



3rd Annual Conference

April 8-9, 2016

BMC 5.208 and 5.212

The Belo Center for New Media

Moody College of Communication

The University of Texas at Austin



The Conflict Conference

Schedule at a Glance

4/8/2016 Friday

8am	Registration
8:00-8:45	Poster session
8:45-9:00	Welcome
9:00-10:00	Panel 1: Memory/Documentation
10:00-11:00	Panel 2: Childhood/Adolescence
11:00-12:00	Panel 3: Discourse Analysis
12:00-1:00	Lunch Break
1:00-2:30	Keynote Speech: Dr. Daena Goldsmith
2:30- 3:30	Panel 4: Organizational and between-groups conflicts
3:30-3:50	Coffee Break
3:50-4:50	Featured local program: Grassroots Leadership
4:50-6:00	Panel 5: International Negotiations

4/9/2016 Saturday

8am	Registration
9:00-9:15	Morning Coffee
9:15-10:00	Panel 6: Faith and Outreach
10:00-11:00	Panel 7: Asian Conflict Studies
11:00-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:00	Panel 8: Israel/Palestine Studies
12:00-1:00	Lunch Break
1:00-2:00	Featured Local Group: Dialogue Institute
2:00-3:00	Panel 9: Media Studies
3:00-3:30	Coffee Break
3:30-4:30	Panel 10: Guns to Gloves Movie
4:30-6:00	Keynote Speech: Dr. Peter Praxmarer
6:00	Reception *

* If you need a ride to the evening reception on April 9th, please sign up at the registration desk. It's a short 5 minute ride or 10 minute walk.

** For Wi-Fi connection, please see us at the registration desk for a login code.

4/8/2016 Friday

8:00am-5:00pm Registration

8:00am-8:45am Poster session

Leader-Member Perception of Conflict Efficacy during Organizational Meetings

Gabriel E. Pantoja, Department of Communication Studies, Texas A&M University

The purpose of this study is to examine leader-member perceptions of conflict management effectiveness during organizational meetings and to see if the individual relationship among the leader and member affects that conflict management perception. The leader can continue managing meetings with a perception that their conflict management effectiveness is well received by his or her employees since no one brings it up as an issue. This research aims to find the disconnect between the two perceptions in order to see if and when feedback is given regarding the conflict management of leaders. This study will utilize the LMX-7 scale (leader-member exchange) to measure the relationship dynamics amongst leader and member of student organizations. The conflict efficacy scale will measure the perception that members have about the group and leader's conflict management effectiveness. Other questions will ask about the feedback members and leaders offer in regards to their conflict management.

Managing conflictive conversations: A social practice view

Niaz Muhsin Aziz, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

In this paper, I intend to investigate conflictive conversation in light of morality in Iraqi conversations. In this paper, morality is used in the sense that something goes against social, personal, or ritual norms and someone irrelevant as a bystander or relevant as a friend legitimizes intervening the conversation either by taking someone's side or only for the sake of mediation. But the question arising here would be: How do Iraqi participants appeal to the moral order in conflict situations? To answer this question, I would like to follow the literature of ethnomethodology developed by Garfinkel and the conversation analysis Sacks, Schegloff, and Jefferson. According to their method, morality always has two dimensions. There an evaluative element attached to morality in the sense that when interacting with one another the participants usually appeal to the moral order by using off-record strategies for some social reasons which will be illustrated in this paper. Likewise, morality has another dimension, which is accountability. Social practices are accountable either inherently or as practical seasonings in justifying a moral judgment or vindicating a wrong act. In this paper, morality is a form of social practice.

6 student posters from Spring 2016 CMS 371K Practicum in Conflict Mediations

Safe streets: A case study

Kayla Belt, Anna Notario, Cailin Rosborough, Alina Tonu

We looked at the Safe Streets program of Baltimore's city health department to consider how the program reduces gun violence in areas by recruiting former convicts and training them in mediation practices, reaching out to de-escalate conflicts in their communities, and redefining norms on gun violence among juveniles.

Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution in the entertainment industry

Emma Stolle, Madeline Wynne, Daniel Vazques

Mediation and A.D.R are efficient methods to resolve conflicts in the entertainment industry. Benefits include privacy, convenience, and timeliness reaching a solution. We examined the conflict between Marvin Gaye and Pharrell Williams over the song Blurred Lines. Using our mediation skills, we came up with alternative solutions to the conflict.

Political gridlock

Dakota Brewer, Zhelun Chen, Summer Tapley

This poster is on the subject of political gridlock. Our research takes a look at the definition of political gridlock and how it specifically effects the productivity of the United States congress. We will also identify factors that cause gridlock and offer a few solutions to break through the conflict.

Political moderation

Skylar Haley, Thomas Prorise, Christopher White, Parker Witte

This poster is about political moderation. Specifically, about the debate moderators and their role in the 2016 political debates. We will answer the following questions: How are moderators chosen? Is there a diversity problem? Are these moderators paid? What importance does the role of entertainment play? However, the bulk of our poster will focus on the process and layout of the moderation.

Funnel vision: Applying the conflict funnel to intrapersonal identity

Devin Guthrie, Heather Payton

Louis Kriesberg's conflict funnel is a model that traditionally shows how the dynamics of conflict escalate through stages that limit the options to creatively deal with that conflict. We are applying this international affairs theory to the intrapersonal identity in terms of making decisions that define who one is. Over time, one can experience a feeling of constraint and limited options for their life goals and this can lead to hasty decision-making and other forms of self-destructive behavior.

Child's play

Claire Aven, Rebecca Garza, Ashley Ngaoluangrath

For our poster we will focus on children (between the ages of 4 and 7) and how they handle conflict. Topics that we researched include the types of things children argue about, the outcomes of their conflicts, and how their parents' behaviors can affect the way children handle conflicts.

8:45am-9:00am Welcome

9:00am-10:00am Panel 1: Memory/Documentation

Innovation, Relationship, and Our National Conversation: Waco Law Enforcement and Community Policing

Natalie M. Garcia, BSW, Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University

Utilizing a grounded theory approach, this paper examines the capacity of law enforcement in Waco, Texas to provide a positive microcosm of community policing practices for the country, to include preferred theories, challenges of implementation, and perceived effectiveness. Within the last several years, the profession of policing has rapidly become relevant to the topic of community conflict and mediation, particularly as the United States faces frequent concerns regarding the strategies and attitudes of local law enforcement towards its citizenry. It is imperative that in seeking potential solutions to the challenges we face, any critical evaluation of law enforcement must be able to provide and illustrate positive models of policing as guidelines for change. The philosophy of community policing relies on the tools of organizational transformation, problem-solving, and community partnerships, and has been endorsed by the United States Conference of Mayors as a valuable method for improving long-term police-community relations.

Black and Blue: The Discourse of the Police Accountability Movement

Mary Angela Bock, Ph.D., School of Journalism, The University of Texas at Austin

This project analyzes the discourse of the police accountability (PA) movement in the US using qualitative and quantitative techniques. Police accountability activism is one outgrowth of new technologies that enable citizens to document events in their communities. Known colloquially as “cop-watchers,” these activists use smartphone video, social media and wireless connectivity to bypass traditional news organizations while documenting police activity. While some might see this as a basic function of the citizenry to monitor state power, others see the very act of filming police as a form of harassment and dissidence. Based on a sample of cop-watching productions, local news media coverage and police agency communication, this project examines the multi-modal discourses of cop-watching and how stakeholders in these sites situate video in discourse. These findings then enable a critique of how well these discourses support professed normative goals such as community service, government monitoring and non-violent deliberation.

All Roads Lead to King: A Multi-Case Comparison of the Communication Process of Naming a Street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Arkadelphia, Arkansas and High Point, North Carolina

Allen D. Brim, The Dept of Speech Communication, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The naming or renaming of streets for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is increasingly common in U.S. cities and towns. It takes place in highly public debates and often creates controversy within a community, exposing racial and political tensions that have previously been buried or ignored by residents (Spina, 2011). This paper reflects on the communication process of two cities attempting to name a street after Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Robert Ulmer's Discourse of Renewal theory is used to guide this study. Communication planning and practices are explored with a focus on selected elements of renewal. The majority of existing research and literature in the field of communication focuses on identity crises in link to the politics of naming a street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Arkadelphia, Arkansas and High Point, North Carolina. This study, through both cases presented, offers valuable insights into crisis communication in an identity crisis. The ultimate purpose of this study is to explore and discover communication differences, similarities, and the best communication behaviors, tactics, and practices for conflict management and renewal for all stakeholders involved.



10:00am- 11:00am Panel 2: Childhood/Adolescence

Kind Discipline

Jennifer L. Winkler, MPH, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, The University of Arizona

Michele E. Walsh, Ph.D., College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, The University of Arizona

Jeannette Maré, Executive Director/Ben's Mom, Ben's Bells Project

School discipline policies in the United States are harming children. There is general agreement the system is broken, but less agreement about what to do. We are working to develop promising alternatives to current punitive models by first defining a new model we are calling "kind discipline" through a process called concept mapping. Concept mapping is an intertwined quantitative and qualitative process that includes: a brainstorming phase, a statement analysis phase, a sorting and rating phase, and multidimensional scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis of the collected data. Concept mapping culminates in the production of visual displays of the data: maps that provide an interpretable visual representation of the group's ideas. We will present the "kind discipline" concept map developed based on over 298 statements generated, sorted and rated, and organized into 11 clusters by educators and administrators collaborating with us on this process.

Deliberating about Justice: Tensions in a Public Deliberation about Juvenile Justice in Kansas

Gregory D. Paul, Thea Niefeld, Salina Initiative for Restorative Justice, Kansas State University

The state of Kansas has faced considerable scrutiny of late for its responses to juvenile misbehavior. The authors initiated a public deliberation process to explore possible responses rooted in positive youth development within a mid-sized city in Kansas. Over the course of the deliberation, several tensions emerged relating to both process and interaction. These tensions prompt the consideration of several questions organizers should consider when pursuing a public peace through deliberation.

Fortitude in the Face of Adversity: Resilience as a Moderator of the Developmental Pathway from Childhood Exposure to Violence to Dating Violence Perpetration

Ashton E. Munoz, Midland County ISD

Michelle E. Pence, Ph.D., Communication Program, The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

The purpose of the current study is examining personal resilience as a moderator of the developmental pathway from childhood exposure to violence to the experience of dating violence. Participants ($N = 235$) completed a series of measures in Spring of 2015. Results from analyses revealed partial support for the three hypotheses. While resilience moderated relations between childhood exposure factors (exposure to indirect violence, violence in the home, and neighborhood violence) and three outcomes related to the perpetration of dating violence (threatening behaviors, emotional/verbal abuse, and physical abuse), resilience did not moderate any relations with victimization as an outcome. Results are discussed in terms of the development of resilient functioning.



11:00am-12:00pm Panel 3: Discourse Analysis

Conflict Management in the View of Institutional Constraints

Alena Vasilyeva, Ph.D., Dept of Communication, University of Massachusetts Amherst

The study explores verbal conflict in institutional context, namely the elections debate. Institutional forms of talk carry certain constraints on what is considered to be an adequate contribution to the interaction, and what is a violation. Some conversational actions are avoided while others are promoted in institutional talk (Drew & Heritage, 1992). The study examines how the format of the debate and the moderators' actions contribute to emergence of confrontation between themselves and the debaters, what communicative practices the debaters use to resist an institutionally preferred form of interactivity and redesign it, and how the moderators manage this situation.

Feeling Free to (Dis)Agree: Negotiation of Sameness and Conflict Avoidance in Facilitated Dialogues Across Difference

Adam Lauver, Dept of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder

This paper explores the ways in which student and non-student participants in facilitated dialogues on a college campus negotiate discursively their positionalities in relation to one another and in relation to their apparent differences. Discourse analysis is employed to identify and to examine the discursive moves that participants make when navigating potential and actual disagreements in a quasi-intergroup dialogue setting. Central to the paper is an exploration of the implications of avoiding conflict and disagreement in dialogues explicitly intended as a space for cultivating a more robust sense of engagement across difference.

A Contrapuntal Analysis of Parent-LGBTQ Child Relational Discourses

Tee Tyler, School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin

Communication between parent and child after a child's disclosure of a LGBTQ identity and/or gender identity can result in positive or negative effects for the child. For example, familial acceptance is associated with positive mental and physical health outcomes for LGBTQ individuals (Ryan et al., 2010), yet familial rejection can result in poor health outcomes (Ryan et al., 2009). This presentation offers findings from a recent data analysis of cultural discourses manifesting between parents and LGBTQ adult children and analyzes how these discourses interplay to create new meanings within these transitioning relationships. This presentation focuses primarily on societal discourses manifesting within the parent-child relationship and how dyads manage them as part of the post-disclosure relational process.

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch break



1:00pm-2:30pm Keynote Speech:



Dr. Daena Goldsmith

Lewis & Clark College

Being an Ally Mom in the Autism Wars: A Normative Rhetorical Analysis of Blogs

Conflict between autistic self-advocates and parents of autistic children has broken out in many online spaces. Parents who seek treatments or wonder about causes have been criticized for trying to fix or prevent autism instead of accepting neurodiversity and some parents' vivid descriptions of autistic children engaging in self-harm or meltdowns have been criticized for violating the child's privacy and contributing to negative stereotypes. Debates have also been waged about the centrality of neurotypical parent voices in discourse about autism and who should speak for and about the interests of autistic children. The divide has played out in the twitter- and blog-o-spheres, where low barriers to entry enable both advocates and parents to self-publish their stories and positions and where the capacity for interactivity has produced lively, and sometimes hostile, threads of comments and hashtag campaigns.

Bridging this divide could enable parents and advocates to join in changing social attitudes and policies; calls for dialogue have come from scholars, advocates, and parents. Towards that end, I seek to identify rhetorical common ground by studying several case studies in which neurotypical mothers of autistic children blog about their experiences as mothers and as allies. Situating these blogs within discourses about autism and discourses about motherhood provides insight into the rhetorical challenges these mothers face. In turn, I examine the strategies they employ that are responsive to these challenges. Although online communication has been a site for hostile and divisive interaction, I wish to show how it can also be a site that promotes education, acceptance, collaboration and conversation.

2:30pm-3:30pm Panel 4: Organizational and between-groups conflicts

Advertising vs. Public Health: Missed Opportunities for Understanding and Collaboration

Mike Mackert, Ph.D., School of Advertising and Public Relations. The University of Texas at Austin

Ashley Udell, School of Advertising and Public Relations. The University of Texas at Austin

The fields of advertising and public health are often at odds, an at times confrontational relationship among researchers and practitioners which could be alleviated through a greater understanding of how each field goes about its work. This talk shares examples of those misunderstandings and how improved communication could improve both fields.

The Challenges of Advocacy: An Analysis of Ombudsmen in the Long-Term Care Setting

Melissa A. Maier, Ph.D., Dept of Communication, Missouri State University

Within the long-term care and older adult context, ombudsmen are charged with representing residents of care and/or living facilities to protect and support their interests. Within their role, ombudsmen act as parties to or mediators of conflict with a variety of different groups, all in the effort to forward the interests of their clients. They act as mediators between their clients and others (e.g., doctors, nurses, social workers, medical billing agencies, family members). In doing so, the ombudsmen can, and often do, become parties to conflict themselves. Due to the importance and prominence of the ombudsman role in long-term care and the challenges ombudsmen encounter as client advocates, this project examined the nature of and challenges to conflict within the ombudsman role. A thematic analysis of three focus groups of ombudsmen revealed three conflict-related challenges: volunteer identity, dealing with difficult people, and lack of conflict-related training.

A Review of Workplace Leisure: Understanding Current Topics and Expanding Application of Unobtrusive Control

Claire M Schneider, Dept of Communication Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

Popular press points to a growing interest and concern in the implementation of leisure facilities in organizations, but there is gap in the literature concerning such structures in terms of workplace leisure scholarship. The following extended literature review examines scholarship in regards to topics in workplace leisure and how employees make sense of such policy. The secondary purpose of this paper is to argue for the use of unobtrusive control theory to explain why some leisure policies fail while others succeed. A new focus of research is proposed that looks at how unobtrusive control can be applied to leisure facility employer-employee dialogues.

3:30pm-3:50pm Break

3:50pm-4:50pm Featured local program:



Immigration Profiteering: Who Benefits? Conflict Creation and Community Response

Sofia Casini and Bethany Carson

Grassroots Leadership was founded in 1980 as a multi-racial team of Southern organizers taking action to end social and economic oppression, gain power, and achieve justice and equity. Over the past 35 years, Grassroots Leadership has organized with community, faith, human and civil rights, criminal justice reform, and labor organizations to end for-profit incarceration and reduce criminalization and detention. The current immigration conflict is constructed on an interpersonal level, with fear-mongering and prejudice ruling election discourse and press. Sharp lines are drawn between criminals, economic migrants and refugees. But who benefits? Private prison companies making \$300/day/person detaining refugee families pay lobbyists to influence draconian immigration policies - justifying minimum "bed quotas" for locking up immigrants and imposing laws criminalizing migrant entry to fill facilities. This panel will explore the underlying profit motives in this conflict creation, and strategies to struggle against, expose, and overcome the oppressive structures benefiting.



4:50pm-6:00pm Panel 5 International Negotiations

Socio-Psychological Manifestations and the Ways to Overcome the Xenophobia in the Inter-Ethnic Conflicts

Artur Kobelyan, Ph.D., Dept of Psychology, Yerevan State University, Armenia

The term inter-ethnic tolerance came into our reality with all its terrible sides erewhiles. Our civilization is endangered by the amount of annually increasing ethno-political conflicts, numerous victims, violence and terrorism. The necessity of the research of the above-mentioned conflicts becomes much more important when we look back in history: a number of ethnic groups, states, nationalities and cultures have become extinct or are on the verge of becoming extinct. The main reasons of interethnic conflicts and aggression is xenophobia. This psychological phenomenon lies on the basis of almost all the theories of the destructive behavior. Xenophobia is the fear of that which is perceived to be foreign or strange. The fear itself gives rise to aggression. The factors and reasons of xenophobia are obviously displayed in ethnic aggression. Thus, xenophobia being a destructive manifestation of ethnic identity causes inter-ethnic tolerance, aggression and conflicts.

Organizational Rhetoric: Conflict Diamonds and International Regime Solutions

Lori Leigh Davis, School of Management, University of St Andrews, Scotland

In response to the civil society campaigns against the trade of “conflict” and “blood diamonds,” the Kimberley Process (KP) refers to the negotiations made by governments, civil society organizations and the diamond trade and the ongoing initiatives to stem the flow of illicit diamonds used to fund civil wars in countries like Sierra Leone and Angola. As a result, two key regulations were established including The Kimberley Process Certificate Scheme (KPCS) enacted on January 1, 2003 and the World Diamond Council System of Warranties (SoW). This is the first empirical study to look at the organizational rhetoric made by the key actors of the KP and KPCS. The rhetorical strategies used by the stakeholders will be identified by critical reading technique to draw conclusions on power within the diamond industry.

European Union Approaches to Human Rights Violations in Kosovo before and after Independence

Branislav Radeljić, Ph.D., School of Social Sciences, University of East London, UK

This paper examines European Union (EU) approaches to the question of human rights violations in Kosovo before and after its proclamation of independence, in February 2008. While the 1999 NATO-led humanitarian intervention in the region was often justified as necessary due to the continuous abuses of human rights, perpetrated by the Serbian forces against the ethnic Kosovo Albanians, the post-interventionist period has witnessed a dramatic reversal of roles, with the rights of the remaining Serbian minority being regularly abused by the dominant Albanian population. However, in contrast to the former scenario, the Brussels administration has remained quite salient about the post-independence context – a grey zone of unviable political and social components, capable of generating new confrontations and human rights abuses within the borders of Kosovo. Aware of this dynamic and the existing EU official rhetoric, it is possible to conclude that the embedded human rights concerns in Kosovo are not likely to disappear, but even more importantly, their relevance has been significantly eroded.

4/9/2016 Saturday

9:15am-10:00am Panel 6: Faith and Outreach

Theorizing Interfaith Dialogue: Advances from a Communication Perspective

Mark Ward Sr., Ph.D., University of Houston-Victoria, School of Arts & Sciences

Religious strife is a leading cause of conflict. Yet communication scholars have done little to theorize interfaith dialogue and suggest applications for peacemaking. This paper proceeds in three steps: (1) The limited attempts to theorize interfaith dialogue from a communication perspective are reviewed, along with the author's body of published ethnographic research which demonstrates that religious communities are distinctive cultures and, thus, interreligious encounters may be productively theorized as intercultural communication. (2) Reasons why interfaith dialogue has attracted limited interest from communication scholars are suggested, including the inherent difficulty of accounting for the residual effects on communication of religionists' beliefs in divine speech agency. (3) The author's ongoing research program to build a method for comparing religious cultures based on Speech Codes Theory is described, using "religious life-stories" (called "testimonies" in many religious traditions) to unpack religio-cultural differences that complicate and often prevent productive interfaith dialogue.

Photographing Those in Need: Exploitation vs. Empowerment

Jonathan A Herrle, Syracuse University
Dennis Kinsey, Ph.D., Syracuse University



The power of photography is its capacity to invoke compassion between human beings, bridging language and cultural barriers. Traditionally, charitable appeals have used negatively framed imagery, i.e., photographs showing gritty, poverty-stricken, malnourished children and tearful hopelessness. Some have labeled the use of this type imagery as poverty porn and argue that negativity-bias appeals have fatigued audiences to the point of aversion and therefore have lost their utility. The argument for use of positively framed imagery, i.e., photographs showing smiles, hope and improved conditions, is to avoid compassion fatigue or aversion in charitable-appeals campaigns. We wanted to explore the subjective response to the valence of images in the context of charitable giving. Q methodology, a method for the scientific study of subjectivity, is used to help explore the relationship between charitable appeals and the accompanying photography typically used in such campaigns.

10:00am-11:00am Panel 7: Asian Conflict Studies

Ethnic Conflicts in Hillside Borderland: Study on Headhunting in 18th-&19th-century Taiwan

Liwan Hung, Ph.D., Institute of Taiwan History, Academic Sinica

Through reviewing ancient literature, survey data and oral history (collective memories), this study examined the ethnic conflicts in hillside borderland, with special emphasis on the headhunting tradition. Headhunting used to be a tribal ritual but evolved into a means of the aborigines for survival against invaders and fight for land in face with reduction of living space under intense competition of new immigrants and interference from the state. Moreover, this study investigated how the self-autonomous new settlers negotiated with the indigenous tribes to establish their living space, as well as the social relationships thus formed. In borderland regions where government authority was not well established, immigrants were left to fend for themselves and were much affected by the local cultural environment. Hence, when analyzing the development of immigrant society or local history, due attention should be paid to the social traditions and characteristics of native inhabitants, which were often the background and underlying reasons for ethnic conflicts.

A Chinese Model of Constructive Conflict Management

Yiheng Deng, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, China
Pamela Koch, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, USA

Studies on Chinese conflict management has started with a small number of empirical as well as theoretical articles, and flourished since the 1990's. Earlier researches have pointed out that Chinese people, traditionally, adopt non-confrontational, avoiding, compromising and obliging conflict styles, (e.g. Chung 1998; Ting-Toomey et al, 1991), while more recent researches found that Chinese can hold open and direct discussions to the effect of constructively manage the conflict or disagreement (e.g. Tjosvold et al, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004). However, A dearth of studies have addressed the "how" issues. Hence, by focusing on a number of important articles on Chinese conflict management since the 1990's, by emphasizing such indigenous concepts as face and harmony, and by drawing on a few empirical studies the authors proposed a model of how the Chinese could resolve conflict constructively. Future research directions have been proposed at the end of the article.

From Economic Cooperation to Lasting Peace : Solving the Paradox of Competitive Cooperation in the Context of China-India Conflict

Supriya Karudapuram, Ph.D., School of International Service, American University

China and India are two emergent powers in a global economy who are also neighboring countries. However since the 1962 war during which China defeated India, the 2 countries have been engaged in a volatile conflict situation most evident along their border. Both countries contest border territories demarcated as belonging to the other as theirs. Recent diplomatic activities between the top leaders of the countries tout a rhetoric of cooperation even though closer examination shows that the emphasis is predominantly on economic cooperation to the exclusion of cooperation in other spheres. This paper follows this rhetoric as espoused by the Beijing Review, a popular weekly magazine in China. The paper proposes to answer the research question, "What is the meaning of China-India cooperation communicated by the top leaders of the 2 countries in recent times?" It endeavors to answer this question combining ideographic analysis and open coding techniques.

11:00am-11:15am Coffee Break

11:15am-12:00pm Panel 8: Israel/Palestine Studies

How do Women Wage Peace? Women, Feminism, and Peace Work in Israel/Palestine

Amanda Bennett, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin

In 2000, the United Nations passed Security Council Resolution 1325, calling both for a gender perspective in conflict management and the inclusion of women in peace negotiations. Despite scholarship showing that inclusion of women can lead to more successful peace processes, women remain severely unrepresented in peace negotiations around the world. In addition, the mechanisms that drive women's peace making remain unexamined. This paper examines existing theories as to how including women in peace processes can increase the chance for lasting peace. It proposes that including women, giving them influence, and including feminist perspectives will lead to more lasting peace. This theory is then tested using the case of the Israel/Palestine conflict. The author conducted various interviews with Israeli peace activists from October 2015 to January 2016. The paper examines, in the context of this theory, why they have failed, and in what ways they have succeeded as well.

Spirit of the Game: Conflict Resolution in Ultimate Frisbee

Ezekiel Levine, Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin

This paper seeks to establish a relationship between the sport of Ultimate Frisbee and the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Ultimate is a relatively new sport that promotes respectful gameplay and self-officiated dispute resolution, guided by a central value known as "Spirit of the game". As the sport is analyzed through the lens of Alternative Dispute Resolution, it is revealed as an effective model of cooperative, non-violent dispute resolution, which, as this paper demonstrates, may impact the way in which players of the sport understand conflict and its resolution in everyday conflict situations. This effective modeling of conflict resolution skills is used by organizations such as Ultimate Peace and Bridging the Gaps to address societal conflicts. As individuals of conflicting groups engage in Ultimate, they interact and develop resolution skills that may be employed in the larger societal context.



12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch Break

1:00pm-2:00pm Featured Local Group: Dialogue Institute



Dialogue Institute (formerly known as the Institute of Interfaith Dialog) grew out of the need to address the question, "How can citizens of the world live in peace and harmony?" The Institute was established in 2002 as a 501-c-3 non-profit educational organization by Turkish-Americans and their friends.

Many participants of the Institute's activities are inspired by the discourse and pioneering dialogue initiatives of the Turkish Muslim scholar, writer and educator [Fethullah Gulen](#). Headquartered in Houston, Texas, the Institute has branch offices in five states and representatives throughout the South-Central United States.

Mission

To promote mutual understanding, respect and cooperation among people of diverse faiths and cultures by creating opportunities for direct communication and meaningful shared experiences.

Vision

Dialogue Institute envisions a society where every person views and treats each other with dignity, people come around shared values to promote the common good of their communities as well as the world as a whole.

2:00pm-3:00pm Panel 9: Media Studies

When the Guns Fall Silent

Jonathan A Herrle, Syracuse University

This film explores transformative justice and reconciliation in Northern Uganda's civil war through the experience of Lillian Akwero, one of the 50,000 children abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army. She was forced to commit war crimes as a child soldier under leader Joseph Kony, by whom she later bore a child. The screening is couched in a participative dialogue delineating the complex issues of documenting post-conflict reconstruction for advocacy, awareness and history. In working toward a thicker transformational justice, outreach is increasingly recognized as essential to participatory citizenship. Transitional justice mechanisms have become a normative component of post-conflict reconstruction because the ability to transition into the future requires a social willingness to reconcile the past. This paper examines storytelling as catalyst in social healing and the role of film in transformative justice.

How Media Helps and Hurts Transitional Justice Process

Angie Liao, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University

Media coverage of transitional justice processes has been generally decried as detrimental to the realization of justice. Frequently cited examples include the leaking of protected witness identities during the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the outright mendacity of Guatemalan newspapers during the first trial of Efraín Ríos Montt. At the same time, particularly in the case of South Africa, some national media have been heralded as intrinsic to the administration of transitional justice in their nations. As newly transitioning societies begin developing forums for justice, they must account for the increasingly ubiquitous media. The present paper will draw from the insights of past truth commissions and tribunals to suggest framing considerations for how transitional justice actors should approach and work with the media to build a productive relationship.

Covering the Nipple: New Discourse and the Politics and Framing of Breastfeeding

Mary Bock, Ph.D., School of Journalism, The University of Texas at Austin

Paromita Pain, M.A., School of Journalism, The University of Texas at Austin

JhuCin (Rita) Jhang, M.A., Dept of Communication Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

Health experts generally agree that breastfeeding is the best option for infants and their mothers, and most states in U.S. protect breastfeeding in public. Yet breastfeeding in public remains a controversial act in the U.S, even in states where it is legal. This project represents a textual analysis of news articles in the top ten newspapers in the US to study how breastfeeding is framed. We focus particular attention on the way one word: *nipple*. Conflict over breastfeeding practices is rooted in nipple exposure and how the taboo treatment of the word reflects this hyper-sexualization of a body part. We argue that by using *nipple* in connection with sexuality or pathology, news reports inhibit efforts to normalize nursing. Our findings suggest that journalism's role in framing public discourse necessitates a more frank, frequent and open use of the word *nipple* to better serve the needs of maternal-infant health.

3:00pm-3:30pm Break

3:30pm-4:30pm Panel 10: Guns to Gloves Movie

A Backyard Fight Club as an Alternative to Gun Violence

Susan Szmania, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of Maryland

Documentary Film Director Stuart Harmon

Chris Wilmore or Scarface, Founder of Street Beefs

Chris Wilmore was devastated after his close friend was shot to death on Christmas Eve in 2013, in a dispute over a woman. Mr. Wilmore, known in his Harrisonburg, Va., neighborhood as Scarface, has his own history with weapons and crime, but he began thinking of ways to squash the gun violence plaguing his community.

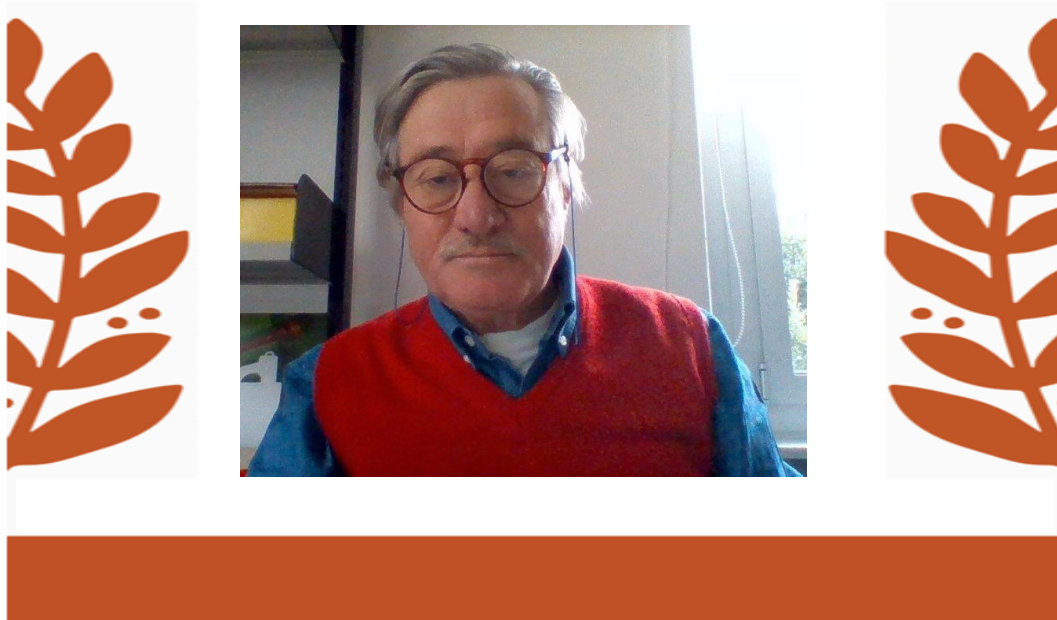
He started actively recruiting people with “beefs” to put on boxing gloves and take their arguments off the streets and into his backyard fight club, where he films the action and a referee calls a winner. He says that most of the disputes are settled once and for all there, with most fighters developing a new respect for the other. “There’s certain people, that’s how they’re wired,” he says. “They’re gonna fight no matter what I do. The only difference is at least with me, they are fighting in a yard with gloves, a referee and regulations.” Mr. Wilmore says his method of conflict resolution appeals to a lot of people in his community, many of whom feel alienated by the legal system.

Officials with the Harrisonburg Police Department say they have not received any reports of problems from the fight club, although the department does not consider Mr. Wilmore’s strategy to be a viable violence reduction solution nor does it condone his homegrown approach.

In this short documentary, “Guns to Gloves,” video journalists Stuart Harmon and Matteo Minasi ride along with Mr. Wilmore over a weekend as he tries to convince two men to settle their dispute over money. As he searches the streets looking for the men, he worries, “These two, out of everybody that I’ve ever solved a beef with, these will be the two that it needs to get solved with. Because they will hurt each other.”



4:30pm-6:00pm Keynote Speech



Dr. Peter Praxmarer

Institute for Public Communication (ICP), Lugano, Switzerland

Thinking and Imagining Peace for Our Times

The idea of peace has a long and fascinating history; the denizens of every place and age have imagined, thought and defined peace differently. What can one say about "peace for our times", sixteen years into the third millennium? In the face of protracted war conflicts, with or without outside and/or UN-authorized armed intervention, of terrorist horrors inflicted on the defenseless, of widespread sectarian, group, regional and urban violence in many parts of the world – in short, in the face of a global landscape of violence, how can one meaningfully imagine and think peace? Many of the reasons for contemporary violent conflicts are well known and analyzed, and they include social exclusion, poverty, inequality among and within nations and states, the ready availability of arms small and big, dramatic environmental and climate changes and ideologies of hatred, as well as irrationality and psychosis. But how to imagine an alternative to what seems to be such a deeply engrained global culture of violence? How could a global culture of peace – or rather the many cultures of peace – look like? Perhaps a renewed moral imagination, taking in and using the accumulated knowledge on ideas and practices of peace can help us to imagine many and diverse cultures of peace, or rather diverse cultures of many peaces. And perhaps new forms of sustainable localized peacebuilding, including new ways of communication for peace, can play their role, too.

6:00pm Reception

Address available at the registration desk. Please sign up if you need a ride. It's a quick 5-minute ride or 10-minute walk.

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See you next year!

Thank you to our Planning Committee!

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Crysta Hernandez, Valerie Gaimon