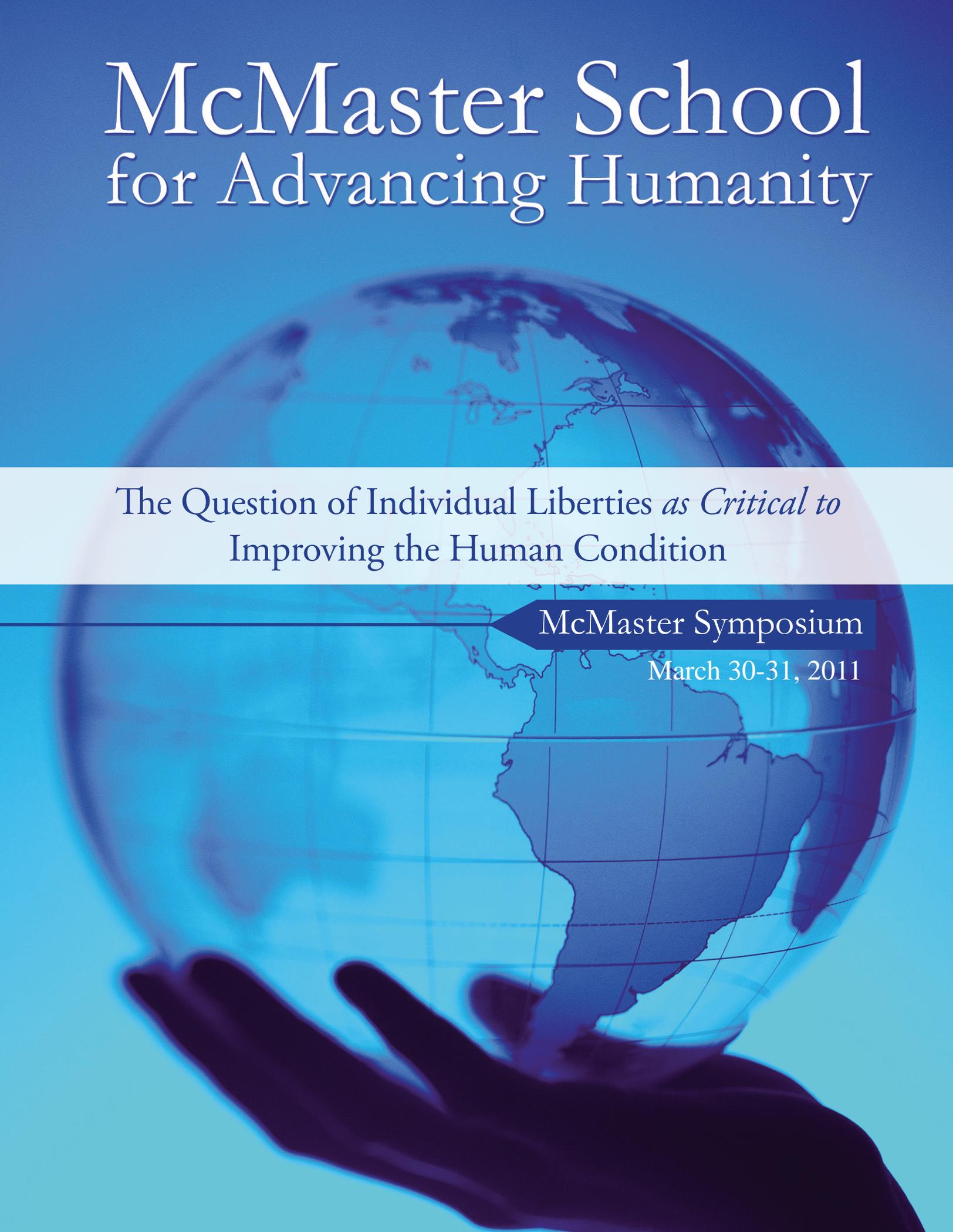


# McMaster School for Advancing Humanity

A blue-tinted globe is held in a hand, with a white banner across the middle containing text. The globe shows the Americas and parts of Europe and Africa. The hand is at the bottom, supporting the globe. The background is a solid blue color.

The Question of Individual Liberties *as Critical to*  
Improving the Human Condition

McMaster Symposium

March 30-31, 2011

# WEDNESDAY - MARCH 30

**9:30-10:00 Opening Remarks in Schomburg Auditorium**  
Mary Ann Studer - Dean, McMaster School for Advancing Humanity

**10:00 - 10:50 McMaster Cambodia Learning Community**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*  
Fellow - JoAnn Burkhardt  
Associate Fellows - Don Buerk, Fred Coulter  
Scholars - Brittany Coats, Matt Johnson, Cindy Obermyer, Kellie Raypole, Brooke Zachrich, Becca Zebrowski

**10:00 - 4:00 Carolyn M. Small Poster Presentations**  
*Location: Hubbard Banquet Room*  
Over 50 posters displayed by students from various disciplines.

**11:00 - 11:50 McMaster Belize San Mateo Learning Community**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*  
Fellow - Robin Kratzer  
Associate Fellows - Josh Francis, Cindy Shaffer  
Scholars - Nicole Grim, Sarah Hornish, Rachel Lange, Aubrey Ridinger, Blake Ruffer, Tyler Thomas

**12:00 - 1:30 All Learning Community Lunch**  
*Location: Buchman Board Room*  
*open to all learning community members and their guests*

**12:00 - 1:30 Buffet for Honors Program Poster Presenters and Judges**  
*Location: Cultural Arts Center*

**2:00 - 2:50 McMaster Belize Learning Community**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*  
Fellow - Mary Ann Studer  
Associate Fellows - Michelle Tabit, Mark Gordon  
Scholars - Allie Beck, Angela Burklo, Brittany Heaton, Greg McNutt, Ricky Sherrer, Courtney Swabb, Thomas Studer

**3:00 - 3:50 McMaster New Orleans Learning Community**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*  
Fellow - Doug Kane  
Associate Fellow - Mike Gallagher  
Scholars - Jenna Deskins, Phoenix Golnick, Lynn Haller, Andrew Kibler, Taylor Tuttle

**4:00 - 4:50 Program Development Grant Exploratory in Ghana**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*  
Deb Dalke, Kristen Sorensen

**5:30 - 6:45 "Get Involved with McMaster" Dinner**  
*Location: Buchman Board Room*  
Come and join the panelists for dinner and informal discussion about how you can become involved with the McMaster School's initiatives whether it is traveling abroad or right here on campus.

**Host** – Andrew Whitis

**Panelists** – Ashton Judis, Greg Gunsch, Cindy Shaffer, Kyle Brummet

**7:00 - 7:15 Introduction of Keynote Speaker**  
**TBD**  
*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*

**7:15 - 8:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

## “Individual Liberty and Prosperity Around the World: a Soviet Defector’s Perspective”



**YURI MALTSEV, Ph.D.**

Professor of Economics, Carthage College

Dr. Maltsev earned his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Moscow State University, and his Ph.D. in Labor Economics at the Institute of Labor Research in Moscow, Russia. Before defecting to the United States in 1989, he was a member of a senior Soviet economics team that worked on President Gorbachev's reforms package of perestroika. Prior to joining Carthage, Professor Maltsev was a Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., a federal research agency. His work involved briefing members of Congress and senior officials at the executive branch on issues of national security and foreign economic assessment. Professor Maltsev has also appeared on CNN, Financial Network News, PBS Newshour C-Span, Fox News, CBC, and other American, Canadian, and European television and radio programs. He has lectured at leading universities, corporations, banks, colleges, churches, schools, and community centers all over the world. He has authored five books and hundreds of articles in U.S. and foreign publications.

**8:30 - 9:00 Reception for Dr. Maltsev**  
*Location: Women's Commission Gallery*  
*open to all*

**8:00 - 9:30 CALL FOR SCHOLARS Breakfast**  
*Location: Hubbard Banquet Room*  
 Come and share your experiences with other scholars and encourage those to think about becoming a scholar to write a proposal. Open to all Defiance College students interested in the McMaster Scholar Program as well as all current and former Scholars.

**9:30 - 10:45 SESSION I - Embracing Diversity: Best Practices for Both the Individual and the Institution**  
*Location: Buchman Board Room*  
 The Intercultural Community Task Force at Defiance College is studying institutional best practices for embracing and managing diversity. Such practices build trust and insure that the individual's right to feel valued and respected is openly supported across a campus in all situations involving both culturally obvious differences and subtle differences, resulting in improved campus conditions. In roundtable format symposium participants will discuss practices they have found to deal with diversity matters in positive ways.  
**Presenters** – Intercultural Community Task Force - Mercedes Clay, Sandra Golden, Mary Catherine Harper, David Kwan, Cindy Shaffer, Alesia Yakos-Brown

**9:30 - 10:45 Yuri Maltsev, PhD - Close up**  
*Location: Cultural Arts Center*  
 Yuri Maltsev will engage the participants in an informal discussion experience and expertise driven by a questions format.  
**Moderator** – Rick Sealscott, Assistant Professor of Accounting

**11:00 - 12:30 Individual Liberties Across All Disciplines - Awareness Tables Lunch** (with reservations)  
*Location: Hubbard Banquet Room*

**Awareness Table Topics/Hosts:**

Each Awareness Table will focus on a topic that matters for individual rights and a strong community. The hosts at each table have expertise (academic and/or profession-based) on their particular topic. Their role is to facilitate discussion about how the topic relates to individual rights.

**RELIGION** – Rev. Jan Bechtel, Campus Chaplain and Director of Church Relations, Defiance College; Rev. John Gardner, Senior Pastor of Plymouth United Church of Christ, Ft Wayne, IN.

**POLITICS** – Darrell Handy '96, Ward III Councilman, Defiance City Council; David Plant '73, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, Defiance College

**PUBLISHING** – Stefan Hall, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts, Defiance College; Jack Palmer, Religion Editor/Staff Writer, Defiance-Crescent News; Steve VanDemark '76, General Manager, Defiance Publishing Company

**PERFORMING ARTS** – Mary Catherine Harper, Professor of English, Defiance College; Char Johannigman '94, Immediate Past Director of the Arts Partnership, Findlay, OH; Mark Newman, Technical Director, DCTV, Defiance, OH

**SPORT** – David Kwan, Head Volleyball Coach, Defiance College; Jenni Morrison, Athletic Director, Defiance College; Marv Retcher '72, former DC Basketball player, teacher/coach, Ayersville High School; Tim Rickabaugh, Professor of Exercise Science and Interim Academic Dean, Defiance College

**BUSINESS/FINANCE** – Mike Ketcham, Vice President, Hornish Brothers, Defiance, OH; Dave Polzin '71, Financial Associate, Thrivent Financial Lutheran, Bowling Green, OH; Mike Wolfe, Assistant Professor of Business Administration, Defiance College

**HEALTH CARE** – Kathleen Holloway, Director of Nursing and Assistant Professor of Nursing, Defiance College; Chad Peter '77, CEO, Defiance Clinic

**12:45 - 2:00 SESSION II - Constitutional Conversations – Cambodia and the United States of America: Indicators of Democracy**  
*Location: Buchman Board Room*  
 Participants in this constitutional conversation will learn about the genocide in Cambodia and how the erosion of individual liberties and democratic practices become the seeds of genocide. In addition, participants will examine digital media and begin to identify indicators of democracy in both the US and in Cambodia.  
**Host** – JoAnn Burkhardt and the McMaster Cambodia Learning Community

**12:45 - 2:00 Amer Ahmed – Close Up**  
*Location: Cultural Arts Center*  
 Amer Ahmed will engage the participants in an informal discussion about his experiences and expertise driven by a questions format.  
**Moderator** – Mary Catherine Harper, Professor of English

**2:15 - 3:30** **SESSION III - Presenting Project 701**

*Location: Buchman Board Room*

This session will both update the audience about the exciting projects currently being tackled by Defiance College students and it will inspire the participants to be a part of Defiance College's student-run non-profit. Come and hear about what these students have accomplished and the latest opportunities.

**Presenters** – Brittany Coats, Lynn Haller, Rachael Lange, Brittany Michaels, Gene Snyder, Steve Switz, Sarah Tucker, Andy White

**2:15 - 3:30** **Waxing Poetic on Economics?**

**Of Adam Smith and Economic Philosophy**

*Location: Cultural Arts Center*

The lecture with follow-up discussion will focus on the tensions within a capitalistic, democratic society that values both individual liberties and a strong community base. The presenter's perspective includes an overview of Adam Smith, whose social philosophy during the Scottish Enlightenment laid the foundations of modern economics. The lecturer draws on a range of disciplines to work through complex relationships that inform a modern society, including ideas about community, freedom and indeterminacy.

**Presenter** – J. Kevin Quinn, PhD., Professor of Economics, Bowling Green State University

**3:45 - 5:00** **Graffiti: Free Speech or Vandalism?**

*Location: Buchman Board Room*

The presentation, including viewing several varieties of graffiti, will challenge participants to question morality related to voice vs. property destruction. Is there a valid need for graffiti? Who does it serve? What groups have used graffiti to express wants and needs? How have the groups changed over time? From humans' first scribbles on cave walls to tagging railroad cars, the need to communicate is in us all.

**Presenter** – Steve Smith, Professor of Art, Defiance College

**3:45 - 5:00** **The Backpack Buddy Program:  
Fighting Poverty in the Defiance Community**

*Location: Cultural Arts Center*

This program was sponsored by a \$100,000 grant received from the United Way in order to provide needy families with extra food for the weekends. The program is currently feeding 430 children, ranging from two-years-old to even college students. Different student organizations such as the Honors Program, Habitat for Humanity, Alpha Zeta, Football, Alpha Phi Omega, Student

Senate, Tri Sigma, as well as other groups, have helped fill the backpacks with food.

**Presenters** – Sarah Tucker, Project Manager, Nick Bratt, Alaina Hammond, Zac Polzin, Alex Puentes, Aubrie Ridinger, Katelyn Samples, Courtney Swabb, Janis Wilkinson

**5:00 - 7:00** **Dinner with Amer Ahmed**

*Location: Hubbard Banquet Room*

Open to all with reservations

**Host** – Mercedes Clay and BASA

**7:00 - 7:15** **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

*Location: Schomburg Auditorium*

Mercedes Clay, Director of Intercultural Relations, Defiance College

**7:15 - 8:30** **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**“Hip Hop as a Spark for Liberation”**



**AMER AHMED**

Associate Director, Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs -Trotter Multicultural Center, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor

Amer Ahmed is an individual with an eclectic personal and professional experience. As a spoken word poet, Hip Hop activist, intercultural diversity consultant and college administrator. He channels his diverse experiences into work geared towards effective change serving to create mutual benefit for all. Born in Springfield, Ohio, to Indian Muslim immigrants, Amer has dedicated his life to engaging and facilitating diversity across human difference. His studies in Anthropology and Black Studies have been enhanced by powerful study abroad experiences in South Africa and Nepal. Amer's education, world experiences, and his Indian-Muslim-American upbringing help him understand the need for respect and dignity of all people. Amer strives to be an inspiration to young people who see purpose in pursuing of their ideals. He stresses the need to identify one's own talents, abilities in order to reach positions in which we can enact what he calls “Realistic Idealism.” Today, his work continues to prove that the Hip Hop generation has an opportunity to shape its own future through passionate energy and a dedication to create effective positive change.

**8:30 - 10:00** **Open Mic Session with Amer Ahmed**

*Location: McCann Lounge*

**Host** – Black Action Student Association (BASA)

## *About*

### DEFIANCE COLLEGE

Defiance College, founded in 1850, is a private liberal arts college affiliated with the United Church of Christ, serving approximately 1,000 students. Building on a strong foundation of more than a century of educating citizens for lives of leadership and service, Defiance College provides opportunities for its students to make a meaningful impact on society in the twenty-first century with an educational experience of engagement. Defiance's spirit of service through leadership sets us apart.

The Princeton Review features Defiance College in *Colleges with a Conscience: 81 Great Schools with Outstanding Community Involvement*. Defiance College has been named for four consecutive years to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its commitment to community service. Defiance College is also one of 119 U.S. colleges and universities selected by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to receive its 2008 Community Engagement Classification. Defiance is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the National Council of Teacher Education, the Council on Social Work Education, and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

As a national leader in the field of service learning and engagement, DC teaches students to take the knowledge they have gained and use it to change lives for the better – in their communities, in their careers and in the world.

## *About*

### MCMASTER SCHOOL FOR ADVANCING HUMANITY

The McMaster School for Advancing Humanity was founded to serve as a focal point for teaching, service, scholarship, and action to improve the human condition worldwide. The mission of the McMaster School is:

- ◆ To educate students for responsible citizenship;
- ◆ To produce committed global citizens and leaders who understand the importance of individual liberties in improving the human condition worldwide; and
- ◆ To encourage graduates to take an active role in addressing these issues in whatever professions they may choose.

The School serves as a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary, community-based work by creating and supporting opportunities for teams of faculty, students, and staff to use their academic and professional skills to address a community need.

## *Goals of the*

### MCMASTER SCHOOL FOR ADVANCING HUMANITY

To critically examine the root causes of human suffering through academic and applied research of systemic factors (religious, political, social, educational and/or environmental) that impede human progress;

To give students the knowledge and capacities to be active world citizens and to view themselves as members of the world community;

To contribute actively - through sponsored scholarship and service to the improvement of the human condition worldwide;

To exchange, create and disseminate knowledge about successful role models of active citizenship and public service; and

To create at Defiance College one of the nation's premiere undergraduate educational programs with a focus on scholarship and service, with a special emphasis on developing an innovative approach to teaching.

**Special Thanks to the McMaster Symposium Planning Committee:**

*Mercedes Clay, Mary Catherine Harper,  
Ashton Judis, Robin Kratzer, Rena Rager,  
Tim Rickabaugh, Mary Ann Studer*

**Additional thanks to:**

*David Plant – Alumni Office,  
Kathy Punches, Deb Richard, Ryan Imbrock Public Relations  
Steffanie Brummet – Facilities,  
Matt Slawinski – Technology Support,  
and all at Sodexo Food Service.*