

Students asked to tackle human rights and human responsibility

An inspiring young Australian, humanitarian and UN Global Ambassador Prashanth Shanmugan, will be challenging students at Macquarie University to explore the intertwined concepts of human rights and human responsibility.

At just 24, Prashanth is recognised as a leader in humanitarian issues and human rights.

"In a country like Australia, we need to acknowledge that our rights and freedoms come with certain responsibilities. Our privileges can be no greater than our obligations," said Prashanth Shanmugan.

"We have a responsibility to each other, to our community, to the nation and to the world-at-large. By appreciating our rights and understanding our responsibilities, we can then engage with broader human rights issues," he added.

Prashanth Shanmugan is the guest speaker at Campus Living Villages' 2006 Speaker Series. Campus Living Villages manages student accommodation at Macquarie University Village and the Speaker Series is part of its residential program.

Macquarie University Students are invited to attend the Speaker Series.

When: 6.30pm, 10th May 2006

Where: Whitley Room, Level 3, SAM Building, Macquarie University

Cost: Free

RSVP: rsvp@clv.com.au (booking close 8th May 2006)

Supported by: Macquarie University Village

As a child, Prashanth witnessed war and persecution in Sri Lanka, before coming to Australia in 1986 and graduating from high school in 1999.

He is the founding president of the United Nations Society and is on the council of the Australian Institute of International Affairs.

He has received the Human Rights Commission's inaugural Human Rights Youth Medal for his promotion of unity in diversity and a unified national identity.

On Australia Day 2000 he was named Young Citizen of the Year, which recognised the contributions he has made to the Australian community through his leadership and advocacy. In 2001 Prashanth was selected by the United Nations as a Global Ambassador for the United Nations Global Atlas of Human Rights.

Prashanth has recently completed an honours thesis on the changing nature of warfare at the University of New South Wales where he researched the application of the Geneva Conventions on non-state actors in internal armed conflicts.

Campus Living Villages is a specialist student housing provider which operates Sydney University Village, RMIT Village Old Melbourne, along with student accommodation at Macquarie University, the Gold Coast campus of Griffith University, Canterbury University in Christchurch, and the Palmerston North campus of Massey University in New Zealand.

Residential programs, which include features such as this Speaker Series, are a key part of Campus Living Villages' successful partnerships with universities.

Campus Living Villages also owns Century Campus Housing – America's largest on-campus owner-operator of student accommodation.

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