UNH Lecture Series Looks At Whether Public Schools Can Reduce Inequality

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DURHAM, N.H. - The University of New Hampshire kicks off its year-long Saul O Sidore Memorial 2008-2009 Lecture Series "Can Schools Reduce Inequality?" this month with a discussion about the origins of academic standards. All of the lectures, which are free and open to the public, will be held throughout the year from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Memorial Union Building Theatres. The lectures are as follows:


- Monday, Nov. 17, 2008, MUB Theatre I, A Panel on Diversity and Schools. Panelists are:
  - Francisco Guajardo, associate professor of educational leadership at the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas, and executive director of the Llano Grande Center for Research and Development. He will discuss "Education for Social Change: Lessons from Rural South Texas."
  - Thomas Payzant, professor of practice at Harvard Graduate School of Education and former superintendent of the Boston public schools. He will discuss "The Challenges and Opportunities Presented by Diversity: Responsibilities of School Leaders."
  - Ronald Ferguson, lecturer in public policy and senior research associate at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He will discuss "Improving Home and School, Not One or the Other."


- Wednesday, March 25, 2009, MUB Theatre I, A Panel on School Choice. Panelists are:
  - Casey Cobb, associate professor of education policy and director of the Center for Education Policy Analysis at the Neag School of Education. He will discuss "School Choice in a Post-Desegregation World: Where Have We Been and Where Are We..."
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- Michael Goldstein, founder of the MATCH Charter School in Boston and senior fellow at Education Sector. He will discuss "Boston Story: How Charter Schools Have Reduced Inequality."

- Tuesday, April 21, 2009, MUB Theatre II, "Democracy, Equity, and Our Public Schools," with Deborah Meier, adjunct professor at New York University's Steinhardt School of Education and director of New Ventures at Mission Hill School in Boston.

The Saul O Sidore Memorial 2008-2009 Lecture Series was organized by the Carsey Institute, the Department of Education, and the Department of Sociology. Sponsored by the UNH Center for the Humanities, the Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series was established in 1965 in memory of Saul O Sidore of Manchester to provide programs to the university community and state of New Hampshire that raise critical and sometimes controversial issues facing society. For more information visit www.unh.edu/humanities-center/sidore.

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