

Education for Justice

Education for Justice

February 2017

Volume 4, Issue 2

Inside this issue:

Living Wage Report 1

Spring 2017 Schedule 2

Fall 2016 Highlights 3

April 20th Teach-In 3

Advisory Board and
Previous Themes 4

Ways to get involved:

- ◆ Encourage your students to attend Education for Justice-sponsored events, especially our April 20th Literacy Teach-In.
- ◆ 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.

How should people of faith engage politically?



Dr. Yamile Silva on Colombia's peace process

One month after the inauguration of Donald J. Trump as President, we are called to more seriously contemplate how our faith calls us to action. How do we respond to the millions of Americans who have been left behind by free trade, automation, and the advance of globalization? How do we respond to the millions of immigrants and thousands of refugees who have fled economic and political turmoil in their home countries in order pursue the American dream? Finally, how do we as a community respond to the drug addictions of our

neighbors and family members, addictions that have caused untold damage to communities across the United States, Mexico, and Central America?

During the spring semester, we plan to explore each of these challenges. We continue to facilitate conversations surrounding the need for living wages for the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania. We have a March event to discuss the hundreds of thousands of young men and women who were brought to the country illegally by their parents. Their protection through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is now in jeopardy. Finally, we will look at ways in which the University of Scranton community can help address our region's opioid epidemic.

If you are interested in designing your own programs to explore how people of faith are called to engage with the most controversial political issues of our day, we would be happy to support you.

Mike Allison
Coordinator

Northeastern PA and the Living Wage Report

Along with the Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development and the Office of Community and Government Relations, Education for Justice published the Living Wage Report 2016. To be classified as economically secure in Scranton and Northeastern Pennsylvania, a household must earn wages that allow its members to meet their "essential basic needs and live

modest but dignified lives.

Since the report's publication, we have organized a series of events and written reflections that expand upon the themes addressed in the report. In particular, we invited faculty to comment on the report

(continued on page 3)

Spring 2017 Events

February 23rd: Jamie Trnka, Associate Professor in the Department of World Languages and Cultures and Chair of The Department of Latin American and Women's Studies (LA/W/S), will facilitate a discussion on "Recognizing and Responding to Antisemitism," from 4:30-6:00pm in the LSC Forum.

March 2nd: State of Scranton seminar with Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging Teresa Osborne to discuss Aging Services, at 11:30am (lunch begins at 11:30; program at 11:50; concluding by 12:45pm) in TDC 405.

March 7th: Immigration panel on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Li Adorno (DACA), Dr. Jennifer Ayala (Director of the Center for Undocumented Students at St. Peter's University) and Nick Napolitano (Assistant for Social Ministries Maryland and USA Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus) will share their insights with students, staff, and faculty, at 6:15pm in Brennan 228.

March 27th: Music by Natalia Serna, a Colombia-American musician/sociologist who volunteered at the Kino Border Initiative Soup Kitchen in Nogales, at 7:00pm in The Moscovitz Theater TDC 401.

April 10th: Presentation and conversation on the Opioid Epidemic in Northeastern Pennsylvania (please contact us if you are interested in attending).

April 20th: Day-long Teach-in on our biennial theme of Literacy, from 10:00am-5:15pm in TDC 407A.

April 27th: State of Scranton seminar with State Senator John Blake (D-Archbald) to discuss economic revitalization in Scranton, at 11:30am (lunch begins at 11:30; program at 11:50; concluding by 12:45pm) in TDC 405.

State of Scranton Seminar Series

In collaboration with Campus Ministries' Center for Service and Social Justice and the Office of Community and Government Relations, we sponsored State of Scranton Series seminars in October and November 2016.

Michael Hanley '79, Chief Executive Office of United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Linda Ciampi '81, G'82, Executive

Director of the Equal Opportunity Training Center, and Sam Ceccacci, Executive Director of Scranton Lackawanna Human Development Agency shared firsthand experiences related to our Living Wage Report 2016.

Maureen McGuigan, Deputy Director of Arts & Culture Lackawanna County, and Camille Reinecke '13 discussed Arts, Culture and Revitalization.



Robert Lassalle-Klein lecture

Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN)

The University of Scranton proudly joined the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network in fall 2016. Our mission throughout the fall was to make people aware of JUHAN's presence on Scranton's campus and to educate students on the importance of humanitarian responses. To accomplish this, JUHAN Fellow Jessica Wenke collaborated with various clubs and organizations across campus, including Campus Ministries and the Office of Community & Government Relations.

- Attended the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice;
- Organized a faculty-led discussion on the Colombian Peace Process;
- Participated in a webinar about poverty;
- Attended monthly meetings with Education for Justice team;
- Organized a presentation by Dr. Robert Lassalle-Klein on the Jesuit Martyrs;
- attended campus refugee simulation



Recap of the Fall 2016 Semester

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

October 13th: Community leaders discussed how economic insecurity affects their clients at a State of Scranton “Panel Discussion on ‘Living Wage’ Study: Perspectives from Non-Profit Leaders.”

October 26th Yamile Silva, Associate Professor and Latin American Studies Director, facilitated a discussion on the Colombian peace process.

October 27th: Dr. Terri Ann Parnell, a nationally recognized health literacy expert and principal of Health Literacy Partners, LLC, argued for the importance of “Health Literacy: An Essential Component for Achieving Health Equity.”

November 7th: David Rosas explained the importance of “Racial Literacy in K-12 Education” University of Scranton students and faculty and members of the broader Scranton community.

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

November 28th: David Shipler, author of *The Working Poor: Invisible in America*, led a conversation on his research on the working poor with Living Wage Report participants.



Are you a student interested in attending the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) conference in June? Contact us for more information.

Living Wage Report Snapshots

from their disciplinary perspectives.

You can access the executive summary and full report at www.scranton.edu/livingwage. If you would like to add your voice to the conversation, please contact us. In the meantime, check out what your colleagues have had to say in The Scranton Times-Tribune.

- Linda Ledford-Miller (World Languages and Cultures): “Melting Pot Stew’s Language”
- Mike Jenkins and Ismail Onat (Sociology /Criminal Justice): “Offset Crime’s Impact on Disadvantaged”
- Jess Nolan (Psychology): “Kernels of Truth Yield Bushels of Stereotypes”

Literacy Teach-In

Please join us and encourage your students to attend our day-long teach-in scheduled for April 20th from 10:00am to 5:15 in TDC 407A.

10:00 – 11:15 AM

Springs Steele (Religions of the World)

11:30 – 12:45 PM

TBA

1:00 – 2:15 PM

Jessica Nolan (Environmental Literacy)

2:30 – 3:45 PM

Cyrus Olsen (Parables in Pop Culture)

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Patricia Harrington & Michael Sulzinski (HIV/AIDS Issues)

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
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).



We're on the web! Find us on

Twitter @JusticeScranton

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.

In 2016, Education for Justice moved under The Jesuit Center.