

Summer 2009

<p>7:00PM Tuesday June 9, 2009 Brookens Auditorium</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p>Peter Wenz**</p>	<p><i>How to Form Political Coalitions without Sacrificing Personal Integrity**</i></p> <p>Some political analysts claim that Americans are irreconcilably divided between red and blue, right and left. A culture war exists between the two camps and no reasonable compromise between conflicting views is possible, they say. I claim, to the contrary, that Americans use twelve different political philosophies in their thinking, not just two, and that most individuals use at least half a dozen of these when they reflect on major controversial issues. This plural, as opposed to dual approach to political analysis opens up the possibility that people from the right and left can form effective political coalitions on many policy matters, even on such hot-button political issues as same-sex marriage, school vouchers, and genetic engineering, without anyone sacrificing her political principles. While everyone in the coalition agrees on the policy, they may have different underlying reasons, each having reasons compatible with her own political principles and priorities. The talk will illustrate this possibility with discussion of same-sex marriage, school vouchers, genetic engineering, and more (if time permits).</p> <p>Peter Wenz, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Illinois at Springfield and University Scholar of the University of Illinois, is one of those aging leftist, feminist, environmentalist, vegetarians often seen jogging near universities. Dr. Wenz retired from UIS in December 2004 after spending 28 years as a member of the Philosophy Department.</p> <p>Dr. Wenz is the author of a new book titled <i>Beyond Red and Blue: How Twelve Political Philosophies Shape American Debates</i>. The book is his sixth and has been published by MIT Press. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event. A book-signing will be held immediately following the presentation.</p>
<p>6:00PM Monday June 15, 2009 Brookens Auditorium</p>	<p><i>Film Screening & Discussion: V for Vendetta</i></p> <p><i>Political Art in the Public Sphere</i> Discussion by Richard Gilman-Opalsky</p>	<p><i>V for Vendetta: A Discussion of Terrorism and Political Violence</i></p> <p><i>V for Vendetta</i>, is a popular and recent film that is a fiction and full of action. However, the movie is centrally about a "hero" who we would have to call a "terrorist" by almost any measure today, and it raises the question of the justice/injustice of political violence in very powerful, vivid, and unique ways. http://vforvendetta.warnerbros.com/</p> <p>Dr. Richard Gilman-Opalsky runs a series of events at UIS called Political Art and the Public Sphere (PAPS). The basic idea behind PAPS is to consider how "political art" raises provocative social and political questions, and to engage in discussion with students, faculty, and members of the general public. http://www.uis.edu/politicalscience/faculty/gilman-opalsky.html</p>

<p>2:00PM Tuesday June 23, 2009 UHB 2008</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p>Diane Mathis & Butch Elzea** <i>Southwind Park Project</i></p>	<p><i>Southwind Park: A Community Project**</i></p> <p>The Edwin Watts Southwind Park is an 80 acre <i>All Peoples Park</i> being built in Springfield, Illinois. One of Southwind Park's most compelling features is its complete accessibility for all ages and abilities with special emphasis and attention given to those with physical and cognitive disabilities. The park serves as a national model providing a new dimension of inclusion for all people "without boundaries" in full compliance with the American Disabilities Act.</p> <p>In this presentation, Diane Mathis and Butch Elzea of the Southwind Park Project will discuss how partnerships, teamwork, and the cooperative involvement of many people are building this <i>All People Park</i> serving cognitive, emotional, physical and social needs in a diverse, safe, and fun setting without physical and social barriers. http://www.southwindpark.org/home.asp</p>
<p>11:00AM Friday June 26, 2009 Southwind Park</p>	<p>Marc Miller <i>Southwind Park Project</i></p>	<p><i>Service Project: Planting at Southwind Park</i></p> <p>Students will gather at Southwind Park to plant trees / gardens under the direction of Marc Miller, horticulturist and landscape designer, who planned the park's gardens. During the project Marc will lead a discussion about the park and its unique features. http://www.southwindpark.org/home.asp</p> <p>Bottled drinking water will be provided. Bring gardening or work gloves if you have them. Transportation from campus is available or you can meet us at the park.</p>
<p>12:00PM Wednesday July 1, 2009 Brookens Auditorium</p>	<p>Nithya Karuppaswamy**</p>	<p><i>Bridging Across Cultures: Challenges & Opportunities**</i></p> <p><i>Developing the skills of cross-cultural connection is not only recommended, but necessary to succeed in today's global environment. Connecting across cultures, involves engaging in the following steps by all parties: 1) understanding one's own background, strengths and biases; 2) being curious and learning about the others' culture; and finally, 3) developing genuine connection by persisting in the face of obstacles. The speaker will address each of these steps by using cross-cultural connection between individuals from India and the US as examples.</i></p> <p>Dr. Nithyakala Karuppaswamy is an Assistant Professor of Human Development Counseling at UIS. Her areas of specialization include multicultural counseling, racial identity development, couples / family therapy, spirituality and the intersection of Western and Eastern worldviews in therapy.</p>
<p>Week of July 6, 2009</p> <p>Optional Online Event</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p>Mai Abdul Rahman**</p> <p>Sponsored by the <i>World Affairs Council of Central Illinois</i></p>	<p><i>The Importance of Jerusalem to Jews, Christians & Muslims**</i></p> <p>Mai Abdul Rahman, board member of the <i>Washington Interfaith Alliance for Middle East Peace</i> and President and Founder of the <i>American Palestinian Women's Association</i>, considers the importance of Jerusalem to and points of understanding among Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. The lecture will also explore the impact of the Israeli occupation on the Abrahamic faiths.</p>

		<p>This event was recorded at UIS on May 27, 2009 and will be available to students as an online event only.</p>
<p>2:00PM Friday July 10, 2009 APL Shelter</p>	<p>Animal Protective League: Tour & Service Project</p>	<p>Animal Protective League Tour & Service Project</p> <p>The Animal Protective League (APL) is committed to caring for sick, injured, abused and abandoned dogs and cats and finding the best possible permanent homes for them. APL is a private, not-for-profit organization with a small paid staff and a constant need for volunteers to assist in caring for animals, and to keep its community programs and events operating efficiently. http://www.apl-shelter.org/dotnetnuke/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx</p> <p>This event will include a tour of the shelter, followed by a discussion and an opportunity to perform service work at APL with the option to work with the animals. Transportation from campus is available or you can meet us at the shelter.</p> <p>FYI: You are welcome to bring an item to donate to the shelter. To view APL's wish list for needed supplies see http://www.apl-shelter.org/DotNetNuke/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=BZMwmLsDP%2fQ%3d&tabid=96&mid=950</p>
<p>6:00PM Wednesday July 15, 2009 Brookens Auditorium</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p>Richard Gilman-Opalsky**</p>	<p><i>This Event Is Not Taking Place: Truth, Reality, and History in Baudrillard's Political Philosophy</i></p> <p>What assumptions about truth, reality, and history govern our decision-making? Is it even possible to make moral arguments and take political action without making any claims about truth, reality, and history? This lecture, followed by an open discussion, will focus on some of the central claims of the work of Jean Baudrillard and the most provocative tenets of late 20th century French social and political philosophy. We ask how this movement challenges the ways we think and speak about the world in which we live.</p> <p>Richard Gilman-Opalsky is an Assistant Professor of political philosophy in the Department of Political Science at UIS. His teaching areas and research interests include the history of political philosophy, continental and contemporary political theory, socialist philosophy, globalization, cosmopolitanism, critical theory, and poststructuralism. http://www.uis.edu/politicalscience/faculty/gilman-opalsky.html</p>