International Institute on Peace Education
2006
July 30-August 6, 2006
San Jose, Costa Rica

“Toward a Planetary Ethic: Shared and Individual Responsibility”

The 2006 International Institute on Peace Education (IIPE) is being co-organized by the Peace Education Center of Teachers College Columbia University (New York) and the UN Mandated University for Peace (Costa Rica). IIPE, founded in 1982 by Betty Reardon and faculty colleagues at Teachers College, has been held annually in different parts of the world. It is an intensive multicultural and cooperative learning opportunity in which participants learn from and with each other about substantive peace issues and interactive teaching approaches. The IIPE is also an opportunity for networking and community building among those who educate and work for a culture of peace in the host region and around the world.

IIPE 2006 will explore the theme of “Toward a Planetary Ethic: Shared and Individual Responsibility,” recognizing that the global community has reached key areas of consensus regarding the challenges we are facing, the shared ethical frameworks of values, norms and principles for meeting them, and in particular the contributions that education should fulfill. In doing so, the IIPE will critically examine various interdependent UN based educational initiatives and normative frameworks that provide a global basis for an holistic approach to peace education: the Millennium Development Goals, the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World, Education for All, the Decade for Literacy, and the Decade for Sustainable Development Education. The IIPE will also look closely at the non-governmental Earth Charter, a declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society. The theme is inspired by the principle of universal responsibility, stated in the ‘Preamble’ of The Earth Charter, which is of fundamental importance in meeting the critical challenges of the 21st Century. Universal responsibility provides a necessary complement to the Universal Declaration of Human Right’s recognition of each person as worthy of equal respect and dignity and with accompanying ‘duties’ to the international community.

The sub-theme, Shared and Individual Responsibility, refers to one of the most significant challenges entailed in giving practical meaning to the principal of universal responsibility in a world of asymmetric real freedoms and power. These asymmetries lead to “differentiated responsibility,” based on differing capacities to respond in meeting planetary challenges. This notion is stated in complementary principle 2b of the Earth Charter: “Affirm that with increased freedom, knowledge, and power comes increased responsibility to promote the common good.” Through interactive plenaries, practical workshops, reflection groups, and visits to community projects, IIPE 2006 will inquire into how education can foster responsibility, balancing respect for personal autonomy while at the same time addressing the need for meeting our common challenges as members of local, national, and planetary ethical communities.

The IIPE will draw on the experiences and insights of diverse peace educators from all world regions helping us learn from each other's experiences and innovative educational approaches and strategies in addressing such key questions as: are the U.N. educational initiatives based on ethical principles actually shared by citizens? How can we educate within the related action programs recognizing possible tensions that may exist in balancing principles of cultural diversity and integrity, personal autonomy, national sovereignty, and universal norms? What pedagogies are required to foster a consciousness of universal responsibility?

For more background on the thematic substance of IIPE 2006 please visit the Institute website at: www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/IIPE.
Application Information
**Applications will be available beginning in early January, 2006.**

You may request an application to be sent to you as soon as they are available by sending an email to: peace-ed@tc.edu. Applications will also be available through the IIPE website: www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/iipe.

Acceptance for participation in the IIPE is based upon the goal of the development and strengthening of peace education in the host region and contributing to a more global perspective on peace education among all participants. As much as we would like to accept everyone who applies, the number of applicants usually exceeds the places at each institute. The IIPE attempts to practice the principles of peace education by engaging all participants in our short term learning community in an experience of participatory learning in which all of us can learn from each other. We have found that increasing our numbers diminishes the importance of this aspect of the institute, so we are unable to accept all applicants.

Among other criteria, first priority is given to those applicants coming from the surrounding host region. The IIPE attempts to explore themes and issues that are particularly relevant to the host region and works to build regional solidarity among peace educators. Thus, a minimum of 50% of the participants will come from this area. In selecting the remainder of the international participants we attempt to maintain a geographical balance and variety in experience and substantive expertise. All applicants should specifically demonstrate that they will apply their peace education learnings in their countries or local communities.

Teachers College Students
Teachers College students may register to attend the IIPE for academic credit under summer course ITSF 4800. As indicated above, there are many criteria considered in the selection process for participation so we recommend that you apply as early as possible.

Requests for Scholarship Support
Unfortunately the IIPE does not have a formal scholarship program. The institute operates on a self-sustaining basis in which all participants, including the organizers and presenters pay their own travel and participation fees or find their own funding. Each year numerous applicants request various amounts of scholarship support. Although we are generally fortunate to be able to find a limited amount of funding to provide fee waivers for a very few individuals, we are unable to fulfill the needs of the requests from many in areas most in need of peace education.

Please Help Future Peace Educators to Participate
We hope you might consider a contribution to the IIPE to fund scholarships for participants from currency poor and post conflict countries. Your generosity will help ensure that those potential participants in greatest need of training and solidarity will be able to attend the institute. We would be grateful for any amount you may be able to donate. All donations are tax deductible. To donate, please clip and return the following form to the address indicated.

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IIPE 2006 Scholarship Fund

- [ ] I would like to make a suggested, tax-deductible donation in the estimated amount of **$500 USD** to support the full participation fees for one participant to IIPE 2006.
- [ ] I would like to make a tax-deductible donation in the amount of **$_____** in partial support of the participation fees for participants in need of scholarship assistance to IIPE 2006.
- [ ] My employer will match this donation.

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Email

Please make checks payable to: Peace Education (indicate “IIPE scholarship” in the memo section)

Mail to: Peace Education Center, Teachers College #171, Columbia University
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(212) 678-8116 peace-ed@tc.edu