Center for Indic Studies

Fall 2013 Seminar Series

CULTURE, EDUCATION & FREEDOM IN POST-GANDHI INDIA

Friday, Sept. 13, 12noon -1pm
Claire T. Carney Library, Grand Reading Room

Navigating the Interconnectedness of Mindfulness, Neuroscience, and Implications for Improving Education

Maureen Hall, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

FREE and OPEN TO PUBLIC

Dr. Hall will give an overview of some of the research projects and connections she is making between and among contemplative practice, neuroscience, mindfulness and pedagogy. She believes quality education—the kind that is not overly focused on test scores and helps to develop the whole person—is the only thing that will empower individuals, bring out creativity, and ensure a good quality of life. When referring to “inner” technology, she refers to contemplative pedagogies that include a range of activities and emphasize both habitation and grounding in the present moment. These “inner” technologies may be activated through mindfulness practices including, but not limited to, active listening, yoga, meditation, respectful dialogue, and reflective writing. This idea of “interiority” is nothing new—it comes from the wisdom traditions of the world, and many of them originate in India.

Maureen Hall, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Education in the STEM Department and Teacher Development Department in UMass Dartmouth's School of Education within the College of Arts and Sciences. In 2010-11, she was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Scholarship for research growing out of her collaboration with the Center for Indic Studies. She has returned to India three times since her first visit in 2011, and she remains fascinated with India’s people, culture, and ideas.

For further information see www.umassd.edu/indic/, or contact: jsolfvin@umassd.edu