

ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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WINTER-SPRING 2009 SEASON PREVIEW

LECTURES AND LUNCHEONS

January 23 (F) - From US Financial Crisis to Global Economic Crisis? by Dr. Matias Fontenla

The current financial crisis has triggered a global economic downturn, with potential dire consequences for the welfare of people worldwide. This talk will discuss what led to the current crisis and the government's effort in trying to prevent a full economic meltdown. Dr. Fontenla will talk about how this directly affects the welfare of New Mexicans, our neighbors and the citizens of the world. **Luncheon, 11:30 AM – 1:15 PM, Savoy**

February 27 (F) - Disintegration and Integration: Germany in the New Europe by Prof. Dr. Jürgen Kocka

The number of New Mexicans employed by foreign-owned (led by British and German) companies is estimated to jump 10% just from Schott Solar's investment of up to half a billion dollars. The role of the European Union and its major economy, Germany, is thus increasingly important to us. With reunification since 1989, Germany has become the most populous country of Europe except Russia and is regarded as the “economic locomotive” of the European Union. The “new” Federal Republic has been a major force in the expansion of the EU to include the former Warsaw Pact states and former Yugoslavia. Fears that Germany would revert to past ambitions of dominating Europe have proven largely unfounded. Its role in the developing European Union is crucial to world peace, human rights and economic development. **Luncheon, 11:30 AM – 1:15 PM, La Crepe Michel**

March 27 (F) – Europe’s Southern Underbelly: Corruption, Gangsters and War Criminals by Dr. Melissa Bokovoy

Since the outbreak of the Iraq war, the Balkans have retreated to the background only to reemerge when a war criminal is arrested, a human smuggling ring is broken up, or corruption is revealed by a western news organization. Despite such public reminders, the Balkans, over the last 20 years, have represented a significant focus and investment by the European Union and the United States. Over the last decade the United States has spent \$24 billion in stabilization efforts in the region and has countered EU policy by recognizing Kosovo as an independent state. The talk will highlight the current socio-economic and geopolitical issues germane to US, Russian, and EU policy, especially in light of Russia's resurgence along the EU's and NATO's borders.

April 24 (F) – Shanghai: City of the Future by Charlie Bergman. Great Cities of the World Series

May 26 or 28 (T/Th)- Hotels: American Origins and Global Competition By Dr. Andrew Sandoval-Strausz

Hotels can be found almost everywhere in the world, but not many - even in the hospitality industry - know about their fascinating history. The first hotels were built in the 1790s, when hospitality was the subject of intense controversy among American entrepreneurs, French revolutionaries, and German philosophers. Professor Sandoval-Strausz will reveal the colorful and unexpected origins of hotels, describe how they transformed people's attitudes toward strangers and foreigners, and explain why modern hotel management has become increasingly important to a world where, for example, Arab business leaders build hotels to welcome outsiders to the Middle East at the same time that the region's terrorists target hotels for attack.

See Over

June 4, 5 or 6 – lecture on Chinese culture (in collaboration with Santa Fe CIR); working title "From the Long March to Wal-Mart"; focus on recent Chinese political, economic and social changes, its post-revolution history, and art (under development).

INTERNATIONAL LECTURE SERIES *Gaining Momentum: New Trends in the US and NM Hispanic Communities*

January 9, Friday, 4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

Topic: **Foreign Loyalties? Hispanics and American National Unity**. In his recent book *Who Are We? The Challenges to American National Identity*, famous Harvard professor Samuel Huntington argued that Hispanics threaten to divide American society today like no other group in U.S. history, and that they and other groups have foreign attachments that run counter to the national interest. David R. Ayón, US Director of the binational "Focus Mexico/Enfoque Mexico" project, Loyola Marymount University will examine such "transnational" ties as well as recent efforts by countries such as Mexico, Canada, Israel, Spain and Venezuela to gain influence among Hispanic Americans.

February 13, Friday, 4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

Topic: **Hispanics in Politics**. The speaker will cover the topics of a new generation of Latino politicians, growing political participation, and assertiveness, political representation for Hispanics at the national, state and local levels, and also address Hispanics role in 2008 Presidential campaign.

March 13, Friday, 4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

Topic: **"Latino Arts and Culture: Mapping a Social Movement"**. Dr. Maribel Alvarez, Southwest Center, University of Arizona will talk about antecedents of Latino expressive culture in the US, the Civil Rights Movement and the origins of the Latino artistic project, the non-profit arts field, the multicultural project, characteristics that define the terrain of Latino Arts in the US: emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities.

4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

April 11, Saturday, 4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

Topic: **"Growing Latino Businesses"**. Rudy M. Bessera, Vice President, Latin Affairs, the Coca-Cola Company will address new trends within Latino businesses, such as their growth, Latinas in business, and immigrant businesses.

May 8, Friday, 4:00 PM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

Topic: **"New Mexico: Hispanos y Mexicanos; 21st Century Immigration and the Descendants of 17th Century Indo-Hispanos"**. Dr. Manuel Garcia y Griego, Director, SW Hispanic Research Institute, UNM will cover the New Mexican case and summarize the views presented in the previous seven lectures and compare national and local (NM) trends. His presentation will focus on the dual significance of the heritage of people of Mexican-origin: it is both an immigrant ethnic group descendent of newcomers to the United States and a native population whose origin is that of a racialized group identified with a territory and annexed in a war of conquest at mid-nineteenth century.

BOOK CLUB

Freed Zakaria, *The Post-American World*. January or February 2009

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE CLUB: *Indian Cuisine, Georgian (Transcaucasia) Cuisine, Russian Cuisine*

For information on other events and updates please visit www.abqinternational.org or call Center for International Studies/Albuquerque International Association at 856-7277