



JOAN B. KROC
INSTITUTE FOR
PEACE & JUSTICE
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

PEACE & JUSTICE COMPASS

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A CRITICAL MOMENT IN HUMAN SECURITY

by Stelet Kim



Safaa Elagib Adam discusses Darfur during a working session

We are at a very critical moment in international peace and security policy," affirmed Stephanie Ziebell of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) at the 2008 Women PeaceMakers Conference, "Crafting Human Security in an Insecure World."

Over 100 delegates from nearly 30 countries came together at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ) from September 24 to 26 to address this critical moment and help define policy on human security. The conference was co-convened by the IPJ and UNIFEM, as well as the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Global Justice Center and United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The conference opened with a keynote speaker, Louise Arbour, former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights. Part of the Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series, her speech on the integration of security, development and human rights, and especially the need for institutionalizing inclusive processes and legal frameworks, set the stage for further exploration of the conference theme. (For more on Arbour's lecture, see page 8.)

Over the following two days, panel presentations covered themes of gender-inclusive peacebuilding, protecting civilians from sexual violence during armed conflict, advancing inclusive security in multiple settings and enforcing justice and gender equality mandates at all stages of conflict transformation.

Delegates - including researchers, practitioners, lawyers, students and members of the military - also attended breakout sessions to discuss

strategies to overcome cycles of violence. Representatives of both military and civilian groups expressed appreciation for such exchanges. Lt. Gen. Jasbir Singh Lidder, former force commander of the United Nations Mission in Sudan, stated that the conference, coming on the heels of the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1820, was "a very good platform in trying to synergize an approach, since these are subjects in which there exists a wide spectrum of ideas, concerns and perceptions."

The sense of collaboration was punctuated on the second evening of the conference by the screening of the documentary film, "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." The story of the Liberian women's movement to return peace to a nation shattered by a bloody civil war brought the audience to cheers, tears and a standing ovation. That a civil society effort of both Muslim and Christian women helped change the course of a country in conflict resonated deeply with those in attendance.

Ziebell noted in closing remarks, "This [conference] was important to reevaluate where we are, redefine what are our priorities are and also harness the new energy coming out of Security Council Resolution 1820 on sexual violence and see how we can push the agenda forward." The conference thus provided a forum to share practical tools and resources; collaborate across government, civil society and academic sectors; and begin to synergize approaches that have proven effective.

Binalakshmi Nepam of the Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network in India added that the work of peacebuilding does not and must not end with the conference: "When we meet, we find that it is more joining hands together than finding differences. The context is local, but the essence is universal. And the essence of women struggling to get the rights that we deserve is what empowers us to continue the work even as we leave the IPJ."

The conference was made possible by the Fred J. Hansen Foundation and in part by the Open Society Institute and Trans-Border Institute.



IPJ COUNTRY PROJECTS

IPJ EXPLORES NEW AVENUES FOR COLLABORATION IN GUATEMALA



Child lighting candles to commemorate the National Day of the Disappeared in Guatemala

human rights activists, nongovernmental organization representatives and others – all led to the very real sense of a country in the grip of impunity.

However, more than a decade after the end of a 36-year civil war, the courage and creativity of many of the interviewees were evident as they tackled the myriad problems the country faces.

Representatives of the Archbishop's Office of Human Rights shared the educational materials they created and mainstreamed into the national curriculum. Dealing with the history of the war and employing popular education methodology, the materials seek to raise the consciousness of a new generation.

The Association for Justice and Reconciliation (AJR) and the Center for Legal Action and Human Rights (CALDH), two of the principal human rights organizations in the country, are prosecuting high-level perpetrators during the time of the conflict. Specifically, AJR is bringing charges of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes against former military leaders during the “scorched earth” campaign of the late 1970s and early 80s.

The assessment team concluded in its final report that “the IPJ has specific and relevant skills that can support Guatemalans in the struggle to secure peace with justice following the internal armed conflict.” Over the course of the current academic year, the institute is following up in various ways, with the aim of developing a full-fledged program on Guatemala.

In September, Helen Mack, founder and president of the Myrna Mack Foundation and a pre-eminent human rights leader in Guatemala, spoke at the Women PeaceMakers Conference, “Crafting Human Security in an Insecure World.” During her presentation she remarked, “The battle against impunity has been led by women. From the field of justice administration to social organizations, and even within the academic world, the media, the arts – women are developing discourses and concrete activities to challenge the mechanisms of impunity and their agents.”

Mack joined 2004 Woman PeaceMaker Luz Méndez, chair of the board of the National Union of Guatemalan Women, as one of two Guatemalan speakers at the conference.

Please see <http://peace.sandiego.edu> for future events related to Guatemala. To read the final report of the Guatemala Assessment Trip, please see http://peace.sandiego.edu/documents/reports/trips/guatemala/2008/06-08GuatemalaAssessment_FinalReport.pdf.

Guatemala is “a long way from justice,” in the words of an expert interviewed in the country by an IPJ assessment team in June. Partially funded through a grant from USD's International Center, Program Officer Elena McCollim and, at the time, Senior Program Officer Laura Taylor, assessed the country's current situation and how the institute might engage and support those seeking a durable peace with justice.

Daily Guatemalan media coverage of murders (98 percent of which go unsolved); the fact that the judiciary is crippled by “corruption, intimidation [and] bureaucratic ineptness”; and expert analysis – provided by an array of diplomats, government officials,

IPJ NEPAL PROJECT

- In October the IPJ partnered with the Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP), a D.C.-based membership organization, to convene a “Collaboration Connection” on Nepal. Dee Aker, interim executive director, Chris Groth, IPJ graduate intern, and Laura Taylor, former senior program officer, shared the IPJ Nepal Project with two dozen AfP members. Following presentations, the participants assessed their collective strengths for meeting the current needs in the Nepali peace process.

- In July Shobha Shrestha, representing South Asia Partnerships – Nepal (SAP-Nepal), an IPJ Nepal Project in-country partner, presented at a U.N. meeting to review progress on the U.N. Programme of Action on Small Arms. Shrestha spoke on the role of civil society and the Geneva Declaration Process.

- “Electing Peace: Polls Mark Progress in Nepal,” an article by Laura Taylor, and “If Not Now, When?” written by Dee Aker, appeared in the June 2008 and October-November 2008 editions, respectively, of *Today's Youth Asia*.

- The documentary, “Reversing the Ripples of War,” produced by the IPJ's film partner Sun & Moon Vision Productions, aired on Nepali TV in July. Highlighting the 2005 Women PeaceMakers, the film was translated into Nepali and reached approximately 200,000 viewers across two districts of Nepal through Golden Eye Television in Pokhara. Outreach and awareness-building prior to the broadcast were conducted by Manabiya Srot Bikas Kendra Nepal (MSBK-Nepal), an IPJ Nepal Project in-country partner.



Shobha Shrestha (right) speaking at the United Nations, along with director of the International Action Network on Small Arms, Rebecca Peters



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IPJ MISSION

Fostering Peace, Cultivating Justice and Creating a Safer World. Through education, research and peacemaking activities, the IPJ offers programs that advance scholarship and practice in conflict resolution and human rights. The IPJ draws upon Catholic social teaching that sees peace as inseparable from justice and acts to prevent and resolve conflicts that threaten local, national and international peace.

PEACE & JUSTICE COMPASS

The Peace & Justice Compass newsletter is published by the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies.

An online version of this newsletter can be found at <http://peace.sandiego.edu> together with additional information about IPJ programs and activities. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the University of San Diego.

President, University of San Diego
Mary E. Lyons, Ph.D.

Provost, University of San Diego
Julie H. Sullivan, Ph.D.

Dean, Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
William Headley, C.S.Sp., Ph.D.

Interim Executive Director
Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice
Dee Aker, Ph.D.

Editor, Peace & Justice Compass
Emiko Noma, M.S.

Contributors
Dee Aker, Karla Alvarez, Stelet Kim, Diana Kutlow, Erika Lopez, Melissa Lucas, Elena McCollim, Emiko Noma and Denise Schrantz

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PEACE TALKS & JUSTICE MATTERS

By IPJ Interim Executive Director Dee Aker



While unrest and insecurity around the globe seem daunting, positive steps in conflict prevention and transformation are taking place. Collaborative approaches to peacebuilding with greater cooperation among diverse stakeholders are resulting in legitimate, sustainable movements away from conflict and toward expanded, principled peace efforts. Antidotes to war systems are found in peace partnerships.

Creating dynamic and strategic partnerships is both a responsibility and a challenge that civil society organizations (CSOs) and legitimate governments are taking on. At the annual Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP) conference in October, fellow members and associates from North America and abroad who are heading nongovernmental organizations and university institutes focused on expanded approaches to "whole community" collaborations.

Many CSOs are taking the lead in building multi-sector partnerships. These organizations often have better information about what is taking place on the ground, and they can work in areas where governments cannot. They frequently speak to parties the governments cannot reach, as well as deal with social change issues governments cannot tackle. They can identify policy gaps and clarify the discontent that needs to be addressed by governments and good legislation. While government institutions and security actors may have the technical and operational mechanisms to implement reasonable programs, they may not have the trust or mandate to meet the public's concerns.

The approach of connecting civil society with government actors to secure peace with justice has been IPJ's rationale since its inception. When the IPJ first convened politicians, journalists and human rights leaders from Nepal in 2001, it was in part to facilitate the formation of a link between civil society actors and political elites confronted with growing violence and public distrust. Over the years, our work and that of others - designed to open channels for responsible multi-level engagement - seem to have increased the willingness of the powers at the top to hear the voices from the rest of society, and vice versa. Nepal recently became the second country in the world to have a Ministry of Peace.

During the AfP conference, the U.S. Department of Defense's Consortium for Complex Operations and the Conflict Prevention Unit of the Department of State's Office on Reconstruction and Stabilization joined those of us from CSOs to explore common conflict prevention options. Back home at the IPJ, our own international conference on human security had a diversity of CSOs and security and government representatives looking at how to inform and support one another in addressing violence in and after conflict.

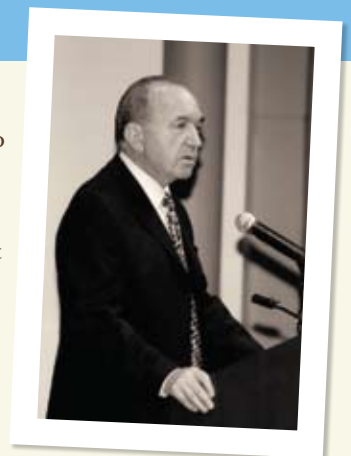
As you read this newsletter about the world of civil society actors like the Women PeaceMakers, former executive director Joyce Neu, WorldLink youth and IPJ interns, you may sense deeply that the primary organizing principle inspiring their work is that a peaceful society is built on respect and collaboration.

IPJ HONORED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACEBUILDING WORK

- In October 2008, the IPJ received the Digna Ochoa Human Rights Defender Award from the North County San Diego chapter of Amnesty International for its efforts to protect human rights as they are defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- In recognition of the institute's work in Nepal, Project Concern International named the IPJ to its South and Southeast Asia Honor Roll in November 2008.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

- Richard Goldstone, former chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, was awarded the MacArthur Award for International Justice. Goldstone was a 2003 distinguished lecturer and eminent leader in residence in 2005 at the IPJ.
- Jane Holl Lute was named U.N. Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and will head the U.N. office tasked with assisting countries around the world to stabilize and rebuild their economies and societies after armed conflict.



International Council member
Richard Goldstone

WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM

A DAY IN THE LIVES OF THE WOMEN PEACEMAKERS

Every fall, the IPJ comes alive with the presence of four very special women, its Women PeaceMakers. During their time in San Diego they engage with the USD and local communities through speaking engagements and classroom visits, and have their stories documented by Peace Writers and the documentary film team of Sun & Moon Vision Productions (SMVP). While their lives and courageous work in their home countries are shared through these different mediums, their everyday lives here in San Diego sometimes remain a mystery. This is an opportunity to share a "typical day" for these individuals whose personalities and rich experiences bring so much to the USD campus.

5:30 a.m.

It is dawn over the Garden of the Sea and the Casa de la Paz, the small Spanish-style guest house where the peacemakers reside. Life begins to stir as Shinjita Alam, Sylvie Maunga Mbanga, Zandile Nhlengetwa and Olenka Ochoa – brought together by their quest for peace – begin their day.

6:15 a.m.

The PeaceMakers check their e-mail and call friends and family in distant time zones to stay connected to events back home.

8:30 a.m.

Sylvie and Shinjita meet over coffee with undergraduate students wanting to hear firsthand about the conflicts they learn about on the news and in the classroom. Zandile chats under a tree with a student reporter from USD's *The Vista*, while Olenka hops on her bike to get to know the campus that is her home, if only for a short while.



Dzenovska interviews peacemaker Alam in the IPJ's Garden of the Sea

the campus looking for a quiet place to share stories of work and life and probe sensitive issues that have sometimes been left untouched for many years.

11:30 a.m.

Writers return to their offices to work on the stories they have just heard, as the PeaceMakers grab lunch and prepare for the rest of the day.

12:30 p.m.

Zandile walks to the mail center to send fabric back to South Africa for her community income-generating projects. Olenka attends a local City Council meeting to observe how it differs from Municipal Council meetings in her hometown of Lima. Shinjita meets with M.A. students in the Peace and Justice Studies program who are studying Bangladesh, while Sylvie networks by phone and e-mail with American organizations fighting to end sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

1:30 p.m.

All four PeaceMakers walk down the Marian Way hill to attend English class, provided through USD's English Language Academy. They laugh over mistakes and difficulties in pronunciation, and learn new idiomatic English expressions.

3:00 p.m.

Olenka pays a visit to Father Joe's Villages in downtown San Diego to learn about their projects for underserved communities. Sylvie meets with a professor in the Political Science department, as Zandile lectures on the legacy of apartheid in South Africa to an African History class. Shinjita diligently works in the Casa on her talk for their community visit to the American Association of University Women, and on her PowerPoint presentation for the Women PeaceMakers Panel.



Mbanga participating in the Women PeaceMakers Conference

4:30 p.m.

Volunteers arrive to take the PeaceMakers to buy groceries and sightsee. Olenka chooses to visit the local beaches, as Zandile and her volunteer head to Fashion Valley to window shop and try new flavors of ice cream. Sylvie and Shinjita purchase laptops for work and families back home, and then stop by the Asian market for fresh fish.

6 p.m.

Dinner. The PeaceMakers try preparing new foods they have purchased. Sharing spices and flavors from different continents, they teach one another music and dances from their regions – often accompanied by YouTube videos.

7 p.m.

Sylvie's filming session with SMVP begins on the first floor of the Casa, and for the next three hours she tells of her childhood and family, the political situation in the DRC and her work on various levels to protect women from violence. Shinjita and Olenka head off to a lecture on campus, while Zandile stays home to watch news about the upcoming American elections. Her interview with her Peace Writer the following morning will be peppered with questions about the American electoral system.

11:30 p.m.

The women prepare to sleep and get ready for the busy weekend ahead. Olenka will join a humanitarian visit with the Trans-Border Institute, leaving bottles of water for people crossing the desert from Mexico to the U.S. Zandile has many activities planned with a local church in which she has become active. She will join Shinjita and Sylvie to attend a candlelight walk for human rights, organized by a local chapter of Amnesty International. The weekend is also eagerly anticipated, as a volunteer will arrive Sunday morning to take them to Disneyland!

2008 WOMEN PEACEMAKERS AND PEACE WRITERS

Shinjita Alam - Bangladesh

In one of the poorest countries in the world, Shinjita Alam has dedicated much of her life to highlighting the connection between poverty and conflict, especially regarding the treatment of women in the domestic sphere and its repercussions for development. After working for several years in the agricultural and job creation programs for the Bangladesh office of the Mennonite Central Committee - where she managed income-generating projects for women and mediated many domestic disputes within families - Alam initiated and oversaw their peace program, the first of its kind in Bangladesh.

Sylvie Maunga Mbanga - Democratic Republic of the Congo

Sylvie Maunga Mbanga, a trained lawyer, works with local organizations in the fight against sexual violence against women in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Formerly the coordinator of the program against sexual violence for the Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation and Church in Action, as well as the program officer for the peacebuilding and conflict transformation program at the Life and Peace Institute, Mbanga consults for other agencies and groups, providing counseling and legal services to victims of rape and sexual violence.

Zandile Nhlengetwa - South Africa

A survivor of the political violence that affected her home province of KwaZulu-Natal, Zandile Nhlengetwa is known in her community for her ability to bring calm and stability to potentially volatile situations. She is a community project coordinator for the organization Survivors of Violence, where she designs peacebuilding intervention strategies for communities that have experienced high levels of violence, both during apartheid and now in the post-conflict era when criminal violence is prevalent. Her work includes conducting trauma healing workshops for survivors and developing income-generating programs to alleviate the effects of poverty.

Olenka Ochoa - Peru

An activist for human rights during the brutal civil war which began in the 1980s and throughout the authoritarian presidency of Alberto Fujimori in the 1990s, Olenka Ochoa continues to fight violence and discrimination against women in Peru. Ochoa founded the first shelter for battered women in San Juan de Lurigancho and later designed the innovative project "Keepers of the Peace," which involved at-risk youth in combating violence and discrimination. From 1999 to 2002 she served as an elected member of the Metropolitan Lima Municipal Council, developing alternative security strategies to protect women and founding the first commission of women in the municipality.



(l-r) Freeman, Mbanga, Morales-Egan, Ochoa, Alam, Dzenovska, Simoni, Nhlengetwa

Ilze Dzenovska

Ilze Dzenovska, a graduate of the M.A. program in Peace and Justice Studies at USD, was born in Riga, Latvia. Her previous work and research encompassed areas such as victims' rights advocacy, gender equality, restorative justice and police reform projects at the Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS in Latvia.

Jennifer Freeman

Jennifer Freeman has an M.A. in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. She has worked with various nongovernmental organizations in Ghana, the United Kingdom, Canada and in Ugandan refugee settlements on issues of women's rights and peacebuilding through sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response.

Alicia Simoni

Alicia Simoni has an M.A. from the University of Notre Dame's Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. She has worked for The AIDS Support Organization in Uganda, researching the role of masculinity in peacebuilding, and for Women for Women International, most recently as a monitoring and evaluation officer.

Bianca Morales-Egan

Bianca Morales-Egan is a graduate of USD and American University, where she received a master's degree in International Development. She recently worked in the research department at the Center for Victims of Torture in Minnesota and has coordinated a girl's youth mentoring program for the Liberian Women's Initiatives of Minnesota.



WPM DOCUMENTATION NOW IN RESOURCE LIBRARY ON SECURITY

Materials produced in the IPJ Women PeaceMakers Program are available on the IPJ's Web site. Additionally, they are now listed in the Inclusive Security Resource Library, compiled by the Initiative for Inclusive Security. The materials include the narrative stories of peacemakers and the final reports from previous Women PeaceMakers Conferences. The resource library can be accessed at http://www.huntalternatives.org/pages/7_the_initiative_for_inclusive_security.cfm.

WORLDLINK

PROFILES OF WORLDLINK INTERN PROJECTS

Each year, WorldLink staff select outstanding young leaders to participate in a specialized high school internship program during the fall, spring and summer semesters. From establishing recycling campaigns to building schools in South Africa, these 2008 WorldLink Interns are already taking bold steps to make a difference in their communities and world.



Milia Fisher is a senior at Francis Parker School where she established the Free the Children Club, an extension of the Canada-based Free the Children organization. She is leading a committee to raise \$8,000 to build a school in South Africa and send a student delegation to build it in Summer 2009.



Thania Herrera is a senior at CETYS Universidad (Centro de Enseñanza Técnica y Superior). Herrera was born and raised in Tijuana, Mexico, and is a dedicated leader promoting community awareness about ecological issues through events and recycling campaigns. Herrera has been recognized at international youth conferences and works with the Tijuana city government to improve the city's urban environment.



Alec Howard, a senior at Cathedral Catholic High School, created the first WorldLink Club at his high school in Fall 2008. WorldLink staff at the IPJ are working with Howard to establish a model for creating WorldLink Clubs at all participating schools.



Sierra Parker, a junior at High Tech High International, joined her school's O Ambassadors club where she works with her peers to raise money and awareness on issues affecting Latin America. The club's project is to sell 100-percent-cotton tote bags sewn by club members. All of the proceeds are donated to development projects working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America.



Jessica Wilson is a junior at La Jolla Country Day School. Born in Cairo, Egypt, Wilson often gives presentations about her experience as a Muslim student in a Judeo-Christian community and her work with peers to create a diversity awareness program for the school's incoming freshmen.

PROMOTING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS AT USD'S SOCIAL ISSUES CONFERENCE

In October program administrators and young leaders from the IPJ's WorldLink Program and High Tech High International (HTHI) joined forces to demonstrate the global power of youth. USD's Social Issues Conference, "Inspiring Social Change through Education," provided an opportunity to highlight effective projects that place a unique focus on global education — and are created by youth.

Karla Alvarez, WorldLink program coordinator, noted that the 2007 U.N. World Youth Report concluded that too many young people feel that their views do not matter, they cannot influence outcomes and democracy does not work for them. This in turn has led youth to react through protest, violence or — at the other end of the spectrum — apathy and ignorance. WorldLink, Alvarez continued, was created because of the need to include young people in global discussion, and evolved into a program that provides a space for their voices to be heard and valued.

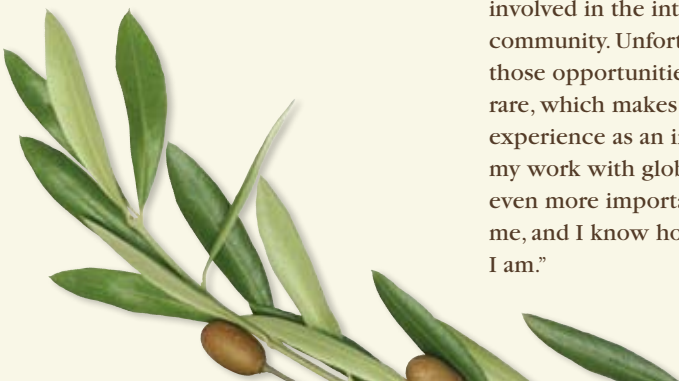
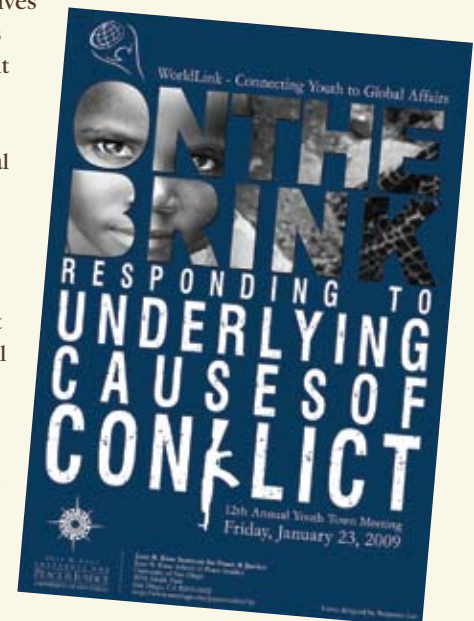
Elika Dadsetan, teacher at HTHI, explained that the High Tech High school model is based on personalization and adult world connection. As a school with an international focus, HTHI collaborates with several community partners that include sister schools, exchange programs and nonprofit organizations for international service trips, providing plenty of opportunities for students to become involved.

“WorldLink manages to break away from the textbook learning most of us are used to and gives us real life experiences in its place.”

JAY BARTELL

Jay Bartell and Sierra Parker, both juniors at HTHI and WorldLink Interns, spoke about their projects and experiences as a result of receiving an education with a global focus. “The knowledge I have obtained from WorldLink and HTHI has only just begun to make an impact on my thinking. WorldLink manages to break away from the textbook learning most of us are used to and gives us real life experiences in its place. I believe the end result will be an entirely new state of mind as I go into a future career on a national or global level,” shared Bartell.

Parker added, “I find it vital for myself and other youth to have opportunities to get involved in the international community. Unfortunately, those opportunities are rare, which makes my experience as an intern and my work with global affairs even more important to me, and I know how lucky I am.”



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

2008 FALL INTERNS

Elisabetta Colabianchi is a senior at USD, majoring in Biology and Spanish with minors in Peace and Justice Studies and Italian. She has studied in Milan, Italy; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Guadalajara, Mexico. During an internship at the Botanical Garden Cascina Rosa in Milan, Colabianchi worked on a research project focusing on bio-diesel as an alternative fuel source. She has also worked at USD's Student Health Center and volunteered at the San Diego chapter of the American Red Cross and USD's Romero Center for Faith in Action. In the future she plans to continue her focus on sustainability and development.

Chris Groth received a B.A. in Social Science and Sociology from the University of California, Irvine (UCI), in June 2003, and an M.A. in International Relations from USD in May 2006, where his thesis was entitled "Crisis in the Taiwan Strait: An Avoidable Situation?" While at USD he published "In the Trenches: Fighting Mexico's War without End," in *Comparative Politics and the War on Terror*. (See Intern Spotlight below.)

Carolyn Smith is a senior at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), planning to graduate in September 2009 with a degree in Political Science/International Relations and a minor in Human Development. She interned with U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona, where she researched issues of health care and immigration in support of Kyl's work on the Finance and Judiciary Committees. Smith serves as director of service and outreach at the Golden Key International Honour Society at UCSD and has interned at the *La Jolla Light* newspaper. Smith plans to pursue a career in international aid work and diplomacy.

Alexandra Wolters is a senior at USD, majoring in Political Science with minors in Peace and Justice Studies and Sociology. She completed a semester of study in Uganda in Fall 2007, through the Uganda Development Studies program of the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vt. Wolters then returned to Uganda in the summer of 2008, where she worked in the maternity ward of a hospital in Gulu. She has worked as an office assistant at the organization Invisible Children, volunteered as a tutor and coordinator at the Southern Sudanese Community Center and attended the Lobby Days for Northern Uganda event in Washington, D.C. She plans to pursue a medical career after graduation.



Fall 2008 Interns (l-r) Groth, Smith, Wolters and Colabianchi

INTERN SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS GROTH

Producing "In Focus" boxes for the final report from the 2008 Women PeaceMakers Conference, researching and reporting on current events in Nepal and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) for the institute's *Peace & Justice Update*, participating in conference calls concerning the IPJ Nepal Project - that's all in a day's work for the IPJ's first graduate intern, Chris Groth.*

"It is exciting to think that I'm, in some small way, a part of supporting post-conflict efforts for democracy [in Nepal]."

CHRIS GROTH

Groth's research interests and travel experience - which extend far beyond his Southern California roots - prepared him well for the expansive issues and numerous tasks he handles each day at the institute. Shortly before graduating high school in the South Bay area of San Diego, he visited 13 European countries in five weeks - a trip that sparked his interest in international relations. He attended UCI where he concentrated on U.S.-Mexico border issues, and then chose USD to pursue his M.A. in International Relations. Groth selected the school for its small class sizes and intimate classroom feel - and its proximity to his family and soon-to-be wife, Christine Cruz - and after taking political

science courses on Japan and China, developed a strong interest in the dynamic East and South Asia region. His work as an IPJ intern covering the conflict in the DRC has also allowed him to pursue his most recent research interest, the role of U.N. peacekeeping operations.

"As cliché as it sounds, I really like to know that I'm making a difference," Groth reflects as he discusses his IPJ internship and part-time job at SRA International, where he works on projects related to state and local emergency preparedness and response. Though he feels the SRA work is important, he finds his work at the IPJ more rewarding because of "the potential positive impact that it can have to help others in conflict-affected areas."

He provides the example of Nepal, where "the institute has been on the ground at critical times" over the past few years. As a graduate student Groth followed the historic events in the country, and now, "It is exciting to think that I'm, in some small way, a part of supporting post-conflict efforts for democracy."

*The IPJ Internship Program, typically one semester, has expanded to include one graduate intern position. The graduate intern will work at the institute for a full academic year to provide continuity for programming and staff, and to mentor incoming interns. Chris Groth will serve as graduate intern for the 2008-2009 academic year.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

ARBOUR REFRAMES THE “GLASS PILLAR”



Serving as the opening lecturer of the 2008-2009 Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series and the keynote speaker for the Women PeaceMakers Conference, the Honorable Louise Arbour addressed an

overflow theatre on September 24 on “Integrating Security, Development and Human Rights.”

Arbour began her lecture with an overview of the fundamentals: The U.N. architecture was designed to rest equally on three pillars – security, development and human rights. However, with the clarity gained from serving as chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, as a judge on the Supreme Court of Canada and most recently as the U.N. High Commissioner on Human Rights, she described the relationship in much different terms. In her view, the pillar of security is made of concrete, development is made of steel and human rights of glass: “fragile, invisible most of the time, decorative at best, requiring only the occasional buffing to make sure that if seen it would look good.”

Despite this, Arbour went on to argue that “the glass pillar of the U.N. architecture is very much in the process of trying to reassert itself as a truly indispensable feature of the legitimate quest for human security.”

She proclaimed herself an optimist despite the slow intellectual transformation in the international community from a state’s right to intervene into the emerging doctrine of the responsibility to protect – an obligation “to take timely appropriate action, not just to support a struggling state, but to overtake a defaulting one.” Only through the effective implementation of this philosophy will “the necessary linkages between security and development” and a “human rights vision that is truly universal” be realized.

“The glass pillar of the U.N. architecture is very much in the process of trying to reassert itself as a truly indispensable feature of the legitimate quest for human security.”

LOUISE ARBOUR, FORMER U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

On the eve of the 60th anniversary of both the Genocide Convention and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Arbour left the audience with hope – and a challenge, saying, “the full participation of the United States will be critical, not only within the Security Council where [the U.S.] occupies ... a privileged position, but also within the Human Rights Council, where by choice it occupies currently no seat.”

Nevertheless, she ardently affirms that “the biggest steps have already been taken” by the framers of these articles and that “a legal landscape is emerging on which peace and security will be enhanced by the ascendance of an international legal order.”

IPJ INSIDER

IPJ AND HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH BRING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT TO USD

The art galleries at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice focused San Diego’s attention on human rights issues in China and around the world with a Human Rights Watch photography exhibit entitled “China’s Olympian Human Rights Challenges.”

The exhibit, labeled “a moving collection” by one local viewer, opened on the final weekend of the Olympic Games in Beijing. Photography by Dutch photographer Kadir van Lohuizen chronicled the experiences of those whose rights were violated in the process of preparing for the games. Migrant workers, residents who were evicted from their homes and petitioners whose settlement was demolished before the games were brought to life in the exhibit. An accompanying collection of photographs entitled “Frontlines: In the Field with Human Rights Watch” highlighted human rights violations in Darfur, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United States and the Middle East.

A September 17 talk by Carroll Bogert, associate director of Human Rights Watch, examined China’s human rights record leading up to the Olympic Games and particularly the challenges for media in covering human rights under close scrutiny by Chinese officials.

The exhibit closed with a presentation by Human Rights Watch’s Business and Human Rights Director Arvind Ganesan on November 6. Ganesan, who wrote a chapter in *China’s Great Leap: The Beijing Games and Olympian Human Rights Challenges*, broadened the discussion to look at the complicity of business around the world in human rights violations.



Conference delegates view the Human Rights Watch photography exhibit

FORMER STAFF MEMBERS IN THE FIELD AND THE CLASSROOM

Joyce Neu — Former Executive Director

In March 2008, Joyce Neu became team leader of the new Standby Team of



Mediation Experts, supporting the U.N. Department of Political Affairs. She is now leading and coordinating the work of four other experts in the areas of constitution-making, power-sharing agreements, security and human rights and transitional justice.

Members of the team have been deployed to Botswana, Comoros, Cyprus, Djibouti,

Ethiopia, Kenya, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Senegal and South Africa. While in Djibouti for preparatory talks between the parties to conflict in Somalia, Neu supported the mediating role of Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Somalia, Ahmedou Ould Abadallah, who participated in the IPJ's Dedicatory Conference in 2001.

But it was her work in Comoros that Neu labeled "the most interesting work I've done so far. ... The African Union Special Envoy is leading a mediation process between the government of the Union of the Comoros and the opposition (the three governments of the three islands that make up the Comoros). ... [T]he United Nations was happy to be able to partner with the African Union on this."

For a full article on the Standby Team see www.un.org/Depts/dpa/newsletters/PS-SF08.pdf.



Laura Taylor — Former Senior Program Officer

Laura Taylor is pursuing a dual Ph.D. in Psychology and Peace Studies in the inaugural doctoral class at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She will be working with colleagues in the psychology department on a longitudinal study of conflict processes at the levels

of individuals, families and communities in Northern Ireland. A decade after the Good Friday Agreement, much progress has been made to address sectarian tensions between Catholics and Protestants. The study seeks to address the long-term effects of political violence and on-going intergroup conflict, and could provide a framework to understand renewed conflict in the future or the stabilization of the peace process in Northern Ireland. Where appropriate, this research may serve as the foundation for informed interventions and generalized to other conflict settings.

HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT JOINS IPJ

Dustin Sharp — Senior Program Officer

Dustin Sharp, J.D., is working as senior program officer to expand the institute's overseas peacebuilding programs. He has a background in human rights and international law and five years of field experience on issues related to human rights, transitional justice and educational development. Previously, Sharp worked at Human Rights Watch where he was responsible for designing and implementing research and advocacy strategies in Francophone West Africa, with an emphasis on countries in conflict such as Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. He researched and authored reports on police torture, prison conditions, excessive use of force by security forces, and violent pro-government youth groups. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Sharp has served as an attorney-adviser at the U.S. Department of State where he represented the United States in multilateral treaty negotiations and advised the Bureau of International Organization Affairs on matters concerning U.N. law and international institutional law. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guinea from 1996-98, and has a B.A. in English from the University of Utah.



Dustin Sharp

Tison Kelly — Web Developer

Tison Kelly, IPJ Web developer, is a Web software engineer specializing in User Interface Design and User Experience. He has developed Web applications for the U.S. Navy, Federal Aviation Administration, PBS affiliates and C.B. Richard Ellis. Kelley has a B.S. in Information Studies & Technology from Syracuse University. He also helped found a nonprofit organization for multiple sclerosis research in Syracuse.

Melissa Lucas — Event Assistant

Melissa Lucas, event assistant, is working primarily on the Distinguished Lecture Series and Daylight Series. She earned a B.A. in Spanish with a minor in Communication Studies from the University of San Diego. A native of Minnesota, Lucas lived in Spain for one year as an undergraduate and has traveled throughout Europe and Latin America. Prior to the IPJ, Lucas worked as the meeting and event coordinator at the Hotel del Coronado in Coronado, Calif.

IPJ INSIDER CONTINUED

BUILDING BRIDGES IN THE FIELD

“Global, Green, Digital” – Compton Foundation

Karla Alvarez, WorldLink program coordinator, attended the “Global, Green, Digital” conference of Compton Foundation grantees in San Francisco, Calif., on August 26. Over 25 representatives from nonprofit organizations working with youth reflected on the impact of the Compton grants and shared some observations of today’s youth in relation to race, identity, technology and going green. WorldLink was a Compton Foundation grantee from 2002 to 2004.

“Reaffirming Human Rights for All” – United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO)

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the U.N. DPI/NGO committee held its 61st annual conference. The forum was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from September 3 to 5. Senior Program Officer Diana Kutlow attended the conference and coordinated a caucus on conflict prevention and resolution, with the assistance of rapporteur Christina Papazoglou, the human rights program executive for the World Council of Churches.

“Building Cultures of Peace” – Peace and Justice Studies Association

Emiko Noma, editor, presented at the annual conference of the Peace and Justice Studies Association, held this year in Portland, Ore., from September 12 to 14. Her presentation, “Sparks and Smoke: Unrest in Cameroon,” explored the potential for pronounced violent conflict in the Central/West African nation. It drew on her experiences in the country in April 2008, when she traveled there with IPJ’s film partner Sun & Moon Vision Productions to document the work of Woman PeaceMaker Susana Tenjoh-Okwen.

“Conflict Studies: The New Generation of Ideas” – Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution at the University of Massachusetts Boston

Noma also presented at a conference at the University of Massachusetts Boston on October 31. Based on her work in the Women PeaceMakers Program, she presented her master’s thesis, “Women Taking Agency During Violent Conflict,” analyzing the peacebuilding work of four IPJ Women PeaceMakers.

JOAN B. KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

Q & A WITH AMI CARPENTER, PH.D.



Ami Carpenter is assistant professor of conflict resolution and the first full-time faculty member of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies.

1. When you began your work here, you remarked, “I don’t have all the answers, I just have a lot of interesting questions.” What are some of those questions?

My primary research interest is how to build community capacity for conflict prevention, whether it’s youth and gang violence, or tribal warfare in Afghanistan. I’m particularly interested in communities that have adapted in places where the power of the central state is weak, how they police themselves and create peaceful intra and inter-communal relationships; for instance, the Sungusungu of Tanzania; tribal cooperation in Amara, Iraq; or the emergence of rural mediation and community policing programs in Guatemala. Some questions around this general interest are: What social institutions give rise to adaptive capacity in a community? How can international development programs strengthen a community’s adaptive capacity without smothering it? What kind of “vertical linkages” are necessary to bridge communities with other levels of social control (i.e., private and state)?

2. What scholar in the field of conflict analysis and resolution has influenced you most profoundly and why?

There are several: Michael Lund for his pioneering work on preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention; also in this category is Bruce

Jentleson. John Paul Lederach for emphasizing reconciliation in peacebuilding; Vamik Volkan for his insights into collective identity and chosen traumas. Christopher Mitchell has been my mentor and chair during my Ph.D. candidacy. I could go on. Like I tell my students, the trick isn’t perhaps to choose from among giants, but to integrate their explanations on different aspects of conflict – micro-processes of psychological functioning, to macro-processes of governance and economy, to global forces.

3. What has been your most valuable experience in the field or in the classroom?

When I was in Guatemala, I had the opportunity to see the intersection of development and conflict resolution in practice: USAID [United States Agency for International Development] and MercyCorps funded mediation centers in Alta Verapaz that were staffed by local people who had been trained to mediate different kinds of land conflicts. And it’s a program that has really worked to reduce the incidence of violence and build capacity for people to settle, work the land, send their kids to school and begin to thrive. But the field is different than the classroom. In the classroom, my most valuable experiences usually stem from asking a good question, one that gets students sharing and debating – and thinking. Those are learning moments for me, not just for them.

4. What are you looking forward to as you begin your work at the university?

Meeting everyone. Remembering names! Building collaborative relationships with other schools and departments, building on the good work being done all over campus on issues that we all care about – engaging with diversity, sustainability, seeking out and engaging different perspectives. Stoking constructive controversy. Connecting with our talented students. Reaching out across the border. Clearing off my desk.

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE



“Real peace is possible, if we work collectively to make it happen.” Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, used these words to encourage communities and individuals to prepare activities for the International Day of Peace in 2008. Nearly 50 peace and social justice organizations participated in the International Day of Peace Celebration on September 19, co-sponsored by the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (KSPS) and the IPJ with support from Americans for the Department of Peace.

Old and young, including Jackie Weyker of Kids for Peace, participated in the celebration

Established by a U.N. General Assembly Resolution in 1981, the day is designated for “commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples,” and is celebrated worldwide on September 21.

Commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Dee Aker, interim executive director of the IPJ, welcomed

the crowd by recalling the words of Eleanor Roosevelt, one of the authors of the declaration: “Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home.”

“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home.”

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Exhibits by local high school students raised awareness for environmental causes, global affairs and ways to promote sustainable living for youth in Tijuana. USD students learned about service opportunities in Africa provided by the Center for Awareness, Service and Action, and launched enrollment for the new campus club, USD Students for Peace.

The celebration included live music with vocalist and USD graduate Casey McKinley ('06), a troupe of multicultural, inner-city San Diego youth from the local TranscendANCE Youth Arts Project, and Native American chanting by Shirley Apple Murphy of the Oglala Sioux tribe.

Dean William Headley of KSPS motivated the crowd to increase their personal participation, remarking that “Peace begins with us. We cannot wait for the Gandhis, Martin Luther Kings or Mother Teresas. You are the ones we have been waiting for.”

M.A. STUDENTS IN PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES – 2008-2009



Front row from left: Qiuwan Zhao of China, Serena Clark, Sangita Nirola of Nepal, Wilco Otte of the Netherlands, Jill Covert, Kristen Kuriga, Tanya Susoev and Anu Lawrence. Back row from left: Patrick Wadri of Uganda, Cheryl Clark, Brooke Gonzales, Takeo Kuwabara, Marcia Megumi Luttio, Cassidy Whitaker and Leah Watkiss of Canada.

VOICES FROM THE CONFERENCE

“It has been a great learning curve for me, as I am sure for other participants. I feel this conference marks a benchmark in the series of initiatives being undertaken for implementing Security Council Resolution 1820 and consolidating the cause of women’s security.”

—Lt. Gen. Jasbir Singh Lidder, Indian Army

“I think it was the most moving experience I have probably ever had in my life. There are these situations going on all over the world, and we need to get people to come together and see them, so that we can think beyond our situations ... and change those situations.”

—student delegate

“Thanks to you all for a great conference! It made a profound effect on me, one that will enter my teaching and writing.”

—Kathleen Staudt, professor

“Being able to work across the lines with people from other sectors ... is very useful. A person working for the government being able to engage and work with a person working with civil society or a person working in academia – it is so powerful in terms of advocacy.”

—Alma Pérez, Colombian Mission to the United Nations



Lt. Gen. Jasbir Singh Lidder facilitates a working session

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

R. Scott Appleby

John M. Regan Jr. Director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

Lloyd Axworthy

President and Vice-Chancellor, The University of Winnipeg

Jimmy Carter

Founder/Trustee, The Carter Center; 39th President of the United States

Richard J. Goldstone

Former Justice, Constitutional Court, South Africa; Former Chief Prosecutor, International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda

Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C.

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U.S. Marine Corps (retired); Distinguished Advisor, Center for Strategic and International Studies



JOAN B. KROC
INSTITUTE FOR
PEACE & JUSTICE
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice
Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
University of San Diego

5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110-2492
Phone: (619) 260-7509
Fax: (619) 260-7570
<http://peace.sandiego.edu>