American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series

Nonie Darwish

September 17, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium Nonie Darwish is the founder of Arabs for Israel and author of Now They Call Me Infidel: Why I Renounced Jihad for America,



Israel and the War on Terror, and Cruel and Usual Punishment: The Terrifying Global Implications of Islamic Law. Born in Cairo, she grew up in the Gaza strip where her father was a high-ranking Egyptian military officer who led the Fedayeen guerilla operations against Israel.

Proud of her Arabic heritage, she brings a positive message of change to audiences across the country while speaking out against the violence and anti-Semitic indoctrination she experienced as a child. Darwish holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology from American University in Cairo. She worked as an editor and translator for the Middle East News Agency before moving from to the United States in 1978.

Cynthia Cooper

November 12, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium Former MCI vice president and chief audit executive Cynthia Cooper led the team that uncovered the WorldCom fraud in



2002 — the largest corporate fraud case in history to date. The accomplishment earned her recognition as one of *Time* Magazine's Persons of the Year in 2002. After helping MCI move forward and successfully emerge from bankruptcy, she left the company in July 2004 to launch

her own consulting firm, The CooperGroup.

With more than 20 years corporate experience, she is a consultant, internationally recognized speaker and author. Her book, Extraordinary Circumstances, was published in February 2008 and outlines her experience as a corporate executive and lessons learned at WorldCom. She travels the globe, emphasizing the importance of strong ethical leadership and has appeared on numerous programs including "America's Nightly Scoreboard" on Fox Business, "The Today Show," and "This Week With George Stephanopoulos."

Co-sponsored by the College of Business Administration.

Laura Ingraham

February 16, 2010, 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium Nationally syndicated radio host Laura Ingraham hit the airwaves with her self-titled show in 2001 and can be heard on



more than 325 stations coast to coast. She is also an author, columnist and television commentator. Her latest book, Power to the People, debuted at No. 1 on the New York Times Best Seller List and discusses traditional family values, education and American patriotism. She is a

regular Fox News contributor and has filled in as guest host for Bill O'Reilly and Sean Hannity.

A graduate of Dartmouth College and University of Virginia School of Law, Ingraham worked as a speechwriter during the final two years of the Reagan Administration. In addition, she served as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas before becoming a defense attorney at one of the nation's premier law firms.

George W. Bush

April 22, 2010, 7:30 p.m., Benson Auditorium George W. Bush was elected the 43rd president of the United States in November 2000 and went on to be re-elected in



2004. Before his presidency, he served six years as governor of Texas and was the first governor in the state's history to be elected to consecutive four-year terms.

During his eight years as president, Bush instituted federal tax cuts, added a prescription drug benefit to Medicare,

implemented free trade agreements with more than a dozen nations, launched a global HIV/AIDS initiative, and created the Faith-Based and Community Initiative. In addition to many other achievements, he also appointed Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Bush holds a bachelor's degree in history from Yale University and served as a pilot in the Texas Air National Guard before attending Harvard Business School where he earned his Master of Business Administration degree.

American Studies Institute

The American Studies Institute traces its roots to a program started at Harding in 1953 called the School of American Studies. Expanded and renamed in 1988, the Institute is designed to supplement the academic training of students by promoting a complete understanding of the institutions, values and ideas of liberty and democracy. It does so by providing up-to-date reflections from national and international leaders in business, government and education.

The benefits of the American Studies Institute have been visibly significant. Unequaled educational opportunities have been provided to students in many disciplines. The program has a long-standing tradition of recognition from the Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pa., receiving numerous awards in the area of community service. In fact, either the program itself or Harding faculty and administrators have won a Freedoms Foundation award every year for the past 45 years.

Lecture Series

Bringing lectures to the Harding campus, this program serves as an integral part of the American Studies Institute. A unique approach to citizenship education in contemporary national and international affairs, the Lecture Series offers insight into current trends in political and economical development affecting the American way of life.

Speakers in the Lecture Series have included Presidents George H.W. Bush and Gerald Ford, Margaret Thatcher, Mikhail Gorbachev, John Major, Lech Walesa, Barbara Bush, Colin Powell, Dick Cheney, Henry Kissinger, Tom Peters, Bobby Bowden, Zig Ziglar and William F. Buckley Jr..

The Young America's Foundation is co-sponsoring the lecture series.



Dr. David B. Burks, president of the University Dr. James W. Carr, executive director, ASI Dr. Bob Reely, associate executive director, ASI For further information, contact: American Studies Institute, Box 10762, Searcy, AR 72149-0762; 501-279-4497

If you need accommodations due to a disability, please contact the American Studies Office and ask for Laura Beth. Please make your request at least one week prior to the presentation.

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