

at the international, federal, local and grassroots levels. Recognized experts in their fields presented in each of the sessions. Participants selected the workshops in which they wished to participate based upon their skills and areas of expertise and/or the skills and knowledge which they sought to develop.

The symposium got off to a lively start with the opening plenary, "The Problem and What Should We Do About It?" An international panel of experts representing a spectrum of philosophical and legal perspectives discussed various approaches, some diametrically opposed, to dealing with hate on the Internet. This "fireworks" panel highlighted the key issues explored throughout the symposium and set the tone for the lively discussions over the next two days. The opening reception was co-hosted at Metro Hall by the Anti-Racism, Access and Equity Centre of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. Delegates were welcomed by the leadership of B'nai Brith Canada and B'nai Brith International and by dignitaries representing the local, provincial and federal governments. The Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and Status of Women, the Hon. Hedy Fry, brought greetings from the Government of Canada and announced that nineteen federal departments and agencies are currently working on an action plan to fight hate and bias crime, including hate on the Internet. Participants and guests at the reception were treated to an informative and graphic presentation by Ken McVay of the Nizkor Project, and David Hoffman of the Anti-Defamation League, entitled "Web of Hate," an audio-visual demonstration of numerous hate sites on the World Wide Web.

Day Two began with a plenary panel of legal and technical experts examining the issues involved in regulating the Internet, including challenges to free speech, legal, legislative and technical possibilities for, and limits to, regulation. Panelists participated as resource persons in the following concurrent seminars that explored in more depth the issues and challenges raised in the plenary. The Legal/Legislative Seminar reviewed legal options and limits of Canadian legislation in dealing with hate on the Internet, as well as the complementary uses of human rights codes and the efficacy of such legislation. The Technical Seminar focused on the technical limits to regulating the Internet and the various roles and responsibilities of Internet service providers in bringing about regulatory and/or voluntary non-regulatory measures. In the Philosophical Seminar, there was a lively discussion of regulated versus unrestricted free speech on the Internet, with a focus on the effect either would have on the rights of both hate propagators and victim groups.

Professor Deborah Lipstadt of Emory University gave a special luncheon address on the topic "Holocaust Denial: at the Center of the Web of Hate" based on her extensive research of deniers and their close connections to other forms of hate mongering. Dr. Lipstadt's presentation provided insights into the modus operandi of anti-Semites and racists, and the challenges their pseudo-science currently pose to the academic and human rights communities worldwide.

A second round of concurrent workshops provided participants with an opportunity to share effective, practical and proactive strategies for countering both hate on the Internet and its impact. In "Grassroots Strategies to Deal with Hate," the role of community groups and individuals in moving the issue of hate on the Internet to the forefront was discussed, along