

Education for Justice

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Ways to get involved:

- ◆ Encourage your students to attend Education for Justice-sponsored events, especially our Health Literacy event.
- ◆ Incorporate our biennial theme of "Literacy" into your academic courses. Do you have your students write essays, create videos or posters, draw, paint, or take photos? Why not use "Literacy" as the focus of their creative pursuits?
- ◆ We have limited financial resources available to help sponsor spring events.

Education for Justice kicks off another year



Dr. Susan Mendez

Education for Justice is excited to announce that it is now housed within The Jesuit Center. The move should not impact your relationship with either office but it will provide Education for Justice with greater opportunities to work through faculty and staff to support the education and formation of students in order that they may become men and women of faith and of service to their communities.

We appreciate how you supported our programming last semester and hope that you will continue your engagement during

Northeastern PA and the Living Wage Report

Education for Justice along with the Institute for Public Policy & Economic and the Office of Community and Government Relations, and with additional collaboration from Campus Ministries' Center for Service and Social Justice and the Department of Communication prepared a Living Wage Report 2016 on Scranton and Northeastern PA. To be classified as economically secure,

the current academic year. The highlight of the spring semester was our rollout of the Living Wage Report 2016 (see below). We hope to build on that momentum this year.

As we explored our biennial theme of "Literacy" in the spring, Susan Mendez of the Departments of English & Theatre and Latin American & Women's Studies, led a discussion on the cultural, historical, and political differences behind the identity labels of Spanish, Hispanic, Latino/a, Chicano/a, and Tejano/a. Yamile Silva will lead a discussion of the Colombian peace process later this month (see page 2).

Please contact us if you would be interested in facilitating discussions related to issues of literacy and or justice, broadly conceptualized. We would be happy to support you. We'll see what we can do together.

Mike Allison
Coordinator

a household must earn wages that allow its members to meet their "essential basic needs and live a modest but dignified life." The living-wage threshold represents the amount of income required to achieve this standard of living.

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Fall 2016 Events

September 20th: Co-sponsored a screening of “Every Three Second,” a film about ending poverty and extreme hunger, at 8pm in LSC 133.

October 13th: State of Scranton “Panel Discussion on ‘Living Wage’ Study: Perspectives from Non-Profit Leaders.” Community leaders will discuss how economic insecurity affects their clients, from 11:30am-1pm in TDC McIlhenny Ball Room A.

October 26th: Colombian peace process discussion facilitated by Yamile Silva, Associate Professor and Latin American Studies Director, from 4:30-5:30pm in LSC Forum.

October 27th: Dr. Terri Ann Parnell, a nationally recognized health literacy expert and principal of Health Literacy Partners, LLC, will discuss “Health Literacy: An Essential Component for Achieving Health Equity,” at 6pm in LSC 133.

November 16th: Robert Lassalle-Klein, author of *Blood and Ink: Ignacio Ellacuría, Jon Sobrino, and the Jesuit Martyrs of the University of Central America*, will share insights with students, staff, and faculty.

November 28th: David Shipler, author of *The Working Poor: Invisible in America*, dinner and conversation with Living Wage Report participants.



Aquinas Photo / Emily Darcy

State of Scranton Series

In collaboration with Campus Ministries’ Center for Service and Social Justice and the Office of Community and Government Relations, we sponsored three State of Scranton Series seminars during the 2015-2016 academic year.

Catholic Social Services’ Msgr. Joseph Kelly provided an overview of an under-realized challenge with his talk on “One in Three Homeless in Scranton

are Veterans: Root Causes, Solutions, & Ways to Help” in September.

We also hosted a November luncheon to educate our community about Scranton revitalization activities, including the Iron Furnaces and Lackawanna Heritage Valley Trail System.

Our spring seminar explored a Living Wage for Scranton and NEPA.



JUHAN

We are proud to announce that senior Jessica Wenke has been named the first JUHAN Fellow at The University of Scranton. Jessica will travel to the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice in Washington, D.C. in November and the JUHAN Conference at Holy Cross in June. She will also be organizing JUHAN-related activities on our campus.

The Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) was launched in 2006 by Fairfield, Fordham and Georgetown as a way to raise awareness on Jesuit campuses of the meaning of humanitarian response and its implications for the Jesuit ideology of “men and women for others.”

Advocacy Corner

The Advocacy Corner is an ongoing collaborative effort of the Office of Community and Government Relations, Education for Justice, and The Office of Campus Ministries.

Continuing support for refugee rights, the Advocacy Corner promoted an online postcard campaign to urge the U.S. to lead by example on refugee protection and resettlement. The postcards from across the country were delivered at a press conference in front of the Capitol Building in September.

The United Nations and President Obama recently hosted a summit about the refugee crisis with world leaders.

Recap of the Spring 2016 Semester

In January, we co-sponsored an Attention to Suffering & Jesuit Pedagogy workshop delivered by filmmaker Julia Haslett.

In February, we co-sponsored Kevin Yonkers-Talz's campus visit. Mr. Yonkers-Talz is the Co-Founder of Casa de la Solidaridad, a study abroad program whose mission is "the promotion of justice and solidarity through the creation of a meaningful academic experience where you can integrate rigorous academic study with direct immersion with the poor of El Salvador."

We also co-sponsored Dr. Javon Johnson's Poetic Workshop & Spoken Word performance in honor of Black History Month. Susan Mendez of English & Theatre and Latin American and Women's Studies facilitated a discussion on "What's in a name? Reading the cultural, historical, and political differences behind the identity labels of Spanish, Hispanic, Latino/a, Chicano/a, and Tejano/a."



In collaboration with Asian Studies, LAWS, and the Cross Cultural Centers, we co-sponsored the screening of *He Named Me Malala* in March. Dr. Riaz Hussain and Dr. Annina Mirza facilitated a discussion following the film.

In April, we hosted a teach-in on "Catholic Social Teaching and Northeastern Pennsylvania" during which our faculty participants addressed numerous challenges that Scranton confronts in the early 21st Century. These challenges include high levels of poverty and inequality, corruption, environmental degradation, a "greying" and increasingly diverse population, and overwhelmed governmental and non-profit agencies. Our participants included Mike Allison (Political Science), Ileana F. Szymanski (Philosophy), Sr. Mary Anne Foley (Theology / Religious Studies), Father Michael Bellafiore, SJ (Theology / Religious Studies), Meghan Rich (Sociology / Criminal Justice), Cyrus Olsen (Theology / Religious Studies), David Black (Philosophy) and Duane Armitage (Philosophy).

Living Wage Report Snapshots (cont'd from page 1)

October	Mike Jenkins and Ismail Onat (Sociology /Criminal Justice) Doug Boyle (Accounting) Linda Ledford-Miller (World Languages and Culture)
November	Jess Nolan (Psychology)
December	Matt Meyer (Philosophy)

You can access the executive summary and full report at www.scranton.edu/livingwage.

Over the next academic year, we have organized a series of events and publications to expand and build upon the report. In particular, we have invited faculty to comment on the report from their disciplinary perspectives.

In addition to the fall lineup (left), we already have Meghan Rich (Sociology / Criminal Justice), Jean Harris (Political Science), Satya Chattopadhyay (Marketing), Brian Conniff (CAS Dean), Daryl DeMarzio (Education), and Will Cohen (Theology / Religious Studies) scheduled for the spring

If you would like to add your voice to the conversation, please contact us.

Advisory Board

Mike Allison (Coordinator) - Political Science
David Dzurec - History
Ann Feeny - Nursing
Anthony Ferzola - Math
Mary Anne Foley - Theology/Religious Studies
Teresa Grettano - English & Theatre
Justine Johnson - Cross Cultural Centers
Tata Mbugua - Education
Andrew Milewski - Graduate Assistant
Cathy Seymour - Center for Service & Social Justice
Jessica Nolan - Psychology
Katherine Stumpo - Chemistry

Current theme:

Literacy (2015-2017)

Future themes:

Health (2017-2019)

Previous annual themes:

Torture (2014)

Sustainable Memory (2013)

Inequality (2012)

Finding Justice after 9/11 (2011)

Peace and Reconciliation (2010)

Food (2009)

Immigration (2008)

Announcements:

Faculty who teach a course that fulfills the program outcomes of Peace and Justice Studies are invited to apply to have their courses listed for the concentration. For information contact Dr. Mary Anne Foley (maryanne.foley@scranton.edu)

If you would like to participate in our spring teach-in related to literacy, please contact us. We would be happy to flesh out some ideas or find a partner for you to work with. Contact Dr. Mike Allison (michael.allison@scranton.edu).



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Facebook www.facebook.com/ScrantonEducationforJustice and
www.scranton.edu/academics/provost/education-justice/



The Beginning

In October 2000, a delegation of University of Scranton administrators, faculty and professional staff attended a conference on Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education at Santa Clara University. At that conference, Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach challenged all Jesuit colleges and universities in the US to be characterized more and more by "the service of faith and the promotion of justice...in who our students become, in what our faculty does, and how our universities proceed."

This meeting spawned a number of

gatherings at the University of Scranton, leading to the creation of a Task Force on Education for Justice to examine, publicize and promote campus initiatives; to research and propose new ones; and to propose a permanent structure to guarantee that such initiatives would continue to be effective. The Task Force issued its report and made its recommendations at the end of the 2004/2005 academic year, and a Coordinator of Education for Justice was named in the fall of 2007.