

SDIS SPEAKER SERIES FOR 2023-2024

Diana K. Withee

September 16, 2023

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Hieronymus Bosch



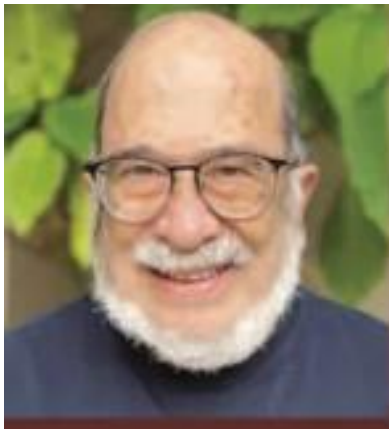
Diana Keeran Withee is an art historian doing research on the paintings of Hieronymus Bosch for more than a decade, based on discoveries she made about the painter while a graduate student. She received a B.A. in Art History from Pomona College, Claremont, CA, an MA from Tulane University, New Orleans, LA and an ABD from University of Maryland, College Park. Diana worked in the education departments at the National Gallery of Art and Hillwood Museum and Gardens in Washington, DC and in Curatorial at The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD. She has taught art history courses at Tulane University, New Orleans, LA and Montgomery College in Rockville, MD and at the Bishops Schools, La Jolla, CA and for the Navy through their Central Texas College program, which included teaching art history on an aircraft carrier.

Edward Lewis Goldberg, MD

October 21, 2023

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Presidential Health Matters



Dr. Edward Lewis Goldberg retired from his practice of internal medicine in January 2000. Throughout his career in medicine, he has always had a love of American history, and it finally came together for him in his recent book, *Presidential Health Matters*. The book explores the medical history of the U.S. through the lives of 46 presidents. Dr. Goldberg brings the perspective of a practicing primary-care internist to this account. He asks how and why medical events took place as they did. From the Siege of Boston in 1775 to COVID-19 in 2020, the history of the advance of medicine and the history of the United States were intertwined.

Don Norman, PhD

November 18, 2023

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Design for a Better World



Professor Don Norman is Distinguished Professor (emeritus) of Cognitive Science and Psychology, Founder and first Director of the Design Lab at the University of California, San Diego. Business Week has named Norman one of the world's most influential designers. He has been a Vice President of Advanced Technology at Apple and an executive at HP. He is co-founder of the Nielsen Norman group, a member of the National Academy of Engineering, fellow of numerous societies with honorary degrees from Delft, Padua, and San Marino. His latest book is "Design for a Better World: Meaningful, Sustainable, Humanity Centered."

Tom English, PhD

January 20, 2024

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Can We Successfully Resolve the Climate Crisis



Dr. Tom English managed high-level nuclear waste programs for President Carter's Office of Science and Technology Policy; the Government of Sweden; NASA; and the California Energy Commission. At the U.S. EPA, he directed an \$80 million per year Energy & Environment Program. He is the President of the Earth Restoration Team, and a Creation Care Educator for the Presbyterian Church USA and ranked in the top 0.1 % of the Climate Reality Project's speakers' program.

Tom Pham

February 17, 2024

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

What Wisdom Must be Like for One Who is Actually Wise: An Aristotelian Perspective



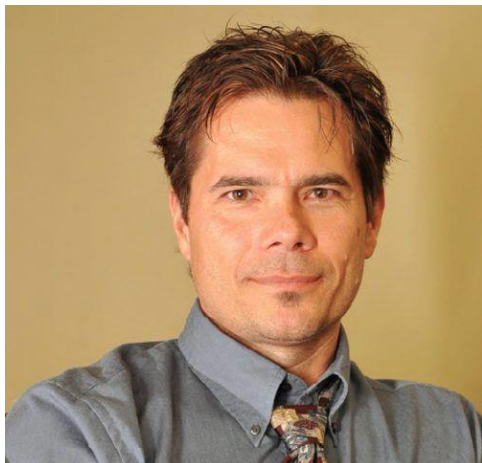
Tom is a professional computer programmer by training who has worked for big and small companies, IBM Corp. among them. For seven years, Tom participated regularly in a reading group called San Diego Great Books, which strengthened his interest in philosophy and independent study. The present talk arose from the discussions he participated in while running this group. One of the reading projects and topics of discussion was Aristotle's: *Nicomachean Ethics*.

Chris Niebauer, PhD

March 16, 2024

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

No Self No Problem: How Neuropsychology is Catching Up with Buddhism



Chris Niebauer earned his Ph.D. in cognitive neuropsychology at the University of Toledo, specializing in the differences between the left and right sides of the human brain. He is a former professor at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, where he taught courses on consciousness, mindfulness, left- and right-brain differences, and artificial intelligence. His latest book is *No Self No Problem: How Neuropsychology is Catching Up with Buddhism*.

Rigdon Currie

April 20, 2024

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Photojournalism of Birding



Rigdon Currie was born in 1930 during the Great Depression but in a privileged position. He completed training as an engineer at Georgia Tech & then received a Harvard MBA. Participated in the Korean War as a member of the USAF, from which he retired as Captain. Became a pioneer in digital technology and installed the first industrial digital control system, which is currently housed in the Smithsonian.

Rigdon helped develop two of the first time-sharing computers (precursors of PCs), contributed to planning of both nodes of first Internet message (Xerox Data Systems computers at UCLA & SRI). Following his retirement, he took up birding and has traveled through 85 countries, counting 5400 species of birds.

Gwenyth Mapes, PhD

May 18, 2024

1:30 - 3:00 pm PST

Frida Kahlo and her Art



Gwenyth Mapes is Professor of Humanities at Grossmont College and taught as an Assistant Professor of Humanities at the University of Montana in Missoula. She has degrees in English and Religious Studies, as well as a minor in Creative Writing from Hollins University. Her MFA is in English and Creative Writing from the University of Montana, Missoula. Professor Mapes spent recent sabbaticals traveling and studying in India (spring semester 2015) and in fall 2021 in South Africa and Ethiopia. She has given

readings of her poetry in Los Angeles for both the Library Girl and Roar Shack reading series.