



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Immigration discussion to be simulcast March 25

The 2008-09 E.N. Thompson Lectures on World Issues continue March 25 with a discussion on illegal immigration with Michael Olivas and Vernon Briggs at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln.

The lecture will be simulcast at 7 p.m. at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, in addition to remote sites in Scottsbluff, Kearney, Columbus, Wayne and Omaha, with financial support from the Cooper Foundation.

In the second annual Wilson Dialogue, Olivas and Briggs will discuss "Illegal Immigrants: Path to Citizenship?" Most recommendations for immigration reform center on the issue of a path to citizenship for these illegal immigrants. Opponents say this is amnesty, a strategy which proved ineffective in previous immigration legislation. Supporters say legalization is both a necessity and a moral obligation.

Olivas is William B. Bates distinguished chair of law at the University of Houston. He has a substantial and varied legal consulting practice, including representing faculty, staff, institutional, and state clients, serving as an expert witness in federal and state courts, and joining as a member of litigation teams in educational, finance, and immigration matters.

Briggs is professor emeritus in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University. His research has embraced such subjects as minority participation in apprenticeship training; southern rural labor market analysis; direct job creation strategies, Chicano employment issues; and immigration policy and the American labor force.

Other remote simulcast sites include Room A113 of Harms Technology Center at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, Room 101 in the Communications Center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Room 205 in the West Education Center at Central Community College in Columbus, Connell Hall Auditorium at Wayne State College and Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. All simulcasts are free and open to the public.

For more information about the North Platte simulcast, contact Tom Gorman at (308) 535-3714 or gormant@mpcc.edu.

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