The Norwegian archaeologist and writer, Thor Heyerdahl, is recognized as one of the great explorers of the 20th century. His bold expeditions, including the famous "Kon-Tiki" experiment, often caused controversy within the scientific community, and his books inspired a sense of adventure for millions of readers. This lecture will provide an overview of the life of this amazing individual who was a daring creative thinker, global citizen, and environmental activist.

Donald P. Ryan, Ph.D. is an archaeologist and Faculty Fellow in the Division of Humanities at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. For several years, Ryan worked closely with world-renowned Norwegian explorer, the late Thor Heyerdahl, whose open-minded approach to the topic of early human use of the ocean was a hallmark of his remarkable research. He is a Research Associate at the Kon-Tiki Museum in Oslo, Norway, and a Fellow of both The Explorers Club and The Royal Geographical Society.