

## Global Connections



## GMU at the 2023 Parliament of the World's Religions



GMU chaired a panel presentation on "**Interfaith and Multicultural Perspectives on Religion and Science: Global Climate Crisis**" on August 14 from 5:30 - 7 PM in Room E253a as part of the Science and Religion track. President Grudzen and Marita Grudzen were joined by Dr. Reginald Nalugala, of **Tangaza University**, Kenya, and Fr. Augustine Pamplany, Director of the **Institute of Science and Religion** in Kerala, India.

GMU also co-sponsored **Booth 306 Level 3** with **Harmony Institute of Kenya** during the Parliament highlighting the online university's commitment to interfaith dialogue, equality, diversity, and inclusion.

View all of GMU's PoWR video presentations.



GMU was well represented at the Parliament of Religions with a formal presentation on Monday, August 14, and an exhibit booth at the Parliament shown in the above photo. GMU also received support from the Maryknoll community in Chicago. GMU graduate student in chaplaincy studies, Esther Kaleli, received hospitality from Maryknoll affiliate member, Celine Wozniac, Our GMU faculty member from India, Father Augustine Pamplany, and Professor Reginald Nalugala from Kenya received hospitality at the Maryknoll seminary in Chicago.

The Harmony Institute assisted in the sponsorship of the GMU exhibit at the Parliament and also in marketing the GMU Religion and Science program to Muslim students in Africa and providing scholarship assistance for them.

We now have over 45 students in this program. We are grateful that our board chair, Robert Graf joined us for the Parliament and assisted with many of the events we had planned.

~ President Gerald Grudzen



President Grudzen and Marita Grudzen hosted a dinner in Chicago on August 13 for GMU board members, faculty, students, and supporters who attended the PoWR.



## Religion and Science Program

Online Master's Degree in Religion and Science offered  
by Global Ministries University in collaboration with



**Indian Institute of  
Science and Religion,  
New Delhi, India**



**IRDIS, Tangaza  
University College,  
Nairobi, Kenya**

**The Institute of  
Science and Religion,  
Aluva, India**

The cohort of 40+ international students started on June 15. Lee McCoy, GMU's Registrar, states, "We have students from three continents, men and women, ranging in age from 20s to 60s! A very diverse group!" Half of the students in the new cohort of the Religion and Science program are receiving financial support from GMU Board of Trustees members. These new students are located in Africa and India and have important pastoral roles in their countries. The GMU Kenyan Fund is also providing scholarships for students. The Harmony Foundation in Kenya is funding scholarships for several Muslim students in the Religion and Science program and also supported the participation of Professor Reginald Nalugala of Tangaza University as a member of the GMU delegation at the Parliament of the World's Religions.

## **Enrollment for the 2023 Religion and Science Program ends September 1, 2023**

Tuition:

- \$3000 for a 2-year M.Th. Program for students from North America, Australia and Europe.
- \$500 for a 1-year Certificate Program for students from North America, Europe, and Australia.

**Engage in the inspiring convergence of science,  
technology, and sacred traditions!**

[Learn more.](#)

[Apply today.](#)



29<sup>th</sup> ICDE World Conference  
Costa Rica, 2023

## Joining Hands in Peace for the Futures of Education



INTERNATIONAL  
COUNCIL FOR OPEN AND  
DISTANCE EDUCATION



President Grudzen will give a presentation on "Religion and Science" at the [International Council for Open and Distance Education \(ICDE\) conference](#) in Costa Rica in November 2023.

## Peace Studies



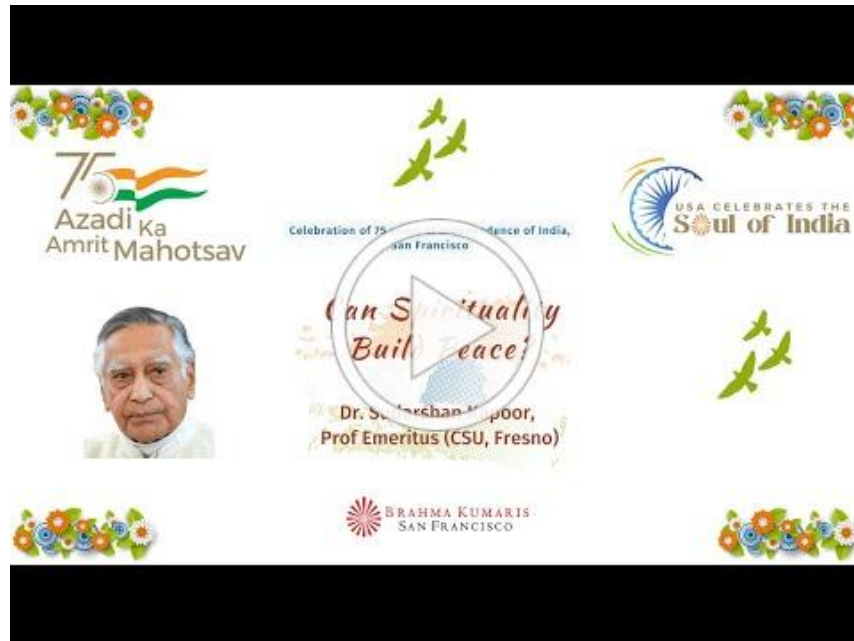
When you read headlines about war and conflicts, have you ever thought, "What can I do?"

[Dr. Sudarshan Kapoor](#), Professor Emeritus of Social Work Education & Peace Studies at CSU Fresno, CA, will conduct a 4-week series on "Mahatma Gandhi and Building a Just Peace" on Zoom beginning **Monday, October 2, 2023, to coincide with Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday and the International Day of Non-Violence.** The cost is \$100 for the entire series plus \$25 application fee. You can also join individual Zoom sessions for \$25 each. [Learn more.](#)

*"Life is not a contest or a conquest. It is a struggle and a quest to find the best in each and every one of us."*

*~ Sudarshan Kapoor*

Apply now.



**President Gerald Grudzen will interview Dr. Kapoor**  
**Sep 25, 2023**  
**4:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**  
**on Zoom**

The interview is free to join but we ask that you register to receive the Zoom information

Register for the Zoom  
Presentation.

## Librarian's Corner



### The Information Cycle

How is information produced and distributed, and how does it change over time? The term “Information Cycle” describes the progression of media coverage relating to a particular newsworthy event or topic.

Understanding how the information cycle works will help you to know what kinds of information may be available on your topic as you locate and evaluate research sources.

The progression of the information cycle is directly connected to the amount of time after an event has happened:

**On the same day it happened:** - Social Networking (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.) and Mobile Communication (Texting), Mainstream Media (News sites, TV, radio, Newspaper)

**A month** - Monthly Magazines

**3 to 6 months** - Scholarly Journals

**A year or more** – More Scholarly Journals, Books, Government Reports, and Reference Materials

**An example:** At noon on July 18, 2015, Pope Francis released the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, concerning the environmental crisis and the world's seeming indifference to it. The document's appearance was accompanied by a news conference from the Vatican. In the minutes and hours after it appeared, people were emailing and texting, writing about it on Facebook and other social media sites—perhaps not having had time to fully digest or understand it. Mainstream media covered it on the major networks; again, without much careful analysis. Newspaper articles appeared that very day. These were the raw reactions in the early hours after it came out. Later in the week, after people had time to reflect on it, more thoughtful studies began to appear.

After a few months, scholarly journals and books were published. By then, scholars, students, critics, and others had thoughtfully analyzed and evaluated the document, studying it closely, word by word, researching similar documents and writings, formulating opinions, and scrutinizing the impact and eventual outcomes. Now, in 2023, there exists an enormous body of scholarly research, interpretation, critical analysis, commentary, discussion and more, from which to draw when writing an academic paper about the document. Writings that appeared in the earlier days and weeks may be less appropriate as references (unless one is analyzing early reactions to the encyclical.)

So—pay attention to when a reference was published or appeared. Depending on your topic, especially if it concerns an event, timing is important. Remember, if you're taking a look at Open AI/ChatGPT: the entire content is based on information available up until September 2021. Therefore, ChatGPT is not a good source of information about events, developments, or updates that have occurred after that date.

**Contact me** whenever you need assistance. Happy researching!

~Judy Clarence, M.L.I.S., GMU Librarian

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**GMU Doctoral Students**



I was able to meet our GMU doctoral candidate, Michal Lewon, in Naperville, Illinois. Michal is a Chaplain at the University of Chicago and a certified minister endorsed by FCM. He is preparing to do some of his research on the healing practices of Ayurvedic medicine. He is also planning a visit to India where he hopes to visit the Ashram founded by Dom Bede Griffiths, the Benedictine monk who fostered a form of interfaith spirituality connecting Christianity and Hinduism and who also engaged in the dialogue between religion and science. Michal will be doing his doctoral project research on Rudolph Steiner and the movement he started called Anthroposophy. His doctoral project will consider possible links between Ayurvedic healing and the philosophical and spiritual teachings of Anthroposophy.

GMU now has two doctoral students pursuing a doctoral degree in Religion and Science. Doctor Jerry Joseph is a medical doctor in Cochin, India who has founded a hospice and is researching the role of chaplain for those approaching the end of their lives.

Our GMU doctoral candidates are encouraged to share their prospective research projects with their peers and GMU faculty.

*~ President Gerald Grudzen*

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## GMU Partners





Not all Certificates of Celebrancy are awarded through a university. The Center for Celebrant Training Certificate is granted through GMU. This gives the celebrant more credibility and status.

## Global Ministries University



Upon recommendation of the faculty and as a religious nonprofit corporation in the State of California by authority of the Board of Directors, this

### Certificate of Celebrancy

is hereby conferred upon

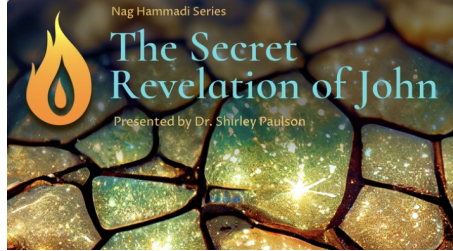
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Director

Visit the Center for Celebrant Training.



**New Courses**



## PCS 509 - The Secret Revelation of John

Presented by Dr. Shirley Paulson

New cohort begins Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 7 pm EDT,

Meets online every other week and ends on November 16.

Tuition: \$100

[Find out more.](#)



## PCS 605-Introduction to Pastoral Care Part 2.

Facilitated by Lily Godsoe from the Pacific Institute for Essential Conversations (PIEC)

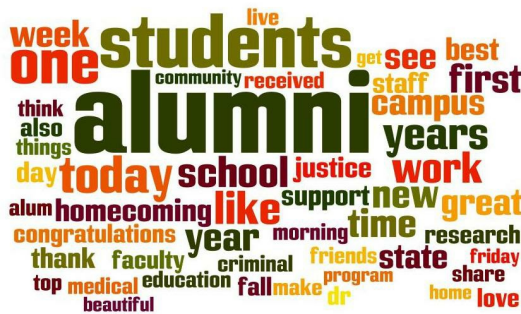
Begins Thursday, September 14, 2023, and will meet in Zoom every other week for 12 weeks ending on December 7, 2023. This 12-week course builds upon the basic elements of pastoral care in PCS 604.

[Find out more.](#)

[Visit the PCS Website.](#)

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## Calling All Alumnae/Alumni



Please take a moment to answer the questions in our survey. It will only take a minute or two and will help GMU respond to your needs and the needs of future students. Thank you so much for your help!

[Take the survey.](#)

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## Pay It Forward!



We are counting down to the "official" GMU October Fund Drive. Please support *your* university and its "Global Connections." There is no donation too small. We are here to support each other in any and every way we can!

Have you benefited from the excellent education at Global Ministries

University? Would you like to help others succeed as well? Now you can! GMU is launching a major Fund Drive this coming October to enable scholarships for those needing financial assistance to pursue their educational goals. Please consider making a contribution to this appeal. Thank you for your generosity.

### Why scholarships are important.

## Pay It Back!



GMU is actively pursuing accreditation, but it is very costly. Therefore, GMU is initiating a capital campaign this October to have funds specifically designated and available to cover the costs associated with accreditation. If you would like to ensure GMU's growth in the 21st Century and contribute to its stature as a recognized educational institution, then this is the fund for you! Please consider making a

contribution to this cause. Thank you for your generosity!

### Accreditation in the United States



GLOBAL MINISTRIES UNIVERSITY

*Honoring the Sacred in All!*

<https://www.globalministriesuniversity.org/> |  
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