THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE COMMISSION

The purpose of the President's Peace Commission is to foster ethical commitment to participate in the establishment of world peace. That purpose recognizes that a respect for human rights and the dignity of all people is essential to any such commitment.

The Commission serves to create within the St. Mary's University community an awareness of the Roman Catholic perspective as a foundation for directing the dialogue among the broad and varied human and religious enterprises, themselves directed toward peace. It especially takes direction from the United States Catholic Conference and the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities.

The Peace Commission, founded in 1984, is comprised of students, staff, and faculty, all with equal status.

If you would like more information about the President's Peace Commission, please contact any one of its members:

Students: Márida Carmona, Hector Flores, Ariel Gonzales, Jennifer Riske, Phillip Vargas

Staff: Judy Geelhoed, Mónica González, Minita Santizo

Faculty: Thomas Bolin, Diane M. Duesterhoeft, Sonia R. Garcia, Kimberly Barnett Gibson, Larry Hufford, Alice Kersnowski, Richard S. Pressman, Sondra Sugerman, Alejandro Velez

Mark your calendars for the President's Peace Commission Spring Program

Sex, Money, and Power: Women in the Global Economy
30 March - 1 April 1999

Program printed courtesy of

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From Beginnings to Peace: A Focus on World Religions

Location: University Center, Conference A, unless otherwise noted

Monday, 19 October 1998

9:20  Tomorrow is Yesterday: Folk Beliefs in the Modern World
     a.m.  Host: Dr. Sonia R. Garcia, PPC
           Marlene Richardson, Senior Producer, KLRN & producer of documentary,
           Machacines de la Santa Cruz
           Ramon Vásquez y Sánchez, Centro Cultural Aztlán

10:20 Denominational Extremism
     a.m.  Host: Dr. Thomas Bolin, PPC
           Sheik Yusuf Estes, Dir., Public Relations, Bexar County Islamic Association
           Prof. Michael Smith, Sociology, St. Philip’s College

11:20 Growing New Churches
     a.m.  Host: Márida Carmona, PPC
           Kirt Thompson, Youth Pastor, Church on the Rock
           Rev. Arthur G. Severance, First Unitarian Universalist Church of SA

12:20 As Two Become One: Variety in Wedding Ceremonies
     p.m.  Host: Márida Carmona, PPC
           Hema Vaswanathana (Hindu)
           Marsha & Kent Richards, Stake President, Church of
           Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon)

Tuesday, 20 October 1998

7:00  Interdenominational Prayer Breakfast (Conference B)
     a.m.  sponsored by the Marist Student's Office of Spiritual Life

9:45  Human Rights Across Religious Traditions (I)
     a.m.  Host: Prof. Monica Schurman, Co-Director, Immigration &
           Human Rights Clinic, StMU Law School
           Prof. Emily Hartigan, StMU Law School (Judeo-Christian/Catholic)
           Michael Trigilio, Buddhist Peace Fellowship
           Hussein Sadrudin, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Texas
           & StMU Law alumnus (Muslim)

11:10 An End to Religious Conflicts in the World?
     a.m.  Host: Dr. Richard S. Pressman, PPC
           Rev. Antonius Girgis, St. Anthony the Great Coptic Orthodox Church, Bulverde
           Dr. Alice Kernowski, English, StMU (Northern Ireland conflicts)
           Rev. Charles Miller, Dean of HSS, StMU (Middle East conflicts)

12:35 A Role of Their Own: Women as Religious Leaders
     p.m.  Host: Sr. Ann Semel, Chair, English/Communication Studies, StMU
           Julie Hilton Danan, Student Rabbi
           Rev. Consuelo Donahue, Chaplain, Home Health Plus Hospice Program
           (Methodist)
           Rev. Elizabeth McGregor Simmons, University Presbyterian Church

6:30  Meditation: An Experiential Program
     p.m.  Host: Dr. Kimberly Barnett Gibson, PPC
           Sr. Martha Ann Kirk, CCVI, Theology, University of the Incarnate Word
           Mei-Lin Lee, Buddhist Practitioner & Assistant Comptroller, StMU

Wednesday, 21 October 1998

9:20  Varieties of Eastern Christianities
     a.m.  Host: Dr. Thomas Bolin, PPC
           Dr. William Penn, Academic Dean, Pastoral School,
           Russian Orthodox Monastery, Blanco
           Bishop H. G. Youssef, Coptic Bishop of the Southern US

10:20 Generation Next: Coming of Age After Vatican II
     a.m.  Host: Mónica González, PPC
           Dr. Ronald Quillo, Oblate School of Theology
           Dr. Ed Shirley, Religious Studies, St. Edwards U, Austin

11:20 Human Rights Across Religious Traditions (II)
     a.m.  Host: Phillip Vargas, PPC
           Prof. Raul Sánchez, StMU Law School
           Prof. Emily Hartigan, StMU Law School

12:20 Reconciliation: What's God Got to Do With It?
     p.m.  Host: Sondra Sugerman, PPC
           Mary Earle, Assistant, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
           & Former Assistant, Church of Reconciliation
           Rabbi Barry Block, Temple Beth-El, San Antonio

6:30  Kundan, a Martin Scorsese film
     p.m.  Host: Ariel Gonzales, PPC
           Discussant: Prof. Karen Narvarte, English, StMU