



Annual Report September 2011-August 2012

The University of Winnipeg Global College fosters global citizenship and engagement in human rights through interdisciplinary teaching, research, dialogue, and action in local and global communities.

The 2011-12 academic year brought continued growth to Global College programs, advancing the mission of the college and The University of Winnipeg. This annual report highlights key developments, but is not a comprehensive list of activities.

Academic Programs

Human Rights and Global Studies

The BA in Human Rights and Global Studies (HRGS) was introduced in 2008. Interest in the program continues to grow, attracting students from throughout western Canada. Nine students graduated with a HRGS major in June, and there are currently over 30 students enrolled in the program.

Spring and summer course enrollments continued to grow through a series of courses coordinated by Ross McCormack, Director of the Institute for Political and Cultural Studies of the Americas featured visiting professors from South America. These courses were cross-listed with the History department, and were offered online through video-on-demand as well as in a conventional classroom format.

In May, Dr. John Corlett, Professor of Kinesiology and Vice-President (Academic), took students to El Salvador for a field course on Sport, Development, and Peace. This course was delivered in cooperation with the Faculty of Kinesiology at Brock University.

In August, the Adventures in Global Citizenship course ran for the second year in partnership with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Rotary World Peace Partners District 5550, and Assiniboine Credit Union. Twenty-seven students



Emily Vitt, UWinnipeg student in education and HRGS leads a Grade 7 class discussion in El Salvador.

completed this innovative course led by Marilou McPhedran and Lloyd Kornelsen, which featured visits to a variety of community agencies, a dozen guest speakers, and a Folklorama Tour.

In the past year, we completed a major review of the HRGS curriculum, and prepared a revised curriculum proposal for consideration by University Senate. The revamped curriculum will feature more core human rights courses, along with a strong selection of courses from 18 participating programs in the Faculties of Arts, Science, and Business & Economics. There are requirements for courses in ethics, and in organizational and applied skills. A second language is required for the 4-year program.

Peace and Conflict Studies

The MA in Peace and Conflict Studies started in 2010, as a joint program with the University of Manitoba. The program is

enrolling 8-9 students per year, with courses being offered at both universities. There are two new faculty members in the program, hired by the University of Manitoba and associated with the Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice. In 2012, we were able to offer two Naomi Levine Scholarships to incoming students, the first major scholarship offered for this program through the University of Winnipeg. Students in the program are conducting thesis research projects in Manitoba, Japan, and Uganda.

Global College Institutes

Faculty members from across the university gave leadership to Global College institutes. A sampling of institute activities in the past year is provided below.

Institute for Health and Human Potential

Director: Dr. Michelle Owen

Dr. Michelle Owen convened a Disability Studies Roundtable of Manitoba organizations in December 2011. Representatives of the University of Winnipeg, the University of Manitoba, Red River College, Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities, and Canadian Centre for Disability Studies participated in discussions of disabilities studies, courses, research and teaching.

Institute for Political and Cultural Studies of the Americas

Director: Dr. Ross McCormack



The Institute offered three Summer Institute courses, taught by international experts:

- Climate Change and Human Displacement
- Indigenous Property, Development and Extraction in Canada and Latin America
- Women and Climate Change.

Justice Murray Sinclair

These three courses were a great success, with an enrollment of almost 300 students. These courses hosted a wide array of guest lecturers such as Ginger Gibson, Justice Murray Sinclair and Laura Balbuena.

The Ridd Institute for Religion and Global Policy

Director: Dr. James Christie

Dr. Christie convened an Interfaith Roundtable on End of Life Issues and Physician Assisted Suicide at The University of Winnipeg in May.

The Institute also convened an Interfaith Roundtable at UWinnipeg on changes to federal immigration policies, and discussed the impact of those changes on Manitoba's religious communities.

The Institute sponsored the 11th Annual Holocaust Symposium, at UWinnipeg, with 2000 high school students and teachers participating.

Institute for Literacy, Diversity and Identity

Director: Jennifer Clary-Lemon

The Institute co-sponsored Finding Your Voice: Creative Writing Workshops for New Canadians. Through two 6-week courses, the program for refugees and immigrants facilitates a smoother transition into life in Canadian society.

The Institute co-sponsored the 24-hour Read-A-Thon and Book Social, along with Stepping Outside: A Symposium on Experiential Learning in the Humanities.

Global College Student Advisory Council

The Global College Student Advisory Council participated in the Run For Rights and helped to organize Our Dreams Matter Too rally. Members also contributed to Student Group Fair, Student Recruitment Day, and the Rotary Career Fair.

A highlight of the year was the workshop "Entrepreneurship as a Tool for Development." Former Global College Youth Employment Network Associate Interns spoke on the importance of entrepreneurship in tackling high unemployment rates among youth in developing countries.

International Youth Internships

Global College is in the second year of the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. The CIDA-IYIP, a three-year \$245,000.00 agreement, supports selected Canadian university graduates through six-month internships in a variety of countries.

Global College has partnered with the International Labor Office based in Geneva to place interns in their offices in countries that host the Youth Employment Network program. This year we have Canadian interns placed in Tanzania, Kenya, Indonesia and Morocco.

The first group of five interns successfully completed their six-month internships in December 2011, and upon returning to Canada the interns engaged in public awareness activities as part of the project mandate. A second group of interns was deployed in May. The CIDA-IYIP program enables interns to

gain valuable international exposure to youth employment, gender inclusion, and entrepreneurship related issues.

Public Lectures

Inaugural El Tassi Lecture

In June, Global College offered the first El Tassi public lecture, "The Impact of Arab Spring on Terrorism and Democratization in the Middle East" by Prof. Amr Abdalla, Vice-Rector of University for Peace in Costa Rica. The lecture was funded through a generous donation by Albert El Tassi, and complemented an HRGS course taught by Prof. Abdalla on recent developments in North Africa and the Middle East.

Lived Rights Lectures

Global College brought three distinguished speakers in 2011-12 to The University of Winnipeg as part of the "Lived Rights" lecture series on human rights:

John Packer (September 2011)

The inaugural 'Lived Rights' lecture was kicked off by Prof. John Packer, Director of the University of Essex Human Rights Centre in England. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Packer spoke on "International Protection of Human Rights in Uncertain Times" in addition set aside some time to meet HRGS students interested in pursuing work experience with various international organizations.

Gerry Caplan (December 2011)

Dr. Gerry Caplan, author of *The Betrayal of Africa*, delivered a lecture "When Good People Do Bad Things" co-sponsored by Global College, Manitoba Council for International Cooperation, and CUPE-Manitoba, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of CUSO-VSO International.

Flora Terah (March 2012)

In March 2012, Global College in conjunction with the Winnipeg branch of the Canadian International Council (CIC) invited Flora Terah, a renowned political activist, HIV/AIDS counsellor and Director of the NGO Terah against Terror who gave a lecture on "The State of Human Rights in Kenya". Terah is grew up in Kenya and sought asylum in Canada after the brutal political violence she suffered in the run-up to the 2007 Kenyan elections. She is the author of *They Never Killed My Spirit: But They Murdered My Only Child* and *Beyond Pain*.

Community Partnership Events

Tiny Country, Giant Prison – Eritrean-Canadian Human Rights Group of Manitoba – September 2011

Formed by dissident members of the Eritrean community in Manitoba in 2009, the group advocates for the protection of human rights and democratic governance and strives to achieve its objectives through offering awareness and education on human rights. In September, the group hosted

educational event at UWinnipeg co-sponsored by Global College, the Canadian Museum of Human Rights, Amnesty International, Menno Simons College, and Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council.

Judicial Round Table on Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment of the Poor– November 2011

Global College hosted the Winnipeg installment of the Judicial Round Table on Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment of the Poor. The Winnipeg event was part of four roundtables hosted across Canada by the University of Ottawa, University of Saskatchewan, and McGill University in conjunction with the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada and within the framework of the Judicial Systems Improvement for Commerce and Economy.

Guided site visits to diverse community-based legal empowerment projects (such as Winnipeg's Legal Help Centre) in each city were coupled with judicial round tables featuring keynote presentations and dialogue among judges, judicial administrators and scholars.

The End of Canada's Combat Mission and the Way Forward in Afghanistan – Brigadier-General Richard Giguère – October 2011

Brigadier-General Richard Giguère served as the Deputy-Commander of the last rotation of the Canadian Task Force in Kandahar. The guest lecture was co-sponsored by Global College and CIC-Winnipeg.



Manitobans Arek Manyang, Rebecca Deng, and Elizabeth Aluk are working for women's rights in South Sudan

Manitoba Women 4 Women South Sudan – November 2011

Following the birth of Africa's newest nation – South Sudan – Global College hosted the Manitoba Women 4 Women South Sudan, an organization created to address women's rights issues in South Sudan. The main event took place of November 26, 2011 and included a full program of music, performances, food, and a welcome address by Marilou

McPhedran (Global College), Mary Scott (UN Women Winnipeg), Jennifer DeGroot (UNPAC), Wanda Yamamoto (Welcome Place) among others.

Kony 2012 – The Film, The Strategy- April 2012

In April, Global College hosted a screening of *Kony 2012*, with a discussion of the debates surrounding this documentary. It was held in cooperation with the Winnipeg Chapter of Free the Children, Invisible Children Inc., and the UWSA International Resource Centre. The dialogue session was moderated by Marilou McPhedran (Global College) and Nawal Tajdin (UWSA).

Asian Heritage High School Day – May 2012

In May, Global College hosted Asian Heritage High School Day as part of the 10th annual celebration of Asian Heritage Month. Global College welcomed over 200 high school students who participated in a variety of activities, exercises, presentations, and performances celebrating a variety of Asian cultures. The celebration was opened by remarks from President Lloyd Axworthy, Dr. Marilou McPhedran, and UW Alumnus and human rights activist Dr. Art Miki.

Planning for UNESCO Schools Conference- December 2012

Planning is well underway for a conference that will bring students from UNESCO schools across Canada, as well as from Germany and Israel to The University of Winnipeg in December 2012.

Personnel

Principal

In June, Marilou McPhedran completed her term as Principal of Global College. During her four years of leadership, Global College implemented the BA in Human Rights and Global Studies and the Joint MA in Peace and Conflict Studies. She cultivated a dynamic Student Advisory Council, and Global College sponsored or co-sponsored hundreds of events involving community groups. Dr. McPhedran was instrumental in developing the Legal Help Centre, and in administering the CIDA-sponsored International Youth Internship Program, placing recent university graduates from across Canada in international human rights organizations. She developed innovative courses that took students beyond the classroom, and obtained hundreds of thousands of dollars in project funding.

In the current year, she is on leave from the University of Winnipeg, completing a UN human rights fellowship in Geneva, and teaching at the University for Peace in Costa Rica.

Vice-principal Dean Peachey is serving as Acting Principal until a search is completed to fill the principal position.

Visiting Professor

Dianna Scarth has been appointed as Visiting Professor in HRGS for the 2012-2013 academic year. A lawyer and a

social worker, she recently retired as Executive Director of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

Intern

In July, Janina Walkenhorst from Buxtehude, Germany commenced a 10-week internship at Global College, sponsored by the Winnipeg Foundation. Janina provided valuable administrative and clerical assistance as well as auditing the course Adventures in Global Citizenship.

Institute Directors

The Ridd Institute for Religion and Global Policy – James Christie

Institute for Political and Cultural Studies of the Americas - Ross McCormack

Institute for International Women's Rights – Marilou McPhedran

Institute for Health and Human Potential - Michelle Owen

Current Staff

Acting Principal - Dean Peachey

Office Manager - Alex Gachanjan

Project Officer – Flavio Fonseca

Student Assistant (part-time) – Dana Mackie

External funding

In the past year, Global College activities were enabled by grants and partnerships involving the following:

Albert El Tassi

Assiniboine Credit Union

C.P. Loewen Foundation

Canadian Human Rights Museum

Canadian International Development Agency

Gordon Foundation

Rotary World Peace Partners 5550

Winnipeg Foundation



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