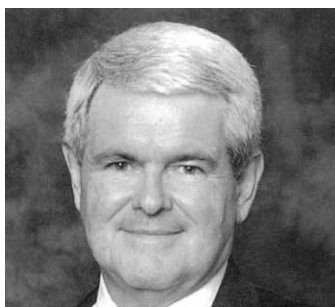


A photograph of Madeleine K. Albright speaking at a wooden podium. She is wearing a dark blue jacket and has a gold pin on her lapel. The background is a solid yellow color. The podium has a blue circular logo with the text 'GUSTANA COLLEGE' and a stylized 'P' in the center.

Significant Speakers

2011 Marks the 16th Year of the Boe Forum on Public Affairs

Madeleine K. Albright, former U.S. Secretary of State, was the 2010 Boe Forum speaker. Albright delivered her address, "Geopolitics and the Implications for Doing Business and Investing Around the World," before a crowd of nearly 3,000 at the Elmen Center.



Boe Forum, CWS Addressing Issues of Importance

In 1995, Gov. Nils Boe and his sisters, Borghild Boe (Augustana class of 1930) and Lois Boe Hyslop (class of 1935) presented a \$2 million gift to the Center for Western Studies to establish the Boe Forum on Public Affairs, an annual event designed to bring to the College a speaker who would address a topic of importance to the region and the nation. Since then, 17 world leaders and global figures have visited campus to participate.

Sixteen years after Gen. Colin Powell delivered his remarks at the first Boe Forum, the event has become well-known throughout the region.

"[The Boe Forum] is unique not only in having the resources and status to attract prominent speakers but also in providing free admission," said Dr.

Harry Thompson, executive director of the Center for Western Studies.



Dr. Harry Thompson

"The Boe Trust lists students first and then the general public as the intended audience. Gov. Boe wanted young people of the region to develop their own understanding of national and world events. Augustana students have special opportunities to interact with each speaker through private sessions and by asking questions of the speaker after the lecture," Thompson said.

Throughout the years, the Forum has played an important role in supporting public discourse about current events.

"Gov. Boe's goal was to educate the people of the Plains through the Forum. A great example is the Forum featuring former British Prime Minister John Major. It was especially memorable because he foretold that China would soon become a major player on the world stage. That was in 1998."

The Forum's mission to address a topic of importance to the region aligns well with the mission of the Center for Western Studies.

"The Center is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the history and cultures of the Northern Plains," said Thompson.

Since the Forum has its own funding, the Center's endowment campaign is focused on the other core areas: archives and library; art

"Gov. Boe wanted young people of the region to develop their own understanding of national and world events."

– Dr. Harry Thompson

So what drove Gov. Boe and his sisters to establish the Forum?

In addition to their concern for informed citizenship, the family also cared a great deal about South Dakota.

"Gov. Boe became a federal judge in New York City after his term as governor. Borghild spent the majority of her career in social work in Wisconsin, and Lois had a distinguished career as a French literature scholar at Penn State University," said Thompson. "Having met Gov. Boe and his sisters, Borghild and Lois, I know that each one had an abiding affection for South Dakota. All eventually returned to the family home in Sioux Falls, where sisters Karen and Dagny also lived."

In addition to serving the public, the Forum offers a unique opportunity for Augustana students to interact with global leaders.

and educational exhibits; book publishing; the Dakota Conference; and the Fante Building.

Now in its 24th year at Augustana, the Dakota Conference features as its theme an important regional or national topic, such as the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition or the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

"For 2012, we will be observing the 40th anniversary of a defining national event that occurred in South Dakota — the Wounded Knee siege of 1973 (and the massacre of 1890)."

According to Thompson, interest in the Center among community members continues to grow, especially as demographics change.

"As with wisdom, a person's interest in their heritage often comes with maturity. As the World War II generation passes, the Center has begun reaching out to the Baby Boomers, all the while continuing to engage students."

SPEAKERS OF THE BOE FORUM ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS: TOP: Vice President and Nobel Peace Prize winner Al Gore, 2007; **ROW ONE, LEFT TO RIGHT:** Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1995; President George H.W. Bush, 1995; President of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev, 1996; Prime Minister of Great Britain John Major, 1998; First Lady of the United States Barbara Bush, 1998. **ROW TWO:** Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, and 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu, 1999; Queen of Jordan Noor Al-Hussein, 2001; Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, 2003; PBS NewsHour Correspondent Susan Dentzer, 2003; Mayor of New York City Rudy Giuliani, 2004. **ROW THREE:** Presidential Envoy to Iraq L. Paul Bremer, 2006; President and First Lady of Mexico Vicente Fox and Marta Fox, 2007; Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court Sandra Day O'Connor, 2008; President of Pakistan Pervez Musharraf, 2009.

Robinson to Speak at 2011 Boe Forum

Mary Robinson, the first woman president of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, will speak at the 2011 Boe Forum on Public Affairs.

Robinson's address, "World Hunger and Poverty," will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9, in the Elmen Center.

"President Robinson is revered around the globe as a champion for worldwide democracy and a passionate advocate for the integration

of human rights, gender sensitivity and increased accountability in politics," said Dr. Harry Thompson. "As our students seek to find ways to make tomorrow's world even better than today's, the opportunity to visit with a world leader and humanitarian will, no-doubt, inspire and empower them to drive change, eliminate borders and promote inclusion."

As the first woman president of Ireland, Robinson elevated the country to a new level of international status by fighting for controversial changes and bridging religious, social, and economic groups. Today she serves as president of the Mary Robinson Foundation — Climate Justice, a center for thought leadership, education, and advocacy.

President Robinson was the first woman to chair the United Nations Commission for Human Rights and is the founder of The Ethical Globalization Initiative. She serves on the Council of Elders (along with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President Jimmy Carter, and Gro Harlem Brundtland); is the honorary president of Oxfam International; and is Chair of the Board of the Institute of Human Rights and Business.

In 2005, Robinson was deemed a hero and an icon and was listed among TIME's "Top 100 Men and Women" whose "power, talent, or moral example is transforming the world." In 2009, President Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom — the highest civilian honor — for her significant global contributions.



Mary Robinson