Vancouver Institute Fall 2012 Program

* Free Public Lectures *

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

General Information

Please see the Vancouver Institute home page.

Lecture Times

Saturday evenings, 8:15 p.m. (doors open 7:30 p.m.), except where otherwise noted.

The Fall 2012 season comprises eight lectures, from September 29 to December 1, omitting October 8th (Thanksgiving) and November 10th (Remembrance).

Fall 2012 Lecture Schedule

(Please click on the lecture date for further detail.)

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Vancouver Institute Information

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Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Lecture Schedules

Except where specially noted, lectures are Saturday evenings, beginning at 8:15 p.m. (doors open 7:30 p.m.).

Spring 2015


General Information

How to join: If you have a Vancouver Institute brochure, you can fill out the contained form and mail it with a cheque to the indicated address; otherwise, you can simply come to a lecture, well ahead of the lecture time (there may be a lineup) with the membership fee.

How to get there.

About The Vancouver Institute. Complete list of lecture titles, from 1916 to the present.


The lectures are in Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia. When necessary, neighbouring overflow halls in the Centre, with closed-circuit TV, are used, and the speaker visits each hall during the question period.

Seats in the front half of the main hall are reserved for members until fifteen minutes before the starting time, and a few seats are reserved for specific people. Seating is otherwise first-come, first-served.
Mr. Jeffrey Simpson Lecture

Mr. Jeffrey Simpson
Columnist and Political Commentator
The Globe and Mail

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on September 29, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

Chronic Condition:
Dragging Canadian Health Care Into the 21st Century

Mr. Simpson has won all three of Canada’s leading literary prizes - the Governor-General's award for non-fiction book writing, the National Magazine Award for political writing, and the National Newspaper Award for column writing (twice). He has also won the Hyman Solomon Award for excellence in public policy journalism. His latest book, published in the fall of 2007, with Mark Jaccard and Nic Rivers, is titled Hot Air: Meeting Canada’s Climate Change Challenge. His next book, Chronic Condition: Dragging Canada’s Health-Care System into the 21st Century, is being published in the fall of 2012. He is now senior fellow at the University of Ottawa’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and is also a member of the University of Ottawa Board of Governors executive committee.
Dr. John McArthur Lecture

Dr. John McArthur
Senior Fellow, Brookings Institute
Former CEO Millennium Promise and
Deputy Director, UN Millennium Project

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on October 13, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

Millennium Development Goals: Lessons for the Next Generation

Dr. McArthur is an international development economist focused on issues of poverty reduction, technological advance, global collaboration, and sustainability. During 2002–06 he served as Deputy Director and Manager of the United Nations Millennium Project. Prior to that he was a Research Fellow at Harvard University, where he supported the WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health and co-authored the Global Competitiveness Report. In 2007–08 he co-chaired the International Commission on Education for Sustainable Development Practice. He received a DPhil and MPhil in Economics from Oxford University (Rhodes Scholar), MPP from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government; and BA (Hons) from UBC. The World Economic Forum has recognized him as a Young Global Leader.
Mr. Matthew Horne, et al. Lecture

Mr. Matthew Horne, et al. will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on October 20, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

**DAL GRAUER MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**B.C.’s Energy Policy:**
**A Solution or a Problem?**

This will be a panel discussion.

**Moderator:**
Mr. Matthew Horne, Director, BC Energy Solutions, Pembina Institute

**Panel Members:**
Dr. Mark Jaccard, School of Resource and Environmental Management, SFU
Dr. Nancy Olewiler, Chair, School of Public Policy, SFU
Mr. Ben Parfitt, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Mr. Art Sterritt, Executive Director, BC Coastal First Nations

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Ms. Chantal Hébert, O.C. Lecture

Ms. Chantal Hébert, O.C.
National Affairs writer
The Toronto Star

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on October 27, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

French Kiss:
The Quebec Factor in Federal Politics

A guest columnist for Le Devoir and L’Actualité, Ms. Hébert is a weekly participant on the political panel "At Issue" on the CBC’s The National as well as Radio-Canada’s Les Coulisses du pouvoir. She has served as parliamentary bureau chief for Le Devoir and La Presse. Ms. Hébert is a Senior Fellow of Massey College at the University of Toronto and holds honorary doctorates from Bishop’s and York University. She is the 2005 recipient of the APEX Public Service Award. In 2006, she received the Hy Solomon award for excellence in journalism and public policy as well as York University’s Pinnacle Achievement Bryden Alumni award. She is the author of a 2007 book titled French Kiss: Stephen Harper’s Blind Date with Quebec.
Professor Sarah Otto Lecture

Professor Sarah Otto
Department of Zoology
UBC

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on November 3, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

The Evolution and Loss of Biological Diversity

Dr. Otto holds a Canada Research Chair and is Director of the Biodiversity Research Centre at UBC. Her research has two main themes (i) The evolution of genetic systems (recombination, ploidy level, gene duplications) and (ii) the evolution of mating systems (sexual vs. asexual reproduction, sexual selection, and floral reproductive strategies). Research approaches include mathematical modeling, phylogenetic analyses, and yeast experimental evolution, resulting in over 120 publications and a book. Her awards include a MacArthur Fellowship (the “genius” award), a Guggenheim Fellowship, a McDowell Award for Excellence in Research (UBC), a Steacie Fellowship (Natural Sciences and Research Council, Canada), and the Steacie Prize (National Research Council, Canada).

Background Information

(These references were compiled by the webmaster in the hope that they will prove interesting to some readers. The web being what it is, some of them will have vanished by the time you go to look them up, and there is—of course—no guarantee of their accuracy.)

The speaker's home page
The Biodiversity Research Centre
Evolutionary Biology at UBC

Vancouver Institute home page  Contact  

Professor Nicholas Rawlins Lecture

Professor Nicholas Rawlins
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Oxford University and
Professor of Psychology

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on November 17, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

Pain, the Brain and Decisions

Professor Rawlins completed both his BA and DPhil at Oxford. His research spans areas including the neural basis of memory, brain degeneration, pain and anxiety, and he has published widely in these fields. He was elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2006. Professor Rawlins was Associate Head of Oxford’s Medical Sciences Division from 2008 until taking up his present post. He was a Junior Research Fellow at University College and then a Senior Research Fellow there before taking up a tutorial Fellowship which he held for more than 20 years as University Lecturer and Sir Jules Thorne Tutorial Fellow.
Professor Jerry Wasserman Lecture

Professor Jerry Wasserman
Head, Theatre and Film Department
UBC

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on November 24, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

Being at Home With Elvis:
Canadian Theatre and American Power

Professor Wasserman is an academic, actor and critic. His books include Modern Canadian Plays, Theatre and AutoBiography: Writing and Performing Lives in Theory and Practice (co-edited with Sherrill Grace), and Spectacle of Empire: Marc Lescarbot’s Theatre of Neptune in New France, as well as numerous articles, chapters and conference presentations on drama, fiction, popular performance and blues music. He has received UBC’s Killam Teaching Prize and Dorothy Somerset Award, and was recently honoured with the Sam Payne Award from the Union of BC Performers/ACTRA. A theatre critic for over 25 years for CBC radio, The Province newspaper, and his website, Vancouverplays.com, he also has more than 200 professional acting credits for stage and screen.
Professor Thomas Flanagan Lecture

Professor Thomas Flanagan
Department of Political Science
University of Calgary

will be addressing the Vancouver Institute on December 1, 2012 at 8:15 p.m., Lecture Hall No. 2 in the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, University of British Columbia.

Harper’s Team: Behind the Scenes in the Conservative Rise to Power

Professor Flanagan has published extensively on Canadian politics, elections, political parties, and game theory as a tool for understanding political life. His experience working for Preston Manning and the Reform Party is described in his book Waiting for the Wave: The Reform Party and Preston Manning. He managed Stephen Harper’s campaigns for the leadership of the Canadian Alliance (2002) and the Conservative Party of Canada (2004), as well as the Conservative Party’s national election campaign in 2004. He was the Senior Communications Adviser in the Conservative war room during the 2005–06 election campaign. These experiences are described in his book Harper’s Team: Behind the Scenes in the Conservative Rise to Power (2009). He also managed the campaign of the Wildrose Party in the 2012 Alberta provincial election.
The Institute

The Vancouver Institute staff may be contacted at this address:

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c/o Green College  
6201 Cecil Green Park Road  
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1

vancouver.institute@ubc.ca  
604-822-8660

(Please note that the email link above was updated December 2014.)

Various officers of the Institute are generally present at the lectures.

The Webmaster

Reports of problems with the web site, and suggestions for additional information to be posted there, may be emailed to Ted Powell.

This address is NOT for suggestions related to so-called "search engine optimization" from any source.

More generally, please note:

1. This address is not intended as a general point of contact for the Institute. Under "The Institute" above I have provided an email address, a phone number, and a street/postal address, and noted that "Various officers of the Institute are generally present at the lectures." This is the only contact information that I consider myself at liberty to provide. Although I might occasionally pass on people's concerns to officers of the Institute, I have not volunteered to be an ombudsman.
2. I am not privy to contact information for current or past speakers.
3. I cannot predict whether upcoming speakers will be available for interviews.
4. I cannot predict whether a transcript of a particular talk will be made available by the Institute, except to note that it is a rare occurrence.
5. I cannot predict whether the Institute and/or a particular speaker will consent to third-party taping of a lecture. All lectures are audiotaped by the Institute, and some (check here) are also videotaped. These tapes are held by the Special Collections Division of the UBC Library.
6. I do not handle suggestions for speakers to be invited.
7. I generally cannot predict when I will receive next season's program from the Program Chair.
8. I do not handle advertising.
9. I have no idea whether the Institute has merchant accounts with any credit card companies, let alone whether any such accounts might be authorized for telephone transactions.
10. I have no involvement with any mailing list(s) maintained by the Institute.
11. I have no idea what topics the speaker may cover, beyond what a reasonable person might surmise from the lecture title and the speaker bio.

Many of these issues can, however, be resolved by contacting the Institute staff, using the information given at the top of this page.
P.S.: It may be that some webmasters are mind readers; I am not. Also, there are times when my mind is not operating at top efficiency, and I may misinterpret a page description which seems perfectly clear to you. If you are writing about a page or pages on this site, or are referring to some other website, please give specific web addresses, e.g. http://www.example.com/some-folder/some-page.html