



COMMON HOUR - FALL 2023

Thursdays, 11:30am-12:30pm

In Person Location 🏛️: **Barshinger (COMMON)/Various (CAMPUS)**

Pizza 🍕: **TBD**

September 7, 2023

Building Resiliency and Mental Health Through Multiple Pillars of Wellness

Josh March, Owner of EmPower Training Systems, PA Air National Guard

Proposed by: Jordyn Kamis, Athletics & Recreation



Josh Marsh

In this talk we will cover the dangers of striving for ideals and chasing the horizon, the scientific proof of the impact of exercise and physical activity on mental health, how a supportive community helps to build resiliency, and more. The five basic pillars that will be discussed in this engaging talk will be those of: social, physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental. Moreover, how the first four affect the last. By focusing on the other pillars of wellness we actually bolster our mental wellness and build resiliency. Resilience is defined by Oxford Languages as "the capacity to withstand or to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness." Life is hard and it continually presents challenges to all of us. Our ability to withstand and overcome are crucial to our mental health and wellness.

September 14, 2023

Read Banned BOOKS

CAMPUS HOUR: Who's Afraid of Banned Books? The Rise of Book Censorship in the U.S.

A Panel Organized by the Philadelphia Alumni Writers House and the College Library

Proposed by: Riley Williams, Class of 2026

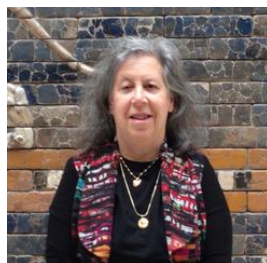
Within the past couple of years there has been an intense increase in book challenges across the country. But what is book banning and how is it affecting education, especially here at Franklin and Marshall college? Through a panel discussion we aim to answer the following question and provide information for students, staff, and community members to form their own opinions on book challenges and bans. The panel will include an array of F&M professors from different departments, local librarians and school board members, and more. We aim to inspire the F&M community and educate them on something that has begun to impact many people in the United States.

September 21, 2023

In Search of Meaning: Memory Becomes Us

Patricia Moss Vreeland, Artist and Author of *A Place for Memory: Where Art and Science Meet*

Proposed by: Janie Kreines, Phillips Museum of Art



Patricia Moss
Vreeland

Patricia Moss-Vreeland discusses her ongoing inquiry about the social impact of memory while exploring the function of the human brain to find meaning, the parallel universes of art and science, the different ways of knowing and self-expression, and the importance of stepping out of our silos and forming relationships.

September 28, 2023

CAMPUS HOUR: The Underground: Hazing Culture Behind Closed Doors

Alonzo Jones, Associate Athletic Director for Championship Life at Arizona State University, Speaker for CampuSpeak

Proposed by: *PNicole Gilliland, Class of 2024*

In the program, Alonzo Jones shares the history of hazing and the impact it has on communities. He examines and exposes the underground culture of fraternities and challenges students to create a fraternal legacy worth being proud of.

As a result of attending this program, students will:

- Understand the meaning and consequences of hazing.
- Understand the impact BGLOs had and continue to have on cultural uplift.
- Explore anti-hazing strategies that still yield high enthusiasm, strong brother/sisterhood bonds, and committed members working on behalf of the chapter and national priorities.

 **CAMPUSPEAK**

October 5, 2023

The Art of Diplomacy: Foreign Policy from the Lens of a U.S. Diplomat

Kyla Brooke, Diplomat in Residence for the New York Metro Area and Foreign Service Officer (FSO) for the U.S. Department of State

Proposed by: *Munahil Sultana, Class of 2024*

Kyla will speak about the role of the U.S. Department of State in foreign policy, interagency work at the federal level and her own experience serving as a U.S. Diplomat in areas from Afghanistan to Israel to the Dominican Republic. F&M brands itself as a liberal arts institution where you can bring an intersectional lens to every discipline. Even our mascot, the Diplomat, represents the intersectionality of F&M! Bringing Kyla to F&M will allow us to bridge the gap between F&M Diplomats and international diplomats. Through learning from her experiences as a Foreign Service Officer (FSO) we can recognize the role the U.S. Department of State plays in foreign policy and we can understand what the federal government's positions are on various key policy areas.



Kyla Brooke

October 12, 2023

CAMPUS HOUR: Not a Major Decision: A Liberal Arts Education That Launches Its Graduates

An Event Organized By OSPGD & Student Affairs

Proposed by: *Beth Throne, Senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs*

How can students and how do alumni across majors leverage the relevance, marketability and significance of their curricular and co-curricular liberal arts experience? This session, facilitated by F&M's Office of Student and Post-Graduate Development, will highlight alumni from across majors and fields who will speak to how their F&M experience launched them into lives of meaning, integrity and impact after graduation.



October 19, 2023



Shakya
Cherry-Donaldson

Behind the Political Curtain: Making a Difference Without Running for Office

Shakya Cherry-Donaldson, Founder and Executive Director of 1000 Women Strong, F&M Class of 2009

Proposed by: Douglas Anthony, Professor of History & Director, International Studies Program

Shakya Cherry-Donaldson '09 was born and raised in the South Bronx. At F&M she earned degrees in Economics and Africana Studies, and served in leadership positions with the Women's Center Executive Board and the Black Student Union. After graduating she spent two years teaching English in Korea and earned her M.A. in Political Economy at the University of Sydney in Australia before finding her way back to the U.S. to work for the Children's Defense Fund as an organizer, the first of several positions advocating for Black women and children. In 2016 she pivoted to electoral politics, working as statewide deputy field director for Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacy Abrams. During the 2020 election cycle she founded 1000 Women Strong, an Atlanta-based national grassroots network of Black women and their allies focused on civic action and electoral campaigns. She continues to serve as its executive director.

October 26, 2023



Sherron Watkins

Ethics in Business: Learning from Enron's Failure

Sherron Watkins, Former Enron Vice President for Corporate Development

Proposed by: Nancy Kurland, Professor and Chair, Department of Business, Organizations & Society

Ms. Watkins is the former Vice President of Enron Corporation who alerted then CEO Ken Lay in August 2001 to accounting irregularities within the company, warning him that Enron 'might implode in a wave of accounting scandals.' She has testified before Congressional Committees from the House and Senate investigating Enron's demise. TIME magazine named Sherron, along with two others, Coleen Rowley of the FBI and Cynthia Cooper of WorldCom, as their 2002 Persons of the Year, for being "people who did right just by doing their jobs rightly." Now an independent speaker and consultant, she is co-author of *Power Failure, the Inside Story of the Collapse of Enron*, (Doubleday, 2003). Ms. Watkins will share her insights as to what went wrong not only at Enron but with much of the whole system that the equity markets rely on to function properly. She will discuss the importance of ethical corporate leadership and the warning signs of a problem with the tone at the top.

November 2, 2023



CAMPUS HOUR: F&M Human Library

An Event Organized by the College Library

Proposed by: Meghan Kelly and Scott Vine, College Library

This event "is designed to build a positive framework for conversations that can challenge stereotypes and prejudices through dialogue" (humanlibrary.org). All of us here at F&M have a unique story that adds to our community and this is an opportunity for you to hear some of them. **THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SHADEK-FACKENTHAL LIBRARY.**

November 9, 2023



Dr. Yeva Nersisyan

How are You Going to Pay for It? Government Finances in the Modern Monetary System

Dr. Yeva Nersisyan, Associate Professor and Chair of Economics, Franklin & Marshall College

Proposed by: Yael Asofsky, Class of 2024

From fighting climate change to healthcare reform to Social Security, the question that is always asked is "how are you going to pay for it"? In her talk, Professor Yeva Nersisyan will draw on Modern Money Theory to explain that governments can always find the money for their spending, whether it's \$5 trillion or \$50 trillion. What is more difficult is finding the workers and other resources to put that money to work to achieve the policy goals.

November 16, 2023



CAMPUS HOUR: Researching F&M History: Learning our Past, Preparing for our Future

An event organized by the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and the College Library

Proposed by: Gretchel Hathaway, VP for DEI and Louise LoBello, Special Collections Librarian

A reflection on F&M history projects: learning and researching our past - F&M Slavery Era & Civil Rights Era. Leading to a discussion on our global future as Diplomats.

November 30, 2023



Dr. Claire Concesion

Britney Griner and the Performance of Race, Gender and Nation in Sport

Dr. Claire Concesion, Quanta Professor of Chinese Culture and Professor of Theater Arts at MIT

Proposed by: Kay Ford, Office of the Provost

Like theater, sport is staged through a complex presentation of aesthetics, affect, and material production. Its performances reflect and impact diverse cultural circumstances and a range of values that are often in conflict. Recent events surrounding WNBA star Brittney Griner and other examples illuminate how class, race, gender, sexuality, and politics are performed in sport, and how sport performs in society in ways that reinforce or challenge social norms and dominant paradigms.

December 7, 2023

F&M Acapella Concert

About A Cappella at F&M:

The Poor Richards:

The Poor Richards, F&M's only coed a cappella group and one of the College's oldest continuously operating student clubs, traces its origins to 1967, when it began as an all-male Glee Club. In 1968 it became "The Poor Richards," and the following year -- when the College became coeducational -- women joined the group for the first time. In a nod to one of the College's namesakes, the group takes its name from "Poor Richard's Almanack," an annual publication authored by founding father Benjamin Franklin in the 18th century. Franklin published the almanacs under the pseudonym "Poor Richard." → [Instagram](#)

Kite and Keys:

Kite & Keys was established in 2012 and is turning 10 this year. (Happy birthday!) They welcome women and gender minorities and have been known to sing some of the sickest hits from the last 5 decades. Additionally, they are looking for new members and would be thrilled to see you at their auditions in the Fall. Please enjoy! → [Instagram](#)



**Sweet Ophelia:**

Sweet Ophelia is F&M's premier all-women, a cappella group, established in 1989 (the same age as Taylor Swift!) Our setlist always includes a variety of genres and often features many of our favorite female artists. We cannot wait to see our fellow aca groups perform and hope to see you all there! → [Instagram](#)

**The Chessmen:**

The Chessmen are F&M's premier and only all-male a cappella group. Founded in 1989, The Chessmen have been a group of talented students who perform a cappella covers of classic songs and pop hits for audiences throughout the year. → [Instagram](#)