News

Summer Institute for Teaching

Peace goes virtual in 2021

For the first time since its inception, the Kroc Institute will host its innovative Summer Institute for Faculty (SI) virtually, a move that organizers made in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic also forced the cancellation of what was to be the 12th annual SI in 2020.

Read more »

Peace Studies Student Elected Notre Dame Student Body Vice President

Notre Dame junior Matthew Bisner has been elected undergraduate student body vice president for the 2021-22 academic year. Bisner and his running mate, Allan Njomo, won with 51.18% of the votes in an election that saw the highest student voter turnout in three years,

https://t.e2ma.net/message/gnelgo/gn61
according to *The Observer*, Notre Dame’s student-run newspaper. Bisner is the eighth peace studies student to be elected student body president or vice president since 2012.

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### An Interview with the 2021 Peace Conference Planning Committee

The [Notre Dame Student Peace Conference](https://t.e2ma.net/message/gnelgo/gn6il), endowed by Joan B. Kroc and sponsored by the Kroc Institute, is an annual gathering organized by students and for students. This year’s conference planning is being led by a team of four students: Oneile Gorata Baitloti ('21), Nicholas Clarizio, ('23), Grace Conroy ('22), and Conal Fagan ('21). In this interview, they reflect on their hopes for the conference, the importance of peace studies, shifts to accommodate a virtual format, and what they are learning through the conference planning process.

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### Upcoming Virtual Events

#### Mediating Justice: Law, Violence, and Ethnography Closing Event

*Wednesday, April 7*

4:00 p.m. EDT, Virtual Event

Featuring [M. Kamari Clarke](https://t.e2ma.net/message/gnelgo/gn6il), Professor of Anthropology, University of California Los Angeles and [Catherine Bolten](https://t.e2ma.net/message/gnelgo/gn6il) (moderator), Associate Professor of Anthropology and Peace Studies, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
Join us for a dynamic conversation bringing together peace studies scholars and anthropologists to examine what we mean when we talk about justice. M. Kamari Clarke will offer a keynote address to start the conversation.

**Notre Dame Student Peace Conference**

**April 15 - 17**  
Virtual Event

**Beyond the Surface: Moving the Needle on Global Peace**

This year’s conference will run from Thursday evening through mid-day Saturday to allow for an easier adjustment to an all-online event. More details about the schedule and the conference engagement platform will be posted here as it becomes available.

**Media Highlights**

**Flora Tang**, Ph.D. Student in Peace Studies & Theology, wrote the *America Magazine* op-ed “*Purity culture, racism and the violence against Asian women in Atlanta.*”

**David Anderson Hooker**, Associate Professor of the Practice of Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding, was quoted in the *Associated Press* article “*Floyd spurred broad push for change globally, activists say.*”
Mary Ellen O'Connell, Robert and Marion Short Professor of Law and Research Professor of International Dispute Resolution, was quoted in the USA Today article “Rockets strike Iraqi base housing US troops ahead of Pope Francis visit.”

A. Rashied Omar, Assistant Teaching Professor, was quoted in the Crux article “Clergy seen as ‘fourth branch of government' in coup-stressed Mali.”