



NEWS RELEASE

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Discussion series to be held at Alexandrian Public Library

Dr. Charles Barber, professor of political science at University of Southern Indiana, will hold "Defining Our Role in a Changing World," a four-part discussion series on America's future. The discussions will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays beginning October 30 at the Alexandrian Public Library in Mt. Vernon. Members of the community are encouraged to participate in the discussions. Registration to attend the four sessions is required.

The discussions are part of a national project of the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. The results of these discussions across the U.S. will be evaluated and a report will be generated.

The discussion groups will focus on the topic "Who are we as a nation and how should we define our role in a changing world?" The program will not advocate any particular point of view on this question, but will seek to bring citizens together at a non-partisan public space to deliberate the direction the nation should take in the next century.

"A public voice is the main goal of this program, and by learning together, listening respectfully to one another, and weighing alternatives, that voice can be achieved," said Dr. Barber.

Participants will receive the book *Defining Our Role in a Changing World* to serve as a basis for the discussion, introducing current public policy issues. These issues will be accompanied by a framework of four alternative possibilities for America's future that also raise important questions about the goals of U.S. foreign policy.

This series is made possible by a grant from the Choices Education Project of Brown University and the Friends of the Alexandrian Public Library. For more information or to register for this series, please contact Alexandrian Library Adult Services at 812/838-3286.