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## UNH Sidore Lecture Series To Explore The Roots Of Democracy

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September 17, 2007

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DURHAM, N.H. – The theme of the University of New Hampshire’s Saul O Sidore Memorial 2007-2008 Lecture Series “Exploring Democracy at Home and Abroad,” will offer the university community and the state of New Hampshire the opportunity to explore the roots of democracy, its benefits and shortcomings, as well as its spread around the globe.

All of the lectures, which are free and open to the public, will be held on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. in Durham at the Memorial Union Building, Theater II.

The discussions begin Sept. 27 with “Democratic Roots.” Michael Goodhardt, assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh, will examine the ways in which democracy has been conceptualized throughout its historic development, and will offer a new conceptualization of democracy for the age of globalization.

“The Primary Role of New Hampshire in American Democracy” on Oct. 18 brings New Hampshire Secretary of State Bill Gardner to UNH where he will highlight the unique contributions that New Hampshire makes to American democracy through the presidential primaries.

On Nov. 29, Stephanie McLean, director of research, IPSOS Reid, Canada, will present “Confronting Racism in American Democracy.” McLean assesses the ways in which racism jeopardizes the quality of American democracy, focusing in particular on the fairness of the electoral process.

“Democracy and Peace” on Jan. 31 will have University of New Hampshire assistant professor Alynna Lyon answer the question “Can democracy promote world peace?” with her critique of democratic peace theory.

On Feb.28, assistant professor Dinorah Azpuru of Wichita State University will assess the impact international aid programs have on beginning and strengthening the process of democratization, particularly in the developing world with “Financing Democratic Change.”

On March 27, Jon Hiskey, associate professor, Vanderbilt University, will exam the ability of democracy to address poverty and income inequality in the developing world in “Democracy

and Poverty.”

During the last lecture of the series, “Sanctioning Dictators and Celebrating Democrats” on April 17, Audie Klotz, associate professor, Maxwell School of Syracuse, will explore

the ability of the international community to press for democratic reform. She will assess the impact of sanctions against the apartheid regime in South Africa, as well as Nelson Mandela’s ability to use international support to fight for democracy.

The Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series, sponsored by the University of New Hampshire Center for the Humanities, was established in 1965 in memory of Saul O Sidore of Manchester to provide programs that raise critical and sometimes controversial issues facing society. For more information visit

[www.unh.edu/humanities-center/sidore/sidore.htm](http://www.unh.edu/humanities-center/sidore/sidore.htm).

