



Greetings from Global Ministries University!

This edition of the Global Notebook focuses on _____ and features the following articles:

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GMU Offers Free Mini-Certificate to Promote Peace

Global Ministries University has just launched the Promote Peace Project, which offers a Mini-Certificate in Peace Studies tuition-free in an effort to promote peace. This certificate consists of two courses in peace studies and a project. Participants complete two courses of their choice from our peace studies curriculum and then create a project that is intended to promote peace in the world, in their community, or within. Upon completion of program, student receives certificate that states: This is to certify that _____ is a Promoter of Peace. Visit our web site for details related to the [Promote Peace Project](#).

GMU Faculty Member Elected to Egyptian Parliament

Dr. AbdulMawgoud Dardery, a GMU instructor of Peace Studies, has been elected to the Egyptian Parliament and is serving as one of its key spokespersons for dialogue with the US State Department and recently spoke at a [seminar hosted by the Georgetown University Center for Muslim/Christian studies](#) directed by Doctor John Esposito. Doctor Dardery received his PhD in English from the University of Pittsburgh and has been a Fulbright scholar specializing in intercultural and interreligious relations between Muslims and Christians.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Global Ministries University has recently initiated [graduate degree and certificate programs in Peace Studies](#), both of which are an important addition to our curriculum. We have an outstanding staff affiliated with the peace studies programs, including Dr. Abdul Mawgoud Dardery, who is featured in this newsletter for being elected to the Egyptian Parliament. I was part of a delegation of 48 faculty and students from the San Jose area that traveled to Egypt with Doctor Dardery in January of 2010. This trip helped to initiate the series of dialogue programs that have taken place with Muslim scholars from Al Zhar University and also from scholars located in Alexandria, Egypt where we visited the Peace Studies Center affiliated with the world famous Library of Alexandria. Also on our staff is Ms. Shahinaz El Hennawi, who is also affiliated with the Peace Studies Institute at the Library of Alexandria, and Dr. Mary Ann Cejka, an expert on the role that Christian communities have played in peace building in various parts of the world. Dr. Cejka worked for several years with the Maryknoll sponsored research institute and was one of the lead researchers and writers on a study of peace building later published by Orbis Books. We are delighted to have such notable scholars and peace activists as part of our Global Ministries University faculty.

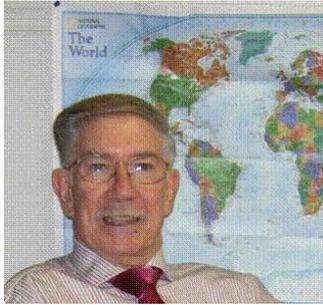
My wife, Marita, and I have had the opportunity to work closely with several projects sponsored jointly by Global Ministries and the Gulen or Hizmet (Service) Movement founded by the Turkish Imam, Fethullah Gulen. In February of this year we participated in a weekend retreat co-sponsored with the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers at the Maryknoll Religion Center in San Lorenzo, CA in conjunction with the Pacifica Institute, an affiliate of the Gulen Movement located in Sunnyvale, CA. We have posted a summary of this retreat with some pictures on the [GMU web site](#).

In addition to this initiative with the Sufi inspired spiritual and civic peace movement, we have also begun an ongoing dialogue with a group of religious scholars based at Al Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt. Al Azhar is the largest and oldest Sunni Muslim training center in the world and its foundation dates back to the tenth century CE. We are conducting regular Skype dialogues with these scholars and they are being hosted on the San Jose City College radio station at KJCC. These dialogue programs will be available on iTunes for use in our Peace Studies program, as well as available for other colleges and universities and the general public.

Gerald Grudzen, PhD

MEET OUR FACULTY

Joseph Ruane, Ph.D., one of the many outstanding instructors on the Global Ministries University staff, is proudly featured in this publication...



Dr. Ruane is the Dean of Global Ministries University Bachelor of Religious Studies degree program and is the Vice President of Academic Affairs. He teaches Global Sociology. He has been on the GMU staff since its inception over ten years. Dr. Ruane is also the Professor of Sociology and Health Policy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. He celebrates liturgy with the Community of the Christian Spirit in the local area.

He received his Ph.D. from the University of Delaware and his M.A. from Temple University. He also has a Certificate in Intercultural Communication from the Universidad de Catolica, Ponce, Puerto Rico and holds a citation from the Chapel of Four Chaplains for the interracial work in the North Philadelphia community, as well as a citation from the Black Academic Achievement Society at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. He is past president and board chair of the Federation of Christian Ministries and is listed in Who's Who in America and is on several other boards. Dr. Ruane is planning to retire from his position at the University of Sciences in June. He resides in Philadelphia with his wife, Nancy, and they have an adult daughter, Krista, married with two children.

STUDENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Global Ministries University student body includes a variety of outstanding individuals with diverse and notable backgrounds and ministries. Andrea Johnson is highlighted in this edition...



Andrea Johnson is about to graduate from Global Ministries University with a Master of Divinity Degree. She has discerned a call to the priesthood with Roman Catholic Women Priests and wanted to have the Master of Divinity degree to support her priestly ministry. Although she had served many years as a catechist and as a Director of Religious Education, there were many aspects of priestly ministry that demanded training in homiletics, ethics and various aspects of theology that she had not yet been exposed to. A married woman and a parent, Andrea had earlier on resisted spending the time, energy and money to pursue this degree at her own expense, especially when the institutional RC church refused to ordain her. Once she made the decision to be ordained through RCWP, she was delighted to find that it was possible to pursue this degree with GMU.

Andrea holds a Bachelor of Arts (summa cum laude) from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN, in French Literature and also holds a Master Of Arts Degree in International Relations and Public Diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. She is currently a Program Officer with the Senior Fulbright Scholars Program, as well as the Executive Director of the Women's Ordination Conference.

Andrea has been married to William Spencer Johnson IV since October 1970 and she, her husband, and family have spent many years with the US Navy, during which time they lived in Boston, MA, Athens, Greece, northern VA (Washington suburbs), and Yokosuka, Japan. Since September 2001, she and her husband have lived in Annapolis, MD.

Andrea is very excited at the prospect of completing her program and graduating with an MDiv from GMU. She has found the MDiv program very enriching and life-giving and is energized to continue as a life-long learner.

CLASSROOM SHOWCASE

Students of Global Ministries University submit outstanding coursework. Maryrose Petrizzo, SFO, MS, who is enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry degree program, submitted the following poem as a part of one of her assignments of the course entitled *Women of the Bible*. The poem expresses her discernment of a new spiritual path.

As I begin this new path in my journey, like Miriam, Deborah, and Mary the mother of Jesus, I am compelled to respond to God's grace in this experience through a poem.

Maryrose's Canticle

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

You formed me to be a companion to all who seek you

You stripped me of my prejudice.

You opened my mind and heart to all traditions

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

You introduced me to outrageous and courageous women

You stripped me of patriarchal views

You opened me to the potential for equity, inclusivity, and unity.

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

You gave me a welcoming community to worship with

You stripped me from the routine of liturgy

You opened me to the community's wisdom

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

You revealed to me the need for all to celebrate/ritualize

your work within us and our life-cycle moments

You stripped away my doubt, confusion and feelings of inadequacy

You opened my heart to new beginnings

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

I now stand naked before you oh Sophia

And I am ready for you to show me the path

All praise and glory to you oh Sophia Wisdom.

You have removed the scales from my eyes

You opened my ears, my mind, and my heart

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