

Valencia College Peace and Justice Initiative



All People, All Voices, All Matter: Making a difference by intentionally engaging in practices and principles that explore, advocate, and honor the dignity of self, others, and the earth.

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- The Peace and Justice Initiative seeks to:**
- 1) Create and teach a Peace Studies curriculum
 - 2) Sponsor peace and justice co-curricular activities
 - 3) Foster a connection to Valencia’s A.S./Technical programs in conflict transformation work
 - 4) Offer community outreach in peace and justice
 - 5) Engage in realizing Valencia’s Core Competencies, especially Value

All People, All Voices, All Matter. This newsletter demonstrates the power of the collective; many hands coming together to form a community of peace and justice that both informs and moves us to action. Special recognition goes to Professors Paul Chapman, Dr. Edie Gaythwaite, and Michele Lima for their tremendous work to bring our featured speakers to the campuses and community this fall. Enjoy!



Photo credit: Willie J. Allen, Jr.

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PEACE WEEK 2013 International Peace Day Celebrations

This year, the Peace and Justice Initiative hosted our first ever "Peace Week" celebration in honor of the International Day of Peace!

The week included a conversation on Syria, speaking presentations by humanitarian Carl Wilkens, Peace Day festivities in the Mall Area, and free film screenings in partnership with the [Global Peace Film Festival](#).

The Peace Day celebration included chalk art, signing a peace pledge, writing letters to Syrian refugees, decorating peace pinwheels, taking photos with signs reading "peace" in different languages, a flash mob by Valencia dancers, and a performance by Valencia singers!

The United Nations sanctioned International Peace Day is September 21st of every year. The mission of Peace Day is to have at least one harmonious, non-violent, cease-fire day throughout the world. Visit [Peace One Day](#) for background on how International Peace Day came into being and for more information on what you can do to help accomplish a global change.



Valencia dancers during the flash mob



Valencia singers during the flash mob



Carl Wilkens Visits Valencia September 17-19, 2013



One Person Can Make a Difference: Recalling Lessons from Rwanda

By Linda Beaty

[Valencia College News](#) Posted: 20 Sep 2013



When the genocide in Rwanda began in 1994, Carl Wilkens found himself facing a terrible dilemma. A Seventh-Day Adventist aid worker, Wilkens had lived in Rwanda for four years, building schools and starting his young family there. But as the violence between the majority Hutus and the minority Tutsis erupted, and the killing began to engulf the country, the U.S. embassy urged all Americans to get out of the country.



There was just one problem, Carl Wilkens told audiences at Valencia this week. The Wilkens family -- Carl, his wife Teresa and their three small children -- employed two Rwandans: a housekeeper and a young man who was their night watchman. Both were members of the Tutsi tribe, whose members were being hunted down and killed by members of the majority Hutu tribe and its government. Wilkens figured he had two choices: Leave the country and try to sneak out his two employees, which the U.S. embassy had forbidden, and which he felt might risk his family's lives if they were caught at the border. Or, he and his wife could leave their home in Kigali, and let their employees hide out in their home. Unfortunately, Wilkens knew that the Hutus would quickly find their employees and kill them.



In the face of such dreadful choices, Wilkens came up with a different solution. He sent his wife and children to neighboring Burundi, and he chose to stay in Rwanda --

where he could shelter his employees and other Tutsi friends. "When Plan A is unacceptable and Plan B is equally unacceptable, I'd encourage you to stop and look for a Plan C," Wilkens told the Valencia students and staffers at his speeches.



Carl Wilkens signs his book "I'm Not Leaving"

Wilkens, the only American who stayed during the bloody genocide that claimed more than 800,000 lives, managed to save the lives of his employees -- and he's credited with saving the lives of hundreds of others, including children in nearby orphanages. During the 100 days of nonstop killing, Wilkens went out into the bloody streets of Kigali, faced down soldiers and civilians armed with AK-47s and machetes, and bargained with Hutu government officials to let him help the children. Before long, he found himself dealing with men who were ordering the slaughter of thousands of people. He was uncomfortable with the idea, but a Tutsi friend and pastor suggested it. "He said, 'Carl, if you really want to make a difference, you have to form a relationship with the people in power,'" Wilkens recalled. So Wilkens met with Col. Tharcisse Renzaho, the governor of Kigali. Renzaho gave Wilkens a travel permit that would allow him through roadblocks to provide food and water to children in orphanages. When Wilkens asked for a truck to deliver the materials, the colonel provided one.

Later, after the violence ended and the Rwandan people drove out the extremist government, that colonel was arrested and tried for his crimes. Yet the incident taught Wilkens a lesson. "I want to focus on the power of relationships to make a difference," said Wilkens. Peace, he said, depends on it. "How are we going to build world peace? Through friendships." Wilkens stayed in Rwanda for another 18 months after the genocide, as the country began to heal.

In 2011, Wilkens released his first book, *I'm Not Leaving*, which is based on tapes he made to his wife and children during the genocide. Today, he is the director of [World Outside My Shoes](#), a nonprofit based in Spokane, Washington. Wilkens now spends much of his time traveling around the country, telling how his experiences puts a human "face" on genocide, showing students that perpetrators, victims, and resisters will not soon be forgotten, and teaching participants how one person really can make a difference.

Valencia's Peace and Justice Institute brought Carl Wilkens to campus through a \$2,000 grant from the [United States Institute of Peace](#), which was matched by a \$2,000 donation from Orlando-based [ShuffieldLowman Attorneys & Advisors](#).



Paul Chapman, Rachel Allen, Carl Wilkens, Teresa Wilkens, and Greg Meier

Professor of Peace Studies, Paul Chapman was the recipient of the Public Education for Peacebuilding Support grant from the United States Institute of Peace. Greg Meier, PJI Advisory Council member and partner at ShuffieldLowman, brought the firm on board to match the grant.



**Dr. Peggy McIntosh Visits Valencia
October 24-25, 2013**



Peggy McIntosh speaking to students

**Confronting Reality, American Feminist
Talks at East Campus**

By Frank Shala, Originally printed in the [Valencia Voice](http://ValenciaVoice.com)
fshala@valenciavoices.com, October 28, 2013

East Campus — In her “Finding Space for Authenticity and Inclusion in the Classroom” workshop, American feminist and anti-racist activist Dr. Peggy McIntosh confronted students with many real world questions and issues while challenging them to take a deeper look at the way they analyze the people and things of this world.



McIntosh directs the gender, race, and inclusive education project, which provides workshops on privilege systems, feelings of fraudulence, and diversifying workplaces, curricula, and teaching methods. Students were split into groups where they were able to discuss openly about personal experiences that have played a big role in shaping their lives, and the way they view others. “Opinion brings argument, experience though cannot be debated,” said McIntosh. “When I listen to someone else, I get a clearer sense of who I am.” McIntosh had students take turns telling each

other of situations in their lives; such as where they have felt included and excluded in the classroom, and times where they felt unearned privileges have either helped or hindered them. “I thought the students were really engaged in speaking briefly of their own experiences, which is the precious core of this event,”



McIntosh added. McIntosh spoke sternly on the issue of fraudulence in our society. “We must not let them make us feel like frauds,” said McIntosh. “Let us continue to spot fraudulence in the public roles we are asked to play.”



“I had never really thought about fraudulence,” said student Bekki Charbonneau. “It’s really easy, especially if you’re in a position of privilege to overlook certain things and consider yourself credible for doing things that you think are honorable or impressive.” In a 1991 speech at Harvard, McIntosh spoke to a group of women on some of these same topics. In attendance that day was current Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg who has credited McIntosh with inspiring her and helping pave some of her future successes. “When Sandberg was voted fifth most powerful woman in the world, I took pride when she told me she considered it a ‘fraud,’ and that words such as expert and best are titles that can be taken away as easily as they are given,” said McIntosh. Dr. McIntosh travels all over the country in

hopes of inspiring people of all walks of life to bring out the best in not only themselves, but in each other. "They (the people) are the core, I'm just the facilitator," McIntosh concluded.



**Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity:
Our Time with Peggy McIntosh**

Distinguished writer and scholar Dr. Peggy McIntosh came to Valencia College for a two day residency October 24-25 when she met with over two hundred people in gatherings and workshops to teach and discuss her ideas on educational equity and diversity.

Weeks after Peggy McIntosh's visit, ripples from her time with us continue throughout the college. Dr. McIntosh led a 3 hour workshop for 85 students addressing feelings of fraudulence and systems of privilege and unearned disadvantage, a roundtable discussion with 26 students, faculty, staff and administrators on areas of privilege at the college, and a workshop for 42 faculty based on her *Interactive Phases of Curricular and Personal Re-Vision*. Participants at each workshop were given two of her articles: *White Privilege: An Account to Spend*, as well as *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*, among other readings.



The workshops offered ways of thinking about unearned advantage and disadvantage and systems of privilege and oppression that often go unnoticed in our society. For some, this was a new way of thinking about the world around us, and for others, a welcome conversation about systems of privilege and oppression within our society.

For Valencia, time with Peggy McIntosh offered students, faculty and staff an opportunity to practice *Serial Testimony*, reflecting on and sharing about how systems of earned advantage and unearned disadvantage have played out in our individual lives. And to explore to what extent unearned advantage still affects people at the college, challenging the myth of meritocracy within our culture.



Students responded in a multitude of ways, some challenged with this new way of seeing the world, while others feeling the conversation a breath of fresh air. As one student stated:

Dr. McIntosh's workshop was very entertaining and insightful. It put into words many concepts which had been rattling around in my mind for years. The first of which is that I am not nearly as objective and free from intrinsic assumptions as I would have myself believe. Despite my sincere efforts it is difficult to completely free myself from prejudice. Also, I gained a greater appreciation for the societal divisions in our civilization that can drastically affect our position economically, professionally, and academically. Specifically, those advantages that come from being born a middle class white male. Finally I learned that everybody can and has felt excluded at some point in our lives, and probably will be again. I think as a (future) educator, one of the best things that I could do to implement some of these practices in the classroom would be to try to get people to be honest and open about their own personal assumptions so they can be examined in a safe, judgment-free environment.



Faculty explored McIntosh's *Interactive Phases of Curricular and Personal Re-Vision*, which encourages teachers to explore an increasingly multicultural and inclusive pedagogy, so that all people and all voices are mirrored the classroom. Her final evening at the college was spent with the new SEED Seminar cohort, a group of colleagues from throughout the college participating in the year-long SEED Seminar experiences.



Rudy Darden, Professor of English, brought students and participated as a faculty member in the workshops

As the Peace and Justice Initiative tries to fulfill its value, "All People, All Voices, All Matter," the work of Peggy McIntosh began a conversation challenging participants to explore how we might use unearned advantage to weaken the system of privilege.

A special thanks to College-wide Student Development, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Teaching and Learning Academy, and the Tupperware Corporation Chair in Community Quality, awarded to Michele Lima, Professor of Speech for 2013-2014 for making these events possible.



Uniting to Learn about Peace: The 3-Day Residency of Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury

By Edie Gaythwaite

Valencia hosted Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former Senior Special Advisor to the UN General Assembly President, for a 3-day residency November 5 through 7, 2013. The Ambassador has devoted many years as a rousing supporter for global peace and development. His core message during his 3-day, 4-campus visit centered on [UN Security Council Resolution 1325](#) which was adopted under his leadership as President of the UN Security Council in 2000. Resolution 1325 represents the first time the UN recognized the role women hold in supporting and sustaining peace and security throughout the world.

The screening of the film, [Bonsai People: The Vision of Muhammad Yunis](#), was shown on the East Campus to help students, faculty and other interested parties to begin the dialogue that continued over the 3 day visit on



the importance of women and the role they play in helping to ease poverty and promote peace and security. It was standing room only on the East Campus

when the Ambassador presented his keynote presentation titled, *The Culture of Peace: Agenda for New Global Civilization*. His remarks about the adoption of the landmark [Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace](#) by the UN in 1999 and the 1998 proclamation of the "International Decade for Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)," were well-received by his audience of students and faculty. The Ambassador was kind enough to answer questions that continued for over an hour following his speaking time.

The Ambassador's keynote presentation on the Winter Park Campus, *Challenges of Poverty in the World's Most Vulnerable Nations: A Possible Way Out* focused on the role micro financing plays in helping to lift people out of poverty. This presentation aligned to the goal of the Valencia Initiative for Microloans (VIM), a new student club on east campus. The goal of VIM is to raise money to then loan to individuals seeking micro finance loans on [Kiva](#); a non-profit organization connecting people who are interested in helping others help themselves out of poverty. VIM has created [Team Valencia](#) on Kiva where supports can join and donate.



Dr. Sandy Shugart introduces Ambassador Chowdhury

Faculty had an opportunity to meet the Ambassador to discuss how peace can be embedded within the curriculum. His final keynote presentation to students and faculty was on Valencia's West Campus titled, *The United Nations – Essential or Irrelevant in Today's World?* Students learned first-hand the role of a UN Ambassador, the role of the United Nations and how important peace is to all people. The Ambassador's visit to Valencia allowed many people to learn more about the importance of a culture of peace and its role in our global society.

Enormous gratitude is given to Ambassador Chowdhury and those who made his visit possible: Dr. P. Phillips Foundation Chair for Free Enterprise awarded to Dr. Edie Gaythwaite, Peace and Justice Initiative and the Ambassadors, the [Global Peace Film Festival](#), [Study Abroad Global Exchange \(SAGE\) office](#), [Valencia Foundation](#), community members and all those who participated in the 3-day residency events.



Stephanie Arredondo, Krystal Pherai, Yazan Saleh, Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, Edie Gaythwaite, and Nina Streich

Students representing VIM, Phi-Theta-Kappa (PTK), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Muslim Student Association (MSA), Valencia International Club (VIC), Valencia Future Educators (VFE) and of course, the Peace and Justice Initiative's Ambassadors were on hand to welcome the community to Valencia's Criminal Justice Institute for *An Evening with Ambassador Chowdhury*. Dr. Sandy Shugart, President of Valencia College introduced the Ambassador who spoke about his years at the United Nations and his ongoing efforts toward the culture of peace.



Rachel Allen and Dr. Sandy Shugart welcome Ambassador Chowdhury



EVENTS

Valencia College Workshop Focuses on Trayvon Martin Conflict Aftermath

August 19, 2013|By Jeff Kunerth
Originally published in the *Orlando Sentinel*

Sanford Police Chief Cecil Smith has dealt with the tension between his department and the city's black community for most of the seven months he's been in the job. But Monday was the first time he had drawn a "conflict tree" with the roots, trunk and branches illustrating how deep and widespread the issues were in the aftermath of the Trayvon Martin shooting.

"I think the next phase of this is having community people sitting at the table. At that point, you're getting an opportunity to hear what they are saying, what their ideas are, what their feelings and perceptions are," Smith said. "Then we can come up with plans and strategies."



Speaking: Andrew Thomas, Senior Project Manager, City of Sanford

The workshop's organizer, criminal justice professor James McDonald, said he hopes the practical ideas discussed Monday can turn Sanford into a template for other cities. "If it works, maybe it can become a model for what other fractured communities can adopt to facilitate some sort of healing," McDonald said.



Clockwise: Sanford Police Chief Cecil Smith, Mount Dora Police Chief Randy Scoggins, Valencia student Terrance Coakley, and Criminal Justice Professor Dr. James McDonald

For Smith, this was more than an academic exercise sponsored by Valencia College's Peace and Justice Initiative and attended by a group of law enforcement officers, municipal officials, academics and students.

Building trust between the community and the police is a key to resolving long-standing conflicts, Smith said. Part of that is letting the community know their complaints against police officers will be heard. "You are having an opportunity to have a conversation about what is going on in the community," he said.

On the other hand, Smith wants to dislodge the deep-rooted grievances of past discrimination, injustices and police misbehavior that holds the black community hostage to what used to be.

This was the reality of what he inherited when he took over the job in January: working the murky middle ground between a distrustful black community and an embattled, maligned police department. He sees practical applications for a community still divided and hurting over the acquittal of George Zimmerman in Trayvon's death.



"You learn from the past," he said, "but if you continue to live in the past, you're not going to make any progress moving forward."

Partnership with Global Peace Film Festival Grows

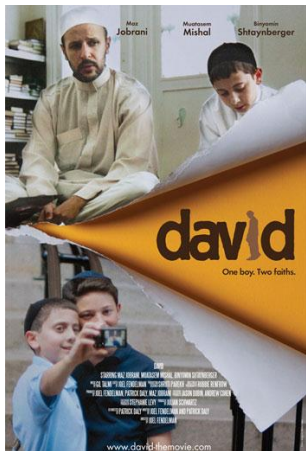


In partnership with the [Global Peace Film Festival](#), we hosted free film screenings of four different films across three Valencia campuses during Peace Week this fall!

Nina Streich, the Executive Director of the Festival, reflects on the partnership with Valencia: “The Global Peace Film Festival is dedicated to using the power of creative media to educate and inspire people to take positive action in their local communities and worldwide. The Valencia Peace and Justice Initiative puts into action the values of the festival by energizing students to act and engage.”



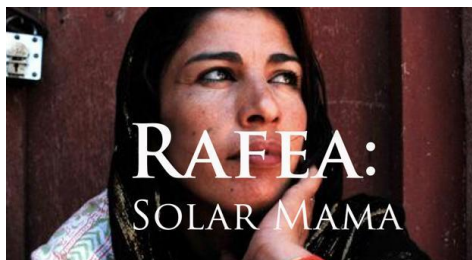
Take Me Home



David



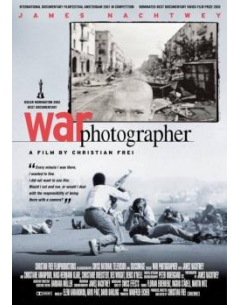
The Revolutionary Optimists



Rafea: Solar Mama

Rwanda and Genocide: A Discussion with Dr. Michael Savage

On September 12th, Dr. Michael Savage, Valencia professor of genocide and history studies, shared stories of his time in Rwanda during the genocide, while playing clips of James Nachtwey's film [The War Photographer](#). This event served as a prelude to Carl Wilkens' visit to the college during Peace Week.



PJI Hosts a Panel Discussion on Syria

Students, faculty, staff, and community partners gathered for a structured dialogue to learn more about the Syrian conflict, the United States' role in it, and our options for a course of action on September 17th.



Concerned Valencia student, Ren Sloan moderated the panel, which included Professor of Political Science, AJ Quackenbush, Professor of Psychology, Dr. Linda Freeman, Professor of history and genocide studies, Dr. Michael Savage, and Valencia's featured

Peace Week speaker, humanitarian, Carl Wilkens.



During the discussion, a friend of Carl Wilkens', who spent time in Jordan at the camps for Syrian refugees, shared his stories with us, via Skype.

The PJI Teams Up with the League of Women Voters to Talk About Gender Equity

On September 13th the Initiative teamed up with the [League of Women Voters of Orange County](#) to screen the film [Miss Representation](#). *Miss Representation* is the award-winning documentary film that exposes how mainstream media



contributes to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence in America. The film challenges the media's limited and often disparaging portrayals of women and girls, which make it difficult for women to achieve leadership positions and for the average woman or girl to feel powerful herself.

After the film screening, the audience engaged in a discussion panel which included Valencia College Campus President of East and Winter Park, Dr. Stacey Johnson, Winter Park Commissioner, Sarah Sprinkel, and young professional and board member of the League of Women Voters, Anna Eskamani. Linnette Bonilla, former intern of PJI served as the moderator of the panel.



Panelists: League Board Member Anna Eskamani, Campus President Dr. Stacey Johnson, and W.P. City Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel



Krystal Pherai and Linnette Bonilla

In addition to the film screening, a number of Valencia students and graduates joined the ranks of the League of Women Voters this fall, reaching a new generation of women and men working to make a difference in the world!



Members of the Valencia community at the League's October Hot Topics Luncheon

Valencia Hosts the United Nations Association Orlando Chapter's UN Day Dinner Event



Valencia was happy to partner with the [Orlando Chapter of the United Nations Association](#) to host the annual UN Day Celebration Dinner. Presenters included [Shot@Life](#) and Hourman A. Sadri, Ph.D., professor and Model UN Coordinator at the University of Central Florida.

A Place at the Table Screening and Panel Discussion

In partnership with the [Early Learning Coalition of Orange County](#), the Peace and Justice Initiative hosted a free screening of the documentary [A Place at the Table](#) on Valencia's East Campus on November 15th.

A Place at the Table shows us how hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation, and that it could be solved once and for all, if the American public decides — as they have in the past — that making healthy food available and affordable is in the best interest of us all.

Following the screening, Peace and Justice Staff Assistant, Krystal Pherai moderated a panel to answer questions related to topics raised in the film. The panel included Valencia Honors Student, Angel Sanchez, Coordinator of the [Child Care Food Program](#), Edna Bonitto, and Vice President of [Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida](#), Greg Higginson.



Krystal Pherai, Edna Bonitto, Patti Ambinder, Angel Sanchez, and Greg Higerson

Seventy-five students, faculty, staff, and community members attended the screening and panel discussion and brought donations of non-perishable food items for Pooky's Pantry, Valencia's food pantry for students.



Professor Shares the Experience of Engaging Students in PJI Events

By A.J. Quackenbush
Professor of Political Science

I would like to thank Valencia's Peace and Justice Initiative and Krystal Pherai for a screening of the film *A Place at the Table* on November 15th. The movie and subsequent panel discussion about hunger in America were informative, educational, and enlightening.

I teach Political Science on the East Campus and my class requires students to write a paper on a current issue or problem in America. After hearing about the film *A Place at the Table*, I decided to encourage my students to attend the event. The results were overwhelming. Thirty students from both my face-to-face and online classes attended, and many were blown away by what they experienced.



Following the screening, I received at least a dozen emails telling me how they were unaware of the hunger problem in America and not only wanted to write their paper on the topic but wanted to get involved in some way. Of course, I passed along the contact information of local organizations and suggested several ways that they could get politically involved and make a difference. Overall this event fostered a sense of political efficacy and engagement that could have a lasting effect on our community. Well done PJI!

Below are some of the student comments that I received:

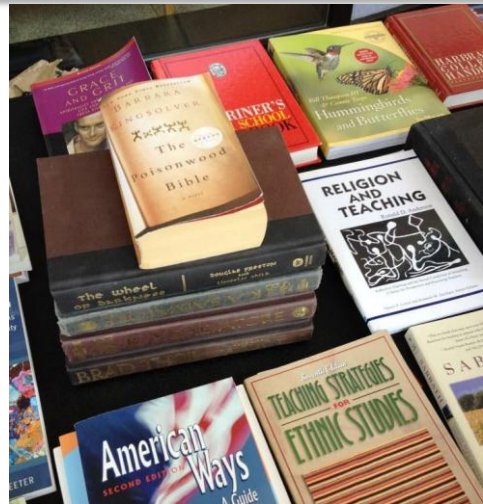
Wow, what a film. I was personally moved. I feel horrible that so many people are dealing with the issue of hunger, especially children. I really want to help out and Thanksgiving is a great time to do something.

Professor, thanks for bringing this event to our attention. I have to write my paper on this topic after what I know now. I really think that our government needs to address this problem because children should NOT be starving in the wealthiest country in the world. I am going to write my Congressman today.

Potlatch: A Lesson in Gratitude



Iron Eagle plays a Native American drum during the Potlatch



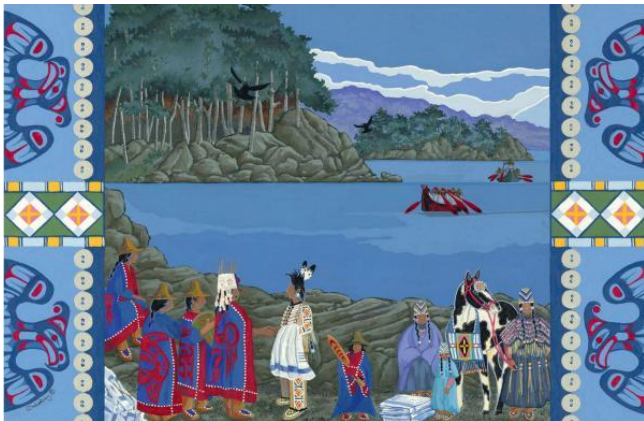
Books were given away for free during the Potlatch

A Potlatch is a gift giving festival celebrated by the Native American people of the northwestern America and Canada, celebrated for more than 100 years. It was made illegal in the late 19th century, largely at the urging of missionaries and government agents who considered it “a worse than useless custom that was seen as wasteful, unproductive, and contrary to civilized values.”

Again this year, we declared the Potlatch and all generosity as a blessing on the people who give and the people who receive.



Iron Eagle instructs about the power of sound



Free books, CDs, and DVDs, all donated from members of the Valencia community, were given away while Iron Eagle, who is Chiricahua Apache, shared with us the beautiful music of his culture. Iron Eagle sang, played the drum, flute, and harmonica, and spoke about the wisdom of the WAKAN-DO. He was accompanied by his wife, Two White Feathers.



Peace and Justice Ambassadors enjoyed meeting Iron Eagle and Two White Feathers

INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING

Peace Breakfast: An Interfaith Gathering

Promoting Interfaith Understanding at *Valencia Night* at the Islamic Society of Central Florida



This semester, our bi-annual *Peace Breakfast: An Interfaith Gathering* was held on November 11th and served as the kick-off event for International Education Week at the East Campus!

The [Islamic Society of Central Florida \(ISCF\)](#) hosted its second *Valencia Night* on October 11th to welcome over 200 people from the Valencia community to learn more about Islam and to share a deeper understanding with our Muslim neighbors. Valencia students, faculty and staff received a tour of the mosque with Bassem Chaaban, a free international meal, and a presentation about the fundamentals of Islam given by Imam Muhammad Musri.

[The Three Wise Guys](#) - "Friends Talking Faith" Good Religion Radio — Rabbi Steven Engel, the Rev. Bryan Fulwider and Imam Muhammad Musri — joined us to share their perspectives on interfaith issues. You may have heard these men on their weekly radio show called "Friends Talking Faith" on WMFE-FM.

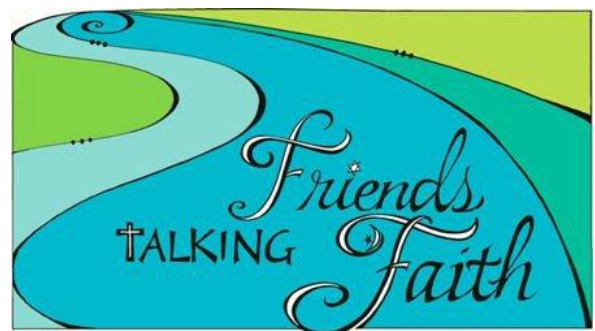


Rabbi Engel, Imam Musri and Rev. Fulwider

This event was sponsored by the Islamic Society of Central Florida, Valencia's Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Peace and Justice Initiative.



Rachel Luce-Hitt, Imam Muhammad Musri, and Rachel Allen



The Peace and Justice Ambassadors

The Peace and Justice Ambassadors group provides students with the opportunity to give back to the Valencia community and greater Orlando community by assisting the Peace and Justice Initiative with events, projects and activities. The mission of the Ambassador program is *to cultivate student empowerment through activism and outreach that promotes nonviolence, compassion, and dignity for all earthlings, while upholding and embodying the core principles of the Peace and Justice Initiative.*

Multifaith Education through Minecraft



Educating for Peace

Over the summer, the Ambassadors partnered with the [Multifaith Education Project](#) and the [University of Central Florida](#) at the [Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy \(FIEA\)](#) to host a

workshop for students of the Abrahamic religions who connect with one another through [Minecraft](#). The workshop focused on introducing nonviolence and developing an online manifesto for how we treat each other.



“A key purpose of this workshop was to increase communication and religious understanding. One of my favorite activities was *Three-Two-One*, a game in which we had the youth line up according to numbers they received, without seeing or speaking. Taking away their sense of sight and speech made them realize that neglecting to communicate with each other can make simple tasks difficult. After each round, they were able to use one more sense, and could much more quickly line up in order.” –Drew Dietrich, Ambassador

Ambassadors Gather for Second Retreat



Overnight retreat at Canterbury Retreat Center

On September 6th and 7th the Initiative hosted its first overnight retreat for the Peace and Justice Ambassadors. A conversation about race was the central feature of the retreat with a group reading of Dr. Peggy McIntosh’s article *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack* and a screening and discussion of the film [Skin Deep](#). The retreat also included work with the *Principles for How We Treat Each Other* and art!

Day of Awareness

Peace and Justice Ambassador Heather Walker joined the [Coalition for the Homeless](#) and other local college students in downtown Orlando on a November Friday morning during rush-hour traffic to spread the word about Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month. The most recent report from the Council on Homelessness in Florida found a 29 percent increase of homelessness in Orange County.



“Spreading awareness and being active in my community is exactly why I wanted to join Valencia’s Peace and Justice Initiative. Educating others on hunger and homelessness is a vital step in working towards making a change. It is important for us to know that our state has the third largest homeless population in the United States right now, and it simply is not okay!”
–Heather Walker

**It Takes Courage to Stop Abuse
Door Hanging Event**

On November 9th, 724 volunteers participated in the largest domestic abuse prevention event in the history of Orlando. Launching out of the Orlando Fashion Square Mall, 45 teams fanned out across the city visiting apartment complexes and housing subdivisions. In just three hours, 20,323 door hangers were placed at residences with the message "It Takes Courage to Stop Abuse!"

Members of the Peace and Justice Ambassador group participated in this door hanging event, which was sponsored by [Harbor House of Central Florida](#), the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the Orlando Police Department, and the City of Orlando. In the 48 hours following the event, Harbor House saw a 200% increase in hotline calls.



Taylor Sheffield, Casey Perkowski, Stephanie Arredondo, Yazan Saleh, Eli Solis, and Krystal Pherai

**PJI Service Learning Intern and Peace and Justice
Ambassador Reflects on Her Experiences**

By Stephanie Arredondo



My journey with the Peace and Justice Initiative began with a twist of curiosity. As a psychology major, I longed for an avenue that saw people as something more than a diagnosis list of negative traits. Empathy, compassion, and understanding—these were the things that drew me to psychology in the first

place; yet, it was a struggle to find them. When electing

to take the Introduction to Peace Studies class, taught by the endlessly compassionate Ms. Eli Solis, I had no idea what an impact it would have on my life.

After attending the 2012 Fall Festival at the Coalition for the Homeless through Peace Studies, a barrage of questions about the Initiative sprung forth. This prompted me to sign myself into an email list and later that year I received a message about attending a Peace and Justice Ambassador retreat. Attending that retreat was such a positive experience for me that I immediately committed to becoming an Ambassador; this entailed practicing nonviolence in your own life, volunteering for events of the Initiative and attending weekly meetings. These meetings helped plan the events and coordinate the volunteers who would bring life to events on campus sponsored by the Initiative, such as the week-long festivities of Peace Week.

After participating in the Ambassador program through the spring and summer terms, I began to integrate myself into volunteer office hours. Office hours gave me more of an opportunity to get to know staff members in the Initiative and work on the parts of events that I previously hadn't, for example designing flyers. During the summer meetings Krystal brought up a prospective position as the Service Learning Intern open for any interested Ambassador. Soon enough fall arrived and I found myself sitting at a desk adjacent to hers asking what kinds of tasks we had for the day.



Being the Service Learning Intern has granted me leaps in experience and professional conduct, but more importantly, it gave me purpose and drive. I gained a deeper understanding of the meaning of service. Not simply service to my community, but service to the individuals in that community and those who extended past my local community, but resided still in my human community.

I gained awareness on white privilege through Peggy McIntosh (who also instructed me briskly on how to take a proper photo; I had been doing it wrong for so long!). I gained awareness on Rwandan genocide and recovery through Carl Wilkens' lens of positivity. I gained awareness on Ambassador Chowdhury's struggle in implementing the Culture of Peace to the United Nations and also his struggle to hear my quiet and nervous question from the back row followed by his patient response. In gaining knowledge there was a certain power of change. With each speaker and event I gained a new will to create a peaceful impact on this earth, inspired by both speeches and the people I worked with each day.

A pivotal moment for me occurred during Carl Wilkens' time at Valencia College. Eagerly, after one of his speeches, I asked him where I could send money from a donation drive. He paused for a moment. Hesitantly, he went on to tell me who I could contact. Then in a cautionary tone told me that money would not be the best solution to the issues faced in a Syrian refugee camp; he instead encouraged me to open my mind and seek to connect with the needs of one group of people in the camp. To write letters and become more personally knowledgeable of individuals' needs and his or her voice for the power of communication sometimes is a gift in itself. What Carl Wilkens did for me was demystify the idea of a 'charitable cause' having a set of uniform needs across the board; better yet, he showed me that even through good intentions, I was missing the larger point of service, which was to listen to the needs of others and from this to give of yourself to provide that.



During my time at the office I've learned things that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I was challenged to publicly speak by being generous with my words, interact by trusting my peers and grow as a

person by Ms. Allen, a strong constant ally of support and guidance. I was inspired by Linnette Bonilla and her determination to bring a voice to all women and create a truly equitable community and her ability to bring her own sunshine to where ever she is. I was challenged to accept the *Principles for How We Treat Each Other* into my life by my mentor and close friend Krystal Pherai, who is so dedicated to bringing nonviolence knowledge to the world and practices them so patiently in even the most stressful situations. I was shown the power of alternative education through Positive Psychology with Dr. Linda Freeman, The Psychology of Peace with Dr. Diana Ciesko and Dr. Judi Addelston and Introduction to Peace Studies with Ms. Eli Solis. I was most of all touched by this community and the friendships I have had the privilege of gaining, with each person diverse and yet working to make this world, our only home, a peaceful place. In the words of Margret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

PEACE STUDIES CURRICULUM

Peacebuilding Expert Visits Valencia



A group of faculty met with David Smith (center) at Dandelion Communita Café to discuss peace studies

**Peacebuilding in
Community Colleges**
A TEACHING RESOURCE

David J. Smith, editor




David J. Smith, MS, JD, Educational Consultant, Peacebuilding Trainer, and author of *Peacebuilding in Community Colleges: A Teaching Resource* visited Valencia College for two days, August 23rd and 24th. During his time he presented *Community Colleges and Peacebuilding: State of the Field* and facilitated a visioning exercise for the future of the Peace and Justice Initiative.

**New Peace Course
Creating the Culture of Peace: EDG 2935**

**Seeking Educational Equity
and Diversity (SEED) Comes to Valencia**

Promoting a Culture of Peace is a three credit course offered through the Education Division that can be taken by students in all professions to excel in their careers peacefully, for personal development, or to help improve the society they live in. This course will be customized to meet the career and educational needs of students and will focus on topics such as peace education, conflict transformation, communication skills, bullying, cyber-bullying, non-violence, causes for conflict, cross-cultural and inter-faith conflicts, and the current research on the Culture of Peace. The Culture of Peace will help students promote values of compassion, equality, human rights, diversity, and peace. It will empower them with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to end violence, injustice, and promote a culture of peace.

Announcing A New Special Topics Course for All Majors



The Culture of Peace
EDG 2935 – CRN 27546
TWK – Online
Feb. 10 – Apr. 27, 2014

This class will be customized to meet the needs of individual careers, interests and personal development. This 3-credit course will empower students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values necessary to end violence, injustice, and bullying. Learn to "Promote the Culture of Peace," in the family, at work, or in the community by practicing conflict transformation and PJI's 13 Principles of How We Treat Each Other.

For more information please contact
Professor Yasmeen Qadri at 407-582-2624
or email yqadri@valenciacollege.edu.

Please contact 407-582-2436 to register for this course and for a pre-req department override.

Over the summer, Rachel Luce-Hitt, Michele Lima, and Rachel Allen traveled to California for a seven-day [Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity \(SEED\) Seminar](#) to become trained facilitators.




As stated on their website, "The National SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum engages teachers, college faculty, parents, and community leaders from all subjects, grades, and geographic locations to create gender fair, multiculturally equitable, socioeconomically aware, and globally informed education. Participants attend a seven-day SEED New Leaders' Week and are immersed in multicultural SEED materials and methods in preparation for leading SEED seminars in their own schools and communities."

Valencia is proud to announce its first cohort of SEED participants who meet monthly for a three hour seminar aiming to create a more equitable and inclusive campus and classes.

PEACE STUDIES

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." —Nelson Mandela



Study the great men and women of peace, learn the practices of nonviolence and become more conscious and peaceful member of our world.

REGISTER FOR PEACE STUDIES:
Late Start Class, February 10th East Campus:
PAX 1000 - MW 2:30-4:30 pm, Professor Paul Chapman

For more information contact the Peace and Justice Office at (407)-582-2291 or send an email to peaceandjustice@valenciacollege.edu



Valencia SEED leaders with Dr. Peggy McIntosh



Valencia's 2013-2014 SEED Participants

Integrating Peace Studies Across the Curriculum

By Abbie Potter Henry



Faculty Insight

In October, 2012 after attending a Peace and Justice Initiative workshop on Integrating Peace Studies, led by Dr. George Lopez, I began plans to infuse principles of peace and justice into my ENC0025C course (Spring 2013) and my REA0017C course (Summer 2013) on Osceola Campus.

Although there were some concerns about taking time away from teaching basic reading and writing skills, the results have been phenomenal. First of all, students were enthusiastic to learn about peace and justice work instead of the barrage of bad news they are used to hearing. Class attendance and participation were excellent. Furthermore, the quality of writing received from students in both courses demonstrated a deep level of reading comprehension and ability to articulate written responses to what had been read.

Setting the Tone for a Peaceable Learning Community

First, to create peace-focused learning communities, I ordered classroom sets of the [“How We Treat Each Other”](#) bookmark from The Peace and Justice Initiative. Students received these on the first day of class and we discussed how these principles would help us achieve the goals outlined in the syllabus and course schedule. I read Principle 1, “Create a hospitable and accountable community,” and Principle 10, “When things get difficult, turn to wonder,” out loud to the class and explained what those principles mean to me as their teacher. Students were then invited to share what those two principles mean to them. The immediate and positive comments that some students made were quite impressive. These outspoken students broke the ice, and soon others began sharing to the point that in the interest of time, I had to stop the conversation and offer an extra

credit opportunity for students willing to write a paragraph about the two principles. Students were then put in groups of three and asked to identify any confusing words, phrases, or concepts in the remaining principles. We then discussed student questions about the principles and looked up words that were unfamiliar. This activity worked very well to help students feel comfortable and safe asking questions and saying “I don’t know.” It also provided a wonderful start to developing strong learning communities.

Integrating Peace Studies into Lesson Plans



The two resources used in both Reading and Writing Classes are [The Charter for Compassion](#) website and the free classroom sets of Louise Diamond’s [The Peace Book](#), which were made available by the Peace and Justice Initiative in December 2012. When students were given their own copies of “The Peace Book”, many were very touched and impressed that Valencia considers

peace work so important that the college was freely giving students this resource. We spent some time looking over the table of contents and noting how the book was organized. We discussed main ideas/thesis statements in both reading and writing, understanding how an author has organized his/her material, and the importance of student writers having a plan for how they will organize their own ideas around a clear and concise thesis statement.

Students were told to read a chapter a week and come to class prepared to discuss what they had read in light of the topic we were covering that week. Thus, we integrated the content of the book with skill-based concepts from our textbook. For example, in reading class, when we studied tone, we looked in “The Peace Book” for words signaling tone. Likewise, when studying fact/opinion, we looked for facts and opinions and how they intersect in Diamond’s work. In writing class, we used the text of the book to see how that week’s grammatical concept was used in the chapter we were reading. For example, when learning to distinguish between action and state of being verbs, we looked at chapter three where Diamond discusses resolving conflict and encourages us to separate what a person does from who that person is (15). We noted how often state of being verbs appear in her writing and contrasted those verbs with action verbs in the text. Another

example is Diamond's meditation on power over vs. power with someone (45). That excerpt launched our lesson on prepositions and illustrates the importance of using the correct preposition. Students in both classes responded very well to seeing how textbook concepts relate to real writing; not only did we have lively discussions about content and concepts, but also student quiz scores in both classes improved dramatically over those from previous semesters.

Halfway through the semester, students were introduced to The Charter for Compassion website and encouraged to become familiar with the history of the charter and to look on the website for articles that interested them. We continued to visit the website when something from "The Peace Book" or from current events struck a chord with the principles of the Charter; as a result, students began to realize how pervasive and multi-faceted peace work is throughout the world.



Charter for **Compassion**

Writing Assignments Based on Peace Studies

One of the most exciting results from infusing Peace Studies into developmental classes is the improved quality of student writing in these classes. Reading students were asked to choose an article from The Charter for Compassion website or a chapter from "The Peace Book" and write a summary paragraph and a reflection paragraph (The assignment can be [found here](#), and samples of student paragraphs can be [found here](#)). For my writing class, I created writing prompts based upon "The Peace Book" (The prompts can be [found here](#), and samples of student essays can be [found here](#)). What I learned from these assignments is that if students care about the topic, they write more passionately and more coherently; furthermore, they exercise more care in how they write and will edit their work and share it with others for review before submitting. The end result is that the quality of the paragraphs and the essays these students wrote far outshines anything I had received from previous classes; furthermore, 100% of my writing students who wrote exit exams based on departmental prompts (not peace studies prompts) passed the exit exam and their ENC0025 course. Additionally, 100% of my reading students passed the course with a higher percentage of "A's" and "B's" than I've seen before.

The lessons for me in this experience are that our students truly do care about what is happening in the

world around them and that what we instructors sometimes mistake for apathy is really a sense of powerlessness. Once these students are shown that others are making a difference, they are excited about how they too can get involved in making our world a more peaceful and just place. Moreover, when they realize how important good writing and careful reading are to furthering the good work they want to do, they become more successful students.

This article first appeared in the [Valencia Grove](#).

A New Team Attends the Kroc Institute's Teaching Peace in the 21st Century Summer Institute at Notre Dame University



Elizabeth Solis, Dr. Karen Marie Borglum, Cass O'Little, Anna Saintil, Debra Jacobs, and A.J. Quackenbush

A diverse team of colleagues representing foreign language, curriculum development, history, student life skills, criminal justice and political science attended the week-long program at the [Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies](#) with the focus of advancing Valencia's peace studies curriculum and developing faculty across discipline lines to imbed peace studies throughout the curriculum.



SERVICE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Peace and Justice Ambassadors Share the *Principles for How We Treat Each Other* with 6th Graders at Avalon Middle School



The Peace and Justice Ambassadors, along with Co- Coordinators of the Ambassadors, Eli Solis and Krystal Pherai, participated in [Teach-In](#) at Avalon Middle School on November 20th. The group shared the [Principles for How We Treat Each Other](#) with two 6th grade classes and had each class create art work related to the Principles and their own “classroom obligations.”



Heather Walker, Stephanie Arredondo, Terrance Coakley, Krystal Pherai, Eli Solis, and Yazan Saleh participated in Teach-In at Avalon Middle School.

The Bi-Annual Fall Fest



Bi-annually, the PJI partners with classes and clubs across the college to host a party for the families in residence at the [Coalition for the Homeless](#). The goals of service are to positively impact another human being's life, to be exposed to societal inadequacies, to become empowered to improve those inadequacies, to encounter cross-cultural experiences, to take on skills of responsibility and caring for others, and to gain self-confidence in the process of giving.

This year, a record number of volunteers came out to serve the families, bringing gifts for the children, candy, games, music, art projects, face-painting and more.



Students created a puppet show for the children based on the book, “The Parts We Play.”

Faces of the Festival



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Valencia Leader of Equity and Diversity is Featured Colleague



By Laura Knight

After his retirement from Newton Public Schools in Massachusetts, Hank Van Putten decided that 35 years of teaching just wasn't enough, so in 2011, he joined Valencia as an adjunct professor of student life skills on East Campus.

"The desire to work with students remains at the forefront for me ... the students whom I've had the pleasure to work with — they keep me on my toes," shares Hank.

Hank appreciates the efforts his students put forth to "stretch their learning and reach higher order thinking skills." A quote that follows his email signature says a lot about his philosophy: *experience is a hard teacher — the exam comes first, then the lesson follows.*

Hank began his career in 1974 as a physical education teacher at Bowen Elementary School and he remained there until 1993, when he decided to transfer to Brown Middle School as a physical education teacher. During this same time period, he coached boys' track and field at Newton North High School.

In 1997, Hank was appointed as assistant principal of Oak Hill Middle School, and he served as acting

principal at Williams Elementary School for the 2002-2003 school year, before being named as the principal of Oak Hill Middle School in 2004, where he remained until his retirement in 2009.

Hank has devoted a significant amount of his career to working with inner-city children to advance equality and opportunity in their communities, and is a recognized anti-racism educator. "Since the mid-1980s," he shares that his "interests have focused on the impact of race on the academic achievement of African American students."

In 2004, while principal of Oak Hill Middle School, his colleague, Patricia A. Kelly, an African-American principal of a nearby elementary school, became the target of racism when hateful graffiti with an effigy of her was painted on a mural at her school. It was the third similar incident to happen in three years. In response, Hank organized a bevy of nearly 600 students to voluntarily march to the nearby elementary school in a show of support.

To further his anti-racism, educator training, Hank worked with the President of Spelman College, Dr. Beverly Daniel-Tatum, a recognized expert on the psychology of racism; and Dr. Jon Saphier, the founder and president of Research for Better Teaching. Hank then taught an educator's course titled "Active Anti-Racism and Effective Classroom Practices for All Students," offered by EDCO, a collaborative in the Boston area that serves school districts, adults and at-risk youth.

In 2004, Hank completed Harvard University's professional development program, *Improving Schools: The Art of Leadership* and in 2007, was invited to be a panelist and speaker at Harvard Law School's annual conference, *Passing the Torch: The Past, Present and Future of Inter-district School Desegregation.*

Hank is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including the *Outstanding Anti-Racism Educator Award* from Newton Public Schools, the *Newton Human Rights Commission Annual Award*, a Horace Mann Grant for "Sharing the Concepts of the Efficacy Approach with Teachers," and a Charles Brown Fellowship where he co-taught issues of racism with a sixth grade social studies teacher, that culminated with a visit from members of the New England Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen.

SEED Participant is Featured Colleague

Recently, Hank worked as part of the team that brought Dr. Peggy McIntosh, the founder of [SEED](#), to Valencia for a [two-day residency](#). He is also assisting Valencia's SEED leaders – Rachel Allen, professor of humanities (East), Rachel Luce-Hitt, coordinator of diversity and inclusion (CJI) and Michele Lima, professor of speech (West) – by facilitating monthly meetings for a cohort of approximately 30 faculty and staff members.

He points to the helpful spirit of the Valencia community, demonstrated everyday by staff in areas such as the audio visual department, who he says “have been there at a moment’s notice for [him] on more than one occasion.”

Hank shares that colleagues like Rachel Allen; Terry Rafter-Carles, professor of student life skills at East Campus; Cathy Penfold Navarro, director of the Title III Project; and Vertrilla Hunt, coordinator of job development and placement are faculty and staff members who have made his transition to Valencia “seamless.”

“Folks are welcoming, and that makes for a productive learning environment,” Hank expresses. Leonard Bass, dean of learning support at East Campus, notes that Hank’s contributions to the student learning department have been and continue to be significant.

“Hank has a thorough understanding of student development and is deeply committed to helping students succeed in College and in life ... he continues to be actively engaged in professional development work and often shares best-practices during department meetings.”

“Access to success — the standards of learning along with the core beliefs of the College make Valencia a welcoming place to learn, and I consider myself still in the learning process,” Hank states.

Hank considers his blended family one of his “greatest blessings.” He and his partner Gail have four children and eight grandchildren.

Hank earned his bachelor’s degree in education from Northeastern University and a master’s degree in education from Cambridge College.

This article first appeared in the [Valencia Grove](#).



By Laura Knight

It seems as though Bornunderstanding (Born) Allah, student services advisor on the East Campus, was destined to work at Valencia. In middle school he participated in the U.S. Department of Education’s GEAR UP program, where he met Grace Acevedo, assistant director of transition services on the East Campus. From that positive experience, he went on to participate in the dual enrollment program in high school and then the Bridges to Success Program in his early years in college. Through Bridges, he met and was mentored by John Stover, manager, Bridges Program and Sylvester Robinson, academic advisor, Bridges Program on the West Campus.

Born says he has been inspired to continue working in higher education and that he has been guided by so many people, we couldn’t possibly list them all.

“I believe everyone I come into contact with — no matter if it’s a student, parent, faculty member or staff [member] — has a great impact on me. Throughout my journey at the College, I’ve had the honor of meeting many people who have definitely made an impact on my life and collectively they were influential in my career decision to serve in higher education.”

Born is currently chair of the East Campus Career Staff Association (CSA) and has taken strides with members to make the campus a safer place by partnering with the security office for SHIP and CERT training for employees. He will be succeeded as CSA chair by

Adrian Aleen, business office specialist on the East Campus, whom he is confident will “take the association to new heights.”

Beginning in September, Born was delighted to join and learn more about the [National SEED Project](#). Through work with the Peace and Justice Initiative, Born has been excited to participate in and shape the work being done at Valencia to support the SEED, which stands for *Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity*, mission of creating gender-fair, multicultural-equitable, and globally informed educational spaces and workplaces.

Born explains that SEED differs from other diversity programs because the group facilitators do not lecture. Instead, they lead their colleagues in experiential, interactive exercises and conversation driven by films and readings. The monthly seminars deepen participants’ understanding of themselves, expand their knowledge of the world and lead the way to making schools more inclusive.

The opportunity to be involved with projects like SEED is one of many reasons Born enjoys working at Valencia. Yet the top reasons are his colleagues and the students.

“Being a part of the Valencia East Campus family with the chemistry and bonding between my colleagues and I is great, and I wouldn’t change it for anything ... [so is] knowing that I serve students every day by helping them understand how the world works on an academic, professional and personal level.

My goal is to advise them to become well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the world during and after their higher education journey.”

In addition to SEED and the CSA, Born has served as editor for the “Student Affairs Reference Guide” and the “Answer Center Manual” for student service specialists. As a student advisor, he aligns with Chickering’s Theory of Education and Identity and seeks to push students away from negative attitudes and to their next level of development.

That positivity is contagious, “Born by far is one of the most positive people on the planet, he makes every day that much more enjoyable and it is an honor to work beside him,” shares Kaitlyn Brooker, fellow advisor and new East Campus “family member.”

At Valencia, he says the College always seems to be at the cusp of “great things,” leading the way for institutions of higher education.

“I firmly believe that Valencia has held to its roots, it is a better place to start. Our presence and commitment to service offers students access, options and opportunities because we value learning. If others say ‘you can’t,’ we demonstrate that ‘you can’.”

Prior to joining Valencia in 2011, he worked as a manager for the Orlando Sentinel, where he recruited, trained and coordinated employees in carrier services who served more than 850 customers daily. Born has an associate degree from Valencia, a bachelor’s degree in business management from the University of Central Florida (UCF), and is currently working on earning his master’s degree from UCF in educational leadership, which he expects to complete in 2014.

This article first appeared in the [Valencia Grove](#).

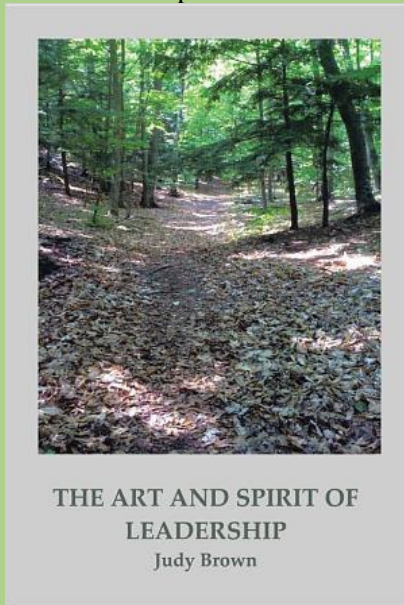
REGISTER NOW

February 14th -15th

Spring Faculty and Staff Peace and Justice Retreat

Elaine Sullivan, from the [Center for Renewal and Wholeness in Higher Education](#) returns for a two-day workshop Friday and Saturday, February 14-15, 2014.

The workshop will be based on



All faculty and staff are welcome to attend.

The two-day retreat will be hosted from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm at the Cottage at Lake Lily in Maitland. The fee for the experience is \$100.00, which includes facilitation, a copy of Brown's book and lunch Friday and Saturday. SPD tuition reimbursement funds may be used for full-time faculty and staff. PD credit is available. Scholarships are available upon request.

Register by sending an e-mail to peaceandjustice@valenciacollege.edu expressing your intent to attend. For questions, please e-mail or call the Peace and Justice Office at x2291.

PJI Advisory Council Member Recognized for Philanthropic Work



PJI Advisory Council Members, Donna Marino, Linnette Bonilla, Sue Foreman, Rachel Allen, and Krystal Pherai

Once a year, the Association of [Fundraising Professionals Central Florida Chapter \(AFP\)](#) recognizes and honors the many heroes who make dreams come true through a community-wide event called National Philanthropy Day. This year's event was held on Friday, November 22nd at the Ritz Carlton Orlando Grande Lakes.

We are so happy for Sue Foreman, one of the Advisory Council members for the Peace and Justice Initiative, for being recognized at the 28th Annual National Philanthropy Day event! Sue received the distinguished "Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser" award. Among the many organizations Sue is involved in, she also serves on the board of the [Valencia Foundation](#).

Want to follow the Peace and Justice Initiative?

"Like" us on Facebook to get updates, event notices, pictures, and information about our *Principles for How We Treat Each Other!*



www.facebook.com/valenciapeaceandjustice



Thank you to everyone who contributes to the success of the Peace and Justice Initiative. We are happy to see the work grow at the college and within the community.

The Initiative would like to send a special thanks to the Valencia Foundation and the private donors who support our work.



If you are interested in making a donation to the Peace and Justice Initiative, please contact the Valencia Foundation at <http://www.valencia.org/>.