



Campus Peace Centers

A Blueprint for Your Campus

We are very pleased that you are interested in starting a Campus Peace Center. We expect that at every campus, people will create and maintain the center in their own way. We offer these guidelines as a place to begin, so please feel free to adapt them for your own campus.

Please begin by reviewing the web site at www.campuspeacecenters.net for general information and examples on other campuses.

If you are a student...

- **This project is for you!**

Historically, students are crucial to any movements for social change. In the age of the internet, organizing for social change has never been more exciting. We hope that your energy and expertise will fuel a new movement for peace and social justice around the world. We hope that we at the United Nations can be helpful to you in this work, and that we can collaborate productively.

- **Connect with other students.**

If you haven't already done so, connect with other students who have an interest in the culture of peace. There may be a student club in the areas of peace and social justice that you can join, or you might want to look into starting such a club. You can also find students who share your interests at the organizations and websites mentioned above in the section for faculty. Try the Student Peace Alliance at www.studentpeacealliance.org and look for student clubs at nearby universities and colleges. One student group should take on the responsibility of being the contact for the Campus Peace Center.

- **Find a mentor.**

It is recommended that each Campus Peace Center have a faculty or administration advisor. Identify and approach faculty members at your university who share your interests. You might find them in a peace education program at your school, or through the peace and justice studies association, or through course offerings that touch on negotiation, non-violence, and so on. Prominent faculty in the area of peace and justice whom you might identify on our website or at the peace and justice studies website may steer you to faculty at your institution.

- **Find a space.**

Once you have a mentor and a critical mass of interested students, approach the administration of your college or university to explore the possibility of setting aside space for a Campus Peace Center. It may be helpful to emphasize that this center would be linked with other Campus Peace Centers all around the world and with the United Nations, providing considerable visibility for your school and the activities that take place there both in the academic world and among the staff of governmental and non-governmental organizations. You should also have an idea of the kinds of activities that you want to take place in the center, such as meetings, events with speakers, teach-ins, and a student lounge.

- **Decorate.**

Once you have a space, you will want to make it comfortable, inviting and student-friendly. Bring posters, artwork and symbols of peace to decorate it and make it feel special. It would be very useful to have a shared bulletin board, where students can post upcoming activities related to a culture of peace.

- **Plan an event.**

When your Campus Peace Center is ready, you may wish to have an inaugural event that will draw people with common interests to the center. You may want to plant a Peace Pole to dedicate your site (see www.worldpeace.org/peacepoles.html). You might consider a speaker from the UN community, or from a peace and social justice oriented non-governmental organization in your area, or perhaps a concert or pot-luck evening meal. If you charge a modest admission fee or ask for contributions, this may enable you to fund future events.

- **Let us know!**

Send a photo and information on your Campus Peace Center to info@campuspeacecenters.net to post on our web site.

Building a Culture of Peace, One Campus at a Time