

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2006
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**Bennett College for Women Presents the Phi Beta Kappa Society
2005-2006 Couper Scholars Lecture
Featuring Dr. Joyce Appleby, Professor Emerita of History, UCLA
Speaking on the topic "Coming to Terms with Thomas Jefferson"**

Bennett College for Women proudly presents Dr. Joyce Appleby, professor *emerita* of history, University of California, Los Angeles, as the 2005-2006 Couper Scholars Program lecturer, on Tuesday, April 4, 2006, in the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel, at 6 PM. Dr. Appleby's address will be followed by a punch and cookie reception in the David Dallas Jones Student Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Appleby is the author of numerous books, including *Inheriting the Revolution: The First Generation of Americans* and *Telling the Truth About History* (co-author). She completed a biography of Thomas Jefferson, which was published as part of the Henry Holt presidential series. She also edited a volume of the writings of Thomas Paine for Barnes and Noble Classics. The Organization of American Historians will soon produce an inaugural collection of the best articles written on American history in 2005 which Dr. Appleby edited.

Appleby has served as president of several prestigious associations. She holds membership in both the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Her visit to Bennett has been arranged by Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honor society with half a million members throughout the country. Dr. Appleby is quoted as stating: "My research has covered England, France, and America in the early modern period, but my abiding curiosity has hovered around questions about liberal values and institutions."

During her long career, Professor Appleby has built bridges between historians and the public. In retirement, she continues to co-direct the History News Service, an informal association that distributes op-ed essays written by historians, who put critical current issues into historical perspective, to over 300 newspapers weekly.

Appleby's keynote speech will address Thomas Jefferson and slavery. On Monday, April 3, in connection with Dr. Appleby's visit, there will be screenings of two films about Thomas Jefferson and his relationship with Sally Hemings, his slave. The screenings are:

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Monday, April 3 Little Theatre, Bennett College for Women

1:00 - 4:00 PM *Sally Hemings: An American Scandal* (2004)
(a 3-hour, 2-part Series, suitable for all audiences)

An epic story starring Sam Neill and Carmen Ejogo about the extraordinary, controversial thirty-eight year relationship between Thomas Jefferson and his slave mistress, Sally Hemings. The film also stars Mare Winningham, Diahann Carroll and Mario Van Peebles.

4:15 - 4:40 PM Discussion with Dr. Joyce Appleby

5:00 - 7:30 PM *Jefferson in Paris* (2004)
(139 Minutes, PG-13)

A Merchant Ivory Production starring Nick Nolte, Greta Scacchi, James Earl Jones, Thandie Newton and Gwyneth Paltrow. A story about Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings, this movie covers the period of widower Thomas Jefferson in Paris before the French Revolution where he is serving as the U.S. Ambassador. "Passionate!" (*The New York Observer*) "Magnificent. A 10!" (*KCOP-TV, Los Angeles*)

For more information, contact 336-517-2267.

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