

An Ohlone Story

The Ohlone College World Forum Series

Submitted by Sarah Daniels

Overview

Beginning in February 2005, the President of Ohlone College, Dr. Doug Treadway, initiated the Ohlone College World Forum series. Since then, these World Forums have brought speakers to our campus community twice each semester to engage students, faculty, staff, and the college community in dialog about important global issues that impact us all. A wide variety of distinguished speakers have offered informative, provocative, and engaging presentations covering a wide range of global subjects. These events are always free of charge and are advertised to the public as well; though the majority of attendees are Ohlone students and staff. Each World Forum is held at noon and has a set structure allowing one hour for the speaker's talk/presentation, followed by a 45-minute question and answer session. On two occasions, we have also held "repeat performances" of the forum in the evening, which have been very well attended. PowerPoint presentations are often included in the presentations and the audience typically has an opportunity to meet the speaker afterwards, as time allows.

Ohlone College provides a \$500 stipend to each speaker which is, in part, supported by the Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC). World Forums are most often held in the Epler Gymnasium, which is arranged to accommodate an audience of approximately 750 people.

Dr. Treadway provided the following summary statement regarding the World Forums:

Today's world confronts us with many grave threats: terrorism, war, economic ruin, starvation, disease and natural disasters. Powerful political forces at home and abroad are exploiting fear and feelings of vulnerability for their own gain. Fear so dominates society today that people hesitate to speak out.

When fear dictates democracy itself is imperiled. When world problems seem overwhelming, merely thinking about them may lead to despair. History shows, however, that people can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles by taking small steps together over a long period of time. As Jim Wallis once said, "Hope is believing in spite of the evidence, then watching the evidence change."

The Ohlone College World Forum will encourage us to all take up the work of better understanding and working toward the healing of our planet—and to persist during a time when such involvement has never been more needed.

The World Forum series requires very little funding for a significant return. The series costs \$2,000 which allows the college to host four (4) distinguished, well-respected speakers each academic year. As stated in the 2001 Accreditation Team recommendation, these World Forums definitely "...guide resource allocations for the greatest possible impact on student learning and the community."

Relationship to College Values

The Ohlone College World Forum Series supports the Mission Statement of Ohlone College by providing opportunities for all members of the college community to learn more about far-reaching topics that extend beyond the area in which we live. The Ohlone College World Forum Series maintains a convenient, rotating schedule to allow the greatest opportunity for broad attendance in an atmosphere where everyone, regardless of their level of understanding, can benefit, grow, and learn.

The Ohlone College World Forum Series has presented speakers on current topics such as global warming, the crisis in Darfur, immigration and U.S./Mexico relations, U.S./India Relations, the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, and China and the changing global economy, to name a few. All students, college personnel and members of the community are welcome and encouraged to attend free of charge. Attendees -- whether they are students, faculty, staff or members of the community – develop an appreciation for the crucial role of science and math in current events. They gain awareness of issues and become motivated to reconsider the world in which they live. We certainly hope that attendees become more active voters, since many political candidates have a significant impact on world wide policy and events. We've received extremely positive feedback from attendees and believe that the college community is well served by this insightful, provocative series. World Forums are one more way that Ohlone College promotes ongoing education for everyone.

All of our guest speakers have impressive experience and expertise in their fields and have consistently inspired our audiences to increase their understanding and become more involved in these social, economic, and political issues.

Contribution to Achieving College Goals

Goal #1: International / Multicultural

The World Forum series provides our college community with a glimpse into diverse experiences, distant places, and global challenges. Students hear first-hand accounts of our speakers' dramatic experiences in different countries, having either lived there or as researchers focused on important topics. In these critical times, our World Forums are not only a valuable opportunity for the college community as a whole, but they are an essential component of any meaningful education. These Forums allow our students a glimpse into life as lived outside their own experience.

Goal #2: Learning College Model

Ohlone's strong institutional commitment to being "A World of Cultures United in Learning" views all members of the organization as learners. The World Forums promote this model by offering valuable learning opportunities at no cost, enabling students, personnel, and community members to be enriched and enlightened on world issues. This series inspires all who attend to actively seek information and to become aware of diverse issues and opportunities to have to impact the world in which we live.

Ohlone's World Forum series helps the entire community rise to face the future, to make smart choices, and to feel engaged in a sense of real urgency to understand the complex issues of our day. This speaker series has dividends of increased student success and encourages our youth to become more involved stewards of our planet.

Goal #4: Continuous Learning for All Personnel

All Ohlone personnel and students are urged to attend each World Forum. E-mail announcements are distributed at the beginning of each semester, with reminders shortly before each event. Press releases often go to the newspapers and fliers are posted campus-wide. There is no cost to attendees.

Demonstration of the Meeting of One or More of the Accreditation Standards

Standard II.A: Student Learning Programs/Services: Instructional Programs

The Ohlone College World Forum Series enriches the instruction already provided in regularly scheduled classes. Instructors often encourage or require their students to attend these Forums. The

President of the College encourages all faculty to incorporate these Forums into their curriculum, regardless of discipline, and to see this opportunity from a broader perspective.

Each speaker brings a unique subject matter and depth of experience to the college community. Our speakers have included a Peabody award-winning independent filmmaker, the Consul General of Mexico, the Consul General of India, a human rights attorney who argued cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and several respected professors.

On one special occasion, Ohlone College participated in a national week of action to raise awareness and demand solutions to end our addiction to fossil fuels. As part of this effort, Ohlone hosted six screenings of *An Inconvenient Truth*, the Academy Award winning documentary which educates Americans about the climate crisis.

Showing *An Inconvenient Truth* on campus provided a naturally rich opportunity for Ohlone College to promote our own efforts to address the climate crisis, and, more generally, promote a culture of sustainability on campus and in the college community. We advertised these showings to the entire campus as well as placing ads in our school and local newspapers. Although not initially planned as part of the World Forum series, we enthusiastically embraced this opportunity for an additional Forum experience, offering four screenings at various times during the day and two showings in the evening. As an added bonus following one afternoon show, the Ohlone College Speech & Debate Team discussed the film. The debate was also filmed by Ohlone College Broadcasting for future airing on the Ohlone TV station.

Expression of Accreditation Themes

Institutional Commitments

The President of Ohlone College, Dr. Doug Treadway, began and maintains his deep commitment to the World Forum series as a way to enrich and expand our students' educational experience. Dr. Treadway's leadership has translated into an ongoing commitment by the institution with plans to continue these Forums following Dr. Treadway's retirement in 2008.

Dialogue

The World Forum series stimulates both thought and dialogue. Forum speakers encourage questions and lively discussion during the more informal "Q&A" hour of their time spent on campus. On controversial issues, members of the audience eagerly share opposing viewpoints.

Ohlone College World Forum – Event Archives

Deaf Culture: An International Perspective

Monday, December 3, 2007

Speaker: *Dr. Roslyn Rosen, Director of the National Center on Deafness at California State University Northridge*

Dr. Roslyn "Roz" Rosen, Director of the [National Center on Deafness at CSU Northridge](#), is a nationally and internationally renowned educational leader and advocate. In her previous career of 33 years at Gallaudet University, she held many positions of responsibility that culminated in her retirement from the position of vice president for academic affairs. She was also a tenured full professor.

After her retirement, Dr. Rosen served in many leadership roles, most recently as international officer for the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), representing the organization at the United Nations and UNIESCO. In 2003, WFD honored her with a WFD International Cross award and lifetime honorary board membership. Dr. Rosen is known for her publications and training in organization management, leadership, education, human rights and women's issues.

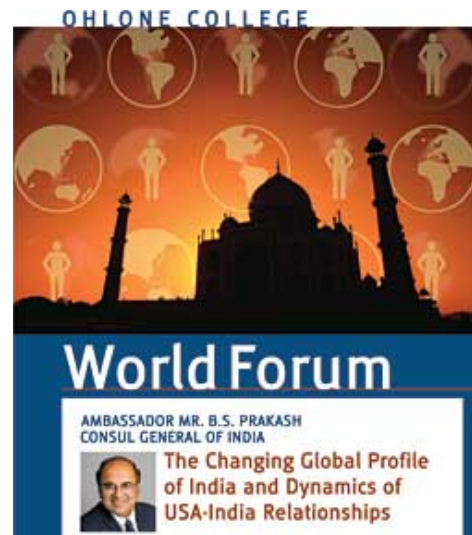


The Changing Global Profile of India and Dynamics of USA-India Relationships

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Speaker: *B.S. Prakash, Consul General of India*

Mr. B.S. Prakash, the Counsul General of India, will speak on the current dynamics between India and the U.S., especially the Silicon Valley. This is the 60th year of India Independence and we believe that this World Forum will have broad college and community interest. Mr. Prakash's bio-profile is available on the [Council General of India](#) website.



Is the Government Listening In On You? / Thursday, February 22, 2007



What Warrant-less Surveillance of Citizens by the National Security Agency Can Teach Us About Separation of Powers in the U.S.

Speaker: John Cary Sims, Professor of Law, McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA, J.D., Harvard University, 1974

Professor Sims was an attorney for eleven years for a public interest firm in Washington D.C., has argued complex cases in several state and federal courts including the U.S. Supreme Court, and taught law for 20 years. His primary research interests involve human rights and problems arising under the First Amendment.

Education:

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA / J.D., magna cum laude, 1974.
Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. / A.B., magna cum laude, 1971 -
Majors in economics and in government with departmental honors.

Employment:

Professor of Law, University of the Pacific/McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California.
1989- (Associate Professor, 1986-1989).

Courses taught: Constitutional Law; International Protection of Human Rights; National Security Law; Professional Responsibility; Federal Courts; Administrative Law; First Amendment; Remedies.



A Global Perspective on the Darfur Region of Sudan

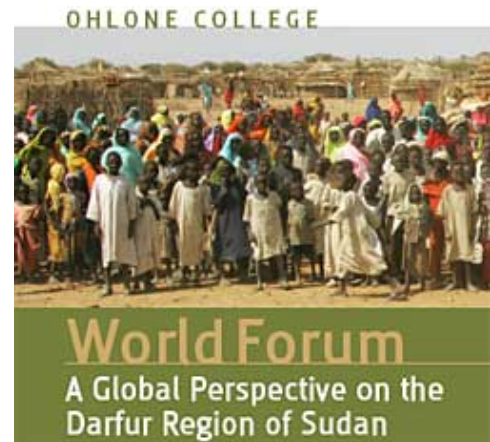
Monday, November 13, 2006

Speaker: Paul Freedman,
Peabody award-winning independent filmmaker

Two sessions: 12:00pm (noon) and 7:00pm

Session One: 12:00pm (noon) - 12:50pm; Q & A at 1:00pm
Jackson Theatre, Smith Center
(overflow seating in TV Studio "A", Smith Center)

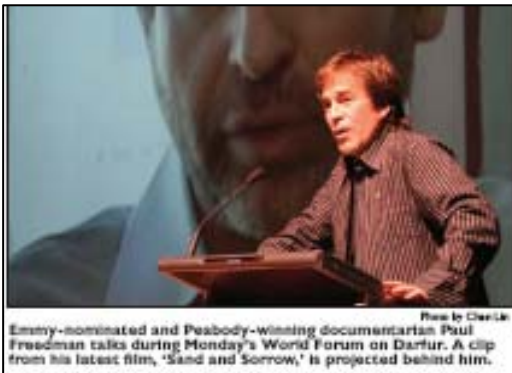
Session Two: 7:00pm - 8:00pm; Q & A begins at 8:00pm
Jackson Theatre, Smith Center



Paul Freedman, Peabody award-winning independent filmmaker and Bay Area native, explores the warfare and genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan through his newest documentary, over 2 ½ years in the making.

Because a significant portion of Mr. Freedman's presentation will include a recently completed film on Darfur, this particular forum will be held **in the Jackson Theatre**. We expect a capacity audience and will provide overflow seating in "Studio A" with a direct audio/visual feed from Jackson Theatre.

Speaker Bio: Paul Freedman, Director, Editor



Paul Freedman began his film career as an editorial assistant for television commercials. His list of commercial editing credits spans a decade, and includes spots for Nike, Diet Coke, Southwest Airlines, and numerous others. Through it all, Paul's love of documentary filmmaking remained steadfast.

In 1994, Paul teamed with fellow director Greg DeHart on the historical military documentary, "The Tears of Peleliu," a survivor's account of a brutal and controversial battle fought in World War II. Soon thereafter, Paul decided to dedicate all of his energy to the documentary world, and, in 2001, teamed with DeHart and Bill Brummel Productions to edit "Pol Pot's Secret Prison," a History Channel documentary about the infamous Tuol Sleng Prison in Phnom Penh. The piece went on to win the International Documentary Association's (IDA) top honor for "Documentary

in a Continuing Series" and was also nominated for two Emmy Awards. Paul also cut the Randy Vasquez documentary, "Testimony: The Maria Guardado Story," the riveting account of a Salvadoran woman who survived torture and became a human rights activist in the U.S. "Testimony" won Best Picture at the 2002 New York Latino Film Festival. Paul continued his collaboration with DeHart and Brummel, following up with more docs for The History and Discovery Channels, including "Inside North Korea," "Saddam's Bombmaker," "MIA-Solved," and others.

Paul's career was re-defined yet again when he was sent to Rwanda by The History Channel to document the Rwandan genocide and its aftermath. The resulting film, "Rwanda—Do Scars Ever Fade?" would go on to earn Paul a Peabody Award, two more Emmy nominations, and the IDA's prestigious ABC News/VideoSource Award for best use of news and archival footage. This filmmaking experience would change Paul forever. Somewhere in Rwanda's "killing fields," Paul found the focus of his career: the documentary as a tool for social change. It since has become Paul's impassioned goal and commitment to tell the immediate story of the "next Rwanda" -- Darfur, Sudan -- before it, too, becomes the tragic subject of yet another historical documentary.

Immigration and U.S./Mexico Relations

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

**Speaker: Alfonso de Maria y Campos,
Mexican Consul General**



Alfonso de Maria y Campos pursued his doctoral studies at Oxford University from 1975 to 1977 in English, French and Italian. Maria y Campos has been in government service since 1985 in Mexico over Foreign Relations, Foreign Service and Culture. Prior to that he pursued an academic career. He served as Commissioner of the National Council on Arts and Culture from 1994-2000, then as Director General of North America until 2004. President Vicente Fox appointed him as Consul General of Mexico in San Francisco and is currently serving in that

position. He has taught history at the National University of Mexico and economics at the Institute of Technology of Mexico (ITAM) and is the author of several articles and books.



The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict (a two-part series)

The Palestinian Perspective / Tuesday, February 28, 2006

**Speaker: Dr. Hatem Bazian, U.C. Berkeley,
Islamic Law & Jerusalem's Islamic History**

Dr. Hatem Bazian, received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in Near Eastern Studies and Ethnic Studies. Dr. Bazian is a lecturer in Near Eastern Studies and Ethnic Studies Departments at Berkeley and specializes in Islamic Law and Jerusalem's Islamic history. Dr. Bazian's forthcoming book, *Virtual Internment: Arabs and Muslims and the War on Terrorism*, documenting the civil and human rights impacts on the impacted communities will be published in fall 2006.

The Israeli Perspective / Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Speaker: Dr. Noel Kaplowitz, UC Davis

Noel Kaplowitz received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in Political Science and International Relations and did postdoctoral work at Yale in Political Psychology. Professor Kaplowitz has taught International Relations and Middle East Affairs at Berkeley, UCLA, and U.C Davis.

Dr. Kaplowitz's research has included hundreds of hours of in-depth interviewing with Arab and Israeli leaders and officials on their national self-images, perceptions of the other, and attitudes towards issues in conflict. He has published on the "Arab-Israeli Conflict" and on "Cultural and Psychological Dimensions of International Relations" in a variety of professional, peer-reviewed journals.



The African Continent and World Hunger

Wednesday, November 2, 2005

Africa Hunger Facts:

- One in three Africans are malnourished, and about half of its nearly 700 million people live on less than \$1 a day; most (80 percent) live on less than \$2 a day.
- Income growth in Africa barely has kept pace with population growth, remaining below 2.5 percent and causing Africa's share of the world's absolute poor to increase from one-fourth to nearly a third.
- Despite its immense size, only 430 million areas in Africa – less than one-fifth of the entire United States – are considered suitable for farming. Land degradation is a major threat to Africa's agricultural productivity growth.
- Any effort to develop agriculture and improve household food security must include a focus on women. Most African farmers are women, and female headed households are more prone to hunger and poverty. African women generate two-thirds of Africa's agricultural production, and participate in trade and processing.
- Sub-Saharan Africa entered the new millennium as the one area of the world where hunger is both pervasive and increasing.
- Most Africans are small-holder farmers. Poverty keeps them from investing in land improvements, irrigation and fertilizer. Thus, African farmers are extremely vulnerable to drought, flooding, and political conflict.
- A problem most African countries have is providing sufficient food for their people. The reasons for this are complex and include declining world prices for commodities as well as escalating debts.



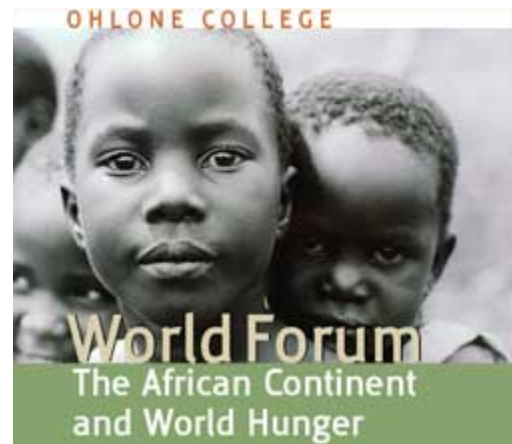
- The rapid spread of AIDS also affects hunger. In some African countries, between 30 percent and 40 percent of adults are infected. Conflict also affects hunger in Africa. In 2001 civil conflict and war affected 16 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Internal conflicts interrupted progress in countries, such as Uganda, that have achieved a measure of food security in recent years. In eastern Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia continue to suffer from prolonged periods of drought. The pastoral regions of these countries are the most vulnerable, and almost 2 million people in the Horn of Africa received emergency rations from World Food Program in 2001.

[From [Hunger Facts](#) on the [Stand With Africa](#) website.]

Speaker: Mutombo M'Panya, Ph.D.

Dr. Mutombo M'Panya is originally from Congo/Zaire. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, and was an instructor in their School of Public Health. As a Fellow of the Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame, he also was coordinator of NGO projects. He has had more than 20 years of experience working with NGOs and has served on various boards, including International Development Exchange, World Neighbors, and the Center for Global Health.

Mutombo worked on USAID projects in Africa involving health planning, nutrition, and manpower training. He worked as a consultant with UNDP and the World Bank, and with health and nutrition projects for the Community Systems Foundation, and consulted on maternal health projects in Ecuador and Nicaragua. Currently, Mutombo is the director of the Science and Humanities Integration Project at Sonoma State University, where he teaches in the Hutchins School of Liberal Studies.



Global Environmental Sustainability: The Natural Step Approach

Tuesday, September 20, 2005



The practice of sustainability is about creating new ways to live and prosper while ensuring an equitable, healthy future for all people and the planet. The Natural Step takes an upstream approach to sustainability and addresses problems at the source. We begin by understanding the broader system within which problems occur and develop effective, durable solutions to the environmental and social issues of the new century.

Speaker: George Basile, Ph.D.

George Basile came to [The Natural Step](#) in 1999 and since then, George has been involved in research and consulting services in the area of sustainability, in the U.S. and internationally. George advises the management of Fortune 500 companies and other organizations on how to integrate sustainability into both near and long-term strategies. Recently he has worked directly with senior teams from FedEx Kinko's, the Home Depot, McDonald's, and the Bank of America. George has also presented widely to the public and to expert audiences such as the National Research Council at the National Academy of Sciences.

George received his undergraduate training in physics at the University of California, Irvine and his doctorate in Biophysics from the University of California, Berkeley. He has served on the faculty at Stanford University, developed a research field in emerging technology and sustainability at University of California Berkeley and has been a Vice President for Business Development at Neomorphic, a bioinformatics business.

China, U.S. and the Changing Global Economy

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

In light of Ohlone's recent educational and cultural exchange with the University of Taizhou in China, we will examine China's impact on the world market, and how it affects the U S and the Bay Area.

Speakers: Dr. Kenneth Fong & Dr. Nancy Mangold

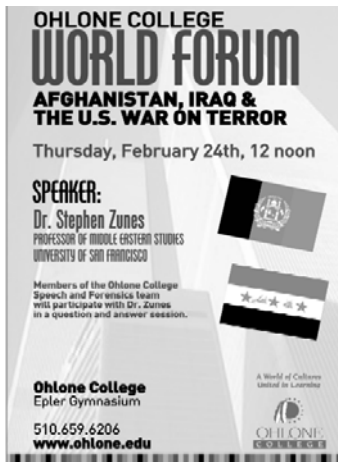
Dr. Kenneth Fong is a Venture Capitalist, investing in and developing Biotech companies. He is Chairman of Kenson Ventures, LLC with 20 biotechnology companies in its investment portfolio. Dr. Fong was the founder and CEO of CLONTECH, which develops and markets Molecular Biology products to academic and pharmaceutical labs in the U.S. and Asia.



Dr. Nancy Mangold is the China America Business and Education Center Director at [CSU East Bay](#) and was a frequent speaker at the Bay Area World Trade Center. She has 10 years of experience in teaching financial statement analysis and strategic cost management in the MBA program. Dr. Mangold has lectured in several cities in China, has organized many U.S. business, university and government programs with China, and is a consultant to many U.S. firms on doing business in China.

Afghanistan, Iraq & the U.S., War on Terror

Thursday, February 24, 2005



The first World Forum is held on **Thursday, February 24, 2005 at 12:00pm (noon) in the Epler Gymnasium**. Discussion will include perspectives on Afghanistan, Iraq and the United States in the context of trends and issues of global governance. Members of the Ohlone College Speech and Forensics team will participate with [Dr. Stephen Zunes](#) in a question and answer session. Dr. Zunes is a Professor of Middle East Studies at the University of San Francisco and author of *Tinderbox: U.S. Middle East Policy and the Roots of Terrorism*.

Speaker: Professor Stephen Zunes
University of San Francisco, Department of Politics

Dr. Zunes received his B.A. from Oberlin College, his M.A. from Temple University and his Ph.D. from Cornell University. Dr. Zunes serves as Middle East editor for the Foreign Policy in Focus Project and was the senior policy analyst during his 2001-2002 sabbatical year. He also serves as associate editor of Peace Review and as a research associate at the Center for Global, International and Regional Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Zunes has presented numerous lectures and conference papers in the U.S. and over a dozen foreign countries. He is active in several professional organizations, including the governing council of the International Peace Research Association. He has traveled frequently to the Middle East and other conflict regions and has served as a political analyst for NPR and Pacifica Radio, the BBC and MSNBC, and has appeared as well on numerous television and radio talk shows. He has published scores of articles in academic journals, anthologies, magazines, and newspaper op-ed pages on topics such as U.S. foreign policy, Middle Eastern politics, Latin American politics, social movements and nonviolent action.

