



Alumni College San Francisco Bay Area
Association of Rice Alumni
Rice University—MS 520
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

Join us for a day of learning
and camaraderie at the
Garden Court Hotel!

featuring Rice professors

Vicki Colvin

Dennis Huston

Daniel Rodriguez

Sarah Whiting

A photograph of a large, ornate, multi-story brick building with many arched windows and doorways, identified as Rice University. A tall, thin evergreen tree stands on the left side of the frame. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

RICE UNIVERSITY

Alumni College

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, showing its iconic red-orange towers and suspension cables stretching across the water. The city skyline is visible in the background under a clear blue sky.

On the Road

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
NOVEMBER 6, 2010



As Rice alumni and members of the larger Rice community, we have the extraordinary privilege of inviting you to join alumni, Rice parents, and friends at Alumni College "On the Road," a daylong celebration of learning in the San Francisco Bay Area.

For those not familiar with Alumni College Weekend, 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 select regions are invited to host their own Alumni College, and we are pleased to include the Bay Area among them.

Our Saturday event will feature the joy of discovery, the exhilaration of debate, and the pleasure of good company as we hear from outstanding speakers, including Vicki Colvin, Kenneth S. Pitzer-Schlumberger Professor of Chemistry; Dennis Huston, award-winning Rice professor of English; Daniel Rodriguez, fellow in law and urban economics at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy; and Sarah Whiting, Rice dean of architecture. We will conclude our day with a private reception. If you wish to continue your discussions over dinner or enjoy a night on the town, we will be happy to provide information on local restaurants and activities.

A unique experience awaits: uniquely Bay Area, uniquely Rice. Please join us for an event that brings some of the university's best and brightest to your doorstep!

Sincerely,

Karen Hess Rogers '68
President
Association of Rice Alumni

Ann Peterson '86
Executive Director
Association of Rice Alumni and
Office of Alumni Affairs & University Events
Rice University

Sarah Whiting

SUPER: Supersized Urbanism and Democracy in America

Rice dean of architecture Sarah Whiting is generally interested in how cities digest big things. Her forthcoming book, *Superblock City*, reads Mies van der Rohe's 100-acre campus for the Illinois Institute of Technology as an urban blueprint. Mies's IIT has led Whiting to reconsider the much-maligned superblock in more general terms: what challenges does the supersized pose for a city? What opportunities might it offer? Is there a corresponding "superpublic"? And, finally, what, really, is a superblock in the first place?



Sarah Whiting is Rice's new dean of architecture and the William Ward Watkins Professor of Architecture. Before joining Rice, she was an assistant professor and the Jonathan Dickinson Bicentennial Preceptor at Princeton's School of Architecture, where she taught urban history and contemporary architectural theory. Whiting has also taught at Harvard University, the University of Kentucky, the Illinois Institute of Technology, and the University of Florida. As a principal of WW Architecture, she is currently working on projects both for the Juilliard School in New York and for the Golden House, a private residence in Princeton, N.J. Her work includes architectural, urban, and writing projects for Rem Koolhaas's Office for Metropolitan Architecture in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, where she was involved in the master planning of Euralille, a business center in Lille, France, that opened in 1994. Whiting earned her BA at Yale, her MArch at Princeton, and her PhD in the history, theory, and criticism of art, architecture, and urban form from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Vicki Colvin

Nanotechnology: An Emerging Industry

Nanotechnology-enabled systems offer great promise for solving difficult social problems and, consequently, enormous possibility for commerce. Some of these innovations are related to the fundamental material properties at the heart of any nanotechnology. Their small size, high surface areas, and unique properties render these materials useful to industries ranging from transportation to pharmaceuticals. Recently, nanotechnology has been used to treat cancer, clean water, and increase independence from fossil fuels. Yet there are larger social concerns about whether the new economies for manufacturing would disenfranchise poor people tied to the "non-nano" world. This presentation will offer a healthy dialogue about how these promising developments can help create a more sustainable and socially acceptable industry.



Vicki Colvin is the director of the Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology (CBEN) and the co-director of the Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology at Rice University. Currently she serves as the Kenneth S. Pitzer-Schlumberger Professor of Chemistry and professor of chemistry and chemical and biomolecular engineering. Colvin studies how nanoscale particles interact with the environment and living systems. Her research draws on both synthetic chemistry for the preparation and control of novel nanophase systems as well as physical chemistry for the investigation of their unusual behavior. Colvin's projects utilize the unique and responsive behavior of nanoparticles to solve problems related to water purification and targeted cell death. Colvin received her bachelor's degree in chemistry and physics from Stanford University, and her PhD in chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley.

Daniel Rodriguez

Law, Politics, and Same-Sex Marriage in the U.S.: The Anatomy of a Legal Controversy

In 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court kindled a nationwide debate when it ruled in favor of gay and lesbian marriage. Overnight, same-sex marriage became a major national issue. Some of the most important and recent manifestations of this struggle include the ongoing legal matters involving California's Proposition 8 and a possible ballot box reprise in 2012 or thereafter; the litigation involving the federal Defense of Marriage Act; state court decisions in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa, and elsewhere invalidating same-sex marriage bans; and continuing battles within state legislatures. In addition to disentangling these challenging legal issues, this lecture will offer some perspectives on the political dynamics of this ongoing public controversy at the state and national level.



Daniel B. Rodriguez is the fellow in law and urban economics at Rice's James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy and the Minerva House Drysdale Regents Chair in Law at the University of Texas at Austin. He has taught at the University of San Diego School of Law and the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. Rodriguez is an expert in administrative law, local government law, statutory interpretation, and state constitutional law. His work is broadly interdisciplinary, drawing upon political science and economics to illuminate questions of public policy and legal theory. He is a leader in the application of political economy and "positive political theory" to the study of public law, and he has authored or co-authored a series of articles on the subject. Rodriguez is the author of the forthcoming book *State Constitutional Law and its Processes*. Rodriguez received his bachelor's degree from California State University, Long Beach, and his juris doctorate from Harvard Law School. He is an elected member of both the American Law Institute and the American Bar Foundation.

J. Dennis Huston

Detective Fiction: English versus American – Radically Different Detectives and Worlds



San Francisco—with its vivid history, iconic landmarks, and dreamy, menacing fog—has attracted writers of crime and mystery novels since the Gold Rush era. The city and region loom large in this famously thrilling genre of storytelling. Professor Huston will examine detective fiction that originated both in the Bay Area and elsewhere in the U.S., comparing American and English detectives—from authors like Dashiell Hammett and his Sam Spade to Agatha Christie and her Hercule Poirot. How are they similar? How are they different? What makes each compelling to the readers?

J. Dennis Huston has taught English at Rice since 1969, offering courses on a variety of topics, including Shakespeare, drama, detective fiction, and film. His skill, dedication, and classroom magic have resulted in numerous teaching awards. In 1990, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation named him National Professor of the Year while *Houston Metropolitan* listed him among the Ninety Best Things About Houston. The state of Texas named him a Piper Professor in 2002. The Association of Rice Alumni in 2005 bestowed him with the Meritorious Service Award. He is the author of *Shakespeare's Comedies of Play* and co-editor of a collection of Renaissance plays. Huston received his BA from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and his MA and PhD from Yale University.

Scholarships

The Leo S. Shamblin Scholarship Fund offers support to select 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 San Francisco Bay Area; 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 ACSF and how you satisfy the criteria regarding volunteer service. The deadline for application is October 25. Letters should be addressed to Shamblin Scholarship, Attn: Ann Peterson, 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 Bay Area, suited to a variety of tastes and budgets. Explore your options through online travel sites, a local travel agent, or your favorite hotel chain.

Garden Court Hotel
520 Cowper St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650-323-9000

The Zen Hotel
4164 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, CA 94306
650-493-4492

Crowne Plaza Palo Alto
4290 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, CA 94306
650-857-0187

Saturday, November 6, 2010

Alumni College Bay Area



*Garden Court Hotel
520 Cowper St., Palo Alto, CA 94301*

9:00 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:45 am Session I

**SUPER: Supersized Urbanism
and Democracy in America**

Sarah Whiting, dean of architecture

11:00 am Break

11:15 am Session II

Nanotechnology: An Emerging Industry

*Vicki Colvin, director of the Center
for Biological and Environmental
Nanotechnology, co-director of Richard E.
Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science
and Technology, and Kenneth S. Pitzer-
Schlumberger Professor of Chemistry*

12:30 pm Lunch

2:00 pm Session III

**Law, Politics, and Same Sex
Marriage in the U.S.: The Anatomy
of a Legal Controversy**

*Daniel Rodriguez, research fellow in law and
urban economics, James A. Baker III Institute*

3:15 pm Break

3:30 pm Session IV

**Detective Fiction: English versus
American – Radically Different
Detectives and Worlds**

Dennis Huston, professor of English

4:45 pm Reception

6:30 pm Reception ends; participants are encouraged
to join one another for dinner on their own

Save \$25 when you register by Friday, October 29. Recent alumni ('01–'10) and current graduate students save \$55. The cost includes continental breakfast, refreshments between sessions, lunch at the Garden Court Hotel, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the evening reception. After October 29, 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 San Francisco Bay Area

Garden Court Hotel, Saturday, November 6, 2010

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

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early registration (by October 29) | \$125 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recent alumni ('01–'10)
and current graduate students | \$95 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 San Francisco Bay Area, 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-sf.html>.

Questions

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

