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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Number: **389**

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January 2021

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MONTHLY PROGRAM *Monthly Program Chair: Claudia Berry, claudia@olwenberry.com, 616.399.2538*

Date: January 5, 2021, 9:30-10:30am

Place: HASP Virtual Classroom, hope.edu/virtualhasp

Program: Fred Johnson: "Revelations of a Nation's Tortured Soul: America and the Crisis of the Third"

Immediately after the Civil War, the United States entered its First Reconstruction [1865 - 1877] during which tremendous strides were taken to fulfill the promises of liberty, freedom, and equal opportunity for *all* Americans. Constitutional amendments ending slavery (13th), guaranteeing dual citizenship, due process, and equal protection of the laws (14th), and extending the vote to African American men (15th) demonstrated the nation's resolve to advance in the causes of socio-political and economic justice. But the actions of reactionary white supremacists (i.e., Ku Klux Klan, etc.) combined with the flagging national commitment to completing Reconstruction's agenda produced the Jim Crow segregation and racial oppression that extended into the middle of the 20th century.

The Second Reconstruction [1955 - 1970], happening in consonance with the 1960s Civil Rights resulted in passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and 1965 Voting Rights Acts. Once again, though, white supremacists and a diminished national willingness to enforce the civil and voting rights legislation neutralized the efforts of historically marginalized Americans to achieve first-class citizenship.

Barack Obama's 2008 presidential election victory symbolized the arrival of a Third Reconstruction, once more promising socio-political and economic advancement for African Americans. That crowning achievement was scuttled in 2016 with the presidential victory of a chief executive whose divisive toxic rhetoric embraced, encouraged, energized, and enabled 21st century white supremacists into doing all possible to ensure that further gains relative to social, political, and economic justice stayed beyond grasp and reach. This presentation traces that history, finishing with a summary of the current situation and action steps that must be taken.

Prior to teaching at Hope College, Dr. Johnson served in the United States Marine Corps and worked in the automotive, telecommunications, and aerospace industries. He earned his Master and Doctorate degrees at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio and in 2015 graduated with his Master of Divinity degree from Western Theological Seminary. Dr. Johnson has earned numerous awards including the Hope College Favorite Professor Award and the Hope Outstanding Professor Educator award. He has advanced eight times to the semifinals of the annual Toastmasters World Series of Public Speaking competition, taking second place in 2017 and 2018.

Upcoming Monthly Program: February 2, 2021, Christopher Lubbers, PHD Philosophy, University of Florida, "Christian Privilege: What It Is & How to Use It for Good"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *HASP President: Barbara Stegink: bstegink39@gmail.com, 616.990.7124*

Standing on the threshold of 2021, I am wondering how 2020 will be remembered 100 years from now. Will it be the “year of COVID-19 or “the Great Pandemic of 2020”? Will it be referred to as the most “unprecedented year in history”? And now that 2020 is almost behind us, how will 2021 go down in history?

Standing on the threshold, we are relieved that 2020 is behind us. We are looking forward to 2021, hopeful and anxious to move into a world that has conquered the pandemic. We are hopeful that our lives will include families, friends, handshakes, and hugs. We are anxious to be “in community” with our children “in school.” Will 2021 be another “unprecedented year” which brings us recovery, renewal, comfort, good health, happiness, and peace with ourselves and each other?

Happy New Year to all! We will see each other soon.

Barbara Stegink
President

MEMBERSHIP *Membership Chair: Carla Ver Schure, verschure@sbcglobal.net, 616.392.5666*

We welcome the following new member:

MARY DECKER KLAAREN

Profession: Teacher, Senior Pastor, South Congregational Church

Education: Hope College, Wesleyan University, Yale Divinity, Hartford Seminary

Hobbies: Travel, reaching, writing

Mentor: Lucille Schroeder

While we are working remotely, please contact Susan Timmer, timmer@hope.edu, for membership assistance or questions.

Membership Process

- Request information by emailing Susan Timmer timmer@hope.edu. If you are requesting information on someone’s behalf, please provide their name and email address.
- Prospective members are asked to attend a Monthly Program via Zoom prior to submitting an application (instructions to attend will be provided).
- Submit application for processing and approval.
- Sign up for classes and enjoy HASP!

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the following HASP members:

George Magee-George was a Christian missionary in Japan for 42 years. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joyce Magee. He passed away October 30, 2020.

Maxine DeBruyn-Maxine was the founder of Hope College Dance Department and a community leader for children’s outreach and the arts. She passed away December 9, 2020.

CURRICULUM Curriculum Chair: Sharon Arendshorst, snarendshorst@gmail.com, 616.335.3132

We have concluded our second Zoom term, and on January 18 we will enter our third. The winter/spring term includes 46 courses offered over 84 sessions. Thirteen courses are cross-listed with the term's special focus on issues of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. These topics are approached from a variety of perspectives. When the weather will be warmer, we have scheduled several off-site classes that will follow the then-recommended Covid safety protocols.

Course registration will open on January 4th. Until then, enjoy the courses from this past term on the HASP YouTube channel — many are available for viewing by all HASP members. If you can't find a particular session that means we did not have permission from the presenter to record.

HASP YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UClwf4rDyHICVTy3l06nC-Ow.

Although Zoom is not our preferred teaching and learning format, the Curriculum Committee is grateful for the many presenters who have taught exceptionally well over Zoom and for the many participants who have enlivened our classes with their questions and participation. Hopefully we will all be back in the classroom this summer. Until then, know that the extra effort of our presenters, of Kim and Susan as hosts, and of all of you as participants continues to make HASP the excellent lifelong learning program of which we are all proud.

Remember: All committees accept course ideas and proposals year-round!

Curriculum Chair: Sharon Arendshorst—snarendshorst@gmail.com 616-335-3132

Fine Arts: Sarah Briggs – sarahbriggs969@gmail.com 517-449-5818

Humanities: Judy Parr – parr.judyandbill@gmail.com 616-546-3424

Science, Medicine & Technology: Bruce Basset—bruce-b@sbcglobal.net 847-542-7449

Social Sciences: Mike Economos – mikeeconomos@gmail.com 269-857-1248

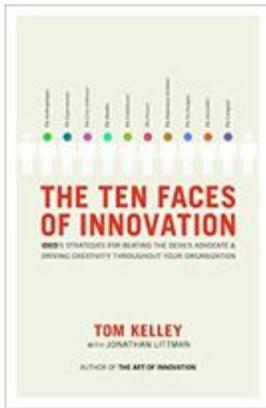
SPECIAL EVENTS Special Events Chair: Judie Zylman, jazie3@gmail.com, 616.566.0412

WOW, we are all looking forward to the end of 2020 and all of the challenges the world has been faced with. We are certainly hoping that the vaccine against Covid-19 will become available to us soon and in time to board the HOPE bus and travel together safely. In the meantime.....

Thank you to all who joined us for Holiday Trivia night on Dec 15. We had yet another fun time with about 20 more participants than we had at the Halloween Event. We received wonderful feedback on both events and look forward to another game night in February.

The Events Committee would like to invite you to a Valentine's Day Event so that you can forget the abnormalities of our Covid lives for a short time. It seems the 3rd Tuesday evening has worked well so far, so please save the date of February 16. Perhaps this will make the holiday season last just a little longer. We will be sending out more details and a registration link in late January, so watch your email for that. As always, this is a FREE event. See you then!!

SERVICE Service Chair: Maura Reynolds, mreynolds@hope.edu, 616.392.2874



Are you a person who makes connections across disciplines and looks for creative ways to solve problems, a person who perseveres despite obstacles, a person who can gather a team and align it toward a compelling goal?

If this describes you, Professor Becky Schmidt invites you to visit her Senior Seminar class via Zoom to discuss Tom Kelley's *The Ten Faces of Innovation* with students. The book explores the process and skills of human-centered design-thinking.

The Senior Seminar meets from noon-1:20 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Maura Reynolds at mreynolds@hope.edu or 616.392.2874.

We will be posting more opportunities to volunteer in Hope classes next semester, please watch your email and future newsletters.

OFFICE & DIRECTOR NEWS Director: Kim Mendels, mendels@hope.edu, 616.335.0627

We wish you a happy and healthy 2021 and bid farewell to a tough 2020!

Reminder: **HASP is closed in conjunction with Hope's campus shutdown from December 21 - January 3rd.** Please do not leave any urgent messages on voicemail and understand we will not be responding to email daily during this time. We look forward to rest and a quieter time with family and hope you can do the same!

Registration for winter/spring semester opens Monday, January 4th and classes begin the week of January 18th, 2021.

Donor signage has been installed in our new HASP Suite - this is the last step in our relocation and renovation process. We look forward to the time we can welcome you back in person to see the finished project!

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of each member and each gift. A full donor list will be published for our HASP annual meeting in June 2021.

