Best Wishes to Allan Hanson

This spring, Allan Hanson, faculty member in the Department of Anthropology and founding member of the Peace and Conflict Studies Program, is retiring after 50 years of teaching at the University of Kansas. Professor Hanson was a member of the PCS steering committee, and was instrumental in developing the PCS major track. A course he regularly taught, ANTH 690, “The Social Construction of the Self” was part of the PCS curriculum. We thank Professor Hanson for his contributions to the program, and wish him all the best in his retirement!

Congratulations to our 2016 graduates!

Minors
Sarah Cook, Global and International Studies major
Zoë Cress, Psychology major
Elizabeth Blackburn, Environmental Studies major

Major
Emily Crane, double major in Political Science

Graduate Certificate
Terilyn Huntington will defend her dissertation in KU’s Department of Political Science this summer, and will be starting a tenure track Assistant Professor position in the Department of History and Political Science at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio, in the fall.

PCS Steering Committee Member Activity

Musa Olaka, a librarian at the University of Kansas, has been selected to attend the Summer 2016 NEH ODH Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities at Purdue University. The title of the institute is “Space and Place in Africana/Black Studies: An Institute on Spatial Humanities Theories, Methods and Practice for Africana Studies.” Musa will work on a project entitled “Utilization of GIS technology in mapping experiences of children from Gitarama Prefecture during of the 1994 Rwanda Genocide.”
Offered by the Humanities Program, Peace & Conflict Studies is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach to the study of human conflict. It examines the origins and nature of conflict within and among societies and the various ways in which humans address conflict. Through academic coursework and the possibility of practical experience, Peace & Conflict Studies offers students a concentrated program of study of one of the most central and urgent human issues: the causes and consequences of human conflict and the achievements and possibilities of building peaceful and equitable forms of social existence.

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What are they up to now?

Evan Center, a PCS graduate certificate holder, defended his dissertation this spring in KU’s Department of Communications. The title of his dissertation is “Selling Social Justice: Neoliberal Protest Rhetoric, Corporatized Resistance, and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.” Congratulations, Evan!

Mark your calendars!

Next spring, James Dawes, DeWitt Wallace Professor of English at Macalester College, will offer our annual Peace and Conflict Studies lecture. Professor Dawes's research focuses on the intersection of empathy, violence, and narrative, and is the author of three books: The Language of War: Literature and Culture in the U.S from the Civil War through World War II (2002); That the World May Know: Bearing Witness to Atrocity (2007); and Evil Men (2014). We are scheduling Professor Dawes's visit for March 8 and 9, 2017, and will keep you updated about details as we approach the date.

James Dawes