



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

# PEACE & JUSTICE COMPASS

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

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

## DALAI LAMA BRINGS MESSAGE OF COMPASSION TO USD

by Diana Kutlow



The Dalai Lama, with the USD Medal of Peace, delivers his talk (Photo by Tim Mantoani)

On April 18, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet closed the 2011-2012 Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series with a dynamic discussion on “Cultivating Peace and Justice.” More than 4,700 people packed the Jenny Craig Pavilion at the University of San Diego (USD) for his wide-ranging lecture on peace — from the personal to the political — and understanding the connections between people of different faiths, nationalities and socio-economic levels.

After a prelude by Spanish classical guitarist Pablo Sáinz Villegas, USD President Mary E. Lyons presented the Dalai Lama with the university’s Medal of Peace, quoting the late Mrs. Kroc’s charge to not just talk about peace, but to make peace. Pamela Omidyar, founder of Humanity United and co-founder of the Omidyar Network, then introduced the Dalai Lama. “The Dalai Lama teaches us that peace and justice can coexist,” she said. “It takes courage to engage one’s enemy with dialogue and understanding, rather than force.”

The Dalai Lama began his talk by defining peace as more than just the absence of violence. “Peace must come through inner peace,” he explained, “and the demarcation of violence and nonviolence is not action but motivation.” He described nonviolence as action that comes from a place of compassion, and went on to tell a story of a monk who had spent many years in a Chinese prison, where he felt some kind of danger. “I asked him if he was afraid of losing his life,” the Dalai Lama recounted. No, the monk had replied, “danger of losing my compassion for the Chinese.” The Dalai Lama marveled at the depth of commitment to compassion expressed by the monk and encouraged the audience to contemplate how such compassion could free them from “negative emotions.”

The talk was part of a two-day symposium, “Compassion Without Borders” — a collaborative effort between USD, the University of California at San Diego and San Diego State University. On USD’s campus, a steering committee coordinated by Cara McMahon, associated with the Center for Community Service-Learning, organized numerous talks, films, book groups and exhibits that prepared the campus and community to understand the context and complexities of the Dalai Lama’s perspectives.

As a spiritual leader of Tibet, a former political leader (he stepped down last year after a democratic governance structure was completed by Tibet’s government in exile), and a Nobel Peace Laureate, his commitment to nonviolence has served as an example for people all over the world working for change in their own countries.

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*“Peace must come through inner peace, and the demarcation of violence and nonviolence is not action but motivation.”*

— HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA

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“I’ve been exposed to his teachings on compassion and the need for us all to bring it into our daily lives,” said Vivien Francis, M.A. alumna (’10) in peace and justice studies. “He talks about what is within us and what we can take away from his teachings, things like compassion, integrity, love and service.”

To watch the event online, go to <http://peace.sandiego.edu/dls>

# DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

## PEACE STUDIES PIONEERS ON TRANSFORMATION

Students in the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (KSPS) got a double dose of practical scholarship when peace studies pioneer John Paul Lederach and humanitarian aid expert Mary Anderson visited in February.



John Paul Lederach and Mary Anderson in the IPJ Garden of the Sea

Lederach, a professor at Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, met with students and consulted with the IPJ's program staff for several days. During one of his class visits, he encouraged students to "demystify theory and re-mystify practice" by testing theories in the field and reflecting on what happened — and why. "Evaluation works best when it is a learning process," Lederach explained. "We have to decide what theory of change we are testing."

On February 16, he spoke to a full Peace & Justice Theatre on "Compassionate Presence: Faith-based Peacebuilding in the Face of Violence" as part of the Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series, but not before Anderson introduced her colleague. "What's really inspiring about John Paul," she told the audience, "is that he helps us remember what is essential — and then he makes it seem possible. Those are interesting facets in today's world."

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*"For me, faith is not about quantity and certainty. It's about essence."*

— JOHN PAUL LEDERACH

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He commenced his talk by recalling three of many wrenching conversations — what he called "intensely lived dilemmas" — from his time living and working with people in situations of entrenched conflict and bitter violence. Lederach then used those conversations to explore the role of faith in peacebuilding. His own work is rooted in the Mennonite tradition, but he says, "For me, faith is not about quantity and certainty. It's about essence."

Over three decades of peacebuilding, he has tried to exemplify several characteristics. Lederach urged the practitioners and students to "offer what you hope to receive from others: honest transparency — which mostly means, be yourself." He went on, "Prepare to peer into your own deepest understanding of truth by way of windows offered in the lives, understandings and experiences of others, even those who believe very differently than you."

His lecture, however, was not just for those of faith. He widened the discussion to explain the many layers involved in breaking cycles of violence. "Peacebuilding is not about solving problems," he affirmed. "It is about transformational change: personal change, relationship change, structural change, cultural change."

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— JOHN PAUL LEDERACH

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A KSPS Peace Scholar, Anderson's two-week residence overlapped with Lederach's visit. Like Lederach, who contends that most peacebuilding projects are too short, Anderson criticizes the "project mentality" that defines many peacebuilding and humanitarian aid programs.

In her public talk, "The Listening Project: How Recipients Judge International Assistance," Anderson reviewed the findings of a survey of 6,000 people in 21 countries over four years, most of them recipients of international humanitarian aid. The research, a continuation of her book *Do No Harm: How Aid Can Support Peace — or War*, shows that aid recipients are interested in economic improvement and improved security, and are looking for a connection to the larger world and an end to their need for assistance.

Lederach and Anderson challenged students, faculty and staff alike to listen intently and reflect deeply on their roles in the processes of transformational change in places of violence.



Master's students in peace and justice studies listen to Lederach's lecture





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## IPJ BACKGROUND & MISSION

A gift to USD from Joan B. Kroc enabled the university to build and endow the Institute. Since 2000, the IPJ has worked to build peace with justice by strengthening women peacemakers, youth leaders and human rights defenders, and developing innovative approaches to peacebuilding.

## PEACE & JUSTICE COMPASS

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.

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# PEACE TALKS & JUSTICE MATTERS

by Executive Director Milburn Line



For those who have long dreamed of justice for historic crimes against civilians in Guatemala, there may finally be some solace. Former dictator Efraim Rios Montt, head of a de facto military government that implemented a genocidal scorched earth policy in the Mayan highlands during the early 1980s, was ordered to appear in criminal court in Guatemala City in January and has since had an appeal for amnesty denied.

No punishment will ever be equal to the genocide against Mayan indigenous peoples, perpetrated largely by the Guatemalan Army in the 1980s. But the national justice system, skillfully led by Guatemala's first female attorney general, Claudia Paz y Paz, is finally making headway on bringing to justice those responsible for the torture, disappearance, sexual violence and death of hundreds of thousands of people. Local justice processes, along with human rights treaties and international prosecutions, are part of a three-pronged architecture of accountability that has reshaped the prevailing norms of international affairs over the last three decades, as University of Minnesota political scientist Kathryn Sikkink, author of *The Justice Cascade*, shared in her International Human Rights Day lecture at the IPJ (page 9).

The IPJ continues to collaborate on legal empowerment efforts with U.S. State Department funding in Quiché (page 5), where the scorched earth policy was most brutally implemented. Unfortunately, the United States has not always been on the side of justice and human rights in Guatemala. A 30-year cycle of military governments and gross human rights violations began in 1954, when the United States branded a democratically elected reformist government as "communist" and had the CIA mount a coup to suit an American banana company, United Fruit. Despite our embassy in the country informing Washington that the Guatemalan Army was indiscriminately killing civilians, President Ronald Reagan infamously told the press in 1982 that Rios Montt was getting a "bum rap" on human rights.

While there is hope that an eventual prosecution of Rios Montt and others will help close this tragic chapter of Latin American history, we must learn the full lessons of our experience there. The U.S. continues to provide hundreds of millions of dollars through Plan Colombia — more than \$8 billion over the last decade, largely to the Colombian military — despite ongoing human rights and humanitarian law violations that have made the country host to the world's largest internally displaced population. Applying a Plan Colombia model to the drug wars in Central America would indicate that we have failed to learn our lesson: that giving resources to security sectors in foreign countries is dangerous unless those resources are paired with accountability to human rights standards. It should also be paired with ensuring that their governments address the social inequities that underpin conflict. The IPJ is currently advocating for a peace agenda in Colombia as an alternative to further Plan Colombia support (page 9).

As his past finally catches up with Rios Montt, we would also do well to remember that providing political cover for forced disappearances, torture, murder and other human rights violations is not true to American democratic values. As the justice cascade is demonstrating, that only puts us on the wrong side of history.

## RECENT IPJ PUBLICATIONS

Emiko Noma, Dee Aker and Jennifer Freeman. "Heeding Women's Voices: Breaking Cycles of Conflict and Deepening the Concept of Peacebuilding." *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*. Vol. 7, Issue 1, 2012.

Milburn Line. "La Asignatura Pendiente de Rajoy en Colombia." *Foreign Policy en Español*. April 18, 2012.

Milburn Line. "Ending Colombia's Battle with FARC — Once and For All." *Foreign Affairs*. March 27, 2012.

Milburn Line. "In Recognition of International Human Rights Day." *U-T San Diego*. December 10, 2011.

Milburn Line, with Derek Brown and Melanie Greenberg. "Shortchanging Our Security." *The Hill's Congress Blog*. November 23, 2011.

Diana Kutlow. "Another View of Basketball and War." *U-T San Diego*. November 11, 2011.

Milburn Line. "Guatemala Confronts its Past, Future." *Miami Herald*. August 3, 2011.

For recent Women PeaceMakers publications, see page 6.

# IPJ IN THE FIELD

## NEW DIMENSIONS TO IPJ PEACEBUILDING WORK IN NEPAL



*Dr. Donald Gragg in Birgunj with Sano Paila's Action for Addiction program staff and volunteers*

communication skills trainings with community leaders and a women's community organization in Nichuta, a small village in Parsa District.

In addition to ongoing conflict resolution trainings, the IPJ focused on another dimension of the Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative: responding to practical, day-to-day concerns of local partners. Dr. Gragg held a workshop with young men and women who are developing a residential treatment program for intravenous drug abusers in Birgunj as part of "Action for Addiction," an ongoing project of IPJ's local partner Sano Paila.

While in Nepal, the IPJ team also held mediation skills trainings in Kathmandu and Pokhara, community dialogues in the Western Region, and meetings with the staff from Raksha Nepal in Kathmandu and officers from the Nepal Police in Birgunj. The IPJ was assisted by local partners Sano Paila, Today's Youth Asia and Women for Peace and Democracy – Nepal.

## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY – NEPAL

Women for Peace and Democracy – Nepal (WPD), a nongovernmental, nonprofit, women-led organization, was launched in 2010, but its founder and executive chair, Shobha Shrestha ('07 M.A. alumna in peace and justice studies), has been a local partner for IPJ programs in Nepal since 2004.

With its central office in Kathmandu and a field office in Chitwan, WPD's mission is "to promote gender equity and equality based on development and the elimination of injustice and violence against women [and] to empower women and unite their passion for building a peaceful and democratic Nepal."



*Shobha Shrestha meeting with one of WPD's women's groups in Hariyon, Sarlahi District*

In addition to activities in Kathmandu, WPD conducts field programs with women's groups in Sarlahi, Makwanpur and Chitwan districts. The project, supported by World Accord Canada, enhances the living conditions of more than 300 socially excluded women by involving them in collaborative income-generating activities and community development programs. Also a member of the International Action Network on Small Arms, WPD hosts programs raising awareness about the impact of small arms and light weapons on women and girls in Nepal.

## HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING EXPANDS TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE

As a new year dawns in Côte d'Ivoire, there is a growing optimism that the decade-long civil war that once split the country between a rebel-controlled north and a government-controlled south has come to an end. Despite the progress, however, many of the root causes of the Ivorian conflict—including impunity, discrimination and exclusion—remain unresolved, and numerous peacebuilding challenges lie ahead for Côte d'Ivoire's new government.



*Participant in a human rights training session in Côte d'Ivoire*

Former President Laurent Gbagbo now stands before the International Criminal Court, yet scores of other high-level perpetrators on both sides of the

conflict have yet to be so much as investigated, and there are mounting concerns that justice may prove one-sided. After 10 years of civil war, reconciliation remains a daunting task, and many question whether the country's newly created Truth and Reconciliation Commission is up to the challenge.

As part of its commitment to building peace with justice in the sub-region, since 2009 the IPJ has been working with human rights defenders in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to strengthen their capacity to press their governments for much needed accountability and reform. In January 2012, Assistant Professor Dustin Sharp travelled to Abidjan to expand the West African Human Rights Training Initiative to Côte d'Ivoire. Over the course of the coming year, Sharp will mentor select Ivorian human rights organizations as they work to document continuing human rights problems stemming from years of armed conflict.

*Sharp is an assistant professor in the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and affiliated faculty of the IPJ. The project is supported by the Open Society Initiative for West Africa.*

## CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN GUATEMALA

In early March, the IPJ's justice project in Guatemala (a collaboration with the Sister Barbara Ford Peace Center), celebrated International Women's Day with 300 citizens of San Felipe Chenla, a village and region that has known violent conflict and discrimination all too well.

When the Guatemalan Army implemented a scorched earth genocidal campaign in Mayan communities during the 36-year armed conflict, San Felipe was designated a "model village" and converted into a concentration camp. Given the almost absolute impunity for crime in Guatemala, part of the IPJ project's legal empowerment strategy is to build grassroots connections to justice agencies.

The community was rapt during the presentations by women leaders originally from the Ixil region, including the judge of Cotzal and the regional representative of the Presidential Commission for Human Rights, who addressed the participants in the Ixil language. Together with another Ixil judge in nearby Nebaj, these women leaders have become part of a core group of officials working to strengthen Mayan communities' access to justice in northern Quiché.



*Ixil women leaders addressing the community of San Felipe Chenla on International Women's Day*

The challenges of gender violence and discrimination remain immense, but the efforts of women leaders in villages like San Felipe Chenla and at the highest levels of the state offer a historic opportunity to realize the full democratic potential of Guatemala. According to one of the community members, this was the first time International Women's Day had been celebrated in San Felipe Chenla. It will not be the last.

## PREVENTING ELECTORAL VIOLENCE IN KENYA



*Zahra Ismail (center) with a Cissta volunteer (left) and community members in Mathare grown. In Mathare, Korogocho and Kibera — three of Nairobi's epicenters of post-election violence — poverty remains rampant, youth unemployment high, and tensions with local authorities unresolved.*

As predictions of greater violence in the upcoming elections mount, Cissta Kenya and Chemchemi ya Ukweli — nongovernmental community-based organizations — invited the IPJ to partner on a project to build community capacity to prevent violence and enforce better relations with key stakeholders involved in community safety.

Utilizing a training-of-trainers methodology in the first phase of the project, IPJ Program Officer Zahra Ismail brought together Cissta volunteers from each community to learn strategies and skills in facilitation, conflict resolution and violence prevention. Participants grappled with reality-based case studies, examining current issues of conflict and mapping safe and unsafe places in their own communities, and identifying ways they could respond. Kenyan Women PeaceMakers Wahu Kaara and Sarah Akoru Lochodo also shared their experiences in managing conflict and building peace during the trainings.

As participants exchanged stories of the conflicts and challenges in their own communities, a new intensity surfaced. Near the end of the training, individuals were leaning forward, eyes glued to the maps detailing the accounts of violence, surprised to be hearing things they never knew before. It was a powerful moment, and one that has led to a strengthened resolve to work together, regardless of what community they are from.

This was an important first step; however, the heart of the program is yet to come. With coaching support from Cissta and Chemchemi staff, participants are now conducting two-day violence prevention trainings for community peace team members, laying the groundwork for active and effective peace teams in each area.

Part of the IPJ's continued work will be cultivating these skills and developing key relationships between the teams and security and government actors so that, little by little, the space for communities to feel safe, pursue justice and accountability and find opportunities for reconciliation can grow.



*Violence prevention participants mapping risks in their community*

If you live in a community where violence is a daily reality, it is hard to feel safe. While the intense violence of Kenya's 2008 post-election period has quieted, many of the issues that led to its occurrence continue to fester, and the fear that many people felt then has only

# WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM

## CAMBODIA HOSTS THIRD ASIA REGIONAL NETWORK SUMMIT

After two successful summits in Nepal and the Philippines, the third gathering of the Women PeaceMakers Asia Regional Network took place in Cambodia in early December 2011, organized by Cambodian peacemaker Thavory Huot and supported with funds from UN Women.



*Women PeaceMakers meeting with Cambodian women farmers*

women farmers representing three districts around Phnom Penh. The farmers shared openly and passionately the challenges facing Cambodian women, challenges that stem from a lack of access to education due to family responsibilities, ongoing situations of abuse, and resistance from their families and communities to any attempts to strengthen their voices in the political sphere.

For the WPMs, the stories evoked a familiar mix of frustration and hope. Speaking with compassion and humility, Arnado of the Philippines explained how she brought together more than 10,000 internally displaced persons to demand a ceasefire in Mindanao. Huot followed, sharing her own painful efforts in the enormous task of disarmament in Cambodia following the rule of the Khmer Rouge. Like Arnado, she too has witnessed success because of her struggles, and she urged the women gathered not to give up.

The seeds of hope and connection planted in that initial meeting continued throughout the seven-day summit as the WPM team met with civil society and political leaders, women's groups, local NGO staff, a group of young Buddhist women, as well as a Muslim women's cooperative in northwestern Cambodia. Through each encounter, the WPMs deepened their understanding of the challenges present both in Cambodia and each other's countries and contexts, exchanged new strategies and best practices for building peaceful societies, and strengthened the network of women peacebuilders in Asia.

*Following the summit, Ismail and Aker returned to Cambodia in March. At the request of Huot, the pair provided training for women preparing to participate in upcoming elections. The training convened women who hold key positions in their local communes (councils) and newcomers currently campaigning for such posts. Looking at how to better negotiate and move up within their parties, as well as exploring caucus options on common issues across parties, the participants quickly expanded their strategies and skills.*

## LATEST WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PUBLICATIONS

“Broken Can Heal,” on Manjula Pradeep of India  
— By Amy S. Choi

“Building Bridges, Building Peace,” on Claudette Werleigh of Haiti  
— By Bijoyeta Das

“The Strength of Mothers,” on Wahu Kaara of Kenya  
— By Alison Morse

## STATUS OF THE MEDIA REVOLUTION



*Jennifer Pozner (r) with fellow CSW panelists Jina Moore and Jackee Batanda*

For the IPJ's delegation of Dee Aker, Kaitlin Barker Davis and Jennifer Freeman, the end of February brought the familiar cold winds of New York and bustling warmth of the annual gathering of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The 56th session of CSW focused on the empowerment of rural women, but included a diverse range of topics in its more than 350 events and parallel sessions.

Building on the 2011 “Women, Media, Revolution” forum, the IPJ's presentation at CSW continued the discussion of how women and media can encourage alternative, inclusive solutions to democratic peacebuilding. The panel included Jackee Batanda, a former peace writer in the Women PeaceMakers Program; journalist Jina Moore and Women in Media & News founder Jennifer Pozner, both speakers at the media forum in 2011; and Kristen Fitzpatrick of Women Make Movies.

The panelists explored, among other issues, U.S. access to in-depth media coverage of international issues, increasing women's participation in media creation, and the ethics of reporting in conflict and on human rights issues. As professionals in the media field, these are challenges they grapple with constantly, and their discussion stoked a lively question-and-answer session with a standing-room-only audience. The forum's final report, available online, was also launched.

“Women, Media, Revolution” — Women PeaceMakers Forum  
Final Report — By Emiko Noma

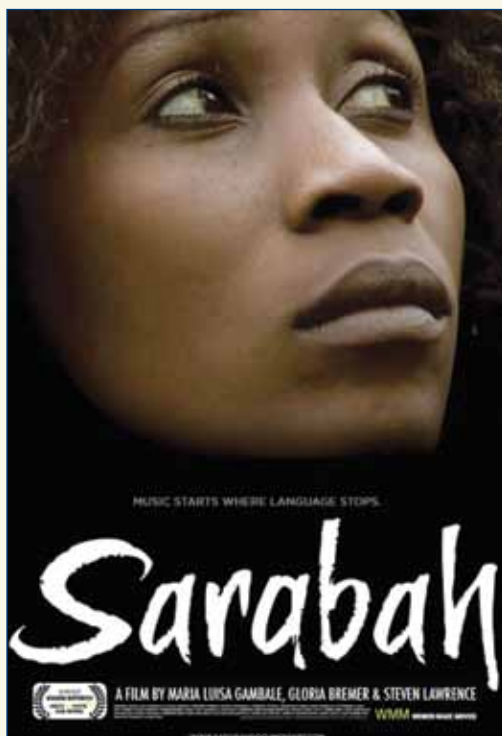


## CONNECTING SAN DIEGO TO SENEGAL

“They’ll tell you that it’s just women’s business, but it’s certain that if men also said, ‘That’s enough,’ . . . [it] would disappear. So we’re here to try and break the taboo.” With these words, Senegalese rapper Sister Fa launched a classroom full of boys and girls into a lively song against female genital cutting (FGC). That transformational moment was captured in the documentary film about Sister Fa’s work, “Sarabah,” shown at the IPJ’s eighth annual International Women’s Day Breakfast.

Filmmaker Maria Luisa Gambale, co-director of “Sarabah,” gave the keynote lecture at the breakfast, acknowledging the complexities that complicate addressing FGC. Also at the breakfast, IPJ staff members reported on the 56th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, highlighting events on this year’s theme of empowering rural women — including plans for a worldwide ban on FGC following a landmark resolution by the African Union.

Sister Fa’s personal experience with FGC led her to become an agent of change: to raise her voice for her rights and those of other women and girls. Her message and the gathering of more than 200 women’s rights advocates and allies inspired breakfast attendees to keep their voices raised until human rights are truly achieved for all.



Courtesy of Women Make Movies

## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF WOMEN PEACEMAKERS

“The Women PeaceMakers and their stories have inspired the work of the IPJ and, I believe, honored the intent and spirit of Joan Kroc, who called for us to be a center for making peace,” affirms IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker, who created the Women PeaceMakers Program in 2003.

This fall, the 10th anniversary of the IPJ’s Women PeaceMakers Program will be marked by a summit of the Women PeaceMakers (WPMs) from the past nine years plus those in residence for 2012. Following three days of exchange, training and strategizing on how best to address the significant challenges confronting them in their work at home and abroad, the WPMs will be part of the IPJ’s international conference “Breaking Barriers” from Sept. 26 to 28, 2012.

As the WPMs give witness to the continuing struggles for gender inclusion needed for sustainable peace, they will be joined by leaders from security sectors, government, civil society and international human rights organizations to explore what can be done to move global efforts for accountability and justice forward.

To support the Women PeaceMakers Program, contact Program Officer Jennifer Freeman at [jenfreeman@sandiego.edu](mailto:jenfreeman@sandiego.edu) or (619) 260-7569.

## WOMEN PEACEMAKERS AND PEACE WRITER UPDATES

Sister Pauline Acayo and fellow religious sisters in Uganda founded the Mother Angioletta Secondary School and Orphanage in Gulu, Uganda. Acayo now serves on the board of the Chantal Paydar Foundation, based in Cardiff, Calif. The foundation was established to commemorate the life of Chantal Paydar, who worked with Acayo in northern Uganda.

In Cambodia, Peace Writer Theresa de Langis facilitated “Women’s Hearings: True Voices of Women During the Khmer Rouge Regime on Sexual Violence,” shadow hearings that took place while the IPJ was in the country for the third Women PeaceMakers Asia Regional Network summit.

Peace Writer Sofia Javed recently completed a 10-month fellowship in Moscow, Russia, with the Alfa Fellowship Program, which places qualified young professionals in work assignments at leading organizations in Russia. During her fellowship, Javed worked at the Associated Press bureau in Moscow, where she helped report on Russia’s election season and the largest protests the country has seen in more than 20 years.

Kenyan Wahu Kaara was recently named one of Newsweek/The Daily Beast’s “150 Fearless Women” from around the world, joining luminaries such as Angelina Jolie, Hillary Clinton, Oprah Winfrey and the three 2011 Nobel Peace Prize winners.



Rebecca Joshua Okwaci (l) and Jackee Batanda (r) (Photo by Chioma Mba)

Rebecca Joshua Okwaci was appointed deputy minister for general education in the new state of South Sudan. She and former Peace Writer Jackee Batanda both participated in “Women Bridging Divides in a Secure World,” the 2012 annual colloquium hosted by the Institute for Inclusive Security in Cambridge, Mass.

Latifah Anum Siregar is currently defending five Papuan activists accused of treason against the government of Indonesia for reading a Papuan declaration of independence.

Peace Writer Maia Woodward, based in Cyprus, is now the community voice projects manager for World Vision International.

## FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT REFLECTS ON WORK IN KENYA

University of San Diego (USD) student Emily Lohmeyer was the inaugural recipient of the *Stirring the Fire* fellowship, a grant given to USD by the social documentary photographer Phil Borges, whose work was on display at the IPJ in 2010. The grant was intended



Emily Lohmeyer and Nancy, 17, painting blackboards in a new classroom

to offer the recipient international exposure to the issues facing girls around the world. The following is a reflection by Lohmeyer upon her return from Kenya.

I was filled with anticipation as I bumped along the road from Nairobi to Nakuru, Kenya. Two years ago, I made this same journey when I first volunteered at Sure 24 Children's Home, which cares for orphaned and destitute children, many of whom have lived on the street. The kids are given a safe home, an education and a family to belong to. I had been dreaming of returning since the moment I left two years ago, and now the open windows and African beats made me feel like it was almost too good to be true. When we finally arrived at Sure 24, I barely recognized the place. There were new buildings, gardens and even water and electricity.

The most important change of all, and the purpose of my visit, was the addition of a new girls' dormitory. Previously, Sure 24 was only a boys' home. On my first visit, I discussed with the director the prospects of including girls in this project. Two years and a dormitory later, the dream became a reality. Through the *Stirring the Fire* fellowship, I had the opportunity to spend a month living with the girls and assisting their transition. As the girls began to fill the home, I acted as an extra staff member, helping to cook, clean, teach English and computer classes, and build relationships with the new girls.

One of the most interesting and moving parts of my visit was interviewing the girls and sharing their stories on the *Stirring the Fire* website. The girls were eager and took pride in creating a composition they could share with others. And I was grateful to be given such an intimate look at the struggles they have faced.

At the end of the interview with each girl, I asked them what advice they would give to other girls around the world. Regardless of the heart-wrenching stories they had just told me, they all had strong messages of hope that they wanted to share. Beyond just words, they live out this hope on a daily basis. They live joyously — laughing, playing and working hard in school. Thanks to a safe home and education, they have bright futures ahead of them. These are the girls who will be leading their communities in the future, and that gives me great hope.

Read more about Lohmeyer's work and the girls from Sure 24 at <http://stirringthefire.org/blog/tag/sure-24/>

## IPJ FINE ART GALLERIES FEATURE ARCHITECTS OF PEACE



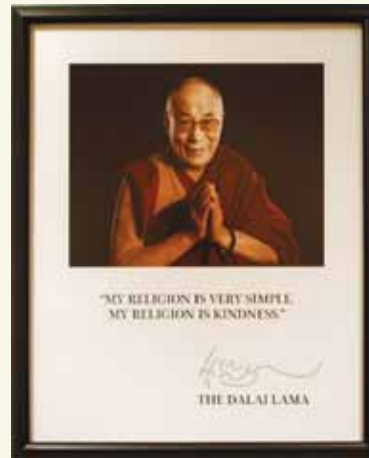
Michael Collopy's *Architects of Peace* exhibit in the IPJ Fine Art Galleries

“Great wisdom from historical leaders.” “Active citizens can generate a positive change and positive changes can transform our world.” These were some of the comments in the guestbook at the IPJ Fine Art Galleries, where the *Architects of Peace* photography exhibit was on display from January through April. The collection of peacemakers featured in the exhibit ranged from Nobel Laureates like the Dalai Lama and Mother Teresa to the 2011 IPJ Women PeaceMakers.

“The IPJ has long been on my radar as a beacon and hub, celebrating, cultivating and advancing the essential work of women peacemakers in the world.”

— MICHAEL COLLOPY

Photographer Michael Collopy, who has traveled the world taking portraits of leading changemakers, visited the IPJ last fall to include the Women PeaceMakers in his collection.



Dalai Lama portrait from *Architects of Peace* (Photo by Michael Collopy)

“The IPJ has long been on my radar as a beacon and hub, celebrating, cultivating and advancing the essential work of women peacemakers in the world,” Collopy explained. “The IPJ fully recognizes that women are the proven, effective entry point for advancing social change, and it plays a crucial role in amplifying and sustaining their efforts.”

The exhibit was visited by USD student groups, high school students in the IPJ's WorldLink Program and community members. For Diana Kutlow, IPJ senior program officer and organizer of the exhibit, photography offers another lens on peace and justice to complement the Institute's lectures, panels and films. “These photographs are designed to slow down the viewer and to be enjoyed at a different pace by each individual,” she explained. “One student might find insight and inspiration in a single portrait, while others will see the broad spectrum of ethnicities, backgrounds and approaches of this group and realize that every individual has something to contribute.”

See page 12 for Michael Collopy's portraits of the 2011 Women PeaceMakers.



# IPJ MEDIA APPEARANCES

## THE JUSTICE CASCADE REMAKING THE WORLD

A broad coalition of university departments and community groups celebrated International Human Rights Day, December 10, at the IPJ by hosting legal scholar Kathryn Sikkink, author of *The Justice Cascade: How Human Rights Prosecutions are Changing World Politics*.

Sikkink, the McKnight presidential chair of political science at the University of Minnesota, addressed three questions: Why are state officials increasingly being held accountable for human rights violations through criminal prosecutions? Can human rights trials reduce human rights violations? What can the findings tell us about the emergence and diffusion of norms, compliance with international law and deterrence of crime?

She wove a fascinating story of notorious human rights violations under the Southern Cone dictatorships of the 1970s and 1980s, the trailblazing work of human rights lawyers and activists and the emergence and diffusion of a new norm of individual criminal accountability, which she terms “the justice cascade.” Marshaling empirical data from trials around the world, Sikkink found that rather than stymieing peaceful settlements of armed conflicts and transitions to democracy, human rights prosecutions have supported both.

Following the lecture, Assistant Professor Dustin Sharp remarked as a discussant and human rights expert, “To those in the trenches of [human rights work], that work ... often feels more like a justice trickle than like a justice cascade. But ... the notion that the broader arc of very recent history bends toward justice and accountability can be very sustaining.” A video of Sikkink’s presentation is available at [www.ucsd.edu/org](http://www.ucsd.edu/org).



Kathryn Sikkink asks how the justice cascade affects peacemaking around the world

## ADVOCACY FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN COLOMBIA



Plaza de Bolívar, Bogotá, Colombia (Photo by Hernán Enrique Carvajal Cortés via Wikimedia Commons)

The IPJ continues its public advocacy for the resolution of Colombia’s half-century civil war, which continues to cause tragic consequences for millions of Colombians. In January 2012, Executive Director Milburn Line was invited, along with renowned Colombian peace advocates, to present policy options for a peace agenda at “Caguán at 10 years: beyond a peace process,” organized by the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá.

The conditions for a negotiated solution to the conflict are more promising now than at any time over the last decade. Both insurgencies are calling for dialogue, as are important Colombian civil society leaders ranging from former presidents to advocacy organizations and the Catholic Church. The Colombian and U.S. governments, however, appear wedded to a military strategy that punishes the millions of civilians caught in the crossfire.

Further IPJ advocacy efforts on Colombia include articles in *Foreign Affairs* and *Foreign Policy en Español* (see page 3).

## BUILDING A PEACE STUDIES CONSTITUENCY IN CHINA

In late April — as the United States and the Philippines conducted joint exercises in the South China Sea, an area of increasing naval friction with China — Executive Director Milburn Line was in Xi’an, China, to present at the International Conference on Peace, War and Conflict Transformation.

Joining nearly 50 Chinese researchers at the second annual effort to build a peace studies constituency in China, led by the University of Nanjing and University of Coventry (UK), Line reviewed the growing peacebuilding portfolio of analytical concepts and intervention methods, relatively unknown in China. He suggested that these areas of peace studies could help steer a course toward managing domestic and international conflict and transcending historical geopolitical confrontations. If the history of the 21st century is to prove more secure than that of the 20th, the United States and China will have to evolve new concepts and practices of international security beyond those we currently employ.

The Dalai Lama’s two-day, three-university lecture symposium “Compassion Without Borders” garnered media attention from numerous news outlets. His visit to San Diego was covered locally by *U-T San Diego*, *North County Times*, KUSI News, NBC News and KPBS, and national coverage included *USA Today*, *The Huffington Post* and CNN. IPJ Senior Program Officer Diana Kutlow, who served on the symposium’s organizing committee, represented USD in several media interviews.

March 20, 2012

CBS8: Program Officer Jennifer Freeman on the KONY 2012 video by Invisible Children and the IPJ panel discussion of the controversial campaign, which she moderated.



Dustin Sharp on the IPJ’s panel discussion of KONY 2012

March 19, 2012

NBC News: KSPS Assistant Professor Dustin Sharp on Invisible Children’s controversial KONY 2012 video campaign and how the organization might refocus on what is best for Ugandans.

December 2011

Harvard Law School Human Rights Journal: Executive Director Milburn Line interviewed on peace and justice concerns in Guatemala, including Guatemala’s justice system, historical legacies of conflict and the incorporation of Mayan justice practices.

# WORLDLINK

## YOUTH COLLABORATING TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS

On the morning of January 25, more than 700 students from Southern California and Baja Mexico quickly filled the seats of Shiley Theatre in anticipation of the 15th Annual WorldLink Youth Town Meeting (YTM). Middle and high school students from both sides of the border traveled to USD to attend this year's youth conference, "The Right to be Human," focusing on five student-selected topics: culture and identity, disabilities, displacement, responsible business and international justice.

"Children of our generation are growing up with war, rape, persecution, genocide and death all around them. This should not be their reality," WorldLink interns Sebastien Akarmann and Savannah Jo Dowling addressed their fellow student delegates at the opening plenary. "We have come together in recognition of their right to be human. ... We have come together as a community of youth to change this world that we live in."



*Student delegates listen to WorldLink speaker Attorney Peter Schey (Photo by student photographer Victoria Acosta)*



*Student moderator and journalist talk with WorldLink speaker Carlos Mauricio (Photo by student photographer Victor Garcia)*

From the nonprofit sector to government agencies, from freelance journalists to survivors of torture, students joined in discussions with more than 20 leading experts from around the world, including Shannon Jaccard, executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness San Diego; Peter Schey, president and executive director of the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law; and Dominic Bracco II, photojournalist and co-founder of the Prime Collective.

The session "Where Worlds Change: A Girls School in Kenya" allowed each delegate to view a WorldLink documentary featuring the Daraja Academy — a free secondary school in Nanyuki, Kenya, co-founded by USD and WorldLink alumnus Jason Doherty. Steven Kashkett, consul

general of the U.S. Embassy in Tijuana, Mexico, and a closing plenary speaker, addressed the power and influence of film, explaining, "Media and journalism play critical roles in defending human rights around the world. [They are] an open forum for expression, particularly among those groups who do not normally have a voice." The Daraja Academy documentary is available on the IPJ's website, <http://peace.sandiego.edu>.

A common question was addressed in each session by students and presenters alike: "What can youth do?" In the words of closing plenary speaker Nina Church, "It's ordinary people who do extraordinary things. ... They all started by taking the first step — the first step to seek to understand our world's issues, our basic human rights."

Now in her final year in high school, Church attended WorldLink's YTM as a freshman three years ago. Today, she is co-founder of Nika Water, which uses a social entrepreneurial model that donates 100 percent of its profits to promoting clean water projects in impoverished countries. As a speaker this year, Church advised her fellow delegates, "It's the decision to place your dreams above your fears. ... Whatever it is that you're passionate about, don't let the world stop you. Let it help you. ... It's never too early and it's never too late."

*To read more about the 2012 YTM, visit <http://peace.sandiego.edu/worldlink> to access the student-produced WorldLink Newspaper.*

## DONOR RECOGNITION

*WorldLink's 15th Annual Youth Town Meeting was made possible by the generous support of our donors: Dee Aker; Anne Birkel, Gerard Brown, Margaret Egler; Diana Kutlow, Murugappa Madhavan, Elena McCollim, Richard McCollim, Nika Water Company LLC, the San Diego Foundation and generous anonymous donors. A special thanks to IPJ Leadership Circle members who direct their support to WorldLink: Glorious Journey Photography by Gloria Garrett, Elizabeth Hansen, Kimberly Heller; Kevin Hughes, Lee Sorensen and Serenity Grace Foundation.*

*"Whatever it is that you're passionate about, don't let the world stop you. Let it help you. ... It's never too early and it's never too late."*

— NINA CHURCH

# JOAN B. KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES



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## ACADEMIC JOURNAL FINDS HOME AT SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

The *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development* (JPD), a peer-reviewed journal that provides a forum for sharing critical thinking and constructive action on issues at the intersection of conflict, development and peace, has found a new institutional home at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (KSPS).

Professor Necla Tschirgi, a member of the journal's International Advisory Board and now co-executive editor, was instrumental in bringing the JPD to the university.

"As a publication focusing on the nexus between development and peacebuilding, theory and practice, the journal fills a unique niche in the field of peacebuilding. Its mission, vision and mandate correspond closely to that of KSPS," Tschirgi stated.

The JPD was co-founded in 2002 by Executive Editors Mohammed Abu Nimer of American University and Erin McCandless of the New School for Social Research. It will now be published three times a year by the Taylor & Francis Group in the United Kingdom, and an online edition has been launched. The latest issue features a special section on the IPJ's Women PeaceMakers Program.



CRITICAL THINKING AND CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION AT THE  
INTERSECTIONS OF CONFLICT, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

"I can say, with real fervor, that JPD has both created, and is filling, a niche that few had even recognized," says Mary B. Anderson, peace scholar in residence at KSPS in February and the author of *Do No Harm: How Aid Can Support Peace — or War*. "A refereed journal that invites a wide range of perspectives and approaches is an essential part of the international community's attempt to improve our understanding of how these two [peacebuilding and development] actually are related."

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— NECLA TSCHIRGI

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Along with Tschirgi as executive editor, Martha Garcia, M.A. alumna ('07) in peace and justice studies, serves as managing editor.

The journal's online edition can be found at [www.tandfonline.com/rjpd](http://www.tandfonline.com/rjpd)

## MEASURING THE PEACEFULNESS OF NATIONS



Steve Killelea presents  
the Global Peace Index

On February 9 at the IPJ, Australian entrepreneur Steve Killelea described traveling in the third poorest place in the world, a village along the border of Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda, and being seized by an idea: convincing international policymakers and economic titans alike

of the economic case for peace. He partnered with the Economist Intelligence Unit to collate data from a rich variety of sources, established the Institute for Economics and Peace, and in 2007 launched the Global Peace Index (GPI) — now considered the leading benchmark for measuring the peacefulness of nations.

The GPI has been enriched each year since by the incorporation of new variables. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace, the 2011 index seeks to understand the structures of peace by examining "a range of potential determinants or 'drivers' that may influence the creation and nurturance of peaceful societies."

Not satisfied with measuring merely "negative peace," that is, the absence of violence, Killelea and his team resolved to look at positive peace. They plumbed 350 different datasets, indices, attitudinal surveys and more, "and we grouped it into structures of peace."

The index indicates that peace requires strong, competitive business environments. But at the same time, Killelea asserted that official development aid is also necessary, and that development must be holistic. "Peace," he said, "became a proxy for a system that's optimal for human flourishing."

Killelea's visit was hosted by USD's Center for Peace and Commerce (a collaborative effort between the School of Business Administration and the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies), the Ahlers Center for International Business and the IPJ.



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## ARCHITECTS OF PEACE



2011 Women PeaceMakers photographed by Michael Collopy (see story on page 8). Clockwise from top left: Claudette Werleigh of Haiti, Manjula Pradeep of India, Wahu Kaara of Kenya, Rashad Zaydan of Iraq.

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