

Please feel free to copy this registration form and pass it on to anyone who may be interested in attending the conference.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Year in School: _____ E-mail: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

Please send completed registration to:

Building Bridges 2008
Gustavus Adolphus College
800 W. College Ave.
St. Peter, MN 56082

Or register online by Feb. 25 at: gustavus.edu/diversity/buildingbridges

_____ \$8 for Adult General Admission
(quantity)

_____ No Charge for High School and College Students

_____ No Charge for Gustavus Community Members (students, staff, and faculty) with a current ID

TOTAL _____ = \$ _____
(ticket quantity) (cost)

HOUSING INFORMATION

St. Peter		
AmericInn	507-931-6554	
Mankato		
AmericInn	507-345-8011	(early-bird specials through 2/8/08)
Best Western	507-625-9333	
Bugetel Inn	507-345-8800	
Country Inn & Suites	507-388-8555	

More lodging options are available on the conference website.

For further information or questions, please contact:

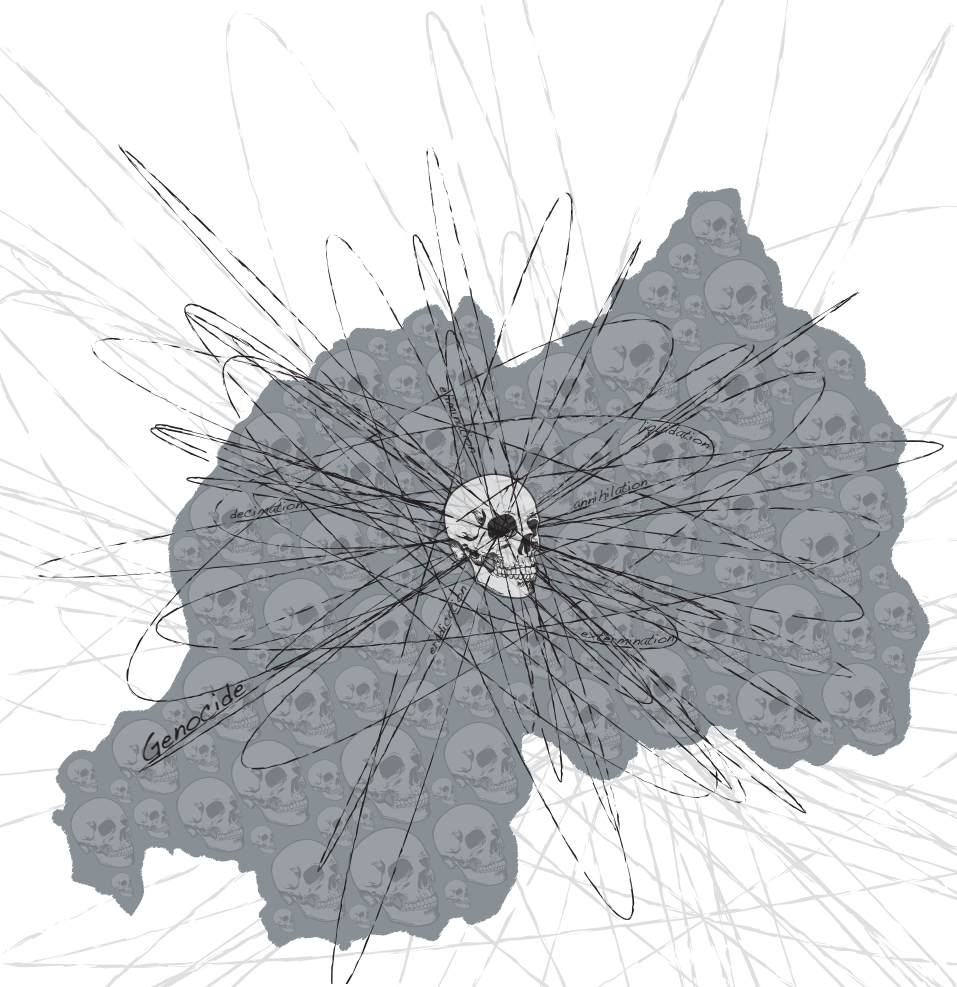
- Building Bridges Co-Chairs
Asitha Jayawardena ajayawar@gustavus.edu
Jing Han Soh jsoh2@gustavus.edu
- The Gustavus Diversity Center
E-mail: diversitycenter@gustavus.edu
Phone: 507-933-7449



BUILDING BRIDGES
A STUDENT-LED DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Gustavus Adolphus College
800 West College Avenue
Saint Peter, MN 56082

13th Annual
BUILDING BRIDGES
A STUDENT-LED DIVERSITY CONFERENCE



Genocide Awareness:
How Will History Judge Us?

Saturday, March 8, 2008

HOSTED BY
GUSTAVUS
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE
SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA

OBJECTIVES OF THE “BUILDING BRIDGES” CONFERENCE

- To promote mutual respect and understanding about diversity throughout college campuses and larger communities
- To lay a foundation for opening up dialogue throughout the world community
- To bring student delegates from various settings, situations, and interests together to discuss matters of global diversity
- To address global diversity in a proactive, social, and informative way

THE CONFERENCE

“Building Bridges” is a student-initiated, student-led diversity conference dedicated to addressing the pressing social and global issues of today. This year’s conference will focus on Genocide Awareness: How Will History Judge Us? Traditionally, “Building Bridges” emphasizes student awareness and action. Often the situation in Darfur is considered too insurmountable and people find themselves asking: What difference can a person actually make? The goal of this year’s Building Bridges Conference is to provide students a means to be involved, take action, and defeat the notion that one person can’t make a difference in the world. On behalf of the students, adviser, and “Building Bridges” committee members, we cordially invite you to this year’s conference.

– Asitha Jayawardena & Jing Han Soh
2008 co-chairs

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 8

8:30 a.m.	Registration, Information Desk, Jackson Campus Center
10:00 a.m.	Conference opens “I Am . . . We Are” social justice performance Keynote address by Paul Rusesabagina followed by Q&A
12:30 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)
1:30–2:30 p.m.	Workshop Session I
2:30–3:30 p.m.	Workshop Session II
3:30–6:00 p.m.	Kids Against Hunger Food Packaging

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

“There are stories to be told that must not be forgotten. We can never give up on the lessons learned from Rwanda.”

– Paul Rusesabagina



In 1994, as the country of Rwanda descended into madness, one man made a promise to protect the family he loved—and ended up finding the courage to save more than 1,200 people.

Over the course of 100 days, almost one million Tutsi people were killed in Rwanda. The film *Hotel Rwanda*, nominated for three Academy Awards, tells the inspiring story of real-life hero Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager in Rwanda (pictured below with Don Cheadle, who portrayed him in the film) who found the courage to shelter more than 1,000 refugees from certain death. His 2006 autobiography, *An Ordinary Man*, published on the 12th anniversary of the genocide, delves into Rusesabagina’s personal journey while explaining the



history behind Rwanda’s Hutu and Tutsis tribes within the historical context of the conflict.

Quickly becoming a part of history, Rusesabagina’s story has brought the world messages of hope, peace, and “never again.”

In 2005 he founded the Hotel Rwanda Rusesabagina Foundation (HRRF), which provides support,

care, and assistance to children orphaned by, and women abused during, the genocide in Rwanda. He is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom, the National Civil Rights Museum Freedom Award, the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity, and the Peace Abbey Courage of Conscience Award.

Rusesabagina, whose journey from hotel manager to humanitarian has been life-changing, has said, “I’ve become a humanitarian and I never thought I would become one. And, as a humanitarian, I wanted to deliver this message on a wider scale, to raise awareness of what happened in my country so that the international community can help others who suffer now.”

WORKSHOPS

- **“Darfur: Have a Hand in Stopping Genocide”**
Ellen J. Kennedy, Ph.D., coordinator of Genocide Intervention Network in Minnesota and the University of Minnesota’s Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, will provide information on genocide, with special attention on Darfur; legislative advocacy for conflict resolution; and fundraising to enhance security and humanitarian aid in crisis situations.
- **“Healing the Wounds of Torture”**
Mark Turbak, volunteer with the Center for Victims of Torture, will discuss torture, its effects on individuals, families, and communities, as well as treatment programs to heal the wounds of torture and ideas to end torture worldwide.
- **“Preventing Genocide”**
Jean-Paul Bigirindavyi, a Burundi and Rwanda genocide survivor and an executive director of the Minnesota Thunder P.L.U.S. and Youth Intervention for Peace International, will provide mentoring to prevent genocide and build a more peaceful world. He is a 2000 Gustavus graduate.
- **“Genocide in Your Back Yard”**
Waziyatawin Angela Wilson, Ph.D., author of *In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors* (2006) will provide a historical overview of the genocidal practices in Minnesota—the homeland of the Dakota Nation. She is a Wahpetunwan Dakota from the Pezihutazizi Otunwe (Yellow Medicine Village) in southwestern Minnesota.
- **“Kids Against Hunger Food Packaging”**
To defeat the notion that one person can’t make a difference, spend time packaging food to feed hungry children affected by the conflict in Sudan. This activity will be done with Kids Against Hunger, an international food relief campaign based in Minnesota. Monetary donations will also be accepted at this event.