

# KESSEL PEACE INSTITUTE

Fall 2019



## WELCOMING OUR NEW DIRECTOR! DR. JAMEEL HAQUE

Beginning in Spring 2020 the Kessel Peace Institute will have a new director, Dr. Jameel Haque. Dr. Haque holds a PhD in History from the City University of New York. Before his academic appointment in the History department at MSU Mankato, Jameel was an assistant Professor of History at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Since coming to Mankato, Jameel has focused his peace activism on giving lectures and talks to foster interfaith dialogue between Muslim and non-Muslim groups in Mankato. The Kessel Peace Institute remains in great hands!

**PEACE@MNSU.EDU**

We would love to hear from you! Do you have ideas for topics you want us to address on campus? Do you want to join our email list to be alerted of our events? Any questions or comments? Just email us!

## THIS SEMESTER'S RECAP

This semester we have some great events and accomplishments.

- For the first time we have opened up both student and community member positions on the coordinating committee, making the peace institute more inclusive and effective.

-Sami Rassouli of the Muslim Peacemakers Team came to sepak about current conditions in Iraq.

- We Are All Criminals is a group that works to educate and destigmatize the label of "offender." As part of these efforts, along with the Department of Sociology and Corrections, we hosted an educational display in the CSU and a talk by Emily Baxter.

-We partnered with the Sociologists of Minnesota to bring in Dr. Yurie Hong, founder of the Mankato/St. Peter chapter of Indivisible. Dr. Hong spoke about how to bring skills from academia into activism.

-We were proud co-sponsors of events organized and hosted by the Women's Center surrounding the anniversary of the signing of the 19th amendment.

-We selected a new director--Dr. Jameel Haque!



## THE SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE SERIES

The Social Justice Lecture Series brings to Minnesota State Mankato speakers who are not only experts in their field, but who also go above and beyond to connect their work or scholarship to promoting social justice. As part of this series we also organize workshops, installations and trainings to promote social justice. This lecture series was founded by the Department of Sociology and Corrections in 2014 and we have proudly been co-sponsoring and co-organizing events with them since 2016. This is just one of the ways we bring unique programming to the campus and broader Mankato community.

Be on the lookout later this year! We have video recorded many of these talks. The Department of Sociology and Corrections will be launching a webpage later this year with many of these lectures along with teaching resources such as viewing guides, companion readings, and discussion questions so that you can easily incorporate these lectures into your courses. Email carol.glasser@mnsu.edu if you want to be alerted when these resources are available.

## THANK YOU AND GOODBYES

This is the last newsletter for the Kessel Peace Institute I will have to privilege of writing as the Director. I am excited about the new leadership of the organization under Dr. Jameel Haque, so this is only sort of a goodbye. I plan to remain involved with the Kessel Peace Institute by serving on the coordinating committee. I have served as director for the past four years and have felt honored to work alongside members of the Minnesota State and Mankato community who are passionate about promoting peace and social justice. In this time we have accomplished a lot of great things. To celebrate our accomplishments, and to let those of you who are just learning about who we are know a bit more about what we do, below is listed the events we have organized over the past several years. Keep in mind, this is just part of what we do--we often cosponsor and support the events of others, engage in dialogue about important issues, and work with others to promote peace when called upon. I hope this list will inspire you to join our email list, become a member of the Kessel Peace Institute, come to our events, contact us with your ideas, and let us know when you need our support. Thank you all for all you do to make this a wonderful and more peaceful community! - Carol Glasser

### THE SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE SERIES EVENTS

- Changing the World Without Having a Clue (Talk, Spring 2017 & Spring 2018) Factory Farming in Minnesota (Panel, Spring 2017)
- WOMEN OF ACTION MONTH SERIES (Spring 2017)
  - He Named Me Malala (Movie screening); American Revolutionary (Movie Screening); Community conversation (Group dialogue)
- FOOD INSECURITY & HUNGER SERIES (Spring 2018)
  - A Place at the Table (Documentary screening); Hunger in America (Documentary screening and presentation); The Status of Food Insecurity at Minnesota State Mankato (Student research presentation)
- WORDS OF ACTION SERIES (Spring 2018)
  - Tools and Tactics for incorporating the arts into social justice activism (Workshop); Page, Stage, Engage: Intersections of Art and Activism (Performance); Hip Hop and Social Action (Talk); Student open mic
- TRANSFER OF MEMORY: REFLECTING ON THE HOLOCAUST SERIES (Fall 2018)
  - Transfer of Memory Exhibit (photography exhibit); A Survivor Remembers the Holocaust (Talk); Finding Art with my Photography (Talk)

- Words Into Deeds: Making the Leap From Academics to Activism (Talk, Fall 2019)
- We are All Criminals: A catalyst for conversations about Crime, Privilege, Punishment and Mercy (Talk, Fall 2019)

### OTHER KESSEL PEACE INSTITUTE EVENTS

- KNOW YOUR RIGHTS SERIES
  - Know your rights workshop on activism; Know your rights workshop for DACA recipients; Life Deferred (Movie Screening)
- Peace Awards Ceremony and Student Essay Contest (Fall 2017)
- Peace Outreach Education at Loyola School (Fall 2017)
- Vigil for Charlottesville (Fall 2017)
- Vigil for Christchurch (Spring 2019)
- Serving and Advocating for Refugees in Minnesota (Spring 2019)
- Iraq Today: An Insider's Account (Fall 2019)

Happy  
holidays