

Education for Justice

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Education for Justice

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Ways to get involved:

- ◆ Encourage your students to attend Education for Justice-sponsored events.
- ◆ Incorporate our annual theme of "Torture" into your academic courses. Do you have your students write essays, create videos or posters, draw, paint, or take photos? Why not use "Torture" as the focus of their creative pursuits?
- ◆ Apply for an Education for Justice grant to design your own activity to bring awareness of our annual theme or other ongoing injustice to the campus community.

Education for Justice



UN Climate March, NYC

Welcome back to the University of Scranton! We hope you are surviving a charge of cold arctic air!

With all that is going on in the world, we are looking forward to supporting your needs and interests as they relate to promoting justice-related issues in the spring semester. We hope that you will encourage your students to attend the programs that we are sponsoring, especially the April 30th Teach-In on our Annual Theme. Bring your class to one of our events or have them attend for extra credit.

Teach-In on Annual Theme of Torture: April 30

We are pleased to schedule a day-long Teach-In on our annual theme for April 30th. For the 2014-2015 academic year, the Education for Justice advisory board selected the theme of "Torture." The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2297) states "Torture which uses physical or

moral violence to extract confessions, punish the guilty, frighten opponents, or satisfy hatred is contrary to respect for the person and for human dignity." Thirty years ago, the international community took a stand against torture when the Convention Against Torture was adopted

by the United Nations. The United States became a party to the Convention in 1999.

Unfortunately, many Catholics, Americans, and countries that have signed on to the ban have continued to employ or support torture against their own (Continued on Page 3)

While we already have several events planned, please do not hesitate to contact us about ways in which we can help you incorporate our annual theme or other justice-related issues into your courses and extracurricular activities.

We are always looking for interesting ideas that support the University of Scranton's commitment to education and formation of students in order that they may become men and women of faith and of service to their communities.

Thank you to all those who submitted suggestions for next year's theme. We appreciate your commitment to justice-related programming and the University of Scranton. After much deliberation, the Education for Justice Advisory Board selected "Literacy" as its 2015 theme. Because we thought the theme was so important, we have also decided to change to a Biennial Theme! Finally, because we greatly valued your participation, we selected another submission for our 2017 theme - "Health."

Mike Allison, Coordinator

Spring 2015 Events

February 16th-25th: Exhibit and lecture for Black History month. A local non-profit group, the Glass Artisans, have created a glass replica of the Freedom Quilt used in the Underground Railroad network as a means to communicate with and give slaves direction on finding safe refuge while traveling. Co-sponsored with the Office of Equity and Diversity. Exhibit is available February 16-25 and the lecture/reception on Tuesday, February 24 at 5:00PM in the Heritage Room.

March 24th: Film about the life and martyrdom of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero to commemorate the 35th anniversary of his assassination.

Co-sponsored with the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Latin American Studies program. Dr. Will Cohen will introduce Romero and the film. Brennan 228 at 7pm.

March 25th: Rev. Ron Stief, Executive Director of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture will present on the "Committee Study of the Central Intelligence Agency's Detention and Interrogation Program." LSC 133 at 7pm.

April 14th: John Donaghy, University of Scranton Class of '70, will discuss his missionary work in Honduras. Brennan 228 at 6pm.

April 30th: Teach-In on Education for Justice's annual theme "Torture." LSC 133 from 8:30am—5:15 pm.

Check our website for updates!



Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN)

The Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) was launched in 2008 through a joint collaboration between Georgetown, Fordham and Fairfield on the premise that in addressing the needs of those that are suffering, academic institutions can be more effective when working together rather than independently.

The network aims 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" and to lead teams at Jesuit institutions to develop effective campus responses to humanitarian crises, both domestic and international.

The University members of JUHAN aspire to accomplish these goals through humanitarianism-based content incorporated into courses, as well as through student action, trips, and network conferences.

If you are interested in learning about JUHAN and presenting at / or attending the June 9-12, 2015 conference on [Ending Enduring Human Suffering](#) at [John Carroll University](#) in Cleveland, Ohio, please contact us.

Unaccompanied Minors Crisis

Over 80 university students, staff, and faculty attended a lunchtime event to learn more about the reasons why some 80,000 minors from the Northern Triangle of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras left their homes to make the dangerous journey through Mexico and across the US border. Dr. Mike Allison, associate professor and chair of the Political Science Department and Education for Justice Coordinator explained the complicated reasons why these youth have fled for the relative safety of the United States, including increasing gang violence, the lack of economic opportunity, family reunification, and rumors about changes in US immigration policy pushed by unscrupulous human smugglers.

Alejandra Marroquin, Latino Outreach Coordinator at Catholic Social Services, shared her personal story about leaving Guatemala as a teenager to relocate to a foreign land where she did not speak the language.



Alejandra Marroquin,
Catholic Social Services of Scranton

Fall 2014 Recap

We had an exciting fall semester including collaborations with a diverse array of faculty and academic programs. Education for Justice co-sponsored an event with the Office of Multicultural Affairs on the Unaccompanied Minors Crisis involving children from the Northern Triangle of Central America fleeing to the United States. Alejandra Marroquin of Catholic Social Services of Scranton and Mike Allison presented to approximately 80 faculty, staff and students. We also organized a postcard campaign directed at our elected representatives to advocate for comprehensive and humane immigration reform.

We organized visits by screenwriter and director Oscar Torres to Mary Beth Holmes' *Broadcast Programming*, Howard Fisher's *Radio Production*, Mike Allison's *Survey of Latin American Politics*, and Marie Karam's *Subject Methods* classes. We also sponsored screenings of *Bravetown* with USPB's *Mission & Identity* and *Innocent Voices* with the Jesuit Center followed by Q & A's with Oscar. We supported the Jesuit Center and University's programming to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the martyrs in El Salvador.

We co-sponsored campus events such as *Stories from Inside the Prison*, Denise Richards of the National Children's Alliance on advocating for the rights of children., Dr. Jean Golden-Tevald on "Women's Health: We've Come a Long Way, Baby" organized by Annie Hounsokou. We also co-sponsored two films related to El Salvador, *A Question of Conscience* reflecting on the lives and deaths of the Jesuit martyrs and *Justice & the Generals* reflecting on the deaths of four US Churchwomen. Finally, we supported the University of Scranton Players' *The Pillowman*. We co-sponsored student trips to the United Nations Climate March in NYC and to the Ignatian Family Teach-In in Washington, D.C.

25th Anniversary of the Jesuit Martyrs in El Salvador

The University of Scranton commemorated the 25th anniversary of the murders of six Jesuit priests and their housekeeper and her daughter at the Jesuit University of Central America in El Salvador. The crimes shocked the people of El Salvador and the U.S., as our government

supported the military that carried out the massacre.

Writer and producer Oscar Torres screened his award winning film *Innocent Voices*, a biographical film about coming of age during the Salvadoran civil war. Faculty, staff, alumni and students

shared their firsthand knowledge about El Salvador through numerous events during the week-long commemoration. In addition, two dozen students traveled to the Ignatian Family Teach-In in Washington, D.C. with the Center for Service & Social Justice.



Oscar Torres discusses *Bravetown*

Teach-In (cont'd from page 1)

"For the purposes of this Convention, torture means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions."

UN Convention Against Torture (1984)

people and against people of other nations. Here is the day's schedule:

Session 1 - 8:30 – 9:45 AM

Cyrus Olsen (Theology) Matt Meyer (Philosophy)

Session 2 - 10:00 – 11:15 AM

Jessica Nolan (Psychology), Michael Jenkins (Sociology / Criminal Justice)

Session 3 - 12:00—1:00 PM

Beneath the Blindfold film, introduced by Justine Johnson (JKWC)

Session 4 - 1:00 – 2:15 PM

Harry Dammer (Sociology/Criminal Justice)

Session 5 - 2:30 – 3:45 PM

Hank Willenbrink (English & Theater)

Session 6 - 4:00 – 5:15 PM

Teresa Grettano (English & Theater)

Advisory Board (2014-2015)

Mike Allison (Coordinator) - Political Science

David Dzurec - History (spring sabbatical)

Ann Feeney - Nursing

Anthony Ferzola - Math

Mary Anne Foley - Theology/Religious Studies

Teresa Grettano - English & Theatre

Justine Johnson - Jane Kopas Women's Center

Tata Mbugua - Education

Jessica Nolan - Psychology

Anna Rocco - Graduate Assistant

Patricia Vaccaro - Center for Service & Social Justice

Future themes:

Health (2017-2019)

Literacy (2015-2017)

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)

Education for Justice is looking for one or two new faculty from underrepresented disciplines and colleges to join our Advisory Board. Please contact us if interested.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.scranton.edu/academics/provost/education-justice/index.shtml>



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.