

Download this release from our Web Site at <http://www.mediarelations.k-state.edu/>
Click on News/Events

Media Relations
and Marketing
9 Anderson Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-0117
785-532-6415
Fax: 785-532-6418
Email: media@k-state.edu
www.mediarelations.k-state.edu

Sources: Olivia Collins, 785-532-8763, ocollins@k-state.edu;
and Lelah Dushkin, dushkin@k-state.edu
<http://www.tryufm.org>

News release prepared by: Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, 785-532-6415, ebarcomb@k-state.edu

Thursday, August 10, 2006

SPEAKERS FOR K-STATE'S FALL 2006 LOU DOUGLAS LECTURE SERIES INCLUDE THOMAS FRANK, AUTHOR OF 'WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH KANSAS?'

MANHATTAN — The author who's asked "What's the Matter with Kansas?," a journalist who asks why people under 40 tune out serious news, and a weeklong immersion in the basics of fair trade are coming to Kansas State University for the fall season of the Lou Douglas Lecture Series on Public Issues.

All lectures are at 7 p.m., with book sales and signings coordinated by Clafflin Books and Copies following each lecture.

Native Kansan Thomas Frank will open the series Monday, Sept. 18, in Forum Hall at the K-State Student Union with a lecture co-sponsored by K-State's Donald J. Adamchak Distinguished Lecture Series in Sociology. In his book "What's the Matter with Kansas?," Frank, a former Republican, seeks to answer why so many of us vote against our economic interests, where the outrage is at corporate manipulators and what happened to middle-American progressivism.

David T.Z. Mindich, author of "Tuned Out: Why Americans Under 40 Don't Follow the News," speaks Tuesday, Oct. 24, at Forum Hall. The lecture is co-sponsored by K-State's A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications. In "Tuned Out," Mindich argues that American democracy is on the brink of a crisis. As more and more young people turn their backs on political news, America is seeing the greatest decline in informed citizenship in its history, with enormous implications for overall civic engagement.

The fall season closes with a weeklong focus on fair trade. In cooperation with Crossroads of ECM, Manhattan Mennonite Church and K-State's women's studies program, the week will include workshops, presentations and a fair trade marketplace. A Lou Douglas Lecture presented by Rink Dickinson, co-founder and co-executive director of Equal Exchange, the oldest and largest for-profit fair trade company in the United States, will be Thursday, Nov. 9, in the union's Ballroom.

The Lou Douglas Lecture Series on Public Issues is sponsored by UFM Community Learning Center. The series honors the memory of Douglas, a political science professor at K-State who worked to inspire students, faculty and citizens to instigate change.

(more)

Douglas also was a longtime member of the UFM Community Learning Center board of directors until his death in 1979.

The Donald J. Adamchak Distinguished Lecture Series in Sociology is sponsored by K-State's department of sociology, anthropology and social work. The series honors the memory of Adamchak, who prepared many sociology graduate students for research and teaching in social demography. He also had an international reputation as a scholar in the areas of aging and intergenerational support, fertility and family planning, gender relations and the status of women, and the knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

#