THE CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

The Olive Branch

Spotlight Article: His Holiness The Dalia Lama By: Michaela Crowdus

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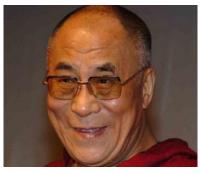
On-Campus

Support Groups

His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is the spiritual leader of Tibet and the Tibetan people. His Holiness was born on July 6 1935 to a farming family in Taktser, Amdo that is in northeastern Tibet. He was recognized as The Dalai Lama at the age of two. His Holiness began His monastic education at the age of six and He was then installed as the spiritual leader of Tibet and its people. The curriculum consisted of five major and five minor subjects. The major subjects were logic, Tibetan art and culture, Sanskrit, medicine, and Buddhist philosophy. At the age of 16, in 1950, He was called to be the political leader of Tibet. In 1959, with the brutal invasion by China's Army of Tibet's Capitol City, Lhasa, His Holiness was forced to escape into exile in northern India.

Since China's invasion, the Central Tibetan Administration led by His Holiness has appealed to the United Nations on the question of Tibet. In the 1960s, there were three resolutions that were presented to the General Assembly on

Tibet, but all three were tabled. The purpose of the resolutions were to respond to China's blatant human rights violations against the Tibetan people by calling for respect of the fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people and for their distinctive cultural and religious life. At the time and ever since, China's government was attempting to eradicate Tibet's standing as a separate nation and the Buddhist religion within the nation of Tibet.



Picture from: https://www.uni-muenster.de/

Many who fled Tibet reported violent and murderous acts against religious figures. Although multiple members of the United Nations spoke out against China's violent genocide of the Tibetan people, the issue of Tibet's independence was not resolved. Since then, Tibet has remained a part of China. In 1963, His Holiness offered a draft democratic constitution for

Tibet, which then was followed with several reforms. The new democratic constitution circulated as a result of this reform was named The Charter of Tibetans in Exile. This reform promoted freedom of speech, assembly, movement, and belief. It also provided guidelines on how the Tibetan Administration should function with respect to Tibetans living in exile.

On September 21 1987, in His address to members of the United States Congress in Washington, DC, His Holiness proposed a Five-Point Peace Plan for Tibet. This plan was created in hopes to create a peaceful solution to the Tibet-China dispute because the problems in Tibet were continuing to worsen. The peace plan consisted of transformation of the whole of Tibet into a zone of peace, abandonment of China's population transfer policy that threatened the very existence of the Tibetans as a people, respect for the Tibetan people's fundamental human rights and democratic freedom, restoration and protection of Tibet's natural environment, the abandonment of China's use of



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Spotlight Article: His Holiness The Dalia Lama, cont.

Tibet for the production of nuclear weapons and dumping of nuclear waste, and commencement of earnest negotiations on the future status of Tibet and of relations between the Tibetan and Chinese peoples. To date, there has been no progress on His Holiness's Five-Point Peace Plan for Tibet or any other solution to the Tibet-China dispute.



His Holiness receiving the Nobel Peace Prize

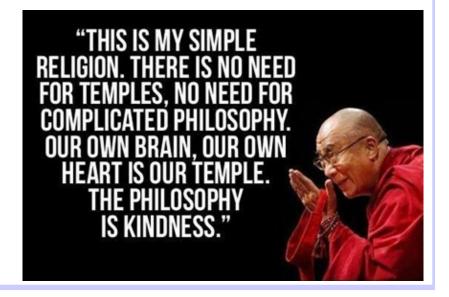
Picture from: www.tibet.net

His Holiness The Dalai Lama is a man of peace. In 1989, He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for His nonviolent struggle for the liberation of His country, Tibet. He has consistently advocated non-violence. He also became the first Nobel Laureate to be recognized for His concern for global environmental problems. Interestingly, His Holiness has been denied access to the United Nations many times including to participate in conferences and meetings involving the world's major religious leaders.

His Holiness The Dalia Lama's first commitment is teaching human values. These values are compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, contentment, and self-discipline. He believes all human beings are the same and want to be happy and do not want to live a life of suffering, which He calls secular ethics. He is always trying to spread these values to everyone He meets. Religious harmony and respecting each other all promote making great human beings. His Holiness has held conversations with heads of different religions and participated in many events promoting interreligious harmony and understanding.

Because of His efforts, the Tibetan monastic community in-exile has grown to over 15,000 Monks and Nuns with the help of India's government and different Tibetan foundations. His Holiness has travelled to more than 67 countries and He has visited Indiana on numerous occasions. In fact, Takster Rinpoche, His late eldest brother, was a Professor at Indiana Úniversity Bloomington and founder of the Tibetan Cultural Center in Bloomington.

His Holiness has received over 150 awards in recognition of His message of peace, nonviolence, inter-religious understanding, universal responsibility, and compassion. In recent news, His Holiness The Dalia Lama cancelled all His visits to the U.S due to His age. He came to the U.S to get an evaluation, and was told by doctors that He should rest before continuing to advocate for His religion, people, country, and world peace.



Was Christopher Columbus a Terrorist? By: Mac McKinney, Intern for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

The following does not in any way reflect the opinion of Ball State University or the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, or those employed, involved or associated with Ball State University or the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.

As Columbus Day passes I feel the need to ask; "What were we celebrating?" Many give Columbus the credit for discovering America. He is also responsible for setting into motion the largest and longest running genocide in human history. Columbus had written in his log about his first encounter with the native tribe from where he actually landed in the Bahamas; ...They would make fine servants...With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want"(1). These were a people of peace, meeting these Europeans for the first time without a single weapon. Columbus claimed a nation already in existence for Spain and the Holy Roman Church. His only purpose was to find silver and gold. This silver and gold was to be sent back to Spain in order to finance another Holy *War* in Jerusalem.

Holy War is a term that was used by the Crusaders, fighting to liberate Jerusalem for Christianity. Recently, the word "Jihad" has come to be associated with the concept of Holy War and has become common language since 9/11. Holy War is never mentioned in the Holy New Testament Bible, it was totally man made. But Jihad, on the other hand, is mentioned in the *Noble Quran* in 164 verses. Like most words in any language it is contextual and, to over a billion Muslims, it means the inner struggle between yourself and the world around

you and has little to do with the idea of "holy war." During the beginnings of Islam, Jihad was used in the context of the struggle against the non-believers. A common misconception here is that the non-believers mentioned in the Quran were pagans, not Christians or Jews. A few zealots and the international media have taken the term Jihad to mean violence towards anyone that is non-Muslim, creating a misconception of an



Picture from: www.biography.com

otherwise peaceful religion, and demonstrating a lack of understanding about Islam as a world religion and also the concept of Jihad.

The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), using Jihad as a pretext, has by force entered Syria and Iraq, claiming land as their own from already established countries and forming its own governance by setting up a separate state or caliphate. In doing so, it has established a strict form of law, and regularly executes offenders of the law and those that do not ascribe to its philosophy and agenda. In similar fashion, the event that

became a catalyst for Columbus's journey was the ethnic cleansing of Spain in 1492. Christian Extremists, with backing from Queen Isabella and Prince Ferdinand of Spain and the Holy Roman Church, forcibly removed Muslims and Jews from Spain. They were given choices; they could leave, convert to Christianity, or stay and be executed. The abuses associated with ethnic cleansing then were exported to what was termed "the new world" and became the basis for relations between Spain and the Native populations of the West Indies. Columbus forced the natives of the Caribbean Islands into slavery and used them to mine for gold. Some of the natives escaped and were hunted down with dogs. When found they were eaten by dogs, hung, or even burned. The Spaniards did not discriminate; men, women and children were all executed. Babies and voung children were picked up by their feet and slammed against boulders. Slaves were taken for the purpose of work and sex. Some were even sent back to Spain. Upon one such exchange of slaves, Columbus wrote; "Let us in the name of the Holy Trinity go on sending all the slaves that can be sold"(1). Conditions were so severe that the West Indies populations Columbus first met in 1492 were decimated within a few years. The conditions of colonization by explorers, such as Columbus,

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Race Relations in Muncie: A Discussion and Available Resource (cont.)

have direct parallels to events that we see in the present. Today we live in a world in constant world struggle, over land, natural resources, corrupt governments, and religious beliefs. Perhaps, the main distinction between Columbus and ISIS is the difference in available technology. Columbus did not have access to the automatic weapons, explosives, and social media that ISIS does, but could you imagine if he had? Both Columbus and ISIS killed, raped, maimed, and enslaved, all in the supposed name of God. People have often wondered throughout history as to why the word "GÓD" has been used so often to motivate people to commit

such atrocities, the whole time believing what they were doing was somehow preordained and righteous. Columbus was educated in a world that believed in the rights of Christians to dominate the non-believing world, such as that found in the Americas. He was a product of his culture just as we all are. The ISIS soldier is being educated in the same manner, and like Columbus, they are nothing more than tools, tools for greed, fame, and retribution, three things unlawful in Christianity and Islam alike. When I look up at the sky during the day, I see the same sun as an ISIS soldier, and as the Spanish sailor did. We can only hope and work towards making sure that the atrocities

committed by ISIS do not last as long as those begun by Columbus.

Being a person committed to change I have often considered the reasons behind colonization and oppression. The two things that first come to mind are greed and ignorance. These two factors have caused wars and cruel social injustices throughout history. We as people of change have to commit ourselves to motivate and educate, driving out ignorance and motivating those of us with means to lend a hand and help those without. This is how greed and ignorance can be eradicated, this is how love can be spread, and this is how peace may be established.



April 1 & 2, 2016

The Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies along with the City of Muncie are very pleased to announce the 2nd Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference. Scholars, students, practitioners, and activists from all disciplines as well as laypersons are invited to submit proposals to present symposia, discussions, papers, and posters on the theme Peace in Troubled Times. We welcome submissions that focus on strategies, research, and recommendations related to peace-making and peacebuilding, and those that explore the bridge between activism and research.

Deadline to submit proposals is December 15, 2015

Early registration ends March 18, 2016

To learn about this conference, visit http://www.bsu.edu/cohenpeaceconference

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Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Fellow Presentation:



"Confronting Racism in a 'Color-Blind' Republic: The Struggle for Social Peace in Contemporary France"

Christopher Thompson, Ph.D.

BSU Professor of History

Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Fellow (2013-14)

Monday, October 26, 2015 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. AJ 175

> Further information: peacecenter@bsu.edu www.bsu.edu/peacecenter

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Organizations on Campus

International Justice Mission

Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. in the Student Center, Rm. 301

IJM is a global organization that protects the poor from violence in the developing world. Ball State's chapter is a group of students who are passionate about ending slavery & human trafficking around the world. They believe that through Jesus Christ, they can create tangible change in the lives of slaves through prayer, educating people, changing our behavior, & volunteering. IJM fights by rescuing victims, bringing criminals to justice, restoring survivors, & strengthening justice systems.

Feminists for Action

Tuesdays @ 6pm in Burkhardt Building Rm. 220.
Feminist Friday Booth in the Atrium, 10/16/15, topic is Planned Parenthood
A group dedicated to the empowerment of women, men, & children through advocacy & education. They strive to educate others about issues in the global, national, & community level. They encourage thought-provoking discussions & work to organize events to benefit feminist causes.

Social Justice League

Wednesdays @ 5pm at the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies. SJL seeks to promote awareness, equality, & justice on the BSU campus, in the state, in the country, & in the global community. SJL desires to educate & discuss modern injustices & social justice topics, promote the distribution of advantages to be fair & equitable to all, & actively work to change current injustices.

Cardinal Kitchen

Cardinal Kitchen is Ball State University's campus food pantry. The pantry is located on the second floor of the Multicultural Center & is available for use to all undergraduate & graduate students. The pantry is open the first three Wednesdays of every month from 5:00 - 8:00pm. The mission is to ensure that no Ball State student goes hungry on our campus.

Ethnic Theatre Alliance

Mondays @ 5:00 p.m. in Arts & Communications Building Rm. 308. Trans* Lives Matter March - Thursday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. at North Quad ETA uses theatre to explore cultures, diversity, & racial-discrimination to develop worldviews in BSU students, & create well-rounded artists.

Global Brigades

Global Brigades is an international non-profit organization that empowers communities to meet their health & economic goals through university volunteers & local teams. GB offers skill-based 1-3 week brigades to Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, & Ghana. Each of these programs meets an aspect of GB's holistic model to strengthen the health & economic development of communities.

Social Media: Twitter; Instagram; Facebook

MOSAIC

MOSAIC is a social justice peer education program whose mission is to engage undergraduate students in open dialogues focused on diversity and social justice topics to promote awareness, change, and inter-group understanding.

ALIVE Campaign

Wednesdays @ 9 p.m., in the Student Center Rm. 308
The Alive Campaign is a student-ran group at Ball State that is dedicated to raising awareness towards Suicide Prevention by representing as a "Life Appreciation Organization".

OXFAM America

Oxfam America is a global organization working to right the wrongs of poverty, hunger, & injustice. Oxfam saves lives, develops long-term solutions to poverty, & campaigns for social change.

Call to ActionWednesdays @ 7:30pm in Teacher's College Room 108 CTA is a student organization at Ball State looking to educate & create awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT) political issues at the local, state, & federal levels in order to empower students to take positive action towards equality for LGBT individuals & to influence others to take positive action.

Students for Life

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Monday of each month @ 7:30pm in Bracken Library, Educational Resource Rm. 1
Ball State Students for Life (BSSFL) is committed to the protection of all human life; from conception until natural death.
We strive to educate our members & the Ball State University community about why we value life in all its forms. We strive to respond with love, compassion, & support to those who suffer from restrictions of life.

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Timmy Global Health

Wednesdays @ 8:00pm in Bracken Library Schwartz Complex.

Timmy Global Health expands access to healthcare & empowers students & volunteers to tackle today's most pressing global health challenges.

Student Action Team

Mondays @ 4:00pm in the Kinghorn Multipurpose Room. SAT is an organization made up of general members & housing and residence life representatives. This organization is dedicated to volunteering & supporting Ball State University & the Muncie community, & giving back to the community.

On-Campus Events

Bullets Over Broadway

Monday, October 19, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Emens Auditorium

Hailed by Time Magazine as, "Musical Theatre Gold," Bullets Over Broadway is the hilarious musical comedy about the making of a Broadway show. Written by Woody Allen, Bullets Over Broadway is the story of a young playwright who, in desperate need of financial backing for his next show, accepts an offer he can't refuse from a mobster looking to please his showgirl girlfriend. Loaded with big laughs, colorful characters, and the songs that made the 20s roar, Bullets Over Broadway is bringing musical comedy back with a bang.

Art of Jazz Series

Wednesday, October 21 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm., Sursa Hall at Ball State University

Toronto native Grant Stewart joins the Ball State Jazz Ensembles for the first Art of Jazz Series concert of the season. Stewart is a regular performer at some of New York City's top jazz clubs and has twelve recordings as a leader on various labels with worldwide critical acclaim. Mark Buselli directs the ensembles.

David Letterman Distinguished Professional Lecture and Workshop Series – Gail Sheehy

Thursday, October 22 @ 8:00-9:00 p.m., Pruis Hall at Ball State University, Located behind Emens Auditorium Showcasing the transformative power of daring, Sheehy brings a thrilling presentation based on her latest bestselling memoir, Daring: My Passages. As an icon of American journalism, groundbreaking pioneer for women and author of 17 books, Sheehy brings with her a lifetime of experiences which she shares at this year's David Letterman Distinguished Professional Lecture and Workshop Series. Sheehy has also created The Daring Project, an interactive website that dares audiences to be different, dream dangerously, and learn to act confidently.

Halloween Astronomy

Friday October 23, 30, 6:30-7:30 pm; Saturday October 24, 31, 8:00-9:00 p.m. Charles W. Brown Planetarium

What do you associate with Halloween? Trick-or-Treating, costumes... astronomy? After all, Halloween is an astronomical holiday! Come learn how Halloween fits in as a "cross-quarter day" with activities under the stars and see what your Halloween sky will look like.

For more information visit: http://cms.bsu.edu/ca/endar/calendars/academics/planetarium

Cirque Alfonse Timber

Friday, October 23, 7:30 p.m. Emens Auditorium
You can almost smell the fresh-cut pine logs and the sweat of lumberjacks as you watch them jiving to a traditional folk soundtrack. The young circus troupe hails from a small town called Saint-Alphonse-Rodriguez and they have clearly drawn upon their country roots. The artists preform incredible feats of aerial acrobatics that are directly inspired by the natural raw materials of the forest and the equipment used on the farm.

Leadership in a Digital Age

October 26 @ 7:30-9:00 pm Emens Auditorium at Ball State

Randi Zickerberg, founder and CEO of Zuckerberg Media, will speak as part of the BSU Excellence in Leadership series. She will share her personal story of success "Leadership in a Digital Age". Zuckerberg is the author of two books. Her New York Times best-seller "Dot Complicated" is a story about how technology has changed our lives. Her other book, "Dot," is a children's picture book. She also worked for Facebook from 2005-2011 where she ran the social media pioneer's marketing.

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The BSU Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Present:



Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform: A Panel Discussion

James A. Duckham, BSU Chief of Police
Jerry Griffis, Former Delaware County Veterans Officer, Reserve
Sheriff's Deputy, and Vietnam Marine Veteran
Theresa Kruczek, Ph.D, BSU Associate Professor of Psychology
Sally Jo Vasicko, Ph.D., BSU Professor Emeritus of Political Science

Wednesday, November 4, 2015 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. AJ 175

> Further information: peacecenter@bsu.edu www.bsu.edu/peacecenter

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Off-Campus Events

Indoor Farmers Market

Every Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Minnetrista.

Join friends and families in exploring the market-fresh finds and homemade treats, brought to you by the local community!



Cornerstone's All Hallows' Eve Bash

October 31 @ 9:00 pm (\$15) Cornerstone Center for the Arts, 520 E. Main St. Downtown This evening of fright and fun will include live entertainment, spooky tunes and DJ Jannell, a haunted house provided by Scarevania, costume contests, a cash bar and concessions form Mr. Mouse Bar & Grill. Come dressed as scary or sexy as you'd like; this event is for adults 18 years and older only. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. with the party going from 9:00 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are just \$15 and will available online at the end of September.

Into the Woods

Friday, October 16 – Sunday, November 1, 2015, 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Muncie Civic Theatre The story follows a baker and his wife who wish to have a child, Cinderella who wishes to attend the King's Festival, and Jack who wishes his cow would give milk. When the baker and his wife set off to break the Witch's curse, everyone's wish is granted, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later.

Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$13 for groups of 10+, and \$11 for students & children. Reserved Seating.

Sesquicentennial Saturdays - FREE Saturday

Saturday, October 17, 2015, 10:00a.m.-5:00p.m., Muncie Children's Museum Bring your family in for FREE Saturdays at the Muncie Children's Museum! Free Saturdays are the third Saturday of every month.

Ned Griner Art Retrospective

October 24, 2015 - January 17, 2016, Minnetrista

Experience the artwork and learn about the life history of the talented Ned Griner, local artist and teacher. Explore the distinct collections of his career, including his jewelry pieces, Parades & Events, and Rubber Stamp Prints, and discover how art can enrich the lives of people in all walks of life.

Goldilocks and The Three Bears

October 16 @ 8:00 pm - October 17 @ 10:00 pm Muncie Civic Theatre
When the worlds of bears and people collide, everyone learns that girls and bears aren't as ferocious as they may seem. Goldilocks, on a trip into the forest, ventures into a seemingly uninhabited house. In the process of making herself feel at home, she turns the place into a gigantic mess! Little does she know that the house belongs to a family of three bears, who will not be too pleased to witness her handiwork. Featuring an unforgettable score and a story every child knows and loves, this adaptation is perfect for family audiences.

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On-Campus Support Groups

INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATION HOUR

TUESDAYS from 6:00-7:30 pm — STUDENT CENTER MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

This 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 their experiences and decrease their isolation, worries, and stress as well as get support from American students. ICH begins September 8th, 2015.

COUNSELING CENTER THERAPY GROUPS:

(Therapy groups require appointment at counseling center before joining. Call 285-1736 or let your intake counselor know you are interested in a group.)

UNDERSTANDING SELF & OTHERS

Group members explore patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Discussions vary greatly from depression, anxiety, relationships, family concerns, eating issues, alcohol abuse and/or personal growth. The groups thrive on diversity as members discover the common bond through emotional experiences. Mondays 1:30-3:30; Wednesday 3:00-4:30; Thursday 1:00-2:30

WEIGHT NOT, WANT NOT

Supportive group for women with eating disorders or body image struggles who want to explore effective ways of coping.

Time to be determined by availability of group members.

SAFE HAVEN: GLBQ SUPPORT GROUP

This therapy group provides a safe place for GLBQ students to explore and discuss patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Topics of discussion vary greatly from coming out, finding support, relationships, family concerns, depression, anxiety, and/or personal growth.

Mondays 10:00-11:30

C.A.L.M.:

Care for myself, manage my Anxiety, Live in the moment, practice Mindfulness - This group offers a secure space for students struggling with anxiety to not only explore their fears and worries, but also receive feedback and support from others with similar concerns. The group also focuses on teaching students about a variety of techniques, including mindfulness meditation, which can be particularly helpful in managing anxiety. Another benefit of being in a group is having a place to experiment applying new skills and ways of relating to others, in a safe and supportive environment. Tuesdays 3:00-4:30

L.I.F.E. SKILLS

Are you struggling with how to deal more effectively with stress? Are you your own worst critic? Do you ever wish you had some better ways to take care of yourself? This group can help teach you tangible coping skills to take with you, and from the very first session, you can begin taking active steps toward change. These brief, 4-session workshop style groups will be running at different times throughout the semester.

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Conferences

Annual International Conference on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peace Building Theme: The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense: Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads

The Riverfront Library Auditorium, Yonkers Public Library 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, New York 10701 October 9-11, 2015 (Registration ends: October 9th, 2015)

http://icermediation.org/Mediation/Daf/AnnualInternationalConference2015.html

Because Kids Count Conference

November 30-December 2, 2015 Indianapolis, IN http://www.iyi.org/conference

PEACE HISTORY SOCIETY: 2015 Fall Conference 'Historical Perspectives on War, Peace and Religion.

October 22-24, 2015, University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, Connecticut, USA PHS's 2015 fall conference Historical Perspectives on War, Peace and Religion http://www.peacehistorysociety.org/phs2015/program.pdf

Rotary World Peace Conference 2016

January 15-16, 2016 Ontario, CA http://www.peaceconference2016.org/

International Studies Association: Exploring Peace

March 16-19, 2016 (Deadline for registration is October 23, 2015) Atlanta, GA http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Atlanta-2016

Baker Peace Conference

March 24-25, 2016 Ohio University, Athens, OH https://www.ohio.edu/cas/conhist/news-events/baker-peace.cfm

About Us

If you'd like us to include your events in the newsletter, please contact:

Michaela Crowdus (mhcrowdus@bsu.edu)

Adriana Detrinidad (adetrinidadp@bsu.edu)

Chris Held (cmheld@bsu.edu)

Hunter Sully (hmsully@bsu.edu)

Mac McKinney (rmckinney@bsu.edu)

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary center whose mission is to pursue research on structural and direct forms of violence and conflict; to implement nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict; to offer mediation services to individuals, groups, and organizations; and to train people in conflict resolution, mediation, peacebuilding, leadership, meditation, and sportsperson-ship skills. The Center also pursues public diplomacy, sports diplomacy, and cultural exchange as part of local, regional, national, and international projects designed to promote mutual understanding, appreciation, cooperation, and respect.

Staff Members:

Lawrence H. Gerstein, Ph.D., Director

Gerald Waite, Research Fellow

Steven R. Hall, Ph.D., Curriculum Coordinator

Beth Messner, Ph.D., Outreach Coordinator

Hunter Sully, Graduate Assistant

Our Programs Include:

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

310 N. McKinley Ave. Muncie, IN 47306 (765) 285-1622 www.bsu.edu/peacecenter peacecenter@bsu.edu