

June News

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GFSC helps communities build resilience and self-reliance by giving local facilitators tools and techniques to share with their peers, their communities, and the organizations/agencies that serve them.

GFSC Workshops in Australia

More than 50 professionals participated in GFSC workshops in Melbourne, Australia. The first workshop engaged state agency personnel from Victoria's Department of Sustainable Environment and the Department of Human Services. The next two workshops had a mixture of state agency, local agency and independent facilitators, all of whom are very interested in building communities' resilience and self-reliance, particularly in the aftermath of a disaster. Bush fire season and the continuing drought situation are of particular concern for many.



continued on page 2

NOLA Network* News

**The NOLA Network is composed of individual practicing facilitators, the Loyola University Twomey Center; the Southern University School of Social Work; Tulane School of Continuing Studies; Facilitative Leadership Institute; and Turning Point Partners, with assistance from Shell Exploration and Production.*

Thanks to generous support from the Gulf Disaster Response Program, Mennonite Central Committee, and Loyola University the NOLA Network is thrilled that Al Alcazar, a former administrator in the Loyola University Community Action Program, and an assistant professor in the

Department of Education & Counseling at Loyola, is the new coordinator for the GFSC process in the region. For the next two years Al will be working with the Twomey Center for Peace Through Justice with a portion of his time devoted to GFSC.

Al is known for his work with local, multirace and multifaith organizations that address contemporary urban problems in nonviolent and collaborative ways.

Al's primary mission is coordinating a series of DCI workshops for the Ashe Cultural Center and Central City schools. He will, along with others, continue to be the liaison for the workshops held at Elmwood and will follow-up in expanding the NOLA network as well as link to other local efforts, including initiating and continuing conflict resolution work in schools, working with StormBridge and similar efforts.

--Ted Quant, Director, Twomey Center for Peace Through Justice, Loyola University

* * *

GFSC BHAG*

"...a facilitator volunteering to serve in every community around the world."

-Avis Ridley Thomas

**Big Hairy Audacious Goal*

Australia Workshops, continued

Some of the many benefits recognized by participants include:

- More understanding of the facilitation role in crisis management.
- Greater awareness of my own suitability and skills for dealing with distressed people.
- A structured approach so that a diverse range of people can understand and have a common language in an evolving and complex reality.
- A set of tools and skills to deliver 'new insights' into emergency management recovery.
- We need to extend the concepts and learning to a broader range of community members, not just the 'officials'.



"The concept is fabulous. If the 'right' people have the opportunity to participate then it could be a very valuable contribution to people experiencing trauma and duress. Who knows who the 'right' people are unless they have an opportunity to find out!"

* * *

If you'd like to help GFSC continue to build community capacity, as we are doing in New Orleans, Los Angeles and Australia, click on our [donation page](#) or mail a check to

GFSC
11 Sequin Road
West Hartford, CT 06117

GFSC Road to Recovery Workshop in Austin, TX, May 1-2, 2007

This workshop was organized and led by Erness Wright-Irvin, Jean Watts and Wayne Wallace of the Facilitative Leadership Institute in New Orleans. They are part of the GFSC NOLA Network.

After the workshop, participants listed the audiences that would find this workshop useful:

- People in community that we help – schools, teachers
- Use it with community leaders, church leaders, on job with staff
- Staff groups (could) build (this) into workforce strengthening
- Looking for ways to do workshop in less than two days
- Use for long-term recovery in school districts. So many teachers that suffer crisis on day-to-day basis. They need this training.

* * *

We look forward to telling our readers how you are building community resilience and self-reliance within your community, agency or organization. Write to us at [Editor, GFSC News](#) to share your work!

* * *

Meg Wheatley's Four Steps to Change the World

From Meg Wheatley's Women's Leadership Revival Tour, May 2007

1. Notice what you notice. It is what you care about. We are all attracted to different issues. What "bugs" you, is tapping you on your shoulder to get your attention, say "YES!"
2. Get started. Begin conversations. Talk to friends about your issues. Proceed until apprehended.
3. Learn as you go; make it up as you go along.
4. Stay together. Notice and attend to relationships; we live in a network of relationships. Relate with compassion, forgiveness and generosity.

GFSC Experienced Facilitator Volunteers

What do we mean by "experienced facilitators" in our invitation to participate in GFSC Disaster & Crisis Intervention workshops.

There are two versions of this workshop, one expressly for communities, their leaders, organization and agency personnel who work with neighborhoods and groups in the community; the other is our "train-the-trainer" workshop for experienced facilitators who will train others in communities. The "train-the-trainer" workshops assume some prior knowledge and experience with various group facilitation techniques.

Both workshops share tools and techniques to help individuals and communities gain resilience and self-reliance, particularly in the weeks and months after a crisis. These techniques are relevant not only in case of major disaster, but can be applied to crises of any magnitude.

Our [Workshop Facilitator Policy](#) goes into more detail. If you are curious, you can compare your experience with our guidelines, which are based on IAF (International Association of Facilitators) competencies.

* * *

Interested in a DCI Train-the-Trainer Workshop?

We have received several requests for DCI Train-the-Trainer workshops for experienced facilitators in the San Francisco, CA; Houston, TX and Atlanta, GA areas.

If you and/or your organization are interested in participating in one of these, please send an email to

To:	For:
Julia Young at Julia.Young@Facilitate.com	San Francisco, CA
David Johnson at davidjohnsonshell@yahoo.com	Houston, TX
BJ at info@globalfacilitators.org	Atlanta, GA

Meet a GFSC Volunteer...



Sybil Stershic is a marketing & organizational advisor with more than 30 years of experience providing internal marketing, marketing/strategic planning, and customer-focused training to corporate and non-profit organizations. Sybil specializes in helping her clients strengthen

relationships with customers and employees. She is president of Quality Service Marketing.

Sybil is very active in leadership and professional development as well as volunteering in several organizations, including the AMA (American Marketing Association- she is a past Chairman), BoardSource (formerly the National Center for Nonprofit Boards), the International Association of Facilitators and, of course, GFSC.

Sybil has worked with the GFSC Board to assess and develop a marketing plan. She continues to be a valued resource for guiding us in these efforts. We are very grateful to Sybil for her willingness to share her expertise and ideas. It is at her suggestion that GFSC was invited and will be participating in this summer's Global Village for Future Business Leaders at the Iacocca Institute at Lehigh University. This summer program attracts approximately 100 interns from 48 countries to learn about creating and leading businesses with a sense of responsibility for building individual, teams and sustainable communities, with respecting and valuing cultural differences and building in a vision of service in their endeavors.

A valued quality shared by active GFSC volunteers is self-motivation. We do not expect every GFSC volunteer to be an experienced facilitator. As an organization, we appreciate everyone who is willing to share their time, energy and expertise. Our volunteers step forward with their ideas and willingness to follow through. We appreciate and value each and every one. Thank you!

* * *

Sharing GFSC Materials

We continue develop new materials, as well as refine our existing materials. We want to know about and share how our materials are being used. So, if you are using or planning to use GFSC materials, be sure to complete and send us the permission request form. If you are getting paid for your work (i.e., for profit), then a token fee is paid back to GFSC to support the organization. If you are not getting paid (i.e., you are volunteering your time), you do not have to pay the Use of Materials fee to GFSC. In either case, please complete the permission to use GFSC materials form. Thanks!



Newsletter Information

Editor: BJ Diamond

Translation English-Spanish: Ximena Combariza

To subscribe to our monthly newsletter, submit news or letters to the Editor, click [Editor, GFSC News](#)

We are looking for updates from Latin America.

Please send your news to Parcia,
red-gfsc@globalfacilitators.org .

Improve Your Website & Help GFSC Too!

Here's an easy, cost-effective way to improve your communications and support GFSC programs at the same time. By signing up using the link on the GFSC web site (<http://www.hotconference.com/GFSC/partners1.php>), 25% of your Kiosk-Hot Conference fees are donated to GFSC.

Hot Conference and Kiosk have 35 years of experience, operating in more than 119 countries. They host our website and provide a variety of internet tools. With Hot Conference we can communicate with our volunteers throughout the world.

If you host a website, want to reduce your long distance phone charges and/or improve communications consider Kiosk and Hot Conference.

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