



In the Spirit of Mark Twain

Graduate Liberal Studies invites you to a series of lectures commemorating:
The 175th Anniversary of His Birth
The 125th Anniversary of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
The 100th Anniversary of His Death

September 16

Mark Twain: What Attracts Us?

**A conversation between
Liberal Studies faculty member
Ronald Johnson and alumnus and
Twain expert, Dwayne Eutsey**

*(Reception at 6:00, presentation at 7:00 in
the Faculty Club at the Leavey Center)*

Professor Ronald Johnson is a long-time member of the Liberal Studies Program core faculty. He has presented scholarly papers on Mark Twain and published "Past as Future, Future as Past: Mark Twain, Edward Bellamy, and the Crisis of the 1880s" in *American Studies in Scandinavia* (1990). Professor Johnson has taught "Society in Crisis: Mark Twain's America" to students in the Program since the mid-1990s.

Since graduating from Georgetown's MALS program in 1997, Dwayne Eutsey has continued to develop his Master's thesis on the extensive influence he believes liberal Christian theology had on Mark Twain's personal life and literary works. As an independent scholar in Twain studies, Dwayne has had two Quarry Farm Research Fellowships at Elmira College's Center for Mark Twain Studies, has published several articles and book reviews, and presented at both the Fifth and Sixth International Conferences on the State of Mark Twain Studies. In addition to working on a book about Twain's religious views, he works as a writer/editor and lives on Maryland's Eastern Shore with his wife and three children.

October 27

**A Special SCS Presentation
Sponsored Jointly by Graduate
Liberal Studies and the Masters in
Professional Studies in Journalism**

Political Satire: Serious Implications for Today's Politics

**Presentation by Pulitzer Prize-
winning Political Cartoonist,
Mark Fiore**

*(Reception at 6:00, presentation at 7:00 in
Ballroom AB of the Conference Center in
the Leavey Center)*

Mark Fiore won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning this April, marking the first time the coveted award has been given for political cartoons that appear entirely online. With this new form of political cartoon, seen by millions on news websites, he is a pioneer in the contemporary display of political satire in the spirit of Mark Twain. According to the Pulitzer jury, Mark Fiore's "...biting wit, extensive research, and ability to distill complex issues set a high standard for an emerging form of commentary."

Recognition of his significant leadership in this field has come from other awards as well: the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in the category of cartoons, an Online Journalism Award from the Online News Association and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, and two awards from the National Cartoonists Society for his work in new media.

December 10

Humor, Speechwriting, and Engagement with American History

**A lecture by author and political
speechwriter, Jeff Shesol
carrying on the traditions so
characteristic of Mark Twain**

*(Reception at 6:00, presentation at 7:00 in
the Faculty Club at the Leavey Center)*

Jeff Shesol describes himself as a "lapsed cartoonist." Indeed, he began his career in that field, creating a nationally syndicated comic strip, *Thatch*, as an undergraduate at Brown University. A Rhodes Scholar trained in American history, he is the author of *Mutual Contempt: Lyndon Johnson, Robert Kennedy and the Feud That Defined a Decade* and the very recent and well acclaimed *Supreme Power: Franklin Roosevelt vs. the Supreme Court*. Both his prose and his sense of history brought him into the Clinton White House as deputy chief speechwriter, responsible for many major presidential addresses, including humorous speeches at the Gridiron Club and elsewhere. He is founding partner of The West Wing Writers, a speechwriting and strategy firm.

This lecture will provide an occasion for us also to celebrate the end of the semester and the coming holidays, and copies of Mr. Shesol's books will be available for purchase as holiday gifts.