



2013 MBB Congress Workshops

The Intentional Mediator and the Peaceable Zone- Adepeju O. Solarin (Nigeria)

This session will engage participants in the method of the Restorative Justice Peacemaking Circle. It is a method that provides a forum for different and opposing sides to dialogue in a way that allows for the *best-self* of all participants to emerge. The forum uses ritual, storytelling, collective accountability and consensus-based decision-making. Circle is especially useful for mediators due to its structural design capacity to distribute power through a talking piece model.

Diasporas in Dialogue: Reconciliation and Capacity Building in Worldwide Refugee Communities. Dr. Barbara Tint (USA)

This workshop presents the Diaspora Dialogue Project: 5 years of work conducting dialogue, training and capacity building efforts in African refugee communities. The resulting model and manual are currently applicable to a wide range of other populations who have exported their historical conflicts into the Diaspora. A model for dialogue, transition and community reconciliation is presented so that others can utilize, replicate and transform this work in other contexts.

Online Mediation, enhancing the role of mediators Kitty Duell (Netherlands)

The discussion follows the following questions: How and when can online mediation be applied? Do the professional mediation principles apply to both offline and online proceedings? What is the role of online tools in creating a more equal and level playing field and enhancing autonomy? Can online mediation be effective if parties are not physically present? How can trust be built online - and how can mediators adapt their offline skills to the online environment?

Zones of Conflict, Zones of Peace: Technology, ODR and Peacebuilding Dr. John Haas (USA)

Technology now plays a key role in conflict resolution, whether that term refers to the formal process of mediation conducted online (ODR), video conferencing, live stream or the use of social media to promote peacebuilding. This session demonstrates three, real-time uses of technology to assist in dispute resolution and addresses the question, "How can technology

Cross Cultural Negotiation and Mediation Mark K. Ameli Esq. (Iran/USA)

A problem that the international community often encounters, in dealing with different cultures, is its failure to recognize the cultural differences which can lead to misunderstanding, prejudice and bias and consequent disputes. This seminar will focus on the recognition of such differences, identification of bias and the manner in which mediators can help the parties in a dispute to achieve resolution.





Why Mediators and Peace Builders Have a Vested Interest in Preserving Freedom of Expression and Promoting Participatory Democracy. Ashok Panikkar (India)

This session explores the role of Mediators in creating a culture of Dialogue and Democracy. Free speech is the foundation of open dialogue and civic engagement and, if eroded, will have a deleterious effect on collaborative decision making processes. If we as a field are to become relevant globally and not be consigned to resolving minor disputes, we should make ourselves heard wherever the rights of Freedom of Expression and Individual choice are threatened.

How to Design, Organize and Conduct Dialogues on Political Issues: The Athens Experience Kenneth Cloke (USA)

Participants will learn basic principles of dialogue, including how to design and organize a dialogue over political issues, and examine the experience of MBB in conducting a dialogue on immigration in Athens in April 2013

The roles of the mediator and the different forms of mediation used in inter-community Peace building in N. Ireland. Alan Ruddock (N. Ireland)

Through this session we aim to explore the roles of the mediator and the different forms of mediation that TIDES Training have used in inter-community Peace-building in N. Ireland. Through the use of visual media and experiential activities we will explore TIDES's perception of the current political context in N. Ireland. We will examine the TIDES designed theoretical models, the practical outworking of these and reflect upon the successes and challenges of our practice.

Cross-training to Bridge Cultural Divides to Bridge Religious Divides to Build Community. Dave Joseph (USA)

In this experiential workshop, participants will have the opportunity to understand and engage with challenges relating to develop cross-cultural training of trainers. The past decade has seen 15,000-20,000 deaths in northern Nigeria, due to sporadic outbreaks of Christian-Muslim violence. IMC and PCP are partnering in a USAID-funded project to build resilience, coexistence and community, while decreasing violence and the two organizations will train trainers to promote common humanity.

How Community Mediation Centers Build Community: The Israel Project Rachel Wohl, Esq. (USA)

The Israel project has two parts: to document innovative cross-cultural community building work being done by community mediation centers in Israel's most diverse areas, and to pair those mediation centers with ones in the U.S. and other countries for shared learning. Panelists from Israel and the US will describe successes and lessons learned when addressing conflict in their communities proactively as well as reactively, plus early results of the learning partnerships.





Developing a Sustainable MBB Chapter” **Scott Martin (USA)**

Creating an energetic and sustainable MBB Chapter requires vision, structure, communication and value. MBB-LA has been bringing together mediators and related professionals in the Los Angeles area since the inception of MBB. Maintaining interest and participation requires on-going creativity and organizing. Come share in our discussion about how to create and sustain this important part of the MBB picture.

Building Unity for Peaceful Elections in Sierra Leone: An MBB Success in the Field
Loretta Raider (USA)

This interactive session will be a blend of theory and experience as Debey Saydnee and Loretta Raider share the success story of the work in Sierra Leone over the past few years and how it expanded from working with Fourah College in Freetown to a national peace-building project. If you are looking to hear an inspirational peace-building story, adding to your peace-building repertoire and have meaningful discussion with colleagues this session is for you.

*Developing Ourselves as Peace-builders – The Mediators Beyond Borders -
Kenya Initiative Experience* **Gail Ervin (USA)**

The Kenya Initiative assessment process and project proposal established a new standard for **MBB capacity development** projects by integrating cutting edge peace-building practices and principles. Using the Kenya Initiative as a case study, this workshop will help MBB volunteers understand how they can translate their skills from their home culture to peace-building in the field, and what they can and should do to develop themselves and prepare comprehensive and high quality project assessments and proposals.

Women Peacekeeping Teams: Women Improving Peace and Security in South Sudan
Tiffany Easthom (South Sudan)

Nonviolent Peace-force (NP) has established all-female conflict prevention teams called Women Peacekeeping Teams (WPT) in South Sudan, South Caucus and the Philippines. This session will focus on the case study of South Sudan, exploring the role, successes and challenges of the WPTs in improving the safety and security of their communities by taking the lead in nonviolent conflict resolution and violence prevention in a highly unstable, male dominated environment.





Gender and Sex-Based Stereotypes in Peace Building and Mediation Process

Dr. Gal Harmat (Israel)

The presentation will use gender analysis to examine the experiences of Palestinian and Jewish men and women, group facilitators and participants in track mediation encounters which have taken place during the last 10 years. The qualitative research addresses two main themes: the deconstruction of national stereotypes and their transformation into gender based stereotypes. The work analyzes the unequal gender relations between men and women in Peace building mediation and maps the gender inequality.

Gendering change in the mediation process: the importance of acknowledging and redressing gender imbalance in the mediation process

Susan Harwood, PhD (Australia)

Susan Harwood PhD is a trained mediator with significant experience as a gender equality practitioner and researcher. In this practical session she draws on her extensive background in gender mainstreaming and her work with a wide range of organizations to identify the differential impact on women (and men) of gendered practices. She demonstrates how and why seemingly neutral mediation practices can still result in outcomes that reflect the gendered practices of organizations, communities and governments.

“Negotiation, Mediation and Gender - what studies and real world practice are telling us”

Dana Moldovan and Victoria Gray (USA)

We will explore gender differences in negotiation by taking an overview of the negotiation process in general, the gender differences and the way that gender differences and society expectations influence negotiation process. We will introduce the small group “tiered committee” model as an effective method for expediting large group disputes that entail complex issues and competing stakeholder cultures. Join us in an interactive session to transform the way you work.

Culture Different Peacemaking: Variables of Cultural Adaptability and Gender Difference

Garry Bailey (USA)

This session highlights the most significant, research-tested variables that predict success or failure for peacemakers to be successful in adapting to different cultures. Women and men also tend to be different from each other in their typical skills of adapting to other cultures. This session will differentiate between gender different skills and provide opportunities for participants to practice gender appropriate, intercultural behavior.





***Women Mediators: Leading Global Initiatives* Joan Goldsmith (USA)**

In a decade in which women are assuming leadership roles on the world stage: winning the Nobel Peace Prize, functioning as heads of state and assuming positions in mission-driven organizations, women mediators have responsibilities to create initiatives for peaceful resolution of conflicts in local communities and in global arenas. This presentation analyzes six competencies women mediators may offer to resolve conflicts. Five strategies are explored for developing powerful women mediators.

***Rotary and Peace: success stories, opportunities and challenges* Marios Antoniu**

Representatives from the Rotary Foundation and Rotary Fellowship alumni will be presenting the work of Rotary in the field of conflict resolution and peace building. Rotary Fellowship alumni will be talking about their study abroad experience at the different Rotary Peace centers around the world and the projects they have initiated. The Rotary Foundation speakers will be talking about their work and the opportunities offered by the RF to advance local and international peace projects.

