

**Tamara Shaya**  
100 Hesburgh Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA  
513-520-3644, tshaya@nd.edu

**Education:** The University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN  
M.A. in Peace Studies Candidate, Expected May 2013

Taylor University, Upland, IN  
B.A. in Media Communication, 2004–2008  
*Honors: Magna Cum Laude*

**Research Experience:**

- *The Role of Yemeni Women in the Arab Spring*  
Advisor: Dr. Emad Shahin, University of Notre Dame, January-May 2012
- *Microfinance for Women: Neoclassical and Feminist Economic Perspectives*  
Advisor: Dr. David Ruccio, University of Notre Dame, January-May 2012
- *Conflict in Somalia: Mediation Efforts in a War-Torn Land*  
Advisor: Drs. Bernie Mayer and Julie Macfarlane, University of Notre Dame, January-May 2012
- *Ethnographic Research: What Makes a Charismatic Leader?*  
Advisor: Dr. Catherine Bolten, University of Notre Dame, January-May 2012
- *Women's Human Rights in Iraq After US Imperialism*  
Advisor: Dr. Eileen Hunt Botting, University of Notre Dame, August-December 2011
- *Making Peacebuilding More Effective*  
Advisor: Dr. Robert Johansen, University of Notre Dame, August-December 2011
- *Increasing Human Rights Compliance*  
Advisor: Dr. Robert Johansen, University of Notre Dame, August-December 2011
- *Integrating Gender into Peacebuilding Efforts*  
Advisor: Dr. George Lopez, University of Notre Dame, August-December 2011
- *Crime and Corruption as a Peace Issue*  
Advisor: Dr. George Lopez, University of Notre Dame, August-December 2011

**Professional Experience:**

**Associate**

*The Clapham Group, Washington, DC, October 2010- August 2011*

- Consulted several clients, including the non-profit The ONE Campaign and promoted World AIDS Day events to over 1 million participants to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and African poverty.
- Coordinated efforts between Bono's liaisons and members of the faith community to promote the ONE Campaign and (RED)'s film "The Lazarus Effect" to raise funds for life-saving medicine for AIDS victims.
- Mobilized members of the U.S. Congress and Senate to advocate for foreign aid for Africa and better economic development procedures for African women.
- Supervised daily operations, developed employee handbook and improved office I.T. and marketing infrastructure.

## **Director of Public Relations and Media**

*Crescent Project, Indianapolis, IN, June 2008- August 2010*

- Trained students and professionals about the importance of interfaith dialogue, providing tools to facilitate communication with their Muslim or Christian neighbors.
- Directed 15 Crescent Project staff and communicated with web and branding companies to implement a successful and innovative \$50,000 branding campaign, social media strategy and website.
- Wrote press releases and conducted print and video interviews both domestically and internationally.
- Organized Crescent Project's grassroots campaign to stop injustices occurring against Middle Eastern, Southeast Asian and African women and led 10 volunteers to organize events and programs.
- Created awareness about human rights violations by delivering public speeches to over 30 churches, universities and businesses and providing interviews to media personnel about various injustices.

## **Student Body President**

*Taylor University, Upland, IN, May 2007-2008*

- Provided leadership for over 2000 students at Taylor University, serving on several committees and acting as a liaison between students, administration, faculty, staff and board of trustees.
- Led 11 members of the Taylor Student Organization's Executive Cabinet and oversaw the Taylor Student Organization budget of over \$150,000.
- Organized Taylor University's first annual world religions week, developed a career week for graduating students, and mobilized students to get involved in various social justice initiatives.

## **Academic Honors and Awards:**

- Nanovic Institute for European Studies Graduate Award, University of Notre Dame
- Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts Award, University of Notre Dame
- Graduate Student Union Conference Award, University of Notre Dame
- Excellence in Communication Award, Taylor University
- Leadership Award, Taylor University
- Film Producer of the Year Award, Taylor University
- Academic Achievement Award, Taylor University
- Golden Eagle Award, CINE Organization
- Summit Creative Award
- Aegis Video and Film Production Award

## **Volunteer Activities:**

*Interfaith Dialogue Conference, Amman, Jordan*

- Participated in East-West Initiative forum, where Muslims and Christians developed friendships, performed community service, engaged in leadership training and worked together to combat hatred and prejudice.

*Global Hope, Erbil, Iraq:*

- Led team to Northern Iraq to teach English, pass out humanitarian packets to Kurdish and Arabic families, and provide employment training for women.

*Global Hope Network International, Amman, Jordan:*

- Participated on several humanitarian trips to Amman, Jordan, and distributing food boxes, goats, and monetary assistance to assist refugees and poor Arab families.

## **Interests:**

- Collaborating with scholars on peacebuilding and leadership initiatives
- Utilizing multimedia as a peacebuilding tool
- Empowering future leaders
- Developing strategies to make non-profit organizations more effective
- Participating in dialogues about politics, culture, and film
- Conversing with new and old friends over a good meal