



The Churchill Institute at Westminster College
Symposium on Democracy 2010
Global Conflicts – It's Not Just About War

Conflict is part of the global landscape in which we live. It is estimated that over 50 wars, ranging from international conflicts to smaller civil wars, rage around the world today. What are the causes of global conflict? Social dislocation, illegal arms transfers, environmental degradation, and political discord may contribute to the seemingly endless cycle of violence. This Symposium will address the causes, variety, and consequences, as well as exploring possible solutions to global conflict.

August 9, 2010 - October 25, 2010

Traveling Exhibit: "Overcoming Intolerance" Children's Museum

10am – 4pm, National Churchill Museum

An exhibit created by the 5th grade class from West Boulevard Elementary School in Columbia, Missouri.

Monday, September 13

Symposium Film Series - Paths of Glory (1957)

7pm, Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Stanley Kubrick had already made his talent known with the outstanding racetrack heist thriller *The Killing*, but it was the 1957 antiwar masterpiece *Paths of Glory* that catapulted Kubrick to international acclaim. Based on the novel by Humphrey Cobb, the film was initiated by Kirk Douglas, who chose the young Kubrick to direct what would become one of the most powerful films about the wasteful insanity of warfare. In one of his finest roles, Douglas plays Colonel Dax, commander of a battle-worn regiment of the French army along the western front during World War I. Held in their trenches under the threat of German artillery, the regiment is ordered on a suicidal mission to capture an enemy stronghold. When the mission inevitably fails, French generals order the selection of three soldiers to be tried and executed on the charge of cowardice. Dax is appointed as defense attorney for the chosen scapegoats, and what follows is a travesty of justice that has remained relevant and powerful for decades. In the wake of some of the most authentic and devastating battle sequences ever filmed, Kubrick brilliantly explores the political machinations and selfish personal ambitions that result in battlefield slaughter and senseless executions. The film is unflinching in its condemnation of war and the self-indulgence of military leaders who orchestrate the deaths of thousands from the comfort of their luxurious headquarters. For many years, *Paths of Glory* was banned in France as a slanderous attack on French honor, but it's clear that Kubrick's intense drama is aimed at all nations and all men. Though it touches on themes of courage and loyalty in the context of warfare, the film is specifically about the historical realities of World War I, but its impact and artistic achievement remain timeless and universal. --Jeff Shannon, film critic for Seattle Times & Amazon.Com

Tuesday, September 14

Book Discussion of *Good Omens*

4pm, Hazel 112

Beyond Good & Evil...Early in their careers Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett explored issues of global conflict such as hunger, environmental disaster, plague, theodicy, urban planning, war and etc. through a co-written humorous look at the end-times, and the interactions of good & evil on the will of God, in

the book *Good Omens*. Join reference librarian and Head of Public Services, Kat Barden, and a panel of MU grad students and others for a book discussion as they delve into the eternal chaos of human existence and learn the answer to an age-old question of how many angels can dance on the head of a pin.

Saturday, September 18, 2010

Museum Children's Program: "Overcoming Intolerance" Exhibit

11am-Noon, National Churchill Museum

Using our traveling exhibit from West Boulevard Elementary, children will learn about overcoming intolerance and will apply this knowledge to a craft project.

Reservations required. Open to any child ages 6-12. Cost: \$5 per person

Contact the Museum at 573/592-6242 for more information or to RSVP

Monday, September 20

Student Debate on Global Conflict: The United States as World Police: Pro or Con

Westminster College students from the campus Debate Club will be debating the question of whether America should or should not serve as the world's police force.

Westminster students Rodney Brown, Dustin Van Camp, Brian Waters and Chelsea Wherry and moderated by Dr. James McRae, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Westminster College

4pm, Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Symposium Film Series - Sometimes in April (2005)

7pm, Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

When the Hutu nationalists raised arms against their Tutsi countrymen in the African nation of Rwanda in April of 1994, the violent uprising marked the beginning of one of the darkest times in African history. Over the course of the next 100 days, brother would turn against brother, tearing families apart and resulting in the death of almost 800,000 people. Based on actual events that occurred during the uprising, Raoul Peck's affecting war drama tells the tale of two such brothers, whose differing loyalties found them on opposing sides of the conflict, and whose lives would never be the same following this tragic turn of events. Jason Buchanan, All Movie Guide

"Sometimes in April" refers to the annual rains that pour down on Rwanda, which every year bring back haunting memories of the spring killing spree that took almost one million lives in 100 days...it is also a suspenseful thriller that commands attention even when the cruelest acts make it hard to watch." New York Times

Tuesday, September 21

Opening Keynote

War: An Inevitable Evil

Brigadier General MacFarland, Deputy Commanding General, Combined Arms Center – Leader Development and Education

9am - 10:15am, Champ Auditorium

Breakout Sessions I

10:30am - 11:30am, Wallace H. Coulter Science Center

Why Muslims Matter to the Past and the Present of the United States

Despite the fact that Muslims have been part of America since before the Republic was founded, Muslim Americans are often viewed today as foreign, "fresh off the boat," and threatening. This talk explores Muslim participation in U.S. history from the antebellum era until present and concludes with a provocative discussion of Muslim Americans and the current war on terror
Dr. Edward Curtis; Millennium Chair of the Liberal Arts & Professor of Religious Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Strategic Environmental Security and Climate Change: What in the World is Worth Fighting Over?

Today, we see a growing concern with climate change and how it will reshape our world. However, climate change is a one component of today's environmental security threats, but not the only critical issue we will face based on a burgeoning population and its insatiable demand for natural resources. This session will attempt to explain both the natural and political sciences that must be considered in understanding the security threats posed by human induced environmental change.

Dr. W Christopher King; Dean of Academics, US Army Command and General Staff College
Coulter Science Center 138

Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: WC Alumni Reflecting on Their Peace Corps Volunteer Experiences

Westminster alumni that served around the world as Peace Corps Volunteers will discuss their international experiences and highlight the political, environmental, social, and cultural conflicts that challenged their ability to respond. They will also share their thoughts about humanitarian service to students considering the Peace Corps and other international experiences.

Westminster alumni Eric Coppenger '98, Robert Hamilton '65 and Eric Meusch '89 and moderated by Dr Robert Hansen, Director of the Emerson Center for Leadership and Service, Westminster College
Coulter Science Center 345

Using Intelligence Intelligently

When decision making entities fail to use the full spectrum of intelligence tools available - or incorrectly use those tools - potential conflict situations arise where last resort measures can become first responses. This presentation discusses intelligence collection, analysis and covert action operations as they apply to avoiding, mitigating and resolving conflict.

John Anthony Jordan, CIA Senior Intelligence Service Executive (retired)
Coulter Science Center 239

Media and Conflict

The media's role in conflict is growing increasingly important, as more and more, the lines blur between independent coverage, and partisan pandering. From embedded reporters to CCTV and cell phone cameras on nearly every street corner in the world, conflict is increasingly being captured and used in new ways. Information and truth seem "relevant" rather than absolute.

Take, for example, the recent Israeli raid on the Gaza flotilla. Both sides had video which, each said, supported its position as to whether Israeli commandos had violated international law, or

was simply defending itself against hostile action. The U.S. military has embedded reporters within its ranks, with mixed results. The recent Rolling Stone article on U.S. General Stanley McChrystal reinforced why the military-media relationship is a tenuous one. And while some news sources like the BBC, Al Jazeera and others, have committed war correspondents to covering the world's conflicts, U.S. media outlets have increasingly abandoned foreign coverage, save for allocating reporters who fly to regions of conflict "on assignment" for brief periods of time. Indeed, dedicated war correspondents from the U.S. seem to be a vestige of the past. Is the media performing its important watch-dog role in covering conflict, or is it increasingly pandering to a simplistic "he said, she said" version of events which does little to forward peace and understanding?

Jim Flink, VP of Newsy
Coulter Science Center 139

Macedonia: Transcending Conflict, Transforming Identity

This session will focus on the complex and sometimes troubled history of the Republic of Macedonia from ancient times to the present. In so doing, Heather Roberson and Matthew Murrie will share examples from their first-hand experiences with the country and its people. By focusing on how Macedonia has been able to navigate around much of the violence often associated with the Balkans, the session hopes to provide insight into how a region of multiple identities (and a bloody history) might be able to achieve both peace and fulfillment.

Matt Murrie and Heather Roberson, co-author *Macedonia: What Does it Take to Stop a War?* (Villard/Random House, 2006)

Coulter Science Center 329

Creating a Vision for the Future Using an Appreciative Inquiry Process: A Role Play Based on Israeli-Palestinian Youth by the U.S. Institute of Peace

After a short discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Appreciative Inquiry will be introduced as a means to moving beyond conflict situations. Students will be asked to take on the roles of Israeli and Palestinian students in a fictional college/university in East Jerusalem. A facilitator (also a student) will conduct a short meeting with a diverse group of students (role play). After the dialogue, the students in and out of role will discuss their experiences and impressions. Appreciative Inquiry is based on the premise that a vision for the future can transcend an environment of intractable conflict. Once individuals agree and share a common vision, they are able to lay the groundwork for peace. Appreciative Inquiry is often used in organizations that are undergoing change and conflict and tension is predicted.

David J. Smith, JD, National Educational Outreach Officer, United States Institute of Peace
10:30am-12:30pm, Marsh Jones Room, Mueller Leadership Center
Lunch Provided - *(Must sign up early to participate – limited to 30 people)*

Engaging Women in Peacebuilding Efforts by the U.S. Institute of Peace

After a podcast and a discussion of why and how to engage women in post-conflict reconstruction, attendees will participate in a role play exercise. The session rests on the premise that when women are allowed to contribute to finding solutions to post conflict reconstruction and rebuilding a society which is structured to address conflicts before they become violent, peace is more likely to be viable. The various reasons for these findings will be discussed in the session to answer why women should be included in peace building efforts. The session will also include a discussion of how to engage women safely and facilitate the contributions which they can and want to make to the reconstruction of their society. The

peace settlement talks of Afghanistan offer an interesting case in which women are likely to be largely left out of peace negotiations and implementation of any plan that may arise from talks between the government of Afghanistan and the Taliban. Attendees will take various roles to play an exercise in which various international groups attempt to convince various government officials that it would be in their interest to allow women to partake in peace talks.

Nadia Gerspacher, PhD, Senior Program Officer, USIP Academy, United States Institute of Peace
10:30am-12:30pm, Hermann Lounge, Hunter Activity Center

Lunch Provided - *(Must sign up early to participate – limited to 30 people)*

Lunch

11:30am – 1pm, Mueller Leadership Hall

Plenary Session

14 Key Features that Define a Successful Insurgency

Insurgencies are by their very nature difficult to understand. However each time an attack is launched and every time an IED explodes we start to know a little more about the structure of an insurgency. If we combine together enough of these attacks we start to build up a mosaic picture of the insurgency. Their actions can start to be defined mathematically and we can work backwards from these signatures to understand the fundamental forces that underlie the insurgency. With these models we can for the first time quantitatively understand more about what makes an insurgency successful. From our analysis and modeling we find that there are 14 key characteristics that define a successful insurgent ecosystem. Sean Gourley, Oxford University PhD in physics, Rhodes Scholar, Decathlete and founder of Quid entrepreneurial technology tools firm

1-2pm, Champ Auditorium

Breakout Sessions II

2:15pm - 3:15pm, Wallace H. Coulter Science Center

Middle East Today: History, Politics, and Conflict

This session will be a roundtable conversation between former Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency Tony Jordan, CIA officer and Middle East expert Heather Biehl, and historian and expert on American Muslims (former Fulbright professor in Jordan) Dr. Edward Curtis. They will discuss the Middle East today, changes in US foreign policy, and other topics related to how the US views the Middle East and will be moderated by Dr. Kurt Jefferson, Director, Center for Engaging the World.

Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Religion and Global Violence

The world's religions spark global violence but also inspire the use of nonviolent means to find just resolutions to conflicts. Why is religion such a volatile force, motivating both war and peace? How can the potential of the world's religions to legitimate wanton violence be lessened and the effectiveness of religions in peacemaking be increased? The ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict will serve to illustrate and form the basis for a discussion of these important and difficult questions.

Dr. Bill Young; Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, Westminster College
Coulter Science Center 204

Conservation and Conflict: The Role Natural Resources Play in Conflict and Peace

It has been posited that one of the causes of the genocide in Rwanda is the extreme pressure on natural resources in a small country with a dense population, illegal resource extraction is known to have financed conflict in DRC, Sierra Leone and Liberia, and resource pressures are a serious concern for the future of South Sudan. This session will explore the role resources play in conflict, the toll that conflict takes on globally important species such as the mountain gorillas of the Virungas and the positive role that conservation can play in building lasting peace and development.

Eric Coppenger, Director, Resource Strategy, Africa & Madagascar, Conservation International
Coulter Science Center 139

Teaching Global Peacebuilding: Approaches Used by the United States Institute of Peace

This session will focus on approaches and strategies that the U.S. Institute of Peace, a congressionally funded entity founded in 1984, uses in educational settings in the U.S. and in zones of conflict. In particular, there will be a focus on the Institute's work in higher education in the U.S. in developing peace and conflict strategies and programs, and most recently in establishing its Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding in Washington, DC. There will also be a discussion on the Institute's impending move to the National Mall area in March 2011, its new headquarters, and planned Global Peacebuilding Center.

David J. Smith, JD, National Educational Outreach Officer, United States Institute of Peace
Coulter Science Center 304

Being A Soldier: Westminster Students Talk About Their Military Experiences

Most of us will never wear a military uniform or serve our country as part of a military organization. More and more Westminster students are military veterans who know firsthand about being a soldier. Some of these students will be talking about their personal development that occurred during their military service and as a result of their experiences during these years.

Westminster students Derrick Jensen, Kevin Grissom, Laura Parrot and moderated by Tom Dobbins, WC Director of Budgeting & Financial Controls, 1993 U.S. Naval Academy Graduate, and former Captain in the U.S. Marines
Coulter Science Center 345

Three Generations of International Criminal Courts and Tribunals: the Evolution of International Criminal Justice

After World War II, the Nuremburg and Tokyo Tribunals marked the international community's first response to trying perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity. The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), set up by the Security Council in the early 1990's, revived this theme in response to the atrocities which took place in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, and paved the way for the multilateral treaty establishing the permanent International Criminal Court in 1998. More recently, hybrid or internationalized criminal tribunals have been set up as another way of dealing with crimes of international concern – the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. Three generations of courts. Several different models of international criminal justice. This session will consider how these courts and tribunals have sought to answer the same question: how can international criminal justice help stop the cycle of impunity for perpetrators of mass atrocities?
Helen Brady- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

Coulter Science Center 138

The Threat of High-Alert Nuclear Forces: How Safe are We?

Nuclear weapons, and particularly high-alert forces, essentially subvert the concept of a democratic process because they allow either one person (the President) or a small group of political and military leaders (the President and top military leaders, i.e., the Joint Chiefs of Staff) to launch a nuclear attack. Mr. Starr will discuss the nature of the high-alert nuclear forces threat in conjunction with an explanation of how and why they developed and in what form they exist today.

Steven Starr, University of Missouri Center on Nuclear Issues and Science
Coulter Science Center 329

Q & A with Sean Gourley

Dr. Sean Gourley's research on counterinsurgency takes into effect many interdisciplinary approaches connected to math and physics research. His work is well-suited for the field of international relations. Discuss with Sean about how he approaches research and how it affects his entrepreneurial ventures (such as "Quid"). Learn how this dynamic young professional thinks "outside-the-box" and challenges time and space not only in his Silicon Valley work setting, but globally (as he travels the world) as well.

Sean Gourley, Oxford University PhD in physics, Rhodes Scholar, Decathlete and founder of Quid entrepreneurial technology tools firm
Coulter Science Center 239

Plenary Session

The Rwanda 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsis: A Study on Conflict Genesis and Resolution

The aim of this presentation is to survey the different factors that contributed to the 1994 genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda: the political and historical causes, the socio-economical causes and to show the paths that have been taken to bring reconciliation. Conflict of the magnitude of the Rwanda genocide cannot be simplistically imputed to ethnic hatred; there are many factors that have to be present to make it happen; mainly at the political level. The process to reconciliation must take into consideration all those factors that have contributed to the evil and only once corrected will the path to reconciliation be smooth. The presentation will look at those factors that contribute to reconciliation such as poverty alleviation, increased security, confession and forgiveness, equal rights for all and the building of a culture for peace for the long term. The Rwanda situation will serve as a practical background for the analysis of all those different factors.

Antoine Rutayisire, Pastor
3:30 pm-4:30 pm, Champ Auditorium

National Churchill Museum Speaker Series: "WWII Home Front Posters"

6-7pm, National Churchill Museum

Program Presented by: Jay Antle, Johnson County Community College, Department of History
During World War II, posters were a common persuasive advertising tool. Dr. Antle will suggest how the posters were important in making every citizen a soldier and connecting Americans to the war effort. Audience members will also see how the posters progressed and changed over time.
Contact the Museum at 573/592-6242 for more information or to RSVP.

Wednesday, September 22

Plenary Session

Carolyn Forché on the Literature of Witness to War and Conflict

During the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, a new kind of poet and writer has appeared among us, having endured the suffering of wars, military occupations, forced exile, imprisonment, and torture; their works are marked by the experience of extremity, and bear witness to crimes against humanity, the brutalities of military conflict, and the precarious relation in modern times of the individual to the state. In this presentation, we will hear the voices of witness, read in the context of extreme experience, and develop a new taxonomy of such work, imagining ways in which literature proclaims against injustice, and calls upon the conscience of humanity.

Carolyn Forché, Award-winning Poet of Witness and Human Rights Advocate
9:30am - 10:30am, Champ Auditorium

Breakout Sessions III

10:45am-11:45am, Wallace H. Coulter Science Center

Environmental Factors Leading to Conflict

Outbreaks of violence are often traced to political, ethnic, racial or religious differences between the parties, and conflict over land, water or mineral wealth is seen as tangential to some more fundamental issue. But what if conflict is really rooted in competition for environmental resources? This means that seeking peace by promoting tolerance and understanding - without dealing with environmental factors - is bound to fail. It also suggests that dealing with those factors may provide a quicker and more secure route to peace. This session walks through the environmental factors leading to conflict and suggests strategies for reducing conflict.

Dr Jan Weaver, Director, MU Environmental Studies
Coulter Science Center 139

Conflict in Historical Perspective: the Post-First World War Settlement in the Middle East

L. Carl Brown describes the Middle East as 'the most penetrated international relations subsystem in today's world.' An examination of the post-First World War period reveals that external powers played a dominant role in shaping the region: by destroying the Ottoman political order and imposing a different one in its place, Great Britain in particular ensured that the modern state system in the Middle East was 'designed, imposed and dominated' by the First World War's European victors. This legacy informs aspects of Middle East politics today, as external power involvement in the region continues unabated.

Emily O'Brien, M.Phil. International Relations, University of Oxford
Coulter Science Center 138

Student Refugee Panel

International students from Westminster College who have de facto or de jure refugee status (for political, humanitarian or other reasons) will discuss the status of refugees around the globe and how they relate to conflict.

Khizir Aydamirov (Chechnya, Russian Federation), Tecber Ahmed Saleh (Western Sahara), Marianne Bampire (Rwanda), Khin Chan Mye "Jue Jue" Min Thu (Burma) and moderated by Dr. Sam Goodfellow, Professor and Chair, Department of History, Westminster College

Coulter Science Center 345

Developing a National Policy for Reconciliation and How to Implement It

This session will look at the different challenges of reconciliation and how to overcome them including the different stages towards reconciliation.

Antoine Rutayisire, Pastor
Coulter Science Center 204

Ethiopian Children's Library for a Peaceful and Prosperous Generation

This Projects for Peace initiative was funded by the Davis Foundation. The ten thousand dollar grant was used to renovate an existing school classroom to create a children's library conducive for learning. The premise behind the idea is that through continued education and learning this third world country can see brighter days. With increased reading and knowledge, the future of Ethiopia is limitless.

Westminster Students Derick Dailey '11, Eyob Demeke '10 and Behe Bekera '11
Coulter Science Center 329

On Poetry of Witness: Reading the Lyric Art of Extremity

Carolyn Forché, Award-winning Poet of Witness and Human Rights Advocate
Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

Teaching Conflict in the Secondary Classroom

This breakout session focuses on the role conflict plays in teaching Social Studies to secondary students. We will look at the different ways conflict can be addressed in the Social Studies discipline and how addressing historical conflicts can be a natural way of teaching students how to resolve conflicts in their own lives. Strategies will be shared and discussion is encouraged during this session.

David Aulgur, 8th Grade History Teacher, West Junior High School
Coulter Science Center 239

Lunch

11:30am – 1:30pm, Mueller Leadership Hall

John Findley Green Lecture by The Honorable James A. Baker, III

61st Secretary of State and 67th Secretary of Treasury

"The Case for Pragmatic Idealism"

2pm, Champ Auditorium

Monday, September 27

Symposium Film Series - Europa, Europa (1990)

7pm, Coulter Science Center Lecture Hall

New York Times "Critics' Pick"

This drama was based on the true story of a young German Jew who survived the Holocaust by falling in with the Nazis. Solomon Perel (Marco Hofschneider) is the son of a Jewish shoe salesman coming of age in Germany during the rise of Adolf Hitler. In 1938, a group of Nazis attack Solomon's family home; his sister is killed, and 13-year-old Solomon flees to Poland. Solomon winds up in an orphanage operated by Stalinist forces; when German forces storm Poland, Solomon's fluent German allows him to join the Nazis as a translator, posing as Josef Peters, an ethnic German. In time, "Peters" is made a member of the elite Hitler Youth, but since Solomon is circumcised, he can be easily revealed as a Jew, and he lives in constant fear that his

secret will be discovered. Solomon's close calls include an attempted seduction by Robert Kellerman (André Wilms), a homosexual officer, and his relationship with Leni (Julie Delpy), a beautiful but violently anti-Semitic woman who wants to bear his child for the glory of the master race. Europa, Europa (shown in Europe as Hitlerjunge Salomon) also features the real Solomon Perel, who appears briefly as himself. ~ Mark Deming, All Movie Guide