EUEC: THE SHETH DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Once a year, the Emory University Emeritus College offers the Sheth Distinguished Lecture, named in honor of Dr. Jagdish and Mrs. Madhuri Sheth, whose generous donation made this annual event possible. Attendees include emeriti, active faculty, and others with special interest in a speaker’s take on the overarching topic of “Creativity in Later Life.” The speaker is selected and invited by the Emeritus College’s Mind Matters Committee, which also hosts the event; this is the same Committee that oversees the volunteers who organize the Lunch Colloquiums. The stature of the speakers (chosen from both the Emory University community and beyond) has attracted upwards of 100 attendees in most years. We use income from the donation fund to cover the cost of lunch for these attendees. But should you wish to offer a comparable event, we would note that it would be quite possible to ask attendees to cover the cost of their own lunches. And you also could save on costs by finding a free venue, as we have been able to do. Otherwise, expenses can be minimal, perhaps a little for printed publicity to complement e-publicity, perhaps a little for a gift for the speaker. In short, this kind of special speaker program can provide a lot of bang for very few bucks and is also, like our Lunch Colloquiums, easy to organize and appealing to attend.

PAST SPEAKERS

2016: James Curran, Professor of Epidemiology and Dean, Rollins School of Public Health.

2015: Brenda Bynum, Resident Artist and member of the Emory College Department of Theater Studies Emerita; an actor and director in Atlanta since 1973, working primarily at the Alliance Theater.

2014: Don E. Saliers, William R. Cannon Distinguished Professor of Theology and Worship Emeritus; a theologian specializing in homiletics and liturgics.


2012: Robert Spano, Emory University Distinguished Artist in Residence and Music Director for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

2011: Robert Paul, Former Dean, Emory College, Candler Professor of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Studies.

2010: Elizabeth Kiss, President of Agnes Scott College, former founding director of the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University.

2009: Natasha Trethewey, Professor of English and Phillis Wheatley Distinguished Chair at Emory and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet.

2008: Susan Allen, Professor of Global Heath at Rollins School of Public Health, Founder and Director of the Rwanda Zambia HIV Research Group.

2007: Frans de Waal, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Psychology at Emory, Director of the Living Links at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center.


2005: William Foege, Professor Emeritus, Rollins School of Public Health; former Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Health Policy Fellow and former Executive Director of The Carter Center.

2004: James T. Laney, President Emeritus of Emory University, former Ambassador to South Korea.