



# 2008 Fall Forums in Georgia

## Georgia Plans for Forums

Kettering Foundation Associates, Diane Eisenberg and Bob Daley, traveled to the Carter Library in Atlanta, Georgia, November 14, 2007, to launch Georgia's participation in the Presidential Library Forums to be held Fall 2008 around the times of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential debates.

Director Jay Hakes and Tony Clarke, Carter Library, met with Pam Kleiber, Jill Severn, and Sheryl Vogt from the UGA Honors Program and Richard Russell Library. Margaret Holt, NIF associate from Georgia also participated in this meeting.

Diane and Bob shared the "national agenda" and Georgia participants talked about hosting forums at three sites:

The Carter Library, the Russell Library, and a yet undetermined site in the Albany-Tifton area.

One forum will be on the health care issue, and at least two other forum issues will be selected.

It was a wonderful meeting followed with lunch at Manny's Tavern.

MHolt, Georgia Stringer



## Decisions, Decisions

Forums before or after debates?

Forums in rural areas? Forums in cities?

Forums with academics?

Forums with JPF's (just plain folks?)

There are innumerable possibilities for inquiry in doing these forums. The above questions are just the tip of the iceberg. (In Georgia, we

long for an iceberg!)

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**Moderating** is a word that refers to a social function of great importance. Whether you are talking about the chair of a PTA meeting, or moderator in an online chat room, or the assistant who screens calls in a radio talk show. It refers to a referee whose job is not to bias the proceedings but to keep conversation civil and participation equitable. With equal access to all. The moderator keeps contributions pertinent to the topic at hand. Helps keeps the discussants on track. Consider the Constitutional Convention where this nation began . . . Its first order of business, May 25, 1787, was to elect a President of the Convention who would serve as chair and moderator. Michael Schudson, Peabody Lecture, UGA, 2007.



## People who might help us



These are just a few of the people who have been identified who might help us with the forums:

Sharon Gibson (Jill)

Roger Bernier-CDC (Margaret)

Heather Cummings Jensen-Athens (Margaret)

Elaine Manglitz-Clayton State (Margaret)

Lynda Thomas Goodfellow-Georgia State (Margaret)

Conrad Whisenton –Atlanta (Margaret)

Susan Guo (squo.uga.edu)  
Terry Honor’s Student from Tifton (Pam)

Veronica Adams-Cooper (Margaret) (She’s at Albany State).

More names:

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## Dates of Presidential and Vice-Presidential Debates

First presidential debate: Washington University in St. Louis, MO

**Friday, September 26**

University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi

Second presidential debate:

**Tuesday, October 7**

Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Vice presidential debate

**Thursday, October 2**

Third presidential debate:

**Wednesday, October 15** ofstra University, Hempstead, New York

## Related Activities– Unitarian Fellowship, Athens, Georgia



Carter Presidential Center

From Margaret: Join the Presidential Campaign Discussion Group – Anyone interested in the 2008 presidential campaign is invited to join a discussion of the candidates, issues and strategies. We will meet after Sunday Service at 12:30 in the RE Wing each Sunday. Paul Gurian, a UGA political scientist, will lead the discussion.

For more info, email Paul at [PHGurian@earthlink.net](mailto:PHGurian@earthlink.net).

**From Jill:** Another idea that that might extend the experience of the forum would be to host gatherings to watch the debates in the same areas where we host the forums. In Athens we could do on campus or off depending on preferences and

we might be able to arrange the same down in the Tifton area. We could have refreshments and maybe have a time afterwards for discussion. The Russell Library is definitely interested in pursuing this in Athens and in Tifton, I think.