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 University 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.

For more information, please see our website:
http://www.stmarytx.edu/ppc/index.php

Please make note of the dates for the Fall 2006 President's Peace Commission program:

Faculty: Elijah Akahenda, PhD; Celine A. Jacquemin, PhD; Leona Pallansch, PhD; Richard Pressman, PhD

Staff: Migdalia Garcia, Andrew Hill, Patricia Mejia

Students: Kavita Bhalla, Floyd Contreras, Weston Elkins, Elaine Hendricks

The President's Peace Commission
Presents

Trafficking in Humans

Spring 2006 Program
Tuesday-Thursday, March 21-23
University Center, Conference Room A

Drawing by Samuel Pressman, from Sr. Barbara Paleczny’s painting Tatya’s Babies

Tatya, a Romanian sex slave in Italy, was denied contraceptives. Her babies were always stolen from her; she was told they had died. But she heard them cry. She knew they were being sold for adoption or killed for organs.
Tuesday, March 21, 2006

Opening Prayer
Bernard Lee, SM, ThD, Vice President for Mission and Identity, StMU

9:45 – 11:00 Trafficking 101: Modern-Day Slavery
Speakers: Barbara Paleczny, SSND, PhD, Social Teaching and Human Rights; Founder, South TX Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Dottie Laster, StMU Alumna, Volunteers with victims
Moderator: Charles Cotrell, PhD, President, StMU

11:10 – 12:25 We’ve Seen the Horror: Witnesses to Trafficking
Speakers: Kathi West, Victim-Witness Coordinator, U.S. Attorney’s Office
Charles Ray, MS, Diplomat in Residence, University of Houston
Moderator: Ann Semel, SSND, PhD, English & Comm. Studies, StMU

12:35 – 1:30 Trading in Human Misery: The Economics of Human Trafficking
Speaker: Amy LeMar, Department of Justice, Victims of Crime Office
Moderator: Alejandro Velez, PhD, Economics, StMU

Tuesday Evening Session
7:00 – 8:30pm Trafficking in Humans: An Inside View
Introduction: Charles Cotrell, PhD, President, StMU
Speakers: Amy LeMar, Dept. of Justice, Victims of Crime Office
Terry Coonan, JD, MDiv, Exec. Dir., Florida State Univ. Ctr. for the Advancement of Human Rights
~Reception to Follow~

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

9:20 – 10:10 Broken Dreams, Broken Bodies: Trafficking Children
Speakers: Marianist NGO
Moderator: Andrew Hill, Dir., Service Learning Ctr., StMU, and PPC

10:20 – 11:10 Sex, Servitude, and Suffering
Speakers: Brenda McFarlane, Catholic Charities, Refugee Resettlement and Trafficking
Patricia Owen, PhD, Chair, Psychology, StMU
Moderator: Kavita Bhalla, Student, StMU, and PPC

11:20 – 12:10 Seeking Solutions: Making Laws Work
Speaker: Terry Coonan, JD, MDiv, Exec. Dir., Florida State Univ. Ctr. for the Advancement of Human Rights
Moderator: Richard Pressman, PhD, English & Comm. Studies, StMU, and PPC

12:20 – 1:10 Responding to Trafficking: Communities Taking Action
Speakers: South Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Moderator: Migdalia Garcia, Service Learning Ctr., StMU, and PPC

Thursday, March 23, 2006

9:45 – 11:00 Film Selections and Discussion
Michael Cory Davis’s, Svetlana’s Journey
Free the Slaves
Health and Human Services’, Rescue and Restore

11:10 – 12:25 Film Selection and Discussion
Stevo Chang’s, Fields of Mudan

12:35 – 1:50 Art of Peace Award & Annual President’s Peace Concert
Peace Concert: Performance by St. Mary’s University Jazz Ensemble
Introduction: Richard Pressman, PPC
Recipient: Barbara Paleczny, SSND, PhD, Social Teaching and Human Rights; Founder, South Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Presenter: Bernard Lee, SM, ThD

Special Location: Java City
Rain Location: UC Conference Room A