

## UNESCO Center for Global Citizenship

### Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

#### October 2014 Report

The UNESCO Center for Global Citizenship (UCGC) was founded in 2013 as a community-university consortium whose primary goals are to support and promote UNESCO's mission through:

- fomenting global citizenship
- increasing intercultural understanding
- disseminating cultural information
- growing inclusive knowledge societies, and
- increasing knowledge about American public policy in these areas

#### **2014 activities**

On April 29 the UNESCO Center celebrated **international jazz day** with a number of free events. There were three short films featuring Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Bessie Smith at a local theater coop followed by music of the Traditional Jazz Orchestra at a local restaurant. A committee from the University and community planned the well received program. About 150 people attended each of the events which helped spread information about UNESCO and the Center for Global Citizenship.

On October 21 we will hold a program on "**Why UNESCO Matters: The Destruction of Cultural Heritage**". This is the second in our series of programs on why UNESCO matters. The event will feature the following panelists from the University of Illinois who will discuss their specific areas of expertise: Lynne Dearborn (School of Architecture): Vernacular Architecture Under Threat; Laila Moustafa (University of Illinois Library): The Loss of Precious Manuscripts; Helaine Silverman (Anthropology): Looting and Loss of Cultural Heritage; Kari Zabler (Anthropology): The Devastated Cultural Patrimony of Syria.

In September Helaine Silverman completed an **application for a public engagement grant** from the University of Illinois for the Center. If the grant is funded we plan to: (1) hold a series of UNESCO-related lectures and forums on campus, in town, and at select locations in Illinois; (2) engage with Collinsville, IL within which the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cahokia Mounds is located so as to generate an understanding in Collinsville of the World Heritage system and work with them to assess and remediate tourism deficits; (3) create a traveling UNESCO museum exhibition for high school students; (4) establish a UCGC website showcasing UCGC activities and relevant UNESCO news; (5) organize particular UNESCO Day activities. Partners include: CHAMP/Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy (PI 1), Center for

Global Studies (PI 2), Krannert Art Museum, Spurlock Museum. In addition, faculty and students from multiple departments will participate in different parts of the UCGC project (Advertising; Anthropology; Architecture; Business Administration; Landscape Architecture; Recreation, Sport and Tourism; Urban and Regional Planning). Tangible outcomes will include a website, museum exhibitions, case study of Collinsville, and publications.

### **Founding Members and Steering Committee**

Founding members of UCGC are Amani Ayad, Barbara Ford, and Helaine Silverman. Jamie Storm and Elly Hanauer joined the steering committee in 2013.

#### Committee Members

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**Barbara J. Ford** is director of the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs and Distinguished Professor at the University of Illinois. In 2011, she was appointed to the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

**Amani Ayad** is Program Coordinator for Library Access Midwest Program. Amani worked as the assistant to the director general at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait and ESL instructor.

**Helaine Silverman** is Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy (CHAMP) at the University of Illinois. She studies cultural heritage issues in Peru and Thailand.

**Elly Hanauer** is Associate Director at the Center for Global Studies at the University of Illinois. Elly has worked with NGOs and universities in the field of international education for over ten years.

**Jamie Storm** is a retired hospice nurse. She has participated in international peace conferences in Switzerland & India and volunteers at a local books to prisoners project.