amendment was designed to make the Senate the “World’s Greatest Deliberative Body.” Instead, it has contributed to gridlock in today’s polarized political environment. Join Professor Hanson to explore whether reforming the Senate would improve the capacity of Congress to put the budget back on track.

“Civilians vs. Armed Groups: What are the Odds?”

Oliver Kaplan, Assistant Professor and Director, Human Trafficking Center

Civilians would seem powerless when facing violent and heavily armed actors in settings of civil conflict, and yet communities in various countries have found ways to avoid violence. This presentation will showcase the various strategies that communities have used to retain autonomy and self-rule in the face of competition among multiple armed groups. Since violence has been theorized to stem from divisions

within civilian communities, I explore how social cohesion enables nonviolent collective strategies to deceive and influence armed actors and defend communities. We will then explore the prospects for civilians to manage their security in today's ongoing conflicts.

"The Great White Way - Broadway's Birth"

Marc Shulgold, Instructor, Music History, University College

Two centuries before those neon lights began luring theater-goers to New York's famous boulevard, European composers had fashioned a new approach to their staged extravaganzas - they shortened the Baroque opera, lightening things up with catchy tunes and silly plots. This concept of opera buffa would later intrigue Mozart, evolving during the 19th Century into the operetta, a breezy entertainment that captivated European audiences and Americans, as well. Meanwhile, song-writers in New York's Tin Pan Alley honed their craft, cranking out hits for Vaudeville revues, later becoming the early masters of the beloved Broadway musical.

"A History of Game Playing Programs and What They Teach Us About the Future of Artificial Intelligence"

Nathan Sturdevant, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, Ritchie School of Engineering & Computer Science

Movies and the media have recently been warning us about the danger of an uncontrolled artificial intelligence. But, super-human intelligence is already here, in the form of game-playing programs for classical games like chess and checkers. This talk will give a brief history of these and other game-playing programs. The insights from this history will then be used to comment on the future of artificial intelligence and fears about super-human intelligence.

12:00 p.m. -
2:00 p.m.

FAREWELL LUNCHEON & PANEL DISCUSSION: KNOWLEDGE

Join Shelly Smith-Acuna, Dean of the University's Graduate School for Professional Psychology, the moderator as she leads a discussion on the shape of knowledge in the 21st century, and how will our scholarship, teaching practices, methods of learning and our institutional structures support it. Panelists include Corinne Lengsfeld, Professor and Associate Provost for Research at the University of Denver; Jonathan Moyer, Associate Director of the Pardee Center at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies; James Herbert Williams, Dean of the University's Graduate School for Social Work; and Erica Chenoweth, Associate Professor at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies.

Location: The Ricketson Law Building

Room: The Forum
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