



Fall 2020
PROGRAM GUIDE

Dear NGSL members and prospective members,

Here is the *New Generation Society of Lawrence Fall 2020 Program Guide*. The Program Committee has worked hard to provide a variety of appealing activities that fulfill our mission which states, "this corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code." I hope that you find several programs that are of interest to you.

Program registration is not required for this fall's programs. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our programs will be free to members and available online via Zoom.

We hope that you will continue your membership in NGSL during this unprecedented time. The Program Committee has endeavored to find programs that will be interesting and fun for our members, using this new and temporary platform.

Please return your membership renewal form with your check for membership fee(s), made payable to NGSL, to:

New Generation Society of Lawrence
C/O Hall Center for the Humanities
900 Sunnyside Avenue
Lawrence, KS 66045-7622

As an NGSL member, you will receive a Zoom email inviting you to each program several days in advance. Advance registration is not required for Zoom programs, but we hope you will attend as many of the programs as possible. If you require assistance with downloading the Zoom app on your computer or phone, please contact Janet Prestoy at jprestoy@msn.com, 215 205 8888 or your Program Host. We will also provide technological assistance to members during programs.

If you have questions about these programs or suggestions for future programs, please feel free to contact me, Mark Osborn at (785) 841-0236, mosborn56@gmail.com, or contact the Program Host listed for each program.

We look forward to seeing you at many NGSL programs throughout the spring.

Sincerely,



Mark Osborn
Program Committee Chair

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NGSL is an organization that supports growing our community. We encourage members to sign-in up to 15 minutes early for programs to socialize and meet other members.

Registration Policy

Registration

Registration for programs for the fall semester is not required. We hope to restart standard in-person programs by the spring of 2021, depending on the availability of a vaccine.

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Humanities Lecture Series: Migration Stories, Juan Felipe Herrera

September 16, 2020, 7:30 PM

In 2015, **Juan Felipe Herrera** was appointed the 21st United States Poet Laureate, the first Mexican American to hold the position. In his statement of choice, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington said Herrera's poems "contain Whitman-esque multitudes that champion voices, traditions and histories, as well as a cultural perspective" that serve to illuminate our larger American identity. Herrera grew up in California as the son to migrant farmers, which he has commented strongly shaped much of his work. A Washington Post article tells the story that "As a child, Herrera learned to love poetry by singing about the Mexican Revolution with his mother, a migrant farmworker in California. Inspired by her spirit, he has spent his life crossing borders, erasing boundaries and expanding the American chorus."

Herrera is the author of thirty books, including collections of poetry, prose, short stories, young adult novels and picture books for children.

Location: TBD

Presenter: Juan Felipe Herrera

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Megan Kaminski, Associate Professor of English and Humanities Research Fellow *Witness*

September 21, 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Megan Kaminski will be researching and writing towards the completion of her new book of poetry *Witness*, which focuses on environmental crisis and our capacities for endurance, adaptation, and connection. The book continues my exploration of interspecies alliances as the basis for an ethics of mutual understanding and care, with the poems serving as points of encounter that encourage further engagement with the more-than-human inhabitants with which we share our lives. Moreover, the book seeks to counter extractive and exploitative relationships with the earth and with each other. While the poems document the current moment of environmental devastation and climate crisis, they present possibilities for future engagement and connection with others by expanding and complicating the notion of the individual self. Kaminski's larger writing project focuses on connecting to our shared ecosystem as a source of knowledge and inspiration for strategies to live in their world, to grieve and heal after loss, and to re-align thinking towards kinship, community, and sustainability.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Megan Kaminski

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Meet KU's Authors: David Farber

September 23, 2020, 7:30 PM

David Farber, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Kansas, will talk about his recent book, ***Crack: Rock Cocaine, Street Capitalism, and the Decade of Greed*** (2019). A shattering account of the crack cocaine years, *Crack* tells the story of the young men who bet their lives on the rewards of selling 'rock' cocaine, the people who gave themselves over to the crack pipe, and the often-merciless authorities who incarcerated legions of African Americans caught in the crack cocaine underworld. Based on interviews, archival research, judicial records, underground videos, and prison memoirs, *Crack* explains why, in a de-industrializing America in which market forces ruled and entrepreneurial risk-taking was celebrated, the crack industry was a lucrative enterprise for the 'Horatio Alger boys' of their place and time. These young, predominately African American entrepreneurs were profit-sharing partners in a deviant, criminal form of economic globalization. Hip-Hop artists often celebrated their exploits but overwhelmingly, Americans - across racial lines - did not. *Crack* takes a hard look at the dark side of late twentieth-century capitalism.

Location: TBD

Presenter: David Farber

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Humanities Lecture Series: Jerry Mitchell

September 29, 2020, 7:30 PM

Jerry Mitchell, investigative reporter for the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, and MacArthur Fellow, will talk about his new book, *Race Against Time: A Reporter Reopens the Unsolved Murder Cases of the Civil Rights Era* (2020).

On June 21, 1964, more than twenty Klansmen murdered three civil rights workers. The killings, in what would become known as the "Mississippi Burning" case, were among the most brazen acts of violence during the civil rights movement. And even though the killers' identities, including the sheriff's deputy, were an open secret, no one was charged with murder in the months and years that followed. It took forty-one years before the mastermind behind these murders was brought to trial and convicted for the three innocent lives he took. In Race Against Time, Mitchell takes readers on the twisting, pulse-racing road that led to convictions for the assassination of Medgar Evers, the firebombing of Vernon Dahmer, the 16th Street Church bombing in Birmingham, and the Mississippi Burning case. Mitchell, who played a key role in this crusade, reveals how he unearthed secret documents, found long-lost suspects and witnesses, and built up evidence strong enough to take on the Klan and put four leading Klansmen behind bars, years after they thought they had gotten away with murder.

Location: TBD

Presenter: Jerry Mitchell

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Perry Warren 785-764-2588 pdwarren@sunflower.com

William Allen White and the KKK in Kansas: "A Real American Goes Hunting"

Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 10 AM

Many remembered the tumultuous 1924 Kansas Gubernatorial campaign as the time William Allen White chased the Ku Klux Klan out of Kansas. As the editor of the Emporia Gazette, White was acutely aware of the growing presence of the KKK in Kansas following World War I. Seeing no candidates free of Klan influence, White declared, "I want to be governor to free Kansas from the disgrace of the Ku Klux Klan." This presentation follows the raucous two-month campaign that had White traveling over 2,700 miles to deliver 104 speeches, all directed at expelling the KKK. Though he did not win, White's efforts led to a Kansas Supreme Court ruling that outlawed the Klan in Kansas.

The program will be presented by Beverley Olson Buller. Beverley is an author, educator, and Chair of the William Allen White Children's Book Awards Selection Committee.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Beverley Olson Buller

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

**Rebecca Rovit, Associate Professor of Theater and
Humanities Research fellow *Theatre from the Rubble of
War in Berlin and Vienna, 1945-55***

October 6, 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Why did theatre re-emerge swiftly in Berlin and Vienna under the post-WWII occupation of Germany and Austria? How did cultural leaders restore theatrical life, despite the breakdown of institutional networks and infrastructure? What differences emerged in the theatre repertoire of two cities? Professor Rovit addresses such questions in her book project that compares the renewal of theatre in cities under Quadripartite occupation.

The central thesis of the book is that different historical contexts in Austria and Germany created unique national narratives that shaped cultural policy. Wartime experiences and the occupation of culturally-rich cities created separate narratives linked to each country's relationship to Nazism: Germany's recognition of perpetrated horrors, and Austria's sense of vindication as liberated victims. Rovit's study reveals how theatre artists worked with officers to restart theatre in the occupation zones. Rovit's approach, rooted in archival research, incorporates Memory Studies to reveal how narratives in two countries affected postwar theatre repertoires under occupation.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Rebecca Rovit

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Contact: Mark Osborn 785-841-0236 mosborn56@gmail.com

Rajah Rabbits and Get Rich Quickly

Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 10 AM

Rajah Rabbits sprang to life in the 1930s in Wichita. You were guaranteed to get rich if you bought a buck, two does and crocks (nicely labeled 'Rajah Rabbits') with which to feed the rabbits. The founder convinced many people in the Great Plains to raise rabbits, promising that he had a limitless market for them and that everyone would profit handsomely. (It's also been done with chinchillas, nutria, worms...)

Fast forward to Lawrence roughly a half century later; grifters hit town with a scheme that appealed to sophisticated Jayhawks. For a few hundred dollars, you could activate cultures to be used in testing cosmetics. Many big names in Lawrence bought into this scheme. The promise was that this company would buy all the cultures that could be produced. That ended when the Kansas Securities Commissioner intervened. Subsequently the company was indicted in California for running a multi-million-dollar fraud scheme. This program is presented by Jerry Harper of Lawrence, a local attorney and former State House of Representatives member.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Jerry Harper of Lawrence

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Ed Quick, quickly@sunflower.com, 785-838-3581

The Future of Renewable Energy

Thursday, October 15, 2020, 10 AM

How much renewable energy - wind, solar, water power - is used in Lawrence and Kansas today? How has that changed in the last few years? Will renewable energy grow in the future? What will influence its growth? How will the economy and the prices of alternative fuels determine its growth? What will happen to coal and natural gas?

Scott White, a Research and Project Analyst with Cromwell Solar in Lawrence, will explore these topics. Scott is a Ph.D. and has been working in and around renewable energy since the 1990's. He spent four years as a project manager for a wind farm developer.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Scott White

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program contact: Karen DeVictor, 785-842-8216; kdevictor@gmail.com

Overcoming Drug Resistant Super-Bugs

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 10 AM

Antimicrobial resistance is a looming public health crisis, poised to take more than 10 million lives per year by 2050. Professor Slusky's Lab designs proteins to disable antibiotic resistance. She will share a few stories about some of her lab's inventions and how they might make the antibiotics we already have work like new.

Joanna Slusky is an Assistant Professor of Computational Biology and Molecular Biosciences at KU. She graduated *magna cum laude* in chemistry from Princeton University. While there she synthesized superconductors and geometrically frustrated magnets that resulted in her co-authoring 5 papers in *Nature*. She then focused on membrane protein design and completed her PhD in Bill DeGrado's lab at the University of Pennsylvania. As an NSF graduate research fellow, Joanna designed the first peptides to bind specifically to the transmembrane region of proteins. Following her PhD, Joanna continued to study membrane proteins over the course of two postdoctoral appointments. The first was a Human Frontier Science Program postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Gunnar von Heijne at Stockholm University where she studied membrane protein topology determination. Her second postdoc was with Roland Dunbrack at Fox Chase Cancer Center where she began her studies of outer membrane proteins. She now continues to explore outer membrane proteins at the University of Kansas. In 2016, she was an inaugural recipient of the Moore Inventor Fellowship. In 2017, she was named an NIH Director's New Innovator Awardee.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Joanna Slusky

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Ed Quick, quickly@sunflower.com, 785-838-3581

Be Prepared for the Vagaries of Life

Thursday, October 22, 2020, 10 AM

How do I/we make it as efficient as possible for someone to take over my/our business and personal affairs in case of a health crisis or event that prevents me/us from conducting near and long-term financial, health and personal affairs? What legal and personal documents should I/we have in hand? What decisions should I/we make now to inform those helping me/us in case of an emergency or disability? Do I/we need a beneficiary directory? What should be included? Insurance? Savings/Investments? Property? Retirement Plans? Estate Planning? Personal Data? Should I/we have surrogate decision makers (health care proxies)? Who should I/we name as power of attorney?

These are difficult issues. They are easy to put off, but as I/we retire and grow older confronting them early avoids delay, conflict and confusion when emergencies and physical and mental changes occur in my/our lives.

Molly Wood, a Lawrence attorney specializing in elder law, will discuss how to assemble the documents you need and make prudent advanced decisions so that you and your family will be prepared for the vagaries of your future lives. She received her J.D. from the K.U. School of Law in 1991. She was designated a Best Lawyer for Elder Law in 2006. She is President of Kansas Advocates for Better Care.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Molly Wood

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Humanities Lecture Series: Migration Stories, Erika Lee

October 22, 2020, 7:30 PM

Erika Lee will join us to talk about her newest book *America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States* (2019). One of the nation's leading immigration and Asian American historians, Erika Lee teaches American history at the University of Minnesota, where she is a Regents Professor, a Distinguished McKnight University Professor, the Rudolph J. Vecoli Chair in Immigration History, and the Director of the Immigration History Research Center. The granddaughter of Chinese immigrants, Lee grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, attended Tufts University, and received her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. Lee is the author of four award-winning books in U.S. immigration and Asian American history: *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943* (2003), *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America* (co-authored with Judy Yung, 2010), and *The Making of Asian-America* (2015). As director of the Immigration History Research Center, Lee has helped to merge immigration history with the digital humanities. She launched and oversees the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded 'Immigrant Stories Project' which works with recent immigrants and refugees to collect, preserve, and share their experiences with a new multi-lingual digital story-telling website and collection. She also founded and co-organized the *#Immigration Syllabus*, a digital educational resource offering historical perspectives to contemporary immigration debates.

Location: TBD

Presenter: Erika Lee

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

**Marcy P. Lascano, Professor of Philosophy and Humanities
Research Fellow *The Metaphysical Systems of Margaret
Cavendish and Anne Conway***

October 26, 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Marcy Lascano will be working to finish a book project on the views of two 17th century women philosophers – Margaret Cavendish (1623-1673) Anne Conway (1631-1679). The book, *Monism, Vitalism, and Self-Motion: The Metaphysics of Margaret Cavendish and Anne Conway*, explores their views on the nature and existence of the world with a focus on the nature of persons, freedom, causation, and perception. While these two extraordinary philosophers share commitments to the whole of nature being one entity which is alive and self-moving, Lascano demonstrates that the details of their systems result in distinct and unique understandings of the world. Cavendish depicts a materialistic and naturalistic world that can be understood through observation, sensation, and reason, while Conway argues that the world consists of spiritual substances that share the nature of their creator and through which his justice is revealed.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Marcy Lascano

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Mark Osborn 785-841-0236 mosborn56@gmail.com

Green Chemistry

Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 10 AM

Mark Shiflett, Foundation Distinguished Professor in the School of Engineering, came to KU in 2016, after spending much of his career at DuPont while serving as a professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at the University of Delaware. He conducts research at KU's Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis. His work focusing on green engineering and green chemistry – how do you help industry develop processes that use less energy and materials? How do you develop processes that create less carbon dioxide, which helps climate change? He holds over 70 patents. Learn what he and his department are doing to make the world a better place.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Mark Shiflett

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Meet KU's Authors: Susan Harris

October 28, 2020, 7:30 PM

Susan Harris, Professor Emerita of English, will talk about her new book, *Mark Twain, the World, and Me: Following the Equator, Then and Now* (2020). **Harris** follows Mark Twain's last lecture tour as he wound his way through the British Empire in 1895–1896. Deftly blending history, biography, literary criticism, reportage, and travel memoir, Harris gives readers a unique take on one of America's most widely studied writers. Structured as a series of interlocking essays written in the first person, this engaging volume draws on Twain's insights into the histories and cultures of Australia, India, and South Africa and weaves them into timely reflections on the legacies of those countries today. Harris offers meditations on what Twain's travels mean for her as a scholar, a white woman, a Jewish American, a wife, and a mother. By treating topics as varied as colonial rule, the clash between indigenous and settler communities, racial and sexual "inbetweenness," and species decimation, Harris reveals how the world we know grew out of the colonial world Twain encountered. Her essays explore issues of identity that still trouble us today: respecting race and gender, preserving nature, honoring indigenous peoples, and respecting religious differences.

Location: TBD

Presenter: Susan Harris

Time: 7:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Mark Osborn 785-841-0236 mosborn56@gmail.com

Kent State & the National Guard – 50 years later

Friday, October 30, 2020, 10 AM

Kent State University became a household name and the focus of much of the anti- Vietnam movement after four students were shot and killed by National Guard members during an antiwar demonstration. Crosby, Stills & Nash wrote a song commemorating this event that is still played on radio stations today.

David Ambler, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Emeritus at KU, was the Vice President for Student Affairs at Kent State soon after the shootings. He was an official in the Student Affairs department when the shootings occurred. He will tell the story of what happened that day and soon after, and the repercussions of that tragic event from 50 years ago.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: David Ambler

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Karen DeVictor; 785 -842-8216; kdevictor@gmail.com

The Presidential Debates: Continuing the Tradition – Why we Watched – Did they Matter?

Friday, November 6, 2020, 10 AM

Presidential debates have a long history going back to the early 19th century when surrogates debated party platforms in place of candidates. Abraham Lincoln was a seasoned surrogate for the Whig party when he debated Stephen Douglas in 1858, for a US Senate seat. In 1960, the first televised presidential debates were held between Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy. After a 16-year vacuum, debates returned in 1976 and included a vice presidential debate. They've been held every cycle since then (except that there was NO VP debate in 1980). This program looks at a brief history of the debates and their influence on elections and what people learn from them. It concludes with an analysis of the 2020 debates and their role, if any, in the outcome.

Diana Carlin is a retired KU professor of Communication Studies and Professor Emerita of Communication at St. Louis University. She has served as a speechwriter for political and business leaders and has written a few speeches of her own. She created a course at KU on speechwriting and taught an Osher course on the subject. She has researched presidential speechwriting at Kennedy, Truman, and George H.W. Bush libraries and wrote a book chapter on Truman's speechwriters.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Diana Carlin

Time: 10:00 AM

Charge: No Charge

Program Contact: Alice Ann Johnston, aliceannjohnston@sunflower.com
785-841-0169

Summer of Conflict: Lawrence 1970

Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 10 AM

Lawrence in the late 1960s and early 1970s was a different city than the one we know today. The Union was burned that Spring and students at Lawrence High School and KU erupted over racial inequality. It came to a head in the summer of 1970, 50 years ago, with the killing by police of an unarmed local black man who was a student at KU. The student's name was Rick Dowdell; he had lived in Lawrence most of his life. Bill Tuttle, Professor Emeritus of American Studies has researched this time period in Lawrence and has lectured about it. Lawrence was not unique at the time with this conflict, but in many ways the problems we see today is proof of how little we have learned from the past. Professor Tuttle is a charismatic speaker who will fill us in on this part of Lawrence and KU history.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Professor Bill Tuttle

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Perry Warren 785-764-2588 pdwarren@sunflower.com

Massacre at Cheyenne Hole

Thursday, November 12, 2020, 10 AM

Massacre at Cheyenne Hole presents the story of a military attack on Little Bull's encampment of Southern Cheyenne on Middle Sappa Creek in Rawlins County on April 23, 1875. 27 Cheyenne were killed, including women and children. The reasons for the attack are explored and why it is called a massacre is explained. Later the consequences of this attack include the retaliation of Northern Cheyenne during their great escape from the reservation in Oklahoma in 1878, when they took time to avenge the Massacre at Cheyenne Hole with the slaughter of 31 settlers along Sappa and Beaver Creeks in Rawlins and Decatur counties. The two tragedies in 1875 and 1878 are an important part of Indian-white relations in northwest Kansas.

The program will be presented by Leo E. Oliva, a historian with a research focus on 19th century Kansas.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Leo E. Oliva

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Raffaele DeVito & Myrna Cornett-DeVito (620) 481-9067
mcornettdevito@gmail.com

Lawrence, KS: High Tech Proud, Export Proud

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 10 AM

Kansas exports totaled more than \$11.6 billion in 2019. Why is that important? . . . because for every \$1 billion in exports, 8,400 jobs are created. For more than 30 years, the Kansas Department of Commerce and the Kansas International Trade Coordinating Council have recognized outstanding Kansas companies by presenting the Kansas Governor's Exporter of the Year Award to an outstanding exporting organization. In 2019, that honor was bestowed upon one of Lawrence's own, **Pinnacle Technology, Inc.** Under the leadership of **Donna Johnson (President and CEO)**, Pinnacle develops products that play an essential role in improving health care services and makes possible the discovery of revolutionary drugs and interventions for brain and sleep disorders, such as Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease. A large and diverse assemblage of pharmaceutical companies, research universities, and health agencies currently rely on Pinnacle's integrated systems for their most demanding research. Donna will be sharing her story and the story of Pinnacle's success.

Donna Johnson, Pinnacle Technology's President and CEO, has more than 30 years of experience in applied research and engineering projects, having held positions as Director of Engineering and Research with several small businesses and working for various federal and state organizations, including the U.S. House of Representatives, the National Energy Laboratory and the Environmental Protection Agency. She has served on the Board of Directors of Kansas Inc., Lawrence Technology Association and the Board of Trustees for the Kansas University Center for Research.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Donna Johnson

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Hall Center (785) 864-4798 hallcenter@ku.edu

Chelsea Bowden, Sias Graduate Fellow in the Humanities *A Community-Based Theory of Intellectual Virtue*

November 18, 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Which character traits make people morally better? Which ones make people morally worse? These are long-standing philosophical questions in ethics that date back to Plato and Aristotle. More recently, philosophers working in epistemology (the study of knowledge) have begun to ask related questions about intellectual character traits. Some intellectual traits, such as conscientiousness, seem like intellectual virtues, while others, such as closed-mindedness, seem like vices. But what if conscientiousness is implicated in a person committing morally reprehensible actions (in the literature, a “conscientious Nazi”)? What if closed-mindedness makes it easier to doggedly pursue issues of social justice in a sea of skeptical voices (a “closed-minded activist”)? Bowden’s dissertation, *A Community-Based Theory of Intellectual Virtue*, operates at the nexus of both ethics and epistemology, and it is heavily influenced by areas of study outside philosophy such as structural injustice and educational inequality. It examines which character traits can and should be considered intellectual virtues, how these intellectual traits are distinct from other types of virtuous or vicious character traits, and how these traits contribute to our assessments about whether a person is better or worse overall.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Chelsea Bowden

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Cost: No Charge

Program Contact: Alice Ann Johnston, aliceannjohnston@sunflower.com
785-841-0169

Art on the KU Campus

Thursday, November 19, 2020, 10:15 AM

Saralyn Reece Hardy, Director of the Spencer Museum of Art, will talk to us about the art on the KU campus and show slides of it. KU has had a long tradition of outside art by major sculptors, local and national, for many years and we sometimes just walk by without realizing what we have. She will also talk about some works that are in buildings on campus from the Spencer collections. She will discuss how place and art can be in conversation with one another.

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Saralyn Reece Hardy

Time: 10:15 AM

Cost: No Charge

Contact: Mark Osborn 785-841-0236 mosborn56@gmail.com

Ecological Niche Modeling and Conservation

Wednesday, November 25, 2020, 10 AM

A niche is the set of favorable environmental conditions for a species. It describes how an organism responds to the distribution of variables like climate, soil, resources and competitors. Niches shape an organism's distribution. Distributions are important to us. Think vectors of diseases, agricultural pests, or species we wish to conserve. Hear KU Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum Senior Scientist Jorge Soberón discuss this very important topic. He and his team use databases and mathematical models to help understand changes in species distributions, and like to work with political and institutional aspects of biodiversity governance.

The earth's varied environments are changing. What can we humans do to forecast such changes and conserve some of the species and environments that are endangered? What are Professor Soberón and his team doing to help the world's niches survive and recover?

Location: Zoom

Presenter: Jorge Soberón

Time: 10:00 AM

Cost: No Charge