

For Immediate Release

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Dr. Mamphela Ramphele Gives the George Herbert Walker, Jr. Lecture

October 14, 2005. New Haven, CT - Dr. Mamphela Ramphele, South African activist, author, and former Managing Director, World Bank, will be the speaker at the George Herbert Walker, Jr. Lecture in International Studies on Wednesday, October 26. Her talk, entitled "Human Mobility: Challenges & Opportunities for the Globalizing World" will be held at 4pm, Luce Hall, 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven. It is sponsored by the Yale Center for International and Area Studies and is free and open to the public.

In July 2005, Dr. Ramphele launched Circle Capital, a unique venture capital investment company that she heads as chairperson. It operates as a black-owned holding company that helps organizations of various sizes with varying needs, such as strategic leadership, and access to investment and operational management.

In 2000, Dr. Ramphele became the first African to be the managing director of the World Bank and was responsible for human development activities in the areas of education; health, nutrition, and population; and social protection.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Dr. Ramphele was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, a post she assumed in 1996, becoming the first black woman to hold this position at a South African university.

Dr. Ramphele started her career in the 1970s as a student activist in the Black Consciousness Movement, and she has been honored widely for her contribution to the struggle against apartheid. She has also worked as a medical doctor, civil rights leader, community development worker, and academic researcher.

From 1977 to 1984, Dr. Ramphele was banished by the South African Government to the remote township of Lenyenye near Tzaneen. There she continued her work with the rural poor and established the Ithuseng Community Health Program.

Dr. Ramphele qualified as a medical doctor at the University of Natal in 1972. She holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Cape Town, a BCom degree in Administration from the University of South Africa, and diplomas in Tropical Health and Hygiene, and Public Health, from the University of Witwatersrand.

Dr. Ramphele serves on the boards of major corporations and non-governmental organizations, including the Nelson Mandela Children's Trust. She has received numerous national and international awards, ten honorary doctorates, including a Doctor of Humane Letters from Yale University in 2005, and has written numerous books.

George Herbert Walker III established this Lecture series in 1986 in memory of his father, a distinguished graduate of the Yale Class of 1927. Previous George Herbert Walker, Jr. lecturers in International Studies have included Jesus Silva-Herzog, David Lange, Bruce Gelb, Strobe Talbott, Paul Wolfowitz, Edward Jaycox, George Schultz, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Madeleine Albright, Brent Scowcroft, James Baker III, George Mitchell, Richard Holbrooke, Carla Hills, Richard Haass and Tom Lantos.

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