

KSU Campaign for Nonviolence Summary Report - June 29, 2006

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Background:

Since its inception in 2000, the Campaign for Nonviolence has promoted nonviolent activism on our college campus environment aimed at verbal, physical, and sexual violence in order to:

- * Intervene “up stream” – by making visible each person’s power to act, to choose;
- * Extend the sense of Community – by making visible our community standard of nonviolence; and,
- * Count the violence that never makes it to the Campus Security reports – by making visible the real incidence of violence on our campus.

In the summer of 2006, we increased the national visibility of the K-State Campaign for Nonviolence (CNV) and the Safe Zone Program by offering two presentations:

1) At the VIOLENCE GOES TO COLLEGE conference in Boulder, Colorado on May 23, 2006. Our presentation was titled ‘Nonviolence Goes to College--Or, How I Learned to Stop Mopping Up and Instead, Got Ahead of the Violence’. In this 2-hour session, Dr. Lambert presented on the development of the CNV, Heather Reed (Assistant Dean of Student Life) presented on the Clery Act/Campus Security Report, and Kelly Maze (Student/Women’s Center Staff/Safe Zone Ally) presented on the Safe Zone program. You can view the entire powerpoint presentation on our website at http://www.k_state.edu/nonviolence/CNV2006_ppt/Nonviolence%20Goes%20To%20College_files/v3_document.htm

2) At the National Women’s Studies Association conference in Oakland, California on June 17, 2006. Our panel was titled: Teaching Non-Violence in the University and Other Community Settings. In this 75 minute panel, moderated by Dr. Angela Hubler (Chair, K-State Women’s Studies Department) and including Drs. Torry Dickinson and Valerie Carroll (both Professor at KSU Women’s Studies Department), Dr. Lambert presented “Speaking the Truth: Feminist Violence Prevention on Campus – The Development of the K-State Campaign for Nonviolence”.

Additional ways in which visibility was increased:

- * The WC/CNV sponsored two students to attend Youth Peacemaker Training in Texas and Susan Allen attended the 2005 Gandhi Conference on Nonviolence
- * The Junction City Daily Union interviewed WC/CNV/SZ staff for a series of full-page articles on violence and nonviolence.

The following is a brief review of the progress and status of the Campaign for Nonviolence during the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

The Organization:

The Steering Committee consists of Dorinda Lambert, Ph.D.(Counseling Services) as the Chair, Susan Allen, Ph.D.(Women’s Center) as the creative head and organizational base, and Torry Dickinson, Ph.D. (Women’s Studies) as our academic anchor. In addition, this year Cia Verschelden began working with us to formalize ongoing Nonviolence Studies classes. An updated membership list is submitted to the office of the Vice-President for Institutional Advancement each summer since the Campaign for Nonviolence was formally designated in Fall 2002 as a Presidential Committee (#8078).

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The Women's Center continues to offer their limited office space to house the CNV student worker. This allows good coordination in the prevention/education work of the CNV (e.g.: the Fall Rally for Nonviolence and the Spring Season for Nonviolence, plus Noontime Yoga, academic courses, presentations, etc.) and in developing the community network through the revitalized SAFE ZONE Program that is now coordinated through the Women's Center office.

Our coordination with other offices on campus continues through the involvement of CNV committee members and allies. At the time of our last report, we were working with the Counseling Services concerning a grant application aimed at increasing suicide prevention efforts on the campus by adding training offered by the grant to all the current SAFE ZONE Allies. Though that grant was not funded, we will continue to work with the Counseling Services and other offices on campus on prevention/education efforts to promote a safe and equitable campus environment.

Funding:

The Campaign for Nonviolence has continued to receive \$5000 each year from the Office Of Institutional Advancement to employ a student assistant for the work involved in the Fall Rally, the Season for Nonviolence, coordinate with the CNV Student Group (ACTION) and other campus groups/projects throughout the year, and help organize the yearly Empty Bowls Project, Movies on the Grass, and other collaborative projects.

The CNV worked closely with the Women's Center to apply in January 2006 for a Department of Justice federal grant. Unfortunately, a delay in Congress concerning funding of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has delayed decisions about all grant applications made. We have not yet heard about the status of our grant application and so are proceeding with plans for the next academic year with our current limited resources.

The grant was written to fund a variety of service needs; the following are two examples of the needs we hoped to address through the grant application:

- 1) We wish to immediately hire one (additional) full-time victim's advocate, to be placed at the WC. This position would strengthen the coordinated university and community response services for students who have been assaulted, would ensure 24-hour immediate access to assistance for victims of violence, and would ensure that the Women's Center can provide advocate services for more students in need. In addition, the current Victim's Advocate, Mary Todd who also serves as Assistant Director for the WC, would have more time for program-building activities such as coordination among project partners and education of various campus and community groups (such as relationship training for athletes and SANE/SART); and
- 2) We also wish to immediately hire one half-time Educator for Violence Prevention Programs, to be placed at the WC. This would provide additional staff dedicated to coordinating SafeZone volunteers, training, and education programming. The WC/CNV predicts that SafeZone activities will double over the course of the next year, and the Educator will ensure the appropriate training of new allies and continuing education/networking for existing allies, including the Manhattan High School and middle schools. Funding this position also will ensure continued training for K-State Police, Riley County Police, and other campus and community offices.

We are anxiously awaiting news about the grant decision but are planning for the new academic year with our current, limited budget and staffing.

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Our effective use of these relatively small amounts of money can be seen in the following summary of Projects that have been accomplished this past year.

Projects:

The following are some highlights for the 2005-2006 academic year. You can view more about the CNV at our website at <http://www.k-state.edu/nonviolence> and about the Safe Zone program at <http://www.k-state.edu/womenscenter/NewSafeZone.htm>. I also encourage you to view the Women's Center website for their other programs/resources.

* Provided in the Fall a Rally for Nonviolence to promote nonviolence as the standard of interaction at KSU and to educate about issues of violence in order to help prevent all forms of violence, in particular, sexual violence against women on campus. Information tables and a variety of music were provided as award plaques were given to two local businesses in recognition for their support of the Empty Bowls project in April 2005 1) Jeff & Jill Pfannenstiel, the owners of the Mercado Gourmet Grocery and 2) the Blue Stem Bistro. We also gave a plaque to Nicole Copel as the 2005 student of the year in recognition of her creativity in organizing the Empty Bowls fund-raiser in April 2005 to combat hunger in our community and especially for her dedicated work for the CNV since 2001 as our student employee.

We are now planning the next Rally scheduled for Wednesday September 6, 2006.

* Contributed to the Movies on the Grass program organized by Donna Schenck-Hamlin, on staff at the Hale Library. This was the inaugural year for the series of thought-provoking, progressive films offered in the Coffman Commons area between Hale library and the Administration Building. The series was a success and so 4 more films will be offered again in August/September 2006.

* Continued campus awareness of nonviolence techniques through presentations offered during the Season of Nonviolence held each Spring semester over a 64 day period from January 30 to April 4. The CNV has coordinated with many of the other offices on campus to advertise and encourage participation in related presentations throughout the year as well as during the Season.

* The Empty Bowls Project: For the second year, the CNV/WC staff worked to again organize local potters to create bowls, assist community members in doing the same, and then selling these bowls to raise money to fight hunger in the community. This fundraiser was very successful again with the help of the Mercado Grocery and the Texas Star restaurant in Aggieville. Money collected allowed Women's Center/Campaign for Nonviolence, to donate \$893.58 to each of the following agencies to support their efforts towards ending hunger in our community: Ogden Friendship House, Happy Kitchen, and Second Helping.

* Take Back the Day event: Feminist Thought, a student group, organized a Take Back the Day event with the active support and research/writing assistance from CNV and the Women's Center. Aimed to help end sexual assault and the silence about it, this educational event took place on May 3. Students received pamphlets on what sexual assault was, where help is available, how we can work to prevent sexual violence, and how all of us are impacted in some way by sexual violence.

* The course "Introduction to Nonviolent Studies", a course listed in Arts & Sciences Honors Program and cross-listed in Women's Studies, had been last offered in the Spring 2005. Enrollment has been growing for the course over the 4 years that it has been offered and students have been very positive about the learning experience. In Spring 2006, Dr. Cia Vershelden will teach the course. She, with faculty members from various academic departments and with the support of CNV and Women's Center, will promote the

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creation of a Nonviolence Studies Program for K-State. It is expected that the Women's Studies Department will propose this to the Faculty Senate in Fall 2006.

* The SAFE ZONE program at KSU is now housed and coordinated at the Women's Center and has been staffed by two student assistants (paid by EOF funds) who create and help present the ongoing training for the SAFE ZONE Allies and to keep the web page updated. Mary Todd at the Women's Center coordinates the student assistants and has continued to offer her energy and creativity to the SAFE ZONE process. CNV volunteers and student staff assisted in the introductory and advanced training sessions offered to SafeZone Allies. Dr. Lambert presented an advanced training on Suicide in the Spring 2006 term and assisted in some of the consultations by Mary Todd with Manhattan High School parents and faculty who were interested in developing a SafeZone program in the local schools. These consultation and training efforts with the community schools will continue throughout the Summer.

* The Addition of a SafeZone/CNV/Women's Center Kiosk at the Union. Through the efforts of Dr. Susan Allen, a long-time goal of the Campaign for Nonviolence and Women's Center to have a visible presence in the K-State Union became a reality when the Kiosk was set up at the Student Union on October 4, 2005. The College of Veterinary Medicine donated \$500 to the WC/CNV/SZ Kiosk - which was our first official donation. The following is how Dr. Allen described the Kiosk:

The Union Governing Board approved our proposal to create a WC/CNV Kiosk in the Union that combines two aspects:

(1) We will have an information kiosk just east of the travel and UPC boards, out of the way but fully visible to everyone near the food court. The Women's Center (which includes staff for WC, CNV, PEERS Rape Prevention Program, SafeZone, Noontime Yoga, Nonviolence Studies, and the CNV student group, ACTION) will be responsible for staffing the desk between 10 am and 3 pm, daily during school sessions. We imagine this area as a kind of permanent "safe zone" for students and others who may need help or have questions. Just being present for people and out front with information about violence and nonviolence will be a way of building both awareness and community. Most importantly, it provides the opportunity for students to know us before they are in crisis and to become more familiar with the concepts of prevention and nonviolence.

(2) Near the Kiosk, we plan to mount a TV to the wall that is dedicated to providing international news and information from World Link TV and similar stations. This idea emerged two years ago from our Introduction to Nonviolence Studies class as a way to promote global community and nonviolence.

Thanks much to the Union Governing Board and the K-State Union director and staff, K-State Telecommunications, students from four years of Intro to NVS classes for your ideas and energy, Office of Institutional Advancement (for the furniture!), members and allies of the campus-wide Campaign for Nonviolence (now in its fifth year), staff of the Women's Center (now in its 32 year). This is a pilot program at the moment but we're confident it will be able to continue.

Though Telecommunications Office is willing to donate the TV connection and World Link TV are willing to donate the TV connections, efforts are still underway to find funding for the TV screen. Our part-time grant writer, Stacy Smith (paid for with a special allocation from President Welfald), and Dr. Susan Allen has written several small grants in an attempt to obtain money to purchase a 42-50" plasma TV screen for the SafeZone/CNV Kiosk in the Union. Unfortunately, the grants were not awarded but we plan to increase our fundraising efforts in 2006-2007.

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* The Campus Violence Survey: Awareness of Violence and its Impact on the KSU Campus Community. Throughout the Fall semester 2005, Dr. Lambert worked with a small committee of CNV members to devise an online survey and submitted it to the KSU Human Subjects Review Board (IRB). By the middle of February 2006, the survey had been modified to meet IRB committee requests and was administered to a stratified, random sample of 10% of the then current K-State e-IDs/emails covering students, faculty, and staff. See attached summary for preliminary results.

It is hoped that the full statistical analysis can be done later this summer/early Fall and a complete report made available to the campus community as part of the education/prevention efforts of the CNV.

PLANS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN FALL2006/S2007 TERM

We will continue to do the following:

- 1) Seek funding for projects like the Kiosk TV screen.
- 2) Work with Women's Studies (and other departments) to begin the Nonviolence Studies Program likely as an interdepartmental minor or specialization.
- 3) Offer multiple programs and activities during the Fall Rally and the Spring Season of Nonviolence programs.
- 4) Continue to be an active member and promoter of the SAFE ZONE program, to strive to find funding for adequately staffing the program, and continue to work with the development of the Safe Zone at Manhattan High and other Manhattan schools in Fall 2006.
- 5) Present the results of the campus survey on violence and begin to prepare for the 2008 survey.
- 6) Further develop the CNV as a campus community action group aimed at making the campus a safe and equitable environment for all in our community.

Summary:

We see the CNV as a vehicle for helping to implement the aspirations of the K-State Principles of Community. Our combined efforts are 1) increasing the visibility of both violence and the community resources available to deal with it and 2) increasing the knowledge that our campus culture is a culture of nonviolence. As our motto states:



Respectfully submitted by

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Torry Dickinson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Women's Studies