

the
6th
season

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Extraordinary Lectures with Refreshments

Famous Last Words
is a program in which a faculty or staff member has been nominated by Omicron Delta Kappa to present the "last lecture" of his or her life.

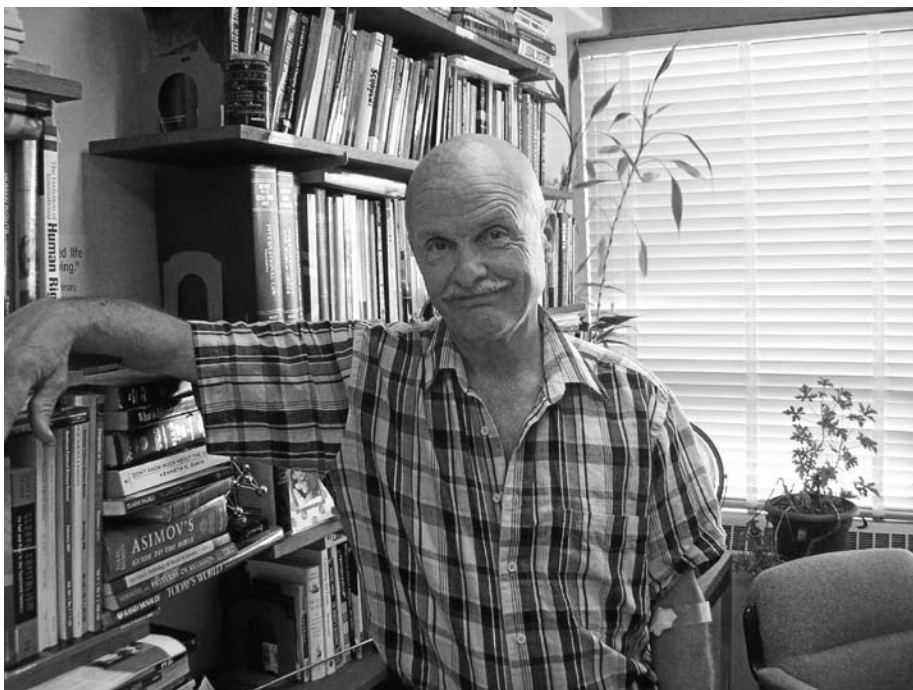


THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008
7:00 PM, HUNT UNION WATERFRONT

***Do YOU have the right stuff? (Do I?):
How ordinary people respond (differently)
in the midst of Evil***

DR. PAUL CONWAY

Department of Political Science



"Although genocide is the most horrendous of all crimes it can also reveal the potential in all of us to be courageous and altruistic. When we think of genocide - the Holocaust, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, Sudan, etc. - we naturally think first of the many victims who were brutalized in so many ways. Then we think of the many, many perpetrators who participated in the murderous activities. Why did they do it? It takes a while to recognize that in every genocide there were courageous people who tried to protect others who were under attack. Those people, although far fewer in number, should not be neglected. Their stories can inspire us. Why did they risk their own lives to save others? What kind of people were they? And we can wonder, how would we react if we had been in their situation? At the risk of losing our lives would we have the right stuff and do the right thing to save others??? Here are some stories along with the questions."

"Paul Conway received his B.A. from Michigan State University and his graduate degrees from Purdue University in Indiana. He has been a member of the Political Science faculty at SUNY Oneonta for over thirty years. His research, writing, and especially teaching interests have ranged from the prison system in New York, to the role of the military in American society, and international human rights politics. When a colleague retired almost twenty years ago Conway took over his course on the Holocaust and eventually changed that into a course comparing 20th century genocides. Conway's teaching about genocide and recent research into the politics of reconciliation in Bosnia and Rwanda provide some background for this, his last lecture."

