

A Well-Watered Garden

A Recap of the 2016 HNGR Symposium

This year's 2016 Human Needs and Global Resources Symposium was entitled: "A Well-Watered Garden: Cultivating Hope and Transformation." The Symposium celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Human Needs and Global Resources program by examining the social, economic and environmental impacts of Human Needs and Global Resources partner organizations working in diverse contexts across Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. The 2016 Symposium built on the program's long-standing commitment to listen to and learn from leaders from the Majority World. To this end the Symposium was kicked off with a chapel address on Wednesday, February 24, which was delivered by Dr. Melba Padilla Maggay.

Dr. Maggay's timely teaching, entitled "[Unequal Worlds at Our Doorstep](#)," drew on Luke 16 to invite the Wheaton community to respond obediently to God's invitation to care for the orphan, the widow, the sojourner and the poor "at our doorstep." On Thursday, February 25, the Symposium continued with a keynote lecture, entitled "A New Heaven and a New Earth: An Eschatological Vision for Transformation," delivered by Dr. Melba Maggay to an audience of over 200 Wheaton students, alum, faculty and visitors from the wider community.

The Symposium continued on Friday, February 26, and included presentations and roundtable discussions with representatives from organizations that have partnered with Human Needs and Global Resources in hosting student interns during the past decade. Dr. Laura Montgomery, Dean of the Global and Experiential Learning, opened Friday's activities with an address in which she recounted the founding of the Human



40th Anniversary Symposium Guests and Speakers

- **Dr. Melba Maggay:** *Accomplished social anthropologist, author and organizational leader*
- **Dr. Savita Duomai:** *Director and a medical doctor at the Shalom Clinic of the Emmanuel Hospital Association in India*
- **John Hays:** *General Director of Inner-CHANGE*
- **Dr. Apolos Landa:** *South American Regional Coordinator for the Luke Society*
- **Christophe Mbonyingabo:** *Founding director of Christian Action for Reconciliation and Social Assistance (CARSA)*

Pictured (left to right): Duomai, Mbonyingabo, Hays, Maggay, Landa

Needs and Global Resources program and reflected on her own experience as a member of the first cohort of Human Needs and Global Resources interns in 1977. Following Dr. Montgomery's presentation, participants enjoyed presentations by representatives from four different Human Needs and Global Resources partner organizations. These presentations were followed by "breakout" roundtable discussions that were led by

Save the Date for Symposium 2017!

The upcoming HNGR Symposium will be held March 16-18, 2017 and the theme will be *A Child Shall Lead Them: Youth and Transformation*. We will host Dr. David Kasali, Founder and Director of the Congo Initiative, as our distinguished plenary speaker. Don't miss it!

our international guests and included the participation of Wheaton College faculty, current students and alum. Symposium guests were invited to attend one of four round-table presentations, which included: “Working towards Healing, Health and Wholeness” (Dr. Savita Duomai), “Art as Creative Eyesight from the Margins” (Mr. John Hayes), “Healthy Spaces for New Rural Generations in South America (Dr. Apolos Landa) and “Reconciliation in Post-Genocide Rwanda” (Mr. Christophe Mbonyingabo). Each session was well-attended (approximately 40 guests per panel) and offered participants to learn more about the work of transformation that is being carried by organizations in Peru, Rwanda, India and elsewhere.

A highlight of Symposium events held on Friday was the “Human Needs and Global Resources Community and Arts Celebration” celebration. Approximately 60 guests, including Human Needs and Global Resources alum, students and their parents, gathered to enjoy and participate in spoken word and musical performance that was facilitated by Celmalí Jaime Okonji (the first John Stott International Visiting Scholar in Human Needs and Global Resources) and Leah Samuelson (Art Faculty, Wheaton College). The Symposium concluded on Saturday morning with a brunch and presentations by three Human Needs and Global Resources alum. The brunch was attended by some 125 guests, which included Human Needs and Global Resources alum and current Wheaton College students and their families, faculty and staff.



Save the Date for Homecoming Open House 2016!

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 7, 2016 from 3-5 PM to come and visit the HNGR Office! We can't wait to see you!

John Stott International Visiting Artist: Celmalí Jaime Okonji



HNGR had the pleasure of hosting our first John Stott International Visiting Artist, Celmalí Jaime Okonji, in February and March of this year. Celmalí is a spoken word artist born and raised in New York and holds a Master's degree in Urban Studies from Eastern University. She currently lives and works in Nairobi, Kenya with her husband, Moses Okonji, and baby, Jericho, as they minister to children in the Mathare slum through their organization Inspiration Centre. Celmalí is a talented writer and artist whose words pierced, inspired, and touched the Wheaton campus and wider community during her stay. Celmalí's writing and performance contains alliteration, rhythm, song, surprise, assonance, and irony. Her poetry touches on issues of injustice, identity, cross-cultural living, hope, and reconciliation and is consistently intermingled with prophetic words from Christ. She pushes the boundaries of the acceptable through art and in so doing proclaims truth.

She not only performed in the classroom, in [HNGR chapel](#), at the HNGR Symposium Community & Arts Celebration, and at various

campus, church, and community events but also held a Spring Break master class at HoneyRock for students interested in learning spoken word poetry. The week-long workshop culminated in an on-campus student performance titled “The House We Live In.” We are so thankful for the time Celmalí spent in Wheaton and the impact she had on the campus community!



Thanks for coming to celebrate HNGR's **40th birthday** with us!!

Test your HNGR Knowledge!

Answers are found on pg. 5

1. What country has received the most HNGR interns?
2. How many host organizations have received an intern?
3. What organization has received the most interns?
4. Which organization with only one site has received the most interns?
5. Including this year, how many students have been interns?
6. What major is most common among HNGR interns?
7. How many HNGR couples (HNGR alum marrying another HNGR alum) have there been?
8. What HNGR internship site is the farthest from Wheaton?
9. What international internship site is the closest to Wheaton?
10. Name HNGR's four directors and their academic disciplines.
11. What three countries received the first HNGR interns in 1976-77?
12. Which professor has done the most faculty visits?
14. What is the name of the newly revised (for the first time in 40 years!) HNGR 112 course to be offered next fall?
15. What is the ratio of total female to male interns?
16. What percentage of HNGR alumni receive a graduate degree after Wheaton?
17. What was the first year of the HNGR symposium?
18. What percentage of HNGR alumni have lived or worked outside the U.S. after graduating from Wheaton?
19. What first name is most common among HNGR interns?

Reflections on HNGR shared at Symposium Brunch 2016

Natalie Maust, HNGR '08

How do the “seeds” of my HNGR internship and learning experience continue to grow in my life today?

The verse that I carried with me throughout my HNGR internship was Psalm 126: “Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.”

What do those tears mean? Shortly before leaving for my internship, an interpretation by a person familiar with farming in the Global South gave me new perspective. Even facing hunger, a family will sow seed instead of eat it. The tears are of denying oneself of immediate satisfaction, hoping that the seed will yield sheaves with an abundant provision at the time of the harvest. I learned that this is an attitude that we must adopt as we hunger and wait for justice in our communities. This has been a recurring theme in my life since my HNGR internship.

Almost 8 years ago, I traveled to Huánuco, Peru to begin my internship with Paz y Esperanza. Their office specialized in providing legal, psychological, pastoral support to victims of child sexual abuse. There, I heard stories, participated in protests, recorded radio spots -- as our team promoted awareness of intra-family physical and sexual violence that was often silenced. My time in Peru was also a rich time of building relationships with friends in Huánuco as well as reconnecting with my family on my mother's side who all live in Lima.

It was observing the attorneys at the Paz y Esperanza office that first sparked my interest

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in legal advocacy. I saw the great sacrifices made by these attorneys to represent the child survivors including death threats, attempted assaults, slander through public media, among other things. Yet, their commitment to pursuing justice remained even if legal victories were few and far between.

After graduating from Wheaton, I moved to Pilsen, a predominantly Mexican neighborhood on Chicago's west side to work as a paralegal for four years with a nonprofit providing immigration legal services. I had the privilege of working with some very resilient clients one of whom I will tell you about now:

Andres entered the United States as a young child. In high school, he excelled as an honor roll student. However, he suffered continuous bullying, leading to one physical outburst in a school fight, resulting in his arrest. This was his first and only criminal arrest. Unaware of the immigration consequences, he pled guilty to aggravated battery. He returned to school, but at a routine probation check-in, he was taken into immigration custody. At the age of 19, Andres was deported to Mexico without access to counsel, after signing a waiver of his right to a hearing before an immigration judge. Andres found himself in a country he barely knew, due to one mistake. Without any family to turn to, he rented a room in Mexico, where he witnessed brutal violence by the cartels. Andres' mother remained in the U.S. to continue their legal immigration battle, while suffering severe psychological trauma due to Andres' deportation.

This case hauntingly demonstrates the way the legal system fails non-citizen youth like Andres. Often, because of one criminal conviction, these youth are separated from family and removed to a country they barely remember, without any second chances. Further, non-citizen youth encountering the justice system reflect the larger problem affecting poor communities of color that are disproportionately policed and incarcerated. Non-citizen youth are left with little recourse in the



immigration system.

Often, like their U.S. citizen peers, these youth come from backgrounds of abuse, abandonment or neglect. Many others have arrived as children fleeing persecution or war in their home countries.

These experiences led me to a desire to pursue a law degree. I decided to go to law school with the goal of developing legal skills to serve the immigrant community. I look forward to graduating this May from Northwestern Law School and then will be moving to New York City to work as an immigration attorney, focusing on deportation defense.

I love that it feels like being a part of the HNCR community is almost like being part of an oral tradition. Certain mantras tend to carry over from one HNCR class to next - such as "learning dependence rather than independence as the beginning of maturity" or "living the questions." These serve as a lens that stays with us. Wherever God takes us, we continue to carry the questions with us. Maybe we sow these questions as we go about our day to day? And one day we hope for the answers when we meet God face to face.

In closing, I will share a portion of our 2008 HNCR class' covenant and I pray that it still may represent a commitment for us:

As a community, we commit to kingdom obedience through:

Turning to the Lord daily

Supporting one another in prayer

Journeying this path with our fellow learners

Remaining present in heart, mind, and body

Rejoicing with those who rejoice

Mourning with those who mourn

Listening to the unheard voices and knowing them by name

Sharing the experiences of our journey

In humility we confess our fallenness and recognize the barriers of privilege.

As Christ was not bound by the tomb, we will not be bound by despair.

In the hope of the resurrection, we fully rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the promises of Christ.

Lord have mercy.

2016 HNGR COVENANT

Jesus, You are the bread given by our Father in heaven.
You promise that those who come to You will neither hunger nor thirst.

But we have doubted Your goodness in the face of the world's injustice.
We have preferred isolation and apathy to the reconciliation You offer.
We have failed to receive and give Your love.
Lord, have mercy.

We come to Your table with open hands, O Lord, ready to surrender and receive.

You who gave Your flesh for the life of the world,
teach us to hope in Your goodness.
You who came in the power of the Spirit to proclaim good news to the poor,
teach us to seek justice alongside the people with whom we live.
You who are love incarnate,
teach us to accept Your welcome
and to receive and give gladly in our communities near and far.

Bread of life, send us out into the world with the taste of mercy in our mouths.
Let Your tears give us courage.
Let us take this bread and proclaim Your death, O Lord,
Celebrating the victory of Your resurrection
Until You return to make all things new.

*Photos from our 2016 in-
terns on the field in the
Philippines, Ecuador, Peru,
Rwanda, and Thailand (top
to bottom)!!*



HNGR Knowledge Quiz Answers!

1. Philippines (60 students)
2. 321
3. Luke Society (67)
4. Mosoj Yan (19)
5. 816
6. Sociology (118), Anthropology (97), International Relations (57), Biology (54)
7. 39
8. Dili, Timor Leste
9. Alamos, Mexico (1582 miles)
10. Wayne Bragg - Sociology/Anthropology; Robert Stickney - Engineering; Paul Robinson - History; Laura Yoder - Environmental Science/Agroforestry
11. Haiti, Dominican Republic, Guatemala
12. Robert Stickney (94), Norm Ewert (32), Christine Kepner (29)
13. HNGR 114: Poverty, Justice, and Transformation
14. ~2:1
15. 61%
16. 2006
17. 41%
18. Sara(h) (22)

