Faculty Lecture Series

Each semester, Commonwealth Honors College celebrates faculty who have made a significant contribution to research or creative activity. These faculty share their ideas and insight with honors students in plenary sessions open to the campus community. The lectures highlight academic excellence and scholarship and are also designed to complement the Honors Seminar course entitled "Ideas that Changed the World."

Upcoming Lecture

"The Writer’s Perspective: Literary Imagination and Living History"

Sabina Murray, Professor, English

November 26, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Campus Center Auditorium

A look at the power of engaging history in one’s fiction—of inviting the real into the imagined

Past Lectures

"(un)Silent Sea"

Sheila Patek, Associate Professor, Biology

November 7, 2012

poster • press release • photos • summary • video
“What Would Plato Say about Africa’s Odious Debts?”

Léonce Ndikumana, Andrew Glyn Professor of Economics, Department of Economics and Political Economy Research Institute
October 3, 2012
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

“Our Planet, Under Pressure: Current Status and Future Prospects”

Raymond Bradley, University Distinguished Professor of geosciences and director of the Climate System Research Center
April 4, 2012
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

“Coming Out for Change”

M.V. Lee Badgett, Professor, Economics and Director, Center for Public Policy and Administration
March 15, 2012
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

“Multiple Modes of Inquiry and the Nature of Reality”

David K. Scott, Former Chancellor, University of Massachusetts Amherst
February 14, 2012
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

“Art as Intellectualism”


Nicholas McBride, Professor, Journalism
November 29, 2011
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

"Advertising and the End of the World"

Sut Jhally, Professor, Communication
November 7, 2011
poster • press release • photos • summary • video

"Puffers Pond: What's Happening of Great Scientific Importance"
Lynn Margulis, Distinguished University Professor, Geosciences
October 17, 2011

poster • press release • photos • summary

“The Great Lie of Ideals: From Plato to General Education”

David Lenson, Professor and Program Director, Comparative Literature
September 14, 2011

poster • press release • photos • summary • video