

Upcoming May Activities

4 May
10:30–11:30am

'Islam and Humanity' by Mr Muhammed Haniff



18 May
10:30–11:30am

'The meaning of 'Om' in Hinduism' by Mrs Sarwan Narayan



4 May / 11 May / 18 May
3:30–5:00pm

Meditation Class For Beginners by Ven. Wu Chyuan



Above events are conducted in English in the main lecture hall at the Pure Land Learning College Association. These activities do not incur any cost and we welcome all members of the community to join us. Please email or ring to register.

There were many excellent recommendations from the two dialogue circles at the recent Peace Education Forum. We reflect on some of the recommendations below.

Appreciating Diversity: A Community Asset — Why? What? How?

Group 1: Reverend Peter Rama Rau and Gavin Pike

- Have an understanding of what diversity encompasses – languages, music, art etc.
- From immigration to integration.
- Celebrations of diversity through festivals and showcase.

Group 2: Reverend Dorothy Woodside and Jagdish Narayan

- Not looking the difference as a barrier but look instead at what people can contribute from the differences.
- Start with your neighbours.
- Not stereotyping or being labelled.

Group 3: Evan Reichelt and Kamariah Mohamed

- Acknowledge that there are differences in everything (e.g. values, cultures, religions).
- Continue to dialogue and listen.
- Provide opportunities for different components to express themselves.

Group 4: Rachel Akers and Reverend Jed Perkins

- See beyond the ego.
- Increase community awareness of different backgrounds – more than just faith/culture. Many are isolating themselves socially because of stereotyping and how they think others perceive them.
- Identify the different gifts of others.

Group 5: William Conwell and Lim K Tham

- Support and promote more outreach services.
- Religious perspectives and guidance on morality and values (e.g. intoxication) and the subsequent effects.
- Assisted with the development of cultural religious and spiritual programs for the benefit of the broader community.

Peace Education — Why? What? How?

Group 1: Ron House and Shantelle Shore

- Broaden beyond the religion – peace education, morality, attitudes, and virtues.
- Political level, federal level, politicians should become involved in listening and learning.
- Parents should be more actively involved in educating children about morality.

Group 2: Syed Ghazaly and Taisoo Kim

- Having a 'Peace Day' in Toowoomba community.
- Open Day by religious and educational institutional/schools, to celebrate "Peace Day" by visitation by people.
- 21 September in conjunction with United Nations, "School Peace Day".

Group 3: Barry Sheehan and Mel Priddin

- Positive media coverage.
- Going beyond tolerance.
- Dissemination of local programs and activities to the community.

Group 4: Mark Cecil and Sophie Ryan

- Teacher can play a greater role in imparting moral values.
- Innovative ways of promoting peaceful behaviour.
- Introduction of every religion in school curriculum.
- Proposed the idea of an interschool fete/activity held potentially at USQ. This can be organized through the Captain's Council.

Group 5: Dr. Frank Hepple and Sarwan Narayan

- Using the grassroots approach through schools, clubs and community organizations.
- More outreach work with schools related to peace agenda through cultural exchange.
- Promote more community dialogues and invite more guest speakers to share their perspective of peace work.

Friendship Dinner Sharing

Join the local community for Friendship Dinner every Saturday from 5-6pm. Enjoy vegetarian meals and listen to community related discussions! Please contact us if you have something you would like to share with the community.



▲ Margaret Ruban sharing on her volunteering experiences in India



▲ Dianne Lukes sharing on Esperanto



▲ Geoff Deacon sharing on the works of the Lions Club



▲ Megan Gibbons sharing on the rehabilitation work in the Correction Services Institutions

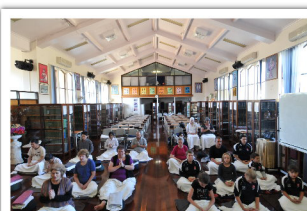
Focus Group Discussion

Follow up on the Peace Education Forum with a Focus Group Discussion on 20 April 2013. From this discussion, we have identified the areas that need to be prioritized and possible implementation where applicable.



▲ The spirit of harmony from the young scouts holding the book 'Guidelines for being a good person'.

Meditation Class



Mother's Day Appreciation

HAPPY

Mother's Day

Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.
~ Unknown ~

Every mother deserves something special on Mother's Day.

In appreciation of all mothers in Toowoomba, Pure Land Learning College would like to present all mothers a small gift of appreciation on Saturday, 11th May.

Venue: Pure Land Learning College Car Park
Time: 3-5pm