Join members of the Norwegian Nobel Committee for an exciting conversation about issues related to global peace and conflict, fraternity, civil conversation in the face of conflict, and behind-the-scenes stories of how the Peace Prize laureates are selected.

Friday, March 24, 2023 • 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
The Sciences and Engineering Center & The Commons Auditorium (rm 108)
155 University Avenue • West Chester, PA 19383

Request for donations to the Mukwege Foundation, founded by Nobel laureate Dr. Denis Mukwege to support victims and survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

Register here.
SESSIONS • FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023

11:00-12:30 pm  Open Session #1 – Memory and Reconciliation in the Face of Adversity and Conflict: Reflections on the Terrorist Attack in Norway and Lessons from 9/11 – Jørgen Frydnes, Member, Norwegian Nobel Committee

1:45-3:15 pm  Open Session #2 – Lessons from Nobel Laureate Dennis Mukwege: Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War, and How We Build a Society Based on Peace and Respect – Henrik Syse, former Member and Deputy Leader of the Norwegian Nobel Committee and WCU Visiting Scholar, and Asle Toje, Deputy Leader, Norwegian Nobel Committee

7:00-8:30 pm  WCU-Nobel Peace Forum - West Chester University invites you to join members of the five-member Norwegian Nobel Committee, which selects the annual Nobel Peace Prize laureate, for an exciting conversation about issues related to global peace and conflict, fraternity, civil conversation in the face of conflict, and behind-the-scenes stories of how the Peace Prize laureates are selected.

All sessions are located in SECC Auditorium, Room 108, West Chester University, 115 University Avenue, West Chester, PA 19383

Register here.
He is the CEO of Utoya AS, helping to rebuild the island of Utoya after it was attacked by a Norwegian right-wing extremist on July 22, 2011 in a terror attack that killed 69 people. Jørgen has also worked for Doctors without Borders (Medicines sans Frontieres) and is a member of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee, a non-governmental organization working to ensure that human rights are respected in practice.

Henrik Syse is a Research Professor at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), working on ethical questions related to armed and other societal conflicts. He is also a Professor at Oslo New University College, and he is currently a Visiting Professor at West Chester University.

Asle Toje is the Deputy Leader of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which awards the Nobel Peace Prize, known as “the most prestigious award in the world.” He is also the former Research Director at the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo. After completing his PhD in Cambridge (2006), Asle lectured and taught at universities in Europe and beyond. His research interests are found at the intersection of security studies and European studies, and he has published several books within these fields.

Jørgen Frydnes is the youngest member ever to be appointed to the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

His research includes work related to domestic terrorism, ideology, free speech, and religion. He holds a doctoral degree in philosophy. For a full six-year term (2015-20), he was a member of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, serving as its Deputy Leader for the last four years of that term.

Henrik worked as Head of Corporate Governance at Norges Bank Investment Management (2005-07), where he helped start the work within the bank on ownership, governance, and ethics for the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global, currently the world’s largest Sovereign Wealth Fund. He was also a member of the Norwegian Press Complaints Commission for 14 years and is a much-used public speaker. Henrik has lectured and published widely on problems within moral philosophy, political philosophy, business ethics, religion, and the ethics of warfare.