

DEPARTMENT OF
NEAR EASTERN
LANGUAGES
AND CULTURES

COLLEGE OF ARTS
AND SCIENCES



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Please Join Us for

**The NELC Department
Spring Reception
&
The Ninth Annual Victor Danner
Memorial Lecture**

*“Servants of the All-Merciful”:
Building Communities of Realization
in a Global Civilization*

Presented by
Professor James W. Morris,
Boston College

Monday, April 18, 2011
Beginning at 5:30 PM
University Club, IMU

Refreshments Served

It is always easier, in any age, to notice the public and often violent disintegration of a familiar civilization, than the creation and gradual coalescence of newer forms of cultural and spiritual community. Borrowing some perspectives of Ibn ‘Arabi, this Danner lecture examines some of the contemporary uses and transformations of the pathways of realization elaborated in earlier Islamic settings, the traditional disciplines of philosophy, art, and spiritual practice devoted to exploring the divine Signs “on the horizons and in their souls” (Qur’an 41:53). It concludes by noting some of the opportunities -and obligations- which our global situation has created for creative, constructive cooperation across older religious and civilizational boundaries.