



IFYC

INTERFAITH YOUTH CORE

INTERFAITH LEADERS CHOOSE COOPERATION

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



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DEAR FRIEND,

Interfaith leaders make choices. We live in a country that is more religiously diverse than ever before. This puts us at an inflection point—we can choose to engage this diversity in positive and proactive ways, working toward a more cohesive society. Or we can choose to let negative attitudes persist, allow inaccurate knowledge to spread, and watch divisions in our society become deeper and more intractable.

In this report, you'll read about interfaith leaders across the country who are actively choosing to engage religious diversity in meaningful and positive ways. Collectively, each of these individual choices are creating a movement for interfaith cooperation, in which leaders on college campuses across the country are building relationships, proving that difference can be used as a bridge of cooperation instead of a barrier of division. Take, for instance:

Students (Page 3) – On 160 college campuses, students are harnessing their passion and talent as participants in on-campus student-led initiatives.

Faculty and Staff (Page 4) – IFYC is partnering with colleges and universities to embed interfaith leadership as an area of study in higher education. With direct support from IFYC, professors at 17 institutions are developing concentrations, fellowship programs, and even the first major in the expanding field of interfaith studies.

Alumni (Pages 7-8) – Claire Curran, IFYC Alumna, has chosen to use interfaith organizing as a tool to support environmental sustainability. The list of IFYC alumni quickly becoming leaders in their chosen fields goes on and on.

Supporters (Page 9-12) – The IFYC community has continued to show its commitment to interfaith cooperation by choosing to underwrite our ambitious efforts in higher education. We couldn't be more grateful to have you as our partner.

We're sure that the next few years will be our most impactful, and we hope you will choose to continue with us on this journey. Together, we can make interfaith cooperation a social norm.

Respectfully Yours,



Eboo Patel
Founder and President



Alan Solow
Chairman, Board of Directors

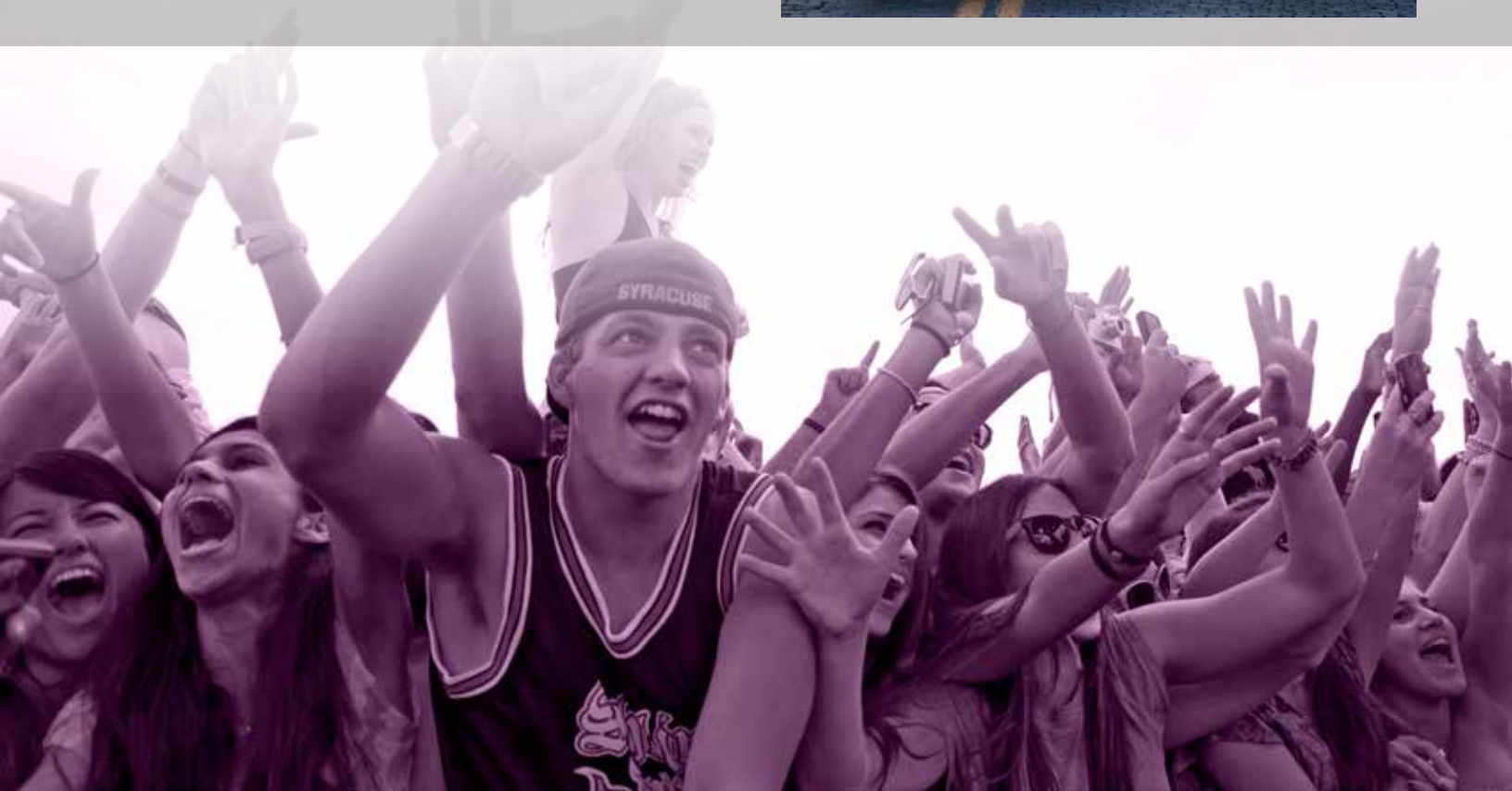


WE SUPPORT STUDENTS FACULTY, AND STAFF

Young leaders are writing the next chapter in the inspiring story of interfaith cooperation. We also support students' mentors—faculty and staff on college campuses across the country—to make sure they have the skills, experiences, and resources they need to make interfaith cooperation a priority on campus.

WE SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

College and university campuses are leading the way by modeling interfaith cooperation for the rest of society. IFYC partners with campuses nationwide to do excellent interfaith work on campus.



STUDENTS CHOOSE COOPERATION

IFYC TRAINS STUDENTS

WENDY LOW / Jewish / University of Denver

ANUSHA ABBAS / Muslim / Arizona State University

In Summer 2014, the latest conflict in Gaza broke out and the Israeli-Palestinian crisis dominated the news. People around the globe were grappling with the crisis, especially those in Jewish and Muslim communities. Meanwhile, Wendy and Anusha were nervous about spending a week of training at IFYC's offices in Chicago.

Considering the religiously-influenced conflict happening on the other side of the globe, Wendy dreaded having the conversation about her religious values, especially with her friend Anusha. Instead, they kept conversation light. "We talked about make-up, selfies, and the similarities between Arabic and Hebrew languages," Wendy recalls.

The week went on like this until their last night together. As they sat in the hotel lobby with TV news showing images of the destruction in Gaza, Wendy and Anusha finally had an open, honest conversation about their religious values and how their values shape the way they experience the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the world at large. They talked about how their identities were connected to their respective Jewish and Muslim communities and why they as U.S. citizens feel so strongly connected to the conflict. They didn't agree on the Gaza conflict that evening, but they agreed on so much more.

Anusha says, "So many people would say that our conversation shouldn't have happened. The stigma around religion creates too much tension between different religious and philosophical backgrounds to have productive conversations."

Wendy and Anusha chose to tell a different story. Together they decided that though they have profoundly different views on deeply important issues, they still should be able to agree to come together around shared values to fix issues like homelessness, human trafficking, and hunger.



FACULTY & STAFF CHOOSE COOPERATION

IFYC PARTNERS WITH FACULTY & STAFF

AAMIR HUSSAIN / *Muslim* / IFYC ALUM
/ now a medical student at University of Chicago

Hospitals, clinics, and doctors' offices are some of the most religiously diverse places in the United States, but during his first few months of medical school at the University of Chicago, Aamir noticed that religion was rarely discussed. Noting this, Aamir started an interest group on campus called Spirituality and Medicine. "I invite speakers from different backgrounds and research interests to speak on how they see religion interacting with medicine," Aamir says. The group aims to create a safe space for discussion of how spirituality and religion affect health care. In Fall 2014, Aamir was awarded one of five \$5,000 Germanacos Fellowships from IFYC so that he can develop a medical discussion series focused on the intersections between spirituality and medicine. Knowing a patient's religious or philosophical background will help Aamir build a better relationship with that patient, especially as interfaith literacy continues to play a big role in medicine.

Aamir notes, "My passion for medicine stems from a declaration in Islam that saving one person's life is equivalent to saving all of mankind. Through my work with IFYC during my undergraduate years at Georgetown University, I have come to realize that religious communities, like all social structures, can be divisive. When used correctly, they can be powerful catalysts for social improvement."



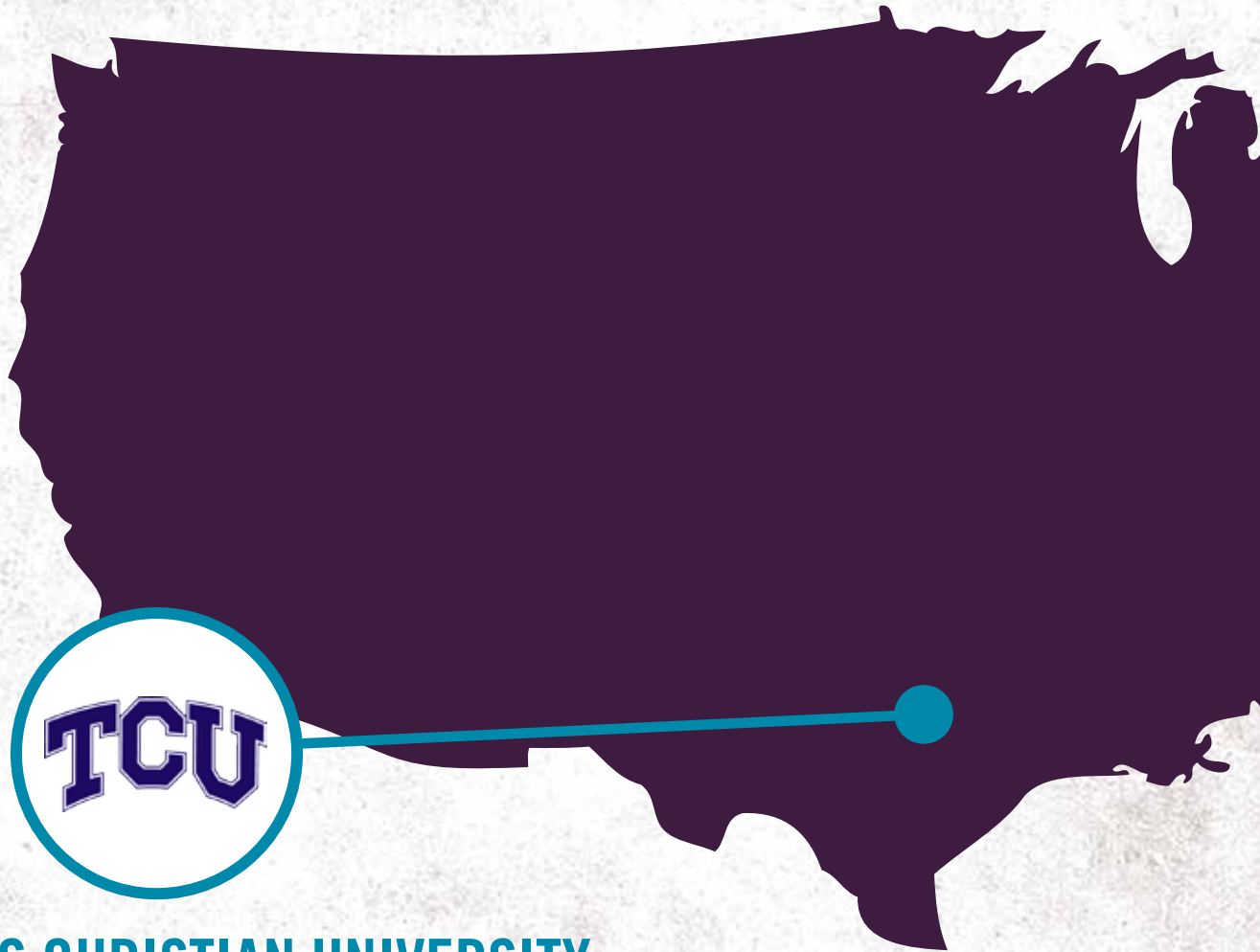
DR. JONATHAN GOLDEN
Jewish / Drew University

Dr. Golden first got in touch with IFYC in early 2014. He attended a convening of over 100 faculty members from across the country and decided to double down on interfaith studies after finding peers who also cared about writing religious diversity into the curriculum. He attended a faculty seminar later that summer, then applied for a grant from IFYC to develop an interfaith studies course sequence at Drew University. After submitting a proposal, Dr. Golden received funding and is in the process of building the program at Drew. Whereas two years ago he was an anthropology professor with a passing interest in interfaith, now Dr. Golden regularly teaches a number of interfaith studies courses, guest lectures for interfaith studies courses around the country, and is building an innovative program at his university.



INSTITUTIONS CHOOSE COOPERATION

IFYC SHAPES ENVIRONMENTS



TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TX

Illiteracy is a problem that affects about 20% of the population in Fort Worth. Recognizing this, the Better Together student group at TCU saw this as a service opportunity they could all get behind, and chose to focus on improving literacy in their community. During the fall semester, they held book drives on campus where they gathered over 1,550 books for children, then held a holiday reading party and dressed as the characters from the books. In the spring, they focused on providing childcare for parents taking GED preparation courses and helped with other service projects as needed. TCU is a great example of college students coming together around different religious and philosophical backgrounds to tackle a key issue in their community.



Watch the video: bit.ly/TCUCaseStudy



ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE *ELIZABETHTOWN, PA*

After partnering with IFYC on various programs - including hosting Founder and President Eboo Patel to address graduating seniors at the college's 2013 commencement - Elizabethtown College will be the first in the country to offer a major in interfaith leadership studies. The major, which includes coursework in religion, as well as business, political science, sociology and biology, is aimed at attracting students interested in pursuing careers in ministry, as well as community development, government and service organizations.



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA *JACKSONVILLE, FL*



Watch the video: bit.ly/UNFCaseStudy

The InterFaith Center at UNF provides programs and services for students to voice values, engage with others, act together, and lead others to do likewise. Since building an interfaith center on campus, leaders have been active in the community working to alleviate hunger. The university has endorsed efforts to install a food bank in the InterFaith Center, called Lend A Wing Pantry. Tarah Trueblood, Director of the InterFaith Center, says, "We get to serve our own students and we get to do so across ideological differences. We then come together to reflect on our actions across difference."

IFYC'S GROWING IMPACT



REV. JEN BAILEY
IFYC Alumna

Jen chose to focus her efforts on transforming communities. For instance, Faith Matters Network, the organization she founded and leads as Executive Director, has launched two major initiatives. The first is "In Our Own Words: A Digital Storytelling Project," which introduces the broader public to interfaith leaders working on an array of social justice issues. The second is the "Interfaith Collaboratory," a space to gather faith leaders, community organizers, and other stakeholders to create a shared moral vision for justice in their communities. Jen is simply one example of how IFYC's interfaith training is providing a platform for our alumni to change the world.

688 **CAMPUSES USED
IFYC PROGRAMMING
AND RESOURCES**

256 **CAMPUSES SHOWED
SUSTAINED COMMITMENT TO
INTERFAITH COOPERATION**

17 **CAMPUSES LAUNCHED
INTERFAITH MAJORS, MINORS,
OR CONCENTRATIONS**

765 **STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND
STAFF TRAINED AT INTERFAITH
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTES**

IN STORIES AND STATISTICS

Our alumni are quickly becoming leaders in their chosen fields. Here are two updates from IFYC alumni supported by Germanacos Fellowships – grants distributed through IFYC to help alums launch transformative ventures.



CLAIRE CURRAN
IFYC Alumna

Claire chose to integrate her commitment to interfaith cooperation with her passion for environmental sustainability – and is finding the combination to be powerful. She recently debuted a podcast highlighting and inspiring interfaith action on issues such as climate change. Through her work, Claire improves the interfaith attitudes, relationships and understanding of her listeners while catalyzing action related to the environment.

4000+ STUDENTS AND ALLIES
SIGNED THE *BETTER TOGETHER*
DAY PLEDGE

50 FACULTY
TRAINED
AT SEMINARS

100+ FACULTY ATTENDED FACULTY
CONVENING TOWARD A FIELD OF
INTERFAITH STUDIES

22,075 NUMBER OF TIMES
STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FACULTY
DOWNLOADED IFYC RESOURCES

Please note: data cover the period between August 1, 2013 and February 1, 2015.



REV. FRED DAVIE

*IFYC Board of Directors
Executive Vice-President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees,
Union Theological Seminary*

"The opportunity to contribute as a member of the Board of Directors to IFYC's mission of making interfaith cooperation a cultural norm is one of the most significant highlights of my career of more than 30 years. The visionary leadership of Eboo Patel, the highly effective functioning of a committed staff, thoughtful counsel of my fellow Directors and the generous support of friends of the organization converge to ensure that interfaith engagement creates healthy communities throughout the nation. Our work stands as a beacon of the good that is possible in a religiously diverse world."

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DAVID HIRSCH

*IFYC President's Council
 Director, Credit Suisse Private
 Banking USA*

"I choose to support IFYC because bringing youth together from different faith backgrounds to engage in community service is a brilliant strategy for fostering conversations about faith, diversity and tolerance, not just religious tolerance. What I like best about IFYC's model is that seeds of tolerance are planted via engaging youth in community service and other powerful forms of interfaith cooperation. For some, these seeds of tolerance will germinate immediately and propel them into new directions. For most, the germination will take place over a longer period of time, enabling these youth with tools and a vocabulary they might not otherwise possess.

I hope all universities will embrace IFYC and provide their students with this unique experiential learning opportunity."



ANGIE CHAN

IFYC Alumna

Speech-Language Pathologist

"As a college student, I wanted to feel connected to the world outside of my campus. Working with IFYC allowed me the opportunity to be friends with and be in a supportive group of like-minded people who wanted to close some gaps. I'm happy to continue supporting IFYC just for the mere hope that some other kid will also learn invaluable lessons about themselves, their community, their peers, and the world."

\$100-499

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Rosina Leone Halverson Studer
Milayna Subar Schwartz
Catherine M. Zawacki



NIKOLE SAULSBERRY

*IFYC Alumna
Development & Communications
Manager, Tutorpedia Foundation*

"Some of the greatest accomplishments in human history are the direct result of interfaith cooperation. But for me, interfaith cooperation, and supporting IFYC is more than just a means to achieving peace, it's about giving a deeper meaning to life itself. As the IFYC community grows, year after year, I'm constantly in awe of the people I meet through IFYC. They inspire me to grow deeper in my own faith. They inspire me to constantly be a force for positive change. They rejuvenate me when I feel my own faith or calling in life needs a reminder of the goodness in humanity. Being a religious pluralist, and making sure everyone feels love, acceptance, and grace to be who they are, is what it means to follow Jesus' teachings. As a Christian, life can get no more meaningful than that."

*President's Council

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION *FISCAL YEAR 2014 (August 1, 2013-July 31, 2014)*

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	2,635,052
Investments	757,646
Accounts receivable	53,031
Grants and contributions receivable	2,626,824
Prepaid expenses	140,801
Total Current Assets	6,213,354

Property and equipment	208,330
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NONCURRENT ASSETS

Grants and contributions receivable	2,726,710
Total Assets	9,148,394

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	47,316
Grants payable	352,017
Accrued expenses	12,680
Accrued payroll	61,482
Accrued rent	20,503
Deferred revenue	34,176
Noncurrent liabilities	35,364
Total Liabilities	563,538

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	2,676,084
Temporarily restricted	5,908,772
Total Net Assets	8,584,856
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	9,148,394

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Grants and contributions			
Individual	395,227	1,571,349	1,966,576
Foundation/trust grant	318,590	1,659,075	1,977,665
Publications	1,775		1,775
Seminars and workshops	102,494		102,494
University revenue	192,015		192,015
Interest and dividends	1,925		1,925
Donated services and facilities	31,466		31,466
Other revenue	2,636		2,636
Survey revenue	49,200		49,200
Honorariums	285,409		285,409
Total Revenues And Gains	1,380,737	3,230,424	4,611,161
Net assets released from restrictions	3,924,043	(3,924,043)	
Total Revenues, Gains, And Other Support	5,304,780	(693,619)	4,611,161
EXPENSES			
Program Services			
Executive office	376,243		376,243
Campus partnerships	1,668,232		1,668,232
Leadership	1,300,026		1,300,026
Communications	387,172		387,172
Total Program Services	3,731,673		3,731,673
Supporting Services			
Management and general	442,969		442,969
Fundraising	500,548		500,548
Total Supporting Services	943,517		943,517
Total Expenses	4,675,190		4,675,190
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	629,590	(693,619)	(64,029)
NET ASSETS			
Beginning of the year	2,046,494	6,602,391	8,648,885
End of the year	2,676,084	5,908,772	8,584,856



TEST YOUR INTERFAITH LITERACY

How much do you know about diverse religious and non-religious backgrounds? Take the 10-question quiz to test your knowledge: www/ifyc.org/quiz.