

Peacebuilding Conference

“Cultivating Peace: Context, Practices and Multidimensional Models”

17-19 May 2012

Peace Studies

University of New England

Armidale, NSW 2351, Australia

Keynote speakers: Helen Ware, Professor and Research Mentor in Peace Studies—University of New England, Australia (Author of: “No-nonsense Guide to Conflict And Peace”).

Jerry Kroth, Associate Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Santa Clara University, California, United States of America (Author: “Ground Zero: Jerusalem, Holy War, And Collective Insanity”).

Introduction

The changing patterns of civil and international conflicts have contributed to the emergence of various peace models and approaches aimed at addressing them, on one hand, and, on the other, these approaches, are in themselves, also undergoing critical assessment about their suitability and applicability. After the Cold War, the complexities and interconnectedness of the conflicts and actors show that in cultivating peace, the level of intervention and the peace model employed depends on the nature and character of the conflict; and the actors involved. The focus of this year’s conference is: “Cultivating Peace: Contexts, Practices and Multidimensional Models.” We desire submissions for presentations from peace researchers (including postgraduate students) and research-oriented practitioners whose work addresses the theory and practice of peace from any interdisciplinary or theoretical standpoint. Presentation will take the form of a workshop format, and accepted papers will be peer reviewed and published in an edited volume series.

Papers may be descriptive, evaluative, theoretical, anthropological and ethnographic. However, the criteria for selection are based on the originality of the submission, the suitability of the topic and its ability to address one of the following questions: what are the structural causes of conflicts? Is the worldview of the actors involved in peacebuilding a determinant in measuring outcomes? In what ways have the multidimensionality of peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding models impacted on the changing patterns of wars at the micro and macro levels? Are the theoretical approaches and epistemologies (and ontology) of peace and peace research adequate in humanity’s quest for a peaceful global order? Is ‘context’ an important factor in the framing of peace; if so, how does that affect policy and practice of peace and peace research in the global south?

Participants are invited to base their papers in one of the following tracks. However, papers that do not fit into any of these categories, but are considered useful and relevant, will be placed under a separate open cluster. The length of the accepted papers should not exceed 7000 words. Kindly follow the Chicago Manual of Style (15th edition, University of Chicago Press, 2003) for most matters of style, including hyphenation, capitalization, punctuation, abbreviations and grammar. Papers must be double-spaced, including quotations and excerpts, notes, references, tables, and figure captions. Position notes at the end, and the list of references after the notes.

Theme I: Theories and practice of peacebuilding

Sub-themes:

- Neo-liberal peacebuilding: its critique and future
- Peacebuilding 'from below' and peace activism
- Commonality and dichotomy of peacebuilding and nation building
- Perspectives on peace making, peace keeping and peacebuilding
- The route of nonviolence to peace

Theme II: Social and Economic Dimensions of Peacebuilding

Sub-themes:

- The nexus between conflict and migration and internal displacement
- Peace negotiation, mediation and alternative dispute resolution
- Social transformation through peacebuilding
- Reconciliation
- Gender, women and peacebuilding
- Civil society in building and sustaining peace
- Art, music and culture for building sustainable peace
- Education for peace
- Peace journalism
- Diaspora and transnational actors in peacebuilding
- Post-conflict economic development and recovery
- Peace-sensitive development and aid
- The private sector and peacebuilding
- Combat economy, shadow economy and coping economy in conflict and peace

Theme III: Political and Institutional Dimensions of Peacebuilding

Sub-themes:

- Institutional reform and transformation
- Political participation, inclusion and empowerment
- Political reconciliation
- Governance and peacebuilding
- Supra-national organizations in peacebuilding

Theme IV: Security Dimensions of Peacebuilding

Sub-themes:

- Addressing post-conflict human security
- Disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR)
- Security sector reform (SSR)
- The nexus between security and post-conflict development
- Militarism and peacebuilding
- Responsibility to protect and peace in Africa
- Terrorism, counter-terrorism and peace

Theme V: Environment, Natural Resources and Peacebuilding

Sub-themes:

- The politics of natural resources-induced conflicts and peace.
- Climate change, environmental refugees and conflict
- Political ecology, conflict and peace
- Food insecurity as a trigger of conflict
- Natural disasters and peacebuilding
- Environmental Security and Peace

Theme VI: Open Category

Interested candidates are requested to send their abstract to peaceconference@une.edu.au before 20 December 2011.

The decision about whether the submitted abstract is accepted will be communicated after 20 January 2012, and the final paper will be due by 15 April 2012. Selected papers will be published in a book which will arise from the conference.

There is a registration fee of AU \$75. This will cover morning and afternoon tea and lunch during the conference days. Participants will have to arrange their own transportation and accommodation. If requested, and where possible, the organizers can assist in booking accommodation.

For further information about the conference, please contact any of the following Organizing Committee members:

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