



Institute News

Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate

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A Summer of Creating a Field of Hate Studies

Julia Bernstein, American Jewish Committee and Dartmouth College

Editor's Note: Julia Bernstein served as a fellow with the American Jewish Committee. She agreed to write about her experience for the newsletter. The Institute is very grateful to her for all of her work this past summer.

Before I first spoke with Ken Stern, the American Jewish Committee's Program Specialist in Anti-Semitism and Extremism and a board member of the Gonzaga Institute for Action Against

Hate (GIAAH), I had no idea that a field of Hate Studies existed. This is not surprising, considering both the isolated location of Dartmouth College, where I will be a senior next month, and the relative newness of the field. As a Goldman Fellow at AJC this past summer, however, I have had the opportunity to not only learn all about Hate Studies but to work on taking the field to the next level. In particular, I have focused on increasing rec-

ognition of the area and spreading information about the new and exciting work being done by GIAAH, *the Journal of Hate Studies* and those associated with it.

My work at AJC has involved a few key projects. As a major initiative, I researched universities of all sizes and types, and reached out to professors at these schools who were doing work that potentially

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Hate in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Jennifer Schlegel, Ph.D., Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Kutztown

The department of anthropology/sociology at Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, offered a selected topics class in the spring of 2006 entitled "Hate in Cross-Cultural Perspective." Dr. Jennifer Schlegel, an anthropologist within the department, taught the course with an enrollment of sixteen students.

This one-time course offering inspired professor and students alike in their examination of hate as a cul-

tural phenomenon. The students read books and articles and welcomed guest speakers from government agencies, non-profits and school districts to learn from professionals who work to eliminate hate. Most powerful, perhaps, was the visit from a victim of hate crime and bias activity.

Students were required to write papers responsive to the guest lecturers and the readings. From these multiple teaching and learning

strategies, the professor and students mined the resources to move to understand - in order to prevent - everything from local hate incidents to genocide. Together they created their own definition of *hate* as a set of beliefs and practices crafted to position the individual or collective Self in an actual or perceived place of superiority while subhumanizing the Other with the goal of shielding the self from actual or perceived states of vulnerability.

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We are looking for volunteers to write articles linking the field of Hate Studies to their discipline. If you are interested, please e-mail againsthate@gonzaga.edu



Jennifer Schlegel

Summer cont'd...

could tie in with the field of Hate Studies. We hope to connect these interested academics to the GIAAH's existing mentor network, work with them to place articles about Hate Studies in relevant review journals, and hopefully develop centers of Hate Studies instruction.

In addition to contacting academics directly, I worked on increasing awareness of the GIAAH through other publications and conferences. A number of academic and professional organizations have agreed to send out notices about Hate Studies through a newsletter or listserv. I have also spoken to the organizers of a few upcoming conferences about displaying and distributing Hate Studies material, and have compiled a list of conferences in the next 18 months to

which we are interested in submitting paper proposals. This list should be circulated shortly, and more additions to it are greatly welcome.

I also worked with Ken and others at the GIAAH on brainstorming further ways of increasing awareness about Hate Studies. I found more syllabi on subjects related to Hate Studies that are posted on the Institute's web site. We discussed placing short articles that demonstrate how Hate Studies relates to that field in the review journals for different academic disciplines. **We are still looking for volunteers to write these pieces.** Future plans also involve creating a curriculum for a "Hate Studies 101" course. We hope to work with both current GIAAH members and new recruits on this project.

Finally, Ken and I have been looking at different ways to connect Hate Studies professionals via the internet. In particular, the idea of a discussion board using Wiki technology or a blog aggregator that allows multiple posts and comment threads were greatly appealing.

In addition to advancing the field of Hate Studies, my work this summer has been personally rewarding. I learned a great deal about a subject with which I was not familiar, and saw how much it is involved in everyday life. I had the chance to work on something that I felt would really make a difference and that would have a future impact. I hope that Hate Studies really will be taken to the next level, to use one of Ken's favorite phrases, and I'm glad that I was able to be involved.

Hate in Cross-Cultural cont'd...

As a result of this class, several students pursued courses of action to affect change on campus and in their lives. One student interviewed his brother who had recently sported a swastika tattoo. This student later earned an internship with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. Another student conducted a survey of racist attitudes on campus and documented hate graffiti in the men's bathrooms on campus. His report will be presented to the dean later this year. While spending the summer in West Virginia, another student sought involvement in a local anti-racist community group. A professional writing major has decided to write children's books about the joys of diversity. Another student has questioned the (in)action of law enforcement in her hometown. Every participant in class questioned their own beliefs and positions and became aware of the prevalence and dangers of hate. These are just some examples of actions that students have taken to affect change in the world around them.

Sometimes You Have to Take a Stand

Jim Mohr, Assistant Director, Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate

The white nationalist duo, Prussian Blue, moved from California into a new home in Kalispell, Montana. The duo consists of twin 13-year old girls, Lamb and Lynx Gaede who record songs like "Sacrifice," which praises Nazi leader Rudolf Hess.

When the Gaedes moved to Kalispell and their neighbors discovered who they were, the neighbors took action. They are committed to preventing hate from spreading in their communities.

Jill Summers, Bill Matteer, and Rebecca Kushner-Matteer printed out information sheets about the family and passed the sheets out around the neighborhood.

They have been clear that the Gaede family is welcome in the town but that the spreading of hate will not be tolerated.

Good people often ask what they can do to stop hate and the people of Kalispell have provided an example of what average people can do to be actively involved in countering hate.

First, they decided they will not tolerate hate in their communities.

Second, people in the neighborhood came together to create a peaceful plan of action. Their plan was not about attacking the Gaedes

but about protecting the community from a hateful ideology.

Third, the neighbors took action. They posted signs and distributed flyers explaining the danger to the community.

Through proactive steps, communities can come together to protect themselves and their neighbors. When dealing with hate, communities must come together as a united front and through this unity show that hate of any kind will not be tolerated.

The people of Kalispell are to be applauded for their peaceful actions to confront hate. Evil cannot spread when good people stand up.

Actions to Combat Hate:

- 1. Make a decision to oppose hate.**
- 2. Join with others in the community to develop a joint plan.**
- 3. Implement the plan of action.**
- 4. Base action on principles of non-violence.**

Challenging the White Nationalist Movement

Music has always been a powerful tool for creating social change. Unfortunately, white nationalists have long recognized this and are using music to articulate their agenda, recruit youth, and broaden the accessibility of their message.

In 2001, the non-profit organizations Northwest Coalition for Human Dignity (a six-state human rights organization) and Home Alive (an arts-based anti-violence organization) partnered to help clubs and musicians respond to white nationalist cultural organizing in the northwest. This partnership developed training materials and organizing models which are the foundation for IfYouDon'tTheyWill.

IfYouDon'tTheyWill is a partnership to train individuals, organizations, youth groups and music clubs, schools and community members how to effectively identify and counter white nationalism.

IfYouDon'tTheyWill offers trainings that address the depth, breadth and complexity of the white nationalist movement. Topics covered include youth recruitment & cultural organizing, social movement theory, attacks on choice & reproductive health, the anti-immigrant movement, bias & hate crimes, opposition research & organizing strategies, and a regional history of the hate movement. Workshops are adaptable, depending on the community's needs and the group is happy to focus on specific and/or local issues.

For more information, please contact ifyoudonttheywill@gmail.com or check out the website at www.ifyoudonttheywill.com

Projects of the Institute



A child's drawing of what he lived through in Darfur. Similar pictures like this along with the children's stories about what happened will be at the exhibit.

November 10—
November 12, the
Institute is
sponsoring a
special showing of
the *Smallest
Witnesses* exhibit
about the Darfur
crisis. See article
for more details.

Smallest Witnesses: The Crisis in Darfur

The Institute for Action Against Hate is sponsoring the *Smallest Witnesses: The Crisis in Darfur Through Children's Eyes* exhibit from November 10 through November 12 in the Crosby Center.

The exhibition features drawings collected during a recent Human Rights Watch (HRW) mission to refugee camps along Darfur's border with Chad, after HRW researchers gave children pens and crayons to draw while their families were being interviewed. Without prompting or guidance, the children produced vivid and disturbing scenes of the violence and atrocities they had witnessed: attacks by the Janjaweed militias, aerial bombings, rapes, the destruction of villages and the refugees' flight to Chad. The children's drawings corroborate in chilling detail the eye-witness testimonies about crimes against humanity in Darfur that have been documented for months, and thus represent a valuable graphic record of the ongoing human rights crisis.

Along with the exhibition, the Institute in conjunction with Gonzaga's Student Activities office is sponsoring a few

special events.

Dr. James Waller of Whitworth College will speak about Genocide in Darfur on Friday, November 10 in the Crosby Center starting at 5:00 pm. His talk will be followed by a special musical performance of Sidhe Duo.

On Saturday, November 11, a performance of the play, *Darfur Strikes Forward*, will be performed by actors Silvia Lazo and Selena Schoepfer. The play will be followed by the Malidoma African drumming ensemble and dance troupe.

The exhibit will close on Sunday, November 12 at 2:00 pm.

If you are in the area, we hope you can join us for this special exhibit about one of the world's most current and greatest tragedies.

Call for Syllabi

The Institute for Action Against Hate is continuing its process of collecting syllabi from college and university faculty for their courses related to hate. These syllabi are posted on our web site for review.

Currently, we have syllabi from the disciplines of anthropology, criminal justice, communications, history, psychology, sociology, and

theology. We are still looking to gather more syllabi. If you currently teach a class, please submit a syllabus for our collection; or if you know someone who teaches a course, please ask him or her to send a syllabus to us.

By creating a comprehensive collection of syllabi, we can continue to encourage the growth and development of hate-related courses and create a network of faculty interested in this field. All submissions can be made by e-mail to: againsthate@gonzaga.edu in either Word or PDF formats.

Fighting the Fires of Hate

The Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate is proud to bring the *Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings* exhibit to Eastern Washington. The exhibit was created by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and it will be at the Foley Library from March 10, 2007 to May 5, 2007.

If you are interested in supporting this exhibit in coming to Spokane and Eastern Washington, please contact the Institute at 509-323-3665 or againsthate@gonzaga.edu.

Visit our web site at www.gonzaga.edu/againsthate for more information.



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Objectives:

- Development of interdisciplinary courses and course materials on the study of hate and ways of combating hate.
- Annual publication of the Journal of Hate Studies
- Dissemination of research, data, and curricular innovations to interested schools, agencies, and organizations.
- Provision of assistance and advocacy, including legal advocacy, to victims of hate crimes and organizations which share the Institute’s objectives.

Mission

The Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate exists for the purpose of eliminating hate within the University community, the Northwest region, and the nation. It will accomplish this mission through research, advocacy, and education.

Membership Form

Please complete the following form to become a member of the Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate. Dues are for an annual membership. As a member you will receive the Journal of Hate Studies.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Please check here if you would like us to add your e-mail to our againsthate listserv. Yes No

Membership Levels: Please select the appropriate membership level

Student (\$25.00): Any person who is currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate studies in an accredited school and not employed full-time. The student’s advisor must attest to these qualifications by signing the membership form.

As a faculty advisor, my signature certifies the person listed on this form is a currently enrolled student and is not employed full-time. Signature: _____

General Member at a Member Institution (\$40.00): Any person who is employed by or associated with an institution or organization that maintains an institutional membership with the Institute for Action Against Hate.

General Membership (\$65.00): Any person supportive of the Institute’s work and goals who does not fall into another category.

Institutional or Organizational Membership (\$150.00): Available to accredited Institutions of Higher Education and non-profit organizations (includes government agencies) interested in the Institute’s work, goals, and purposes.

For-Profit Organizations (\$250): Available to any for-profit organization that supports the Institute’s goals, purposes, and work.

Payment Method:

I have enclosed a check made payable to the Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate.

Please charge ___ Visa ___ Mastercard: Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Card holder’s signature: _____

Please mail this form with payment to: GIAAH, Gonzaga University, 502 E. Boone Ave. AD 43, Spokane, WA 99258