

Board of Trustees Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: May 2, 2011

Title of Item: Celebrity Forum Speaker Series 2011-2012

Background and Analysis:

Speakers for the 2011-12 Celebrity Forum have been selected. The list of speakers includes:

Condoleeza Rice
Itzhak Perlman
Neil deGrasse Tyson
David Axelrod
NPR Panelists: Peter Sagal, P.J. O'Rourke, Mo Rocca
Jean-Michel Cousteau
Frank Abagnale

Approval of the speakers list is requested.

Recommendation: (specify if information only) Approval requested.

Submitted by:	Dick Henning, Judy Miner
Additional contact names:	
Is backup provided?	Yes

2011-2012 Foothill College Celebrity Forum

Condoleezza Rice \$70K

Sept. 21, 22, 23

As the first African-American woman Secretary of State, she will talk about how her upbringing in segregated Birmingham, Alabama helped shape the course of her life. She will talk about global affairs, national security, and education. The youngest Provost in Stanford history, she is also an accomplished pianist.

Itzhak Perlman \$27K

Nov. 1, 2, 3*

One of the world's greatest violinists, Itzhak Perlman enjoys superstar status. He took part in the Inauguration of President Barack Obama and has been given awards by Presidents Reagan and Clinton and performed for Queen Elizabeth II. Born in Tel Aviv, he made his debut at Carnegie Hall in 1963 at age 18. He will present a lecture/demo not to be missed.

Neil deGrasse Tyson \$75K

Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2

He is a boy from the Bronx who grew up to be America's most prominent and best-known astrophysicist. As host of the educational science TV show *Nova ScienceNOW* on PBS and *People Magazine's Sexiest Astrophysicist Alive*, he lectures about captivating subjects such as space travel, extra-terrestrial life, the Big Bang, the future of our Earth and the environment, and breaking news from the universe.

David Axelrod \$40K

Jan. 25, 26, 27

He served as senior strategist to Barack Obama's campaign for the presidency. As the President's Senior Advisor, he was on every influential talk show including NBC's *Meet the Press*, ABC's *This Week*, CBS's *Face the Nation*, *Fox News Sunday* and *CNN's State of the Union*. This will be a rare appearance in a speakers series.

"Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!" \$70K

February 22, 23, 24

Three panelists from NPR -Peter Sagal, P.J. O'Rourke and Mo Rocca - will each make presentations and then Peter Sagal will host the game "Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!" All three panelists are forces of wit and wisdom. Members of the audience can test their knowledge about current news figuring out what's real news and what's made up. This is sure to be an uproarious and unforgettable evening.

Jean-Michel Cousteau \$23,333

March 28, 29, 30

He was born in Toulon, France to well-known oceanographer Jacques Cousteau. At age 7, his father invented the Aqua-Lung and attached it to his back and tossed him into the Mediterranean. Instead of being afraid, he was amazed at the beauty and mystery he saw and, from that moment on, he has spent his life exploring the depths of the oceans. He is now a well-known marine biologist fighting to preserve and protect the oceans.

Frank Abagnale \$25K

May 2, 3, 4

Depicted in the film *Catch Me If You Can*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, he successfully posed as an airline pilot, an attorney, a college professor and a pediatrician as well as cashing \$2.5 million in fraudulent checks. The musical *Catch Me If You Can* opened on Broadway in April. He has been assisting the FBI for over 35 years as an expert on forgery and embezzlement. He talks about his interesting life and offers advice on avoiding fraud, including identify theft, and computer hacking.

***In the Friday series, Itzhak Perlman appears on Tuesday, November 1st.**