

# Peace and Conflict Studies Program

Humanities and Western Civilization Program

The University of Kansas



January 2012

## Program Events

Please mark your calendars for an upcoming roundtable discussion titled “Women and Peace: the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Trio of Laureates.” The event will take place on **Thursday, February 2**, from **4:00-5:30 pm** in the **English Room** of the **Kansas Union**. Celebrating women’s role in the field of conflict resolution, this roundtable will present highlights in the lives and work of the 2011 women recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize, Leymah Gwobee, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and Tawakkol Karman, with comments from faculty, students, and the public. The roundtable is sponsored by Peace & Conflict Studies in the Humanities & Western Civilization Program, the Kansas African Studies Center, and the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department.

We look forward to hosting Simon Dalby, Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University, as this year’s Peace and Conflict Studies guest speaker. Professor Dalby is the author of *Security and Environmental Change* (2009), and has published widely on the relationship between environment, security, and conflict. His talk “Environmental Geopolitics in the Twenty First Century,” will take place on **April 25, 4:00-6:00 pm**, in the **Jayhawk Room** of the **Kansas Union**.



## Faculty Updates

During fall 2011, Martha Rabbani worked with community and capacity building programs in North Kansas City. The programs and the textbooks she used were developed by a network of NGOs across the world: FUNDAEC in Colombia, The Badi Foundation in Macau and the William Mmutle Masetlha Foundation in Zambia. As part of this work, Dr. Rabbani has been holding weekly classes for mothers, bi-weekly children’s classes and youth classes, bi-weekly study circles, and monthly reflection meetings.

Jim Woelfel was the 2011-12 Convocation speaker at Bishop Seabury Academy on November 22. Dr. Woelfel spoke on the important role that a liberal education can play in a person’s ethical development, drawing on Martha Nussbaum’s characterization of three abilities or capacities fostered by liberal education: self-criticism, world citizenship, and the “narrative imagination.”

Shannon O’Lear gave a talk on her book *Environmental Politics: Scale and Power* at Jayhawk Ink. The talk was sponsored by the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at the University of Kansas.

Offered by the Humanities & Western Civilization 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.

### Contact:

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