

Water, Conflict, and Human Rights: Emerging Challenges and Solutions



T H E U N I V E R S I T Y O F U T A H

*Fifth Annual International Conference on Human Rights,
Conflict Resolution, Non-Violence, and Peace
February 23-25, 2011, University of Utah*

The conference will stimulate dialogue on emerging challenges related to conflicts over water, living systems and human rights. The conference seeks to engage a wide range of stakeholders, including diverse rural and urban publics, technical experts, and policy and decision makers on critical issues shaping water futures. The tentative program features two keynote speakers and four panel sessions offering perspectives from the humanities, sciences, law, engineering, policy, public health and more. Experts and interested community members will share knowledge and individual experiences relating to water conflicts and human rights at global, regional and local levels.

Keynote Speakers

Peter Gleick, co-founder and president of the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security in Oakland, California. His research and writing address the critical connections between water and human health, the hydrologic impacts of climate change, sustainable water use, privatization and globalization, and international conflicts over water resources.

Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians (Canada's largest public advocacy organization), and founder of the Blue Planet Project, which works internationally for the right to water.

Conference Panels (Tentative)

Water demand: population growth, economic development and energy

Panelists: **Zach Frankel**, Founder and Executive Director, Utah Rivers Council; **Anya Plutynski**, Associate Professor, Philosophy, The University of Utah; **Dianne Nielson**, Governor's Energy Advisor, State of Utah

Water privatization: inter-basin water transfers, democracy, and human rights

Panelists: **Susan Spronk**, Assistant Professor, School of International Development and Global Studies, University of Ottawa; **Simeon Herskovits**, Director and Chief Counsel, Advocates for Community and Environment; **LaDawn Haglud**, Assistant Professor, Justice and Social Inquiry, Arizona State University

Water quality, ecosystems and their restoration, community well-being and public health

Panelists: **Robert Adler**, Professor of Law, The University of Utah; **Dan McCool**, Professor and Director, Environmental Studies, The University of Utah; **Joy Zedler**, Professor, Botany, University of Wisconsin

Water conflict case studies: stakeholder mediation, dialogue and lessons learned

Panelists: **Joseph Dellapenna**, Professor of Law, Villanova University; **Rupert Steele**, Chair, Confederated Tribes of Goshute Reservations; **Michael Campana**, Professor, Hydrogeology and Water Resources, Oregon State University