

THE OLIVE BRANCH

Disability Awareness Month

During the month of March in Indiana, students, families, and communities statewide celebrate Disability Awareness Month. Adults and children with disabilities make up almost one-fifth of the state of Indiana's population, and for 23 years, the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities has led this month-long campaign to "promote independence, integration, and inclusion of all people with disabilities."

Disabled Student Development (DSD) and Disabled Students in Action (DSIA) at Ball State have planned an entire month of programs and events for students, faculty, and the community to attend, all revolving around this year's campaign theme: "Community Connections". DSD and DSIA are working toward improving communities with "appropriate housing, supportive and accessible community services and physical and environmental features" so that everyone is able to live and work independently. "If our communities are to grow and prosper, we must develop 'Community Connections' through access, civic engagement and by encouraging neighbors to support one another," their website states.

Some of the events promote awareness about DSD and DSIA while others advocate for people with disabilities. The organization will be hosting booths at the Student Center Tally on the 14th from 11-2, offering stickers, pins, brochures and knowledge about various kinds of disabilities. At 2 pm on the 25th, a "Women with Disabilities" panel will be held in the Student Center (room 301), moderated by Dr. Courtney Jarrett, Associate Director of DSD. Panelist will share and discuss with the audience their life and school experiences as female students with disabilities. On the 14th and 21st, "Adaptive Recreation Nights" will be held at 7 pm in the Rec Center, where participants will learn about and get the chance to play wheelchair basketball and other adaptive recreation.



Other events promote recreation as well, such as the "Wheelchair Ballroom Dancing with Frank Epperson" on the 18th, co-sponsored by the Ballroom Dance League. Frank Epperson is an Indiana native wheelchair ballroom dancer and will teach participants several dance techniques and basic moves. And as the finale to the month-long list of activities the DSD and DSIA have in store for the Ball State community, a "Wheelchair Tennis" workshop will be offered on March 28th at 8 pm in the

Field Sports Building, led by Paralympian and Ball State graduate student, Emmy Kaiser.

Ball State's Disabled Student Development and Disabled Students in Action are putting on a great month of programs and events for our community to celebrate Disability Awareness Month, only some of which are mentioned here. For a full listing of all of these opportunities, visit <http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/dsd/programs/awareness/events> or visit <http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/dsd/programs/awareness> for general information about Disability Awareness Month. Contact dsd@bsu.edu or 765-285-5293 with questions.

-Erin Silcox

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Want to be Featured in the Olive Branch?

If you are interested in being interviewed for an upcoming issue of the Olive Branch, or if you would like to write a short article, please contact e-mail us at peacecenter@bsu.edu. We would absolutely love to share your message with our readers!

Blog of the Week:

Genocide

Emily Kathman

I grew up in a very religious Catholic family and went to a Catholic elementary and middle school. I remember learning there the different kinds of sins- the direct ones, called “sins of commission”, wherein one would personally commit an offense, and the indirect ones, called “sins of omission”, in which one would commit a sin obliquely by failing to right a wrong or report another’s sin. Much of the material studied thus far in this class has indicated that America’s apparent obsession with militarism drives our country to invade, occupy, attack, and generally meddle in business of other nations, often for personal gain- a sin of commission. However, this week’s reading depicts situations in which the United States has done just the opposite and neglected to interfere in international conflicts for reasons related to national interest- a sin of omission. The avoidance of certain conflicts, namely the genocides of Armenians in Turkey and that of Jews and other minorities under Hitler, has resulted in equally detrimental blows to the journey towards positive, durable peace, and contributed to the deaths of millions of people.



The United States’ unresponsiveness towards the massacre of Armenians proved to be the first unfortunate chapter in a long history of reluctance to help end foreign conflict. A Problem from Hell details the “race murder” of Christian Armenians living in Turkey, which began in 1915 under the orders of Mehmed Talaat, Turkey’s interior minister. Despite U.S. ambassador Henry Morgenthau’s descriptions of the atrocities being committed against this people, the United States government declined to help end this annihilation due to President Wilson’s desire to stay out of World War I. Because Turkey was allied with the Axis powers, “picking fights” with its leaders and interfering in its affairs would jeopardize America’s neutrality. Even when the U.S. did enter into the war, Wilson still refused to declare war on or cut off ties with Turkey. By the time the massacre ended, nearly one million Armenians had been killed. America’s national interest had prevailed over the importance of the lives of a far-flung, out of sight minority group; as Morgenthau lamented, “unless it directly affected American lives and American interests, it was outside the concern of the American government” (Power 1-8).

Continued on following page...

Blog of the Week, cont...



ARTHUR LEIPZIG PHOTO COPYRIGHT 1951

Above is a photo of Raphael Lemkin. Borrowed from: <http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnn/2008/WORLD/europe/11/13/sbm.lemkin.profile/art.lemkin.new2.jpg>

Prior to World War II and Hitler's "Final Solution", a name for the mass murder of a people, race, or nation had no name. Raphael Lemkin endeavored to change that, coining the word "genocide"; he did this partly in the hope that the definition of Hitler's, Talaat's, and others' crimes would help bolster international opposition of these atrocities and make future mass murders such as this punishable in a court of international law. As it stood, an "oppressor" could "kill more than a million men" and not be charged for a crime and European and American opposition of Hitler's regime was lacking, even bordering on complete apathy. Through America's disinterest, Lemkin asserted, "a 'double murder' was being committed; one by the Nazis against the Jews and the second

by the Allies, who knew about Hitler's extermination campaign but refused to publicize or denounce it" (Power 17-28).

As I perceive it, America's decision of which foreign conflicts and international issues are of national interest hinges on a complex scale of what our nation has to lose and what our nation has to gain. If our leaders discern the potential to engage in a zero-sum game with another country where the United States is reasonably guaranteed to win, the endeavor for peace will be sidelined in favor of national gain at another nation's expense. Similarly, if our leaders are unable to identify significant enough gains, or perceive the potential for considerable losses, the opportunity to end a conflict, from the smallest battle to the most far-reaching genocide, will be abandoned, if it is considered at all. The unfortunate truth espoused by Hitler, among others, that "victors write the history books" can be clearly seen in the Armenian genocide; no official punishment was given to the perpetrators of this massacre, and I believe that this contributes to the fact that, prior to this reading, I had never heard of the incident. In order to ensure that durable, positive peace is attained and maintained, and to guarantee that the voices of the oppressed are not forever silenced, the United States must begin to act more selflessly in its handling of foreign affairs and put human rights before personal interest. Even when not committing the direct "sins of commission", failing to respond to the offenses of others makes our country just as guilty.

-Emily Kathman

Want to know how you can get involved
in the community?

Mayor



Tyler

Community Involvement Discussion

- ◆ Who: Mayor Dennis Tyler
- ◆ What: Community Involvement Talk
- ◆ When: March 21st from 2-3 p.m.
- ◆ Where: Arts & Journalism 175



*Bring your lunch and join us
in discussing with Mayor
Tyler the importance of
community involvement
and how you can make a
difference in your community!*

Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

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Activity

The Olive Branch Word Search!

R	N	I	W	M	J	F	Z	C	X	M	T	H	E	O	D	G	W	K	G	J	H	B	S	X
E	O	C	M	R	A	E	M	V	U	Y	W	S	H	L	Q	U	I	K	H	U	T	P	W	W
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W	D	A	U	U	V	Y	F	E	D	U	O	W	W	H	F	M	O	U	G	G	X	K	W	F

BREAD FOR THE WORLD
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 DEPUTY PROSECUTOR
 FRIENDSHIP FAMILY
 MAYOR TYLER

On-Campus Events

March, Disability Awareness Month: "Community Connections"

Thursdays, March 14th & 21st, 7pm Rec Center Adaptive Recreation Nights

Monday March 18th, 8pm SC Ballroom Wheelchair Ballroom Dancing w/ Frank Epperson

Wednesday, March 20th, 5pm SC Multipurpose Room Disability Movie Night

Thursday, March 21st, 1pm SC 310 Career Center Workshop: Resumes

Monday, March 25th, 2pm SC 301 Women with Disabilities (panel)

Thursday, March 28th, 8pm Field Sports Building Wheelchair Tennis

Click here for more information: <http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/dsd/programs/awareness/events>

Thursday, March 14th

The Social Justice League meets at 5 pm in the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, 310 N. McKinley Ave. For more info, email sjl@bsu.edu

Join the Global Health Institute and The Office of Institutional Diversity from 7-8pm in TC 101 for an interdisciplinary discussion of health disparities among minorities. Participants include: Emily Miller (Dept. of Physiology & Health Science), Dr. Jane Ellery (Fisher Institute for Wellness and Gerontology), Dr. Jun Xu (Dept. of Sociology), Dr. Junfeng Jiao (Dept. of Urban Planning), Dr. Carolyn Shue (Dept. of Communication Studies), Dr. Erik Nesson (Dept. of Economics), and Dr. Kerry Anne McGeary (Dept. of Economics).

For more information contact globalhealth@bsu.edu or click here: <https://apps.bsu.edu/CommunicationsCenter/Story.aspx?CategoryID=159&MessageGuid=058E25BD-2258-4AFD-B4CF-79DEF0B9B916&OptIn=Y>

Monday, March 18th

OXFAM meets at 6 pm in the basement of Bracken library. For more info, email ajhartman@bsu.edu.

Building Tomorrow meets at 6:30 pm in the Schwartz Digital Complex room in Bracken Library. For more info, email ksrowe@bsu.edu.

Call to Action meets at 7:30 pm in the Student Center Room #306. For more info, email lefortier@bsu.edu.

Wednesday, March 20th, Alumni Center, 9 am – 4:30 pm

Women Working in Technology conference "Aiming High: Striving for Success with Focus and Balance" will include a full day of keynote speakers, panel presentations, and more. Kathleen Quinn Abernathy, Executive VP of External Affairs for Frontier Communications, will be the keynote speaker. There will be a panel presentation, "Big Data: What You Need to Know," with leaders from many corporations. Additionally, there will be a series of presentations about the "Top 10 Technology Trends of 2013."

Click here for more details: <http://www.wwitconference.org/>

On-Campus Events

Thursday, March 21st

Mayor Tyler Brown Bag Lunch Event: Bring your lunch and join us in discussing with Mayor Tyler the importance of community involvement and how you can make a difference in your community! Arts and Journalism 175 from 2-3pm. Contact peacecenter@bsu.edu with questions.

How the CIA Used the Pope to Hasten the Fall of Communism: Pope John Paul II quietly met many times with the late CIA Director, William Casey, and former Deputy Director of CIA, Vernon Walters, in total, 15 times, exchanging sensitive information in a joint effort to hasten the fall of communism in Poland and other Eastern European countries, all while avoiding Soviet military intervention. Join Indiana Law student, Lauren Box, as she presents current research concerning history's unlikely pairing of the CIA and the Pope. **FREE! 6:30-8:00pm**

Contact the Community Center for Vital Aging at 289-4541 or vitalaging@bsu.edu with questions or to register.

Tuesday, March 26th Student Center Ballroom, 2nd floor

Annual Ball State University Student Symposium Registration

This is a chance for students, faculty, and the Muncie community to discuss research efforts and view the connection between special projects and education. The most outstanding posters, creative or multimedia displays, and other exhibits will be awarded cash prizes at the end of the day. Every Ball State student who has participated in organized work inside or outside the classroom and was advised by a Ball State faculty member is eligible to register for the symposium.

Click here to register or view the symposium's guidelines: <http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/spo/spotlights/studentsymposium>

Friday, April 5th, 8 a.m., David Owsley Art Museum

Yoga in the Museum Sculpture Court.

Wake up your morning with tension-releasing yoga lead by instructor Sarah Lyttle. Yoga mats provided or bring your own. \$10 BSU affiliates, \$13 BSU non-affiliates.

Please register early, minimum 8 participants is required.

To register and pay, visit: <http://bsu.edu/recreation/instructional-classes.html>

Donate to the SVS 25th Annual Lend-A-Hand Day!

Student Voluntary Services is collecting donations of gently used clothing, home goods, new toiletries and non-perishable foods which will be given to Muncie residents in need at the YWCA on April 6th. Donations may be delivered to the Office of Student Life (SC 136) until March 30th or in any residence hall until March 1st. The residence hall with the most donations will win a personalized plaque to recognize their hard work!

Questions? Contact the SVS Grad Assistant, Michelle Kailey at mrkailey@bsu.edu or 765-285-3535.

On-Campus Events

Spring 2013 (time varies), Lucina Hall

Counseling Center Group Therapy

The Counseling Center offers a large variety of therapy sessions that are completely free to Ball State students. Just a few of these groups include:

- Understanding Self & Others- a discussion and discovery of understanding and acceptance of themselves and others
- Journey to Wholeness- a supportive group for survivors of sexual trauma
- Safe Haven- supportive group for GLBTQ students to discuss topics including family concerns, support, relationships, depression, personal growth and more

Kaleidoscope- a supportive group for ethnic/racial minorities to discuss topics including discrimination, identity of self, family concerns, body image, and more

You can find more information about these and more groups here: <https://apps.bsu.edu/CommunicationsCenter/Story.aspx?MessageGuid=a83cc747-5339-43e1-8e42-a9726d5e097f>

Call 285-1736 to sign up for one of these free groups.

Become a Friendship family!

Get involved and become a friendship family!

"The Rinker Center for International Programs is looking for community members that would like to become a "family" for an international student. The Friendship Family Program matches international students with local families and residents. The goal of the program is to provide international students additional support while in the United States and an opportunity to learn more about American culture outside of the university environment. Families and students are asked to commit to doing one activity a month together. Students do not live with the families, nor are families responsible for any financial assistance.

Ball State University recently welcomed approximately 70 new international students to our campus, and many of these students would like a local friendship family. Help enrich the experiences of international students at Ball State, provide insight into American culture, and connect your family to a global experience without leaving the United States, all through the Friendship Family Program!"

For more information and to apply, contact the Rinker Center for International Programs at (765) 285-5422 or friendship@bsu.edu or click here: <http://cms.bsu.edu/admissions/international/internationalservices/friendshipfamily>

Off-Campus Events

March 14th, 15th, & 18th

Folks will be passing out leaflets and building relationships with the 70 HMS Host Food Service Workers who are on the verge of winning the union in their workplace, 11-1, at the Airport, sponsored by UNITE HERE Local 23. Carpooling from its office, 1701 W. 18, at 10:30 am avoids airport parking fees. For more info, phone Stuart Mora at 648-4573.

Friday, March 15th

The weekly vigil protesting warfare will take place, 4:30-5:30 pm, in front of the Federal Building, Michigan and Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center. Bring an appropriate sign or have one provided. For more info, phone Gilbert Kuhn at 403-2835 or email Ron Haldeman at ronjane@igc.org

Saturday, March 16th

Bread for the World will hold a monthly meeting at 10 am in the board room in the A Wing of the Main Building at Robin Run Village, 5354 W. 62. For more info, phone Marjorie Hill at 291-7150 before attending.

[Nashville] There will be a Peace Vigil on the theme "War Is Not The Answer!" at 6 pm at Brown County Courthouse, Main and Van Buren Streets sponsored by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Brown County branch). For more info, contact Tom Hougham at 878-4210 or annntom@hotmail.com

Sunday, March 17th

SNAP, Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, will meet at 1:30 pm at Crestwood Village Community Room, E. 91 at the Monon Trail. For more info, phone Cecilia Shelpey at 844-2993

Monday, March 18th

Kenneth Tanaka (see below) will speak on "How Buddhism Changes the Conversation" at an Interfaith Encounter, 8:30-2:30, at Christian Theological Seminary, 1100 W. 42, sponsored by CTS, Jewish Community Relations Council, and Center for Interfaith Cooperation (Cost: \$40). The seminar will conclude with Dr. Tanaka, Cantor Robert Zalkin, and Professor Marti Steussy in A 3-Way Conversation: Buddhist, Jewish & Christian. To register, visit cts.edu. For more info, phone CTS at 931-4224.

Grants and Fellowships

Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science-deadline June 1, 2013

The Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science is given every two years. The award honors outstanding contributions to the scientific knowledge of peace and conflict. The winner is selected on the basis of the importance and scientific significance of the dissertation with respect to the field of peace science and its contribution to the understanding of international behavior more generally.

Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award-deadline June 15, 2013

The award recognizes achievement in integrating theory and practice in conflict resolution.

Conferences

Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference: Promoting nonviolence at home and beyond

Muncie, Indiana, April 5 and 6, 2013

www.bsu.edu/cohenpeaceconference

Deadline for pre-registration: March 22, 2013

Notre Dame Student Peace Conference 2013

Notre Dame, Indiana, April 5 and 6, 2013

Registration materials will be available soon.

Rotary Club of Londonderry Global Peace Forum

Derry-Londonderry, Ireland, May 4-26, 2013

The aim of the Derry~Londonderry Forum is to contribute to Reconciliation, Learning and Full Self Expression for those involved in peacemaking and peacebuilding throughout the world.

Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

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**We're on Twitter! Follow
@bsu4peace to get our
latest updates.**

**"LIKE" us on Facebook!
Ball State University Peace**

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary knowledge unit devoted to conducting research on various forms of structural and direct violence and conflict, and also dedicated to implementing projects that employ nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict.

Our programs include:

- **Mediation training and services**
- **Meditation classes**
- **The Brown Bag lunch speaker series**
- **The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship**
- **The Social Justice League on-campus organization**

If you would like YOUR events to be included in the newsletter, please contact:

Ennea Fairchild (efairchild@bsu.edu) or

Erin Silcox (esilcox@bsu.edu)

Disclaimer: the events described in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

Learn more about the Cohen Peace Conference at www.bsu.edu/cohenpeaceconference