Ball State University
Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

Weekly Newsletter

Feb 14 – 20, 2013

The Olive Branch

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Witkowski & Indiana University School of Philanthropy

Did you know that Indiana University (IU) recently became the first university in the ***world*** to offer a bachelor's degree in Philanthropic Studies? Or that one of our own Peace Center Board Members teaches in this program? If the nonprofit sector and earning a degree in giving back intrigues you, check out Indiana University's bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. programs in Philanthropy offered at the Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) campus.

A past Ball State History Professor and current Peace Center Board Member, Dr. Gregory Witkowski is Director of Graduate Programs and Associate Professor of Philanthropic Studies at the Indiana University School of Philanthropy. He has some valuable advice for students regarding how to prepare for their Philanthropy programs. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the field, students with any undergraduate degree can study philanthropy; therefore, Dr. Witkowski suggests extracurricular experiences such as interning and volunteering regularly with nonprofit organizations, as well as involvement with social justice leagues or similar organizations.

Additionally, an introductory online course in the undergraduate Philanthropic Studies program is available through IUPUI (P105: Giving and Volunteering in America) and can be transferred for Ball State University (BSU) credit. It provides a broad overview of the programs' topics of study and helps you to understand how your volunteering makes a difference. Dr. Witkowski also suggests taking Elizabeth Agnew's course on religion and philanthropy and/or a Statistics or Research Methods course in order to gain a better understanding of the methodological approaches that are used in graduate programs.

Job prospects are plentiful and promising for IU School of Philanthropy graduates. The nonprofit sector employs more people than all the federal, state, and county governments combined. Approximately 95% of the School's graduates are employed within 90 days, many starting in nonprofit development positions. Dr. Witkowski has a passion for advising his students and reminds them that, like any liberal arts degree, "This is a broad-based degree. It arms you with a comprehensive educational background that can be used in many different positions over the course of your career. It is a degree that will enable you to land a job."

For more information please see www.philanthropy.iupui.edu

-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 peace-center@bsu.edu. We would absolutely love to share your message with our readers!

Blog of the Week:

Positive Peace

Erica Strevy

When I think of peace, I never think if it was "positive" or "negative". My understanding of peace that it was always a positive thing that people strived for… until I started taking this class. Not to say that encouraging a positive peace environment is rewarding, because it can definitely take some time to get the outcome you are looking for.

"Peace implies a state of satisfaction" (160). To be truly satisfied with a situation that you may have protested for time after time, you must be able to let go of all of your biases and fears. For instance, when I was in high school, time and time again I asked my assistant principal if he could do something about the name calling that was taking place by students to students who were of a minority, like me. Instead of hearing me out and taking my plead at full face value, he told me that kids will be kids and everyone is made fun of… "It's just a way of life". Of course it frustrated me to no end that he wouldn't help me better the schools social environment, but there was nothing I could do but try to stop it myself. Finally (probably about a year later) after an incident occurred, he decided to have convocation with all of the students to discuss racism and things of that sort. I was very happy to finally be taken seriously. This example is what I think of when I was reading about positive peace.

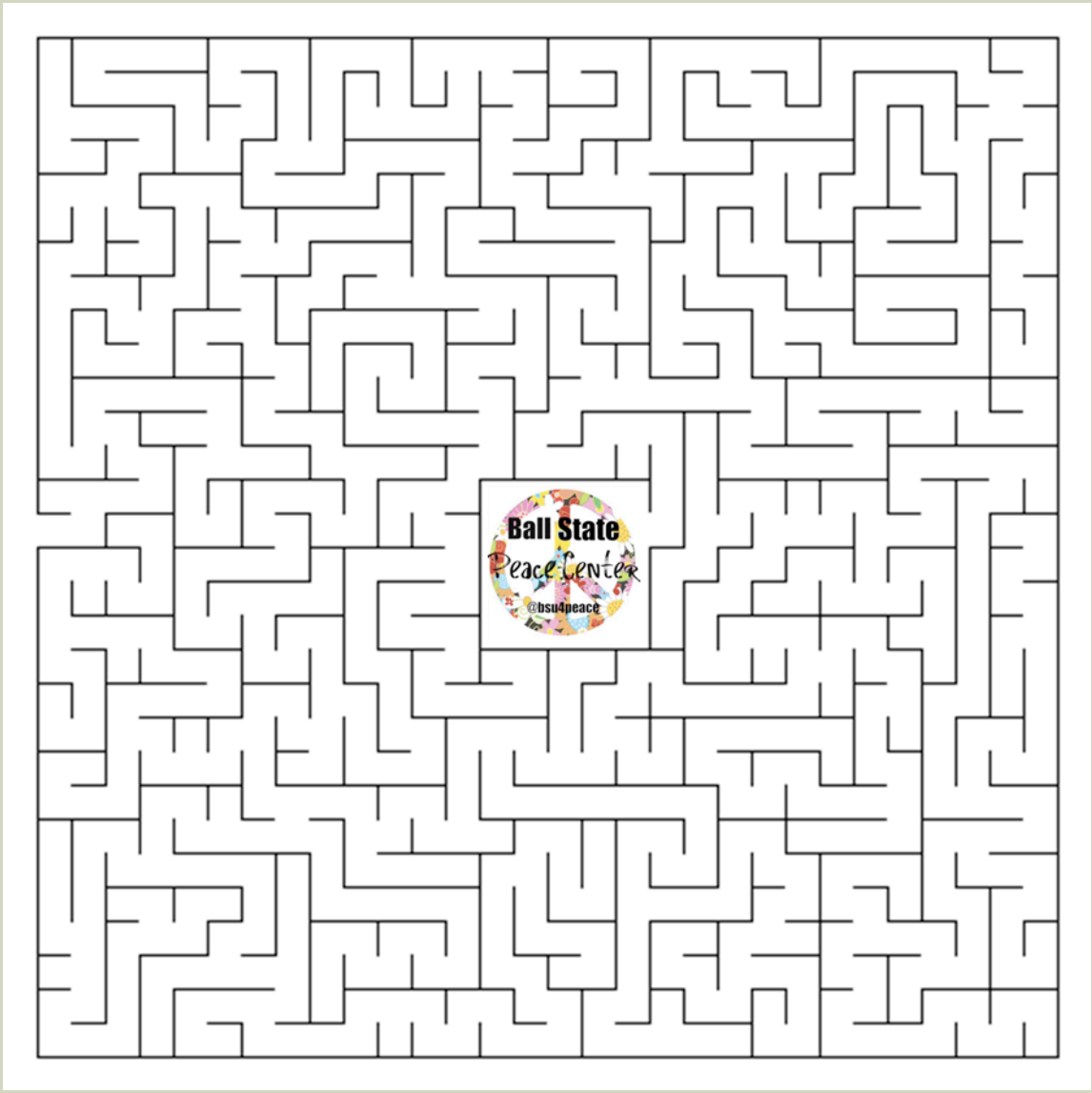
After reading the "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" by P. Freire, I began to think about different populations that have been oppressed around the globe. The first group I thought of was Muslims, or the group of people who supposedly participated directly in the 9/11 attacks. Since the attacks, Muslims have been oppressed majorly and still are today 12 years later. Freire mentions how we are dehumanizing ourselves when we oppress others. This statement impacted me a lot, because I cannot say that I have been free of being bias or oppressing against one group or minority of people. It made me realize that to grow as a population of people; we must start to understand others for what they are worth and not for what their members of society may or may have not done.

Reading the Human Rights and MLK section was very eye opening for me as a future social worker. Even though I knew what type of impact MLK had and how basic human rights should be a given throughout the world, it amazes me how most people are neglected of these values. It saddens me extremely that the United Nations has not made more of an effort to enforce these "rights", especially since they were designed to keep the peace within the nations. I hope that my generation or the next will be able to reform the UN in a way where it works effectively and new policies come about to promote world justice and peace amongst all countries, but that is "just a dream" as Martin Luther King, Jr. would have said.

Activity

The Olive Branch Maze!

Find your way to the Peace Center!



On-Campus Events

Thursday, February 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

Friday, February 15th, 3:30 p.m. David Owsley Art Museum

Meditation in the Museum.

The last hour of the weekday is reserved for quiet time at the David Owsley Museum of Art. Meditation is a great way to start off your weekend. All are welcome. The activity is drop-in and self-guided.

Note: Occasional evening events will limit access.

In partnership with Ball State University Working Well.

Monday, February 18th

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

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

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

Tuesday, February 19th

International Justice Mission meets Tuesdays at 6 pm in the Whitinger Business building Room #213. For more info, email cekozak@bsu.edu

Feminists for Action meets Tuesdays at 6 pm in the Burkhardt building Room #220. For more info, email feministsforaction@gmail.com or tncannon@bsu.edu.

Free the Slaves meets Tuesdays at 8 pm in Bracken Library Room #201. For more info, email freetheslavesbsu@gmail.com

International Conversation Hour

Student Center Room 310: 6-7:30 pm

This weekly program is designed to help international students practice English, learn studying skills and classroom culture, and make American friends. Through interactive discussion, they can normalize and decrease their isolation, worries, and stress as well as get support from American students. They will also learn different kind of studying skills to help them succeed at Ball State. The topic this week is: learning about dating cultures in different countries.

Wednesday, February 20th

Alive Campaign meets Wednesdays at 9 pm in the Student Center Pineshelf.

Tuesday, February 26th, 7 p.m., Pruis Hall

Paige in Full. Paige in Full is a visual mix-tape that blends poetry, dance, visual arts and live music to tell the tale of a multicultural girl growing up in Baltimore, Maryland. The production explores how a young woman's identity is shaped by her ethnicity and popular culture, telling a personal yet universal story through the lens of hip-hop.

On-Campus Events

Friday, March 1st & 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

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

Annual Ball State University Student Symposium Registration

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 22nd

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

Cardinal Closet is collecting donated clothing!

Clean out your wardrobe and help others by donating to the Cardinal Closet! Cardinal Closet is continuing its Ball State initiative where faculty and staff members can help students preparing for the interview process by donating men's and women's gently used and new professional dress clothing.

Donated clothing should be appropriate for a business interview, new or gently used, and not dated in style. Donated items may include pants, suits, jackets, dress shirts, blouses, skirts, and ties (sorry, shoes cannot be accepted). Donors are encouraged to dry clean or wash items in advance. Drop-off sites will be available during the month of February at the Office of Housing and Residence Life (LA N-10), the Office of Student Life (SC 133), and the Career Center (LU 220).

The Cardinal Closet will be open by appointment in February for eligible students to select one free business outfit. This service is open to students who can demonstrate financial need, so faculty and staff members are encouraged to refer students they know to need assistance. Students must register in advance to shop at the Cardinal Closet online at http://housing.iweb.bsu.edu/cardinalcloset

For more information, contact the Student Action Team at sat@bsu.edu or Shannon Morris at smmorris2@bsu.edu.

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

Off-Campus Events

Friday, February 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, February 16th

[Valparaiso] The Annual Peace & Social Justice Symposium on the theme "Be The Change, Be the Solution" will take place at Valparaiso University with Keynote speaker Zoe Weil, President of Institute for Humane Education, at 9:45 am in Chapel of the Resurrection and closing speaker Elavie Ndura talking about "International Conflict: Peacemaking, Mediation, & Reconciliation" at 12:15 pm in Neil Science Center. For more info, visit valpo.edu/multicultural or phone 219-464-6769 or email Jane Bello-Brunson at jane.bellobrunson@valpo.edu

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

The bus to the "Forward on Climate" Rally in Washington DC will leave at 7 pm from the back parking lot of the Indiana Interchurch Center, 1100 W. 42 returning about 8 am on Monday (Cost: $72.73, $41 for students). Sign up at eventbrite.com/event/5465180502. For more info, contact Megan Anderson at megan.anderson@sierraclub.org or 822-3750.

Sunday, February 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

The second of three sessions on "Why the Conflict? Seeking to Understand the Israeli/ Palestinian Tension" will take place, 6:30-8 pm, in Fellowship Hall at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. For more info, email Terrie Coe at coet@stlukesumc.com

Grants and Fellowships

International Pfeffer Peace Prize-deadline March 2, 2013
Each year, the Fellowship of Reconciliation awards three peace prizes to individuals or organizations whose commitment to peace, justice, and reconciliation is recognized as extraordinary. The International Pfeffer Peace Prize was established in 1989 by Leo and Freda Pfeffer to particularly honor those around the world working for peace and justice.

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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Email: peacecenter@bsu.edu

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

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

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 (eafairchild@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