

Year of International Human Rights

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights last year, the College of Arts and Sciences at Webster University in St. Louis designated the 2008-09 academic year as the Year of International Human Rights (YIHR) in its campuses worldwide. The University offers an interdisciplinary major in international human rights, and the Center for the Study of Human Rights coordinates Webster's human rights projects and programs.

Following the success of the first YIHR, the College of Arts & Sciences has decided to continue calling attention to the world's pressing human rights problems in its campuses worldwide. The focus this year will be on the right to food and water. Many activities relating to this theme will be organized in St. Louis and at other campuses. One common activity is that all first year undergraduate students worldwide will share a common experience by reading the same book in their Freshman Seminar classes. The book is *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* by Michael Pollan.

There will also be a number of activities at Webster Vienna throughout the academic year. See the "Upcoming Events" section of the Webster Vienna Web site for details as they become available, or contact Ms. Jessica Spiegel <franzspiegel@gmail.com> if you have suggestions for human rights activities, or if you would like to help organize such activities.