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New Directions in the Study of Happiness:

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United States and International Perspectives

justice . virtue . money . politics
freedom . utility . love . security

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The academic study of human happiness has emerged as one of the most vibrant and exciting research programs in the social sciences and humanities. Leading scholars from several disciplines are coming together at the University of Notre Dame to present and evaluate contributions to the rapidly-growing area of happiness studies. They will discuss issues such as:

- What is happiness?
- How do we measure happiness?
- What does happiness depend on?
- Does money buy happiness—why or why not?
- How is justice related to happiness?
- What kinds of economic, social and political arrangements increase happiness?
- What is the future of happiness studies?
- What should be done to increase the amount of happiness in the world?

This conference is sponsored principally by the Department of Economics and Policy Studies and by the Program in American Democracy through a grant from the Annenberg Foundation, with additional support from Institute of Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, the Department of Sociology, the Center for the Study of Social Movements and Social Change, and the College of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame.

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UNIVERSITY OF
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PROGRAM IN
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

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Program

Sunday, October 22, 2006

- 6:45 PM** **Opening**
- 7:10–8:20 PM** **What is Happiness?**
Darrin McMahon, History, Florida State University
"History of Happiness and Contemporary Happiness Studies"
Anthony Ong, Psychology, Cornell University
"Hedonic versus Eudamonic Conceptions of Happiness"
- 8:20-9:30 PM** **Theories and Empirics of Happiness**
Ruut Veenhoven, Sociology, Erasmus University, Rotterdam
"Theories of Happiness"
David Blanchflower, Economics, Dartmouth College
"Some Findings on the Empirics of Happiness and Mental Well-being"

Monday, October 23, 2006

- 8:30-9:40 AM** **Theories and Empirics of Happiness, cont.**
Richard Easterlin, Economics, University of Southern California
"Happiness and Domain Satisfaction"
Sonja Lyubomirsky, Psychology, University of California, Riverside
"The Promise of Abiding Happiness: Experimental Psychological Interventions to Increase Well-Being"
- 9.50 AM** **Happiness and the Economy**
-12.20 PM Robert Frank, Economics, Cornell University
"Are Positional Externalities Different?"
Alois Stutzer, Economics, University of Basel
"When Temptation Overwhelms Willpower: Obesity and Happiness"
Rafael Di Tella, Economics, Harvard University
"Happiness Adaptation to Income and to Status"
Amitava Krishna Dutt, Economics, University of Notre Dame
"Consumption and Happiness: Alternative Perspectives"
- 2:00-3:10 PM** **Happiness and Justice**
William A Darity, Jr., Economics, North Carolina;
Arthur Goldsmith, Economics, Washington and Lee, and
Darrick Hamilton, Management and Urban Policy, New School
*"Perceptions of Discrimination and Life Outcomes:
A Social Justice Perspective"*
Carol Graham, Economics and Public Policy, Brookings Institution
and the University of Maryland
"Does Inequality Matter to Individual Welfare?"
- 3:20-5:50 PM** **Happiness and Politics**
Ronald Inglehart, Political Science, University of Michigan
"Democracy and Happiness"
Tom Rice, Political Science, University of Iowa
"Causal Connection Between Liberal Regimes and Happiness"
Alexander Pacek, Political Science, Texas A&M University
"The Welfare State and Quality of Life"
Benjamin Radcliff, Political Science, University of Notre Dame
"Politics of Happiness in American States"

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

- 8.30-9:40 AM** **Happiness and Society**
Wendy Rahn, Political Science, University of Minnesota
"Matters of Life and Death"
Eric Oliver, Political Science, University of Chicago, *TBA*
- 9.50 AM** **What is to be done?**
-12:20 PM Bruno Frey, Economics, University of Zurich:
Alois Stutzer, Economics, University of Basel
"Should We Maximize National Happiness?"—Discussion
Alasdair MacIntyre, Philosophy, University of Notre Dame—
Discussion