



President's Peace Commission Mission Statement

The President's Peace Commission fosters an ethical commitment to participate in the establishment of world peace and social justice. The Commission encourages respect for human rights and dignity of all people. The Commission annually hosts symposia that offer opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to grow in their active pursuit of peace and justice. Through the symposia and other activities, the Commission seeks to build within the St. Mary's University community a greater awareness of the Roman Catholic and Marianist perspectives on peace and justice. The President's Peace Commission reflects the University community through student, staff, and faculty representatives appointed by the University President.

For more information, please see our website:
<http://www.stmarytx.edu/ppc>

Faculty: Celeste Díaz Ferraro; Marcella Leshner; Leona Pallansch; Richard Pressman

Staff: Paul Felarca; Bro. Brian Halderman, SM; Krystina Irvin; Irene Quesnot

Students: Christian Ekleberry; Tyler Ingraham; Philippe Nassif; Lauren N. Sanchez; Matthew Zamaripa; David Zapata



PPC Logo: Bro. Cletus Behlman, S.M.

St. Mary's University
President's Peace Commission

IN A BAD ECONOMY

SEARCHING FOR THE GOOD

October 27-28, 2009
University Center, Conference Room A

PRESIDENT'S PEACE COMMISSION

Fall 2009

October 27–28

IN A BAD ECONOMY, SEARCHING FOR THE GOOD

In the fall of 2008, rumors of a recession were confirmed when the effects of Wall Street's troubles began to show up on Main Street USA and the rest of the world. The struggling financial sector, corporate cutbacks, and widespread layoffs have become part of everyday news and have caused economic woes for countless people. This has had an impact on the political, economic, and cultural climate of the country. But is this necessarily a bad thing? As we grapple with the challenges associated with a worsening economy, can making changes in our values and lifestyles offer hope to us in this troubling time?

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

- 9:45 am** *Invocation*
Rev. Rudy Vela, SM, DMin, Vice President, Mission and Identity, StMU
- 9:45 am–11:00 am**
Speakers *Reflections: How Has Life Changed This Past Year?*
Laura Cisneros, Social Service Manager, Department of Community Initiatives, City of San Antonio
James Aldridge, Web Editor, San Antonio Business Journal
Moderator Bro. Brian Halderman, SM, University Minister for Social Justice, StMU, PPC
- 11:10 am–12:25 pm**
Speakers *Business NOT as Usual: New Solutions for a New Economy*
Mari Aguirre, Manager of Community Affairs, Rackspace Hosting
Thomas Galvin, Vice President, University Advancement, StMU
A. J. Rodriguez, Deputy City Manager, City of San Antonio
Moderator David Zapata, StMU, PPC
- 12:35 pm–1:50 pm**
Speakers *Estrangement to Engagement: Empowering Communities*
Melissa Schulz, President, San Antonio Volunteer Administrators
Cynthia Medina, MSW, Sociology, Director, Center for Volunteerism and Service Learning, Our Lady of the Lake University
Tramelle Jones, Recruitment Director, Public Allies
Moderator Krystina Irvin, Interim Service Learning Coordinator, StMU, PPC
- 2:00 pm–3:15 pm**
Speakers *Tightening Wallets, Tightening Belts: Eating Better with Less*
Suzy Holleron, Marketing Director, Whole Foods of San Antonio
Leslie Provence, Sustainable Food Advocate, San Antonio Food Policy Initiative
Stacie Montalvo, Assistant Food Service Director, ARAMARK, StMU
Moderator Rosemarie Wahl, PhD, Biological Sciences, StMU
- 6:00 pm

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

- 9:20 am–10:10 am**
Speakers *Economic Woes and Mental Well-Being*
Dan Ratliff, PhD, Counseling & Human Services, StMU
Laura Bryan, PhD, Clinical Administrator, Family Life Center, StMU
Moderator Christian Ekleberry, StMU, PPC
- 10:20 am–11:10 am**
Speakers *Social Entrepreneurship: The Great Impact*
Students from the High Technology and Society class
Rafael Moras, PhD, Engineering, StMU
Moderators Jonathan Michelon, Political Science, StMU
- 11:20 am–12:10 pm**
Speakers *Making College Affordable*
Joaquín Castro, Texas State Representative, District 125, Vice Chairman, Higher Education Committee
Charles Cotrell, PhD, President, StMU
Moderator Rosalind V. Alderman, PhD, Asst. Vice President, Retention Management, StMU
- 12:20 pm–1:35 pm**
Speakers *Global Initiatives: Health, Culture, Economy*
Sarasij Majumder, PhD, Graduate International Relations, StMU
Matthew Mireles, PhD, MPH, President and CEO, Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety
Celeste Díaz Ferraro, Founder and Principal, PaxMundi Strategy Consultants, Bill Greehey School of Business, StMU
Moderator Philippe Nassif, StMU, PPC
- 1:45 pm–3:00 pm**
Speakers *How a Bad Economy Can Lead to a Better Ecology*
Laurence Doxsey, Director, Environmental Policy, City of San Antonio
Allison Rivenburgh, CEO, Sustainable Perspectives Group
Moderator Irene Quesnot, Minister for Faith Formation and Enrichment, University Ministry, StMU, PPC

Additional Programs of Interest

- October 14th
7:30 pm
Lin Great Speakers Series: Blake Mycoskie, Founder of Tom's Shoes
"The New Economic Landscape and What It Teaches about Social Responsibility."
Alumni Athletic & Convocation Center
- October 21st
7:00 pm
Catholic Intellectual Tradition Lecture, "The Church and the American Urban Challenge: A Contribution from the Marianist Movement."
University Center, Conference Room A
- October 28th
6:00 pm
"3 Points," a documentary featuring NBA player Tracy McGrady, and International Relations Society social. Suggested admission: new or gently used children's books being collected for rural libraries in Ghana. University Center, Conference Room A