



*10 Years of Fostering Peace, Cultivating Justice, Creating a Safer World.*

# PEACE & JUSTICE COMPASS

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

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO'S JOAN B. KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

## FIGHTING CRIME WITH COMPASSION

by Marissa Wong, WorldLink journalist

On Jan. 21, 2011, more than 750 middle and high school students from San Diego and Tijuana gathered at the University of San Diego for WorldLink's 14th Annual Youth Town Meeting. This year's student-selected theme was "Crimes Without Borders: Threats to Human Security," focusing on the local, national and international implications of human trafficking, transnational gangs, terrorism, drugs and small arms.

Students of all classes, ethnicities and perspectives were confronted with the same question in the opening plenary: "What will your legacy be?" asked Jonathon White, a Drug Enforcement Administration agent. White encouraged students to realize their circle of influence and to use their power in it for the better, as "peace and compassion flow through relationships."

While I was truly inspired, I didn't understand how compassion could possibly make a dent in human and weapons trafficking, gangs and drugs. Yet throughout the day, I realized how wrong my preconceptions were. Youth are often cultured to believe that to fight an evil, we must be equally evil. We are surrounded by images of war, armed violence and recurring destruction. But the Youth Town Meeting showed its attendants that what the world really needs is compassion. While an AK-47 can immediately eliminate a problem in a person's life, compassion is what picks up the pieces and sews together the beginnings of new life.

A criminal intelligence analyst for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department identified a gang's offer of family and respect as one of the main reasons adolescents are drawn to criminal lifestyles. In the war against gangs, compassion is one of the most effective combatants. Youth must be shown that there are other means to a sense of belonging and acceptance.



High school student delegates from CETYS Universidad in Tijuana

that is the only place they will be accepted." Those lucky enough to escape do not always find justice upon their return home - they

Students in attorney Lilia Velasquez's briefing on human trafficking learned that the difficulty is not only finding and rescuing victims, but also keeping them out of the trafficking ring. "Fifty percent of rescue victims in India will go back [to their traffickers]," explained Velasquez, "because



A student delegate raises a question during a briefing session

changing mindsets in her own country by exposing deeply rooted prejudices between Christians and Muslims and building bridges of understanding.

"With compassion, we see [the humanity in others]," said an Instituto México Americano Noroeste student who identified with Palma's story. "We understand what makes them suffer." (For more on Palma's visit and work, see page 10.)

are often rejected by their own communities and families. For trafficking victims to truly re-create their lives, a shift in millions of mindsets around the world must occur.

Meriam Palma, a documentarian who focuses on the war-torn communities of Mindanao in the Philippines, spoke about

---

*"We are surrounded by images of war, armed violence and recurring destruction. But the Youth Town Meeting showed its attendants that what the world really needs is compassion."*

---

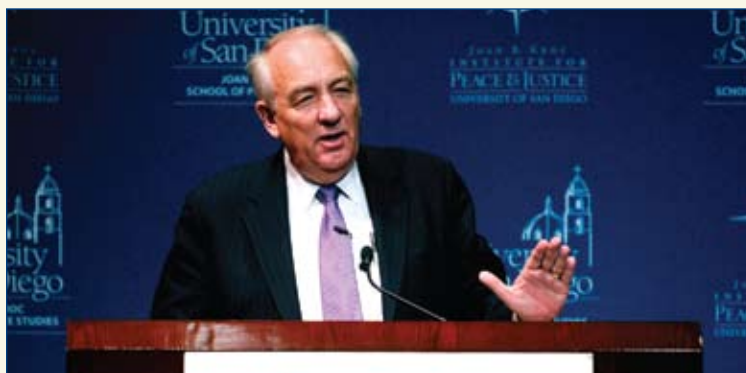
Countless causes have led to this conflict-stricken world: The lack of connection we feel to human life. The distance created by guns and bullets. The ability to dehumanize others and isolate them from society. The tendency to discard people we don't understand. But compassion can drive us toward a future without these realities.

In the words of WorldLink participant Maryanne Aguilar of High Tech High International, "Compassion drives people to want justice." We have the key, and as Jonathon White said, we have the circle of influence. Above all, we have a legacy to leave. What will your next move be?

Guest contributor Marissa Wong is a senior at High Tech High International.

# DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

## VOICES OF EXPERIENCE



*Ambassador Rapp addresses the challenges of achieving justice for victims of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity*

Building on an electrifying September presentation by Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, Monica McWilliams, the Distinguished Lecture Series brought in two very different but equally eminent speakers: Johan Galtung, the “father of peace studies,” and Stephen J. Rapp, U.S. ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues.

*“We owe it to all of humankind to make the institutions of national and international justice so effective that there is at least the possibility that it will deter the worst crimes known to humankind.”*

— STEPHEN RAPP

Galtung spent several hours with students before his public lecture on “Breaking the Cycle of Violent Conflict.” He challenged students – many of whom sought advice about the conflicts affecting their home countries, including South Korea, Nigeria and Sudan – to step back from the immediate facts of the conflict and dig deeper into the history and root causes in order to better understand the parties to the conflict and possible long-term solutions. Even in areas that saw no direct violence, he pointed out the structural violence that leaves certain groups with shorter life spans, little access to the benefits of commerce or government, and no voice in the development of their communities.

“Structural violence churns out suffering and death,” Galtung emphasized. “It can have the economic form of making basic satisfiers of human needs impossible for lack of cash or lack of possibilities for growing food. It can have the political form of repression. It can have the cultural form of alienation. And sooner or later, it will show up as suffering of various kinds.”

He returned to the IPJ Boardroom the following morning after students asked for more time to delve into the theories he has developed over 40 years of teaching and writing – and the mediation experience that has shaped those theories. He spoke of “human security” as providing basic needs that are non-negotiable: to be alive, to have a minimum level of physical well-being, and to have the freedom of choice, of the spirit and the mind. The process he shared with students of mapping conflict formation, determining legitimate goals of the parties and bridging those

goals sounded deceptively easy, but he acknowledged the difficulty in measuring results in conflict resolution.

One of the interesting elements of Galtung’s work as a mediator in over 100 conflicts has been his refusal to accept any government funding. It allows him complete freedom, he explained, because it prevents even the appearance of a conflict of interest or bias that can be toxic to peace processes.

Ambassador Rapp, on the other hand, represents the United States in the halls of governments and the homes of victims of war crimes all over the world, as he pushes for better understanding of international human rights law and justice for victims of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Rapp had previously served as a prosecutor in the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, where his office achieved the first convictions in history for leaders of mass media for the crime of direct and public incitement to commit genocide. And in the Special Court for Sierra Leone, Rapp achieved groundbreaking convictions for sexual slavery and forced marriage as crimes against humanity.

He arrived at the institute after several months of bone-wearying travel, touching down in almost every country where violent conflict is accompanied by atrocities and where justice systems have often been weakened by war.

After meeting with students to discuss post-conflict tribunals, special courts, the International Criminal Court (ICC) and other justice instruments, Rapp mingled with USD faculty, donors and special guests at a reception before presenting his talk on “Achieving Justice for the Victims of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.” With the United States involved in supporting or encouraging justice efforts

in multiple countries, Rapp handled wide-ranging questions from the audience on issues such as gender violence, the United States’ interaction with the ICC and the impact of justice on conflict prevention.



*Galtung talking with a student after his lecture*

“We owe it to all of humankind to make the institutions of national and international justice so effective that there is at least the possibility that it will deter the worst crimes known to humankind,” Rapp declared. The goal may be ambitious, but through his dedication and that of thousands of investigators, lawyers, civil society groups, judges, peacekeepers, military officers and courageous witnesses – including victims – the process has begun.

*To watch any of the Distinguished Lecture Series talks or read the transcripts or interviews with the speakers, go to <http://peace.sandiego.edu/dls>*



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

## 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.

## 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.

*Executive Director*  
Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice  
Milburn Line, M.A.

*Editor, Peace & Justice Compass*  
Kaitlin Barker and Emiko Noma, M.S.

*Contributors*  
Dee Aker, Marisa Alioto, Karla Alvarez, Kaitlin Barker, Ryan Blystone, Jennifer Freeman, Chris Groth, Diana Kutlow, Milburn Line, Elena McCollim, Emiko Noma, Meriam Palma, Dustin Sharp and Marissa Wong

*Design*  
Buchanan Design, San Diego

# PEACE TALKS & JUSTICE MATTERS

By Executive Director Milburn Line



On these pages you will find the IPJ engaging a broad spectrum of people on matters of peace and justice, from youth in Tijuana to women peacemakers in Nepal, West African rights advocates, historically excluded Mayans and our own U.S. military. The April 2011 congressional budget vote narrowly averted leaving private institutes and other civil society efforts as the only peace enterprises in the United States. While institutes like the IPJ can build bridges (page 5), conduct targeted field interventions (pages 4 and 5) and inform policy (below), they cannot replace substantive national policies and agencies dedicated to building just and peaceful societies.

The budget that passed Congress cut \$8 billion from international affairs efforts through the U.S. Institute of Peace, U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State. Counter to common misperceptions, the U.S. government only spends about 1 percent of its budget on foreign aid. The American Friends Service Committee estimates we spend \$720 million a day in Afghanistan and Iraq when we account for medical treatment of wounded veterans, replacing destroyed equipment, paying interest on the debt incurred and yearly operational costs. Are our peace, justice and development initiatives - which offer the possibility of preventing conflict and generating long-term social and political stability - not worth the equivalent of what we spend in a few days or weeks on two wars? Do the men and women who serve in our armed forces not deserve an investment that might preclude them from being called to risk their lives?

Looking back over history, the initiatives of peace and justice advocates have produced some of humanity's greatest achievements: the abolition of slavery, civil rights, decolonization, democratization, international law, nuclear disarmament regimes and voting rights for women. Peace efforts are not simply articulations of idealistic goals but increasingly built around the practices and methodologies of conflict prevention, truth-telling, pluralistic dialogue and negotiation and institutional reform, concepts readily apparent in the IPJ's fieldwork.

A 3D vision of security that builds on balanced efforts for development, diplomacy and defense has been advanced by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. Over time a peace architecture encompasses and strengthens our current concept of hard security by ensuring inclusive dialogue, participation and institutional response that can address both ongoing violence and structural violence, the injustices that underpin historic conflicts. We have begun to try to forge a vision for that peace architecture through the field projects, policy advocacy initiatives and civil-military dialogue you will find highlighted in these pages.

As we continue to be engaged in wars that cost hundreds of thousands of lives and trillions of dollars, the methods of preventing and transforming conflict - the science of peace and justice - is a resource we cannot afford to eliminate from our strategy.

## RECENT IPJ PUBLICATIONS ADVOCATE FOR POLICY CHANGES

**Peace & Justice Policy Brief - the IPJ's new occasional series designed to contribute to policy initiatives that address challenges in peacebuilding, human rights and conflict resolution**

Milburn Line. "Retooling U.S. Policy for Peace in Colombia." Feb. 11, 2011. [www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/publications/PolicyBriefs.php](http://www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/publications/PolicyBriefs.php)

### Women PeaceMakers Conference Report

Alicia Simoni. "Precarious Progress: U.N. Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security." Final Report. [http://catcher.sandiego.edu/items/peacestudies/2010\\_IPJ\\_Conference\\_Report.pdf](http://catcher.sandiego.edu/items/peacestudies/2010_IPJ_Conference_Report.pdf)

### Dee Aker and Jennifer Freeman

"Women are Essential to Peacebuilding." *Peace Policy*. November 2010.

"For real global security, put women in their place - at the negotiating table." *Christian Science Monitor*. Dec. 3, 2010.

### Milburn Line

"Eyes on the prize in China." *San Diego Union-Tribune*. Jan. 22, 2011.

"Don't Downsize Democracy - Here or Abroad." *Huffington Post*. March 2, 2011.

### IPJ Blog



For updates on the institute's work, opinion pieces, reports from the field and more, visit the IPJ Blog at <http://sites.sandiego.edu/ipj>

# IPJ IN THE FIELD

## NEPAL COUNTRY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT – SANO PAILA



Kanchan Jha (right) with IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker (left) in Nepal's Terai region

Sano Paila (“A Little Step”) is a community-based, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization in Birgunj, in the socially oppressed border region of the Terai in southern Nepal. Youth-founded and run, the average age of its executive committee is 28.

Sano Paila has built a network of over 1,000 volunteers, mostly students, throughout Parsa District with the ultimate goal of mobilizing their communities to raise awareness and solve local issues. As its 26-year-old founder and executive president, Kanchan Jha, says, “It is not always the government that can bring change. It is the people. We felt the need to do something, at least take a step – a little step – because as we all know, a long journey begins with a little step.”

Partnering with Sano Paila over the past year, the IPJ has had the opportunity to learn from and offer peacebuilding skills to this inspiring

group and members of the community they are serving. In early 2010, Jha attended an IPJ workshop about using a whole community approach to tackle problems being ignored by the government and security sectors. A few months later, in partnership with the district police office, district administration office and the Armed Police Force, Sano Paila members successfully encouraged farmers to switch from growing marijuana and opium to legal crops such as vegetables. The police had not been willing to risk this encounter alone, and the central government was largely ignoring the issue.

The initial results of the campaign have been positive, with drug farming currently at an all-time low in the district. Jha and his team are now creating sustainable livelihood programs for the farmers to prevent them from switching back to illicit crops.

The organization has received extensive recognition for its undertakings. It was selected as one of Asia’s 100 Young Entrepreneur and Social Changemaker Organizations for 2009-10 by the Foundation for Youth Social Entrepreneurship. For its efforts to stop drug trafficking, it was honored on Nepal Police Day 2010 by the Narayani Zonal Police Office and featured in an *Al Jazeera* story highlighting Nepal’s drug trafficking challenges. Jha was also recently chosen as one of Nepal’s top 50 aspiring youths by *ECS Nepal* magazine, and was a speaker at the WorldLink Youth Town Meeting in January.

## PURSuing JUSTICE IN QUICHÉ

*The following is a reflection from IPJ Executive Director Milburn Line, written while in the field.*

Returning to Guatemala’s highlands always brings on mixed emotions. Caught between knowledge of the unspeakable cruelty of the last 50 years and the vibrancy and resilience of people still working to achieve justice despite an egregious experience of repression, I find myself wondering: What can we realistically expect from our small project?

*“It may sound strange to be excited about a work plan, but what could be more rewarding than the opportunity to accompany these people in pursuit of justice in Quiché?”*

The Quiché department was the site of the worst violence during Guatemala’s civil war, and the legacies of impunity and violence are evident to this day. As we started our project in August 2010, the regional drug lord was gunned down on the streets of Santa Cruz. The government of Guatemala has declared a state of siege in the department of Alta Verapaz and deployed the army in Huehuetenango, immediately east and west, respectively, of Quiché, to try to stem the drug violence encroaching southward from Mexico. Guatemala vies with El Salvador and Honduras for the highest murder rate in the world, and 98 percent of crimes go unprosecuted.

Our Legal Empowerment in Quiché Project has spent the first six months working with locals to define how best to address current justice challenges like rampant violence against women, abuse of authority, and conflicts at the community level that often result in lynching. We began with a baseline survey to define the panorama of justice needs according to the priorities of locals. The project then organized a participatory strategic planning process with key actors in the justice sector and civil society. Now we are ready to put an operational plan together.

As I sit down with the team at the Barbara Ford Peace Center, the IPJ’s local partner, they have handed me a welcome surprise, something they hadn’t told me about beforehand: a seven-page draft of a work plan with 17 activities they have designed based on all our efforts to date. It may

sound strange to be excited about a work plan, but what could be more rewarding than the opportunity to accompany these people in pursuit of justice in Quiché?



Tapestry from the Barbara Ford Peace Center in Quiché (photo courtesy of Crystal Dujowich)

To follow the progress of the Legal Empowerment in Quiché Project, go to [www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/field/guatemala/LegalEmpowermentinQuicheProject.php](http://www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/field/guatemala/LegalEmpowermentinQuicheProject.php)

## Q&A WITH DUSTIN SHARP ON THE WEST AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING INITIATIVE



A human rights trainee in Guinea takes part in a recommendation drafting exercise in January 2011

*Dustin Sharp, assistant professor in the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, spent part of January training human rights advocates in two West African countries. The project is managed and funded by the IPJ and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA).*

**Q: Can you briefly describe where you were and what you were doing specifically?**

A: I spent 16 days divided between Conakry, Guinea, and Monrovia, Liberia, to launch a year-long training project with leading human rights organizations in both countries. The goal of the program is to sharpen advocacy skills and particularly the development of advocacy campaigns on the basis of solid field research and policy analysis. I call it research-based advocacy. The first phase of the training takes place in the classroom and includes role-play simulations, drafting exercises and other activities.

**Q: What are the next steps?**

A: Though the work in the classroom is an important start, the heart of the training exercise will come in the course of 2011 as the trainee organizations go out into their communities to document specific human rights violations, draft a report on the basis of that research and then use the report as a springboard for an advocacy campaign to try to change the situation. I will supervise the process, serving as trainer and mentor as each organization moves through the full, research-based advocacy cycle.

**Q: What progress or lack thereof do you see in this region since you started this project?**

A: Guinea and Liberia are located in a troubled and volatile neighborhood that has not known stability for the last 20 years. Though Guinea and Liberia are now much more stable than in previous years, renewed tensions in Cote d'Ivoire and continuing cross-border recruitment of mercenaries threaten some of the gains that have been made. Because the various conflicts that have devastated the sub-region since the early 1990s are so intertwined, we have chosen to work in all four countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone.

**Q: When does this project finish, and what do you see as next steps?**

A: The project should finish once the year-long training cycle in Cote d'Ivoire is completed in 2012. I am currently in discussions with OSIWA about possibilities for expansion of the work beyond 2012. But whether this particular project goes on, our relationship with local partners in the region will continue in one form or another. For example, I expect that in Summer 2011, several Kroc students will travel to Guinea and Liberia to serve as interns within the organizations I am training. It's one of the ways we are trying to build bridges between theory and practice here at the School of Peace Studies.

## WORLDLINK BRIDGES IN KENYA

*"Karibu! Hello, my name is Mercy. Welcome to Daraja."*

Then came Faith, Joan, Molly, Everlyn, Hadija ... until 77 warm hugs and bright smiles greeted IPJ Program Officer Karla Alvarez and a delegation of USD students and staff to the Daraja Academy in Nanyuki, Kenya. In partnership with USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES), the IPJ's WorldLink Program was invited to lead a series of workshops on leadership, gender, school success and global education at the secondary school.

*"There is a real hunger for education here."*

— DARAJA TEACHER

Daraja, Swahili for "bridge," was founded by USD and WorldLink alum Jason Doherty, who wanted to provide an education for girls with limited means in Kenya. The campus now thrives with 77 girls and 11 dedicated teachers.

It takes only a few hours to understand why these young women are referred to as WISH - Women of Integrity, Strength and Hope. Many of the Daraja students come from broken homes and extreme poverty. Were it not for Daraja's free high school education - including meals,



Program Officer Karla Alvarez (left) with Angel Chavarin and Leticia Fierro, both M.A. students in the SOLES counseling program, interviewing Maureen, a Form 3 Daraja student

school supplies and room and board - they would likely remain in their hometowns not attending school and forced to work. "There is a real hunger for education here," shared one of the teachers.

Daraja provided a platform to continue expanding WorldLink. Three M.A. students from SOLES worked with Alvarez to develop a documentary

questionnaire and workshop. The team interviewed 15 Daraja students, learning about their families, values and goals for improving Kenya.

All 77 students then participated in a WorldLink workshop exploring their concerns on various social justice issues. The discussions highlighted frustration and concern over the lack of access to education, especially for young women, and limited job prospects in Kenya. However, the students are acutely aware of their potential as youth and the role they play in the future of their country. They see education as the most vital step in improving their society and are committed to expanding opportunities for other young people's education in order to create a wiser, stronger generation of youth to lead Kenya.

In the coming months, WorldLink Interns will review the footage taken while in Kenya to create a documentary highlighting these young women's stories and dedication to make a difference in their communities.



# WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM

## THE MAKING OF A PEACEMAKER

*The Women PeaceMakers Program documents the stories and best practices of international women leaders who are involved in human rights and peacemaking efforts in their home countries. The following is an excerpt from the narrative story "A Smoldering Fire," from Empowered to Hope: The Life and Peacebuilding Work of Sarah Akoru Lochodo of Kenya, written by Peace Writer Sigrid Tornquist.*

*The full narrative and additional information on Lochodo and Kenya, as well as other narratives of the Women PeaceMakers, can be found at [www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/programs/women\\_peace\\_makers/publications/narratives](http://www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/programs/women_peace_makers/publications/narratives)*



Assistant Chief Lochodo with armed men in Turkana, Kenya

It was afternoon and the heat of the day was at its fullest. Sarah sat in the corner of her aunts' home in Kitale, baby Mellan at her breast. Flesh against flesh, warm and moist, Sarah and her baby shared a moment of quiet in the middle of the day, beads of sweat sealing their skin. ...

Sarah - Akoru to her aunts - rocked her body back and forth, humming a lullaby and encouraging the baby to welcome sleep when she looked up to see her Aunt Ekai entering the home. "Akoru," Ekai whispered. She stood in the doorway. Her face was bathed in shadow as the sun leaked into the house around her frame. She leaned against the door jam, her body bowed in grief, keening. "Akoru, Kainuk is finished."

"Finished?" Though the word made sense, its meaning didn't penetrate, so immersed was Sarah in the sleeping magic she shared with her child. "What do you mean *finished*?"

"The Pokots have raided," Sarah's aunt stopped, as her breath heaved and

swallowed her next words. "Aaaiiiiiiii." Ekai's knees folded and she cradled her own head in her hands. "So many..."

Ekai swayed, unable to speak, shaking her head and beating the dirt floor as Sarah pushed past her into the street, her baby still sleeping in her arms. ...

Smoke hovered above what was once the villages' hub. The air, heavy with the smell of razed homes, made her want to vomit - the spicy smell of charred wood from the huts' walls mingled with the sweet, noxious scent of melted plastic from jerrycans. And there was the smell of roasted flesh. ...

The villages that made up Kainuk Sublocation were quiet. Sarah could only imagine that those who had survived had fled. She walked through the villages to the center, still hot from fire. Hut after hut was charred, ash and smoke and sparks rising to the sky in a memorial offering. A mother's body, crisp and dark, lay circled around the remains of a child. *This is Akumoit's hut. This is her child.* Sarah took a few more steps. *This is Pastor David Ngorkit's house. These are his two children.* Sarah kept walking, the impact of what had happened surrounding her like a cloud with each body she passed. 27, 28, 29.

---

*"The villages that made up Kainuk Sublocation were quiet. ... She walked through the villages to the center, still hot from fire. Hut after hut was charred, ash and smoke and sparks rising to the sky in a memorial offering."*

---

White-headed vultures - *ngataruk* - circled silently above her, on their way to gather at some point further ahead on the path. She wished the birds would make some noise, that something would interrupt the silence of the place. She squinted her eyes and looked side to side, up and down, feeling a warning. Step by step, she approached the focal point of the birds.

A stick, sturdy and long, thrust into the ground like a flagpole. At the top, a small child, burned.

Sarah reached behind her to touch the warmth of Mellan's body, wrapped so tightly against her own. It seemed that the smoldering fire had jumped inside her. Inside her breast, full with milk, there was a heat that was new to her.

*These things must stop. I want to make this stop.*

## LATEST NARRATIVES PUBLISHED

"The Bullet Cannot Pick and Choose," on Vaiba Kebeh Flomo of Liberia  
- by Sara Koenders

"The Candle of Bangladesh," on Shinjita Alam of Bangladesh  
- by Ilze Dzenovska

"Caring for the Diaspora," on Nora Chengeto Tapiwa of Zimbabwe  
- by Sofia Javed

"Empowered to Hope," on Sarah Akoru Lochodo of Kenya  
- by Sigrid Tornquist

"The Latecomer," on Zarina Salamat of Pakistan - by Kathleen Hughart

"The Power of Powerlessness," on Merlie "Milet" B. Mendoza of the Philippines - by Mary Liepold

*The narratives of Women PeaceMakers are now being used in the curriculum at the Daraja Academy in Kenya. See page 5 for IPJ Program Officer Karla Alvarez' report from Daraja.*

## PROGRAM LAUNCHES ASIA REGIONAL NETWORK

Building on the experience and recommendations of eight years of the Women PeaceMakers (WPM) Program, Asian WPM alumnae convened in Nepal from Jan. 26 to Feb. 2, 2011, to launch the inaugural Women PeaceMakers Asia Regional Network. The 10-day summit was designed as a pilot project to share ideas and learning on regional issues and peacebuilding strategies between WPMs in the region, and to share that expertise with local communities, politicians, civil society and peacebuilders.



Women PeaceMakers (l-r) Mendoza, Saroor and Arnado in Kathmandu

The peacemakers convened in Nepal as the country navigates a tumultuous path out of its recent violent conflict. Supported by the IPJ's long history and strong institutional ties in the country, three WPMs – Milet Mendoza and Mary Ann Arnado of the Philippines and Shreen Saroor of Sri Lanka – and IPJ staff members Dee Aker and Jennifer Freeman were hosted by M.A. in peace and justice studies graduate Shobha Shrestha ('08), executive director of Women for Peace & Democracy – Nepal. Together, the WPMs carried out a series of roundtable discussions, workshops and media interviews with local constituencies of women politicians, civil society leaders in Kathmandu and peacebuilders in the rural district of Makwanpur.

In addition to the opportunity the WPMs had to convene and share issues and expertise, they also made an impact on the Nepali women they engaged with. "I was very much impressed and motivated with the three peacemakers," said Jamuna Lama, a participant in a civil society roundtable. "Their work with the combatants, government and conflicting groups, [women's] role as mediators and [the] integration of economic programs with peace can be used on our context too."

## AT CSW, STILL WORKING TOGETHER FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

"I don't care if you call yourself a 'feminist,' a 'woman's rights activist' or a 'humanitarian.' If you believe in women's human rights, we are working together. And there's still too much work to be done." Leymah Gbowee, Liberian activist and star of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," stood during the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), hands raised, doing what she has become famous for: mobilizing women and men to fight for equal rights and peace.



A CSW attendee asks a question during the parallel event

Held for two weeks each year at U.N. Headquarters in New York, CSW is about just that. From February 21 to 25, IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker and Program Officer Jennifer Freeman attended CSW to learn from and share the IPJ's work with a variety of women representatives from around the globe. During a parallel event, Aker and Freeman launched the final report from the IPJ's 2010 international conference "Precarious Progress." Despite a room limit of 70, the event attracted more than 110 attendees for the discussion on the progress achieved on U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325.

This year's CSW was a time to celebrate hard-won achievements while regrouping and moving forward in the work to realize the most basic human rights for half the world's population. As activists like Leymah know well, there is still too much work to be done.

## USD RECEIVES AWARD FOR IPJ'S WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM



The Women PeaceMakers Program, now in its ninth year, was recognized in the selection of the University of San Diego as a recipient of the

prestigious Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award. The award, presented by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, is given to colleges for efforts to internationalize their campuses.

## UPDATES ON WOMEN PEACEMAKERS AND PEACE WRITERS

Luz Méndez of Guatemala co-authored a new book entitled *Paths Traveled: Women's Struggles and Situation 13 Years after the Peace Accords*.

In January, Shukrije Gashi of Kosovo, Raya Kadyrova of Kyrgyzstan and Luz Méndez of Guatemala joined IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker at the "Women Mediating Conflict" policy forum in Washington, D.C. Hosted by the Institute for Inclusive Security, participants explored whether women mediators can change the focus, dynamic and outcome of peace negotiations

Peace Writers Jackee Batanda, Sofia Javed and Sigrid Tornquist are recent award recipients. Batanda was given a Young Achievers Award, which recognizes excellence and innovation among Ugandan citizens aged 18 to 35. The award was presented by President Yoweri Museveni. Javed was named an Alfa Fellow in a high-level professional development exchange program that places young professionals at leading organizations in Russia. She will leave in June for a year-long placement in Moscow. Tornquist's work "Perspective," in the magazine *Specialty Fabrics Review*, was awarded Gold in the category Best Regular Column, given by the Minnesota Magazine & Publishers Association

Peace Writer Alicia Simoni returned to the IPJ last fall to serve as rapporteur for the Women PeaceMakers Conference "Precarious Progress: U.N. Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security." She authored the final report that was launched at a parallel session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women in February.

## JULIA ALVAREZ SHARES THE ART OF HISTORY

There is a story behind the history of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – and that story belongs to the three Mirabal sisters of the Dominican Republic, who were murdered on Nov. 25, 1960, for opposing Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo.

“Stories belong to all of us.”

— JULIA ALVAREZ

On Nov. 15, 2010 – days before the 50th anniversary of the sisters’ martyrdom – acclaimed author Julia Alvarez, whose novel *In the Time of the Butterflies* took the Mirabals’ story outside the borders of the Dominican Republic, spoke at the IPJ. “Stories belong to all of us,” Alvarez said as she shared her own experience as a Dominican and the process of uncovering the Mirabal story. Alvarez also spoke of the responsibility of those who survive.



Eveoke dancers hide behind photos of the Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo as they dance a scene from *Las Mariposas*

“Who would know of these women?” she reflected. “My friends who knew history had never heard of the Mirabal sisters.”

Alvarez’ talk was followed by a performance from Eveoke Dance Theatre, who presented excerpts from their production *Las Mariposas*, inspired by Alvarez’ novel. The audience – many seated in overflow – watched as history was transformed into the sometimes graceful, sometimes dramatic movements of the Eveoke dancers.

The evening, co-sponsored by Eveoke Dance Theatre and The Cultural Worker, displayed that there is more than one way to tell the stories of history. Some write it in the pages of a novel, and some dance it on a stage.

## ABIGAIL DISNEY KEYNOTES WOMEN’S DAY CELEBRATION



Abigail Disney speaking at the International Women’s Day Breakfast

time in a post-conflict country. But Abigail realized she had to “go forward at my fears” in order to open the space for something greater.

The result was “Pray the Devil Back to Hell,” an award-winning documentary that highlights the role of Liberian women in pushing the armed groups to the peace table. The film and its success then led her to produce “Women, War & Peace,” a five-part series to air on PBS in the fall. Abigail aired the trailer, which focuses on Afghanistan, Bosnia, Colombia and Liberia, and asks the question, “What if you looked at war (and peace) as though women mattered?”

IPJ Program Officer Jennifer Freeman closed the program with a stirring quotation from Jill Ruckelshaus, who spoke at the 1977 National Women’s Political Caucus: “We are in for a very, very long haul. . . . I am asking for everything you have to give. In return I have nothing to offer you but . . . the certain knowledge that at the end of your days you will be able to look back and say that once in your life, you gave everything you had for justice.”

## IPJ HOSTS A CIVIL-MILITARY DISCUSSION ON 3D SECURITY

On March 30, 2011, the IPJ hosted a civil-military discussion facilitated by Lisa Schirch, Ph.D., executive director of the 3D Security Initiative, which has developed a Civil Society-Military Roadmap for Human Security. The dialogue included one admiral, two generals, 10 other officers from the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marines, and 10 civilians.

Schirch has expertise in Iraq and Afghanistan, and has spent time in both countries facilitating dialogue between civil society and the military. Civil-military cooperation has become more important as the U.S. military is increasingly asked to address non-military challenges, including stabilization, development, reconstruction and humanitarian relief. But civil-military collaboration is not only relevant in the humanitarian realm. In places like Afghanistan and elsewhere it has proven necessary in combat scenarios, at a minimum to avoid unnecessary impact on civilians. Civil-military collaboration may eventually be most useful for preventing conflict and, when that’s not possible, working to ensure a sustainable peace.

The civil-military discussion at the IPJ was followed by Schirch’s lecture on the need for a comprehensive peace process in Afghanistan, one that requires civil society, government and military approaches to address deep-rooted political, economic and social conflicts.

To a room of over 200 men and women celebrating the 100th anniversary of International Women’s Day, keynote speaker Abigail Disney shared her transition from philanthropist to filmmaker and advocate for women’s recognition in war zones and peace processes across the globe. It started with a hesitation and fear, shared with her husband before she got on a plane to Liberia after the inauguration of Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. It was to be her first



Schirch listening to U.S. Marine Corps Colonel Brian Kerl during the civil-military discussion at the IPJ



## UNREST IN EGYPT PROMPTS DISCUSSION AT IPJ

This article is adapted from Ryan Blystone's piece in Inside USD on February 4.

As the situation in Egypt unfolded with protests, widespread violence and a major political struggle for embattled Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the IPJ hosted an impromptu event on February 3 to discuss the reasons behind such unrest.



Dr. Tschirgi and Dr. Spiegel answer questions from the audience  
(photo courtesy of Ryan Blystone)

Nearly 200 USD students, staff, faculty, alumni and members of the community filled two IPJ conference rooms at lunchtime to listen, learn, engage and ask what's going on in Egypt and the Middle East. Two USD Professors, Necla Tschirgi of the School of Peace Studies and Avi Spiegel of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, spoke on the current situation and answered questions.

Milburn Line, IPJ executive director, was pleased with the turnout. "The IPJ wants to be able to respond to students' concerns, issues, provide information and provide a place for dialogue and to learn about these things."

Spiegel and Tschirgi were on the same page regarding many aspects of the Egypt conflict and expressed considerable interest in the fallout. "The crisis in Egypt was entirely predictable. It had to erupt one way or the other," said Tschirgi.

Tschirgi, a native of Turkey, has strong ties in Egypt. She was an adjunct professor of political science at the American University in Cairo and coordinator of the Middle East Research Competition program. She has been a frequent visitor and has followed political developments in the country since 1991. In examining the events of the last several days, she believes Egypt's youth are vitally important.

---

*"We have to support [the youth] to make sure that the process of transformation is progressive rather than regressive."*

— NECLA TSCHIRGI

---

"I think they'll define what happens in Egypt in this next decade," she said. "We have to support them to make sure that the process of transformation is progressive rather than regressive. It is possible to have

a counter-revolution. I'm not that comfortable that everything is necessarily going to turn out positively, but with support, encouragement, guidance and setting forth alternatives, I think it can become a source of rejuvenation for Egypt and the region as a whole."

Spiegel, meanwhile, studied Middle East politics at Oxford University, among his academic highlights. In addition to being an assistant professor at USD, he is also finishing a book on the next generation of political Islam.

"There's never been a more fascinating time, in my lifetime and definitely in my students' lifetime, to study the Middle East and what's happening right now," he said.

## IPJ WELCOMES NEW STAFF



Kendra Galante, USD alum ('07), joined the IPJ as event coordinator in February. After graduating with a B.A. in international relations and a minor in peace studies, Galante interned at the U.S. Association for the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees, in Washington, D.C. She then worked with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace for more than three years, coordinating events and serving most recently as communications coordinator.



## "STIRRING THE FIRE" FELLOWSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED

USD junior Emily Lohmeyer has been selected to receive a \$3,000 "Stirring the Fire" Fellowship to pursue a project to house and educate girls at Living Fountain Academy in Kenya. The fellowship is a gift of photographer Phil Borges, whose documentary photography was on display at the IPJ in Fall 2010. Lohmeyer tutors refugees at the International Rescue Committee and has volunteered in Kenya previously. "By sharing my research and project," Lohmeyer says, "I can raise awareness about the importance of girls' education within my own community."



Abay, 28 years old, Awash Fontale, Ethiopia  
(photo © Phil Borges)

## MINDANAOAN SPEAKER REFLECTS ON HER TIME IN SAN DIEGO

*Thanks to a generous donation from the Gary and Mary West Foundation, the IPJ was able to sponsor a youth delegate from the Philippines for the Youth Town Meeting. Meriam “Yam” Palma of the Mindanao Peoples Caucus, which works in the conflict-affected communities on the southern Philippine island, spoke in the opening plenary and after the premiere of the WorldLink video “Mindanao’s Youth Working for Peace.” While in San Diego, Palma was also able to visit high schools and interact with the IRC Peacemakers, a student group of the International Rescue Committee. The following is a reflection she wrote at the end of her visit.*



*Palma at the WorldLink Youth Town Meeting with fellow panelist Joseph Ruanto-Ramirez of UCSD*

I cannot forget the overwhelming feeling I had after watching the video on Mindanao for the first time. It is very inspiring for me to see material that captures the real issues and situation in Mindanao. I loved interacting with young people who show interest in the conflict. I was surprised with the question, “How can we help?”

Having the chance to visit some schools was also a great experience. It was an opportunity for me to see how young people from a first-world country react to the things that are happening in Mindanao. I can see their faces as they look at the pictures of the *bakwits* [internally displaced people], and their faces would tell me that they are with me in the struggle to find a long-lasting peace for Mindanao.

Getting to see how the public school system works well for the young people in San Diego made me realize that if only taxes being paid by Filipinos go to our public schools in Mindanao, then the children would also enjoy going to school. They need not wait for the harvest to come to have something for school. They need not rely on supplies and feeding programs from the international community. They need not worry that classmates would tease them because they don’t have anything for lunch. They need not get insecure because they are much older than their classmates.

I feel so happy to have had a chance to get to know a lot of Filipinos who were not really aware of the situation, but are now willing to learn and contribute something for the peoples in Mindanao. I can feel their sympathy as they try to connect to their roots, as young Filipinos who have the privilege of studying in one of the best universities in the United States. It comforts me when I hear them say “*salamat po*,” even if the accent makes me smile.

But what made me happier was the opportunity to talk to young people who in one way or another have experienced the same struggle that the peoples of Mindanao are experiencing. I saw the young Muslim girls in front of me who were teary-eyed. What was supposed to be an hour-long presentation became longer because of the exchanges with the IRC workers and some of the students who can relate with the situation.

---

*“It was an opportunity for me to see how young people from a first-world country react to the things that are happening in Mindanao. ... [T]heir faces would tell me that they are with me in the struggle to find a long-lasting peace for Mindanao.”*

---

In the coming days, I will be back to my hometown, working with young Mindanaoans as we prepare for our inclusion in the Mindanao 2020 plan.\* I will bring with me the stories of the people that I met.

I am looking forward to a stronger partnership with you and seeing you again in Mindanao.

*\*Mindanao 2020 is a peace and development agenda for Mindanao.*



*Palma (right) meeting with a Filipino student at Del Dios Middle School*



# JOAN B. KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

## STUDYING AND WORKING FOR PEACE: ELIKA DADSETAN



With a professional background in law and education, Erika Dadsetan came to the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (KSPS) to pursue her lifelong passion of helping those in less fortunate situations. Last fall, Dadsetan joined the 2010-11 cohort of master's students in peace and justice studies, specializing in conflict resolution and human rights advocacy with a focus on strengthening education systems in post-conflict societies.

In search of ways to get more involved in the practice of peace, Dadsetan discovered the IPJ intern program – and jumped at the chance to work with the organization that had inspired her to follow her passion and apply to the M.A. program.

As an IPJ intern, Dadsetan spent much of the fall semester writing weekly updates about Liberia, as well as country updates for the Women PeaceMakers Program. “It has been a blessing to be around such inspirational people as the Women PeaceMakers,” Dadsetan says.

This semester, in preparation for her summer internship and capstone project, Dadsetan continues to do research and write about issues in West Africa as she supports Assistant Professor Dustin Sharp in the IPJ's West African Human Rights Training Initiative (see page 5). Dadsetan will complete her required 10-week internship with Defense for Children International (DCI) in Freetown, Sierra Leone. DCI provides legal counsel to children in conflict and child victims of sexual and gender-based violence. While there, Dadsetan will help coordinate a traditional restorative justice project and implement forgiveness projects and victim-offender mediation models.

“I love being able to dream big dreams and have a group of people around me who offer support in meeting them,” Dadsetan says of her experience with both KSPS and the IPJ.

## A GUATEMALAN CLASSROOM

IPJ Program Officer Elena McCollim co-led a 10-day January intersession course through USD entitled “Nonprofits and Civil Society in Guatemala.” Quotations below are from USD students after their return. For more information on the IPJ's justice project in Guatemala, see page 4.

“It is always difficult to travel to a less advantaged country and not question the very ease and privilege of one's own life.”

– Crystal Dujowich,  
Ph.D. student in leadership studies

“The people truly hope and strive for a civil society and actively seek out peace. These people are some of the strongest individuals I have met in my life.”

– Amanda Katona, M.A. student in leadership studies

“While two weeks is never enough time to fully understand another country and its people, the intersession class in Guatemala provided me with a great introduction. I can't wait to go back.”

– Stacey Cooper, M.A. student in peace and justice studies



Justine Darling, master's student in peace and justice studies, and human rights lawyer Mario Domingo at the Archbishop's Office for Human Rights in Guatemala

## IPJ MEDIA APPEARANCES

Jan. 21, 2011

KUSI News: Deputy Director Dee Aker and WorldLink participants on the 14th Annual Youth Town Meeting, “Crimes Without Borders: Threats to Human Security.”

Jan. 22, 2011

San Diego Union-Tribune: “Teens, Experts Talk Border Crimes,” on WorldLink's 2011 Youth Town Meeting.

Feb. 21, 2011

KPBS Radio, “These Days”: Distinguished Lecturer Stephen Rapp, U.S. ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues, on pursuing justice for victims of war crimes and genocide, and on his ongoing work in Africa and the Middle East.

March 2011

Nepal Television Plus: Deputy Director Dee Aker and Women PeaceMakers Mary Ann Arnado, Milet Mendoza and Shreen Saroor featured in celebration of International Women's Day.

March 8, 2011

KPBS Radio, “These Days”: Filmmaker Abigail Disney, keynote speaker for the IPJ's International Women's Day Breakfast, on the role of women in international conflicts and her new PBS series “Women, War & Peace.”

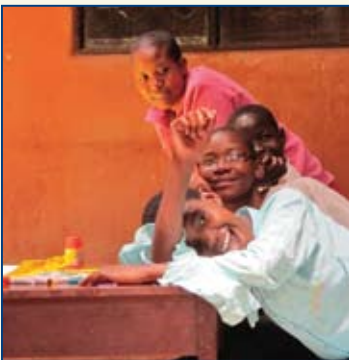
March 15, 2011

The Daily Transcript: “USD Gets International Education Award,” on USD's receipt of the Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award for the Women PeaceMakers Program at the IPJ.



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>

## DONOR GIFTS SUPPORT IPJ WORK



The IPJ is grateful to the generous community of donors that supports the institute in many forms. A special thank you to:

- Craig Weatherwax and Oceanside Photo & Telescope for donating a new camera to the IPJ, which was used in recent IPJ field work in Nepal and Kenya (see photos above).
- GTM Discount General Stores and Mr. Gilbert How for the video camera donated to WorldLink. The camera was used in March to film interviews with students in Kenya (see page 5) for an upcoming documentary.
- Longtime IPJ supporters June and Hirsch Gottschalk, who were inadvertently omitted from the December donor listing.

To make a gift to the IPJ, please go to <http://peace.sandiego.edu/giving>

SPRING 2011

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

#### R. SCOTT APPLEBY

John M. Regan Jr. Director, 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.

President Emeritus, University of Notre Dame

#### JANE HOLL LUTE

Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

#### MARY E. LYONS

President, University of San Diego

#### QUEEN NOOR OF JORDAN

Chair, King Hussein Foundation International

#### GENERAL ANTHONY ZINNI

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