



Upcoming Events

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What's on TV?

Watch the Global Perspectives show on WUCF TV, Sundays at 9:30 a.m., or click [here](#) to watch more videos online.

[Dana Summers - The Mystery of Laughter](#)



[Jack Summe - 21st Century Challenges for the U.S. Navy](#)



[Katherine Canavan - Preparing for a Career in Diplomacy](#)



[David Satter - "The Less You Know, The Better You Sleep"](#)

Event Spotlight: Eytan Gilboa

On Monday, October 16, public diplomacy expert Dr. Eytan Gilboa will speak at UCF about Russia's involvement in the Middle East. This event is free and open to the public. It takes place at 1:30 p.m. in the Garden Key on the second floor of the Student Union.



Widely published, Gilboa is a regular commentator for international media and has won numerous international fellowships and awards. He founded the School of Communication and the Center for International Communication at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, and served as the first director of both. Gilboa received an MA and PhD in Government from Harvard University and a BA in Political Science and International Relations from the Hebrew University. He has been a visiting professor at several leading American and European universities and research institutes.

Hosted by the Global Perspectives Office (GP), this event is held in partnership with [Israel Public Diplomacy Forum](#), a non-profit,



[Jennifer Clinton - Global Ties U.S. and International Exchange](#)



nonpartisan, educational organization established to advance international understanding of Israel and the Middle East. The event is also a feature of Diversity Week 2017. For more information about the event, please visit www.ucfglobalperspectives.org.

Balancing Rights with Responsibilities

A recap of the 2017 Interfaith Forum, by Carla Garcia

On Tuesday, October 3, GP hosted the fifth annual Interfaith Forum in the Student Union's Cape Florida Ballroom. The event, which included a panel presentation, luncheon and keynote address, focused on interfaith dialogue regarding social rights and responsibilities. Over 200 students, faculty and members of the community attended the event, including a group of students from Dr. Phillips High School's Center for International Studies.



The panel discussion, "Human Rights and Responsibilities," featured the Three Wise Guys from NPR's local radio program, "Friends Talking Faith." The Reverend Bryan Fulwider, Rabbi David Kay (filling in for Rabbi Steven Engel), and Imam Muhammad Musri shared their perspectives on faith, social justice, and moral responsibilities.

The panel discussion began with a solemn mention of the mass shooting that occurred two nights prior, in Las Vegas. The panelists' opening remarks focused largely on their faith-based perspectives on the response of society in the wake of such tragedies. Rabbi Kay remarked that while Judaism does not necessarily provide answers to life's questions, it does provide

the tools to find the answers. He stated that, “Justice must be accomplished by just means,” meaning that “one should not stand by when one can take action” against injustice.



Imam Musri remarked that the recent tragedies demonstrate the interconnectedness of society, and that the role of religion in those connections should be considered. Touching on social responsibilities, he stated that each individual should strive to not only do what is expected of them, but to make a positive impact on the world. “We humans have a tremendous responsibility,” he commented, “we have custody of this world and all its inhabitants.”

Throughout his remarks, the Rev. Fulwider referred to the question, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” He said that “if religion teaches us nothing, it teaches us to ask that question every day.” Speaking about the recent mass shooting, he urged society to act with love, and spoke in favor of sensible gun control legislation.

The panelists then took questions from the audience. One student asked how society should deal with the feeling of “compassion fatigue” and powerlessness caused by endless atrocities in the news. The three panelists all stressed the importance of viewing such events as a “wake-up call” and taking action in any way possible. As Imam Musri remarked, “What happened in Vegas should not stay in Vegas.” The speakers implored the audience to exercise their right to vote, and to have meaningful conversations about gun control legislation.

After guests enjoyed lunch, Dr. Arun Gandhi was welcomed to

the stage for a keynote address, “Lessons from my Grandfather.” Dr. Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, is Founder and President of the Gandhi Worldwide Education Institute. An activist for nonviolence, Dr. Gandhi has written several books, most recently *The Gift of Anger*.



Throughout his address, Dr. Gandhi shared anecdotes from his time spent living with his grandfather as a child. Commenting on the importance of understanding and appreciating all religions, he stated “We are not independent individuals. We are interdependent, interconnected and interrelated.” Dr. Gandhi expressed concern that, as a country, Americans have become too preoccupied with securing their rights, not focusing on their social responsibilities. “If we are going to enjoy the rights of democracy, we must also shoulder its responsibilities,” he commented.

After his speech, Dr. Gandhi responded to several questions about how to use the power of nonviolence to solve global conflict, racism and other issues. “We don’t have enemies,” he remarked, “just friends who are misguided.”



Dr. Gandhi with a group of students from Dr. Phillips High School

In addition to GP, support for this event was provided by The India Center at UCF, the UCF Human Trafficking Awareness Program, the Orlando Area Committee on Foreign Relations, Valencia College's Peace and Justice Institute and the Global Connections Foundation.

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