



2015-2017

SPEAKERS BUREAU



Quick Facts About Bridgewater College

Bridgewater College is an independent, private liberal arts college founded in 1880 and was the first private, coeducational college in Virginia. Located only two hours southwest of the Washington, D.C. metro area, Bridgewater has a total enrollment of more than 1,800 students and offers bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees in more than 60 majors and minors, along with pre-professional programs such as medicine and law, dual degree programs and teacher certification.

Learning at Bridgewater reaches far beyond the classroom... and far beyond the academic. Students develop not only intellectually, but also socially and ethically. Grounded in the liberal arts, students at Bridgewater College learn about a variety of disciplines, enabling them to become articulate, analytical and assertive. They are challenged by rigorous academics in a close-knit community and collaborate with faculty to create personalized and unique learning experiences.

With nearly 60 social, cultural, religious, and academic clubs and organizations, there is an opportunity for everyone to be involved on campus, and almost a third of the student body participates in intercollegiate athletics at the NCAA Division III level.

The vibrant 300-acre residential campus is located in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and offers students the best of both worlds, with a safe, small college town to call home and the excitement of larger cities including Harrisonburg, Charlottesville, Washington, D.C., and Richmond an easy drive away.

Bridgewater is committed to cultivating the full potential of its students to excel in all areas of life. Academic excellence, service, ethical values and a strong community shape the Bridgewater experience.

About the Speakers Bureau

- The Bridgewater College faculty and staff members listed in the Speakers Bureau are available to address community organizations and groups, schools and churches and as a resource for members of the media. The Bridgewater College media relations office is happy to provide this service for the community.
- A variety of subjects are included in the Speakers Bureau. Many of the speakers have areas of interest and expertise outside of their academic/professional pursuits. These topics also are included under the appropriate subject heading.
- Your group is encouraged to get acquainted with the treasure of talent and expertise available at BC.

TO REQUEST A SPEAKER

- Select your speaker(s) and topic(s). Topics are listed by subject in the first section of the Speakers Bureau, followed by an alphabetical listing of the speakers, including brief biographies and a short description of each topic.
- Complete the electronic form on BC's website at <https://www.bridgewater.edu/events-news/speakers>. Be sure to list an alternate choice of speaker and a contact person for your organization.

WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A SPEAKER?

Please submit your Speakers Bureau request at least four weeks in advance of your event. If you plan to publicize your event in a newsletter or other publication, be sure to submit your request well in advance of the deadline for publication.

IS THERE A FEE CHARGED?

The Speakers Bureau is a community service provided by Bridgewater College. There is no fee for the service. However, if the speaker will be required to travel or if the event includes a meal, reimbursement for travel or a complimentary meal would be appreciated.

The Speakers Bureau coordinator will make every effort to provide you with your choice of speakers. If you have any questions, please contact the media relations office at 540-828-5486.

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Speakers & Topic Details

WILLIAM E. ABSHIRE

*The Anna B. Mow Endowed Chair
Professor of Philosophy and Religion*

William E. Abshire is a 1984 alumnus of Bridgewater College. He received an M.A. in theology at Bethany Theological Seminary and holds a Ph.D. in philosophical, systematic and historical theology, and the philosophy of religion from the University of Virginia. He joined the Bridgewater faculty in 1987.

TOPICS:

Ethics at Work: Cases and Theories for Professional Life

An interactive discussion of major theories of ethics applied to specific cases of conflicts of values. The cases are from both everyday life and the more complex situations that arise in professional life.

Exploring the Connection of Violence and the Sacred in Christian Thought

An exploration of the thought of Stanford professor *emeritus* René Girard and his understanding of mimetic rivalry, conflict and scapegoating and their relevance to Christian thought.

STEPHEN F. BARON

*Harry G.M. Jopson Chair of Biology
Professor of Biology*

Stephen F. Baron graduated from the University of Dayton with B.S. and M.S. degrees in biology. After a brief experience as an industrial microbiologist in Chicago, he attended Virginia Tech and received a Ph.D. in anaerobic microbiology. Baron then completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. He joined the Bridgewater faculty in 1995. His research interests include biodegradable plastics from bacteria and microbial production of biodiesel.

TOPICS:

Biofuels: Solving the Energy Crunch

Baron gives a 60-minute presentation on biologically produced fuels and energy alternatives including methane, ethanol, biodiesel, hydrogen, microbial fuel cells and biodegradable plastics. The presentation includes how these fuels and energy alternatives are produced as well as their commercial feasibility. Participants will be able to construct their own microbial fuel cells. If a pond is available on-site, a live demonstration of biological methane production will follow the presentation.

DNA: the Amazing Molecule

This 45-minute, hands-on workshop is suitable for elementary and home-schooled students. The presentation begins with a demonstration of DNA spooling and an introduction to the structure and function of DNA. Students will then iso-

late DNA from their own cheek cells in a visible form, which they can take home as a souvenir.

Timothy J. Brazill

Associate Professor of Sociology

Timothy J. Brazill received a B.S. in psychology from the University of Florida, and earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in social science, with a specialization in social network analysis, from the University of California, Irvine. His scholarly interests include social (dis)organization, deviance, youth violence and community development; voting behavior on the U.S. Supreme Court; the cognition of social structure; and the measurement of fundamental social network properties. He joined the Bridgewater College faculty in 2004.

TOPICS:

Community Restoration: An Alternative to Incarceration for Youthful or First-Time Offenders

This presentation revolves around the growing movement/re-discovery of restorative justice approaches. Restorative justice seeks to rehabilitate youthful or first-time offenders (usually non-violent) by promoting positive reintegration with family, victims and the community as a whole. It also seeks to empower all persons involved by giving them a say in the mediation process that generally leads to community-based sanctions. Though modeled on ancient practices of numerous indigenous peoples, it has been used effectively in Australia for more than 20 years and is now being adopted by agencies and communities in the United States.

Neighboring and Community Organization as Crime Prevention

This discussion centers on the important relationship between neighborhood social cohesion/organization and crime. The group will examine how neighboring, civic/social involvement and community responsibility for supervision of youth can help increase informal social control and thus decrease criminal behavior. A light review of research and current working examples would be presented, followed by discussion among attendees about problems and prospects in their neighborhoods.

The Supreme Court: Judicial Philosophy and Political Ideology

Brazill presents a broad overview of the role of the U.S. Supreme Court during important historical eras. The group then looks at the debate over the degree to which justices' opinions are shaped by case particulars and precedent, judicial philosophy or their own political ideology. The discussion includes ways in which politicians, lobbying organizations and the media perceive and shape the process of selecting justices.

JESSICA E. BROPHY

Assistant Professor of Communication Studies

Jessica E. Brophy earned a B.A. in English language and literature from Smith College and an M.A. in mass communication and a Ph.D. in communication and women's studies from the University of Maine. While a graduate student, she worked full time as a general reporter, special sections editor, and eventually, web content coordinator for a weekly newspaper publishing company. Her current research examines feminist theories related to technology and media, as well as the relationship between digital technology, communities and their sense of place. Brophy joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2015.

TOPICS:

Media and Women's Images

How are women's images crafted and circulated in the media? What impact does this have on our society? This topic can be covered in a lecture style suitable for adults of all ages, or in a hands-on, small group learning workshop geared to adolescents, teens and young adults.

Space, Place and Home in the Digital Age

If we're all connected in the digital age, what does this mean for how we see ourselves in relation to place? Everything is faster and information flows richly—does where we are matter?

The Role of Community Journalism

Is print dead? What is the role of citizen journalist and local journalism? While the definition of "local" may have changed, many argue community journalism is as strong as ever.

Jennie M. Carr

Assistant Professor of Elementary Education

Jennie M. Carr earned a B.S. from Bridgewater College, an M.Ed. from Eastern Mennonite University and a Ph.D. in education from Northcentral University. She is passionate about technology and how it can be used to positively impact caring relationships and has published work in the area of technology and academic achievement. She was named the recipient of the 2014-15 Scholar Award from the Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teacher Education (AILACTE) and was named Virginia Thinkfinity Teacher of the Year. She is currently researching how teacher educators can identify ways to use technology to develop caring teacher candidates. She holds certifications from National Education Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS*T), National Teacher Training Institute (NTTI), SMART Exemplary Educator and Google Educator. Carr joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2012.

TOPICS:

Social Media and You

Carr will look at the varying types of social media available.

Participants learn how to set up and use social media accounts to benefit their personal or professional lives.

True Colors

In this presentation, Carr focuses on a personality trait assessment which is easy to understand, remember and apply. Understanding your own personality can help to foster healthy, productive personal and professional relationships.

Using Technology as a Tool to Enhance Learning

This presentation focuses on ways teachers, students and parents can use technology to assist in the learning process.

SARA H. FITZGERALD

Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Sara H. Fitzgerald received a B.S. in chemistry from Bridgewater College and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Virginia. She worked as a postdoctoral research scientist with Ethos Pharmaceuticals and as an education and public outreach coordinator for UVA's Center for Chemistry of the Universe, a National Science Foundation-funded Center for Chemical Innovation. Her current research focuses on computational chemistry and modeling strategies as applied to drug discovery and development initiatives. Fitzgerald joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2010.

TOPICS:

Your Medicine Cabinet: What's There, What Isn't and Why

This session offers a closer look at the drug discovery process, from the historical influences to the scientific breakthroughs to the ethical dilemmas. To be informed consumers and, perhaps more importantly, to be cognizant patients, the devil is in the details.

JAMIE FRUEH

*Professor of History and Political Science
Director of the Center for Engaged Learning*

Jamie Frueh received a B.S. in international relations from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. in international relations from American University. He was a volunteer teacher in South Africa during and after apartheid, the policy of racial segregation. He coordinated an annual program sponsored by the state department for university students from the divided communities of Cyprus.

TOPICS:

Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Peace

This topic discusses war and the resolution of conflict short of war, understanding conflict at all levels, peace and the politics of peace.

Foreign Policy

Frueh talks about U.S. interactions with the world.

Globalization and HIV Prevention Campaigns

This presentation focuses on emerging research on how messages about HIV/AIDS are translated between global and local actors.

International Affairs

Frueh discusses global political, economic and cultural issues.

South Africa's Transition from Apartheid

This topic explores the political transition from racist social order to democracy and its lessons for other contexts.

The Cyprus Conflict

Frueh talks about the politics of the division of the Mediterranean Island between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

The Power of a Liberal Arts Education

Frueh talks about the power of a liberal arts education and the importance of it to democracy and capitalism.

STAN GALLOWAY

Professor of English

Stan Galloway received a B.A. from Northwest Nazarene College, an M.A. from Kansas State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. He has been with Bridgewater College since 1993.

TOPICS:

Edgar Rice Burroughs and Tarzan

A discussion of Edgar Rice Burroughs' life and how it contributed to the development of his most famous literary character, Tarzan.

Reading of South African Poets

Galloway reads poetry by current South African writers, along with a brief discussion of apartheid and post-apartheid attitudes.

BOBBI GENTRY

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Bobbi Gentry received a dual honors degree in political science and psychology from Winthrop University. She earned her master's and Ph.D. degrees from the City University of New York in political science with an emphasis in political psychology. Gentry's current research includes youth voting behavior, teaching and learning in political science and elections. She joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2014.

TOPICS:

Elections

This presentation provides an explanation of election laws, requirements and differences between states.

Preparing for the AP United States Government and Politics Exam

As a grader for the Advance Placement (AP) exam for seven years, Gentry provides training and information on how to better prepare for the essay section of the exam.

Teaching Government

How can I better teach American government in my classroom?

Youth Voting Behavior

Why do some young people vote and others do not?

JACOB GRAHAM

Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Jacob Graham earned a B.A. from Ferrum College, M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Duquesne University. He enjoys sharing philosophy and its questions and topics with the public sphere. He joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2013. His hobbies include playing music (drums and guitar) and listening to music.

TOPICS:

Philosophy and Music

This presentation will explore philosophical themes of music such as time, beauty, politics, (dis)harmony, etc.

Why Philosophy?

Graham will explore the uses and possible benefits of philosophical thinking.

MARK GRIFFIN

Senior Associate Director of Admissions

Mark Griffin received a B.A. in sociology from Bridgewater College and an M.S. in kinesiology/athletic administration from James Madison University. He joined the Bridgewater College admissions staff in 1989 and is currently a senior associate director of admissions.

TOPICS:

College Admissions for the Student-Athlete

There are many requirements for high-school students who want to play sports in college. This session focuses on the required courses, test scores, etc.

Helping High-School Students Prepare for College

Going from high school to college is a big transition for young adults socially and academically. This session helps students prepare for the challenge.

Understanding the College Admissions Process

The college admissions process includes admissions, financial aid and visits. This session provides a road map of the process.

DONNA HANCOCK HOSKINS

Assistant Professor of Health and Human Sciences

Donna Hancock Hoskins received an M.S. in career and technical education from the University of Kentucky. During that time, she worked as a non-profit manager at a Ronald McDonald House in Lexington, Ky. She earned a Ph.D. in human development and family science from the University of Georgia. Her research focuses on the effects of parenting on child outcomes. Hoskins joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2012.

TOPICS:

Early Childhood Development

Learn about the physical and socio-emotional development of children.

Parenting 101

Learn the parenting skills that can influence a child’s behavior.

Parenting Styles and Child Outcomes

Examine your parenting style and learn how it is associated with child outcomes.

Teenage Pregnancy

This topic looks at the predictors of teenage pregnancy. Learn what communities and families can do to target this issue.

MICHAEL HOUGH

Associate Professor of Art

A ceramic artist, Michael Hough’s work has been displayed in more than 100 solo and group exhibitions, and he has participated in demonstrations and presentations to a variety of groups. He received B.A. and M.A. degrees from California State University at Sacramento and an M.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design. Hough joined the Bridgewater faculty in 1997.

TOPICS:

Contemporary Ceramics

Hough gives a slide presentation on the contemporary use of clay as a fine-art medium. The presentation looks at a number of contemporary artists exploring sculpture and vessel making using clay as the primary medium. This unique material is able to mimic almost any other material and allows artists to explore ideas, images and narrative in exciting and unconventional ways.

Creativity in the Classroom

This topic is a slide/source presentation on how Hough teaches his classes, including organizational techniques, ways of engaging students, use of materials and resources, and critique and assessment practices. Examples of how writing, history and science are incorporated into the curriculum are also included.

Source Presentation of Personal Work

Hough will give a slide/source presentation on his own ceramic sculpture—how he makes it, what influences his work and the meanings and narrative behind it.

CURT KENDALL

*Director of Athletics
Head Baseball Coach*

Curt Kendall graduated from Bridgewater College in 1981 with a B.S. in health and physical education. He earned an M.S. in athletic administration from James Madison University. Kendall has been recognized six times as the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Coach of the Year and has been the Virginia Sports Information Directors All-State Coach of the Year three times since becoming the head baseball coach in 1986. His teams have won 12 ODAC titles and advanced to the NCAA Division III South Region tournament 10 times. He became Bridgewater’s director of athletics in 2000.

TOPICS:

Baseball (fundamentals—any topic)

Kendall covers the fundamentals of pitching, hitting and fielding or specific position play. He utilizes current team members to demonstrate selected topics.

Motivation of Division III Athletes

Kendall discusses various motivational techniques used in sports and how tactics have changed in recent years. This session also includes how motivation needs to be individualized and the role that society plays in motivational tactics today.

Recruiting Division III Athletes

Kendall talks about the Division III philosophy. He will explain how the expectation of prospective student-athletes has changed Division III recruiting and how institutions are addressing challenges of recruiting Division III student-athletes.

MOSHE KHURGEL

Associate Professor of Biology

Moshe Khurgel earned a B.Sc. in neuroscience and a doctorate in anatomy and cell biology and neuroscience, both from the University of Toronto. He did post-doctoral research at the University of Virginia on post-traumatic regeneration in the central nervous system and on the use of adult stem cells in therapeutic cell replacement strategies. His current research is focused on stem cells in development and regeneration. He is also studying and teaching biology of human diversity, with emphasis on how the concept of race is understood and practiced by medical practitioners.

TOPICS:

Brain Awareness: The Brain, How is it Made and What is it

Good For?

An overview of the nervous system—the brain in particular—for K-12 schools and/or the general public, with the goal of raising awareness and improving scientific literacy about the brain. This topic may be tailored for specific audiences and/or subtopics such as brain injury, neurodegenerative diseases and memory.

How Many Biological Races Does Humanity Need?

An introduction to biological foundations of similarities and differences between individuals and populations. This is a great opportunity for a frank and non-judgmental discussion of what is often perceived as a difficult topic. Appropriately adjusted for K-12, college students, professionals or lay audiences; no political correctness is required.

Stem Cells: Can't Live Without 'Em

This is an apolitical and factual introduction to stem cell research. Its goal is to educate students and the general public about the basic scientific facts regarding stem cells and how these cells contribute to our development and daily lives. Factual knowledge is vital for making informed personal decisions and participating in further public discussions regarding ethical, legal and other social issues surrounding stem cells.

GAVIN R. LAWSON

Associate Professor of Biology

Gavin R. Lawson earned a B.S. in geology from the University of Illinois at Urbana, an M.S. in geology from the University of Arizona at Tucson and a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Illinois. His interests include Western martial arts, Goju-Ryu karate, tabletop wargaming and making chainmail. Lawson joined the Bridgewater faculty in 1997.

TOPICS:**How to Keep an Edge on the Competition—A History of Swords and Swordfighting in the Middle Ages**

The history of swords, armor and fighting techniques from the fall of the Roman Empire to the Renaissance, including a demonstration of longsword combat.

You've Got Maille—The History and Construction of Chainmail Armor

The history and construction of chainmail armor including modern applications, everything from jewelry to protective suits for shark divers. The presentation will include a demonstration of the construction of European 4-in-1 weave.

JENNY M. MARTIN

Assistant Professor of Education

Jenny Martin received a B.S. in English from Radford University and earned her license to teach English in grades 9-12. After teaching several years as an English and photojournalism

teacher at Broadway High School, she earned a master of arts in education from Eastern Mennonite University (EMU). She served as an adjunct instructor for 13 years at Bridgewater College and EMU. In 2014, she earned a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Virginia Tech. Her current research examines new literacies and voice in teaching writing and democratic learning and new literacies in teacher education. Martin joined the Bridgewater faculty full time in 2014.

TOPICS:**Learning and Adolescent Development**

How can we best help adolescents learn? What does the research help us understand about teenagers, social interaction and learning in context?

New Literacies in Teaching and Learning

What are the technologies being harnessed in today's classrooms? How might some of the tools be useful to you?

DAVID K. MCQUILKIN

Professor of History and Political Science, Emeritus

David K. McQuilkin received a B.A. from Muskingum College and earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Kent State University. He also holds an M.S.L.S. from Case Western Reserve University. He taught Russian history, Middle East history, East Asian history and world history at Bridgewater College until his retirement in 2009. He also has traveled extensively in both Russia and Australia.

TOPICS:**American Politics Today**

This topic focuses on the nature of American politics today and the challenges posed by current policies for Americans.

Russia in the 21st Century

A discussion of Russian political, economic and international policy as Russia attempts to transform itself in the post-Soviet world.

Terrorism, Modernity and the Impact of a Changing World

This topic addresses the complex relationship between terrorism and modernity, and how a changing world will influence these concepts during the next generation.

The Current Crisis in the Middle East

This topic focuses on the issues that have contributed to the current conflict in the Middle East today, including terrorism, the Palestinian question, American policy in the region and Iran.

The Emergence of China as a World Power

This presentation is a discussion of the implications of China's emergence as a world power, as well as China's challenge to American Pacific and global interests.

Urbanism and the New Modernity: The Changing American

Political Landscape

This presentation examines two emerging forces that will have major implications for the future of American politics.

ERIN MORRIS MILLER

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Erin Morris Miller received a B.S. in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After working with children with ADHD and Asperger's Syndrome, she earned a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Virginia. Her research projects involve examining the thinking and reasoning behind individuals' understanding of intelligence, giftedness and talent. She joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2011.

TOPICS:

Debunking Myths about Creativity

Creativity is an essential 21st century skill, but it is often misunderstood. This presentation discusses the misconceptions about creativity and presents research-based guidance about how to develop creativity in the home, school and workplace.

Understanding the Gifted Child

Gifted children can be a challenge. This session discusses the unique intellectual, developmental and social issues faced by parents and teachers as they seek to understand the positive and negative aspects of personality characteristics that are commonly attributed to gifted children.

Scott Morrison

Director of Financial Aid

Scott Morrison received a B.S. from Bowling Green State University and an M.B.A. from Keller Graduate School of Management. He has worked in financial aid for more than 25 years and has held managerial positions at private, public and proprietary schools. He joined the Bridgewater College staff in 2008.

TOPICS:

What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

This presentation reviews the federal and Virginia financial aid programs, financial need and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The session also provides advice to students and parents on the financial aid process.

DEVA O'NEIL

Assistant Professor of Physics

Deva O'Neil completed her undergraduate work at the University of California at San Diego and earned a Ph.D. in particle physics from U.C. at Santa Cruz in 2009. Her current research is in theoretical physics and physics education. Other interests include music, ecology and sustainable food

systems.

TOPICS:

Particles: The Building Blocks of the Universe

What are the smallest units of matter? Although physicists have made amazing discoveries in the past 100 years about the fundamental particles of our world, many questions remain. This topic discusses the quest of 21st century physicists to unravel the mysteries of the universe.

ROBYN A. PUFFENBARGER

Associate Professor of Biology

Robyn A. Puffenbarger received a B.S. in biology from Virginia Tech. After working for a year with hazardous waste, she attended the Medical College of Virginia and earned a Ph.D. in molecular biology. She continued her studies as a post-doctoral research fellow at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her current research involves many aspects of molecular biology. Puffenbarger joined the Bridgewater faculty in 2001.

TOPICS:

Birds 101

What are the birds you might see outside in Virginia? How can you attract more birds to your yard?

Genetically Modified Organisms in the USA

Genetically modified organisms: What are they? Where are they? Would I encounter them at the grocery store?

Vaccines – What does the Science Say?

Vaccines became routine in the late part of the 20th century and are now controversial in popular culture. Why? What does the science say about vaccination?

LOU PUGLIESE

Assistant Professor of Economics and Business Administration

Lou Pugliese retired from Toyota Motor Sales, USA in 2010 after a 33-year career in the automotive industry. He earned a B.A. in applied behavioral sciences from National-Louis University, an M.B.A. from the University of Redlands, an Ed.D. in human organization development from The George Washington University and a labor management certificate from Cornell University.

TOPICS:

Automotive Industry

Originally presented to a Lexus regional dealer group, this presentation covers the concept of "servicescape," the customer experience and the unseen operational support to exceed expectations.

Business Operations and Marketing Planning

An interactive exchange, this topic presents a marketing

plan outline and facilitates group input. Discussion covers customer definition, SWOT analysis and “point of difference” for the group’s chosen business and questions impact on operations.

Labor Management—Union Awareness and Consideration

For employers. Business advocates are questioning the National Labor Relations Board’s (NLRB) current policy direction. This presentation deals with why employees may consider joining unions and how a company can position itself to avoid such scenarios. Barring success in union avoidance, the talk covers how to research union locals and communication pitfalls to avoid in union discussions.

Prejudice and Diversity—How We Form ‘Self’ and ‘Other’ Opinions of ‘Groupness’

The workplace is incredibly diverse. This talk focuses on “entitativity” (Campbell, 1958), how one forms individual impressions of “others,” even when there are no discernible identifiers such as race, age and gender.

RAY SCHNEIDER

Associate Professor of Computer Science, Emeritus

Ray Schneider received a B.S. in physics from St. Joseph’s College, an M.S. in engineering science from Pennsylvania State University and a Ph.D. in information technology from George Mason University. He is a licensed professional engineer in Virginia. For 40 years, he worked as a research scientist for the U.S. Navy, Sperry Defense Systems Division (now Unisys) and for ComSonics, a local cable television instrumentation company. He enjoys speaking about his technical interest in knowledge representation, and his many hobbies, including reading and studying the lives of great men and women, researching the Shroud of Turin, growing the “perfect tomato” in his hydroponics systems and writing articles about his adventures.

TOPICS:

Chess—the Game of Kings

This session uses chess as a metaphor for tactical and strategic thinking. Schneider discusses some of the great heroes of the game and how he personally became interested in chess and started chess clubs in high school and college. In longer talks, the topics of chess rating systems and the design of tournaments is discussed. If you want to start a chess club, this might be the talk for you.

C.S. Lewis, His Life and Work: Christian Apologist, Essayist, Science Fiction Writer and Narnian

Schneider takes you on a journey through the life and works of C.S. Lewis, exploring his life, loss of faith and reversion to Christianity. His major writings touched many genres, including Christian apologetics, social commentary, science fiction, allegory, autobiography, history of 16th century literature and children’s fantasy.

Constructive Reading—Unpacking Ideas

This talk is motivated by Schneider’s doctoral thesis in which he studied how to unambiguously extract ideas from software specifications. Generalizing the topic to a professional interest in note taking, he talks about reading with pen in hand and unpacking the ideas presented into a compact summary. He begins by giving a brief summary of more traditional note-taking styles and continues with a brief discussion of constructive reading.

G.K. Chesterton, an Apostle of Common Sense, an Adventure in Thought through Paradox

G.K. Chesterton was an English journalist of essays, novels, detective stories and apologetical works. Schneider will introduce the man and his work focusing on the factors that continue to make Chesterton relevant to today.

Hobby Hydroponics—the Weedless Garden

Schneider has spent summers since the mid-1990s creating hydroponic gardens to pursue his interest in tomatoes. He is a contributing editor to *The Growing Edge* magazine, where accounts of his adventures have appeared regularly. From the Greek, hydroponics means literally “water works” and is a medium-less method of growing almost anything. Schneider has been growing cucumbers, jalapeno peppers and tomatoes using Nutrient Film Technique (NFT), which works by flowing water containing plant nutrients down plastic channels to a tank and then pumping the nutrient back to the top of the channels. This talk shows you how to do it and describes the adventure.

Saints and Heroes—a Commitment to Excellence

We are all at least three people—the person we wish we were, the person people think we are and the person we actually are. On the journey of life, it is helpful to have guides to show us the way. Many people in our lives play that role—our parents, teachers, friends and even enemies. Picking role models and consciously taking control of our lives is the theme of this talk, which describes some great role models (Note: Discussion with Schneider ahead of time can focus the talk to include specific models of interest to the audience).

Science Fiction: Its History and Development in the 20th Century

Beginning with Mary Shelly’s *Frankenstein* and progressing through the works of Jules Verne, John Carter and Edgar Rice Burroughs to modern science fiction by Hugo Gernsback, Robert Heinlein and Isaac Asimov, Schneider takes you on an adventure that spans 200 years of visionary imaginings. The continuity, as well as the shifts in emphasis that characterize the science fiction genre will be described and analyzed revealing a literature that has inspired much of the progress in our modern world.

The Mysterious Shroud of Turin—Relic or Icon?

The Shroud of Turin is variously thought to be the burial cloth of Jesus Christ or a religious icon manufactured in the

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13th century. What is it? Schneider describes the Shroud of Turin both from the eye of reason and the eye of faith. Researchers have studied the shroud and their findings are combined with a parallel discussion of the shroud image and blood markings compared with the Passion of Jesus Christ. The audience is invited to draw its own conclusions based on the evidence presented. (Note: The talk is non-denominational).

Writing for Fun and Profit

Schneider has published numerous reviews and articles on aspects of computer science in professional and popular magazines. He also has written extensively about his hobbies, especially hydroponics, in *The Growing Edge* magazine. In this session, Schneider explains how to get published. He summarizes some of the strategies he uses to write articles and gives pointers to writers of both non-fiction and fiction on how to write and get published.

CHRISTIAN SHERIDAN

Associate Professor of English

Christian Sheridan received his undergraduate degree from Williams College and his master's and Ph.D. degrees from Tufts University, all in English literature. His areas of specialization include medieval literature; medievalism (the portrayal of the Middle Ages in later cultures), especially in film; and poetry. Outside of the classroom, he is an avid bike racer and certified USA Cycling coach.

TOPICS:

Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*, and Late-Medieval England

This talk discusses Chaucer's 14th century masterpiece, *The Canterbury Tales*, and places it in the context of late-medieval culture.

Introduction to Bike Racing

Sheridan provides a basic primer on the training, tactics and history of racing a bicycle on the road.

The Medieval Arthurian Tradition

This presentation traces the rise of the legends of King Arthur from their Celtic origins to their most complete retelling in Sir. Thomas Malory's 15th century *Morte d'Arthur*.

FRAN SMITH

Head Women's Swim Coach

Fran Smith received a B.S. in health and physical education from James Madison University. She was the swimming coach at Turner Ashby High School for three years and for 16 years coached swimming during the summer at Ashby Recreation Association in Bridgewater, Va. In 2007 she started the women's swim team program at BC.

TOPICS:

Benefits of Competitive Swimming

This topic answers the following questions: 1) What are the positive effects of swimming at a collegiate level?, 2) Can I be an athlete and a student at the same time? and 3) How is college swimming different than high-school or year-round swimming?

Do You Want to Swim in College? How to Choose a College that is Right for You

This presentation answers the following questions: 1) As a swimmer, what type of college am I looking for?, 2) What size college is right for me? and 3) What are the benefits of swimming in Division III?

RAYMOND W. "CHIP" STUDWELL II

*Director of Academic Support Services
Coordinator of Disability and Tutoring Services*

Raymond W. "Chip" Studwell II, a 1977 graduate of Bridgewater College, earned an M.Ed. in counselor education at James Madison University and an Ed.D. in counseling at West Virginia University. Before joining the Bridgewater staff in 1991, he was a counseling psychologist in JMU's Counseling and Student Development Center. Studwell is a licensed professional counselor in Virginia.

TOPICS:

The Sport of Learning

Find out how athletics parallels the process of becoming an effective learner.

Stuff Happens: The Keys to Adjusting to Changes You May Not Have Wanted

What do we do when life suddenly changes for us? Learn keys to dealing with life when it is not the way we had wanted or planned.

Teambuilding

This session provides experiential activities to enhance a sense of community among teams, organizations and groups.

Parenting Without Spanking or TV

As parents we have a significant effect on our children. Learn some keys to effective parenting.

LAURA YORDY

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Laura Yordy earned a B.A. from Williams College, M.A. and M.Ed. degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and M.T.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University. She has taught ethics, religious studies and theology at Duke University, Wake Forest University and Shaw University. She is the author of *Green Witness: Ecology, Ethics and the Kingdom of God*. Her current research projects deal with virtues and cultural diversity, and global environmental ethics. Yordy became a member of the Bridgewater faculty in 2007.

TOPICS:**Christianity and Changing Climate**

How have churches responded to the problem of global warming? What resources in the tradition can help guide Christian actions on this issue?

Christianity and Environmentalism

This topic explores current and historical Christian views toward God's creation, addressing such questions as: Was Jesus "Green"? Are environmentalists pagans? Do animals go to heaven? Does "dominion" mean we should kill all the roaches?

This topic explores the ways Christianity has absorbed and adapted to diverse cultures around the globe.

Christianity Around the World

This topic explores the ways Christianity has absorbed and adapted to diverse cultures around the globe.

Environmental Justice

The term "environmental justice" refers to the equitable distribution of environmental perils and assets. Often, the people who benefit from an activity are not the same people who suffer the harms caused (such as pollution, farmland destruction or increased illness). How should/can environmental justice be achieved?

This topic explores the ways Christianity has absorbed and adapted to diverse cultures around the globe.

Faith and Ecology (or "Are the Gods Green?")

In this topic, Yordy explores different religious traditions in terms of their view of humanity's role in the natural world.

RANDALL C. YOUNG

Associate Professor of Psychology

Randall C. Young graduated *summa cum laude* with a B.S. in psychology from Denison University. He earned an M.S. in psychology from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of California at Berkeley. Young's research focuses on the intricacies of interaction rituals. He examines such social behaviors as teasing, gossiping and flirtation from a politeness theory perspective. Young joined the Bridgewater College faculty in 2001.

TOPICS:**Politeness Theory**

Young presents a socio-linguistic analysis of "face" and "face-threatening" behaviors. Politeness theory provides insight into status, friendship and the norms of social behavior.

The Psychology of Gossip

This session looks at how the roles of gossip, target of gossip and receiver of gossip relate to social status in a group.

Is gossip always negative and, if not, what social functions does it serve? How does gossip relate to reputation?

The Psychology of Teasing

Young discusses using teasing as a social mechanism for analyzing group behavior, especially deviant behavior. He also explores how people combine the playful and critical aspects of teasing to shape social networks.

NICOLE A. YURCABA

Instructor of English

Nicole A. Yurcaba received a B.A. in English and a B.A. in business administration from Bridgewater College. She earned a master of humanities in English from Tiffin University, where she completed her thesis on Ukrainian literature as a means of cultural preservation. Yurcaba is published in online and print journals such as *The Atlanta Review*, *The Bluestone Review*, *The Lindenwood Review*, *vox poetica*, *Philomathean*, *Cutthroat*, *Midway* and many others. She is the second-place winner of Australia's Poetry Sans Frontieres Hemingway Contest and a national finalist for Salem College's Rita Dove International Poetry Award.

TOPICS:**It Began in My Diary: An Exploration of Creative Nonfiction**

Explores the art of creative nonfiction through a reading of a variety of essays that have appeared in such publications as *Midway*, *Foliate Oak Literary Journal* and *The Rain, Party, Disaster Society*.

Poems of Appalachia and Beyond

A poetic exploration of Appalachian female identity, Appalachian ethos, Appalachian culture and other issues currently relevant to Appalachian society. Poems which address feminism, identity and other issues from Yurcaba's various publications will also be included.

Poems from Ukrainian Daze

A poetic exploration of the Ukrainian diaspora, Ukrainian culture and customs and Ukrainian global identity and politics.

PERFORMING GROUPS**Jazz Ensemble**

In addition to the speakers listed, the Jazz Ensemble from Bridgewater College gives programs for school groups, civic clubs and churches.

The Jazz Ensemble performs a variety of music ranging from big band to contemporary jazz. A smaller combo could also be requested if space is limited.

The Jazz Ensemble schedules its own concerts well in advance; a request for an appearance before your group should be directed to Dr. Christine Carrillo, director, by phone at 540-828-5301 or via email at ccarrill@bridgewater.edu.