Thank you for a great semester

The year in review

Congratulations to the 2016 graduates!

We at the Duke Human Rights Center@FHI appreciate your attendance and participation in our events throughout the 2015-2016 academic year. In case you missed anything, this final newsletter highlights two of our yearlong programs, new event videos and some amazing students.

We are already planning a great schedule of speakers, courses and projects for Fall 2016. Please let us know if you have any suggestions or want to get involved with the Center. Thanks for your continued support, and stay tuned for the next newsletter in September.

Thanks,
DHRC@FHI faculty, staff and students
Human Rights Certificate
Global Ideas: Local Impact video now available

The DHRC@FHI celebrated the NEW Human Rights Certificate with a fantastic student research slam and alumni human rights career panel. Thank you for everyone who participated in this wonderful event! If you are interested in learning more about the Certificate, please visit our website.

Meet the 2016 Koonz Prize Winners
Recipients announced

The DHRC@FHI awards three students the Oliver W. Koonz Prize for their innovative work on human rights. The 2016 winners of best essays are Meghan Kachadoorian and Symonne Singleton, and the 2016 best alternative project winner is Josephine Ramseyer.

Meaghan Kachadoorian is a graduating senior studying History and Latin American & Caribbean Studies. Her essay, titled "Radical Aesthetics," examines backlash against the 1973 US-backed coup against Salvador Allende's government in Chile through a focus on the visual aspects and political framing of protests. Read Meaghan's essay here.

Symonne Singleton is a rising senior majoring in History with minors in Visual Media Studies and Political Science. In her essay, "Bring About Some Change," Symonne explores the often overlooked intellectual foundations of Attica prisoner-activists' fight for human rights in 1971: their opposition to capitalism and racism, their respect for neo-slavery political analysis; and their faith in the US Constitution. Read Symonne's essay here.
Josephine Ramseyer is a senior at Duke University majoring in English who is passionate about refugee rights and hopes to continue to work with refugee populations after graduation. Josephine incorporates her interest in refugee studies, research and advocacy throughout her project, “Letters from the Field.” This collection of short essays focuses on human rights in relation to locals and refugees in Jordan. Read Josephine’s piece here.

2016 Human Rights Research Grants

Learn about the student researchers

Five undergraduate students and three graduate students will spend the summer researching a variety of human rights issues. Projects range from interviewing sex workers about brothel conditions in Latin America, working with youth in northern Uganda on navigating post-conflict life, and promoting awareness of people with disabilities.

Cuquis Robledo (’17) aims to continue creating educational videos about the issues faced by Americans with disabilities. She will work with Disability Rights Washington to find out why after 25 years after the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act there is still not equal opportunity for people with disabilities.

Conducting fieldwork in Kigali, Jenna Zhang (’17) will partner with the Genocide Archive of Rwanda to explore tensions between the legalist paradigm of transitional justice and post-conflict realities in the aftermath of Rwandan genocide. Read more and follow the students over the summer.

Past recipients receive ICS distinctions for their research

Congratulations to Laura Brody and Rinchen Dolma, who were awarded highest honors for their final thesis and film project (respectively). Both students received funding for their research in 2014 and continued working on their projects over the past two academic years. Well done!

Rinchen Dolma is a senior from Amdo Tibet, she is graduating with a major in International Comparative Studies, certificate in Documentary Studies and minor in Asian Middle Eastern Studies. Her ICS distinction project, Anywhere Everywhere is a short documentary film about Tibetan Refugees in Northern India and their battle against Tuberculosis.

Laura Brody is a senior from Thomasville, North Carolina graduating in 2016 with a major in International Comparative Studies (ICS) and minors in both Linguistics and French Studies. Her ICS distinction project challenges the term 'post-conflict' through the lens of sectarian identity in Northern Ireland and Cyprus. Laura was named a 2016 Fulbright scholar and will spend the next year teaching English in Turkey.
2015-2016 Programs in Review

Our Right to Say: Gentrification and Durham's Future

This series called attention to the effects of gentrification - when market forces shift city neighborhoods into the control of the wealthy - on modern day Durham. Over the course of the school year, events examined the process by which poor and minority residents lose their right to self-determination during pushes to "clean up" cities for wealthy, white families. To learn more about the series or watch any of the talks, please visit the website.

Mass Incarceration and the Carceral State

This yearlong initiative provided a dedicated forum, in which members of Duke and Durham could collaborate across disciplines, share knowledge and pedagogical resources, and keep each other abreast of projects. It offered a full year of programming to open important conversations on mass incarceration, imprisonment, policing and capital punishment to the community-at-large, bringing together scholars, practitioners, activists and community members, including those most directly affected by the carceral state. Learn more.

Teaching for Racial Justice

Yearlong faculty workshops conclude

The Duke Human Rights Center@FHI with the support of the Dean of Arts & Sciences and encouragement from the Provost offered a series of 7 monthly workshops (32 hours) that provided a group of 13 faculty members from 10 departments, centers and institutes around campus tools to address issues around race and racism in the classroom context. Over the course of this year, the faculty cohort became attuned to the implicit assumptions about values, standards, and cultural norms attached to racial identities and learned specific skills and strategies to create a classroom culture benefitting all students.
This yearlong initiative was a direct response to students of color at Duke who reported feeling isolated and marginalized in classrooms taught by professors who are unable to address issues of race due to a diversity of reasons—lack of specific skills, fear of not having the right language, fear of not knowing how to approach the topic. The pilot program was designed for faculty members from any department or school interested in developing and deepening skills in facilitating curriculum and conversations, while also creating classroom culture to successfully engage diverse students on issues of race, racism, power and privilege. Please contact emily.stewart@duke.edu if you are interested in learning more.

Pauli Murray Project Updates

Speaking Power

On April 1st the Pauli Murray Project's hosted the second Speaking Power event at The Vault at Palace International. Twenty speakers, across genre and belief, shared words of power regarding the theme "Transformating Sacred Space." The engaged audience of 75 people responded to the speakers by posting notes of affirmation on the wall. As the event's MC, Kimberly McCrae, said, "SPECTACULAR" is the only way to describe the night's atmosphere. Speaking Power is poetry, performance, and sermon slam that honors Pauli Murray's legacy.

Divine Dialogues

On April 11th and April 18th the Pauli Murray Project hosted Divine Dialogues, an open community dialogue informed by Pauli Murray's vision for inclusive sacred space. During the two sessions, 40 community members ranging from 14 to 70 years of age discussed faith, trauma, and healing in the church and then wrote haikus that reflected their conversation.

Durham's Civil and Human Rights History Map

Check out the revamped Durham Civil and Human Rights Map website! A celebration for the site re-launch will be held Saturday May 14, 10am-12pm at the Downtown Civil Rights Mural. 313 Foster Street. Click here for details.

Yale Names College after Pauli Murray

Yale University announced that they will name their newest residential college after Anna Pauline "Pauli" Murray! Pauli Murray was the first African American to receive her J.S.D. from Yale in 1965. Peter Salovey, Yale University President remarked, "Pauli Murray represents the best of Yale: a preeminent intellectual inspired to lead and prepared to serve her community and her country." See the full announcement here, which includes the school's response to revising controversial buildings and titles whose namesakes are reminiscent of slavery.
New Video
2015 WOLA-Duke Award Winner Kristen Weld talks about her book "Paper Cadavers"

The Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) and Duke University named Kristen Weld's book, "Paper Cadavers: The Archives of Dictatorship in Guatemala" (Duke University Press, 2014) as the winner of the 2015 WOLA-Duke Human Rights Book Award. The award presentation was held on February 11, 2016 at the Duke University Libraries. If you missed Weld's discussion on her book, the video of the event is now available or read more here.