2015 Ware Lecture promises to be newsworthy

Nicholas Kristof, New York Times Op-Ed writer will speak on Monday, April 13 at 7:30 pm in Leffler Chapel and Performance Center. Kristof joined the New York Times in 1984, covering economics. He became the Times correspondent to LA, Hong Kong, Beijing and Toyko. He became the forerunner of social media at the Times and the first blogger on their website. His current pieces are largely international and focused on human rights and social justice.

With his wife Sheryl WuDunn, he has co-authored four books, including newly released: A Path Appears: Transforming Lives, Creating Opportunity. Each of the books focuses on social concerns and injustices that he and WuDunn encountered (continued page 2)

Auschwitz Survivor, Philip Gans will share his story

Philip Gans turns 87 this month. As a Holocaust and concentration camp survivor he has tasted and felt what hate can do to people. He does not want to see it again.

Gans and his family were put into lines, men on the left, women and children on the right. When it came to 15-year-old Gans, the soldier hesitated, then put him with the men. Gans says “twenty minutes later, the other line, which included his sister, mother and grandmother, was walked into a so-called shower.” He is the only survivor on his father’s side. All 21 perished in the gas chamber, except for his father, who died of exhaustion.

Gans, who now lives in Florida, broke his lifelong silence on the Holocaust about 15 years ago. It was about the same time the Florida Holocaust Museum opened in St. Petersburg, and with a lot of prodding, Gans slowly started speaking out against bullying, against hate, against evil. He wants to educate people to be sensitive to even the most subtle conversation or acts of cruelty toward others.

“Students will have children who will never have the opportunity to meet a survivor and hear their story,” Gans says. He wants to continue his campaign to “erase the hate.” “Don’t be a bystander,” he warns. “If you see hateful acts and do nothing, you are part of it because you didn’t stop it. Step up and stop it.”

Describing his experiences at Auschwitz is not easy for Phil Gans but he continues to tell his story - a story that you won’t want to miss on Wednesday, April 1, at 11 a.m. in Leffler Chapel and Performance Center.
Nicholas D. Kristof grew up on a sheep and cherry farm near Yamhill, Oregon. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard College and then studied law at Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, graduating with first class honors. He later studied Arabic in Cairo and Chinese in Taipei. While working in France after high school, he caught the travel bug and began backpacking around Africa and Asia during his student years, writing articles to cover his expenses. Mr. Kristof has lived on four continents, reported on six, and traveled to more than 140 countries, plus all 50 states, every Chinese province and every main Japanese island. He’s also one of the very few Americans to be at least a two-time visitor to every member of the so-called “Axis of Evil.”

In their travels, Kristof also covered presidential politics and is the author of the chapter on President George W. Bush in the reference book “The Presidents.” He later was Associate Managing Editor of the Times, responsible for Sunday Editions.

In 1990 Kristof and his wife, Sheryl WuDunn, then also a Times journalist, won a Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of China’s Tiananmen Square democracy movement. Mr. Kristof won a second Pulitzer in 2006, for what the judges called “his graphic, deeply reported columns that, at personal risk, focused attention on genocide in Darfur and gave voice to the voiceless in other parts of the world.”

In his NY Times column, Kristof was an early opponent of the Iraq war, among the first to warn that the U.S. was losing ground to the Taliban in southern Afghanistan, and raised doubts about the WMD in Iraq. His columns have focused on global health, poverty and gender issues in the developing world.

Plans leading up to the Ware Lecture include a film screening of segments of the documentary based on their book, Half the Sky; discussions on selected NY Times op-eds, and a book club. See page four for a listing of these events and check the website for details if you are interested in joining any of the discussions.

Religion and Terror in Northeastern Nigeria: Boko Haram, Christians, and Modern Muslims

Musa Mambula, minister and educator in Nigeria, and Young Center Fellow in spring 2007, was guest of the Young Center and Center for Global Understanding and Peacemaking on November 20th and discussed Boko Haram’s recent attacks and takeover of the headquarters of the Church of the Brethren (EYN) and Kulp Bible College in Nigeria. The violence continues as this newsletter goes to print.

Mambula expressed hope that those going through these atrocities continue to have a deep faith in God and work together to survive.

Newsworthy Notes

The Center has partnered with Quest for Learning, now in its 77th season, to develop and offer stimulating educational adult programs for a six-week period this spring. Six faculty members will each lead a session relating to the topic, “Cultural Democracy in Contemporary Asia.” Sessions are held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lancaster, PA.

Dr. Michael Long, religious studies and peace and conflict studies, has published Gay Is Good: The Life and Letters of Gay Rights Pioneer Franklin Kameny. Long also gave a lecture on Franklin Kameny at the Library of Congress. He also lectured on Jackie Robinson at George Washington University and is penning a new manuscript with Robinson scholar Chris Lamb. Long published two Huffington Post opinion pieces on Fred Rogers of Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood. Publication of his new book: Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Countercultural Mister Rogers, is scheduled for March. In addition, he published his first children’s book: Bayard Rustin: The Invisible Activist, co-authored with Jacqueline Houtman and Rustin’s longtime companion Walter Naegle, designed for ages 10 and up. Long is scheduled to speak at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration about Jackie Robinson: His Quest for First Class Citizenship on January 19 at 9 a.m. in the KAV, Brossman Commons.

Dr. Joyce Davis, President of World Affairs Council, Harrisburg, an Elizabethtown College trustee and member of the Center’s steering committee, has been named to the honor roll of Women in International Security (WIIS), an affiliate of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, DC, for her continued service in advancing women’s leadership, in all stages of their careers, in peace and security. WIIS has more than 7,000 members in 47 countries.
Two new engaging online upper-level humanities courses are being offered this spring semester 2015 under the instruction of Dr. David Kenley, Professor of History and Director of the Center for Global Understanding and Peacemaking, and Dr. Jeff Long, Professor of Religion and Asian Studies.

Dr. Kenley’s class, HI 370: Contemporary China, traces contemporary Chinese history from the death of Mao in 1976 to the present day. Students will study the economic and social transformations of the recent past, as well as investigate the cultural and intellectual environment in China today.

Dr. Long’s course, REL 393: Indian Philosophy, offers an in-depth exploration of Indian philosophy: Hindu, Buddhist and Jain.

The two courses are applicable to several of the humanities minors, namely, Asian Studies, History, Religious Studies, and International Studies.

In October 2014, as the Ebola crisis dominated the front pages of international newspapers, Liberian Ambassador Jeremiah C. Sulunteh visited Elizabethtown College and spoke to a standing room only crowd on campus.

 Ambassador Sulunteh addressed the health care tragedy of his home country. “Ebola should be fought in Africa”, stated Sulunteh, “but we need resources and supplies.” The ambassador also addressed Liberia’s future, discussing economics, education, and politics.

Sulunteh shared that he is hopeful that in the future partnerships can be built with colleges such as Elizabethtown to share knowledge and empower Liberian youth through some type of service work or teaching opportunities.

President Sirleaf appointed Sulunteh as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Liberia to the U.S. in 2012. Sulunteh has been an Economics Professor at two of Liberia’s highest institutions of learning, the University of Liberia and C-cuttington University. He holds graduate degrees from York University in Toronto and from the American University in Cairo.
Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 27  Conflict Transformation Certificate Program continues - Module 3: Mediation Skills Jan. 27; Feb. 10; Feb. 24; Mar. 17 (all from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Nicarry 212).

Saturday, March 14  World Affairs Council Academic WorldQuest. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in KAV. Regional high school student winners will go on to national competition in Washington, DC.

Monday, March 16  Kristof op-ed discussion led by Professor Mark Harman, English/Modern Languages 7 p.m. at Bowers Writers House.*

Thursday, March 19  Film screening: excerpts from Half the Sky based on book by Kristof and WuDunn. 6-8 p.m. in Gibble Auditorium. Free, open to public.

Monday, March 23  Kristof op-ed discussion led by Professor Colin Helb, Communications. 7 p.m. at Bowers Writers House.*

Monday, March 30  Kristof op-ed discussion led by Professor Mahua Battacharyya and Professor Jeffery Long. 7 p.m. at Bowers Writers House.*

Tuesday, March 31  Lecture, “Missing Girls in China” by Dr. John Kennedy, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Global and International Studies at the University of Kansas. 4 - 5:30 p.m., Gibble Auditorium, Esbenshade Hall. Free, open to public.

Wednesday, April 1  Lecture by Phillip Gans, Auschwitz Survivor. 11 a.m. in Leffler Chapel and Performance Center. Free, open to public.

Wednesday, April 1  Curriculum Enhancement Grant applications due.

Tuesday, April 7  Kristof op-ed discussion led by Professor Michele Kozimor-King, Sociology. 7 p.m. at Bowers Writers House.*

Monday, April 13  2015 Ware Lecturer Nicholas Kristof, “A Path Appears: Transforming Lives, Creating Opportunity.” 7:30 p.m. Leffler Chapel and Performance Center. Open to public; free but tickets required.

Wednesday, April 29  “Evaluating The Fall of Saigon after 40 Years” presentation/discussion led by Professor Robert Wheelersburg. 11 a.m. in Leffler Chapel and Performance Center. Free, open to public.

* Sponsored by the Center for Global Understanding and Peacemaking and the Bowers Writers House.

For further information on these and other events see the Center’s website at http://www.etown.edu/centers/global/