

THE GOVERNOR TOM MCCALL MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Background

Soon after completing his second term as Governor of Oregon in 1975, Tom McCall came to Oregon State University as the first occupant of the Tom McCall Chair in Public Affairs. He taught Political Science and Journalism classes during his one term on campus before returning to Portland and a position as a commentator on KATU-TV, Channel 2.

In 1982, the OSU College of Liberal Arts created the Governor Tom McCall Memorial Lectureship in Public Affairs, using funds remaining from the McCall Chair. From its beginning, the lectureship has had two goals: to honor the memory of one of Oregon's greatest governors by keeping alive the ideals and values in public service, journalism, and environmental protection to which he dedicated his life; and to bring to campus notable people in journalism and public affairs who exemplify in their lives the excellence displayed by McCall throughout his career.

McCall Lecturers

- 1983 - Marko Haggard, KATU-TV, Channel 2 commentator and Portland State University professor, reminisced about McCall in informal remarks. The two worked together at KATU and in government.
- 1984 - Terry Drinkwater, CBS News West Coast correspondent, who often covered McCall, spoke on "Mending the Medium - Some Thoughts From an Insider About How TV News Can Do Better."
- 1985 - David Broder, Washington Post political columnist, who also interviewed McCall frequently, spoke on "American Politics: A Washington Perspective."
- 1986 - Cecil Andrus, Governor of Idaho and former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, who was a fellow governor with McCall, spoke on "Why Government at All?"
- 1987 - Neil Goldschmidt, Governor of Oregon, on "For Tom: Renewing the Oregon Story."
- 1988 - J.W. "Bud" Forrester, former editor and publisher of the Daily Astorian and the Pendleton East Oregonian, former chair of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education and a longtime adviser to McCall, gave a series of lectures on Oregon politics and the press while in residence on the OSU campus as the first CLA Distinguished Alumnus in Residence.
- 1989 - Robert "Bob" Straub, former Governor of Oregon and a political opponent and longtime friend of McCall, spoke on "Public Service and Life in Oregon."

- 1990 - Chuck Walker, Director of News Production, ABC News, spoke on "News Gathering Techniques for the Year 2000."
- 1991 - Barbara Roberts, Governor of Oregon, spoke on "Oregon's Politics for the 21st Century."
- 1992 - William J. Raspberry, Washington Post Urban Affairs columnist, presented a lecture co-sponsored by OSU College of Liberal Arts, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission of the city of Corvallis and Benton County, and the OSU Provost's Distinguished Lecture Series. This lecture combined the McCall Lecture and the King Lecture.
- 1993 - Norma Paulus, Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke on "Tom McCall: The Leadership and Legacy."
- 1994 - Richard Threlkeld and Betsy Aaron, seasoned journalists from CBS News and friends of McCall, spoke on "Bill and Hillary Plus One: An Assessment of the Clinton Administration's First Year."
- 1995 - John Kitzhaber, Governor of Oregon, spoke on the legacy of Tom McCall in Oregon.
- 1996 - Ron Wyden, United States Senator for Oregon, discussed the importance of and need for defining public education in Oregon today.
- 1997 – Forum with Jim Hill, Bill Dietrich, Bill Bakke and Bill Lunch, discussing current issues in Oregon politics.
- 1998 – Forum with Carl Abbot, William Lang, Roberta Ulrich and Bill Lunch, discussing the legacy of Governor McCall regarding Oregon's land use and environmental legislation
- 1999 – William Ruckelshaus, former EPA Administrator and Deputy Attorney General.
- 2000 – Robert F. Kennedy Jr, Environmental Attorney, spoke on "Our Environmental Legacy."
- 2001 – Gordon Smith, United States Senator from Oregon, spoke on America After September 11.
- 2002 – (Lecture this year or no?)
- 2003 – Ted Kulongoski, Governor of Oregon.
- 2004 – (Lecture this year or no?)

- 2005 – Floyd McKay, Journalist and Professor of Journalism
- 2006 – David Broder, Washington Post political columnist, spoke on the state of American politics, asking “Where Have All The Leaders Gone?”
- 2007 – No lecture this year.
- 2008 – No lecture this year.
- 2009 – Frank Blethen, Publisher of the Seattle Times, spoke on the changes in journalism and the loss of independent newspapers as the news industry consolidates.
- 2010 – Dennis Dimick, Executive Editor of National Geographic Magazine (and OSU Journalism Dept. Alumnus), spoke on climate change and what we can do about it, in a lecture entitled “Changing Planet: Where Energy and Climate Collide.”
- 2011 – John Kitzhaber, Governor of Oregon, spoke on the future of the state, and his goals as Governor.
- 2012 – Ted Wheeler, Oregon State Treasurer, spoke on Oregon’s public policy needs and goals involving state budgets and financing
- 2013 – No lecture this year.
- 2014 – Mason Tvert, Marijuana Policy Project, spoke on the the Colorado experience in getting recreational marijuana legalization approved by the voters.
- 2015 – Dr. Richard Besser, ABC News Medical Correspondent, Former Acting Director of the CDC.
- 2016 – Congressman Peter DeFazio
- 2017 – No lecture this year (this was the first time a newly elected OR Governor turned down the invitation to deliver the McCall lecture)
- 2018 – No lecture this year.
- 2019 – James Lindsay, Council on Foreign Relations. Topic: “Ideology and Donald Trump.”