

Summer School on “Communication Rights and Religion” 24-30 July 2016

The Summer School aims to study the links between media, religion, and globalization. The course is framed around communication rights, communication in the ecumenical movement, media ethics, gender and communication, and communication for social change.

The Summer School will bring together up to 30 students from around the world to work with specialists in communications and theology for an 8 day focused programme on religion, communication rights, and globalization. Special emphasis will be given to communication in the ecumenical movement, practical theology and media, social media and media ethics, and communication for social change. Special focus will be given to communication rights related issues of the host region. The school builds on similar highly successful events that took place in Geneva in August 2012 and in Toronto in June 2014.

Organized with the support of Evangelisches Missionswerk (EMW) and in collaboration with Northern Caribbean University (Jamaica), Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg (Germany), and the World Council of Churches (WCC), the summer school will be open to students who have a bachelor degree in theology or a closely related field and who are pursuing ethical and intercultural studies in communication and media.

The objective of the course is to broaden the horizons of students in terms of global trends, current thinking around communication rights and freedom of belief and religion. Students will acquire an understanding of the challenges of communication in the ecumenical movement as well as the challenges of interfaith dialogue. They will address the question of media and globalization, which is related to the portrayal of religions in the mass media. They will also study communication theory and practice from the perspective of the global South.

The beneficiaries are students from global South sponsored to take part in the Summer School, together with students from the partner organizations and institutions (University of Erlangen, WCC, CWM, and Northern Caribbean University, Jamaica). The partner organizations are involved in the planning of the curriculum for the Summer School. All students take part in a post-course evaluation.

Students of religion and communication will be introduced to concepts and experiences of communication rights, communication ethics, public religion, interfaith dialogue, and alternative cultures through a Summer School facilitated by experts in their fields and set in a relevant location. The objectives will be verified by means of reporting and evaluation standards that make reference to the curriculum, to course leaders, and to work assessment by staff and course evaluation by students.

Teaching Faculty

**[coordinated by WACC staff team Mr Joseph Patterson, Mr Lorenzo Vargas & Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter
– Steering Committee: some Faculty and a student representative]**

Karin Achtelstetter was installed General Secretary of WACC, October 5, 2010. She is former Director and Editor-in-Chief of the Lutheran World Federation, and former Coordinator of the Public Information Team & Media Relations Officer of the World Council of Churches, both based in Geneva. She has also served on both the WACC Europe Executive Committee and WACC Board of Directors. Born in Schwabach, Germany, Karin holds a Masters in Theology and Bachelor of Arts from the Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, Germany as well as a Master of Arts in Women's Studies from the University of Kent at Canterbury, England. She also has a diploma in International leadership, with a focus on organizational development, from the Craighead Institute, Glasgow and The Grubb Institute, London. She was ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria in January 2010 and has served as an occasional lecturer in the Department for Practical Theology, Christian Communication Unit, Faculty of Theology, Friedrich-Alexander University. In November 2011, she was conferred Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa) by the Academy of Ecumenical Indian Theology and Church Administration in Chennai, India. Staff Liaison for WACC-Asia Region, she speaks German, English, French and Spanish.

Mark Beach is currently Communications Specialist for Mennonite Disaster Service, based in Pennsylvania USA. From 2007 to 2014 he was Director of Communications for the World Council of Churches, and prior to that the same for Mennonite Central Committee. Beach is a journalist, photographer, video producer and communications manager. He has a Masters of International Journalism from Baylor University (MIJ 1994) and BA Radio-T.V.-Film

from Messiah College. He worked 17 years as a journalist for Lancaster Newspapers, Inc. He has done communications work in more than 80 countries around the world.

Robin Hartmann was born in the former German Democratic Republic and works worldwide as a journalist and adviser. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Philosophy as well as a master's degree in Media Ethics. In 2015 he worked for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea and helped launching their own radio station "Kristen Redio". Currently he is a staff member at the Division for Christian Publicity at Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg. He also hosts a monthly radio show for the Chinese Confucius Institute.

Christopher Laird has produced over 300 documentaries, dramas and other video productions with Banyan Ltd over the past 40 years garnering a score of national, regional and international awards. He has overseen the establishment of what is arguably the world's largest collection of Caribbean culture on video in the Caribbean Film and Video Archive. In 2003 he founded, with Errol Fabien, the region's first all Caribbean free to air television station, Gayelle. In 2009 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of the West Indies.

Hilary Nicholson has thirty years professional experience in the local and regional movement for gender equality and human rights. She works in programme design, coordination and implementation, in training and facilitation, and in communications and advocacy. She is a founding member of WMW-Jamaica, (formerly Women's Media Watch) and past Programme and Training Coordinator. She is an adjunct lecturer at the Caribbean Institute for Media and Communications, UWI, where she teaches the course "Media, Gender & Development" and she has produced and co-directed over thirty documentaries on Jamaican heritage and social development, through the pioneering team of Video for Change.

Maggie Schmeitz is a Cultural Anthropologist by profession, and a Human Rights activist by calling. Specialized in development issues, she started her career in Suriname in 1994 with the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation. She exchanged the civil service for civil society in 1996, to set up a capacity building program for community-based organizations. In the same time she also became one of the main advocates for women's rights and political empowerment as a talk show host for the Women's Parliament Forum (VPF). In 1999 she founded her own nonprofit consultancy Stichting Ultimate Purpose [UP], aiming for sustainable development, gender equity and good governance. Since 2012 Maggie is also the coordinator for Stichting Intercultural and Bilingual Education Suriname (ITOS).

Rhoma Tomlinson-Whyte is an educator, journalist and radio broadcaster, who has served the local media and communication industry for over 25 years. She has worked as Lecturer and Director of Public Relations at Northern Caribbean University (NCU) and currently serves as Chair of the institution's Department of Communication Studies. Rhoma Tomlinson-Whyte has worked as a journalist, broadcaster and producer at a number of local media organizations, including Radio Jamaica Limited, the Gleaner Company, the Jamaica Information Service and the Jamaica Observer. She has also written for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the New Nation newspaper in the United Kingdom. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication from the University of the West Indies and a Master's Degree in International Journalism from Cardiff University, Wales, in the United Kingdom.

Lorenzo Vargas. Originally from Colombia, Lorenzo has also worked as a media producer, communications consultant, teacher, researcher and facilitator with organizations in the non-profit and education sector. He holds an Honours BA in International Development from York University, and an MA in Communication Studies from McGill University with a focus on communication for social change. Prior to joining WACC, Lorenzo worked with the Mosaic Institute as a programme manager and strategic communication advisor. Lorenzo speaks English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese.

Susanna Wolf is research assistant at Friedrich-Alexander-University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) and works at the interface between Department of Christian Media Studies and Department of Islamic-Religious Studies (DIRS). She is interested in the character of transformation of values caused by digitization. Her research focus is on privacy as a normative category. Besides her academic work, she is freelancer at Kunstpalais Erlangen leading media education workshops contextualized with current exhibitions of contemporary art. Furthermore, she is part of the community radio Radio Z in Nuremberg as an editor of the Chinese cultural radio programme China Süß-Sauer in association with Konfuzius Institut Nürnberg-Erlangen. She has a master's degree in Media Ethics and a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Theatre- and Media Studies from FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg.

General Information

	<p>The World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) is a non-governmental organization that builds on communication rights in order to promote social justice. Working with partners at local, national, and regional levels, WACC addresses communication needs, strengthen capacities, advocate for communication rights, and tackles ongoing challenges such as the need for gender-sensitive reporting, peace-building, and participatory communication for development.</p> <p>www.waccglobal.org</p>
	<p>Northern Caribbean University is a private, liberal-arts institution, owned and operated by the Jamaica Union Conference (JAMU) and the Atlantic Caribbean Union Mission (ACUM) of Seventh-day Adventists. It offers a number of professional, pre-professional and vocational programmes in a spiritually wholesome and physically aesthetic atmosphere. NCU is one of the largest Seventh-day Adventist tertiary institutions in the world. www.ncu.edu.jm</p>
	<p>The World Council of Churches (WCC) is a global fellowship of churches whose relationship with one another and activities together are an expression of their common faith in Jesus Christ and their common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. www.oikoumene.org</p>

	Mon 25 July	Tue 26 July	Wed 27 July	Thurs 28 July	Fri 29 July
8.00- 8.45		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
	<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Moderator:</i>
9.00-10.30	<u>Introduction</u> Sharing experiences and expectations	<u>Communication for Social Change and the SDGs</u> <i>Lorenzo Vargas</i>	<u>The Building of a Caribbean Civilisation</u> <i>Christopher Laird</i>	GROUP PRESENTATIONS	<u>Socio-political dimensions of privacy in Europe</u> <i>Susanna Wolf</i>
10.30-11.00	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break
11.00-12.30	<u>Communication Rights</u> <i>Lorenzo Vargas</i>	<u>Faith-based Organizations and Public Processes</u> <i>Karin Achtelstetter</i>	WORKING ON GROUP EXERCISE PRESENTATIONS	<u>The uncertainty of sexting - the innocence of revenge porn victims</u> <i>Robin Hartmann</i>	<u>Sustainable Communications</u> <i>Mark Beach</i>
12:30-14.00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14.00-15.30	<u>Communication and Gender</u> <i>Hilary Nicholson</i>	<u>Putting Wind to the Sail</u> <i>Mark Beach</i>	<u>The role of Caribbean Media, radio in particular, in the rise of evangelical Christianity</u> <i>Rhoma Tomlinson-Whyte</i>	VISIT TO NCU COMMUNITY RADIO STATION	<u>Children's Communication Rights</u> <i>Rhoma Tomlinson-Whyte</i>
15.30-16.00	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break	Tea/Coffee Break
16.00-17.30	<u>Group Work</u> Snapshots of media contexts in students' countries	<u>The Caribbean and the Right to Memory</u> <i>Christopher Laird</i>	<u>Digital story-telling and assignment</u> <i>Mark Beach</i>	WORKING ON ASSIGNMENTS	<u>Where to next? Networking for the future</u>
18.00-19.30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
19.30-20.30	FREE	Documentary Screening: A DAY IN THE LIFE	Presentation: Nana Moses (Pastor Kevin Calvert)	Documentary Screening	

Basic Resources

<p>Communication Rights</p> <p>People's Communication Charter</p> <p>World Charter of Free Media</p> <p>What are communication rights?</p> <p>Citizen Journalism</p> <p>Media, the Right to Information and Poverty Reduction</p> <p>The Right to Information</p> <p>Indigenous People's Rights</p> <p>Communication Rights</p>	<p>Gender Justice</p> <p>Global Media Monitoring Project 2015</p> <p>Learning Resource Kit for Gender-ethical Journalism and Media house Policy</p> <p>Communicating Women and Peace and Security</p>
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