

ARAS Weekly Newsletter

Association of Retired Academic Staff



January 2, 2024

CURRENT AFFAIRS SALON

The next meeting of the Current Affairs Salon will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, January 4th at 2:00pm**. This meeting will feature contributions from all attendees. Each person will be asked to predict what is going to happen in 2024 - it can be anything local, national or international. When a prediction is made, the participants will discuss its merits. The amount of time devoted to each prediction depends on the number of attendees.



Zoom coordinates for the meeting are:

 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84256439376>

If the system asks for a passcode enter 488023

The meeting ID is 84256439376 if needed

BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on **Wednesday, January 17th at 2:20pm** in Room 1-46 of University Terrace ([8303 112 Street](#)).

The discussion of *Ducks* by Kate Beaton will be led by Vivien Bosley. Members may participate either in-person or online.

Beverly O'Brien (bo1@ualberta.ca) will send a Zoom link beforehand for those wishing to join virtually.



If you wish to join the group, please contact Vivien Bosley at vbosley@ualberta.ca.

WEBINARS OF INTERESTS

1. Topic: Housing in Calgary
Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 2:00 - 3:30PM
Mountain Time/4pm Eastern time
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Part 1: Overall topic-The Shifting Landscape of Homelessness in Post-Pandemic Calgary

Speaker: Jeannette Waegemakers-Schiff, PhD, Emerita Professor-Research, Faculty of Social Work

Part 2: Later Life Homelessness: Structural Drivers and Opportunities

Speaker: Lara Nixon, MD, Assistant Professor, Cumming School of Medicine

In-person attendance: Engineering Building, G Block, 2nd Floor, Room 207, University of Calgary

or Join by Zoom (Link for non-members)

https://go.ucalgary.ca/2024-01-10-Housing-in-Calgary_LP-Registration.html

2. Surviving our fiery future: Learning to live with wildfire

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 @12 noon ET (Online via Zoom)



Speaker: Dr. Eric Kennedy, Associate Professor, Disaster & Emergency Management, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University

In this presentation, Dr. Kennedy discusses the interconnected sources of our wildfire crisis and what can be done to address it. We consider some of the challenges with our emphasis on firefighting and suppression, and discuss some of the paradigm shifts that will be needed if we want to live safely with wildfire in the future.

For more information and to register:

<https://www.yorku.ca/alumniandfriends/connect/events/scholars-hub/>

Dr. Eric Kennedy is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies whose research focuses on decision-making in emergency contexts, especially around the question of how we leverage expertise and evidence to manage disasters more effectively.

3. Canada's Homelessness Crisis

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 @7pm ET

Speaker: Alison Smith, PhD, Associate Professor, Dept of Political Science, University of Toronto, Mississauga



For further Information & Registration:

https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/canadas-homelessness-crisis?utm_source=DUA&utm_medium=Newsletter&utm_campaign=events&utm_content=image

4. Getting to know Africa and its people: Confronting popular stereotypes

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 @12 noon ET (Online via Zoom):



Speaker: Dr. Joseph Mensah, Professor, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University
As the world gets more connected, due primarily to contemporary globalization and international migration, it is important to understand other people and their cultures. Dr. Mensah will present on the continent of Africa and its people and culture in an effort to subvert prevailing negative stereotypes surrounding Africa.

For more information and to register:

<https://www.yorku.ca/alumniandfriends/connect/events/scholars-hub/>

Born and raised in post-colonial Ghana, Dr. Joseph Mensah has an extensive record of teaching, research, publication and service. His current research interests include Culture & Cultural Studies; Transnational & Return Migration; Ethno-Racial Identity Formation; and African Development.

A MESSAGE FROM ARAS

We would like to wish you a Happy New Year from ARAS!



OFFICE ASSISTANT

David will be working remotely next week.

If you wish to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please reply to emirhse@ualberta.ca with "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Thank you!