



INTER-RELIGIOUS WEEK

OXFORD (UP) CENTRE FOR
RELIGION, PUBLIC LIFE, AND
SECURITY IN AFRICA.

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ABOUT IRW 2024

The Inter-Religious Week consisted of dialogue spaces and events hosted by the Oxford (UP) Centre for Religion, Public Life, and Security in Africa at the University of Pretoria. This week aimed to create learning spaces and a community where students and attendees can share their cultures and religions while learning from our diverse society.

The first event consisted of a community and campus engagement occasion surrounding the painting of a graffiti wall on campus. Everyone passing the wall was encouraged to participate. The participants put their hands in paint and then on the wall, showing solidarity and support for unity through diversity.

Our second event entailed a church panel discussion. The church partners of the Faculty of Theology and Religion church convened at NG Universiteitsoord. The church partners introduced their churches and discussed the theme of peace and unity within their own church and other churches.

The third event for the week was a guest lecture by Ven. Prof. Dr. Huei Kai from Taiwan on 'Modern life and death studies: A guide to future prospects' in collaboration with the Nan Hua Temple. A donation ceremony of 100 wheelchairs followed the lecture.

The fourth event for the week included an introduction to the Special Collections of the UP library by Ms. Nikki Haw within the framework of African resources. This was followed by a presentation by Prof. Joel Mokhoathi from UNISA on 'African Traditional Religion and Modernity'. Prof. Joel Mokhoathi also interviewed Prof. Jaco Beyers on his recent work.

Our last event was a living museum in front of the Faculty of Theology and Religion. This event involved religious leaders taking on the roles of 'museums'. Students were encouraged to interact with the practitioners, ask questions, and learn about the different religious groups. Practitioners from the following religions participated in this event: Buddhism, the Roman Catholic Church, African Traditional Religion, Islam, and the Church of Scientology.

EVENT ONE: GRAFFITI WALL

This event encourages student interaction with each other with the aims of illustrating solidarity with diverse religious belief systems. This event also serves as an opportunity for marketing the week ahead and ensuring that the Inter-Religious Week starts off in a creative way for the students.



EVENT TWO: CHURCH PANEL DISCUSSION

This event served as both an opportunity for different church partners to enhance their established relationships as well as offering students the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the different church partners.



EVENT THREE: PUBLIC LECTURE & WHEELCHAIR DONATION

This event hosted Ven. Prof. Dr. Huei Kai from Taiwan who presented a guest lecture on 'Modern life and death studies: A guide to future prospects' which was followed by a wheelchair donation.



EVENT FOUR: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION AND MODERNITY

Students and guests joined an introduction to the Special Collections by Ms. Nikki Haw. This was followed by a discussion on 'African Traditional Religion and Modernity' by Prof. Joel Mokhoathi. Prof. Mokhoathi later interviewed Prof. Beyers on his latest publications.



EVENT FIVE: LIVING MUSEUMS

Students and guests joined as various religious practitioners showcased their religious items and texts to encourage a better understanding of their religion.





CONTACT US!

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