Introductory Comments - 5:30pm

EVALUATIONS
Kylie Millbern
Ultimate Peace Summer Camp: An Evaluation
Basye Hendrix
Social Learning and Personal Conflict: Challenges and Possibilities

CASE STUDIES
Stephanie Wang
Can our voice be heard?
--An exploratory study on voice system in a Chinese insurance company
Mahdi Hasan
The Role of External Intervention to Terminate the Sierra Leone Civil War
Zoie Newman
The Uruguayan Abortion Debate:
The Place of Conflict Resolution in the Negotiation over Reproductive Policy

TOOLS
David D’Alessandro
Using Interactive Theater to Counteract the Bystander Effect and Improve Conflict Resolution Skills.
Azure Parker
Implementing and Evaluating a School-Based Conflict Resolution Education Program with the use of Restorative Principles & Practices.
Katie Walter
Becoming Peacemakers: Examining Spirituality's Role in Communication Transformation
Mahdi Hasan is a graduate student of Conflict Resolution at University of Massachusetts, Boston. Before joining the program, he received a degree in Sociology from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mahdi has worked with newspaper groups and volunteered with several organizations in Bangladesh. He is interested in International Negotiation, Civil War, Peace Processes, Post-conflict Peacebuilding, and Political Conflict.

Stephanie Xueshizi Wang is a student in the Conflict Resolution Master’s program at UMass Boston. She grew up in China and received her B.A. in English from Xiangtan University. Prior to attending UMass Boston, she completed her first year in Xiangtan Law School with a major in Intellectual Property Law. Her Master project is a study on the voice system in Ping An Insurance Company. Her interests are in cooperation and exchanges between China-U.S. institutions, mediation, yoga, translation and interpretation. She is a graduate assistant at UMB Graduate Admissions Office assisting international students and CERNET projects.

Basye Hendrix is a lecturer in the Communications department and has a Master’s degree in Critical and Creative Thinking and a Master’s degree in Applied Communication. She pursued the Master’s degree in Conflict Resolution because of her desire to gain more knowledge in the areas of relational communication and conflict resolution. Basye’s goal is to help people experience a communication style that will enable them to have close, fulfilling relationships. The conflict resolution courses have greatly helped her come closer to reaching her goals. Basye’s thesis has garnered new insights in the areas of ineffectual and optimal conflict language.

Zoie Newman is a graduate student in the Conflict Resolution program at UMass Boston. Before coming to Boston, Zoie received her BA in International Relations from Portland State University in Portland Oregon. Her Masters project outlines her interests in public health, women’s development and conflict resolution and interest in combing the fields of conflict and reproductive rights. After finishing her Masters degree, Zoie is interested in taking the knowledge and skills she has learned from this program back home to Portland to do mediation and conflict work in her community.

David D’Alessandro
I’d like to thank the people that made my life’s conviction possible. Roni, Eben, Rezarta, Darren, David, Carla, my family, and the rest of the teachers in the program. It is my dream to continue to educate our community and help people find a way to live together.

Katie Walter
I first became interested in peace and politics when I learned about the Rwandan Genocide at a young age. I came to the Conflict Resolution program without knowing much more than I wanted to do something to help. I felt called upon to act in some way to make the world more peaceful. This academic program has helped me find my path. I have discovered a real drive for working with religious conflicts. I have been able to discover this through my project that looked at spirituality’s role in communication transformation. After graduating from UMass Boston I plan to serve a full-time mission for my church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Kylie Millbern is a graduate student in the Conflict Resolution Program at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. While at UMass, she worked with Eben Weitzman as his research assistant and served as the secretary of the department’s student council. Her Master’s project outlines the work she did with Ultimate Peace in Israel this past summer. The combination of Ultimate Frisbee and Middle Eastern relations resulted in an ideal final project that encompassed many of her interests. The experience has driven her attention towards the world of program evaluation and the role of sports in development and conflict resolution.

Azure Parker is a graduate student in Conflict Resolution at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She grew up in the City of Boston where she witnessed senseless violence at an early age, making her passionate about social change. After studying the school to prison pipeline, she became interested in Conflict Resolution. During her studies she realized the importance to learn prevention and intervention methods that will help guide youth in a positive direction. Azure believes that if youth learn healthy social skills (Conflict Resolution Education), they will have the tools to make healthy decisions instead of acting out violently.