
St. Thomas University

News

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AGING SPECIALIST TO DELIVER STU'S 1985

DR. T. LEROY CREAMER LECTUERS

The Honorable Paul Fitz Gerald, K.H.S., representative to the United Nations Headquarters for the International Federation on Aging, and former representative to the UN for the International Centre of Social Gerontology, will deliver St. Thomas University's 1985 Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer Lectures in Gerontology. Dr. Fitz Gerald will deliver his first lecture entitled "Beyond Gerontology - A Community Perspective" on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:30 P.M. in St. Vincent's High School Auditorium, Saint John, N.B. At 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 27, he will speak to the topic "International Dimensions on Aging", in the Edmund Casey Hall Auditorium, St. Thomas University, Fredericton. In conjunction with the Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer Lectures, Dr. Fitz Gerald, an accomplished musician, will perform an organ recital in celebration of the "Third Age" at 8:00 P.M., Wednesday, November 27, in the Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton.

Internationally known in the field of aging, Fitz Gerald is the consultant on aging to the Dominican Republic's mission to the

United Nations; to Opera Pia International; and to the Task Force on Aging, recently established by the Governor of New York. A key figure in the work of Non Governmental Organizations dealing with issues on aging, Dr. Fitz Gerald has played an active role in preparations for several international conferences on aging. In the preparatory phases for the UN World Assembly on Aging, he served both as a member of the organizing committee for and as the Non-Governmental Organization delegate to the International Forum on Aging, Castelgandolfo, Italy, 1980. He also assisted the Holy See with its official submission to the Assembly and in 1981 he attended the White House Conference on Aging as an International Observer. An accredited observer, he addressed a plenary session of governments during the UN World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 1982.

In preparation for the UN International Conference on Population, Dr. Fitz Gerald co-ordinated and served as chairman of two conferences on "Aging and Population - Forming an Agenda", UN Headquarters, 1983 and 1984. These conferences were selected for mention by the Secretary General in his annual reports on aging and the conference papers were considered by the Governments during the UN International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 1984. An accredited observer at the Population Conference, Dr. Fitz Gerald chaired the Non-Governmental Committee on Aging. Prior to the UN World Conference on the Decade for Women, Fitz Gerald organized and chaired the "Consultation on Older Women and Development" at the United Nations Headquarters. Attending the consultation were representatives of both governments and non-governmental organiza-

tions as well as members of the UN Secretariat. The consultation report was among the official documents considered at the World Conference, Nairobi, 1985. In conjunction with the XIII International Congress of Gerontology, Fordham University, 1985, Fitz Gerald chaired the pre-congress conference "Images of Aging, A Worldwide Religious Perspective.

In addition to his work in the field of aging, Fitz Gerald has a distinguished career in music. He received his masters training in music from Prof. Fernando Germani, first organist of the Vatican; Virgil Fox, American concert organist; Karl Richter, Director of the Munich Bach Choir; and Pierre Cochereau, Organist, Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris. Earlier he had studied under famed American organist and composer Richard Purvis. Currently organist and choirmaster, Chapel of Ease, St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York; Fitz Gerald has performed in the major North American and European centers. Included among his numerous performances have been recitals at: St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican; St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna; St. John's Co-Cathedral, Malta; and most recently at the Homage To Bach International Festival in Morelia, Mexico, May 1985.

In recognition of his distinguished contributions both to the field of gerontology and to international cultural relations, Fitz Gerald has been honored by the Roman Catholic Church, Mexico and the Republic of Italy. He was created a Knight in the Papal Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, 1984. He is also a Knight in Italy's Order of the Star of Solidarity, and in

the Order of Merit, the highest order bestowed on non-Italians. In 1976 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the State Government of Michoacan, Mexico.

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend both the 1985 Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer Lectures in Gerontology and the organ recital in celebration of the "Third Age". There is no admission fee.

The lecture series is named for the late Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer, an alumnus of St. Thomas University, and a pioneer in the field of geriatric medicine in New Brunswick. As a member of the University's Board of Governors, Dr. Creamer cultivated interest in the study of gerontology at St. Thomas. Shortly after his death, the decision was taken to establish at the University an Endowment Fund in Gerontology named in his memory. Proceeds from this endowment are used to fund the lecture series, to enable St. Thomas to attract specialists in gerontology to New Brunswick, and to make them available not only to the academic community but also to the community at large, whether for training and development of staff in the helping professions or for special programs directly involving the elderly.

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Evelyn R. Swezey
Director of University
Relations

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P.S. STU contact person for these events is Dr. Noel Kinsella, Executive Assistant to the President. Tel. 452-7700.