Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference
Peace in Troubled Times

April 1 & 2 Muncie, Indiana

HOSTED BY THE BALL STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Co-Sponsored by:

THE BENJAMIN V. COHEN MEMORIAL FUND

H.C. GEMMER FOUNDATION

Champions for a Safe Community

City of Muncie, Indiana

Ball State University

www.bsu.edu/cohenpeaceconference
Welcome to the Conference!

On behalf of the City of Muncie and all the other co-sponsors, I am thrilled and humbled to welcome you to the 2nd “Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference: Peace in Troubled Times.” Like our 1st Conference, this meeting features excellent presentations and also many opportunities for rich dialogue. Our presenters include scholars, undergraduate and graduate students, and activists from many different disciplines traveling far distances to share their knowledge, research, experiences, strategies, and recommendations related to peacemaking and peacebuilding with all of us.

Similar to the 1st conference, we decided to host this meeting in April. Sadly, some of the most horrific acts of violence in the recent history of the United States have happened during April including the FBI's siege of the Waco compound that left seventy-six dead, the Oklahoma City bombing that killed one hundred and sixth-eight people, and the Boston Marathon bombing that killed three civilians and injured an estimated 264. The Boston event occurred a little more than 2 weeks after the 1st Cohen Peace Conference. Unfortunately, school campuses also have been the target of extreme violence during April including the Columbine High School Massacre that left fifteen people dead, and more recently, the Virginia Tech Massacre that resulted in a death toll of thirty-three persons.

To promote a message of nonviolence and to remember and honor those that have lost their lives in April, for the past nine years, the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at Ball State University has hosted a series of programs on nonviolence. This Conference extends the previous work of the Peace Center to promote nonviolence during April.

I want to thank our dignitaries, The Honorable Muncie Mayor Dennis Tyler and Ball State University Acting President Terry King, for their willingness to participate and support this Conference. I also wish to thank our keynote speakers, Dr. Nazgol Ghandnoosh (Research analyst, The Sentencing Project-Washington, D.C.) and Reverend Charles R. Harrison (Senior Pastor, Barnes United Methodist Church-Indianapolis, President, Indianapolis Ten Point Coalition, and Chaplain, Indiana State Police), for enriching us with their knowledge and experiences.

I am deeply appreciative as well for the support we received from the City of Muncie, Benjamin V. Cohen Memorial Endowment Fund, H.C. Gemmer Family Christian Foundation, Champions for a Safe Community, and a number of units at Ball State University. The members of the host committee including Lindsay Blom, Steven Hall, Roger Hollands, Beth Messner, Hunter Sully, Tacianna Indovina, Gerry Waite, and Craig Webster committed countless hours planning and then implementing this event and I cannot thank them, along with Marie Douglass and all the other volunteers enough for their tireless effort.

Lastly, I want to thank each of you for attending this 2nd Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference. Hopefully, you will acquire some new knowledge and skills to promote a strong message of nonviolence, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding in your communities.

Yours,

Lawrence H. Gerstein, Ph.D.
Director, Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies
George & Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Psychology-Counseling
Born in Muncie, Indiana on September 23, 1894, Benjamin Victor Cohen graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in 1915. He then attended Harvard Law School where he attracted the attention of Felix Frankfurter. In 1933, Franklin Roosevelt summoned Cohen from private practice in New York to public service.

Cohen became a major legal architect of much of the New Deal legislation including the Securities Act and the plan for Lend-Lease and economic stability during World War II. A shy man, Cohen worked behind the scenes where his brilliance as a legal draftsman was widely recognized.

Following World War II, Cohen turned his talents to the problems of world peace and became one of the architects of the United Nations, serving on the U.S. delegation to the UN and on the United Nations Disarmament Commission. His abiding interest in world peace and his outstanding legal ability influenced him until his death in 1983.

On December 24, 1984, Mr. Bernard W. Freund, a nephew of Benjamin V. Cohen created a fund at the Ball State University Foundation to honor his uncle's memory, and continue his uncle's interest in the attainment of world peace. For many years, Mr. Freund served as a Ball State staff member providing legal services to students.
Program held at the Ball State University Alumni Center
2800 W. Bethel Avenue, Muncie, Indiana 47304

6:00-6:45 p.m.
Conference Registration in Alumni Center Lobby

6:45-7:00 p.m.
**Welcome Statement**
(Assembly Hall B)
Dr. Lawrence Gerstein
Director, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Ball State University

7:00-8:30 p.m.
**A Town Hall Discussion: Community and Campus Initiatives Promoting Peace in Troubled Times**
(Assembly Hall B)

Featuring:

![Terry King, Ph.D.](Image1)
Terry King, Ph.D.
Acting President, Ball State University

![The Honorable Mayor Dennis Tyler](Image2)
The Honorable Mayor Dennis Tyler
Muncie, Indiana
8:00-9:00 a.m.
Conference Registration in the Alumni Center Lobby

9:00-9:50 a.m.
**Keynote Speech, “Black Lives Matter: Eliminating Racial Inequities throughout the Criminal Justice System”**
(Assembly Hall B)
Nazgol Ghandnoosh, Ph.D.
Research analyst, The Sentencing Project-Washington, D.C.

10:00-10:50 a.m. – Session One
**Symposium: Creating a Compassionate, Just, Sustainable, and Conscious Indy and World**
(Conference Room 1)
Chair: Connie Dillman (Compassionate Indy)
Co-Chair: Lynn Jackson (Compassionate Indy)
Topic: The Global Compassionate Community Movement
   Betty Brandt (St. Luke’s United Methodist Spiritual Life Center)
Topic: Successful Global Compassionate Community Initiatives
   Vanessa Hurst (Compassionate Indy)
Topic: Emergent Indianapolis Compassionate Community Movement
   Connie Dillman (Compassionate Indy)

**Paper Session: State Repression**
(Conference Room 2)
Chair: Brandon Millsbaugh (Ball State University)
Topic: Media: In the Middle of Nowhere
   Mehmet Ali Yavuz, B.A. (University of Massachusetts, Lowell)

**Paper Session: Refugee Issues**
(Conference Room 3)
Chair: Hunter Sully (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)
Topic: Intersection of Research and Activism
   Tabitha Mpamira, M.A. (Illinois School of Professional Psychology)
   Twesigye J. Kaguri, M.A. (Nyaka Aids Orphans Project)
Topic: A Dual Framework of Statelessness of Trafficked Women in Thailand
   Mackenzie Anderson (Goucher College)
   Thavy Bullis (Goucher College)
10:00-10:50 a.m. – Session One (cont.)

**Paper Session: Narrative and Peace**
(Conference Room 4)
Chair: Kelly Eby (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)
Topic: Peace Building through Story Telling
Emily Tusick, B.A. (John Carroll University)
Topic: Personal and Collective Responsibility in Mary Doria Russell’s The Sparrow
Sarah Foust Vinson, Ph.D. (Cardinal Stritch University)
Topic: Transformative Mind-Mapping for Peace
Michelle Glowacki-Dudka, Ph.D. (Ball State University)
Cathy Mullett, M.A. (Ball State University)
Amy Ward, M.A. (Ball State University)

**Paper Session: Language and Peace**
(Conference Room 5)
Chair: Lauren Dalicandro (Ball State University)
Topic: Fighting Words: Why Respectful Language is More than “Political Correctness”
Mai Kuha, Ph.D. (Ball State University)
Elizabeth M. Riddle, Ph.D. (Ball State University)
Topic: Spanish Globalization: Dissolving Negative Hispanic Stereotypes through Community Education
Jared Knotts (Ball State University)

11:00-11:50 a.m. – Session Two

**Symposium: Importance of Power Analysis and Organizing in Youth Leadership Development**
(Conference Room 1)
Chair: Clare Wildhack-Nolan, M.A. (Peace Learning Center)
Co-Chair: Mathew Davis (School for Community Learning and Just Education Coalition)
Topic: Importance of Power Analysis and Organizing in Youth Leadership Development
Clare Wildhack-Nolan, M.A. (Peace Learning Center)
Mathew Davis (School for Community Learning and Just Education Coalition)

**Paper Session: War and Peace**
(Conference Room 2)
Chair: Brandon Millspaugh (Ball State University)
Topic: Hellfire from Heaven: Resisting Weaponized Drones in Upstate New York
Harry Murray, Ph.D. (Nazareth College, Peace and Justice Program)
Topic: Six Wars and a Wake-Up: Warriors to Peace-Workers
Gerald Waite, M.A. (Ball State University, Peace Studies)
Richard “Mac” McKinney (Ball State University, Peace Studies)
11:00-11:50 a.m. – Session Two (cont.)

**Paper Session: At-Risk Youth**  
(Conference Room 3)  
Chair: Lauren Dalicandro (Ball State University)  
Topic: Children’s Hope: Bridging the Success of At-Promise Homeless Youth  
Neffisatu Dambo, Ed.M., M.S. (Southern Illinois University Carbondale)  
Topic: Indigenous Youth Suicide and the Role of Art Therapy, Tribal Culture, and History  
Karen Posner, A.A. (John Carroll University)  
Topic: Using Sport for Peace Building and Development  
Lindsay Blom, Ed.D. (Ball State University)  
Lawrence Gerstein, Ph.D. (Ball State University)

**Paper Session: Mediation and Training**  
(Conference Room 4)  
Chair: Kelly Eby (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)  
Topic: Community Mediation Centers: A Hidden Resource in Troubled Times  
Cherise D. Hairston, M.A., ABD (Dayton Mediation Center)  
Topic: Conflict Response Teams: A New Method of Mediation  
Christopher Held (Ball State University)  
Topic: Sexual Assault Prevention: Bystander Intervention Team  
Kendra Mehringer (Ball State University)

11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Poster Presentations**  
(Atrium and Commons Area)  
Reading for Life: A Mentoring Alternative for Juvenile Offenders  
Amy Jobst, M.A. (Reading for Life, Inc.)  
Leah Landry (University of Notre Dame)  
Incorporating Mental Health into the Concept of “Self-Sufficiency”  
Megan Day (Butler University)  
An Exploratory Look at Assets and Crime on Milwaukee’s Near West Side  
Patrick Kennelly, MLS (Marquette University, Center for Peacemaking)  
Max Bertellotti (Marquette University)  
Shivani Chokshi (Marquette University)  
Zapatista Autonomy: Resisting Global Hegemony or Escaping Coloniality  
Burke Stanton (DePauw University)  
Transformative Conservation: Applying Peace Studies to Endangered Species Conservation  
Sherrie D. Alexander (University of Alabama at Birmingham)  
Domestic Violence through the Lens of Law Enforcement  
Megan Little, M.Ed., LAC (University of Arkansas)  
Interpersonal Communication with First-Year Community College Students as a Retention Strategy in ECI  
Katharine Herbert, M.S. (Ball State University; Ivy Tech Community College)  
I and Thou and the Four Fold Path  
Karen Laing, M.S. (Michigan School of Professional Psychology)  
Sustainability & Peace  
Andrea McDermott (Ball State University)
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Poster Presentations (cont.)**

(Atrium and Commons Area)

- Project for Awesome
  - Sammy Iskrzycki (Ball State University)
- One Story, A Million Lives
  - Anna Smith (Ball State University)
- Post Conflict Reconstruction
  - Brandon Ball (Ball State University)
- The Esquipulas Peace Accords: Regional Negotiation in the 1980s
  - Victoria Ison (Ball State University)
- Project SHIFA
  - Kellie Juarez (Ball State University)
- Tiny Houses
  - Taylor Blevins (Ball State University)
- Who is Bayard Rustin?
  - Deja Hopkins (Ball State University)
- Friends of Earth
  - Mallory Thatch (Ball State University)
- Save the Dunes
  - Taylor Livingston (Ball State University)
- The Effect of Public Art in Distressed Area
  - Paul Penn (Ball State University)
- The War at Home
  - Haley Reifel (Ball State University)
- Immigration and Foreign Policy Issues
  - Jackline Kingori (Ball State University)
- The Rainforest Alliance
  - Larissa Warner (Ball State University)

12:00-1:50 p.m. – Lunch in Assembly Hall B

**Keynote Speech,** “The 10-Point Coalition: Assessing and Mobilizing the Community to Address and Prevent Violence”

(Assembly Hall B)

Reverend Charles R. Harrison
Senior Pastor, Barnes United Methodist Church (Indianapolis, Indiana)
President, Indianapolis Ten Point Coalition
Chaplain, Indiana State Police

2:00-2:50 p.m. – Session Three

**Symposium: The Freedom Bus: Promoting Social Justice through Immersive Learning**

(Conference Room 1)

Chair: Beth Messner, Ph.D.


- Linda Bellamy (Ball State University)
- Ciara Johnson (Ball State University)
- Samuel Lawson (Ball State University)
- Tiffany Watt (Ball State University)
2:00-2:50 p.m. – Session Three (cont.)

**Paper Session: Animal Rights**
(Conference Room 2)
Chair: Richard McKinney (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)
Topic: Revised Personhood, Hierarchy of Rights: A Case for Species-Based Personhood
Quintin Thompson (Ball State University)
Topic: The Case for Including Animal Advocacy in the Helping Professions
Troy Gregorino (Counselors for Animal Advocacy)

**Paper Session: Religion and Peace**
(Conference Room 3)
Chair: Chris Held (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)
Topic: True Islam and Extremism Campaign
Muzaffar Ahmad, MBA (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community)
Topic: From Local to Global
Sarah Hazen (Ball State University)

**Paper Session: Pedagogy I**
(Conference Room 4)
Chair: Kelly Eby (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)
Topic: Disguising Discrimination: Student Reactions to Teaching the New Jim Crow
Richard Clark, Ph.D. (John Carroll University)
Gloria Vaquera, Ph.D. (John Carroll University)
Topic: Still Separated and Still Not Equal: The Effects of Early Education on the School to Prison Pipeline
Alexandria Boutros (DePaul University)
Topic: Keeping and Creating Peace: The Alliance of Black Teachers Club
Dr. Darolyn “Lyn” Jones, Ed.D. (Alliance of Black Teachers Club)
Rita Mitchell (Alliance of Black Teachers Club)
Dr. Sheron Fraser-Burgess, Ph.D. (Alliance of Black Teachers Club)

3:00-3:50 p.m. – Session Four

**Symposium: Transcendental Meditation in the Schools: Improving Performance and Reducing Violence**
(Conference Room 1)
Chair: Victoria Lee Peterson, B.A. (Maharishi Foundation; David Lynch Foundation)
Co-Chair: John C. Peterson, M.D. (T.M. Health Professionals Program)
Topic: Transcendental Meditation in the Schools: Improving Performance and Reducing Violence
Victoria Lee Peterson, B.A. (Maharishi Foundation; David Lynch Foundation)
John C. Peterson, M.D. (T.M. Health Professionals Program)
3:00-3:50 p.m. – Session Four (cont.)

**Symposium: Reuniting Our Community through Engagement and Reconciliation**  
(Conference Room 2)  
Chair: Jason Donati (R.A.C.E. Muncie)  
Co-Chair: Renae D. Mayes, Ph.D., NCC (R.A.C.E. Muncie; Ball State University)  
Discussant: Yvonne Thompson (R.A.C.E. Muncie; Muncie Human Rights Commission)  
Topic: Reuniting Our Community through Engagement and Reconciliation  
  Jason Donati (R.A.C.E. Muncie)  
  Renae D. Mayes, Ph.D., NCC (R.A.C.E. Muncie; Ball State University)  
  Yvonne Thompson (R.A.C.E. Muncie; Muncie Human Rights Commission)

**Paper Session: Genocide and Ethnic Conflict**  
(Conference Room 3)  
Chair: Richard McKinney (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)  
Topic: Breaking the Silence: The Ugep Massacre and the Politics of Memory  
  Obasesam Okoi (University of Manitoba, Peace and Conflict Studies)  
Topic: Promoting Peace in Multi-ethnic African Countries by Reducing Ethnic Marginalization  
  Kibujjo M. Kalumba, Ph.D. (Ball State University, Philosophy and Religious Studies)  
Topic: Transforming Ethnic Conflict and Building Peace in the CHT of Bangladesh  
  Mohammad Azizur Rahman, M.A. (University of Manitoba)

**Paper Session: Pedagogy II**  
(Conference Room 4)  
Chair: Chris Held (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)  
Topic: Creating a Peace and Justice Course for a Professional Writing Program  
  Jonathan Ritz, Ph.D. (Michigan State University, Professional Writing Program)  
Topic: Curriculum Analysis in Elementary Schools for Peace-Building and Educational Transformation in Nigeria and Cameroon  
  Michael T. Ndemanu, Ph.D. (Ball State University)  
Topic: Peace Building in the Minds of Young Children, Parents, and Teachers  
  Seema Zainulabdin (Ball State University)

**Paper Session: Architecture**  
(Conference Room 5)  
Chair: Kelly Eby (Center for Peace and Conflict Studies)  
Topic: Changing the Landscape for Peace in Newark, NJ  
  Norma Bowe, Ph.D. (Kean University)  
  Jillian Mahon, B.A. (Kean University)  
  Corina Hernandez, MPA (Kean University)  
  Joe Lentini, M.A. (Kean University)  
  Gabrielle Ardolino, B.A. (Kean University)  
Topic: Prioritizing Environmental Conservation in the Implementation of Colombia’s Peace Accords  
  Becca Williams (University of Notre Dame)  
Topic: Resilient Design for Human Capital Based Buildings  
  Joseph Bilello, Ph.D. (Ball State University, Department of Architecture)
4:00-4:20 p.m. – **Live Dance Performance**  
*For All Its Invisibility*  
(Assembly Hall B)  
Susan Koper M.F.A. (Ball State University)  
Dancers: Laura Mansur, Rachel Stewart, and Lacy Smith  

4:30-4:45 p.m. – **Closing Remarks**  
(Assembly Hall B)  
Gerry Waite, M.A. (Research Fellow, Center for Peace & Conflict Studies)  
Lindsey Blom, Ed.D. (Advisory Board Member, Center for Peace & Conflict Studies)
Cohen Memorial Fund Mission
Research and Travel Fund

The mission of the Benjamin V. Cohen Memorial Endowment Fund is to provide a lasting memorial to Benjamin Cohen by fostering new approaches to the problems of peacemaking. This fund supports the Cohen Peace Fellowship Program. Awards from the fund shall be used to memorialize Mr. Cohen’s commitment to the attainment of world peace by focusing on the study and discussion of world issues that affect world peace.

Mission of the Co-Sponsors

Ball State University

Ball State University is an innovative, supportive academic community that inspires students by: offering action-oriented learning, including immersive out-of-class experiences, research, and study-abroad, providing extraordinary access to and collaboration with professors who create scholarship to advance knowledge, improve teaching, and transform learning, engaging state, national and international communities to enhance educational, economic, and cultural development.

Benjamin V. Cohen Fellowship Fund

The Benjamin V. Cohen Memorial Fund was established in 1984 to support the Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Fellowship Program, which awards funds to Ball State faculty members and graduate students for research in fields related to progress toward a peaceful world.

H. C. Gemmer Foundation

The H.C. Gemmer Family Christian Foundation was created in 1956 by a gift of Hiram C. and Edith Gemmer, and was substantially grown in 1993 from the estate of H. Robert Gemmer. The primary charitable interests of the founders were causes promoting peace, justice, sobriety, and racial harmony. The founders were also strong supporters of the ecumenical movement and the cooperative work of local, state, national, and world councils of churches. The main emphases of the Foundation’s grant-making are in the following areas: peace, economic justice and human rights, ecumenical and interfaith cooperation, sobriety, funding priorities, and funding prohibitions.

Champions for a Safe Community

The Champions for a Safe Community Fund will provide support to organizations within the community to provide programming, services, and activities that endeavor to reduce violence as well as provide security and care for victims of violence. Champions for a Safe Community will consider support to not-for-profits, civic, business, and government organizations to support the development and delivery of innovative solutions, otherwise unavailable in our community, designed to make our community a safer place to live, work, and play.

City of Muncie

The City of Muncie is an agricultural center with a college-town element and a variety of industries. In the 19th century the Ball family started manufacturing canning jars, and Ball jars are still the world standard. Thanks to the sociological Middletown studies first conducted in the 1920s, Muncie is said to be one of the most studied U.S. cities of its size. The community is grounded with a diverse economic base that includes advanced manufacturing, information technology, logistics, and life science firms.
Acknowledgements

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www.bsu.edu
City of Muncie  
www.cityofmuncie.com
Benjamin V. Cohen Memorial Endowment Fund  
www.bsu.edu/peacecenter
H.C. Gemmer Foundation  
www.gemmerfoundation.org
Champions for a Safe Community  
www.muncie100menwhocook.org

We greatly appreciate the support of our donors that have helped to partially underwrite the cost of this Conference. They include:

AWAKEN: Afghan Women’s and Kids Education and Necessities, Inc.
Ball State Federal Credit Union
Ball State University Honors College
Indiana Peace Education Network
Islamic Center of Muncie
City of Muncie:  
Mayor Dennis Tyler  
Human Rights Commission
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Muncie Sanitary District: Stormwater Management Department
John Mann: Muncie Tool and Manufacturing Inc.
George Wolfe: Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Board Member
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Special Arrangements
Marie Douglass
The mission of the interdisciplinary Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is to pursue research on structural and direct forms of violence and conflict; to implement nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict; to offer mediation services to individuals, groups, and organizations; and to train people in conflict resolution, mediation, peace-building, leadership, meditation, and sportspersonship skills. The Center also pursues public diplomacy, sports diplomacy, and cultural exchange as part of local, regional, national, and international projects designed to promote mutual understanding, appreciation, cooperation, and respect.

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