

**OBSERVER
FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Negotiations for IRP's Future

The Executive Committee will meet with The New School's President Van Zandt on March 3 to discuss our status at TNS. We had requested a meeting with Dean Helen Wussow to discuss our future but were informed that Dean Wussow's role has changed, and TNS arranged the meeting instead for President Van Zandt, Provost Tim Marshall, and Executive Dean Mary Watson.

Meetings with CUNY Graduate Center Dean Brian Peterson and Program Director Mariel Villere continue; the next one, in fact, is also on March 3 at the GC after our session with President Van Zandt. The purpose is to continue to work out details related to our becoming a program of the Graduate Center, including class schedules and room assignments at the GC.

The Executive Committee has asked IRP committee chairs and other members responsible for scheduling events and meetings to develop their calendars for the fall semester 2020 so that we can give the GC the data they need to reserve necessary space.

IRP Office

Adam has developed a calendar of our events and meetings that is available on the ZINE (click on the calendar tab and scroll down). Committee chairs and

members responsible for scheduling can now consult the calendar before selecting dates, thereby avoiding conflicts. Once the schedulers select dates, they should send an email to inform Adam and he will update the calendar accordingly.

Again, the Executive Committee reminds members to email, rather than phone, requests to Adam and to identify the nature of the request in the subject line. Also, please set up appointments with Adam and avoid just dropping by, when this is at all possible.

Rooms at SLU

As a reminder, two rooms, 19b and 1923 are available Monday through Thursday for committee meetings and events after regular class hours, until 4:30. Room 1923 is also sometimes available for committees during class hours. Adam records these meetings on the calendar; check availability first and then email Adam to reserve a room, writing Request for Rooms at SLU in subject line.

For socializing, the pantry areas on both 18 and 19 and the reception area on 19 are available and either room 1804 or 1923 is often free. Walk by to check them out.

EVENTS

Artsig Goes to the Shed

- Exhibit: Agnes Denes: Absolutes and Intermediates
- When: Tuesday, March 17, 3:30PM
- Where: 545 W 30th St, New York, NY 10001
- Admission: \$10

Celebrate the 50-year career of Agnes Denes at the Shed, the new cultural center at Hudson Yards. The exhibit presents 150 works by this important conceptual, environmental and ecological artist. Join us afterward at the Shed's coffee bar. See NY Times Review "At 88, Agnes Denes Finally Gets the Retrospective She Deserves".

Sign up via email to Dick Kossoff, chemkos@aol.com. As space may be limited please respond as quickly as possible

Rather Be In Philadelphia?

Spring Break Travel

Celebrate food and the arts in the City of Brotherly Love, two nights, three days. Depart April 14, return April 16. Make your own itinerary using these basics:

Local attractions:

- Barnes Museum, voted #1 museum in Philadelphia, \$23
- Franklin Institute, \$23
- Philadelphia Museum of Art, \$18
- Rodin Museum, \$10
- Reading Terminal Food Market
 - Total museum fees = \$75 per person
- R/T New York City Penn Station to Philadelphia, \$90, 1 hour 30 minutes

- Hotel: Hampton Inn, Philadelphia center city, near all attractions, \$169 per night, subject to change (plus 15% tax, according to availability, single or double), hot breakfast included.
- Hotel total charges \$194 x 2 = \$388 for two nights, including tax, single or double occupancy.
- Plus lunch, dinner, taxi or Uber charges \$125.
 - Approximate total for the entire trip = \$648 per person.

This is independent travel; if you are interested, make reservations and payments directly to the museums and hotel in advance. You can save some money by sharing a room or taxi rides, and taking advantage of the microwaves and refrigerators in the hotel rooms. Adventurous IRP souls may also identify Airbnb lodging in and around center city Philadelphia.

The Travel Committee can help with an information session before the trip and by coordinating meetings of IRP members during the trip. Contact Bob Gerace at rgerace234@yahoo.com if you are interested.

REMINDERS

Register for 'A Roadmap To Retirement'

- Saturday morning, March 7
- The New School University Center, 63 Fifth Ave., Starr Foundation Hall, Room UL 102 (lower level)

The Our Stage of Life Committee presents Robert Freedman Esq., an author-

ity on elder law and advocacy for vulnerable populations, who will discuss the legal issues we are likely to face as we age. Mr. Freedman was a founder of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Elder Law and Special Needs Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Coffee and light refreshments begin at 9:30AM. Mr. Freedman's presentation begins at 10, followed by a Q and A session.

The event is open to IRP members and their friends as well as to members of the community. Admission is free. Please register in advance; the committee needs a count to arrange seating and order the refreshments. [Click here](#).

Curriculum Committee Workshops: February and March

All workshops will be held at SLU, room 1923. To register for one of them, email Adam.

LET'S GET STARTED—Thinking About Coordinating But Want Assistance? Bring your ideas to this workshop on:

- Monday, February 24, 1:15-3PM, or
- Wednesday, February 26, 11:15-12:45PM

Whether you have just the germ of an idea or one that is almost fully developed, this workshop is for you. We will work with you to support the development of your ideas, suggest resources, and help you to find a co-coordinator (if you want one).

HOW'S IT GOING?—Current coordinators are invited to discuss experiences

with their study groups—what's working and what's...not so much.

- Monday, March 2, 1:15-3PM, or
- Wednesday, March 4, 3-4:30PM

Come and share insights and techniques with your colleagues. These meetings have proven very helpful!

COMPLETING A PROPOSAL—Want some help completing a study group proposal for next semester or for the future? Join us on:

- Monday, March 9, 1:15-3PM or
- Wednesday, March 11, 3-4:30PM

Learn more about finding appropriate resources on your topic, organizing a working syllabus, and completing the proposal form. Experienced coordinators will be there; we encourage those of you who are at a later stage of proposal development to attend.

Women's Group Meetings

The IRP Women's Group will meet in room 19b at SLU on:

- Wednesday, February 26, at 3PM and
- Friday, March 6, at 1PM

Information Sessions

Please spread the word to people you think might be interested in joining the IRP that the information sessions for potential new members will be held at TNS on:

- Friday, February 28, 1:30-3:30PM and
- Wednesday, April 22, 3:15-5:15PM

The Admissions Committee is seeking to broaden our membership with qualified applicants who will reflect the diver-

sity of our city. Those interested in attending should send an email to Adam.

MEMBER FORUM

Study Groups

Jan Adler is thinking of offering a study group on the awareness of death, exploring the many ways in which the awareness of death has influenced societies over time. He welcomes suggestions for readings and topics—please email him at adlerjan@optonline.net.

We encourage others to use this member forum to solicit ideas or to exchange ideas about the topics they are considering for study groups. The forum can enhance not only the process of developing study groups but also the intellectual and social life of our community.

Online Art Show

Ken Witty provides the eighth contribution to our online art show.



Blue House, oil on canvas, by Ken Witty

According to Ken:

“The Blue House: I was on a trip visiting Ted Dreyfus and his partner Sue Lehmann at their ranch in Uruguay. We took a short road trip around the surrounding region and visited a village founded by a group of socialists early in the 20th cen-

tury. There I saw this blue house and photographed it with a plan to paint it.”

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Susan Winston has gathered information about restaurants and places of interest near SLU. The information includes street and web address and type of cuisine. Susan has not vetted the sites, of course, but she provides a valuable resource for those who want to explore the neighborhood. If you have discovered other restaurants or places of interest, please email the information to Leslie Davis at ldavis7104@yahoo.com or Adam.

To view the list, [click here](#).

Performance: “Upper West Side Story”

IRP member, Carol Sterling, invites members and their guests to a free performance of Stephen Spielberg’s “Upper West Side Story,” in honor of the Jewish holiday of Purim. The performance will take place on Monday, March 9 at 6PM at Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, 30 West 68 Street. Carol is a proud member of the ensemble and has participated in 13 previous Purim shows over the years. If you are able to attend, please email Carol at Csterling646@gmail.com.

RESOURCES

IRP Zine

- To access the Zine, go to www.irpzine.org. To view the directory or IRP Faces, you must login with these credentials:
 - Username: IRPNewSchool
 - Password: Fall2018
 - For the fall and spring calendars, [click here](#).
 - [Member bios](#)
 - [Observer Archive](#)

New School Events Calendar

- [Learn more](#) about upcoming events at The New School.

CUNY Events

- Graduate Center Spring Public 2020 Events—to view the lineup and reserve your spot now, [click here](#).
- School of Labor and Urban Studies (SLU) [public programming schedule](#), 2019-2020
- [Public programs in Midtown Manhattan](#)