

Strengthening Civil Societies

November 4, 2003

Thanks to the generous support of our co-sponsors, we are able to offer this conference and wonderful roster of speakers for a nominal cost to participants.

Name: _____

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Registration Fee: \$30

Full-time Student: \$10

Make cheques payable to "Menno Simons College."

Return to:

Menno Simons College, 3rd Floor 380 Spence Street
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Registration Form



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Presented by:



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Strengthening Civil Societies

Voices from
Communities
around the
World

Tuesday
November 4, 2003
9:00 a.m. to
4:30 p.m.

Location:
Auditorium, Booth College
(Corner of Ellice & Colony)
Winnipeg, MB.

In Cooperation with:

Authur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice

Booth College

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Manitoba Council for International Cooperation

Mennonite Central Committee Canada

Overview

The concept of "civil society" is gaining popularity in academic and government circles, and in the popular media. What does civil society look like in different geographical and cultural settings? How do we strengthen civil society? Is "civil society" simply the latest remedy of Western development agencies, or does it have currency elsewhere?

In this conference, we will hear the accounts of individuals working to strengthen civil society in a wide range of settings around the globe. They have been chosen because they represent or work in non-Western settings. Listen to their voices, reflect on your own experiences, and ponder the similarities and differences.

In cooperation with our co-sponsors, Menno Simons College presents *Strengthening Civil Societies: Voices from Communities around the World* for the university and general community. It is an opportunity for academics and students to interact with practitioners and alumni.

Program

8:15 a.m. *Registration*

9:00 a.m. *Welcome* - Jerry Buckland, Menno Simons College (MSC)

9:15 a.m. *Keynote Address: Questioning Civil Society* - Kabiru Kinyanjui, NPI-Africa, Esau Distinguished Visiting Professor at MSC

10:15 a.m. *Break*

10:45 a.m. *Strategic and Spontaneous Community Economic Development* - Nanette McKay, North End Community Renewal Corp., Winnipeg

Aboriginal Value-based Services: Our Capacity Building Journey - Josie Hill, Ma Mawi Chi Itata Centre, Winnipeg

12:00 p.m. *Networking Lunch*

1:00 p.m. *Peace and Development in the Midst of War* - Gladys Oyat, Y.Y. Okot Girls College, Kitgum, Uganda

2:00 p.m. *Break*

2:15 p.m. *Stones, Walls, and other Challenges in Building Civil Society* - Ed Nyce, Peace Development Worker, Mennonite Central Committee, Israel and Palestine

Building the New Iraq and the Role of Civil Society - Hani Alubeady, Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council

3:30 p.m. *Reflection and Integration*

Moderator: Dean Peachey, Academic Dean, MSC
Kabiru Kinyanjui, Visiting Professor, MSC
Ruth Rempel, International Development Studies, MSC
George Richert, former President, MSC
Ray Vander Zaag, International Development Studies, MSC

4:30 p.m. *Adjournment**

Speakers

Hani Alubeady was born in Iraq and lived there until he was exiled in 1990. He completed his undergraduate studies in political science and religious studies in the Middle East. He currently works for Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council as a counsellor in their settlement department.

Josie Hill is the Executive Director of the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre in Winnipeg. She has worked in aboriginal social services in the inner city for 25 years. Previously she served as the founding director of the Andrew's Street Family Centre and directed the Native Women's Centre.

Dr. Kabiru Kinyanjui is the Esau Distinguished Visiting Professor in International Development Studies at Menno Simons College this year. He lives in Nairobi, Kenya, where he is Chairman of the Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa, and serves as a consultant in peace and development issues in several countries.

Nanette McKay is the Executive Director of the North End Community Renewal Corporation in Winnipeg. She grew up in Fisher River, Manitoba, studied Arts at the University of Winnipeg and theology at St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon, but is learning all her best stuff in the North End.

Ed Nyce is a Peace Development Worker with Mennonite Central Committee in Israel and Palestine. He previously was the Assistant Director of the Lombard (IL) Mennonite Peace Center, and worked in peace education through other church-related groups in the United States.

Gladys Oyat is the Head Teacher at Y.Y. Okot Girls College, Kitgum, Uganda. Her many activities include being President of the Mothers' Union of the Anglican Church of Uganda, and serving as an advisor to the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative.