Swarthmore Discussion Group
2019–2020 Program

Timely Discussions. Timeless Topics.
Sept. 11  “A Candid Conversation with WHYY’s Marty Moss-Coane”
Marty Moss-Coane, host and executive producer of *Radio Times with Marty Moss-Coane*
Join *Radio Times*’ Marty Moss-Coane for a wide-ranging conversation about her roots and her tenure as the host of the longtime Philadelphia radio show. Moss-Coane will discuss her start in the radio business, how the show works, and what it’s like covering current news and issues. She will also share some of her most memorable moments.

Oct. 16 “The Paradox of Repression and Nonviolent Movements”
Lee Smithey, associate professor of peace & conflict studies at Swarthmore College
Lee Smithey will discuss his recently published co-edited book, *The Paradox of Repression and Nonviolent Movements* (Syracuse University Press). Rather than undermining resistance, repression often fuels popular movements. When authorities respond to nonviolent people with intimidation, coercion, and violence, they often undercut their own legitimacy. Moreover, activists in a wide range of movements have engaged in nonviolent “repression management” that can help turn the potentially negative consequences of repression to their advantage.

Nov. 13 “Regional Economies: Uniting Rural and Urban Communities to Confront Climate Change”
Judy Wicks, author, entrepreneur, and activist
Judy Wicks will tell her story—from living in an Eskimo community in 1969, to moving to Philadelphia in 1970 to co-found the Free People’s Store (which became Urban Outfitters), to founding the farm-to-table White Dog Cafe in 1983, to her current projects in supporting our regional economy. Wicks will also discuss the importance of moving from “me to we” as individuals and a society to address the historic challenge of climate change and build an inclusive, self-reliant, and life-sustaining economy in the Philadelphia region.

Dec. 4 “Yes, We Can Solve the Climate Crisis”
Paul Hawken, editor of *Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*
Paul Hawken delivers an urgent message of hope as the world confronts the ever-worsening crisis of climate change. An internationally known environmental leader, socially responsible entrepreneur, and author, Hawken founded Project Drawdown, which has worked with researchers from around the world to analyze the 100 most effective climate-protection strategies. The book that resulted, *Drawdown*, was the best-selling environmental title of 2017 and has been called “the most hopeful thing you’ll ever read” about the climate crisis. Hawken appears often on TV, and his work has been cited in hundreds of news articles.
Spring 2020 Program

Jan. 22 “First Ladies: From Ceremony to Substance”
Katherine Sibley, professor of history and director of American studies at St. Joseph’s University
The transformation of the position of first lady began with Edith Roosevelt, considered the first modern first lady, and continued through the activist works of women like Nellie Taft, Florence Harding, Eleanor Roosevelt, Lady Bird Johnson, and Michelle Obama. What was once a position requiring mostly the skills of a good hostess has become an influential platform for change in areas ranging from civil rights to health care. Katherine Sibley published *A Companion to First Ladies* in 2016 and is also an authority on Soviet-American relations.

Feb. 12 “Sub-Saharan Africa’s Debt and Development Finance Challenges”
Antoinette Sayeh (Swarthmore College, 1979), former director of the IMF’s African Department, former finance minister of Liberia
Sub-Saharan Africa must better manage debt. But the rapid pace of debt accumulation notwithstanding, the development community’s concerns must remain grounded in the region’s need for large volumes of financing to meet the U.N.’s Sustainable Development Goals. Antoinette Sayeh is co-chair of the IDA19 Replenishment, the World Bank’s fund for the poorest countries; a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Center for Global Development; and a Swarthmore College Board Manager.

March 25 “Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary: What Does Art Have to Do with Empathy and Belonging?”
Peggy Seiden, Swarthmore College librarian, and Katie Price, associate director for co-curricular programming and outreach at the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility
Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary (FPS) was a two-year project (2017–19) funded by the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage that sought to address antipathy toward refugees and create a greater sense of belonging for recently resettled Iraqis and Syrians through art that was based in historic and contemporary stories of displacement, migration, and resettlement. FPS brought together world-renowned book artists and a community of more than 20 Iraqis and Syrians to create works that were exhibited at Swarthmore College and in Philadelphia and New York City.

April 22 “The State of the LGBTQ Movement”
Rea Carey, executive director of the National LGBTQ Task Force
Fifty years after the Stonewall riots, where is the LGBTQ movement headed? Through HIV/AIDS, anti-violence work, securing some nondiscrimination protections, and winning marriage rights, the LGBTQ movement has been resilient, adaptive, and creative. Now is the time to think expansively about a movement grounded in racial, economic, gender, and social justice—one that allows each person to be “all of me, all the time.” Rea Carey has spent three decades serving in leadership roles in the LGBTQ movement, and is on the boards of the Freeman Foundation and the Flamboyan Foundation.
ABOUT THE SWARTHMORE DISCUSSION GROUP

The Swarthmore Discussion Group offers attendees the opportunity to share a meal and engage in conversation with local community members and Swarthmore College staff, faculty, and alumni. Speakers are distinguished scholars, community leaders, and experts in their fields. Following their presentations on topics including politics, foreign affairs, economics, and social issues, they welcome lively discussion and debate by attendees.

Please join us for the entire eight-program series and enjoy a night out for dinner and discussion. If you can’t make a talk, you can send a friend or Swarthmore student in your place.

Where and When
Where: The Inn at Swarthmore, 10 S. Chester Road, Swarthmore
When: 5:15–6 p.m. Happy Hour
       6–7 p.m. Dinner
       7–8:15 p.m. Talk and Q&A

Registration
The $330 registration fee for 2019–20 series memberships is due by Aug. 19, 2019. Registration is confirmed when membership is paid. Space may be available for individual talks ($50/each) after Aug. 19.

Register online: swarthmore.edu/discussion-group

Register by mail: Please make checks payable to “Swarthmore College” and send completed registration form to The Swarthmore Discussion Group, Attn: Katie Kuzoian, Swarthmore College, 500 College Ave., Swarthmore, PA 19081.

For more information
Please contact Katie Kuzoian at 610-957-6267 or kkuzoia1@swarthmore.edu, or visit swarthmore.edu/discussion-group.

Swarthmore Discussion Group Board of Directors
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REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): _______________________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone: _______________________________________________________________________________________

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Yes, I would like to register for the full Swarthmore Discussion Group 2019–20 series. My check for $330 made payable to “Swarthmore College” is enclosed.