

Two Minutes to Midnight: What We Must Do to Prevent Nuclear War

A Conference Organized by Goucher Peace Studies and Prevent Nuclear War/Maryland

About Our Speakers

Plenary Speakers

Daryl Kimball

Daryl G. Kimball is Executive Director of the Arms Control Association, a private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to public education and support of effective arms control measures pertaining to nuclear, chemical, biological, and conventional weapons. Mr. Kimball has written and spoken extensively about nuclear arms control and non-proliferation, and weapons production. In 2004, the National Journal recognized Mr. Kimball as one of the ten key individuals whose ideas will help shape the policy debate on the future of nuclear weapons. From 1997 to 2001, Mr. Kimball was the executive director of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers, a consortium of 17 of the largest U.S. non-governmental organizations working together to strengthen national and international security by reducing the threats posed by nuclear weapons. While at the Coalition, Mr. Kimball coordinated community-wide education, research and lobbying campaigns for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, further deep and verifiable reductions in nuclear weapons stockpiles, and against the deployment of an unproven and ineffective national missile defense system.



Ira Helfand

Ira Helfand, MD is co-chair of the Nuclear Weapons Abolition Committee of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) and also serves as co-president of PSR's global federation, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). He is also a member of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)'s International Steering Committee. Dr. Helfand co-authored PSR's report, [*Nuclear Famine: 2 Billion at Risk?*](#), which outlines the global health consequences of regional nuclear war. He was a leading medical voice in ICAN's campaign for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Dr. Helfand addressed national delegations at international conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Oslo, Norway, Narayit, Mexico, and Vienna, Austria, during the May 2016 U.N. Open-Ended Working Group on disarmament in Geneva, and throughout the U.N. General Assembly negotiations in 2017.



Vincent Intondi

Vincent Intondi is an Associate Professor of History, Director of the Institute for Race, Justice & Civic Engagement, and Coordinator for History and Political Science at Montgomery College in Takoma Park, Maryland. From 2009-2017, Dr. Intondi was Director of Research for American University's Nuclear Studies Institute in Washington, DC. He is the author of the book, *African Americans Against the Bomb: Nuclear Weapons, Colonialism, and the Black Freedom Movement* with Stanford University Press. He holds a PhD in history from American University.



Ray Acheson

Ray Acheson is the Director of Reaching Critical Will, a program of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). She provides analysis, research, and advocacy across a range of disarmament and arms control issues. Ms. Acheson leads WILPF's work on stigmatizing war and violence, including by campaigning for a nuclear weapons ban treaty and challenging the arms trade and the use of explosive weapons and armed drones. Ms. Acheson is also on the Board of Directors of the Los Alamos Study Group and represents WILPF on several coalition steering groups, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). She previously worked for the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies.



Workshop and Work Group Leaders

Paul Gunter (*Workshop B: Uranium Trafficking*)

Paul Gunter is Director of the Reactor Oversight Project with Beyond Nuclear. He specializes in reactor hazards and security of operating reactors; prevention of new reactor construction; regulatory oversight; climate change; the nuclear power-nuclear weapons connection; organizing and movement-building; radiation impacts on health; and wildlife impacts.



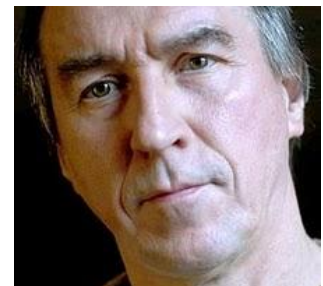
Linda Pentz Gunter (*Workshop B: Uranium Trafficking*)

Linda Pentz Gunter specializes in international nuclear issues with Beyond Nuclear. The central focus of her work is on organizing and collaboration within the international anti-nuclear movement. She also works on nuclear weapons and their link with nuclear power development. She is a member of the jury of the Nuclear-Free Future Awards and a member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.



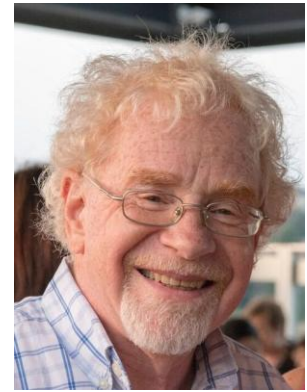
Max Obuszewski (*Workshop D: Creative Organizing*)

Max Obuszewski is a long-time grassroots organizer on nuclear weapons and militarism. After serving in the Peace Corps in Botswana helping to set up small businesses, Mr. Obuszewski worked with the Committee Against Registration and the Draft. Mr. Obuszewski worked with Nuclear Free America in Baltimore beginning in 1983 and with the American Friends Service Committee for 17 years. One of his mentors was Phil Berrigan, who participated with Mr. Obuszewski in four of his five Plowshares disarmament actions. As a committed activist, Mr. Obuszewski is highly involved with several Maryland peace and justice organizations. For several years, he taught a human rights course at Goucher College. Mr. Obuszewski believes in speaking out against injustice through the use of nonviolent civil resistance. He has a master's degree in business administration and a human rights internship certificate from the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility.



Charlie Cooper (Work Group A: Congress)

Charlie Cooper has worked in various capacities to advance the health and welfare of children. He was Administrator of the Citizens' Review Board for Children from 1990 to 2008, drafted and advocated for child protection legislation in the Maryland General Assembly, and was instrumental in the founding of the Coalition to Protect Maryland's Children. In the fall of 2012, Mr. Cooper was a founding member of *Get Money Out – Maryland*, which is working to promote reforms that minimize the influence of money and strengthen the power of individual citizens in the political process and to promote an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will overturn the Supreme Court decision *Citizens United v. FEC*. Charlie Cooper earned a Masters in Health Services Administration from Johns Hopkins in 1979.



Lucy Duff (Work Group A: Congress)

Lucy Duff became involved with peace activism in the 1980s, beginning with the DC Metro Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee. In 1987, she joined the Prince George's County Peace Action chapter and helped it reach out to network with other progressive local groups to form the Prince Georges County Peace & Justice Coalition, which she continues to co-lead. Ms. Duff is a retired librarian.



Paul Kawika Martin (Work Group A: Congress)

Paul Kawika Martin is Peace Action's senior director for policy and political affairs. He has helped change policy over the last 25 years with environmental, peace, animal rights and human rights organizations including Greenpeace and Physicians for Social Responsibility. Mr. Martin uses his expertise on nuclear weapons and U.S. foreign policy to lobby Congress and to mobilize Peace Action's 200,000 paid members and supporters and 100 chapters around social change, and as Peace Action's PAC director, he uses his electoral expertise to fund, endorse and help elect progressive candidates. Mr. Martin's work has appeared in countless media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Democracy Now!*, and many others.



Gwen DuBois (Work Group B: Resolutions)

Gwen Dubois, MD, MPH is an internal medicine physician teaching medical residents at Sinai Hospital and part-time instructor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She is President of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility and a member of the public health committee of the Maryland Medical Association. Dr. Dubois has been working to prevent nuclear war since 1984, which has included teaching the effects of nuclear explosions to medical students at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins Medical Schools, being arrested for protesting Site R (the underground Pentagon in the Catocin Mountains), and protesting Hopkins Applied Physics Lab's role in nuclear weapons planning for the navy. Dr. Dubois was a citizen lobbyist for UN negotiations for a ban on nuclear weapons in June 2017 and is a founding member of Prevent Nuclear War/ Maryland.



Jay Levy (Work Group B: Resolutions)

Jay Levy, a peace activist for more than half a century, has been chair of Takoma Park, Maryland's Nuclear Free Committee for the past 20 years. The city has the strongest Nuclear Free Zone legislation in the U.S. This 1983 law forbids the city from making any purchases from any company that makes nuclear weapons, delivery systems, or components or conducts research on nuclear weapons. The citizen-appointed committee advises the City Council on how to implement the law, and it undertakes activities to keep citizens informed about nuclear weapons issues. Mr. Levy was a Peace Corps volunteer in Brazil during the 1960s, an information officer for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN for 17 years, and a reporter for the AP, UPI and daily newspapers.



Tony Langbehn (Work Group B: Resolutions)

Mr. Langbehn is founder and Convener of Maryland United for Peace and Justice, which facilitates Maryland grassroots organizations to network and work together for peace, justice, democracy and a healthy environment. He serves on the Board of Pax Christi Metro D.C. and Baltimore (a regional Catholic peace organization) and on the Board of Progressive Maryland. He is also a Commissioner on two Prince George's County Commissions: Commission for Individuals with Disabilities and Human Relations (civil rights). Mr. Langbehn has led successful efforts to enact local legislation and resolutions, including establishing Sykesville, Maryland as the third nuclear free zone in the United States.

Mel Hardy (Work Group B: Resolutions)

Mel Hardy has worked for several years on the anti-nuclear initiatives of Mayors for Peace, based in Hiroshima, Japan. He is curator of the Hiroshima Children's Drawings at All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, DC and helped in the production of the film *Pictures from a Hiroshima School Yard*. He is vice president of the Partnership League for Africa's Development and a founding board member of the Pan African Diaspora Men's Association at the African Union Mission to the United States. Mr. Hardy is facilitator for the Global Affairs Club at the Duke Ellington School for the Arts and a member of the Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital. He is a delegate to the United Nations on nuclear weapons and serves on the Board of Directors of Peace Action.



Michael Keller (Work Group C: Maryland General Assembly)

Michael Keller is a longtime peace and justice activist. He has served since 2008 as co-chair of the Board of Directors of Peace Action Education Fund, the 501 (c)3 of Peace Action, a national peace and disarmament organization. Mr. Keller also served on the Board of Directors of Peace Action from 1989 to 2008 and as coordinator of the Anne Arundel County chapter of Maryland Peace Action from 1985 to 2007. Mr. Keller was a founding member of the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center and currently serves as outreach coordinator for the organization in his capacity as a Board member. Mr. Keller has served as a member of the Annapolis Human Relations Commission since 1996 and as its chair since 2000.



Samantha Blake (Work Group C: Maryland General Assembly)

Samantha Blake is the program manager of Women's Action for New Directions' Women Legislators' Lobby (WiLL) program. WiLL is a national non-partisan network of women state legislators who work together to influence federal policy and budget priorities. Ms. Blake organizes the programming, strategy, and communications on WiLL's issues of federal budget priorities and nuclear disarmament. She also plans and executes events for women state legislators including national conferences and policy communications trainings. Over the last year, Ms. Blake was the liaison between state legislators and the United Against Nuclear War resolution campaign, which had resolutions on restricting sole authority introduced in every region across America. Ms. Blake is currently working on resolutions for the 2019 state legislative sessions.



Pamela Queen (Work Group C: Maryland General Assembly)

Pamela Queen is a Delegate to the Maryland General Assembly representing Maryland's 14th Legislative District. She serves on the House Judiciary Committee and its subcommittee on criminal justice. She is a member of the Women's Caucus of Maryland and on the Executive Board of the Legislative Black Caucus. In 2018, she introduced a resolution in the General Assembly which, had it passed, would have sent a message to Maryland's Congressional delegation, asking that they remove the power of the president to unilaterally initiate a nuclear war. Ms. Queen champions progressive legislation on justice reform, public safety and restorative justice initiatives, and on other issues affecting working families and students. She also focuses on providing opportunities for vulnerable communities. Del. Queen is a professor at Morgan State University. She holds a Ph.D. in finance from George Washington University.



Jean Athey (Final Plenary)

Jean Athey is coordinator of Peace Action Montgomery (MD) and a founding member of Prevent Nuclear War/Maryland. She was formerly chair of the Steering Committee of *Fund Our Communities, Not the Pentagon*. In 2006, she co-founded the Washington Region Religious Campaign Against Torture, a coalition of religious groups working to end U.S.-sponsored torture. Ms. Athey traveled to Afghanistan in 2011 on a peace mission and in 2008 volunteered with the International Solidarity Movement in Palestine. She is past co-chair of the Board of Directors of the national organization Peace Action and currently serves on the board of the Afghan Women's Fund. Ms. Athey previously worked at the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration; taught at the University of Oklahoma; and served in the Peace Corps in Tunisia. She received a Ph.D. in social services policy and administration from the University of Chicago.

