



News from the Manchester College Peace Studies Institute

Dr. Abby Fuller Named Director of the Peace Studies Institute

Abby Fuller, Associate Professor of Sociology, has been named director of the Peace Studies Institute beginning in August 2008. She replaces Tim McElwee, Plowshares Associate Professor of Peace Studies and Political Science, who has served as director of the Peace Studies Institute since August 2005. Tim recently accepted the position of senior director of development with Heifer International, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Plowshares Program Grant Comes to an End

Program funding for the Plowshares Peace Studies Collaborative, which was formed in 2002 by Earlham College, Goshen College and Manchester College through a grant from the Lilly Endowment, will conclude on June 30, 2008. The collaboration has pursued imaginative ways to address the problems of war, violence, injustice and related challenges that confront the world today. The Indianapolis Peace Institute (<http://www.indianapolispeaceinstitute.org/>), a program of the Plowshares initiative, will continue to provide opportunities for students to engage in practical peacebuilding. The Institute also works to build peace in Indianapolis through internships and partnerships with community-based organizations. The Plowshares online *Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace* (<http://www.plowsharesproject.org/journal/>) will also continue.

John Prendergast Visits Campus

On February 18, 2008 activist and author, John Prendergast visited Manchester College to raise awareness about genocide and mass atrocities. Prendergast called attention to pressing humanitarian concerns related to the genocide in Darfur during his convocation address, and with the media afterwards. The co-founder of the Enough Campaign, a project to abolish genocide and mass atrocities, Prendergast has worked tirelessly for more than 20 years in pursuit of peace and justice in Africa. He previously served as special advisor to the president of the International Crisis Group, as special advisor on the Horn of Africa for the U.S. State Department, and as director of African affairs for the National Security Council. He is author of eight books, including (with actor/activist Don Cheadle), The New York Times bestseller, *Not on Our Watch: The Mission to End Genocide in Darfur and Beyond*. Most recently, Prendergast served as visiting scholar at the University of San Diego's Institute of Peace Studies.

While at Manchester College, Prendergast also participated in an afternoon panel discussion regarding the crisis in Darfur. He was joined by Manchester College Vice President for Academic Affairs Glenn Sharfman, senior Peace Studies major Felix Lohitai, and two local Darfurian refugees. Before departing from campus Prendergast engaged in extended informal dialogue with students and other participants of the Kenapocomoco Coalition at the home of Ken and Viona Brown.

Peace Week 2008

Phil Jones, director of the Church of the Brethren Witness/Washington Office, served as Peacemaker-in-Residence during Manchester College Peace Week April 20-27, 2008. Activities for the week revolved around the theme of "Spirituality in Action." Under Phil's leadership students were encouraged throughout the week to pursue practical applications of theoretical bases for nonviolence and engaged peacemaking. At the Kenapocomoco Coalition gathering Phil urged students to get involved in legislative and advocacy initiatives intended to end the genocide in Sudan's Darfur region. Phil also joined the Peace Studies basketball team in the 5th annual Peace Studies vs. Accounting and Business basketball game on April 24.

Plans underway for the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Manchester College Peace Studies Program

Next fall, Manchester College will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Peace Studies program. A Peace Reception was held on April 23, 2008 during Peace Week to kick off the 60th anniversary celebrations. The reception featured presentations by former Peace Studies Institute Director Ken Brown and recent Peace Studies graduate Brad Thomson. On October 11, 2008, during Homecoming festivities, the Institute will sponsor a panel discussion comprised of Peace Studies graduates from each of the six decades. Also during Homecoming weekend the Institute will dedicate the newest commemorative plaque on the "Peacemakers Wall of Fame" in the Muir Peace Garden. The 2008 plaque will be dedicated to Dorothy Day, a peace and justice activist, advocate for the poor, and co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement. We hope you will plan to join us for these events!