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For Immediate Release

Lecture Series Explores Navigating Our Colliding Worlds

University Park, Illinois, March 27, 2012 – The Governors State University Honors Program is hosting “Navigating Our Colliding Worlds,” a lecture series featuring presentations by Anna Carvalho, Alex Kotlowitz, and Dr. Charles Payne.

The lecture series begins with a presentation by author Alex Kotlowitz, “Making Sense of the Madness: Reflections from Twenty Years of Reporting on Urban Violence,” on April 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Kotlowitz is best known for his bestselling book, “There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America,” selected by the New York Public Library as one of the 150 most important books of the century. Most recently, he co-produced the film “The Interrupters,” a documentary on urban violence. Kotlowitz also contributes to The New York Times Magazine, The New Yorker, and public radio’s “This American Life.”

The lecture series continues with “Urban School Reform: the State of the Debate” a lecture by Dr. Charles Payne, on Wednesday, April 18, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Payne is the Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, where he is also an affiliate of the Urban Education Institute. He recently published “So Much Reform, So Little Change” concerning the persistence of failure in urban districts, and “Teach Freedom: The African American Tradition of Education For Liberation” on Freedom School-like education. Recently Dr. Payne served as the interim Chief Education Officer for the Chicago Public Schools.

The series concludes with “Riding the Cultural Revolution: Lessons From Chicago’s Southland.” Anna Carvalho will discuss the unexpected observations and benefits found in embracing differences on Wednesday, April 25, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Carvalho, FACHE, is vice president of strategic planning and business development at Holy Cross Hospital, a Catholic safety net hospital on Chicago’s south side. She was also the founding executive director of the Center for Multicultural Communities, which focuses on racism and regional development in Chicago’s southern suburbs. Carvalho attended Radcliffe College and received her master’s degree in health policy and management from the Harvard School of Public Health.

The Honors Program lectures are free and open to the public. Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois.