Former NEA Chairman Bill Ivey Speaks at UNH on November 19

Bill Ivey, former National Endowment for the Arts chairman and author of Arts Inc.: How Greed and Neglect Have Destroyed Our Cultural Rights, will speak at the University of New Hampshire on November 19, 2008. His book, published by the University of California Press in the summer of 2008, has been described by reviewer Benjamin R. Barber as “not just a vital book about the arts but a vital book about the economy.”

In Arts, Inc., Bill Ivey assesses the arts in America and finds cause for alarm. Even as he celebrates a fruitful, ever-emerging American culture that reflects and spreads the dream of democracy abroad, he points to a looming crisis. He proposes that an expanding footprint of copyright, an unconstrained arts industry marketplace, and a government unwilling to engage with culture as a serious arena for public policy have come together to undermine art, artistry, and cultural heritage.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2008, Bill Ivey’s lecture Cultural Policy and the Public Interest: Toward a 21st Century Perspective will take place at 4 p.m. in the Squamscott Room, Holloway Commons, UNH, Durham.

Bill Ivey was the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts from 1998 through 2001 and director of the Country Music Foundation from 1971 to 1998. He was twice elected Chairman of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, and he is a past president of the American Folklore Society. Ivey presently serves as founding director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University. He is a four-time Grammy Award nominee (Best Album Notes category), and has authored numerous articles on U.S. cultural policy and folk and popular music.

For the complete 2008-09 Sidore Lecture Series schedule, go to page 4.
One of the things I like best about my job is the way things keep changing in the Center for the Humanities. Right now, the big news in the Center is that we’ve received a grant from the U.S. Department of State to build relationships with two universities in Ghana, the University of Ghana and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. The goal is to create a thriving study-abroad program, and our goal is to do that by establishing relationships with faculty in those two institutions. Our motivation for undertaking this project is two-fold. At the local level, with the advent of the minor in Africana and African American Studies (formerly the African American Studies minor), we saw an opportunity to create something very exciting for our students and for the faculty who give their time to the minor. Broadly speaking, there is also the fact that only a tiny percentage of U.S. students who study away go to Africa, and we think it essential—for humankind—that we begin to break down whatever impediments exist to changing that dismal statistic. We are working closely with the Center for International Education on this project. A group of UNH faculty and staff will travel to Ghana, probably in February, and other visits will follow. Next year’s Sidore Lectures will feature speakers from Africa, as we try to create some reciprocity.

With funding from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, we held a number of planning meetings in Manchester a few months ago, as a way of designing an oral history project focusing on refugees and immigrants. Those meetings were very productive. We talked with representatives of refugee and immigrant community organizations, people who work in social services, health care, and other academics. At this point, we have two proposals out, and we are hoping to fund an ambitious project based in Manchester, perhaps starting as early as this winter.

This year’s Sidore Lectures, Education and Opportunity: Can Schools Reduce Inequality?, open in October; they are organized by faculty from a number of units, including the Carsey Institute, the Department of Sociology, and the Department of Education, and sponsored by the Center. It’s going to be an exciting series, and it ties nicely to the University dialogue on poverty and opportunity. Please come, and please encourage your students to attend.

The Center continues its strategic planning, and we hope to have a plan in place by the end of this semester. It’s clear that the mission the Center’s founders envisioned—to nurture and sustain excellence in humanities research—will remain the focus. This seems to me entirely consonant with what is developing across the university, thanks in large measure to the President’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Research. I’ve been a member of that task force, and I’m on the Panel’s working group, which has done the research and drafting toward a final report. The working group plans to make a draft version of its report public in October, inviting comments from the university community. This document has the potential to make a difference in how the university views research, scholarship, and creative endeavor. Some of the recommendations may also have an impact on workload, promotion guidelines, and other key aspects of academic life. I urge colleagues to read the draft and make their responses known.

Burt Feintuch
The 2008-2009 Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series begins Monday, October 20, 2008. Lectures, which are free and open to the entire community, take place in the Memorial Union Building, MUB Theaters from 4 to 6 p.m. on the University of New Hampshire campus in Durham. A generous gift from the Sidore Foundation supports the series, which is sponsored by the Center for the Humanities. The following speakers will appear in this year’s series:

**October 20, 2008** William J. Reese, Carl F. Kaestle WARP Professor of Educational Policy Studies and History at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, will lecture on *The Origins of Academic Standards and America’s Public School Crisis*. Reese is the author of six books on the social history of American public schools. He is currently researching the history of academic standards and promotion policies in urban schools with support from the Spencer Foundation.

**November 17, 2008** A panel on *Diversity and Schools* includes Francisco Guajardo, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas. He is also Executive Director of the Llano Grande Center for Research and Development, a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing youth and community leadership in rural South Texas. Guajardo’s lecture is entitled *Education for Social Change: Lessons from Rural South Texas*. Panel participant Thomas Payzant will speak on *The Challenges and Opportunities Presented by Diversity: Responsibilities of School Leaders*. Payzant is Professor of Practice at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and is a prolific education writer. He has served as Superintendent of the Boston Public Schools as well as Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education with the United States Department of Education. Ronald F. Ferguson completes the panel with a presentation entitled *Improving Home and School, Not One or the Other*. Ferguson lectures on public policy and is Senior Research Associate at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is the creator and director of the Tripod Project for school improvement and the faculty co-chair and director of the Achievement Gap Initiative (AGI) at Harvard.

**February 19, 2009** Gary Orfield will lecture on *The Next Generation of Education Policy: Moving Beyond No Child Left Behind*. Orfield is a professor of education, law, political science and urban planning at the University of California, Los Angeles. Orfield was co-founder and director of the Harvard Civil Rights Project and currently serves as co-director of the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA.

**March 25, 2009** A panel of two speakers will discuss *School Choice*. Casey Cobb will speak on *School Choice in a Post-Desegregation World: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?* Cobb is Associate Professor of Educational Policy at the University of Connecticut and Director of the Center for Education Policy Analysis at the Neag School of Education. Michael Goldstein will present *Boston Story: How Charter Schools Have Reduced Inequality*. Goldstein founded the MATCH Charter School in Boston, which prepares children from low-income families to succeed in college. He is Senior Fellow at Education Sector, a non-partisan Washington, D.C. think tank and a former *New York Magazine* journalist.

**April 2, 2009** Deborah W. Meier will speak on *Democracy, Equity and Our Public Schools*. Meier is Lecturer at New York University’s Steinhardt School of Education and Director of New Ventures Mission Hill School in Boston. She is also advisor to Forum for Democracy and Education and on the board of The Coalition of Essential Schools. Meier has received fifteen honorary degrees and was the recipient of the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship in 1987.

The Carsey Institute, the UNH Education Department, and the UNH Sociology Department organize the 2008-2009 Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series.
UNH Center for the Humanities Wins $75,000 Grant to Start Study Abroad Program in Africa

The UNH Center for the Humanities has received a $75,000 grant to create a new study abroad program for students in Ghana. It will be the first formal, UNH-managed program in Africa.

The Center for the Humanities, in cooperation with the Center for International Education and the Africana and African American Studies program, received the two-year grant from the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The UNH Center for the Humanities administers the minor in Africana and African American Studies, which will a key participant in the project.

UNH will partner with the University of Ghana, Legon (UG) and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi, Ghana. UNH has involved both UG and KNUST to provide UNH students with a range of opportunities in either urban or rural settings in Ghana.

UNH chose Ghana as the location for its first formal African study abroad program because it is a politically stable, mature democracy. In addition, ties between Ghana, UNH, and New Hampshire already exist. The UNH nursing department has participated in a summer program with KNUST in Kumasi in recent years. Portsmouth developed a sister city relationship with Accra in Ghana when an informal organization of artists, business people, educators, and community activists in Portsmouth and Accra came together. That sister city connection initiated discussion between UNH and the University of Ghana.

The initial grant will support building collaboration among faculty in the three universities as a way of creating opportunities for faculty and student study and research. The grant will also support developing innovative programs to enable economically disadvantaged and minority students to participate in the Ghana study abroad program.

Over the two-year grant period, teams of UNH faculty members will travel to Ghana, and faculty members from the University of Ghana and KNUST will travel to UNH for site visits, to familiarize partners with each others’ institutions, and to formalize details of the program. UNH anticipates conducting its first site visit in March 2009 and sending its first students abroad to Africa in the 2010-2011 academic year. The program will be open to students from across the university.

Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series

2008-2009 Schedule

Monday, October 20, 2008
The Origins of Academic Standards and America’s Public School Crisis
William J. Reese, University of Wisconsin at Madison

Monday, November 17, 2008
A Panel on Diversity and Schools
Francisco Guajardo, University of Texas Pan American
Thomas W. Payzant, Harvard Graduate School of Education
Ronald F. Ferguson, John F. Kennedy School of Government

Thursday, February 19, 2009
The Next Generation of Education Policy: Moving Beyond No Child Left Behind
Gary Orfield, University of California, Los Angeles

Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Panel on School Choice
Casey Cobb, University of Connecticut
Michael Goldstein, MATCH Charter School in Boston and Education Sector, Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, April 21, 2009
Democracy, Equity, and Our Public Schools
Deborah Meier, New York University Steinhardt School of Education

Lectures are free and open to the public. 4 - 6 p.m.
Memorial Union Building
University of New Hampshire
83 Main Street
Durham, New Hampshire

The Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series was established in 1965 in memory of Saul O Sidore of Manchester, NH. The purpose of the series is to offer the university community and the state of New Hampshire programs that raise critical and sometimes controversial issues facing our society. The Center for the Humanities at the University of New Hampshire sponsors the programs.
The Center for the Humanities continues hosting its series of informal lectures featuring the recipients of junior and senior fellowships. The talks focus on the fellow’s research. They provide an opportunity for faculty members to learn more about each other’s work and allow the Center to show off some of the intellectual riches it has helped foster. Our goal is to create a collegial environment that encourages discussion.

**FALL 2008**

Benjamin Cariens (Art and Art History)
*From Faith to Form: The Function of Artifice in the Expression of Religious Faith and in Recent Sculptures*
Wednesday, October 15, 2008 • Noon
Museum of Art, Paul Creative Arts Center

Jeffrey Bolster (History)
*Changes in the Sea: North Atlantic Fishermen and Marine Ecology in the Age of Sail*
Wednesday, November 5, 2008 • 4:00 p.m.
Piscataqua Room, Holloway Commons

**SPRING 2009**

Joshua Meyrowitz (Communication)
*Watching Us Being Watched: State, Corporate, and Citizen Surveillance*
Monday, February 9, 2009 • 4:00 p.m.
Piscataqua Room, Holloway Commons

Lori Dobbins (Music)
*The Sound of War: Setting The Iliad to Music*
Tuesday, March 31, 2009 • 4:00 p.m.
Piscataqua Room, Holloway Commons

Marian Girard Dorsey (History)
*Healing and Fighting: Military Medicine in the Modern American Army*
Tuesday, April 21, 2009 • 4:00 p.m.
Piscataqua Room, Holloway Commons
Welcome, Cait Vaughan, Associate Coordinator for Academic Minors

The Center for the Humanities welcomes Caitlin Vaughan, our new Associate Coordinator for Academic Minors. Cait graduated from UNH in May 2008 with a B.A. in English Literature and a minor in African American Studies. As a student, she was active in the Women’s Union, the Violence Against Women Committee, the Black Student Union, and Safezones. She also completed a summer internship at AIDS Response Seacoast. Now on the UNH staff, Cait continues her volunteer advocacy with several of these groups. She brings excellent experience in local organizing, a web of contacts with student organizations, and a real passion for the three minors—Africana and African American Studies, American Studies, and Race, Culture, and Power—to the Center.

Interdisciplinary Minors Update

by Cait Vaughan

I believe that engagement with the student population is essential to the vitality and growth of the three minor programs—Africana and African American Studies, American Studies, and Race, Culture, and Power—housed in the Center for the Humanities. Over the past six weeks I have taken every opportunity to meet students and speak face-to-face with them. During classroom visits, at open houses, and at information tables during major events, I have promoted interdisciplinary minors among UNH students. As a result, I have met with and encouraged many students who are interested in completing one of these programs. Discussions with students have reaffirmed my belief that faculty and staff who are involved in the Center's interdisciplinary minors continue to promote crucial academic and community work at UNH. The courses strengthen the humanistic integrity and mission of the academy. Students who complete these minor programs will be able to apply the critical thinking skills offered in these courses to their broader communities.

Strong programming is another key component to the growth of the minors programs. On September 24, 2008, we kicked off a Hip Hop Series with a viewing of the documentary Democracy in Dakar followed by a panel of students and faculty. Panel members included: Radar Onguetou, senior Political Science and International Affairs major and Race, Culture and Power minor; Bessem Bate, senior Political Science major and Women's Studies minor; Reginald Wilburn, Assistant Professor of English, and Funso Afolayan, Professor of History. Attendance at the event was upwards of seventy students, faculty, staff, and community members with the panelists' insightful commentary sparking audience questions and observations.

Next in the series, we will explore graffiti art through a showing of the critically acclaimed 1983 documentary, Style Wars. This second film and discussion will focus on one of the four fundamental elements of Hip Hop culture, which include DJing, MCing, breakdancing, and graffiti art. The film hears from both artists and graffiti's opponents, delving into a dynamic debate on concepts of artistic expression, ownership and public space, and quality of life in urban areas. The series will continue Spring semester with two more events, one of which will look at Hip Hop from a scholarly perspective with a public lecture by faculty member whose research focuses on the significance of the music and its contributions to American culture. Look out for details on these events coming in the near future.

Interdisciplinary Minors also will be involved in a number of partnerships and collaborations this academic year. We are a sponsor of the second annual Black Family Weekend at UNH next April. In addition, I am a member of a planning committee charged with establishing a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with the Black Student Union. Other critical partners for the minors are the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs and the Women's Studies and Queer Studies programs, all of whom have been supportive and collaborative this semester. Through mutual support, we provide the students of UNH with a rich and multi-faceted academic experience. Finally, partnerships achieve a synthesis of ideas, themes, and methods of inquiry that are at the heart of all we do in the minors.

We look forward to a strong finish to the semester and hope to see you at the Hip Hop Series!
Bill Ivey

_Cultural Policy and the Public Interest: Toward a 21st-Century Perspective_

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

4 p.m.

Squamscott Room
Holloway Commons
UNH, Durham

Sponsored by