Pima Community College’s Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Dr. Jerry Migler, along with Faculty Senate, invite you to be inspired by some of PCC’s distinguished faculty. This year’s topics are: the founding of Liberia; cultural aspects of death and dying; the nature of knowing; Tucson’s Chinese food traditions; wildlife of Mexico’s Baja California peninsula; and the Arctic’s edge.

**Spring Event Dates**

**Tuesday, February 12**

**Historical Connections between the United States and Liberia**

By Dr. Bernard Ngovo, Reading Faculty

Bernard Ngovo will give a presentation on Liberia’s historical ties to America. Liberia was founded by the American Colonization Society in 1822 as home for free African-Americans and emancipated slaves from the United States. Liberia became the first independent country in Africa on July 26, 1847. However, the United States was one of the last countries to recognize Liberia as an independent country.

Bernard Ngovo has been with Pima for 16 years, teaching Reading, and has published several articles on Reading and English. He taught at Cuttington University in Liberia, University of Liberia and the Zorzor Rural Teacher Training Institute in Liberia. He holds a B.S. in English Education from Cuttington University, a M.S. from the State University of New York at Albany, a master’s degree in American Literature and Reading Education and a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, Ill.

**Tuesday, March 5**

**Ars Moriendi, Ars Vivendi: The Art of Death, the Art of Life**

By Dr. Dianna Repp, Anthropology Faculty

Dianna Repp will examine the common themes in death and dying across cultures, as well as end-of-life practices unique to specific cultures. The way we contemplate and prepare for death, for ourselves and those we love, shapes the way we die ... and also the way we live our lives.

Dianna Repp has explored anthropology of religion, art and end-of-life issues for more than two decades. She has taught Anthropology at Pima since 1996 and holds a Ph.D., in Anthropology from Arizona State University. She is involved in local and national funerary societies, and last fall attended the First International Summit of Funeral Cooperatives in Quebec City, Canada.

**Tuesday, April 2**

**Knowing Is as Knowing Does**

By Dr. Jerry Gill, Humanities Faculty

Cognition and action often are considered to be quite different, one focusing on “knowing that” and the other on “knowing how.” This opposition frequently extends to the way we are taught to think about various academic disciplines; the arts, sciences and humanities are seen as having nothing to do with one another. This presentation will examine the basic insights of Michael Polanyi, a Hungarian-British philosopher, on the notion of “tacit knowing.”

Jerry Gill has taught at several small colleges around the country over the past 40 years and has been with Pima for more than 10 years, teaching Philosophy, Religious Studies and Humanities. He received his Ph.D., from Duke University in Durham, N.C., and has published several journal articles and books, and enjoys sculpting, an activity that requires blending cognition and action.
Pima Community College
2013 Speakers’ Series

Fall Event Dates

Tuesday, October 1
Chinese Grocery Store: From Chorizo to Saladito
By Barry Infuso, Culinary Arts Faculty

Barry Infuso has a passion for food and culture. He learned about the food traditions and cultural legacy of Tucson’s Chinese community through the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center (TCCC). He assisted TCCC in developing a film project to help preserve the culinary and cultural history of the early Chinese grocers in the Old Pueblo. During this presentation, Chef Infuso will show the short films, “Chinese Chorizo,” “Chinese Tamales” and “Saladito.”

Barry Infuso has an M.A. in Nutrition and Anthropology from Prescott College, Ariz., and a B.A. in Business and Psychology from University of California, Berkeley. He also is a Certified Executive Chef and Certified Culinary Educator by the American Culinary Federation. He helped develop the Culinary Arts program at Pima’s Desert Vista Campus 12 years ago. He also worked for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Diabetes Prevention and Treatment Program as a culinary consultant and teacher for 12 years. He is a founding member and past president of Slow Food Tucson and president of the Chef’s Association of Southern Arizona for five years. He also was the food writer for Tucson Lifestyle magazine for 10 years. He received the PCC Board of Governor’s Award for Community Service and Canyon Ranch Institute’s Prevention Pioneer award for his work with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

Tuesday, November 5
Whales of Baja
By Kathryn “Katie” Iverson, Biology Faculty

Katie Iverson has been photographing marine mammals for a couple of decades. Her presentation will focus on the whales, dolphins and other wildlife of Mexico’s California peninsula. She and her husband studied bottlenose dolphins in Puerto Peñasco, Son., Mexico for 10 years. They have free dived with humpback whales, kayaked with orcas, and sighted blue whales and gray whales around the perimeters of Baja California. Recently they’ve begun to take small groups to see the cetaceans and other wildlife around the peninsula. She will show slides of wildlife, such as blue and finback whales, bottlenose dolphins, blue-footed boobies and sea lions in Loreto Bay on the Gulf of California, “Sea of Cortez,” side of the peninsula, as well as gray whale calves on the Pacific side in San Ignacio and Scammon’s lagoons.

Katie Iverson has been a faculty member in Pima’s Biology Department for 12 years and was chair of the Biology Department at Downtown Campus for five years. She was a Pima Outstanding Faculty Member and National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development awardee in 1991. Iverson earned a B.S. and M.S. in Biology from California State University, Fullerton.

Tuesday, December 3
Climate Change at Arctic’s Edge
By Dr. Silvia Kolchens, Chemistry Faculty

What are the effects of climate change in the subarctic and how does this unique environment relate to overall global changes? Silvia Kolchens has gone on two field research trips to Churchill, Manitoba, Canada. Her discussion will cover snow pack analysis, what’s happening with permafrost, entrapped methane gas and the mystery of the missing carbon sink.

Silvia Kolchens has been a faculty member in Pima’s Chemistry Department since 1995 and has been the chair of the Chemistry Department at West Campus since 1999. She received her Ph.D., in Chemistry from the University of Cologne, Germany. Her academic interests include environmental chemistry and astrochemistry. She is an active member of the Southern Arizona Section of the American Chemical Society and the Women’s Chemistry Group.

See other side for Spring dates ➔