



TRAVEL FOR HUMANITY

2006-2007 PENN HUMANITIES FORUM ON TRAVEL

Symposium

5 April, 2007 • 5–7:00 pm

3619 Locust Walk

PENN HUMANITIES FORUM
MARVIN AND SYBIL WEINER FUND, PENN LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA

Symposium

On the face of it, the virtue of international aid would seem self-evident: the privileged West providing expertise, food, technology, and money to people in need. And yet, one of the many perplexities surrounding globalism is the ethical import of these humanitarian efforts. Crossing borders to bring change—however necessary or desired—may be construed as a form of cultural or political invasion.

We welcome you to this special symposium, one in a series of events in the 2006–2007 Penn Humanities Forum on Travel. Distinguished panelists, who are joined by the first-place winner of the 2007 Marvin & Sybil Weiner Undergraduate Essay Prize in the Humanities, consider international adoption, medical aid, international advising, and other motives for Travel for Humanity.

Marvin and Sybil Weiner Undergraduate Essay Prize in the Humanities

This annual essay contest is open to Penn undergraduates in all schools. Sponsored jointly by the Penn Library and the Penn Humanities Forum, the Weiner Prize provides an award of \$1500 for the winning essay and two honorable mentions of \$500 each. The Forum's yearly research theme—in 2006-07, Travel—inspires the essay topic, which directs students' talent and attention to broad issues of humanistic concern.

Penn Humanities Forum

Established in 1999, the Penn Humanities Forum is charged with taking a fresh look at ideas that touch on the human experience. The Forum's goal is to introduce humanistic perspectives to the sciences, professions, and public, and to bring ideas, long confined to the ivory tower, into popular discourse. Addressing a different topic each year, the Forum offers an integrated program of research, teaching, and outreach, which invites students, scholars, the cultural community, and the general public to discover common ground.

The Penn Humanities Forum gratefully acknowledges the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Program

5:00: Introduction and Awards

Wendy Steiner
Founding Director, Penn Humanities Forum
Richard L. Fisher Professor of English

JoAnn McCarthy
Assistant Provost for International Affairs

Catriona MacLeod
Director, Undergraduate Humanities Forum, PHF
Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures

2007 Marvin and Sybil Weiner Undergraduate Essay Prizes

Robert Strain, College '08, Political Science
First Prize for Best Undergraduate Essay, "The Pharmaceutical Paradox: Helping and Harming the Developing World"

Lauren Eskreis-Winkler, Engineering-College '09
Honorable Mention for "In What Sense, if any, are Human Rights Universal?"

Nikhil Nirmel, Wharton '08, Operations & Information Management
Honorable Mention for "On Inaction"

5:15: Robert Strain

"The Pharmaceutical Paradox: Helping and Harming the Developing World," 2007 Marvin and Sybil Weiner Undergraduate Essay Prize in the Humanities

5:35: Response

Brendan O'Leary, Lauder Professor of Political Science and
Director, Solomon Asch Center for Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict

5:50: Penn Faculty Panel Presentations and Discussion

International Adoption: Peter Conn, Professor of English

Medical Aid: Harvey Friedman, MD, Chief of Infectious Diseases
and Director, Penn-Botswana Program, Penn Medical Center

International Advising: Brendan O'Leary, Lauder Professor of
Political Science