

Shakhashiri speaks on science education at opening Roundtable luncheon

Chemistry Professor Bassam Shakhashiri, a former National Science Foundation assistant director for science and engineering education, will deliver the kick-off address for the University Roundtable program Sept. 10, speaking on "Enhancing the Quality of Science Education in the United States."

In his lecture, Shakhashiri will discuss the importance of widescale reform in the national math, science and engineering curriculums. He will then talk about the importance of change not just in science education but across the board and at all levels of education.

"Reform in science education is only a vehicle to bring a change in all fields of education," says Shakhashiri, who served on the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., from 1984-1990. "We need systematic change — changing the entire system, not just one piece of it."

As part of the long-standing Roundtable tradition, speakers will address the faculty and academic staff throughout the academic year, generally on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Check-in for the program is at 11:45 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon and beginning at 12:30 p.m. the speaker will talk for about 20 minutes, leaving time for questions at the conclusion of the program, usually 1 p.m.

The Roundtable discussions will be in the Great Hall at the Memorial Union, but because of previously scheduled events, the lectures on Sept. 10 and Oct. 22 will be held in the Tripp Commons at the Memorial Union.

Other speakers, topics and dates include:

- Russell Panczenko, director of the Elvehjem Museum of Art, will speak Sept. 24 on "Richard Artschwager at the Elvehjem: The Generation of New Sculpture," to coincide with the completion of the

museum's new sculpture by Artschwager, located at the museum's University Avenue front entrance.

- Assistant Law and Medical Ethics Professor Alta Charo, an expert in reproductive rights law and biomedical ethics, will discuss "The Phantom Fetus" on Oct. 8.

- On Oct. 22, Educational Psychology Professor Deborah Lowe Vandell will focus on "Childcare and Maternal Employment in the 90s: The Effects on Children." Vandell is the principle investigator for a national study of early child care which follows 1,200 children from early infancy through early childhood.

The University Roundtable brings together the diverse elements of the university community, according to Roundtable co-director Gerald Thain, associate dean of the Law School. "The purpose is to provide information and stimulation to the broader university community in terms of what's going on in the university," Thain says.

Co-director Sybil Stevenson-Hampton, associate dean of the School of Family Resources and Consumer Sciences, adds that this year's Roundtable speakers range from the arts to the sciences, often speaking about issues that affect national policy. "I think it's a wonderful way for people in the community to learn about research on campus and a way for people to network," Hampton-Stevenson says. "It's a way to get people to talk across disciplines."

To make reservations for the Roundtable, send a check for \$5.75, made out to "Roundtable," to Sybil Stevenson-Hampton, room 142, 1300 Linden Drive. Reservations should be made by noon on the Thursday preceding the luncheon.

To be added to the Roundtable mailing list, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Thain, 215 Law Building.