Experience the joy of discovering a new idea, especially when guided by an inspiring teacher or leader. For this sesquicentennial year, the University of Denver has gathered an expert assembly of accomplished alumni and distinguished professors to engage your mind around critical current issues and delight you with new knowledge. With numerous lectures, panels and keynote luncheon speakers over two days during Homecoming & Family Weekend, you’re sure to find something to ignite your intellectual passion.

FRIDAY, OCT. 31, 2014

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.  PIONEER SYMPOSIUM: FACULTY SESSIONS
Join us for stimulating, interactive sessions with DU faculty.
Location: Ricketson Law Building, Sturm College of Law

Sessions:
“Why Civil Resistance Works”
Erica Chenoweth, Associate Professor at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies and Associate Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute in Oslo
Between 1900-2006, campaigns of nonviolent civil resistance were twice as successful as violent campaigns. Professor Chenoweth, who was named one of the world’s “Top 100 Global Thinkers” in 2013, will talk about her research on the impressive historical record of civil resistance in the 20th Century and discuss the promise of unarmed struggle in the 21st century. She will focus on the so-called “3.5% rule” - the notion that no government can withstand a challenge of 3.5% of its population without either accommodating the movement or (in extreme cases) disintegrating. In addition to explaining why nonviolent resistance has been so effective, she will also share some lessons learned about why it sometimes fails.

“Monsters Never Die”
Rachel Feder, Assistant Professor of English, Division of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Drawn from her current course, “Monster Narratives, 1787-2014,” and just in time for Halloween, this talk introduces the famous, infamous and lesser-known monsters of nineteenth-century British literature and asks what these creatures—and their literary and pop-cultural afterlives—can tell us about our current historical moment.

“Concussion Updates from the Benches”
Kim Gorgens, Clinical Associate Professor, Graduate School of Professional Psychology
This lively talk will provide an overview of concussions and will update the audience on the financial settlements taking place in the NFL, the NCAA and other organizations. Dr. Gorgens will also highlight the study of sub-concussive injuries to
the head with special attention to the cognitive and psychological dysfunctions resulting from all brain injuries.

Nader Hashemi, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Middle East Studies, Josef Korbel School of International Studies
In the early months of 2011, a series of longstanding dictators in the Arab World were toppled by largely nonviolent protests. At this time there was considerable global optimism about the prospects for democracy in the Arab world. Three-and-a-half years later, the political landscape across the Middle East looks very different with democratic movements crushed, authoritarian regimes in power and radical political groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) ascendant. How can we begin to make sense of these developments? Is there any hope for democracy emerging in the Middle East in the foreseeable future? How does one explain the persistence of authoritarianism in the region? This lecture will seek to answer these questions with a special emphasis on the significance of these developments for the West and the United States of America in particular.

“The Biology of Aging and Longevity: ‘Every man desires to live long, but no man wishes to be old (Jonathan Swift).’ Can We Achieve This Wish?”
David Patterson, Professor and Director of External Relations, Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Increasing lifespan and an aging population have profound implications for society. Increased age is the most significant risk factor for many important health problems, including cardiovascular disease, many forms of cancer, diabetes, cognitive decline, frailty and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s disease, to name a few. In this presentation, Dr. Patterson will discuss current thinking on the definition of aging, why and how aging occurs, how the aging process is studied, the consequences of aging for human health, and whether it may be possible to delay the aging process and extend health span as well as lifespan.

“Inside the World of Vienna’s Waltz Kings”
Marc Shulgold, University College
The infectious oom-pah-pah of “The Blue Danube” is super-familiar. But there's a whole world that goes beyond the catchy tunes and images of spinning couples. Vienna, along with the rest of late-19th Century Europe, was experiencing an exciting time of social and technological change. This session will explore those transitions, as you listen to the music and meet the men who competed aggressively to provide the waltzes, polkas, marches and quadrilles that perfectly captured the continent's short-lived optimism.