



NEWS RELEASE

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College Students, Public Invited to Debate Watching 101 Event

FOLSOM – National political commentator Ken Rudin will join a local political reporter, college student and politics and communication experts for a “Debate Watching 101” seminar on Oct. 8 at Folsom Lake College that will be open to college students, the general public and news media.

The Wednesday afternoon discussion is scheduled for noon to 1 p.m., at the Community Room of Folsom Lake College, 10 College Parkway, off E. Bidwell Street, in Folsom.

The seminar is one of several events scheduled that day at the college to complement the live broadcast debate later that night between Democratic U.S. Rep Ami Bera and Republican Doug Ose at KVIE-TV studios in Sacramento. The two men are vying for the 7th Congressional District seat. The debate will be carried live on KVIE-TV and Capital Public Radio, from 7-8 p.m., PDT.

The panelists at the Wednesday afternoon seminar hope to educate attendees about the value, importance, techniques and strategies of debate in a political campaign, so that they leave the one-hour-long session as better informed voters who are better prepared to watch or listen to the debate that night, to absorb the airing of the issues of the day and, in the long run, to cast an educated, informed vote on Election Day. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions directly of the panelists.

That night, Folsom Lake College is also hosting a debate viewing party as well as Operation Fact-Check, in which faculty from the Los Rios Community College District and Sacramento State will work with students to research and check on the factual basis of some of the statements made during the debate. Their conclusions will be tweeted to news media and the general public using the Twitter handle @CA07factcheck.

The “Debate Watching 101” panel will include: Rudin, the “Political Junkie,” who is heard weekly on Capital Public Radio’s Insight program with Beth Ruyak and on other public radio stations around the country; Steve Boilard, executive director of the Center for California Studies at Sacramento State; Christopher Cadelago, political reporter for The Sacramento Bee; Georgine Hodgkinson, professor of Communication Studies at Cosumnes River College; and Jonathan Rogers, president of the Folsom Lake College Student Senate. The event will be moderated by Chris Iwata, dean of Humanities and Fine Arts at Sacramento City College and former director of Speech and Debate for the

Los Rios colleges and California State University, Northridge.

Wednesday's debate and associated activities are being sponsored by KVIE, Capital Public Radio, The Sacramento Bee, The Center for California Studies at Sacramento State, Los Rios Community College District and Folsom Lake College.

For more information on the debate and the associated activities, go to the debate website: www.flc.losrios.edu/debate.