

Name: Dean J. Johnson, PhD

Title of Project: **Remnants: A Public Reading and Evening with Dr. Rachel Elizabeth Harding & Veterans of Hope Project Workshop: Spirituality & Social Justice**

Amount Awarded: \$3000

Select the key priority areas of the Forum for which the proposal intended to address:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff (AFSCME) | <input type="checkbox"/> PT Employees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Students - Phila |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> People of Color/Non White | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Women | <input type="checkbox"/> Intern'l Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQA | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Trad Student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Assault Policies and Procedures | |

Brief description and goals and outcomes of your project:

The submitter brought Dr. Rachel Elizabeth Harding and Gloria Smith to campus for a public reading and discussion of Harding's book: *Remnants: A Memoir of Spirit, Activism, and Mothering*. Harding and Smith would conduct a Veterans of Hope Project workshop on "Spirituality and Social Justice."

Goals:

- To provide the WCU community with an opportunity to engage in conversations about race, gender, nonviolence, spirituality, human rights, and social justice with experts who have personal experiences in these areas.
- To provide the WCU and greater communities with the opportunity to learn about how the past informs current events.
- To provide students with examples of a better way, and alternative, to deal with racial and gender injustice.
- To provide students with an opportunity to think about self-care with a specific focus on religion and spirituality.
- To help students and faculty respond creatively to help others and themselves using nonviolent strategies and methods.

Description of procedures, steps, timeline:

Fall 2017 – Harding and Smith were contacted to set a date.

Spring 2018 - The project was marketed through classes, and student groups. Posters and fliers were distributed in February. The event were made known to local peace groups and churches through email, facebook, and phone conversations.

Analysis of the success of the project and results achieved:

The evaluation of the project took place at the workshop and in courses. Faculty who used the project as a part of their Peace and Conflict Studies courses were asked for feedback. The overall results were positive. Student repeatedly reflected how meaningful it was to meet an author they had read. In addition, students reflected that hearing about the experiences of Rosemarie Freeney Harding helped them to understand their own stories. The students and community members who attended the workshop shared how the attending helped them renew their energies. The speaking event included 122 students/faculty/community members. There were 10 people in the workshop.

