VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER January 19, 2009

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, January 19

6:00 p.m. Benton Chapel

MLK keynote speech and candlelight vigil

TUESDAY, January 20

9:30 a.m. Inauguration of President Elect Barack Obama

video feed in G-23 and the Arts Room

4:00 p.m. Service of Prayer and Celebration to honor the occasion of the

inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama as the 44th President of the

United States, Benton Chapel

WEDNESDAY, January 21

10:10 a.m. Weekly Worship Service

All Faith Chapel

12:00 noon UMSA Lunch

Reading Room

4:00 – 5:30 GDR Colloquium on Religious History

Speaker Todd Hartch, Eastern Kentucky University

"Mexican Athens: Ivan Illich, Cuernavaca, and the Corruption of Christianity"

THURSDAY, January 22

FRIDAY, January 23

10:10 a.m. Coffee Hour - Divinity Reading Room

12:00 - 1:00 Eco-Concerns Org. Meeting - Veganism with Dave Hoch

Private Dining Room

12:10pm Eucharist Benton Chapel

1:30 p.m. Faculty Meeting

Private Dining Room

On Tuesday, 20 January 2009, at 4:00 p.m. there will be a special University-wide service of prayer and celebration in Benton Chapel to honor the occasion of the inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama as the 44th President of the United States. Three reflections will be given by members of the University community, excerpts from several former Presidential Inaugural Addresses will be read by students and faculty members, and special music will be presented. Join us as we remember this peaceful, global, inclusive, and lawful transition to a new administration.

January 29, 2009

The Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership in the Professions Presents:

"Face to Face with the Women of Iraq" Luncheon

Special Guest Speaker: Kelly Hayes-Raitt

In the south this winter as the recent Carson McCullers Center's Marguerite and Lamar Smith Writing Fellow, Kelly is presenting a talk and a reading from her book about her experiences in pre- and post-invasion Iraq and in Syria last summer volunteering with Iraqi refugees.

She has presented her dynamic 35-minute talk, illustrated by portrait photos of Iraqis she met, to more than 200 audiences, including churches, temples, Rotary Clubs, neighborhood associations, journalism and creative writing classes, junior and senior high school students – and Congresswomen in the US Capitol.

To learn more about Kelly's work, visit www.PeacePATHFoundation.org.

Please join us for lunch in the Vanderbilt Divinity School Reading room from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. To register, please call our office: 615-343-5447. Lunch will be provided to **students** who pre-register. For all others, lunch can be purchased at Suzy's Café (next to the Reading Room).

January 29, 2009

The Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership in the Professions Presents:

Leadership Breakfast

Special Guest Speaker: Kelly Hayes-Raitt

Kelly Hayes-Raitt is an activist and author who has worked tirelessly for the past three decades on issues of civil and human rights, as well as for the protection of the environment. As a passionate and effective advocate, she has appeared on more than 500 radio and television public affairs shows including PBS "News Hour with Jim Lehrer," CBS "This Morning," CNN "Financial News," and CNN "Moneyline."

Five weeks before the US-led invasion of Iraq, Ms. Hayes-Raitt was visiting with a women's delegation. The Iraqis touched her deeply and she returned to provide on-air commentaries to National Public Radio. This experience also led to her current book project, "Violating Sanctions: An American Woman's Listening Tour Through the Axis of Evil".

At the Cal Turner Program Breakfast, Kelly will take up the question of effective leadership, drawing on her many years of experience as an activist, political consultant and writer. Please join us for what promises to be an interesting and provocative presentation and discussion

She blogs at www.PeacePATHFoundation.org

Please join us for breakfast with Kelly at the University Club from 7:30 am to 9:00 am. Registration fee is \$10.00 To register, please call our office 615-343-5447.

On Monday January 26th from 10:10-11:00 AM in the Divinity Art Room (G-20), **Victor Judge** will address the prophetic role of the artist in "**The Incarnational Art of Flannery O'Connor.**" This talk will include a biographical overview of O'Connor and explore her views on the craft of writing. A series of slides will be interwoven into the lecture. Presented by Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture.

Starting **21 January (Wed.) at 4 pm**, the Historical Studies Area of GDR will host its inaugural monthly Colloquium on Religious History.

This is designed as a way of fostering an atmosphere of robust intellectual exchange, and providing an excellent supplemental opportunity for graduate training. In order to ensure the greatest familiarity with the papers presented, Matt McCullough—who is serving as the GDR student liaison for this Colloquium—will send the PDF file(s) of that month's Colloquium Paper via email.

For next Wednesday's Colloquium, Professor Todd Hartch will be the presenter. A Yale graduate — B.A., M.A.R., and Ph.D. — he serves as an Associate Professor of History, and as the Coordinator of the Graduate Program in History at Eastern Kentucky University. He is author of *Missionaries of the State: The Summer Institute of Linguistics, State Formation, and Indigenous Mexico*, 1935-1985, University of Alabama Press, 2006.

Professor Edward Wright-Rios of our History Department will be responding to Professor Hartch's paper. Many thanks for expressing both interest and enthusiasm for this Colloquium, and we do very much hope we can see each other next Wednesday at 4 pm, at Tillett Faculty Lounge in the Divinity School.

Paul C.H. Lim

Coordinator for Historical Studies, GDR

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMEMORATIVE SERIES

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Series was established in 1985 at Vanderbilt University as a celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Held each January as a part of the observance of Dr. King's birthday, the lectures and events of the Series serve to educate the Vanderbilt and Nashville communities on Dr. King's historic achievements and his enduring influence. In honoring Dr. King, Vanderbilt University affirms its own commitment to the goals of peace and racial justice to which Dr. King dedicated his life. The 2009 series is entitled *Prophets, Politics, and Patriotism*. Our featured keynote speaker is Charles McDew, Chairman, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) 1961 –1964. Please look on the MLK Series website (www.vanderbilt.edu/mlk) for a complete listing of all events in the series and more information on how to get involved. The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center is an annual sponsor of the series.

Date: January 13th to 31st, 2009. Check out the website (www.vanderbilt.edu/mlk/index) for announcements of dates, events and locations. Join us at the keynote speech and candlelight vigil on Monday, January 19th at 6 p.m. at Benton Chapel.

For more information: www.vanderbilt.edu/mlk

MLK Series Schedule

Monday, January 19 Noon, Room 208, Light Hall, VUMC Honorable Lesego Motsumi, Minister of Health, Republic of Botswana Presentation followed by a reception in Minister Motsumi's honor After this event, Vanderbilt University medical and nursing students will participate in volunteer activities with selected agencies throughout the Metro community.

4:10 p.m., Room 241, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center/MRL Bldg, Peabody Campus

"Making Progress Happen for People with Disabilities—Past, Present, and Future" Robert Silverstein, J.D., Director, Center for the Study and Advancement of Disability Policy; Principal, Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville, P.C.

The latest installment in the Kennedy Center's series "Lectures on Development and Developmental Disabilities," followed by a reception

For more information, contact Amy Pottier at amy.pottier@vanderbilt.edu, phone (615) 322-8240, or visit www.kc.vanderbilt.edu

5:00 p.m. reception, 6:00 p.m. lecture and candlelight vigil, Benton Chapel "Votes, Voices, and Victory: How far have we come?"

Charles McDew, Chairman, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) 1961 -- 1964 MLK Jr. Day Candlelight Vigil

Performances by Vanderbilt's Jeremiah Generation Praise Team, VU Spoken Word, and Nashville a capella group Nu Image. Charles McDew was one of the founders of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and led the group from 1961 to1964. He has devoted his life to issues of social and political change, to the empowerment and development of local black leadership, to civil and human rights, and to the fight against racism. An activist as well as a theoretician, he led his first demonstration in the eighth grade, protesting violations of the religious freedom of Amish students in his hometown of Massillon, Ohio. A candlelight vigil in memory of MLK and in honor of the many activists past and present who are still fighting for the ideals and values that he represented will follow the lecture.

Thursday, January 22; 6:00 p.m., Room 114, Furman Hall "Social Responsibility in an Age of Scarcity: Realizing Economic Justice at Vanderbilt Today"

Rev. James Lawson and invited guests

Panel moderated by Eli Feghali, co-founder of Vanderbilt Students for Nonviolence Martin Luther King's later-life emphasis on economic and social justice is often overshadowed by his work advancing racial equality and desegregation. When King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, he was participating in the Poor People's Campaign, supporting sanitation workers struggling for dignity and respect. This community forum will honor King's commitment to economic justice by initiating a discussion at Vanderbilt about our own responsibility as workers and consumers within the second largest private employer in Tennessee. An open discussion between students, faculty, administration and workers will be the first step to coming together around our shared priorities and values.

Saturday, January 24

Noon, Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center

Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical and Essay Contest Winners' Reading & Luncheon Young people from the Nashville community will recite their winning essays and poems on the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Winning entries were chosen by a Vanderbilt

University committee.

Participation in this event is not open to the public.

ROE V. WADE 36th ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Gender Matters of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center will collaborate on an event with Planned Parenthood of Middle and East Tennessee to respect and in honor of the 36th Anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Please join us for a Public Awareness Gathering on January 22nd from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on West End Avenue in front of Centennial Park. We will have information and signs to use as a way of creating awareness about the *Roe v. Wade* anniversary and its importance to women's reproductive healthcare and justice in America. Being so many years removed from the causes that prompted the *Roe v. Wade* case, it can be hard to truly understand its impact over the last 35 years and its continued necessity now and in the future for women and families in Tennessee and across the nation. (Feel free to make your own signs to have at the event.)

Date: Thursday, January 22, 2009; 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Location: West End Avenue in front of Centennial Park For more information: stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu.

Folks – share your announcements!! Email your announcements to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu by 9:00 a.m. on Friday, and they will be placed in the weekly E-Communicator