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**AWARD-WINNING ECONOMIST AND AUTHOR PAUL KRUGMAN OPENS
CAL PERFORMANCES 2004/05 STRICTLY SPEAKING SERIES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, September 7, 2004 – **Paul Krugman**, one of the world’s top economists and bi-weekly Op-Ed columnist for *The New York Times*, comes to Cal Performances **Thursday, October 14 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. A professor of economics at Princeton University and the author of more than a dozen books including *The Great Unraveling: Losing Our Way in the New Century*, Krugman is a passionate and articulate speaker, known for his ability to explain global economics to broad public audiences. During the wave of patriotism that followed the events of September 11, 2001, Krugman was one of the few journalists in the mainstream press who criticized the White House saying, among other things, it was guilty of “world-class mendacity,” and labeled John Ashcroft “the worst attorney-general in history.” Krugman has, predictably, received strong criticism from the political right. On the eve of the presidential election Krugman presents his unabashed political views and the implications of current global trends for the future. Following his talk on October 14, Paul Krugman will sign copies of his book *The Great Unraveling* in the Zellerbach lobby.

Paul Krugman, born in 1953 and raised in the suburbs of New York, received his B.A. from Yale and his Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to teaching at Princeton, Krugman had served on the faculties of Yale, Stanford and M.I.T. His areas of research are twofold: international trade, where he is one of the originators of “the new trade theory,” and international monetary systems. Krugman served for a year on the staff of the President’s Council of Economic Advisors under President Reagan in 1982, an experience he characterized as “strange.” Over the years, his work has earned him numerous awards including acclaim as the most important columnist by *Washington Monthly*, columnist of the year by *Editor and Publisher* magazine, and one of the top international economists by *The Economist*. In 1991 Krugman received the American Economic Association’s John Bates Clark medal honoring the best American economist under the age of 40.

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In the mid-'80s, Paul Krugman began building a parallel career writing “serious economics in seemingly plain English,” for non-technical audiences. Krugman’s first book for a popular audience, *The Age of Diminished Expectations* published in 1990, is an introduction to basic economic principles as applied to current events. Articles for *Fortune* and *Slate* magazines followed. Now Krugman reaches more than a million readers with his column in *The New York Times*, the paper’s first business and economics column that began in January 2000. When the economic bubble burst a few months later, Krugman turned his attention to the 2000 political campaign. “There’s a lot of gain from doing both roles,” Krugman says. “The academic grounding offers a handy knowledge base from which to comment on public policy; while knowing one’s way around a treasury report – not particularly common among political commentators – helps in deciphering ‘Bushonomics’” (*The New York Times*).

In *The Great Unraveling: Losing Our Way in the New Century*, published in 2003, Krugman describes how the United States lost its way, economically and politically, and makes recommendations for getting the country back on track. He explains his view of the impact and significance of the boom economy’s unraveling, of the corporate world’s descent into scandal, and the prospects for the economy over the short and long term.

In addition to his many books and *The New York Times* column, Paul Krugman turns out articles for *The New York Review of Books* and other magazines as well as numerous scholarly papers. He is currently co-authoring two textbooks, one each on macroeconomics and microeconomics, with his wife and fellow Princeton faculty member, Robin Wells. To manage his workload, Krugman makes it a rule to never begin writing his *New York Times* column until the day it is due.

Paul Krugman maintains a limited speaking schedule due to *The New York Times* strict rules: he can only speak to nonprofits that have no possible interest in influencing the content of his column.

STRICTLY SPEAKING

Now in its second season, Cal Performances' **Strictly Speaking** series is designed to bring the most intriguing literary, cultural, scientific and political voices of the day to Bay Area audiences. This year's **Strictly Speaking** guests include: **David Sedaris** *This American Life* favorite and award-winning author and essayist, who returns to Zellerbach Hall after two previously sold-out appearances (November 9); and the live taping of *Wait...Wait, Don't Tell Me*, the popular National Public Radio news quiz show featuring host **Peter Sagal** and a panel of NPR luminaries (February 17).

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Paul Krugman's Strictly Speaking's** talk on **Thursday, October 14 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$18.00, \$24.00, and \$30.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, October 14 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley

Strictly Speaking
Paul Krugman

Program: Princeton University economist, *New York Times* Op-Ed columnist, and author of *The Great Unraveling* and *The Return of Depression Economics* shares his views on the bust of the boom economy, the recent run of corporate scandals, and the current administration's fiscal policies.

Tickets: \$18.00, \$24.00, and \$30.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

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