Debate ‘08 Collection

Hofstra University
Special Collections Department, University Archives
On November 19, 2007, the Commission on Presidential Debates announced that it had chosen Hofstra University for the site of the final 2008 presidential debate, to be held on October 15, 2008.
This announcement set in motion a remarkable yearlong mobilization of people and resources, the results of which provided Hofstra University students with a large variety of extraordinary learning experiences.
Many of the materials generated as a result of the tremendous efforts of the Hofstra community and its supporters, including items concerning the University's Educate '08 initiative, are housed in the Hofstra University Special Collections Department's Debate '08 Collection.
The Debate ‘08 Collection includes brochures, flyers, posters, DVDs, print material, ephemera and memorabilia.
These materials help to document this remarkable year in the life of Hofstra University. The following are images of just some of the items in the collection.
<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>Tuesday, September 23 3-5 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Diversity, Dialogue and Desserts Series: Are You Broke Yet? The Wealth Gap in America</strong>&lt;br&gt;Please join Hofstra faculty, staff, and students for a provocative campus conversation on the current state of our economy and the ever-expanding wealth gap in the United States. Desserts will be served.&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Location:&lt;/strong&gt; 142 Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Sponsored by&lt;/strong&gt; the Office of Multicultural &amp; International Student Programs</td>
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<td>Wednesday, September 24 11:15 a.m.-12:40 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Access and Legacy: The Role of Presidential Libraries</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Allen Weinstein, archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Location:&lt;/strong&gt; 246 East Library Wing (BDC), Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library, Second Floor, South Campus&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Sponsored by&lt;/strong&gt; Hofstra University’s Department of Library and Information Services</td>
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Day of Dialogue VI
Facing the Future TOGETHER
Wednesday, September 24, 2008

An All-Day Multi-Event Discussion of the Issues that Face Our World

Hofstra University's Center for Civic Engagement presents

DEMOCRACY in PERFORMANCE

One Day
Thirteen Events
All Celebrating America's Unique History

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008
SOUTH CAMPUS, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

Center for Civic Engagement event flyers
Gloria Steinem

Gender and Race in Politics

Gloria Steinem's name is synonymous with the advancement of women's social equality in America and throughout the world. Her contributions include being a member of the Beyond Racism Initiative, convening the historic 1971 Women's Political Caucaus, founding the Coalition of Labor Union Women, serving as president of Voters for Choice, and establishing the Ms. Foundation for Women.

Monday, October 13, at 3 p.m.
John Cranford Adams Playhouse, South Campus

All attendees must register in advance at hofstra.edu/educate08.
The Hofstra Cultural Center and the Hofstra University Museum present

ON THE RECORD:
A Hofstra Presidential Conference Retrospective

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Presented by the Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency and the John D. Miller Fund at the Long Island Community Foundation.

Educate ‘08 event invitation
Project Vote Smart card

see what they really look like
Votesmart.org
1-888-Vote Smart

Voter's Self-Defense System
We expose the candidates
voting records
issue positions
biographies
ratings
public statements
campaign finances
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE
OCTOBER 15, 2008

debate ’08

Clip Book
(September-October 2008)

RESULTS

In the final tally, there were 5,709 stories mentioning the Hofstra Presidential Debate.

WHERE DID STORIES ABOUT THE HOFSTRA PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE AIR?

- Local: 94.0%
- National: 0.7%
- Cable: 4.5%

Debate ’08 Clip Book
Assorted print material
Invitations to Presidential Debate Viewing Party
and Presidential Conference Directors Dinner

Stuart Rabinowitz
President of Hofstra University
and
John D. Miller ’79
Chair, Hofstra University Board of Trustees
cordially invite you to attend the
Presidential Debate Viewing Party
via simulcast
Wednesday, October 15, 2008
8 p.m.
Hofstra University Club
David S. Mack Hall, North Campus
including pre- and post-debate activities

Refreshments will be served.
Please respond by October 6, 2008. • Phone: (516) 463-5284
Business Attire

All attendees must reserve in advance.
Parking will be located on South Campus with transportation provided
to the University Club. Additional transportation information to follow.

PRESIDENT STUART RABINOWITZ
PROVOST HERMAN A. BERLINER
and the
HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER

cordially invite you to attend a
DINNER
in honor of the
PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE DIRECTORS
Thursday, September 18, 2008
6:30 p.m.
Hofstra University Club
David S. Mack Hall
North Campus

R.S.V.P. on or before September 15
Hofstra Cultural Center
(516) 463-5669
Information booklets and a debate ticket
Hail to the Chief: U. S. Presidents in Words, Images and Ephemera

All exhibition materials from the Hofstra University Library’s Special Collections
Obama-Biden campaign sign
McCain-Palin campaign sign
John McCain has a remarkable record of leadership and experience that embodies his unwavering commitment to service.

No Tax Increases
Reform Health Care
Reduce Gas Prices
Improve America’s Economy
Fight Islamic Extremism
End Wasteful Spending
Address Climate Change

JOHNMCCAIN.COM
Paid for by John McCain 2008

McCAIN
COUNTRY FIRST

John McCain “Country First” postcard
Issues of *Newsday* featuring coverage of the debate
No news in debate is good for Obama

By Samuel Rubenfeld

Despite the torrent of media outlets at the University for the final presidential debate, little news was made during the debate itself, benefiting Barack Obama, who was already in the lead.

John McCain, whose campaign has been in the same tailspin the stock market has found itself in, needed a big night to regain some momentum. Despite a valiant effort—it was his best performance out of the three debates—he didn’t have the night he needed.

The candidates sat at a roundtable for 90 minutes, where they traded direct blows for the Ohio named Joe.

Early in the debate, Schieffer offered McCain the opportunity to ask Obama a question, which McCain declined. “I would like to mention that a couple days ago Senator Obama was out in Ohio and he had an encounter with a guy who’s a plumber, his name is Joe Wurzelbacher,” McCain said. Wurzelbacher was mentioned by his first name or as “Joe the plumber” about 25 times by the candidates, taking what was initially an interesting human side to a substantive issue, and making it into a joke. With every mention, the laughs in the media room would get louder.

The parody became a running

Hofstra CHRONICLE featuring coverage of the debate
Glasses and mugs
(including specially-ordered Schott Zwiesel glasses used by the candidates on stage)
Hofstra University 50th anniversary commemorative gold coins, one of which was tossed to determine the first presidential candidate questioned.
Windbreaker, t-shirt and a chef’s jacket
Parking permit and lanyard
Assorted buttons and pins
DVDs: TV packages and Debate ’08 Clip Reel
“I am absolutely delighted that the Commission has chosen to return to Hofstra University for one of America’s most important political events. ... It was an extraordinary experience for our students and faculty in 2008 and allowed our community to witness, firsthand, the democratic process.”
— President Stuart Rabinowitz

Coming soon…materials from Debate 2012