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NEWS RELEASE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



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CAMPUS-WIDE, SEMESTER-LONG PEACE DRIVE KICKS OFF SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT

The University of San Diego's spring semester will be devoted to a campus-wide peace movement, a far reaching, ambitious effort to instill a commitment to peace in the hearts and minds of students.

Students, faculty, administrators and campus ministry plan to take part in the semester-long movement. Undergraduate peace-themed courses, nighttime faculty forums open to the public, guest speakers, liturgies and other special events are scheduled.

Moreover, faculty are being encouraged to incorporate the peace theme in classes wherever possible.

The idea for a peace curriculum started with Sister Sally Furay, USD Provost and Vice President. In 1984, she established a Social Issues Committee charged with providing students with "a basis for reflection and critical judgement on contemporary social and moral issues...

"As a Catholic institution, we have the obligations to pay attention to the plight of individuals who need assistance and to systemic injustices."

According to plans, each semester will carry a different social justice theme. Peace is first.

Joan Anderson, a business professor, chairs the committee, made up of faculty from each of the university's five schools, student body president Shawn O'Hearn, Father Mike McKay (campus ministry director), Skip Walsh, (assistant dean/director of residence life) and Furay.

Before the committee decided on a peace curriculum, Anderson and professors Dennis Briscoe and George Bryjack surveyed faculty and students to determine what social issues were examined in class and what issues are students interested in learning about.

The student survey (855 responded) revealed that their knowledge of world problems, such as poverty and foreign aid, was extremely low. Students, it showed, were more interested in learning about drug abuse, college funding and capital punishment than in the nuclear arms race, human rights and apartheid.

"A lot of our students are caring people," Anderson said, "but they come from sheltered backgrounds and are not aware of what's going on in the Third World."

The faculty survey indicated one-fourth of them have incorporated peace issues in the classroom.

O'Hearn said the Associated Students does not envision any dramatics, such as student peace marches. "Students today have a different way of dealing with issues--different from the Sixties."

In contrast, McKay said the campus ministry is considering organizing a peace march, perhaps to coincide with the Soviet Union's annual Mayday military parade.

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12-12-85



SPRING '86 PEACE COURSES

The main thrust of the campuswide, semester-long peace movement will come in the form of team-taught, peace-themed courses:

-- "War: Myth and Reality," which will be team taught by Jim Rocha, an art professor who is also a Vietnam veteran, and Cynthia Caywood, an English professor. The course explores the artistic and literary depiction of war.

-- "Games, Weapons, Morals," to be team taught by Lukasz Pruski, a mathematics professor, and Dennis Rohatyn, a philosophy professor. The course examines the relationships of game and value theories in international conflict.

-- "International Politics," to be team taught by Lee Ann Otto, a political science professor, and Steve Hartwell, a law professor. The course focuses on conflict resolution and negotiation strategies.

-- "Images of Peace," to be team taught by Pat Drinan, a political science professor, and Father Ron Pachence, a religious studies professor. The course explores images of discord, hope and reconciliation which emerge from various religious and political traditions.

** All are undergraduate courses. The first day of spring semester is Wednesday, Jan. 29.



FACULTY FORUMS
(Open to the public)

To deliver peace messages to the community-at-large, the social issues committee has scheduled five evening faculty forums. All will follow a panel discussion format.

-- March 5. "When it Comes to Nuclear War, Can We be Moral and Survive?" Gary Macy, a religious studies professor, will lead this panel discussion.

-- March 12. "Is it Possible to Have a Just War Today?" Marine Major Walter Schartmann, an NROTC instructor, will be the primary speaker for this forum.

-- March 19. "Can We Afford Economically the Arms Race?" Joan Anderson, a business professor, will conduct this session.

-- April 2. "Can We Achieve Peace Through Arms Control Negotiations?" Leland "Buzz" Featherman, a local attorney active in the Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control, will lead this conversation.

-- April 9. "Is Nuclear War Inevitable?" and "Is Their Hope for the Future?" Paul Wohlmuth, a law professor, is in charge of this panel.

** All panels will run from 7:30-9 p.m. and take place in Manchester Executive Conference Center.

** Macy, Anderson, Schartmann, Featherman and Wohlmuth will be panelists for all five forums, rotating leadership.

** There is no admission charge.