

Relationship between food, religion focus of Sibley Lecture

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The Sibley Lecture at Alfred University will be presented on Monday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Nevins Theatre, Powell Campus Center. Dr. Michel Desjardins, a professor from Laurier University, Ontario, Canada, will talk about "How Food Helps Us Understand Religion." The Sibley Lecture series was established in memory of Myron Sibley, the first professor of philosophy hired by Alfred University. Sibley taught at Alfred for more than 30 years, and was highly regarded as a professor and member of the community. The Sibley Lecture, sponsored by the Division of Human Studies, which Sibley helped to organize, annually brings to campus a renowned scholar. Desjardins is a professor and undergraduate adviser at Wilfrid Laurier University. He has bachelor and master of arts degrees and a doctorate. Desjardins' research interests include early Christian writings, gnosticism, Judaism in late antiquity, and Greco-Roman religions and culture. Desjardins' recent papers were titled "Introducing Historical and Social Reflections," "Netting a Job in Religious Studies," "Clement's Bound Body," and "What the Canadian Doctoral Programs tell us about the Academic Study of Religion in Canada." In 2001, Desjardins was given the Wilfrid Laurier University Award for Teaching Excellence. In that same year he received the 3M Teaching Fellow, one of 10 Canada-wide teaching awards, selected by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.