Committee: University Lecture Committee


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<tr>
<th>Committee Chair(s)</th>
<th>Nathaniel Richmond</th>
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| 1. Melissa Palma (Student)  
2. Oliver Hidalgo-Wohlleben (Student)  
3. Storm Miller (Student)  
4. Ramya Puliadi (Student)  
5. Carter Bell (Student)  
6. Nathaniel Richmond (Student)  
7. Brent Griffiths (Student)  
8. Dwijavanthi Kumar (Student)  
9. Linda Louko (Faculty)  
10. Kembrew McLeod (Faculty)  
11. Markus Wohlgenannt (Faculty)  
12. Todd Hubbard (Staff) |

Advisor: Kelly Soukup

Committee Charge

(a) Selecting speakers for the University Lecture Series with the goal of presenting a balanced slate of speakers who will deal with topics of wide interest. Before making the selection, the Committee shall solicit and consider suggestions from all interested parties;

(b) Advising on and assisting in arrangements for lectures;

(c) Coordinating its activities with other appropriate programming groups on campus;

(d) Ensuring that the Regents Speakers Policy is adhered to in events under its jurisdiction.

Current Year Meeting Dates

The committee met weekly every Thursday when the university was in session.

The full committee met weekly on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Smaller meetings took place on a daily basis.

Current Year Activities

The committee successfully planned the speaker line-up for the 2014-2015 academic year and has begun planning much of the line-up for the following 2015-2016 academic year. The 2014-2015 line-up included Jeffrey Tambor – actor known for his roles in Arrested Development, James Hansen – renowned climate change researcher, Alex Sheen –
founder of the nonprofit “Because I Said I Would” movement, Ta-Nehisi Coates – writer and equal rights activist, Vandana Shiva – conservationist and Eco-feminist, Jeff Chang – hip-hop culture writer, Mark Bittman – award-winning journalist and food author, and Daymond John – CEO and founder of FUBU and co-star on ABC’s Shark Tank. Our maximum attendance for a main event was 1100. Every event included an opportunity for students to interact with the speaker, either in the form of a classroom talk, Q&A, or a reception to which students were invited. We collaborated with numerous entities on events, e.g. the Public Policy Center, Tippie College of Business, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, Office of the Vice President of Research and Economic Development, the Food For Thought Committee, etc.

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<th>Topics your committee anticipates addressing during the coming year</th>
<th>The committee will continue to seek out engaging speakers and write offer letters to complete the speaker line-up for the following academic year.</th>
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<td>Other issues of concern</td>
<td>With Hancher Auditorium still under re-construction from the floods of 2008, the Lecture Committee often struggles to find a venue that can hold more than 1000 audience members.</td>
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<td>What should we tell applicants for this committee regarding expectations of members (anticipated workload, existence of subcommittees, etc.)?</td>
<td>The expectations for Lecture Committee are much higher than any other charter committee. The committee is responsible for all aspects of campus engagements ranging from writing offer letters to arranging advertising and travel for speakers. All committee members are expected to attend weekly meetings and approximately ten lectures, receptions, and dinners through the academic year. Student members of the committee should expect to spend additional time outside of meetings working to arrange upcoming events.</td>
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<td>The Faculty Senate Office collects agendas and minutes from the charter committees to send to the university archives. Please let us know the best way to get that information from you (e.g., direct us to a website, put us on the committee’s distribution list, etc.).</td>
<td>Many weekly meetings exist for the sole purpose of brainstorming ideas for upcoming lectures or discussing individual investigations. Upcoming lectures are available off of the committee website at <a href="http://lectures.uiowa.edu">http://lectures.uiowa.edu</a> and specific meeting agendas can be requested from the committee chair.</td>
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<td>Recommendations, if any, to the shared governance groups.</td>
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