David Swatzler's book examines the complex relationship between European Americans and Native Americans in Western Pennsylvania and New York during the late-18th and early-19th centuries. Specifically, the author recounts the interaction between Quaker missionaries and the Allegany Seneca Indians, whose chief, Cornplanter, requested the Friends' assistance in matters pertaining to education, plow agriculture, and temperance.

At the center of the book is the journal of Bucks County missionary Henry Simmons who lived among the Allegany Senecas in 1799. Simmons' journal serves as the vehicle through which Swatzler explores the cultural underpinnings of both Quaker and Seneca cultures.

A Friend Among the Senecas provides a much-needed understanding of the economic choices faced by the Senecas during the period of European American expansion into their ancestral land. Although the Allegany Senecas are the author's primary focus, he includes other tribes that constituted the Six Nations of the Iroquois, as well as the adjacent tribes of the Northwest Territory. In the course of the book, Swatzler brings to light the difficult choices that Cornplanter had to make in accommodating some aspects of European American industry and agriculture without compromising the Senecas' cultural integrity.

Swatzler masterfully balances a detailed examination of a specific community with a general understanding of U.S. government/Indian relations at the end of the 1700s. Specifically, we gain a new understanding of the effect that Pennsylvania's governmental policies exhibited not only the Indians, but also on the Quakers. Indeed, their rise and fall from politics in "Penn's Woods" is a fascinating ancillary account.

Swatzler's book is a thoroughly researched and ambitious work. Although at times the depth of information provided on the folkways of the Allegany Senecas seems to diverge from the central thesis of exploring Indian/white relations, it does provide the background necessary to understand the importance of traditionalist ways and the tremendous adaptation required to integrate into white society. Overall, A Friend Among the Senecas is a well-crafted piece, and an important addition to the fields of Western Pennsylvania history, Native American history, and Quaker history.

Jeff Everett, Director of Conservation,
Valley Conservation Council, Staunton, Virginia
Americans say, "In God We Trust." But increasingly vague notions of "separation of church and state" have made us uneasy about the role of faith in our public institutions. How is the person of faith of today to respond in a nation bent on diminishing the linkage between faith and freedom? Grove City College is pleased to present *Faith, Freedom and the Future*, a series of challenging lectures by some of America's leading scholars.

September 6 – 7:00 pm

**The Outrageous Idea of Christian Scholarship**
George Marsden
McAnaney Professor of History, University of Notre Dame

September 13 – 7:00 pm

**How the Religious Past Frames America's Future**
Mark Noll
McManis Chair of Christian Thought, Wheaton College

September 20 – 7:00 pm

**Freedom, Reason, and the Rule of Law: The Political Relevance of Man's Spiritual Powers**
Robert George
McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University

September 27 – 7:00 pm

**Christianity in History**
James Billington
The Librarian of Congress

All lectures are FREE OF CHARGE and will be held in the Pew Fine Arts Center at Grove City College. To learn more visit our website at www.gcc.edu.