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EIU Symposium to Focus on Lives, Achievements of Ancient Egyptians

Sep-30-2011

Eastern Illinois University will host several events as part of its monthlong symposium "A Futuristic Look Through Ancient Lenses: Ancient Egypt."

The symposium, which will take place from Oct. 6 through Nov. 2, will illustrate how today's scholars have utilized clues left by ancient Egyptians that provide insight into the lives and achievements of ancient Egyptians, and helped Egypt to become the superpower of its time.

The symposium is made possible through the combined efforts of the School of Technology, the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences, and Booth Library.

The opening reception will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the West Reading Room of Booth Library. At 7:30 p.m., James Hoffmeier of Chicago will present "But How Did Ancient Egyptians Really Build that Great Pyramid?"

Producers of the series -- Wafeek Wahby, a professor in the School of Technology; and Allen Lanham, dean of Library Services -- aim for the symposium to be enjoyed by the university and regional communities.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information, please call 217-581-6061.

The complete schedule follows. Events will be held in Booth Library's Witters Conference Room (Room 4440), unless otherwise noted.

- Thursday, Oct. 6, in the West Reading Room, Booth Library: 7 p.m., **opening reception**; 7:30 p.m., **"But How Did Ancient Egyptians Really Build that Great Pyramid?"** by James Hoffmeier.
- Friday, Oct. 7, in the Charleston/Mattoon Room, MLK Jr. Union: 11 a.m., **"Modern Satellite Imagery and Geophysics Technologies Reveal Ancient Secrets,"** by James Hoffmeier.
- Monday, Oct. 10: 11 a.m., **"A Biblical Perspective of the Ancient Egyptian Religions"** by Andrew Robinson and Ryan McDaniel; 1 p.m., **"Physical Landscapes of Ancient Egypt"** by John Paul Stimac; and 2 p.m., **"Make No Mistake: Documenting Life since the Ancient Egyptians"** by Allen Lanham.
- Tuesday, Oct. 11: 1 p.m., **"Myths About Ancient Egyptian Myths!"** by Bonnie Irwin.
- Wednesday, Oct. 12: 11 a.m., **"Ancient Egyptian Woman"** by Christina Yousaf and Kaninika Bhatnagar, and **"Contrasts between Experiences of Ancient Egyptian Children and Parenting and Contemporary Families"** by Frances Murphy and Michelle Meadows; 7 p.m., **"Philosophy and Practice of Medicine in Ancient Egypt"** by Kip McGilliard.
- Thursday, Oct. 13: 10 a.m., **"Ancient Egyptian Archives"** by EIU archivist Robert Hillman; 11 a.m., **"Tourism, Textiles, Finance, and Food: Ancient Egypt Then and Now"** by Betsy Pudliner, Katherine Shaw, Axton Betz and Kathy Rhodes.
- Monday, Oct. 17: 2 p.m., **"The 'Roll' of Rock Solid Imagery of Early Egypt"** by Beverly Cruse.
- Monday, Oct. 31: 11 a.m., **"Technology of Medicine in the Age of the Pharaohs"** by Thomas Hawkins; 4 p.m., "How Natural Forces Affected Egyptian Culture" by Alan Baharlou.
- Tuesday, Nov. 1: 1 p.m., **"A 21st Century Look at Ancient Egyptian Architecture"** by David Finnigan.
- Wednesday, Nov. 2: 3 p.m., **"Bringing the Sky Down to Earth: Astronomy in Ancient Egypt"** by David Linton; 6 p.m. in McAfee Gymnasium, **"Ancient Egyptian Sport and Dance"** by Scott Ronspies, with music by the EIU Pep Band under the direction of R. Alan Sullivan.