



**Provost's Lecture Series hosting Mary Frances Berry on Weds , Feb 24 & Simran Sethi on Thurs, Feb 25**

**Eric W. Kaler, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs**

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to: rre 02/17/2010 10:14 AM  
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To: Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to invite you to attend two Provost's lectures at the end of February. Mary Frances Berry, a pioneering voice for civil rights and social justice, will speak on "The State of the Civil Rights Movement in a Post-Cosby World." Held in honor of Black History Month, Professor Berry's lecture will take place on Wednesday, February 24, at 4:00 p.m., in the Charles B. Wang Center, Lecture Hall 2. A book signing in the Wang Center Chapel will follow the lecture with Berry's latest book, "And Justice for All: The United States Commission on Civil Rights and the Continuing Struggle for Freedom in America." The next day, award-winning journalist, Simran Sethi, will present her lecture, "The Good Fight: Environmental Racism and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice." This lecture is part of the conference, "Going Green from the Black Perspective: The Significance of Environmental Issues in Communities of Color." Sethi's talk will begin at noon on Thursday, February 25, in the Humanities Building, Room 1008.

Mary Frances Berry is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. A longstanding member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1980 to 2004, she served as chair from 1993 to 2004. During the Carter Administration, Berry was Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Recognized for her dedication to scholarship and public service, she is the recipient of 32 honorary doctoral degrees and numerous awards including the NAACP's Image Award, the Rosa Parks Award of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Ebony Magazine Black Achievement Award, and the American Bar Association's Spirit of Excellence Award.

Simran Sethi is an associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Kansas. She is the contributing author of "Ethical Markets: Growing the Green Economy," winner of the bronze 2008 Axiom Award for Best Business Ethics book. Named by The Independent as one of the top ten eco-heroes of the planet, Sethi is the founding host/writer of the Sundance Channel's environmental programming, The Green, and creator of the Sundance web series, The Good Fight. This series highlights global environmental justice efforts and grassroots activism.

Seating for both lectures will be on a first come, first served basis. I encourage you to attend these events and extend an invitation to your students, colleagues and contacts in the local area. For more information on Black History Month, please visit: [www.stonybrook.edu/sb/bhm/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/bhm/)

Eric W. Kaler  
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