The initiative in Religion, Conflict, & Peacebuilding announces its inaugural lecture series:

Humanity at the Crossroads

Monday January 22, 2007, 4:00–6:00 p.m.
“Interfaith Dialogue: Limitations and Possibilities in the Middle East and in U.S./Muslim Relations”
J. W. Jones Room, Woodruff Library
Emory University

The next lecture is by Mohammed Abu-Nimer, associate professor, American University's School of International Service in International Peace and Conflict Resolution, director of the Peacebuilding and Development Institute, and director of the Salam Institute for Peace and Justice, Washington, D.C. Abu-Nimer is an expert on conflict resolution and dialogue for peace and has conducted research related to Israeli-Palestinian conflict, application of conflict resolution models in Muslim communities, as well as interreligious conflict resolution training and evaluation of conflict resolution programs.

As a practitioner, Abu-Nimer has conducted conflict resolution training and interventions in many areas of the world. He has published numerous articles about these subjects in journals and edited books. His most recent books include Nonviolence and Peacebuilding in Islam and Unity in Diversity: Interfaith Peacebuilding in the Middle East. Abu-Nimer is the cofounder and coeditor of the new Journal of Peacebuilding and Development. His lecture will focus upon intra-Middle East cases and will look at how interfaith dialogue is being used to bridge the gap between U.S. and Muslim communities outside the United States.

Upcoming distinguished speakers in the series will include:

Tuesday, February 6, 2007, 4:00–6:00 p.m.
John Paul Lederach, professor of international peacebuilding, University of Notre Dame; Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies

Lederach is a pioneering scholar, mediator, negotiator, peacebuilding practitioner, trainer, and consultant.

Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
Marc Gopin, James H. Laue Professor of World Religions; director, Center for World Religions, Diplomacy, and Conflict Resolution; Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University

Gopin analyzes the relationships among world religions, violence, and peacemaking strategies, as well as the role of religion and culture in Arab/Israeli conflict and peacemaking.

Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 12:00–2:00 p.m.
David O. Jenkins, director of Faith and the City Program; lecturer in Church and Community; codirector of Contextual Education, Emory University

Jenkins is a specialist in faith-based community development and organizing, community-based experiential learning, and community violence reduction and peacebuilding.

These events are free and open to the public.

Religion, Conflict, & Peacebuilding is a key component of Emory's university-wide strategic plan in the theme “Understanding Religions and the Human Spirit.”

More information about the initiative and the speaker series appear at www.gdr.emory.edu/ircp.htm. Contact Dr. Tom Flores for more information at 404.727.7394 or tvflore@emory.edu.