



*To those who come, I leave the flame!
Hold it as high as you can reach.
If a better world is your aim,
All must agree:
“The Best Should Teach.”*

Lindley J. Stiles, Professor Emeritus
(1913-2008)

The Best Should Teach Initiative

presents

The Ira and Ineva Baldwin Lecture

2008

Why the Best Should Teach: Intellectuals and Public Responsibility

Donna Dickenson

*Emeritus Professor of Medical Ethics and Humanities
University of London
Winner of the 20006 International Spinoza Lens Award*

Wednesday, August 20, 2008
Old Main Chapel
3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Donna Dickenson (BA, MSc, PhD) is Emeritus Professor of Medical Ethics and Humanities at the University of London (Birkbeck College). Formerly John Ferguson Professor of Global Ethics at the University of Birmingham, and before that Reader in Medical Ethics and Law at Imperial College London, she also holds honorary appointments at the University of Oxford and the University of Bristol. Over a forty-year career in academia she has published some twenty books and sixty refereed articles.

Professor Dickenson is a current member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Ethics Committee and has served on many other policy advisory groups, for the British Medical Association and numerous other bodies. She has acted as a clinical ethics consultant for teaching hospitals associated with the University of Oxford and Imperial College London. She was also the author of a commissioned paper for the Retained Organs Commission on property in human tissue and an expert witness to the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee on the role of ethics committees in France, where she held a visiting fellowship at an institute of Columbia University in Paris.

In 2006 Professor Dickenson was awarded the International Spinoza Lens prize for contribution to public debate on ethics. Previous laureates have included Edward Said, Avishai Margalit and Tsetvan Todorov. In making the award the nomination committee remarked that “Donna Dickenson’s work is characterized by commitment and openness. It encompasses philosophy, law, medical ethics, global politics, feminism, history, poetry, literature, and timely new areas in bioethics such as stem cell research. Time and again Dickenson strives to express the unique diversity of human values while respecting the concept of universality.”

Today's Program

Welcome & Introduction

*Laura L. B. Border, Director, Graduate Teacher Program
Stein Sture, Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School*

Best Should Teach Gold Awards

CU Faculty

*John Stevenson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate
Education, Graduate School*

Best Should Teach Silver Awards

Lead Graduate Teachers

*Laura L. B. Border, Director, Graduate Teacher Program
John Stevenson, Associate Vice Chancellor
for Graduate Education, Graduate School*

Introduction to the Speaker

*Stein Sture, Vice Chancellor for Research and
Dean of the Graduate School*

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Best Should Teach Awards

Gold Awards: CU Faculty

Michael Dubson, Senior Instructor, Physics

Bud Coleman, Professor, Theatre

Clayton Lewis, Professor, Computer Science

Diane Sieber, Director, Herbst Program of Humanities in Engineering

Silver Awards: Lead Graduate Teachers

Arts

Lindsay Mikash, John Stadler, Jungwoo Kim, Sam Keehn, Jennifer Popple,

Jessica Damon, Linda Lopez

Engineering

Brandon Jones, Ted Galanthy, Dave Biagioni, Garret Nicodemus, Avery Bang,

Mike MacFerrin, Lucas Portelli, Marian Chaffe, Chris Oshman

Humanities

John Leffel, Chelsea Bridges, Ginna Sanprie, James Voss, Nikki McManus, Cory

Aragon, Weldu Weldeyesus

Languages & Literatures

Jennifer Brady, Jake Morton, Lance Crisler, Saori Seta, Gail Kallas, Petra

Watzke, Valentina Iturbe La Grave

Science and Mathematics

Lorine Giangola, Ryan Takeshita, Colin Wallace, Melissa Richards, Clint

Francis, Betsy Swanner, Ben Spike, Tom Ragole

Social Sciences

Holly Yettick, Lauren Calimeris, Zuhra Faizi, Markus Fitzg, Jim Millette,

Maggie Red, Katye Blackwell, Lisa Scott, Joshua Raclaw, Shelli Walker

We would like to thank the following groups for their support of the Best Should Teach Lecture:

*The Best Should Teach Initiative
The Graduate Teacher Program
The Faculty Teaching Excellence Program*

The Best Should Teach Initiative

The Best Should Teach Initiative strives to acknowledge excellence in teaching and academic leadership. The initiative is managed by the Graduate Teacher Program in coordination with the School of Education, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Graduate School at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The late Lindley and Marguerite Stiles established the initiative in 1996 to promote the ideal that “The Best Should Teach.” A Best Should Teach sculpture, designed by John Haertling, which represents the flame of enlightenment, is installed at the School of Education on the University of Colorado at Boulder campus as a visual reminder of the initiative and of the importance of teaching and academic leadership.

The School of Education at the University of Colorado at Boulder supports the Best Should Initiative by recognizing an outstanding undergraduate in Education each year. The student receives a Best Should Teach Gold Award pin and plaque at graduation.

The Graduate School and the College of Arts and Sciences give Best Should Teach Gold Awards to outstanding faculty on the Boulder campus and Silver Awards to the Lead Graduate Teachers each year at the Best Should Teach Lecture. Graduate School Teaching Excellence awards winners also receive Gold Awards at the Graduate School Awards during spring semester each year.

Thank you for joining us today in our celebration of teaching excellence at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

To donate to the Best Should Teach Initiative, please make your check payable to the CU Foundation and mark that it is for the Best Should Teach Initiative. Send to:

University of Colorado Foundation
4740 Walnut Street
Boulder, CO 80301

CU-Boulder Faculty Biographies

Bud Coleman, Associate Professor and Chair, Theatre & Dance

Bud Coleman, received his PhD in Theatre History/Criticism, from the University of Texas-Austin; his MFA in Theatre/Directing from the University of Utah; and his BFA in Theatre Arts, from Texas Christian University. As a teacher, Dr. Coleman's basic philosophy is to "provide the student skills to continue doing what we do in the class without me." One of his most popular classes is Theatre 3009: Development of American Musical Theatre, which is designed for non-majors looking to explore "a history of this genre and the significant artists involved" and "an investigation into how America saw itself — or wanted to see itself." To demonstrate the vital visual elements of the productions, Dr. Coleman has turned to technology ranging from overhead projectors to the Internet; his web page, which doubles as a resource for the class, can be found at <http://spot.colorado.edu/~colema>. "Most of the students have some experience seeing theatre, as it is something of a "high-date option." I try to engage the students in the topic so that they will keep going to see theatre and become informed consumers. They need to realize that there are more options for theatre than those that can afford mass advertising campaigns." Professor Coleman has provided many hours of leadership and service to the Graduate Teacher Program and the Faculty Teaching Excellence Program to assure that teachers understand equity issues in the classroom.

Michael Dubson, Senior Instructor, Physics

Michael Dubson received his BS in Physics from the University of Illinois, Urbana and his PhD in Physics from Cornell University. Professor Dubson is a senior permanent instructor dedicated to the improvement of physics education at CU. He has studied student conceptual mastery in the upper division sequence (mechanics, E/M and quantum), is a master of the personal response ("clicker") system and its productive use, and is also a Flash programmer for PhET. He also helped to write and produce and starred in "The Convection Connection," a science education series aimed at fifth graders which appeared on Channel 4. Professor Dubson has facilitated many workshops for the Graduate Teacher Program on classroom demonstrations in science courses, active learning, and traditional instruction versus active engagement. He has also contributed significantly to faculty development on campus through the Faculty Teaching Excellence Program.

Clayton Lewis, Professor, Computer Science

As a University of Colorado President's Teaching Scholar since 1989, computer science Professor Clayton Lewis places a high value on undergraduate education. He enjoys teaching introductory courses and has worked diligently to involve undergraduates in the research enterprise. "Undergraduate programs are the true foundation of strong departments and a strong university," he says. A few years ago, Lewis established a new research opportunity program in the computer science department, which allows undergraduates to assist Boulder campus faculty in applying educational technology to their teaching. The students develop a broader technical awareness

through projects that require them to harness a variety of technical resources to solve a problem. For example, one group of students created a virtual reality presentation of an archaeological site, while another developed computer technology for people with severe mental handicaps. Lewis came to CU-Boulder in 1984 from the IBM Watson Research Center, where he worked on problems related to human-computer interaction. With bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics and a PhD in experimental psychology, he continues to focus his research on the way people interact with computers while also designing more user-friendly computer systems. Professor Lewis has also contributed many hours of service directed at improving teaching through the Graduate Teacher Program and the Faculty Teaching Excellence Program.

Diane Sieber, Associate Professor and Director of the Herbst Program of Humanities for Engineers

Professor Sieber earned her MA and PhD in Romance Languages from Princeton University. She became director of Herbst after a successful career teaching in the CU Boulder Department of Spanish and Portuguese, where she has taught freshman critical thinking classes, Spanish culture, Medieval and Golden Age Spanish literature and the arts, and graduate seminars on Spanish theater, the European Baroque, Don Quixote and the monster in literature and film. She has published a book on Spanish historiography and articles on Don Quixote, the Spanish theater, the Moorish population in the Spanish Empire prior to 1614, and Spanish writings on colonial New Mexico (1541-1700). Professor Sieber discovered computer programming, web design and digital art as an assistant professor and continues to pursue all three. Although the two halves of her world would seem to be far apart, she sees the blending of technology, the arts and humanities as the key to a fulfilling life. Having spent the last few years exploring technology with arts and humanities students, she is looking forward to many years of discussing the arts and humanities with engineers. Professor Sieber has provided many years of service to both the Graduate Teacher Program and the Faculty Teaching Excellence Program in support of faculty and graduate teaching assistants on the Boulder campus.