

ABS Bulletin

A PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR BAHÁ'Í STUDIES—NORTH AMERICA

Washington conference program announced

It's not too late to make plans to attend the 33rd Annual Conference of the Association for Bahá'í Studies—North America! The conference, on the theme “Environments,” will be held 13–16 August 2009, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington D. C.

The conference will open Thursday morning with several general sessions as well as the Student/Faculty Development Program (see page 4 for details).

A special all-day workshop on Thursday will explore the topic “Engaging the Writings: Scholarship and a Broad Pattern of Action.” Participants will be invited to examine excerpts from the Writings and identify insights on how to engage in and develop new approaches toward scholarship that advance Bahá'í Studies in areas such as global social and economic prosperity, defense of the Faith and the explanation and exploration of its teachings, and correlation of the teachings with the works in various disciplines. The afternoon session, “Some Explorations in Applying Bahá'í Scholarship,” will seek to connect knowledge with a cycle of learning, reflection and action with an emphasis on making a positive contribution to improving society. Presenters Dorothy Marcic, Peter Engstrom, and

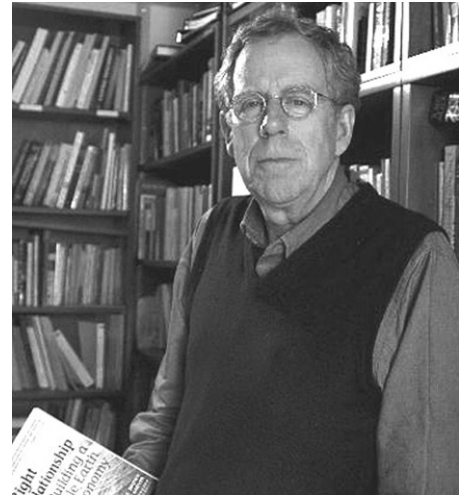
Johann Wong are from the arts, business and social development arenas and exemplify a strong commitment to putting principles into action.

Also on Thursday afternoon, the International Environment Forum (IEF) will host a workshop led by Arthur Dahl on “Values-Based Indicators of Sustainable Development,” which welcomes all who are



interested in learning about and contributing thoughts to an EU-funded project to develop values-based indicators of sustainable development. Dr. Dahl is senior consultant to the project, which is being jointly undertaken by a number of interested European-based organizations, inspired in part by the Bahá'í International Community's statement, “Valuing Spirituality in Development.”

Thursday evening's plenary session will feature Dr. Dahl's presentation, “Transforming Environments from the Inside Out.”



Peter Brown will speak in the International Environment Forum panel

The Friday morning plenary session organized by the IEF and moderated by Tahirih Naylor of the Bahá'í International Community will address the topic, “Global Governance, Human Maturity, and the Challenge of Sustainability.”

This session will explore the emerging need for more effective international environmental governance in light of the widespread acknowledgement that current approaches are insufficient to safeguard the interests of an increasingly interdependent world. The emergence of a global consciousness of

Continued on page 4

In this issue . . .

- 2 Breakout sessions**
- 5 Registration form**
- 8 Calendar of Events**

Conference breakout sessions

Breakout sessions at the conference will include the following presentations:

Naseem Alizadeh, "Building within Our Means"

Nancy Joy Allchin, Rehema Clarcken, and Dara Gay Shaw, "Online English Teacher Roundtable"

Nathalie Auger, "Are Allusions to Global Warming Present in the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh?"

Kamilla Bahbahani, Marie Gervais, Peter Cromwell, and Lee Brown, "Bahá'ís Grapple with Racism"

Samuel Benoit, "Faith in Environmentalism"

Sandra J. Bean, "Extremes of Wealth and Poverty: What is the Impact of Well-Meant Economic Policies on Health and Well-being in Developing Countries"

Maya Bohnhoff and Stephen Friberg, "Progressive Revelation as the Bahá'í Answer to New Atheism"

Bret Breneman, "Gerard Manley Hopkins and the 'Nature' of the Environment"

Rana Chang and Shahla Bolbolan, "Achieving Equality Through Chastity, Modesty, and Marriage: A New Radical Feminism?"

Reed F. Curry, "Information and Knowledge: What is 'Knowledge' in the Information Age?"

Carol Curtis and Tahirih Naylor, presenters, with co-facilitators Duncan Hanks and Peter Adriance, "Climate Ethics"

Marjan Davoudi, "Raising a Child as the Creator of Light, not a Subject to the Dark Side of the Environment"

David Kalim Diehl, "Getting Noticed and Making a Mark: The

Challenges of Interdisciplinarity for Bahá'í Studies"

Hamid Farabi and Ruhyyih Farabi, "Environment and Its Effects on the Spiritual Life of Man"

Fahdad Fani, "Providing an Environment for a Constructive Discussion between Science and Religion"

Khosrow Farahbakhsh, "Organic Unity and the Second Law of Thermodynamics"

Marie Gervais, "'Eat Ye, O People': The Role of Food and Hospitality in Bahá'í Intercultural Relations"

William P. Gregg, "Bahá'í Gardens as Catalysts for Neighborhood Transformation"

Brian Guequierre, "Thoughts on Water"

Brett D. Hartman, "Restoring the Earth's Resources: A Bahá'í Perspective: Where the Land Is Hurting, the People Are Hurting"

Ian Harris, "Human Rights for the Entire Bahá'í Community: Using a Group-Oriented Minority Rights Framework to Advocate for the Bahá'í Community"

Ingrid Hauck, "Creating Sacred Spaces: A Bahá'í Perspective on Feng Shui"

Amrollah Hemmat, "Beyond Feminism: Tahirih's Life and Writings"

Darius Himes, "Figures of Speech and Thought: Implications of Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation for Contemporary Art and its Relation to the Community of the Greatest Name"

Camille N. Khodadad, "Seeking a Work Environment Conducive to the Development of Human Potential"

Mehrzad Khorsandi, "In Search of a Balanced, Generative, Emergent

and Environmentally Responsive Architecture/Construction Curriculum"

Ian Kluge, "The Writings, Philosophy, and the Human Environment"

Samir Koirala, Dave Wellman, and Mitra Solomon, "Footprints of the Future: Visions of Human Civilization a Century from Now (and How to Get There)"

Katharine Kripke, "The Old World Order, the New World Order, and Ending HIV/AIDS"

Emily Lample, "Knowledge in Action: Consonance between Students' Understandings of Social Problems and Their Participation in Community"

Dale E. Lehman, "What Bahá'ís Think about Science and Religion"

Susan Maneck, "Accusations against Bahá'ís within the Context of Islamic Heresiography"

Couros Meharian, Ian Kluge, and Dinesh Singh (moderator, Robert Stockman), "Apologetics Program: Answering Irreligion"

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