President's Peace Commission
Mission Statement

The President's Peace Commission fosters an ethical commitment to participate in the establishment of world peace and social justice. The Commission encourages respect for human rights and dignity of all people. The Commission annually hosts symposia that offer opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to grow in their active pursuit of peace and justice. Through the symposia and other activities, the Commission seeks to build within the St. Mary's community a greater awareness of the Roman Catholic and Marianist perspectives on peace and justice. The President's Peace Commission reflects the University community through student, staff, and faculty representatives appointed by the University President.

Students: Heather Albright, Aaron Cotrell, Christina Garcia, Amanda Jones, Shailaja Karmacharya, Dottie Laster, Patrick Simeroth, Grace Telles, Chu chun Yu

Staff: Javier Cervantes, Melba Fisher, Minita Santizo

Faculty: Elijah Akahahenda, PhD; Antonia Castañeda, PhD; Inmaculada de Melo-Martín, PhD; Diane M. Duesterhoeft; Trish Keogh; Janet Oglethorpe, PhD; Richard S. Pressman, PhD

To receive periodic updates about upcoming President's Peace Commission programs at St. Mary's University, please send an email to: stmuppc-announce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Mark your calendars for the President's Peace Commission
Spring 2003 Program
Enforcer, Bully, or Friend?: What is the Role of the U.S. in the World Today?
Tuesday, March 25 – Thursday, March 27

Cover graphics by Mike Phillips
Program layout by Trish Keogh
U.S. Education: Passing or Failing?

Tuesday, October 22, 2002
9:45 a.m. Using Public Money for Private Schools: The School Voucher Debate
Moderator: Antonia Castañeda, PPC
Maria “Cuca” Robledo Montecel, PhD, Executive Director, Intercultural Development Research Association
Gary Scott, PhD, Economics, St. Mary’s University
11:10 a.m. What’s So Special about Special Education?
Moderator: Heather Albright, PPC
Consuelo Bossey, EdD, Education, Our Lady of the Lake University
Barbara Hardin, PhD, Counseling & Testing Center, St. Mary’s University
Gloria Martínez, PhD, Educational Advocate
12:35 p.m. Bilingual Education/English Only?
Moderator: Jacqueline Valadez, PhD, Teacher Education, St. Mary’s University
Blandina Cárdenas, PhD, Dean, College of Education and Human Development, University of Texas at San Antonio
Rosa Rábago, Director of Bilingual Education, San Antonio Independent School District

Wednesday, October 23, 2002
9:20 a.m. Virtually Educated: Technology and Education
Moderator: Grace Telles, PPC
Miguel Guhlin, Director, Instructional Technology, San Antonio Independent School District
10:20 a.m. Do You Measure Up?: Standardized Testing in Education
Moderator: Patrick Simeroth, PPC
Tom DeKunder, EdD, Director, Educational Leadership, Teacher Education, St. Mary's University
Leticia Saucedo, Staff Attorney, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)

Thursday, October 24, 2002
9:45 a.m. The Big Book of Lies?: Textbooks in Our Schools
Moderator: Aaron Cotrell, PPC
Robert H. Leos, PhD, Senior Director, Textbook Administration, Texas Education Agency
Chris Patterson, Director of Education Research, Texas Public Policy Foundation
Samantha Smoot, Executive Director, Texas Freedom Network
11:10 a.m. Zero Tolerance or Zero Effectiveness: Are We Promoting or Preventing Violence in Our Schools?
Moderator: Dottie Laster, PPC
Judy Renick, Director, Texas School Safety Center, Southwest Texas State University
Ricky Hooker, Principal, Gates Elementary School, San Antonio Independent School District
12:35 p.m. Why International Education?
Moderator: Elijah Akhahenda, PPC
Nancy Ericksen, Study Abroad Counselor, Trinity University
Innessa Stepanenko, International Student Advisor, Our Lady of the Lake University