against the dark polished wood of the circular boardroom in the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ) sat a kaleidoscope of bright Congolese kitenges, formal business suits, bejeweled saris. The array of women animatedly discussed global cooperation, arms reduction and human rights in a diversity of accents reminiscent of the Hall of Nations.

Thirty-five alumnae from 30 countries convened from September 23 to 28 for the Hansen Foundation 10th Anniversary Summit for the Women PeaceMakers Program and the institute’s fifth international conference on women, peace and security, “Breaking Barriers” (see p. 6).

Similar to the intensiveness of the core program each fall — two months of sustained reflection and documentation of how and why the selected women became peacemakers — the alumnae engaged in a rigorous and concentrated week of activities. The peacemakers met with IPJ staff and facilitators to evaluate what the program has accomplished in its first 10 years, and plan how and in what ways the program and the extensive network it has created will develop and expand its impact in the next decade.

“Let us keep our regions buzzing with peace.”  
— Zandile Nhlengetwa

Relating the program’s significance on an individual level, Shreen Abdul Saroor from Sri Lanka remarked, “To me, IPJ was a turning point in my activism career. It gave me an opening to an international platform for my lobby work.” A 2004 Woman PeaceMaker, Saroor continued, “Telling my story in fact helped me to rethink what I have done and the mistakes. It helped me to strategize my future path and peacebuilding work.”

In addition to evaluating the program’s impact, the summit provided space for the peacemakers to share and strategize with one another on their own work and the most pressing human rights and conflict issues they face in their countries, regions and globally. The issues they identified — and will collaborate on addressing and transforming in regional networks — included religious and ethnic extremism, access to transitional justice processes, corruption, environmental-related conflict, economic issues (such as high unemployment and “brain drain”), women’s participation in public life, and the relationship of local actors to international institutions.

The peacemakers were particularly eager to develop action plans to build or strengthen their regional networks and identify how the IPJ can further link and support them. A final summit report published later this year will encompass these reflections, reports and plans for moving forward in sustaining the program and expanding it further.

“We are all returning home charged with enthusiasm and determination to forge ahead,” commented Christiana Thorpe of Sierra Leone at the end of the week. “It was so refreshing to meet and know you all.”

Zandile Nhlengetwa of South Africa left the IPJ and the peacemakers with the challenge: like the energy generated during their week together, “Let us keep our regions buzzing with peace.”

Generously sponsored for its first nine years by the San Diego-based Fred J. Hansen Foundation, the program is seeking to diversify its funding partners and expand its network of fellow individuals and organizations committed to documenting women’s stories, educating international communities about women in areas of conflict, highlighting the diversity of roles women play in peacebuilding, and amplifying women’s voices in policy arenas. To support the Women PeaceMakers Program, contact Jennifer Freeman at jenfreeman@sandiego.edu.
Q&A with Dean Edward C. Luck, Ph.D.

Dean Edward C. Luck, the first Special Adviser to the U.N. Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect, is the new dean of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, which includes the IPJ. He and his wife, Dana, a licensed psychologist and fellow of the School, arrived at the University of San Diego in August.

Q: Your professional and academic experiences are rooted in the East Coast. Why did you choose San Diego?
A: My work as the Secretary-General’s Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect has been immensely fulfilling professionally. I feel very good about what we’ve accomplished. But the persistent advocacy made it very difficult to retain the kind of balanced and critical perspective one expects from a scholar and teacher. The notion of returning to academia, therefore, has been on my mind for some time, in part because I’ve missed the unstructured interactions with students and colleagues, as well as the opportunity to reflect and write about what I’ve learned about human protection and the norm-building process.

Q: What is human protection? What strengths do the School and University bring to its further development and institutionalization?
A: Human protection, a term I coined a few years ago, has not entered general usage yet, as there is always resistance to adding another concept to a seemingly crowded lexicon. But over the years my conviction has grown that, for a series of conceptual, political and institutional reasons, we need a better way to think about the series of mandates that have emerged at the United Nations over the past two decades that address imminent threats of violence to specified groups of people. These have included such things as forced displacement, child soldiers, genocide prevention, civilian protection, mass rape and gender-related violence, and the responsibility to protect.

Each has its own constituencies, normative standards and sets of tools and bureaucratic mechanisms. At the United Nations, these mandates emerged at different times and with little reference to each other. There has been remarkably little cross-fertilization among these issue areas. In typical bureaucratic fashion, the tendency has been instead to compete for funding, political support and public attention.

These issues are, in my view, naturals for the Kroc School and USD. As a values-based campus, USD has long championed human rights and social justice. The Kroc School’s peace and justice curriculum will provide a natural academic home for the further exploration of how to make the individual human protection mandates more effective.

As the key players in a school of public policy, Kroc’s students, faculty and staff need to address simultaneously the way policy is carried out in the field and how it is shaped at headquarters and in national capitals. I can envision the Kroc School, with its world-class facilities, becoming a global center for fresh study and quiet policy reflection on how to achieve the promise of human protection in the first half of this still young century.

Q: What has been most surprising to you about the School or University? What are you looking forward to as you begin your time here?
A: Fortunately there have been no big surprises at USD. I like the spirit of the place. But that was expected. The Kroc School alumni are more enthusiastic, more numerous and more visible than I had anticipated, in part because it had not occurred to me that there were students before there was a School. Their continuing engagement with the School is gratifying.

My sense is that the School and USD more broadly are ready to embrace an era of change and growth. That dynamic element feeds my inherent sense of optimism. There is much to look forward to, ranging from the chance for Dana and me to explore jointly the individual and interpersonal dimensions of the responsibility to protect to reaching more students and expanding our faculty, from enriching the curriculum to doing a more systematic job of mentoring our students once they graduate, from streamlining management to encouraging greater coherence and common purpose in our work, and from tapping new sources of funding to enhancing our reach and policy impact. I suppose this sounds like an overly ambitious, New York-size agenda, but I can assure you that we’ll go about it San Diego-style, step by step, purposeful but not rushed.

Dean Luck addresses the crowd at this year’s International Day of Peace celebration
Celebrating the 10th anniversary of our award-winning Women PeaceMakers Program and the arrival of a new dean of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies have been tremendous opportunities to take stock of where we are and where we are going, both in San Diego and the world.

The groundwork of practice that was embodied by the 33 peacebuilders present at the Women PeaceMakers Summit (cover story) is nothing short of a groundswell that has helped reshape the norms of international relations. Instruments like U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, new justice institutions and standards set by the International Criminal Court, and new normative doctrines like the Responsibility to Protect — all quite unimaginable only a few decades ago — came from the groundbreaking work of practitioners and advocates, including the 150 delegates from 48 countries present at the conference “Breaking Barriers: What it will take to achieve security, justice and peace” (p. 6).

The interface between local peace and justice work and international decision makers is where the lessons from practice become policy — and can begin to alter the norms that shape international standards. History is full of examples in which this has occurred, including the abolition of slavery, decolonization and movements for human rights, women’s rights and civil rights, to name a few.

“Breaking Barriers” panelist Nahla Valji of UN Women phrased our task succinctly: “The challenge is nothing short of redefining concepts of peace, security and justice” — in a process that will ensure that all people, not just states or the powerful, are included.

Our new dean, Edward Luck, has been in the thick of these policy transformations (p. 2). As we at the School of Peace Studies move toward more impact on peace and justice policies, being grounded in field practice is critical. Policies are just pretensions unless they are informed by the diverse voices and perspectives on the realities faced by local communities. IPJ projects (pp. 4-5) are consciously built on this criterion. Our Distinguished Lecture Series offers another possibility to learn from life-long practitioners, as evidenced in Pakistani human rights lawyer and former U.N. Special Rapporteur Asma Jahangir’s masterful analysis offered in September (p. 11).

We have multiple initiatives that exemplify this practice to policy continuum, including the Peacebuilding Mapping Project (p. 10) and two recent Peace & Justice Policy Briefs: “The Case for United States Support for Peace in Colombia” (p. 4) and “Breaking Barriers for Women: Recommendations on Security, Justice and Peace” (p. 6). You will find more on them in these pages, and we hope you will seek us out to learn more as we go forward.
**IPJ In The Field**

**IPJ-Trained Facilitators Intensify Security Efforts as Kenyan Elections Approach**

“I can now work in my community with less fear knowing that risks can be avoided,” shared an IPJ-trained facilitator following a training she co-led for 20 youth leaders in her community in Kenya in March 2012. Facilitators like this one, from the IPJ’s partner organization Cissta Kenya, introduced community participants to key conflict resolution and violence prevention tools that could be used to address pressing security concerns in their own communities, particularly in the run-up to the next elections.

Following on the heels of these March trainings, IPJ Program Officer Zahra Ismail returned to Nairobi to help develop plans and processes to address the key security concerns identified in the earlier trainings. These workshops also focused on assessing and minimizing the risks of addressing security issues.

For many of the participants, day-to-day security concerns have continued and in some cases intensified since the post-election violence four years ago. Ongoing youth unemployment, the presence of armed gangs and simmering ethnic grievances have aggravated tensions, opening the door to further aggression and violence.

As the clock ticks toward Kenya’s next presidential elections, set for March 4, 2013, many fear renewed violence. Since the planning workshops, Cissta facilitators have been implementing activities to respond to these tensions and to increase youth participation in nonviolent campaigns and activities.

In the coming months, in response to requests from facilitators, the IPJ — in partnership with Cissta Kenya and Chemchemi Ya Ukweli — will build relations between Kenyan security actors and youth leaders to consolidate their efforts at ensuring the stability of these particularly vulnerable communities.

**THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE IN COLOMBIA**

In August of this year, the existence of secret talks between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC insurgency) was leaked to the press. Negotiations began in October in Oslo, Norway and continue in Havana, Cuba.

The IPJ has advocated for peace and justice policies in Colombia over the last two years in policy and media outlets, including the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy en Español*, *Global Post*, *International Herald Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times*.

Prior to the negotiations, IPJ Executive Director Milburn Line published a policy brief on why and how the United States should support the process. “The Case for United States Support for Peace in Colombia” offers policy guidance for U.S. government efforts that will strengthen the likelihood of a participatory, inclusive and lasting peace. Recommendations include a consultation of populations most affected by the conflict, including Afro-Colombians, indigenous peoples, the internally displaced, trade unionists, women and victims — all of whom have unfortunately not been included in the negotiations to date.

In October, Line and Woman PeaceMaker Nancy Sánchez published articles in the *Christian Science Monitor* and *Foreign Policy en Español* advocating for the participation of women in the negotiations process. Despite the impact of the conflict on women and the role they have played in peacebuilding and justice efforts in Colombia, the only women participants so far are representing the parties to the conflict more than a gendered perspective.

The IPJ seeks external funding to continue its policy advocacy efforts for peace in Colombia.
Leadership Trainings Motivate Women and Youth in Cambodia

Trade union leaders and youth activists discuss challenges in Cambodia

In March 2012, Deputy Director Dee Aker and Program Officer Zahra Ismail traveled to Cambodia to conduct a variety of trainings for women in politics, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and youth organizations. The trainings had been requested following the Women PeaceMakers Asia Regional Network meeting in Cambodia in late 2011, organized by Cambodian peacemaker Thavory Huot.

Over the course of two days, the trainings in Phnom Penh convened 30 women who hold key positions in their local communes (councils) and newcomers currently campaigning for such posts.

Aware that Cambodian women are not often encouraged to take leadership positions in their parties or even talk across party lines, the IPJ team watched the women transition from quiet curiosity to active engagement and then, on the second day, to an essential realization: that they had more in common than they had ever been allowed to discover.

In the capital, Aker and Ismail also held a roundtable discussion with 26 NGO leaders and a leadership training with 30 youth. In a society where reaching out to those in power and encouraging local responses to problems is often seen as defiant, NGO and youth leaders alike face great challenges when it comes to trust and human rights. But the young people discovered they shared the same vision for leadership and many common issues of concern: unemployment and fair wages, increased drug use among disillusioned youth, domestic violence, and rising tension among religious and social groups.

One young woman remarked, “It is as if society has abandoned not only us, but our families and communities too.” A young man who had been to college told us this was his first time looking at the challenges facing low wage workers and young women. Another young man from a youth organization felt it was important to support the young women and men he had just met: “I want to meet these new friends again and work with them.” One comment echoed the sentiment felt by all: “As a youth, I want to spend my life meaningfully.”

IPJ Supports Reintegration Efforts in Nepal

While the political situation in Nepal remains precarious due to contentious political parties and stymied efforts to draft a new constitution, the issue of integration of former People’s Liberation Army (Maoist) fighters stands out as an example of post-conflict progress.

Since February, the nearly 9,000 former combatants who opted for “voluntary retirement” have been leaving cantonment sites and returning to their communities. In April, the Nepal Army officially took control of all 28 cantonment sites and the weapons stored at those locations, after an agreement between the major political parties.

The government remains on course to complete the integration of the remaining 1,647 former fighters into the Nepal Army by the end of 2012. This progress is one reason that in September the U.S. State Department revoked the designation of the Maoists as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist entity — a move the IPJ supports.

The IPJ first worked on the issue of army integration in 2009, when it convened members from the government’s Army Integration Special and Technical Committees together with political and civil society leaders. Earlier this year Youth Foundation Nepal, an organization working to provide skills trainings to former fighters, invited Deputy Director Dee Aker and Interim Program Officer Chris Groth to Dang District in the Mid-Western Region of Nepal to work with former combatants seeking reintegration to their communities.

Together with local partner Today’s Youth Asia, the IPJ team conducted a two-day workshop designed to provide 89 former fighters — many of whom spent nearly six years in the cantonments — with communication and negotiation skills needed for this transition.

While in the country in April, the IPJ also held a program with members from the Birgunj police. Since 2010, the IPJ has held 14 working sessions in the Terai region to promote increased cooperation between the security sector and civil society, using a whole community approach to create a more stable peace.
The following is an excerpt from the final statement and policy brief resulting from the “Breaking Barriers” international conference, held in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the Women PeaceMakers Program. The excerpt contains only the recommendations on security; for the full statement that includes justice and peacebuilding recommendations, please see the IPJ’s website.

More than 150 delegates from 48 countries … attended the conference “Breaking Barriers” from September 26 to 28, 2012.

Based on the input gathered during this year’s conference … conveners call on all relevant actors to heed the following actionable recommendations, recognizing that unless and until these points are taken into account and expanded upon, any investment in peace, justice and security will be both inefficient and insufficient.

The conference co-conveners and delegates:

Urge Member States to adopt a Human Security framework as the dominant paradigm of national security, lessening the dependence on and resort to traditional security mechanisms.

Prioritizing Human Security (freedom from fear and freedom from want) as the dominant measure of national and global security, military and security activities should be carried out in accordance with the following:

- National and local approaches to security should involve a “whole community” approach, involving a wide range of stakeholders.

- The outsourcing of security duties to non-state, for-profit companies or individuals should be strongly condemned.

- Member States should support the spirit and the letter of U.N. Security Council agreements that have been advanced on Women, Peace and Security, and continue to critically assess the effectiveness of existing policies.

- Member States should adopt the recent CEDAW committee recommendations, prioritizing State responsibility to protect and address threats to women human rights defenders under the Convention.

- Consultations with women should be systematized at every step of the U.N. peacekeeping process.

- Involve and consult with local actors and leaders, both male and female, in how to develop local protection mechanisms that are culturally and gender aware.

- Know the gender hierarchy in the local culture. Do not expose women to further violence through gender-blind operations.

- Appoint more women to leadership positions in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

- Change job experience requirements for these leadership positions that few women currently meet. For example, instead of requiring 10 years of diplomatic experience and finding only a pool of men, include, e.g., grassroots peacemaking experience or activist experience with relevant political savvy.

Conference Co-conveners:
Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice
NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security
Nobel Women’s Initiative
UN Women
Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice
Women’s Learning Partnership
World Pulse

Narratives from the Middle East Published

Narratives of Women PeaceMakers from the Middle East are now available on the IPJ’s website. “They Never Left, They Never Arrived,” the story of Samia Bamieh of Palestine, and “Um Al-Iraq (The Date Palm Tree),” the story of Rashad Zaydan of Iraq, can be found at http://peace.sandiego.edu/wpm.
IPJ Welcomes 10th Year of PeaceMakers and Peace Writers

For 2012, Stephanie Chiu joins three returning peace writers: independent researcher Sara Koenders and freelance writers Alison Morse and Sigrid Tornquist. Chiu works for the New South Wales Department of Attorney General and Justice, in Australia, and has a master’s degree in peace and conflict studies from the University of Sydney.

Alice Nderitu of Kenya is a commissioner in the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, which mediates ethnic and race-related conflict and was created in the wake of the notorious 2007-2008 election violence in her country. Nderitu is working with Stephanie Chiu.

Radha Paudel is the founder and president of Action Works Nepal, which assists primarily rural, poor and marginalized women to live dignified lives in a country still recovering from a 10-year civil war. She is working with Sigrid Tornquist.

Ludmila Popovici founded the Rehabilitation Center of Torture Victims Memoria, the only such organization in Moldova working with survivors of torture and one of the first nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations in the country. Popovici is working with Alison Morse.

Nancy Sánchez, a journalist by training, works primarily in the dangerous Putumayo region of Colombia and documents human rights abuses by all sides, as well as the everyday survival strategies of women, in her country’s decades-long conflict. Sánchez is working with Sara Koenders.

Cherie Blair Exchanges Human Rights Strategies with PeaceMakers

September 19, days before the start of the 10th anniversary summit of the program, the 2012 Women PeaceMakers were invited to a private meeting with human rights lawyer Cherie Blair, wife of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair. She was on campus to give the Jane Ellen Bergman Memorial Lecture on Women, Children and Human Rights — a joint venture of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and USD School of Law.

The peacemakers discussed their work defending human rights, healing ethnic tensions and preventing election violence, rehabilitating victims of torture, and drafting a new national constitution. Blair engaged them on issues of human rights, asking if global policy influenced their work on the ground. Regarding Kenya and Nepal, Blair was especially interested whether political quotas for women were effective modes for gaining more gender-sensitive leadership.

The peacemakers’ experiences stayed with her in her lecture later in the day, when Blair remarked, “Human rights principles are easy to grasp, but difficult to apply.”

Peace Writer Amy S. Choi covered the “Breaking Barriers” conference for “The Word on Women,” a blog by TrustLaw, the global hub for free legal assistance and news and information on good governance and women’s rights. Read her posts at www.trust.org.

Vaiba Kebeh Flomo of Liberia was one of the first participants in the Women’s Peacebuilding Leadership Program at Eastern Mennonite University’s Summer Peacebuilding Institute.

Peace Writer Sofia Javed is now a program analyst for Russia and Central Asia for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor at the U.S. State Department.

Zandile Nhlengetwa of South Africa is this year’s Human Rights Fellow at the Oak Institute for International Human Rights, based at Colby College. From September through December she will teach and conduct research while residing at the college in Maine.

Radha Paudel, this year’s peacemaker from Nepal, was recognized as a Role Model for Peace, one of the N-Peace Awards given by the network of the same name. She joins last year’s inaugural winner, Woman PeaceMaker Shreen Abdul Saroor of Sri Lanka.

IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker presented a paper, co-written with Editor Emiko Noma, at a conference of the International Political Science Association, held in Madrid, Spain. The paper was based on the Women PeaceMakers Program, and Aker spoke on a panel with researchers and practitioners presenting on identity and conflict transformation. The panel was organized by Nikki Slocum-Bradley of the Life & Peace Institute.

Women PeaceMakers Spotlighted in Spain

Updates on Women PeaceMakers and Peace Writers
WorldLink

WorldLink Alumna Making Change Around Campus and the World
by Kira Elliott, WorldLink Intern, San Dieguito Academy

It was summer 2004. Twelve-year old Rishika Daryanani took her first trip to India, where she was captivated by the culture she now holds so dear. It was India, where she witnessed the disparity in living conditions from the United States, that sparked her interest in international affairs.

Throughout her high school years Daryanani remained dedicated to raising global awareness. Through her participation in Jane Goodall’s Roots & Shoots program, she helped raise environmental awareness by encouraging alternative sources of transportation. Her experience with Model United Nations helped her develop an analytic and critical way of looking at issues, as she and fellow students tried to resolve global issues with feasible solutions. Her work as an Oprah Winfrey O Ambassador and raising funds for various causes can be found in the book How Great Women Lead (Center Street Books, 2012).

Daryanani first learned about the WorldLink Program at the IPJ during her freshman year at High Tech High International, when she attended the 11th annual Youth Town Meeting (YTM), “Untying Global Knots,” which focused on global warming and its intricate connections to corporate and governmental corruption, poverty and health, and media bias. That YTM was the first of many as Daryanani began her relationship with the WorldLink Program. Unlike many high school relationships, this one would last for many years to come.

With each year, she grew from delegate to moderator, from moderator to speaker, from speaker to program assistant. While in high school, Daryanani worked as a liaison between WorldLink and her fellow students, gathering and preparing interested delegates for each year’s YTM. WorldLink provided her with an outlet in the world of global affairs, discovering what she could do to bring about positive change in her community.

WorldLink also gave her the opportunity to work with the IPJ’s Women PeaceMakers Program and the Women’s Center at the University of San Diego (USD), which developed her interest in women’s rights. WorldLink empowered Daryanani because with knowledge comes strength, and with this strength she reached out and inspired other youth to become leaders in their own communities.

“WorldLink empowered Daryanani because with knowledge comes strength, and with this strength she reached out and inspired other youth to become leaders in their own communities.”

Daryanani, now 20 years old, is an undergraduate at USD. She has grown since that first trip to India, both as a person and a changemaker. Daryanani began college with a major in international relations, but after reading a description for an engineering major — “It’s a degree in problem solving” — she shifted to industrial systems design with a minor in peace and justice studies. In the future, she hopes to combine the two subjects to create original solutions to global problems.

Mark Your Calendar for the Next Youth Town Meeting

On Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013, WorldLink will host its 16th Annual Youth Town Meeting, focused this year on the student-selected theme “The Power and Influence of Media.” WorldLink Interns Alexander Dey Bueno (CETYS Universidad, Tijuana), Kira Elliott (San Dieguito Academy), Tsion Fikre (Scripps Ranch High School), Ellie Molise (Francis Parker School), Brandon Wachs (La Jolla Country Day School) and Catherine Zuniga (Herbert Hoover High School) dedicated the 2012 summer to producing the annual WorldLink Reader.

This online publication and educational tool addresses the topics:
- social media’s revolutionary change
- the relevance of traditional media
- the relationship between media and government
- media as a humanitarian voice
- media as a global activist

The WorldLink Reader is available at http://sites.sandiego.edu/wl_reader
Nepal Youth Leader Visits San Diego and Inspires WorldLink Students

In October, Mandira Raut of Today’s Youth Asia (TYA), an international multimedia outlet based in Nepal and a partner of the IPJ’s Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative, met with WorldLink students at three local high schools. In preparation for WorldLink’s 16th Annual Youth Town Meeting in January, “The Power and Influence of Media,” Raut led in-depth discussions about media tools and youth empowerment.

“We need courage. To do anything in life, each of us needs confidence,” Raut remarked in front of 7th and 8th grade students at King Chavez Preparatory Academy, a school committed to promoting social justice among inner-city youth through educational reform. Raut, a projects director for TYA and one of their youngest staff members, explained that she was around the same age as the students when she became a TYA trainee. She left the King Chavez students with a simple message, “If you constantly remind yourself of your dream, you work for it.” By the end of her brief visit, the middle school students voiced their dreams of becoming mechanical engineers, soccer players and leaders in the medical field.

Raut is also the producer of TYA’s television shows which air each week on national television, and which promote youth activism, ethics, empowerment and change. Through TYA, youth in Nepal participate in training programs and learn how to serve as news anchors, edit video footage and more. During Raut’s visit to High Tech High Media Arts, she explained a few of the obstacles she and her colleagues have faced.

“Many parts of Nepal experience 16-hour power outages on a daily basis, and during the early to mid-2000s, TYA was forced to deal with an autocratic regime that often shut down their training programs. A 9th grade student shared, “We are fortunate to live in a country where we can say what we think about the government, and I can attend these meetings without having the police shut them down. After hearing about the projects Mandira’s organization is working on, it makes me think that we should create a YouTube channel where we can share our thoughts and opinions.”” — 9th Grade Student, High Tech High Media Arts

In her final school visit, Raut met with Crawford High students who are also International Rescue Committee Peacemakers — refugee youth from various countries, including Nepal, Burma and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She addressed the reality that in many countries schools do not have chairs, tables, books or even teachers. In Nepal, several youth — girls in particular — drop out of school in 7th or 8th grade because there are no toilets.

A 12th grade student from Crawford High School expressed, “I understand some of the struggles Mandira discussed, in particular the ‘problems at home.’ I remember staying home from school on some days because I had to take care of my brothers and sisters.” She continued, “Students these days abuse their privileges. We are so blessed. I look up to Mandira.”
Peacebuilding 2.0: Mapping the Boundaries of an Expanding Field

The peacebuilding field must identify itself as a far more expansive community of practices, recognizing that peacebuilding takes place within a broad range of sectors. To be truly effective, the field must coordinate its efforts across these sectors.” This is the first conclusion of the final report of the Peacebuilding Mapping Project (PMP), launched at the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) in Washington, D.C. on October 19.

The study, funded by USIP and carried out jointly by the Alliance for Peacebuilding and the IPJ, was conducted in two phases: a survey of 44 U.S.-based peacebuilding organizations (all AfP members), and a survey of 75 other nongovernmental organizations working in fields closely related to peacebuilding.

Highlights from the report, “Peacebuilding 2.0: Mapping the Boundaries of an Expanding Field,” include:

- AfP members “focus primarily on core peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes, with over 90 percent working on social cohesion and trust building.”
- They work in 153 countries and operate within tightly limited resources, with over 60 percent operating on peacebuilding budgets of under $500,000 annually.
- Of the organizations that are not AfP members, 56 stated that they considered themselves peacebuilding organizations, while 15 did not. More than half of those who do not consider themselves peacebuilding organizations reported working in the areas of women’s issues, development, human rights, democracy and governance, youth, and the environment.

The report concludes that peacebuilding is a larger community of practice than the number of organizations specializing in conflict resolution/transformation. Furthermore, a conflict-sensitive lens must permeate the work done not only by those organizations, but also by all others operating in conflict-affected environments, so as to “ensure that interventions seemingly tangential to conflict resolution do not adversely affect the conflict dynamics of a fragile society.”

Necla Tschirgi, professor of practice at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and principal investigator of the project, presented the study’s findings at a large gathering that included USIP President Jim Marshall, AfP President Melanie Greenberg, conflict prevention expert David Hamburg, and a six-person panel of commentators.

IPJ Program Officer Elena McCollim, a contributor to the PMP and its report, found retired Army officer’s John Agoglia comments on the panel the most intriguing of the meeting. “He stated that the U.S. needs to think of national security in broader terms than it has done hitherto,” she reported from USIP. He noted that there is a tremendous resource imbalance between the Department of Defense and everyone else working in conflict zones, and that promoting peacebuilding is, ultimately, part of promoting national security.

The IPJ is partnering with the San Diego Museum of Man to illuminate the contemporary issues revealed in its new exhibit, “Instruments of Torture,” on display through June 2013. The goal of the exhibit is to provide a comprehensive interpretation of torture through historical artifacts and a discussion of present-day torture practices.

IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker joined a panel that opened the exhibit in July and remarked, “The IPJ knows too well that there is no shared or sustainable peace without justice, and that there is no true justice where torture is practiced.”

The exhibit’s partners also include Survivors of Torture, International and the International Legal Studies Program at California Western School of Law.
As the keynote speaker for the IPJ’s “Breaking Barriers” conference, Pakistani human rights lawyer Asma Jahangir spoke about the interconnection between peace and human rights, and the importance of collaboration between activists around the world. “It is important for us to understand that we are living in an interconnected world. If the U.S. is not at peace, I will not be at peace in Pakistan. If the U.S. is following an agenda for security, that agenda will be followed by other countries as well.”

Jahangir, who served two terms as chair of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, did not hesitate to criticize her own country’s record, citing the government’s promise of “security” as a tool of repression. “I come from a country which is at war with itself. It has internal tensions and it has external hostilities which have perpetually threatened the country. In turn, those who are masters of our country threaten the public with the possibilities of the external hostilities and make that into an excuse for usurping our rights.”

She also took aim at the West and the United States in particular for historically propping up dictatorships that have toppled into civil war or unstable transitions during the Arab Spring, pointing out the irony of the U.S. complaining about the strength of Islamist movements in countries that overturned oppressive governments.

“Precisely because you and your governments have supported our dictators for so long, there have been no political movements in our countries. The only political activity that was allowed and could not be taken away was in the mosque. The only organized civil society was that of the clergy and their followers.”

During the question-and-answer session following her lecture, she was asked about the potential for one person to make a difference in building peace. Jahangir emphasized the necessity for people to come together to have greater impact.

“In a movement in which you are asking for justice, asking for rights, where you are building up peace, you need the front-liners, you need the communicators, you need the grassroots workers, you need the civil society policymakers, you need creative thinking, you need people who connect each other, you need people who form networks, you need people whose voices are heard. And you need to pool all these resources. Unless this is done, no single individual, no single group, no single mind, no single pair of hands can bring peace or justice in this world.”

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Asma Jahangir

Distinguished Lecture Series

Pakistani Human Rights Lawyer Gives Candid Talk at Conference

Dalai Lama Lecture and Others Now Available

The 2011-2012 Distinguished Lecture Series booklets — featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama, women’s rights activist Zainab Salbi, and renowned peacebuilder John Paul Lederach — are now available online and in print, along with 25 other lectures from the series. See http://peace.sandiego.edu/dls
In conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the Women PeaceMakers Program, the IPJ and USD exhibited “Photography for Social Change: Images by Michele Zousmer.” The collection of photographs from Peru, India, Cambodia and Guatemala highlighted selected Women PeaceMakers and the environments of their native countries.

Proceeds from photography sales benefited the Women PeaceMakers Program. The IPJ and the Women PeaceMakers thank Michele for her talent, generosity and thoughtfulness.