



RICE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI COLLEGE

“ON THE ROAD”



New York City | May 19, 2007





Dear Alumni and Friends,

As a member of the Rice Alumni New York volunteer leadership committee, I have the privilege of inviting you to join us for Alumni College New York, a daylong celebration of learning at its best. For those who may not be familiar with the Alumni College held annually on the Rice campus, our local event will provide an opportunity to attend classes and engage in discussion with academic experts and fellow alumni. Only a few select cities are able to host their own Alumni College "on the road," and we are fortunate that New York is among them.

This year's event, held at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers in midtown, includes three lectures covering a range of current topics: international politics, global warming, and health in the media. For our fourth session, we'll visit the Museum of Modern Art to enjoy guided tours from their expert lecturers. Saturday evening, share your thoughts and experiences with others at a private cocktail reception at chef Bobby Flay's renowned restaurant, Bar Americain. We'll also provide information on local activities if you wish to continue discussion over dinner or enjoy a night on the town in Manhattan.

For those of you outside the New York metro area who may be considering a trip to the city, what better occasion than in conjunction with the New York Alumni College? The excitement of the Alumni College and the chance to enjoy the company of fellow alumni make this an opportunity you won't want to miss. We've included hotel information to assist in your travel plans.

On behalf of the Association of Rice Alumni and our local leadership committee, I invite you to join us for this educational and enlightening day of fun in New York!

Janice Doty '60

Chair, Alumni College New York

Board member, Association of Rice Alumni

Saturday, May 19, 2007

ALUMNI COLLEGE NEW YORK



*Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers
7th Avenue at 53rd Street*

9:00 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 AM **Session I**

Nation Building and Iraq

Richard J. Stoll, professor of political science

10:45 AM Break

11:00 AM **Session II**

**Picturing a Cure: Visual Media in
the Pursuit of World Health**

*Kirsten Ostherr, assistant professor
of English and Scientia lecturer*

12:15 PM Lunch

1:45 PM **Session III**

**The Challenge of Climate Change:
Past, Present, and Future**

*Ron Sass, professor emeritus of
ecology and evolutionary biology and
co-director of the Center for Education*

3:00 PM Break

3:10 PM Walk to Museum of Modern Art

3:20 PM **Session III**

Guided tours at the MoMA

*Highlights of the permanent
collection led by MoMA lecturers*

5:30 PM Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres reception
at Chef Bobby Flay's Bar Americain

6:30 PM Reception ends; participants are
encouraged to join fellow alumni
for dinner on their own

Richard J. Stoll

Nation Building and Iraq

For many Americans, our experience in Iraq may seem unique. While the scale of the tasks in Iraq may be unusual, however, the United States has undertaken what we now call “nation building” more times than many people realize. This lecture will discuss some of the history of nation building by the U.S. It will also cover what has been associated with cases of successful nation building. Finally, the situation in Iraq will be viewed in light of these earlier experiences.

Richard J. Stoll grew up in Providence, Rhode Island, received his undergraduate degree from the University of Rochester and his doctorate from the University of Michigan. He came to Rice in 1979 and is now a professor of political science. His research interests are in the study of international conflict and American national security policy. He has used computer simulation techniques and statistical analysis to study such topics as arms competitions, comparative foreign policy, and political realism. Stoll recently participated in a 10-university effort funded by the National Science Foundation to collect data on militarized interstate disputes and is engaged in an effort to create events data from online news sources and to predict the outbreak of serious international conflict. He has published six books and a number of articles and book chapters. During his time at Rice, he has won ten teaching awards. In 1989 Jones College honored him as a longtime faculty associate by naming their TV room “Stoll’s.”

Kirsten Ostherr

Picturing a Cure: Visual Media in the Pursuit of World Health

This presentation will provide an overview of the different use of film as an educational tool in public health campaigns in the United States and abroad throughout the twentieth century. Focusing on film clips that address the transnational spread of infectious diseases, Professor Ostherr will concentrate on the problem of capturing and representing the moment of contagion. The primary challenge of these films lies in the need to simultaneously explain the vast scale of global disease migrations and the microscopic scale of bacteria, parasites, and viruses. Addressing these two competing demands has produced some surprising and unintended results.

English professor **Kirsten Ostherr** is the author of *Cinematic Prophylaxis: Globalization and Contagion in the Discourse of World Health*. She has published articles on documentary, science fiction, and independent art films. Ostherr currently is working on two projects: an article that examines the critique of violence in the mass media in conjunction with the aesthetics of military visual culture, and a new book that uses public health films to theorize the ethics of sponsorship (corporate, governmental, NGO, etc.) in the context of global health research. She teaches courses on U.S. and world cinema, medicine and media, globalization, race and sexuality, and cultural studies. Ostherr recently was invited to present at the United Nations in Geneva on global health and the media.

Ron Sass

The Challenge of Climate Change: Past, Present, and Future

When temperatures rise, is it just a hot summer, or an indication of global warming? Scientists use a four-part method to assess global climate change. They detect the change, attribute it to a natural or man-made factor, predict the extent of the trend, and finally respond to mitigate the effect. This class will show how scientific uncertainty and skepticism increases as we progress through the assessment of a global climate trend.

Ronald L. Sass is the co-director of the Center for Education at Rice and is the Harry C. and Olga K. Wiess Professor Emeritus of Natural Science. A member of the Rice faculty since 1958 and past chair of the ecology and evolutionary biology department, Sass received his BA from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, in 1954 and his PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Southern California in 1957. As a Guggenheim Fellow, he was a member of the Department of Theoretical Chemistry at Cambridge University. He served as a National Research Council Senior Fellow with NASA at the Langley Research Center in Virginia in 1988. He was also a member of the ABLE-2A Global Tropospheric Experiment Research Team in Alaska. As a teacher, Sass has been a four-time recipient of the Brown Teaching Award and was named Minnie Stevens Piper Professor in 1999. He also received the Salgo-Noren Distinguished Professor Award. The Association of Rice Alumni awarded him the university's Meritorious Service Award in 2001, and the university's highest honor, the Gold Medal, in 2006.



MoMA

The Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan was founded in 1929 as an educational institution and has become one of the preeminent modern art museums in the world. MoMA completed extensive renovations in 2005, nearly doubling the museum's exhibition space and executing a dramatic architectural expansion. Alumni College New York participants will experience highlights of the museum's permanent collections on small group tours led by MoMA's in-house expert lecturers. You'll also have the opportunity to explore the museum on your own both before and after the tour.

Save \$25 when you register by Monday, May 7. Recent alumni ('02-'07) and current graduate students save \$50. The cost includes continental breakfast, refreshments between sessions, lunch at the Sheraton, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the evening reception, a guided tour of the Museum of Modern Art, and access to MoMA's galleries and exhibitions. After May 7, the cost to register is \$150 per person. Space is limited, so we encourage you to register early.

Registrant 1 *(primary contact person for confirmation or questions about your registration)*

Name (for nametag) _____

Class year or other Rice affiliation _____

Address _____

Daytime phone _____

Email _____

Registrant 2

Name (for nametag) _____

Class year or other Rice affiliation _____

Number of Reservations

Alumni College New York

Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, Saturday, May 19, 2007

Upon receipt of your registration, we will send details to facilitate your arrival and check-in.

___ Early registration (by May 7) **\$125 per person**

___ Recent alumni ('02-'07)
and current graduate students **\$100 per person**

___ Regular registration **\$150 per person**

Payment Options

Please return your registration form along with your check (payable to Rice University) or credit card information to: Rice University, Alumni College New York, Association of Rice Alumni—MS 520, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251-1892.

If paying by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Account Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Online registration is available at <http://alumni.rice.edu/ac-newyork.html>.

Questions

For more information, contact Lauren Linn at 800-742-3258 or 713-348-6093 or by email at lblinn@rice.edu. You can also access this information online at <http://alumni.rice.edu/ac-newyork.html>.



Scholarships

The Leo S. Shamblin Scholarship Fund offers support to select Alumni College participants with a strong record of volunteer service to Rice or in their local community. Recipients must intend to participate in all of Alumni College New York; young alumni and out-of-town participants are especially encouraged to apply. To apply for scholarship funds, please send a letter to the director of alumni affairs explaining why the funds would assist you in attending Alumni College New York and how you satisfy the criteria regarding volunteer service. The deadline for application is May 2. Letters should be addressed to Mark Davis, Office of Alumni Affairs, Rice University — MS 520, PO Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892.

Hotel Accommodations

Below is a list of recommended nearby hotels, provided for your convenience. For those who may wish to stay farther out, countless options are available in the greater New York area, suited to a variety of tastes and budgets. Participants may explore their options through online travel services, a local travel agent, or their favorite hotel chain.

Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers

811 7th Avenue (near 53rd)

212-581-1000

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/>

W New York — Times Square

1567 Broadway (at 47th)

212-930-7400

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/whotels/>

The Muse — A Kimpton Hotel

130 W 46th St (near 6th)

877-692-6873

<http://www.themusehotel.com/>

Radisson Lexington Hotel

511 Lexington Avenue (at 48th)

212-755-4400

http://www.radisson.com/newyorkny_lexington/

Bar Americain

Bar Americain, chef Bobby Flay's ode to regional American cooking, comes to life in a bright, lively brasserie setting in mid-town Manhattan. Flay is a fourth generation Irish-American, celebrity chef, and restaurateur. He is the owner and executive chef of five restaurants, including Bar Americain, Mesa Grill, and Bolo, all in New York. Flay hosts four Food Network television programs, and appears regularly on *Iron Chef America*. He has authored several cookbooks, including *Bobby Flay's Bold American Food* (1994), *From My Kitchen to Your Table* (1998), *Boy Meets Grill* (1999), and *Boy Gets Grill* (2005). Our reception will be held on the second floor at Bar Americain and will include some of Flay's most recent savory concoctions.



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Association of Rice Alumni
Rice University—MS 520
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

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**Join us for a day of learning
and fun at the Sheraton,
MoMA, and Bar Americain**

featuring Rice professors

Kirsten Ostherr

Ron Sass

Richard J. Stoll

Rice Alumni New York

Alumni College Chair

Janice Doty '60

President

Kevin Gass '88