



PACS Press

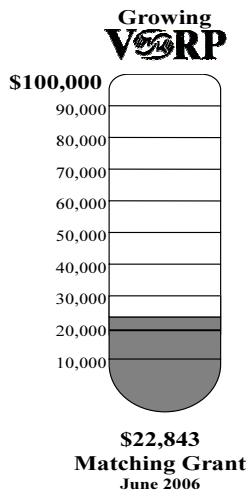
Volume: 1
June, 2006
Editors:
Priscilla Valle
Holly Mattos

News

\$100,000 Matching Gift

In April, I met with a long-time supporter and friend of VORP. He has a passion for seeing our State be more fair and just for everyone. He wants our communities to be more peaceful and much less driven by fear. He wants people to experience *shalom*, the kind of peace when people are living in the right relations with each other and with God.

This donor sees Restorative Justice, if embraced by our system leaders, as a key in moving to directions mentioned above. He wants to see Fresno County be a model for the state of California. He knows that building the capacity of VORP to handle significantly more and more serious cases will require significant increases in volunteers, paid support staff and administration. His hope is that providing this **\$100,000 matching funds challenge donation** will contribute to accomplishing these goals. His only requirement is that the money be matched by new contributors or by increased giving by current donors.



Please consider helping make this possible by giving a contribution, by becoming a volunteer mediator, and/or by talking with your friends, neighbors, and/or members of the Board of Supervisors and letting them know that you also would like to see Fresno County become a model for Restorative Justice.

Ron Claassen

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RJ Conference

12th Annual Restorative Justice Conference

Theme: THE VICTIM IN FOCUS

Dates: October 19-21, 2006

Location: Fresno Pacific University
McDonald Hall, Ashley Auditorium

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. John Dussich, CSU Fresno
American Society of Victimology

Courses

Introduction to Victimology (Fall 2006)

Instructor: Jill Schellenberg

Credit/Grading: Three (3) units, letter grading

Course Description: Victimology is a study that has emerged from criminology, law, sociology, psychology and restorative justice. This course will introduce the student to the literature and practices of victimology and restorative justice, using a variety of interdisciplinary approaches.

Class Format: Class time will consist of a synthesis of lecture, structured dialogue, small and large group interaction, case studies, experiential exercises, and discussion of theory, theology and practical examples.

Announcements

Visiting Scholar at CPACS for Fall '06

Arthur V. N. Wint, J.D., is a Professor of Criminology, and Coordinator of the Peace and Conflict Studies Program at California State University, Fresno. He teaches courses on Juvenile Delinquency, Criminal Law, Legal Policy in Victim Services, and, Peace Studies. He serves on the Board of the Fresno Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP), and also as a VORP mediator. He has served as a Core Faculty Member for the National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA) since 1997, when he had the responsibility as Fresno Site Coordinator. His NVAA teaching responsibilities have included: Hate Crimes, Restorative Justice, Diversity/Underserved Populations, Victims with Disability, and International Issues in Victim Services.

This fall Professor Arthur Wint will be on sabbatical from his duties at Fresno State, and instead he will be working at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies. Together with Duane and Ron, Arthur will be working on state legislation required for the capacity building of the current VORP program of the Central Valley Inc.

New Administrative Director

Holly Mattos, M.A., is one of our 2006 Leadership and Organizational Studies Graduates! She has now been assigned as the CPACS Administrative Director. We at the center look forward to future improvements under her leadership and administration. Congratulations Holly!

Campus Mediation Manager to Angola

Jason Ekk, our Campus Mediation Case Manager will be going to Angola this summer for two and a half months. He will be working with the International Republican Institute, a non-partisan governmental organization that works on democracy related issues in countries where democracies are new (i.e. election monitoring, surveys, resourcing politicians, etc...). They asked him to be a consultant in the area of conflict resolution and mitigation. He will be based in Luanda, the capital, where he will work with the

IRI staff with their various meetings with politicians, NGOs, religious groups and others. His main work will be in working in the various provinces that have histories of violence and conflicts between the political parties.

Jason will work with NGOs and other groups on developing and leading multiple seminars on conflict resolution and mitigation. The purpose is that the various political parties will have a code of conduct developed for election time.

Farewell to VORP Case Manager

After a wonderful year at VORP, I am returning to school in August! I will be studying Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies at Goshen College, in Goshen Indiana. Working at VORP this past year has been an extremely rich experience for me. I have been challenged in so many ways and have grown so much. For those of you that I have worked with, (mediators, community members, CPACS people, others), I would like to thank you for your help, your friendship and for all that you have taught me. Peacemakers, keep up the good work!!

- Jenna Preheim

Donation



More Than a Thousand Books!!!

Ron received a letter last month with an offer for a donation of over one thousand books on peace, conflict resolution, and related topics. The family of a Bay area peace advocate, who passed away earlier this year, was looking for a university with a peace studies program who was interested in his collection of materials. The faculty agreed that we were indeed interested in the items. Dalton Reimer traveled up to Oakland, packed the materials, and brought them back down to Fresno in the middle of June. Those books deemed useful for the CPACS library will be gleaned, the rest passed on to Hiebert Library, and any remaining pieces will be donated. We are excited about the expansion of our library!

Come check it out later this summer!



PACS Press ©2006 is a quarterly newsletter of the Center for Peacemaking & Conflict Studies at Fresno Pacific University