

Peace History Society

Newsletter

Spring 2008

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A Report on the 2007 Peace History Society Conference

by Kevin Callahan

More than 70 people attended the October 19-20 fifth international PHS conference held at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, New Jersey. People came from all corners of the United States as well as from Austria, Canada, England, Norway and Sweden. Building on the successes of earlier conferences at Central Michigan University and Winthrop University, the conference was organized around a common theme: Historical Perspectives on Engendering War, Peace and Justice.

Key issues that presenters were asked to explore included: the historical development of concepts of justice and their relationship to gender; masculine and feminine constructions of peacemaking and social justice; gender and war/peace talk; and the interrelationships between gender, race and class in peace and social justice movements. Based on the rich array of paper presentations, many of these topics were addressed. The program included a diverse set of panels such as "Gender and Peace Initiatives during World War I," "Women, Peace and Justice on Broadway," "Engendering the Nation-State in Times of War and Peace" and "Gender, Self-Immolation and the Soldier Experience in the Cold War and Vietnam War Era."

The highlights of the conference were perhaps its two plenary session panels. The first session - The Peace History Society: A History and Analysis by Some of its Early Leaders - featured reflections and priceless anecdotes by Berenice Carroll, Charles Chatfield, Blanche Wiesen Cook, Sandi Cooper, Arthur Waskow and Larry Wittner. Connecting the PHS's origins to the conference

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Peace History Society Website:

www.peacehistorysociety.org/

theme, many panelists discussed the central role that women played in the first years of the organization, which was then called the Conference on Peace Research in History. As Sandi Cooper stated in her remarks: “peace historians... were among the first to recognize the significance of gender in the world of politics, war and diplomacy as well as the shaping of peace.”

The second plenary session - Future Directions in Gender and Peace History: The American Example - presented methodological examples and insights into new directions and possibilities of peace history for the future. Specifically, Kathleen Kennedy, Ian Lekus, Francis Early and Ruth Alexander shared how they integrate discourse analysis, queer studies, and popular culture into their research.

The hospitality offered by Scott Bennett and Georgian Court University created a wonderful atmosphere for participants to mingle, renew friendships, and make new acquaintances. From dining in the splendor of the Gilded Age Gould Estate to cocktails and live entertainment - featuring Larry Wittner’s hit parade of peace songs - to the screening of the documentary film “Camden 28,” social activities enlivened and humanized the official events.

Photo of conference participants by the GCU peace pole



Peace History Conference in London (UK)

For the second year in succession, a well-attended and successful Peace History conference was organised in London by the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and the Movement for the Abolition of War (MAW), in association with the Imperial War Museum. The conference took place 28-29 March in the Imperial War Museum. On each day close to 100 people participated. The conference, mainly organised by the doyen of the British peace movement, Bruce Kent, aimed to bring to the general public aspects of peace building history which have been overlooked or even forgotten. Among the topics that the nine speakers addressed were the following: Erasmus as a 16th century advocate of peace education and a culture of peace, the Women's Peace Congress in The Hague in 1915 and formation of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the 1932 League of Nations Disarmament Conference, decision-making about the atomic bomb in UK cabinets, the French General de Bollardiere who became a pacifist as a result of his involvement in the French war against Algerian independence, and Japanese peace pioneers Masaharu Oka and Yayori Matsui. A third conference is in the planning stage.

'Brushes with Peace' Exhibition (Bradford, UK)

Under this heading, an exhibition of paintings and sketches by the Quaker peace activist and artist Margaret Glover was shown in the University of Bradford's Gallery II, 29th February - 11th April. The more than 100 works of art represent a unique graphic documentation of the British and international peace movement of the 1980s which has been in the possession of the Department of Peace Studies since 1989 but had not been shown before. Among the oil paintings are portraits of Fenner Brockway, Dora Russell, Frank Allaun (MP, and Chair of Labour Action for Peace) and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Sean MacBride. The works of art were arranged in accordance with the following topics, 'Quaker faces & places', 'British faces, peace & political', 'International faces, peace & political', 'Peace functions and organizations', 'Labour Party', 'CND' (in its 50th anniversary year), and 'Bradford's honorary graduates (peace)'.

Also on display was a copy of the artist's 2-volume Ph.D. thesis (University of Reading, Dept. of History of Art and Dept. of Typography and Graphic Communication, 2002) entitled 'Images of Peace in Britain: from the late nineteenth century to the Second World War' which examines issues surrounding the production and display of visual peace propaganda by local and national organizations, and by individual members, including artists. Among the subjects dealt with are

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the history of Quaker peace posters; indoor and outdoor campaigning of the 1930s British peace movement; history and analysis of peace shops and peace exhibitions; peace images by two leading British artists of the interwar period, Quaker socialist Joseph E. Southall and Catholic pacifist Eric Gill. Copies of the thesis (the second volume of which consists of approx. 500 illustrations) are available in Friends House Library (London) and Swarthmore College Peace Collection, among other places.

'Bradford Peace Trail' publication

Thanks to the initiative of the local 'Bradford: City for Peace' group, and with the financial support of the city, an attractive and handy booklet was published entitled 'Bradford Peace Trail: A Walk around Bradford, City of Peace'. Each page of the 30-page booklet describes and illustrates, in full colour, an individual, institution, event, building, work of art, or place of significance regarding the history of peace, conflict, and reconciliation, comprising both local and international aspects. Research has uncovered forgotten but inspiring local stories concerning individuals and events, and as a result the city has agreed to commission and install a number of new commemorative plaques (e.g., for the local Women's Humanity League, which held many anti-war meetings during World War I). The booklet, already in its second edition, is freely available from the city's tourist information office, as well as from the Peace Museum (peacemuseum@bradford.gov.uk). This is an excellent educational tool to promote greater awareness both of peace history, and of ongoing peace work today in one's local community. Research and production of such a popular guide can involve local peace historians and activists, but also schools, youth groups, etc., and is a fun and practical contribution to the development of a culture of peace. People in cities as diverse as Atlanta (GA) and Vienna (Austria) have expressed interest in producing a similar peace trail for their own cities.

6th International Conference of Museums for Peace

The 6th International Conference of Museums for Peace will be held 6th-10th October 2008 in Kyoto and Hiroshima under the title, 'Peace Museums as Spaces for Creating Peace: Building "Peace Literacy" for Global Problem-Solving'. For more information, please contact the conference secretariat at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University, email: 6peace-m@st.ritsumei.ac.jp or see the provisional program which is posted on: www.museumsforpeace.org.

War and Its Discontents--Understanding Iraq and the U.S. Empire: A Conference for Historians and Activists, Co- Sponsored by the Peace History Society

by Ginger Williams, PHS Vice President

As an officer of the Peace History Society and the membership chair, I volunteered to work with the steering committee of the Second National Conference of Historians Against the War, co-sponsored by PHS. I think that this was an important act of solidarity on the part of PHS, with a group of historians who have expressed their opposition to the current war in Iraq and Afghanistan, and a move that furthers the mission of PHS, as it has maintained since 1964, "to encourage, support, and coordinate scholarly research on peace, nonviolence, and social justice."

Robert Shaffer and I welcomed conference participants on behalf of PHS, and encouraged HAW members and conference attendees to join PHS and our conferences, and to contribute to our special upcoming edition of *Peace and Change*, which deals explicitly with the U.S. war in Iraq. We maintained a PHS table with copies of our journal, which were whisked away quickly, and plenty of our new PHS flyers.

The quality of the conference was outstanding from the first plenary speakers, Bill Fletcher Jr., and Naomi Klein, to panels dealing with "Human Rights as a Justification of U.S. Military Intervention," "Teaching About U.S. Intervention in a Time of War: Lessons from Latin American History," to "Challenges of a 21st Century Antiwar Movement." All of these panels and presentations fit so well within the scope and mission of PHS! The last panel that I attended on Sunday morning was "Howard Zinn and the Politics of History." Three scholars, all at different junctures in their careers are writing about the significance of the life and works of the renowned scholar-activist. All of them pointed out the personal costs that Howard Zinn paid for being a scholar activist during the Civil Rights movement and the Vietnam War, and for writing critical histories at a time when the nation wasn't ready for what he had to say. These messages are particularly salient for us now in these difficult times as we try to help not only write about the world we would like to see and live in, but bring about the change that will make that happen.

War and Its Discontents, Another View

By Marc Becker

The Peace History Society co-sponsored the conference “War And Its Discontents: Understanding Iraq and The U.S. Empire” with Historians Against the War (HAW). Held April 11-13, 2008 at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, the conference brought together about 200 scholars and activists to discuss issues surrounding the ongoing war in Iraq.

The conference began with keynote addresses from Bill Fletcher, Jr., and Naomi Klein. Fletcher is the executive editor of the Black Commentator, co-founder of the Black Radical Congress, and a senior scholar with the Institute of Policy Studies. He spoke on empire and race, and cautioned against the dangers of right-wing populists who scapegoat immigrants and others. Klein is an award-winning journalist and columnist. She spoke on shock doctrine, and how economic crises stimulate war.

A plenary session featured two leading scholars on the Middle East, Dina Rizk Khoury of George Washington University and Zachary Lockman of New York University, and the 2006-2007 president of the Middle East Studies Association. Lockman spoke on the role of the United States in the Middle East, emphasizing that the invasion did not come out of nowhere. U.S. interest in the area has been relatively recent, and has been shaped by demands for oil in the post World War II period. Khoury argued that Shia/Sunni sectarian divisions in Iraq are recent, and have been driven by war. The current violence was foreseeable but not inevitable, Khoury argued.

The conference concluded with a plenary “What Can and Should Historians be Doing to End the War?” Participants broke into small groups to discuss the conference, and to chart suggestions for future actions. The groups then reported their suggestions back to the entire plenary.

The conference also featured twenty-one panels, roundtables, and workshops on Iraq, empire, and peace movements. In addition to academic papers, other sessions featured pedagogical roundtables on teaching about empire in the U.S., Latin American, and world history surveys, and discussions of academic freedom.

The conference was a positive and inspiring experience, with serious and frank discussions about imperialism and war. Papers, photos, audio, and video from the conference are posted to the website

<http://www.historiansagainstawar.org/hawconf/>.



Bill Fletcher, Jr. delivering the Key Note Address at the Historians Against the War Conference in Atlanta.

Photo by Marc Becker

PHS Membership News

The Peace History Society wants you to encourage your colleagues and students to consider joining PHS! As you know, we are busy sponsoring and cosponsoring major conferences, as well as publishing the major journal in the field of peace research, *Peace and Change*. We do so much for an organization of our size, but our mission of broadening the understanding and possibilities of world peace is so important, that we must continue to reach out to all those interested in peace, nonviolence, and social justice, to join us, work with us, and make us stronger. The PHS Membership Committee has worked to send emails and letters to lapsed members, which has born fruit this past year. We were at around 125 members back in August, 2007; at the moment, we have an active membership of 162 members.

Through our continued outreach, successful conferences, and the increasing opportunities to work with other organizations both at home and abroad, we will continue to grow because we are as relevant an organization as ever. We do need you to help us reach out to potential members, however, and to consider doing it now. Our membership fees remain low, only \$40 for individual members, and \$25 for students, retired, or unemployed scholars. This is a great organization for graduate students to join. It presents them with invaluable conference and publishing opportunities. Please go to the membership application on the website: <http://www.peacehistorysociety.org> and let's strengthen PHS in 2008!

Ginger Williams, for the PHS Membership Committee

Call for Papers

Special Issue of *Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research*---Topic: Teaching Peace and Justice from a Historical Perspective

Peace & Change, the journal of the Peace History Society (PHS) and the Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA) is planning its October, 2009, issue around Teaching Peace and Justice from a Historical Perspective. We are interested in publishing various types of pieces pertinent to all levels of learning from elementary school through graduate school. Acceptance for publication will be based on originality, scholarship, and innovative educational ideas furthering peace research and teaching and transnational issues related to peace education. These topics are suggestive, and other types of writing will be considered: 1) articles about the experience of teaching peace and justice in a historical perspective as well as the types of materials used, 2) syllabi for courses with an introduction discussing the challenges of teaching it, 3) individual lesson plans or DBQ-based exercises with explanations of them, 4) short anecdotes about teaching (one or two paragraphs), 5) reviews of material used for teaching, including books, films, websites, etc. We welcome materials addressing regional or global perspectives.

Deadline for submission: September 1, 2008. Contributors will be notified by December 15, 2008 of acceptance of papers. All rewrites will be due back to the editors by March 1, 2009.

Guidelines for submission: All submissions should be sent as Microsoft Word documents, use Times New Roman, and be double-spaced throughout, including the abstract, block quotes, and notes. Articles should not exceed 25 pages, excluding endnotes. Shorter pieces and very short anecdotes are welcome. All notes should be placed at the end of the manuscript and conform to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th ed. A 50-word biographical statement and an abstract of 100-150 words must accompany the manuscript. The editors are the final arbiters of length, grammar, and usage. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to use copyrighted material. Please note that Word 2007 is not yet compatible with journal and production systems. Unfortunately, the journal cannot accept Microsoft Word 2007 documents. Refer to <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/PECH> for more information on this matter and for the submission of artwork, photographs, etc.

Submit materials electronically to *each* of the following:

Harriet Alonso, halonso@ccny.cuny.edu

Miguel Alonso, Miguel.Alonso@ncc.edu

Charles Howlett, PHowlet@aol.com

You may also mail three hard copies and a CD to Professor Harriet Alonso, c/o The City College Center for Worker Education, 25 Broadway, 7th floor, New York, NY 10004.

Conferences:

Building Sustainable Futures Enacting Peace and Development

IPRA 2008 Global Conference
University of Leuven, Belgium
July 15-19

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

With significant changes in the human climate, our planet has a better chance for sustainable development. The challenge is to re-search new futures. Scholars, decision-makers and practitioners must bring intellectual, volitional and emotional functions into play together. Peace researchers have a vital role in the process of constructively transforming the conflicts in the world today.

WWW.IPRA2008.ORG

INVITED SPEAKERS

Ban Ki-moon, Louis Michel, Federico Mayor Zaragoza, Monica Juma, Naison Ngoma, Herbert Kelman, Samir Amin, Chadwick Alger, Andrew Mack, Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh, Carolyn Nordstrom, Marc Gopin, Hardy Merriman, Joseph Bock, Jason McLeod, Ivan Marović, Lamisse Azab, Srdja Popović

PLENARY SESSIONS

Building Sustainable Futures: Peace & Development
Peacebuilding in Africa
The Middle East in Danger of Peace
Nonviolent Policy Shaping
Peace Research in Latin America
Religions Dealing with Their Own Violent Extremisms: Development at Stake
Confronting the Challenges of Youth and Conflict: Rejuvenating Conflict Prevention
Celebrating the Founders of Peace Research
Civil Society is Peace
The Agenda for Peace Research in the Changing World

Peace and Justice Association annual conference

The Peace and Justice Association is having its annual conference September 11-14 in Portland, at Portland State University. Please consider coming. Participants will include Bernard Lafayette, Mary King, Sami Rasouli, Stella Ting-Toomey, Kathy Kelly, Marjorie Cohn, Bumpy Kanahela and many more peace academics and activists. Portland is one of the nation's most conference-friendly towns, with a \$2 lightrail to the hotel, the beautiful Willamette and Columbia rivers, one hour from the Pacific Ocean and just 35 minutes to the Columbia Gorge, an international scenic destination. This is not a mammoth conference--just a few hundred--and we are community as we proceed through the days together. The proposal due date is fast approaching. For specifics:

<http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/>

Book Announcements:

Encyclopedia of Peace Education

Edited by Monisha Bajaj, *Teachers College, Columbia University*

The rise of peace education both in scholarship and in practice has yielded numerous documents, websites, and publications with often divergent perspectives on what the field is, does, and means. The *Encyclopedia of Peace Education* provides a comprehensive overview of the scholarly developments in the field to date, so as to provide a common denominator for the various actors involved in advancing peace education internationally. Thus, this edited volume serves as an essential reference guide that traces the history and emergence of the field, highlights foundational concepts, contextualizes peace education practice across international and disciplinary borders, and suggests new directions for peace educators. From core conceptual perspectives to the moral and spiritual foundations of the field to the role of the United Nations, the *Encyclopedia* grounds peace education in a solid theoretical and practical framework through the writings of the field's most renowned scholars. This volume will target undergraduate and graduate students as well as scholars and practitioners working in international and non-governmental organizations in the field of peace education.

CONTENTS: Introduction, *Monisha Bajaj*.

Section I: The Historical Emergence of and Influences on Peace Education. History of Peace Education, *Ian Harris*. John Dewey and Peace Education, *Charles Howlett*. Maria Montessori and Peace Education, *Cheryl Duckworth*. Paulo Freire and Peace Education, *Lesley Bartlett*.

Section II: Foundational Perspectives in Peace Education. Form and Content of Peace Education, *Johan Galtung*. Conceptual Perspectives in Peace Education, *Magnus Haavelsrud*. The Moral and Spiritual Foundations of Peace Education, *Dale Snauwaert*. The United Nations and Peace Education, *James Page*.

Section III: Core Concepts in Peace Education. Caring and Peace Education, *Nel Noddings*. Countering Militarism Through Peace Education, *Carl Mirra*. Human Rights Education, *Felisa Tibbitts*. Global Citizenship Education, *Lynn Davies*.

Section IV: Frameworks and New Directions for Peace Education. Comparative and International Education and Peace Education, *Robin Burns*. Futures Studies and Peace Education, *David Hicks*. "Critical" Peace Education, *Monisha Bajaj*. Unity-Based Peace Education, *H. B. Danesh*. About the Authors. Glossary. Index.

URL: To come soon

IAP - Information Age Publishing, PO Box 79049, Charlotte, NC 28271

tel: 704-752-9125 fax: 704-752-9113 URL: www.infoagepub.com

A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEACE MOVEMENT FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT

*by Charles F.
Howlett, Molloy
College*

*and by Robbie Lieberman
Southern Illinois University,
Carbondale*

978-0-7734-5092-9 \$149.95 / £89.95 602pp. 2008

Contribution to Scholarship:

Drawing upon a wide array of primary and secondary sources, this study explores the efforts of peace activists and organizations in their efforts to remake American society. More than an examination of the antiwar movement in United States history, the work is an extensive survey of the struggle for peace and justice.

"This book is not so much about dreamers as it is about doers, those people who put their lives and careers on the line in efforts to eliminate violence and intolerance in areas from international politics to domestic concerns. . . . It is in the spirit of love of humanity that [the authors] carry on the work of preserving peace and justice history while making that history themselves."

- *Harriet Hyman Alonso*
Professor of History
City College of New York
and Graduate Center

'Throughout, the authors highlight the "pioneers of peace"- both men and women - whose vision, conscience, courage, and dramatic action have transformed America and the world. By including topics that are usually ignored in peace history surveys, the authors break new ground. For instance, they examine Native American contributions to peacemaking, connections between the peace and labor movements, antiwar songs, legal cases involving the draft, and cyberactivism."

- *Scott H. Bennett*
President, Peace History Society
Associate Professor
Department of History
Georgian Court University

About the Authors: Charles F. Howlett is an Associate Professor in Graduate Programs, Education Division at Molloy College. Rockville Centre, NY, where he was awarded the Outstanding Teacher in Graduate Education in 2007. He received his Ph.D. in American History from the State University of New York at Albany. Robbie Lieberman is Professor of History at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale where she was awarded the Outstanding Scholar Award in the College of Liberal Arts in 2007. She received her Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan.

In order to get *The History of the American Peace Movement From Colonial Times to the Present* at a reasonable price, contact Robbie Lieberman for a publisher's flyer. You can write her at The Department of History, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4519, or email her at robl@siu.edu.

Peace History Society Awards:

The DeBenedetti Prize

The PHS awards the Charles DeBenedetti Prize biannually (in even years). The prize is awarded to the author of an outstanding English-language journal article or book chapter on peace history. The prize carries a cash award of \$500.

The Scott Bills Memorial Prize

The PHS awards the Scott Bills memorial Prize bi-annually (in odd years). The prize is awarded to the author of an outstanding English-language first book or dissertation. The prize carries a cash award of \$500.

Lifetime Achievement Award

The PHS periodically bestows the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Prize is awarded to a PHS member who has contributed outstanding scholarship and exemplary service to peace history.



Charles Chatfield, the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award with Blanche Weisen Cook and Sandi Cooper at the 2007 PHS Conference. Photo by Marc Becker.

Peace History Society Executive Officers (2007)

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E. Timothy Smith, Barry University

Please send all news items, short reviews or articles, and announcements to Tim Smith at esmith@mail.barry.edu.