Final Report: The Second International Conference on Hate Studies

Overview: The Second International Conference on Hate Studies was a strong success, and a tremendous success in many respects as detailed below. Especially gratifying were the very strong statements of interest for collaboration and activity to continue growing the field, the deep appreciation expressed in so many ways by presenters and attendees alike, the high quality of sessions and presentations (as reflected, for example, in the forthcoming collection of conference proceedings), and Gonzaga colleagues’ expressed esteem for the Institute’s work as advancing the University mission.

Attendance:

- Main Conference: 105
- Wednesday Night Invited Reception with Charlene Teters: 150
- Thursday Screening - Posada and Panel with director Fr. Mark McGregor, S.J. (at GU Law School): 55
- Friday Conversation with Izzeldin Abuelaish (at Providence Center for Faith and Healing): 50
- Friday Conference Dinner with Izzeldin Abuelaish: 125

Presenters (final count): 68 (4 no-shows).

Presenters came from Canada, UK (including England, Ireland, and Scotland), Israel, The Netherlands, Germany, France, Turkey, The Philippines, Australia, South Korea, Malaysia, and Taiwan (several came from countries other than their place of citizenship, which is also outside the US).

Faculty, graduate students and administrators affiliated with several of the world’s top-ranked universities, including: University of Toronto, University of Edinburgh, Cambridge, Monash University, The Pennsylvania State University, University of Kansas, University of Calgary, University of Alabama, and Indiana University. Other presenters represent the clergy, non-governmental organizations, governmental agencies (federal, local), media, and the non-profit sector.

Event Assessment:

Many presenters and attendees indicated that this was “the best conference (they) had ever attended.” The Likert Scale scores (1-5) drawn from our Conference Evaluation Forms support these statements:

- Conference was informative and engaging: 4.62 (13)
- Conference content matched theme: 4.85 (13)
- Featured presenters relevant to theme: 4.50 (12)
- Ample opportunity for dialogue on development of Hate Studies as discipline: 4.50 (12)
- Enough diversity in session types and content: 4.46 (13)
- Information learned will be applicable to my work: 4.23 (13)

About 15% of our conference registrants responded (we attribute the low response rate to early departure on the last day, due to travel schedules). Nonetheless, we attribute the strongly favorable scores to several factors:

- the concerted effort of our planning committee and staff to deliver a distinctive and inclusive event to “feed both the head and the heart”;
- the evident “feeling” that this event was really a “first conversation” and “altar call” rather than the Second Conference in the area;
- a general hunger for collegiality and supportive community among those engaged in “hate studies” and related disciplines and endeavors;
- a truly international conference (despite the hardships many of our international presenters and would-be presenters encountered);
- the conference venue (Northern Quest) as delivering a high-quality, enjoyable, secure event experience;
- a richly diverse collection of topics and types of sessions;
• a similarly diverse group of presenters and attendees, including top-level experts and talent, as well as fresh voices, in their respective endeavors

Even the carefully-selected materials carried at the conference book table (organized through the GU Bookstore) received many positive comments.

**Sponsors and Volunteer Support:** The support of sponsoring and volunteer organizations was crucial to the Conference’s viability and ability to deliver a high-quality event for academic and non-academic audiences alike.

**External Sponsors:** the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Northern Quest Resort and Casino, the Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium, the Providence Center for Faith and Healing, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center

**Gonzaga University Sponsors:** the School of Law, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the School of Education, the School of Professional Studies, the Department of Political Science, the Center for Global Engagement, the Office of Student Life, the Unity Multicultural Education Center, and the Canadian Studies Committee.

**Volunteer Support:** the Friends of Compassion (Spokane).

**Public Relations/Media:**

**Plenary Remarks:** The entire text of plenary speaker Hannah Rosenthal (US Department of State Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism) appears on the US State Department Website (http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/rm/2011/160352.htm)

**Off Campus:** Interviews and requests as involved the Institute leadership (John Shuford, Jim Mohr) and featured speakers (Izzeldin Abuelaish, Ken Stern) included BBC Radio 5, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, KOMO 1000-AM (Seattle), KIRO 710-AM (Seattle), University Affairs (Canada), The Boston Globe, The Spokane Spokesman-Review, The Public Eye (Political Research Associates), United Press International, The Fig Tree, and The Inlander.

**On Campus:** The campus publications Spirit and the Gonzaga News Service (press releases and electronic newsletter) also provided significant coverage.

**Conference Proceedings:**

11 of the 23 submitted papers were selected for publication in the *Journal of Hate Studies*, Vol. IX (collection of conference proceedings). The list of articles to be published appears on the last page. *Journal* Vol. IX will also include a special interview with conference keynote speaker, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish. Some presenters expressed desire to see even more of the conference papers published, and another 4-5 would have been publishable with additional time and resources to work more closely with the authors. We will consider alternate formats for publishing conference proceedings, such as CD or PDF-only publications.
“Anger and Compassion on the Picket Line: Ethnography and Emotion in the Study of Westboro Baptist Church”
Rebecca Barrett-Fox, Ph.D.
Lecturer in English, University of Kansas

“Applied Anthropology and Anti-Hate Activism”
Jennifer Schlegel, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Kutztown University

“Arizona’s Senate Bill 1070: Exacerbating the Other and Generating Discourses and Practices of Discrimination and Hate”
William Arrocha, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of International Policy Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies (A graduate school of Middlebury College)

“Combating the Scourge: Constructing the Masculine ‘Other’ Through U.S. Government Anti-Trafficking Campaigns”
Sarah L. Steele, D. Phil.
Fellow in Law and Director of Studies, Criminal Law and Criminology, Christ’s College, University of Cambridge

“From Hate to Collective Violence: Research and Practical Implications”
Anne Nassauer, Ph.D. Candidate
Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University of Berlin

“The Four Factors of Genocidal Religion”
Steven Leonard Jacobs, D.D., D.H.L.
Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Aaron Aronov Endowed Chair in Judaic Studies, University of Alabama

“Habits of Hate: A Pragmatist Analysis of Habits of Racism and Nativism”
Terrance MacMullan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Eastern Washington University

“Policing Hatred: A Case Study of an English Police Force”
Jordan Blair Woods, M.Phil, J.D., Ph.D. candidate,
University of Cambridge

“Socialization and Hate: Can Higher Education Make a Difference?”
Jo Ann Jankoski, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Health and Human Development, Human Development and Family Studies
Penn State University-Fayette

“Taking a Stand: The Role of the Early Childhood Teacher in Educating Against Homophobia”
Tamar Ascher Shai, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, David Yellin College of Education, Jerusalem, Israel

“The Community Security Trust – Best Practice in Combating Antisemitic Hate”
Michael Whine
Government and International Affairs Director, Community Security Trust, United Kingdom

Interview with Izzeldin Abuelaish M.D., M.P.H. (interview with Joannie Eppinga)
Michael and Amira Dan Professor in Global Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto
Future Directions/Activities:

- Very strong expressions of interest to host future International Conferences (after 3rd International Conference in Spokane in 2013), regional conferences, summer institutes, learning communities, and other events (symposia, colloquia). The strongest expressions of interest came from faculty at the University of Toronto, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Monterey Institute of International Studies (Middlebury College), and Portland State University (which is affiliated with Oregon Health & Science University).

- Great interest in having future International Conference on Hate Studies at more regular intervals (e.g. every two years). Significant split as to where the Conference should occur – half in favor of Gonzaga/Spokane, half in favor of rotating to other universities/cities. Ideas for the latter include cities outside the U.S., major metropolitan areas and cities more easily accessible to international audiences (e.g. Toronto, Washington DC), and cities with historic or symbolic significance (e.g. Belfast, Belgrade, Johannesburg).

- Interest to develop Hate Studies courses and hate-themed curricula (woven into existing disciplines) at the above-mentioned universities, as well as University of Denver, Florida Atlantic University, Western Washington University, The Pennsylvania State University, Virginia Tech, and others.

- Many expressions of interest to get involved with the Institute for Hate Studies, or Hate Studies more generally, through such opportunities as: advisory board membership; “experts’ council” service; editorial board and/or peer-review service; mentor/mentee relationships; conference planning committee service; and research collaborations.