



Institute News

Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate

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APRIL 2006

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More Inside

What is an Effective Anti-hate Discourse?

Dr. Michael S. Waltman, Department of Communication, University of North Carolina

In 2002, one of my students in Communicative and Social Foundations of Hate expressed disappointment in a writer's (and activist's) obvious contempt for members of various hate groups. She felt that the writer's use of derogatory language amounted to hating the hater. While I did not agree with her assessment, I took her point. It could be argued that, at a minimum, this writer, and his sometimes less than civil commentary,

joined those who trade in hate in their own terrible conversation.

Shortly thereafter, a reviewer of one of my articles noted the evaluative tone of my critique and asked that I address some of the differences between my critique and rejection of the persuasive manipulation of hatred, in this case, to recruit children into a particular hate community. In brief, I took the position that we should not be

afraid to call hate, "hate" and that this will inevitably appear evaluative and judgmental. I also argued that we may call "hate" by its name without making ad homonym arguments (and I believe that I did not). Indeed, it is incumbent on those who strive for peace and social justice to call hate by its name.

Both my student and this reviewer raise concerns that, on their surface, might **Continued on page 2.**

Faculty Mentor Program

The Institute is developing a new program that will be ready to be launched this coming summer. The institute seeks to connect faculty who are just beginning to teach courses related to hate to faculty who have been teaching such courses for a few years.

The intent of the program is to build a network of people working with each other to strengthen hate-

related courses. By bringing together faculty with experience with those who are just starting out, it is expected that the quality and quantity of classes will increase.

The mentor program will allow individuals to share ideas for class activities, reading assignments, and writing projects. The benefit to faculty and students is enormous. The Institute will be seeking out faculty in

the following disciplines: Psychology, Criminal Justice, Sociology, History, Theology, and Law.

By recruiting mentors from multiple disciplines, mentees are provided the opportunity to develop courses involving information from across the disciplines.

There are a few key objectives to this program. They are as follows:

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Michael S. Waltman

“It is incumbent on those who strive for peace and social justice to call hate by its name.”

Anti-hate Discourse cont’d...

appear to be a little absurd. I say absurd because most of the activists and scholars that I know might view with mild amusement the notion that responding to the hater with mildly demeaning language was anything but a natural consequence of their activism.

Both sets of concerns, however, serve to suggest theoretically interesting and practically important research questions: What should constitute an effective anti-hate discourse? What features and attributes should characterize anti-hate discourse? What are the positive and negative outcomes associated with the different ways that people respond to hate? To my knowledge, these are not questions that academicians have taken seriously. Yet, they are at the heart of many of our personal and/or professional lives.

Over the last few years, my research focused on the ways that hate is discursively manipulated to accomplish a variety of social and political goals. Specifically, I have examined: (a) the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan’s use of the internet to employ the

hate stratagem to recruit children into its hate community (published in *Southern Communication Journal*), (b) the ways racist cartoons, maintained and shared through the internet, are used to further an ideology of hate and create a symbolic code for ethno-violence (published in *Journal of Intergroup Relations* with Justin Davis at the University of Tennessee), (c) the ways that hatred is advertised on the internet (forthcoming in *Advertising on the World Wide Web*, 2nd edition—David Schuman and Ester Thorson, Ed. with John Haas at the University of Tennessee) and (d) the ways racist literature, such as the *Turner Diaries* (published in *Journal of Intergroup Relations* in 2005 also with Justin

An anti-hate rhetoric should... heal the wounds of a community that have been wrought by hate speech.

Davis) and *Hunter* (manuscript in preparation), operate to create a

mythology that constitutes a shared, collective memory for the hate movement in the United States.

This work highlights the tactics, including the strategic creation and perpetuation of racist myths and narratives, hatermongers use to consolidate power and influence by pitting Aryans against other social groups. From this work one may see that hate operates by politicizing social differences, creating fissures within communities, encouraging minority identities to feel “alien,” and encouraging those in the majority to treat difference with intolerance. Logically, then, an anti-hate rhetoric should depoliticize social differences, heal the wounds of a community that have been wrought by hate speech, and construct community as a place where diverse identities belong and have a “place.”

How may an anti-hate rhetoric accomplish these goals? This is a question that I am attempting to answer. It is a question that is broad enough to be pursued by a variety of activists and scholars.

Director's Report

The Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate started the summer of 2005 off with some very intense planning sessions. These sessions have helped the Institute establish priorities and begin the process of reorganization. Out of the planning sessions a new executive committee was formed to continue this work. This group included Bob Bartlett, James Beebe, George Critchlow, Bobbie League, Jim Mohr, Raymond Reyes, and Jerri Shepard. The committee reviewed job descriptions, policies and procedures, membership categories, and committee structure. We have accomplished a great deal with the help of all members of this committee.

At the Board meeting on March 4, 2006, the Board approved the recommended changes proposed by the Executive Committee. These changes included: the creation of a new committee structure (see announcement in this newsletter for more

information) to guide the work of the Institute, the formation of new membership categories to encourage an increase in membership, and job descriptions were designed for the Board members, Director, Assistant Director, and Editor of the *Journal of Hate Studies*.

The Institute is taking on some very interesting projects this year. We are in the process of establishing a faculty mentor program (see article in this newsletter) which we believe will help develop more courses on college and university campuses. We sponsored a War, Reconciliation, and Human Rights Film Series to spark a dialogue about the impact of war and violence on people and how we can move past the idea of one group seeking retribution and vengeance for a wrong committed against them to finding a just response that recognizes the humanity of everyone involved in the situation.

In our continuing outreach to talk about the field of hate studies, we will be presenting a workshop at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education. Our presentation will explore what courses in the field of hate studies would look like, with an interactive discussion about courses and their content as well as distribution and discussion of class syllabi from current university courses addressing issues of hate. The presentation, entitled "From the Face of Hate to the Face of Hope: An Academic Approach to Addressing Hate," will be presented by Jerri Shepard, Raymond Reyes, and Sima Thorpe in Chicago on June 1st.

This year promises to be a great year of activity, growth, and success. If you are interested in any of our projects or helping us create the field of hate studies, please contact us at 509-323-3665 or againsthate@gonzaga.edu.



This year promises to be a great period of activity, growth, and success. Please contact us if you want to be part of our projects.

Board Chair Changes

Bob Bartlett, who has served as the Chair of the Board for the last seven years, has decided to leave the Chair position and to remain on as a Board member. Bob has served as the Chair during the Institute's publication of the *Journal of Hate Studies* and its organizing of the International Conference to Establish the Field of Hate Studies, and has been instrumental to the success of many of our programs. We are lucky to have Bob remaining on the Board to provide advice, guidance, and a lot of work hours to help the Institute to continue to grow and expand.

Bobbi League, a current Board member, is taking the reigns of Board Chair. She has a long-time relationship with Gonzaga University's School of Education making her well suited for this position. Since the Institute has as one of its goals the creation of an academic curriculum of hate studies, Bobbi is an ideal choice to serve as Chair. She was also one of the main coordinators behind the Conference to Establish the Field of Hate Studies.

With Bobbi coming on as Board Chair, the Institute is pleased that it is able to continue to attract a high caliber of leadership to its Board.

Hate Studies Conference Call

Ken Stern, American Jewish Committee

On January 30, 2006, the Institute convened a conference call of academics interested in furthering the creation of the field of hate studies. The meeting was chaired by Ken Stern of the American Jewish Committee and focused on concrete next steps. Among the items discussed were:

- collecting names and contact information regarding national academic organizations which might want to put the subject of Hate Studies on their agenda
- finding additional academics who might want to work with the Institute to promote Hate Studies
- soliciting proposals from two or three people who would write a paper on some aspect from a variety of disciplines, or proposals from one person who would attempt to look at an issue of hatred from two or three different discipline
- collecting resource material from other fields (e.g. a bibliography of Holocaust studies) which might serve as a model
- proposals for team-teaching an introductory class on hate from a variety of disciplines
- ways of using the Internet better for promoting hate studies
- the collection of hate-related syllabi on the Institute's website

The group will reconvene soon. Ken also has a fellow for the summer who will work full-time to implement the recommendations of the conference call.

Do you want to be
a faculty mentor?

Call 509-323-3665

or e-mail

againsthate@gonzaga.edu

Faculty Mentor Program Cont'd...

- To assist faculty in the development of academically rigorous and meaningful courses related to the topic of hate;
- To build connections between people interested in the topic of hate;
- To promote interdisciplinary work on hate in the classroom;
- To promote the field of hate studies.

The Institute is seeking mentors who have a deep knowledge and experience regarding their discipline and hate issues.

If you are interested in applying to serve as a mentor or are interested in being connected to a mentor, please contact the Institute at 509-323-3665 or at againsthate@gonzaga.edu.

You may also visit our web site for more information at:

www.gonzaga.edu/againsthate.

Hate Studies Recommended to OSCE

Ken Stern, American Jewish Committee

The Amsterdam-based Magenta Foundation convened a two-day conference in February on "Antisemitism in Academia: Sources and Solutions." Ken Stern, an Institute Board member, was a panelist and spoke, in part, about the Hate Studies initiative.

The conference produced a list of ten recommendations

which were presented to an official of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), perhaps the key organization promoting human rights and combating bigotry in the region. One was: "Support the growth and development of the newly created academic field of Hate Studies, which considers the human capacity to demonize and dehumanize

the other and thus has implications for promoting tolerance."

It is encouraging that European scholars concerned with issues of hatred are discussing and endorsing the value of creating an interdisciplinary field of hate studies. The idea of establishing a field of hate studies is gaining world-wide recognition.

If you are interested in making a donation to help bring the Fighting the Fires of Hate exhibit to Eastern Washington, please contact us at 509-323-3665.

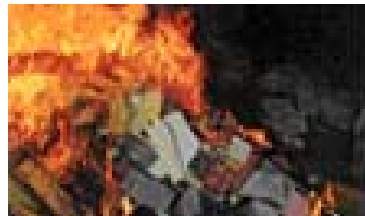
Fighting the Fires of Hate

The Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate is proud to bring the *Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings* exhibit to Eastern Washington. The exhibit was created by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and it will be at the Foley Library from March 10, 2007 to May 5, 2007.

For Americans, the iconography of Nazism is found in the swastika, the jackboot, and the Nazi banner. However, another symbol—flames and fire—accompanied the Third Reich from its strident inception to its apocalyptic demise. On January 30, 1933, torchlight parades announced the onset of the Nazi revolution. One month later, the flames of the Reichstag fire consumed the last vestiges of the Weimar Constitution. On May 10, 1933, German university students launched an "Action Against the Un-German Spirit" targeting authors ranging from Helen Keller and Ernest Hemingway to Sigmund Freud. Americans quickly condemned the book burnings as antithetical to the democratic spirit. (This description is taken from the web site <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/bookburning/>)

This exhibit focuses on how the book burnings became a potent symbol during World War II in America's battle against Nazism, and concludes by examining their continued impact on our public discourse. The Institute will be developing forums and guides to help local schools, community organizers, and interested persons to engage in meaningful and timely discussions about censorship.

If you are interested in supporting this exhibit in coming to Spokane and Eastern Washington, please contact the Institute at 509-323-3665 or againsthate@gonzaga.edu.



Projects of the Institute



Long Night's Journey into Day—A mother speaks about the pain of losing a child.

By creating a comprehensive collection of syllabi, we can encourage the development of hate-related courses.

Call for Syllabi

The Institute for Action Against Hate has begun collecting syllabi from college and university faculty for their courses related to hate. These syllabi are posted on our web site for review.

Currently, we have syllabi from the disciplines of anthropology, criminal justice, communications, psychology, and sociology. We are still looking to gather more syllabi. If you currently teach a class, please submit a syllabus for our collection or if you know someone who teaches a course, please ask him or her to send a syllabus to us.

By creating a comprehensive collection of syllabi, we can continue to encourage the growth and development of hate-related courses and create a network of faculty interested in this field. All submissions can be made by e-mail to: againsthate@gonzaga.edu in either Word or PDF formats.

Film Series

The Institute sponsored a film series on War, Reconciliation and Human Rights. One movie a month from January through April was

played to large audiences.

The movies shown were: *Faces of the Enemy*, *Liberia: An Uncivil War*, *Shake Hands with the Devil*, and *Long Night's Journey into Day*.

Faces of the Enemy gave viewers an overview of how language, cartoons, and other processes are used to dehumanize others so we lose our moral inhibitions against killing them. Rusty Nelson of the Peace and Justice Action League moderated a discussion following the movie.

Liberia: An Uncivil War provided an opportunity for the audience to witness the horrors of war as the outcome of the dehumanization process articulated in *Faces of Evil*. Dr. John Yoder from Whitworth College placed the movie in historical context and moderated a discussion at the completion of the film. Dr. Yoder had served as an election monitor in Liberia and provided some great insight into the struggle happening there.

Shake Hands with the Devil: The Journey of Romeo Dallaire documented Dallaire's return to Rwanda

for the 10th anniversary of the genocide, reliving the political and psychological drama in unforgettable detail. This film was moderated by Fr. Cyprien Niyitegeka, who is originally from Rwanda. He provided personal insight into the conflict in Rwanda.

Finally, the series ended with *Long Night's Journey into Day*, which explored South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission to show that there are non-violent means of resolving conflict. This film was moderated by Dr. Shann Ferch of Gonzaga University. At the completion of the film, he asked the audience to think about and discuss pride and courage, and he facilitated a discussion on forgiveness and reconciliation.

The films will be made available through the Gonzaga Foley Library.



Liberia: An Uncivil War

Projects of the Institute

New Journal of Hate Studies Released

Volume 4 of the *Journal of Hate Studies* has just been released. The theme of this issue is Hate and Culture. If you are interested in receiving a copy, complete the membership form on the last page of this newsletter and as a member you will receive a copy of the Journal.

Call for Papers

The Institute for Action Against Hate is soliciting submissions for the fifth volume of the interdisciplinary *Journal of Hate Studies*.

We are interested in articles from various disciplines that address the topic of "Hate and Communication." This may include ways in which hate is disseminated and implications of that dissemination.

We are also interested in articles that explore solutions and strategies for addressing hate that is being and has been communicated, as well as the methods and content of communication that may combat the manifestation of hate.

A special invitation is extended to scholars from disciplines such as history, psy-

chology, philosophy, women's studies, cultural studies, anthropology, political science, economics, literature, rhetoric, and religious studies.

Submissions are due by **October 1, 2006** and should be between 5,000—10,000 words. Submissions should include one hard copy and an electronic copy in MS Word format. Please do not submit PDF files. Submissions should be presented in Chicago Manual of Style format and contain endnotes rather than footnotes.

Address submissions and questions to the Gonzaga University Institute for Action Against Hate, 502 E. Boone Ave. AD Box 43, Spokane, WA 99258-0043; e-mail: againsthate@gonzaga.edu; phone: 509-323-3665.

New Committees Formed

The Institute for Action Against Hate has created new committees to guide it in its work. These new committees will provide the needed structure to help the Institute achieve its goals and to manage its increasing workload. The committees also provide an avenue for those who want to volunteer with the Institute to get involved.

The new committees are:

Education: It focuses on developing educational opportunities for individuals to learn more about hate, the field of hate studies, and the Institute.

Field of Hate Studies: It seeks to develop the field of hate studies and to create a hate studies program at Gonzaga University which can be used as a model for other colleges and universities.

Research: This committee explores research for the Institute to be involved with and research to be distributed by the Institute.

Budget and Development: This committee works on the Institute's budget and plans fundraisers for the Institute.

Advocacy: This committee is developing a process for the Institute to respond to acts of hate whether they occur locally or nationally.

Editorial: This committee oversees the production of the *Journal of Hate Studies*.

Executive: The executive committee handles the operation of the Institute between Board meetings.

If you are interested in working on one of our committees, please contact the Institute at 509-323-3665 or againsthate@gonzaga.edu.

If you are interested in working on one of the Institute's new committees, please contact us at 509-323-3665.



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www.gonzaga.edu/againsthate

Objectives:

- Development of interdisciplinary courses and course materials on the study of hate and ways of combating hate.
- Annual publication of the Journal of Hate Studies
- Dissemination of research, data, and curricular innovations to interested schools, agencies, and organizations.
- Provision of assistance and advocacy, including legal advocacy, to victims of hate crimes and organizations which share the Institute’s objectives.

Mission

The Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate exists for the purpose of eliminating hate within the University community, the Northwest region, and the nation. It will accomplish this mission through research, advocacy, and education.

Membership Form

Please complete the following form to become a member of the Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate. Dues are for an annual membership. As a member you will receive the Journal of Hate Studies.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Please check here if you would like us to add your e-mail to our againsthate listserv. Yes No

Membership Levels: Please select the appropriate membership level

Student (\$25.00): Any person who is currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate studies in an accredited school and not employed full-time. The student’s advisor must attest to these qualifications by signing the membership form.

As a faculty advisor, my signature certifies the person listed on this form is a currently enrolled student and is not employed full-time. Signature: _____

General Member at a Member Institution (\$40.00): Any person who is employed by or associated with an institution or organization that maintains an institutional membership with the Institute for Action Against Hate.

General Membership (\$65.00): Any person supportive of the Institute’s work and goals who does not fall into another category.

Institutional or Organizational Membership (\$150.00): Available to accredited Institutions of Higher Education and non-profit organizations (includes government agencies) interested in the Institute’s work, goals, and purposes.

For-Profit Organizations (\$250): Available to any for-profit organization that supports the Institute’s goals, purposes, and work.

Payment Method:

I have enclosed a check made payable to the Gonzaga Institute for Action Against Hate.

Please charge ___ Visa ___ Mastercard: Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Card holder’s signature: _____

Please mail this form with payment to: GIAAH, Gonzaga University, 502 E. Boone Ave. AD 43, Spokane, WA 99258