



OUR FOUNDATION

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROTARY LEADERS

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ROTARY: STANDING APART!



Eddie Blender, Publisher
Our Foundation

Why is Rotary unique?

The fourth object of Rotary sets us apart. *The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.*

By Rotarians maintaining high ethical standards and participating in our incredible Ambassadorial Scholarship and Peace Fellowship programs, our Humanitarian Grants and Cultural out reach (GSE, VTT) and our drive and dedication to Polio Eradication we continually out perform and stand apart from others.

THE POWER OF PERSONAL CONTACT

Throughout our organization we are indisputably solid believers that the power of personal contact bridges the differences that work to drive humanity apart.

Experimenting with new ideas (the Future Vision Plan) and proactively recruiting new and qualified members leads Rotary to greater successes. Moreover our programs are relevant and innovative in meeting the world's needs and Rotary is continually making a difference throughout the world!

*The Our Foundation
newsletter is one of the
monthly features of the
Rotary Global History
Fellowship (RGHF)*

ROTARY: STANDING APART! WORLD PEACE

How often have you heard, "...a dialogue is needed. They must sit face to face with one another and talk. We must have personal contact"



In this very cruel and bloody world we have threats and fighting and bombs and bloodshed speaking louder and more often than diplomacy/dialogue.

Part of the mission statement of our Foundation (TRF) is: "... the achievement of world understanding, goodwill and peace". Are these mere words from Rotarians? I think not!

Rotarians do not find a corner and pull blankets over their heads hoping "it" will go away. They dream large, they talk the talk and they walk the walk, working together they conjure up the Magic of Rotary.

For years Rotarians dreamed of a Rotary sponsored entity promoting world peace, goodwill and understanding. It's here now! It has been for nearly eight years and those years have been very successful. It is a reality! We have seven Rotary Peace Centers preparing our graduates through programs in peace studies, mediation and conflict resolution.

Our graduates are our Army, our Peace Fellows, our Peace Builders, our Change Agents and we have prepared them to truly make a difference in the world through our Peace Centers.

We have been soliciting applicants worldwide to apply for the two year Rotary World Peace Fellowships, which lead towards a masters degree (or doctorate) and Short-Term Certificates (a three month program) in peace studies and conflict resolution.

Your club/district by finding the best qualified and brightest in your community to apply — can help to change the world.

ROTARY: STANDING APART! MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

PEACE IS POSSIBLE!

For years, dedicated Rotarians dreamed of a Rotary-sponsored academy promoting world peace, goodwill, and understanding. This concept was proposed in 1996 as the Paul Harris Centers for International Studies to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Rotary founder Paul Harris.



This idea evolved even further when Rotary Foundation Trustees recommended the creation of Rotary Centers at educational institutions worldwide where Rotary Fellows would obtain a two-year graduate degree in international relations, conflict resolution and peace studies.

In April 1999, the Trustees planted the seed for such a program with the approval of the Paul Harris Centers concept and now it is officially known as the Rotary Peace Centers.

Rotary World Peace Fellows are graduates of the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution program. They are a part of tomorrow's solution in promoting greater tolerance and cooperation among people worldwide.

Rotary World Peace Fellows, who are chosen from a wide variety of countries, can help future leaders advance knowledge and understanding.

The first class of scholars in 2002 began their studies at one of the seven Centers located around the globe. In 2004 the seed that was planted five years prior had now matured and produced the first graduating class of Rotary World Peace Fellows.

With this first group of graduates (of Peace Fellows) came remarkable individuals who are truly making a difference in the world. Please read following pages for their stories.



ROTARY: STANDING APART! Our Educational, Humanitarian and Cultural Programs



OUR ROTARY WORLD PEACE PROGRAM

Bangkok, Thailand, has been in the news and in our thoughts. *Rotary Peace Fellows* were preparing to leave for the city to study at Chulalongkorn University while the political situation was escalating.

The Rotary Foundation's staff had to plan very carefully. Ultimately, the decision was made to delay the start of the upcoming course from early June to early July. The primary concern is always the safety of participants in any Rotary program, and we will continue to monitor the situation.

This will be a hands-on case study for the peace fellows: They can analyze the root causes of the conflict and learn about the possible solutions to prevent further turmoil in this dynamic country of sun and smiles. We look forward to hearing how the skills and theories apply to real situations.

Meanwhile, at other sites around the globe, *Rotary Peace Fellows* were presenting their research at annual seminars held at Universidad del Salvador (14 May) and the University of Queensland (22 May). Seminars are wonderful opportunities for the Rotarians in the host districts to hear how their Foundation program is making a difference by training a new generation of peacemakers. The next one will be held 12 June in Tokyo at International Christian University.



Peace,

Judy Gibson

*Rotary Peace Centers Department Manager
The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International*

ROTARY PEACE CENTERS ANNUAL SEMINARS

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY WILL HOST ITS ANNUAL ROTARY PEACE CENTER SEMINAR ON SATURDAY, 12 JUNE. IF YOU HAVE YET ATTENDED A SEMINAR AND WILL BE IN JAPAN IN JUNE, YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE UNIVERSITY'S MOST RECENT CLASS OF PROMISING ROTARY PEACE-BUILDERS.

ROTARY: STANDING APART!



Mr. Cameron M. Chisholm, USA, Rotary World Peace Fellow, 2006-08, University of Bradford, UK, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi, USA

Long before he began his fellowship at the University of Bradford, Cameron M. Chisholm pondered how to share practical knowledge about conflict prevention and peace building with students in his

field. But it was during his AFE that the thoughts coalesced into a workable idea. Frantically scribbling notes while sitting at an unsteady plastic table in Ethiopia, Cameron mapped out a business model that would become the International Peace and Security Institute (IPSI).

Cameron recognized a chasm between classroom education and work on the ground. Classrooms were heavy with theory, leaving young peace makers without many practical skills they would need in their work. So he spent the last several years working to found IPSI, which will host its first educational symposium in Bologna this June. Participants from more than 30 countries will undergo intensive training in the skills necessary to bring peace and security to their communities and to the world.

The symposium's unique curriculum will bridge the gap between theoretical and practical knowledge by employing practitioners at the forefront of the peace and security field to teach about theory from the perspective of personal experience. Guest speakers include Betty Bigombe, Chief Mediator between the LRA and the Government of Uganda, and Gareth Evans, President Emeritus of the International Crisis Group and Co-Chair of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

Cameron recognized the great work Rotary Foundation alumni contribute to peace and conflict resolution by hiring five Peace Center Alumni to join him on staff at the first symposium. Peace fellows Luke Brothers, Maria Effendi, Angela Bruce-Raeburn, Andy Piker, and ambassadorial scholar Donatello Osti will help to guide students in Bologna and lead breakout sessions. Current peace fellows Katharine Mote, Goranka Slavujevic, and Jake Kurtzer will take part in the symposium as students.

**INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY
INSTITUTE (IPSI).**

**CLOSING THE
CHASM BETWEEN
CLASSROOM
EDUCATION AND
WORK ON THE
GROUND.**

ROTARY: STANDING APART!

Former Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar Roxana Saberi talks about her imprisonment in Iran, human rights, and a new book. Saberi, who left the United States for Tehran in 2003 as a foreign correspondent, has become an international celebrity and a face for human rights in Iran.



Roxana Saberi
Photo by Tommy Giglio

A MATTER OF CONVICTION

By Tara Kalmanson
Rotary International News -- 14 May 2010

Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars always impress, but Roxana Saberi, who left the United States for Tehran in 2003 as a foreign correspondent, has become an international celebrity and a face for human rights in Iran.

The former political prisoner, released from Tehran's notorious Evin Prison in May 2009, sat down for a Q&A luncheon at the Union League Club in Chicago on 13 April. Her national tour served to promote her book, *Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran*, published 30 March. Saberi recalled the many lessons she learned from fellow female political prisoners, the events that led to her freedom, and her life before Evin.

After the Iranian government revoked her press pass in 2006, Saberi stayed in the country and began writing a book for American readers that profiled the diversity of its people.

Eleven days after U.S. President Barack Obama's inauguration, she was kidnapped, questioned, and detained in Evin Prison for 100 days, accused of using her book as a cover to conduct hundreds of interviews with Iranians and spy for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Using nonviolent "white torture" (extreme sensory deprivation) techniques, Saberi's interrogators forced her into making a false confession by guaranteeing her freedom if she admitted to espionage.

Without knowing she would be released in a matter of days,

Continued next page

Saberi recanted, setting in motion a sham trial that resulted in an eight-year sentence, her own hunger strike, and a successful appeal.

“Unfortunately, a lot of Iranians are falsely accused of crimes, including espionage,” she said. “It made me wonder, do they knowingly falsely accuse people to tighten their grip on society and to silence people?”

ROAD TO IRAN

In Evin, Saberi met many of these silenced political prisoners and members of marginalized groups like the Baha’is. Their stories strengthened her will to recant.

“Sometimes through suffering we can have an opportunity to become stronger,” she said. “And even when you’re imprisoned, you still have power to control your attitude.”

Saberi’s road to Iran included a stop at the Miss America competition, where she finished in the top 10. Her talent was playing the piano, a gift she would later put to use as a diversion while in solitary confinement at Evin by tapping her fingers against the wall.

She used her Miss America scholarship money to attend Northwestern University’s Medill Graduate School of Journalism, and furthered her education with the help of a 1999-2000 Ambassadorial Scholarship, obtaining a second master’s degree in international relations at the University of Cambridge in England. She has written for ABC Radio, Feature Story News, the BBC, NPR, PRI, and Fox News.

“I felt like I had the journalism background, but I didn’t have the foreign relations background,” she said. “My aim was to become a foreign correspondent.”

For now, Saberi’s future plans are unsure. Since her return from Iran, she has completed her book and has been relaxing with her parents in Fargo, North Dakota, as well as participating in a number of human rights gatherings after the Iranian election.

She co-wrote a film, *No One Knows About Persian Cats*, with her longtime boyfriend and award-winning Iranian-Kurdish director, Bahman Ghobadi. While Saberi hopes to eventually return to Iran, she says she has been too outspoken to ensure a safe visit.

“Often I get worried about the Iranian people,” Saberi says, “but I know they’re very courageous, and I admire them. In the long run, they can prevail.”

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ENGLAND.**

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ROTARY: STANDING APART!

Brian Adams (UO 2003-05) is the lead international associate with Ullmen Associates LLC, specializing in conflict management consulting for a broad range of organizations in the Asia-Pacific. He is also a PhD student at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.



Mahamoud Ahmed (Bradford 2008-10) works for ActionAid International in Somalia as program support coordinator for development.



Bobby Anderson (Chula January 2010) is the deputy chief of party for International Relief and Development. He will develop governance, peace-building, conflict resolution, and livelihood grants for local civil society partners; create and maintain a monitoring and evaluation system; and act as technical adviser to USAID and civil society grantees across Indonesia.

Jackie Bornstein (Bradford 2005-07) lives in Melbourne, Australia, where she is writing an entry on creativity, dogmatic thinking, and conflict for Daniel J. Christie's forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Peace Psychology* (Wiley-Blackwell). She is also writing a chapter for *Peace Psychology in Australia: Dreamings of Peace*, the latest book in the Peace Psychology Book Series (Springer). This chapter will discuss the contributions peace psychology can make to conflict and its transformation.

Virorth Doung (UO 2007-09) a Hartley B. and Ruth B. Barker Endowed Rotary Peace Fellow is a researcher and consultant for national and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in Cambodia.



Carolyn Fanelli (UO 2002-04) serves as the head of office for Catholic Relief Services in Quetta, Pakistan.

Caitlin Fitzpatrick (UO 2004-06) is working for the annual People's Fair in Denver, Colorado, USA, in an effort to "go green" by composting and recycling, and educating the community on ways people can benefit their environment.

Mariano Griva (UO 2003-05) is a PhD candidate at the University of Queensland.

Xiao Mei Liu (Bradford 2008-10) is the small-grants manager for Winrock International, working on a new project aimed at strengthening environmental NGOs in China.

Omid Memarian (Berkeley 2007-09) is a freelance writer for the Inter Press Service News Agency and Rooz Online, and regularly blogs for the Huffington Post.



Cecilia Nedziwe (UO 2006-08) is a regional coordinator for the Centre for Peace Initiatives in Africa in Cape Town, South Africa. Her duties include working with the Southern Africa Development Community’s Council of Non-Governmental Organisations and its Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre to coordinate civil society efforts in mediation and civilian components in peacekeeping operations.

Marieke Nieuwendijk (Chula January 2010) is a program officer in the Netherlands for Simavi, a public health and water and sanitation organization. She will be working on projects in Malawi.

Akiko Okudaira (UO 2005-07) is pursuing a PhD at the Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy. She received a scholarship from the Australian National University in Canberra.

Megan Powers (USAL 2004-06) is a senior project manager at Grassroots Solutions in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Grassroots Solutions is a political consulting firm that specializes in community organizing, engaging, and mobilizing.

Perth Rosen (UO 2005-07) is a technical training adviser with the Latin American division of Freedom from Hunger in Davis, California, USA, which specializes in developing innovative, “added value” capacity-building products for microfinance institutions.



Gert Danielsen (2003-05 Universidad del Salvador) is a program specialist in aid effectiveness at the United Nations Development Programme’s Regional Service Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa in Johannesburg, South Africa, promoting support for UNDP and governments in the region to make development cooperation more effective.

Gert Danielsen (left) announces his pledge of \$1,0000 to the Rotary Peace Centers Major Gifts Initiative. Shown with Eddie Blender, Chair (RCMGI)

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ROTARY: STANDING APART!

Aime Saba (Bradford 2007-09) is a PhD candidate in political science at the University of Queensland. His thesis examines the role of international and regional organizations in negotiating post-conflict state rebuilding in politically complex environments, looking at Afghanistan and Somalia as case studies.

Maiko Shimizu (UO 2004-06) is a junior professional officer candidate sponsored by the government of Japan.

Julia Smith (Bradford 2008-10) is a monitoring and evaluations adviser for the SEND Foundation, a West African organization that focuses on social and economic development in post-conflict and hard-to-reach areas.



Johanna Stratton (ICU 2006-08) lives in New Zealand and works on freelance writing and editing projects.



Etsuko Teranishi, left, and David Chick, both former Rotary Peace Fellows, talk during a break at the recent Rotary World Peace Symposium in Birmingham. Both led breakout sessions on development issues. Rotary Images/

Etsuko Teranishi (UO 2005-07) is a junior professional officer sponsored by the foreign ministry of Japan. She works for the International Organization for Migration on human trafficking issues.

Tamara Turcan (UO 2007-09) is the director of studies at the language center for the American Councils for International Education in Moldova. She supervises the teaching and professional development of 18 language instructors.

Andrezza Zeitune (Sciences Po 2003-05) works for UNESCO in Paris for the Latin America and Caribbean region and on emergency assistance projects.

Marcos Zunino (UO 2007-09) joined the Judicial Power of Buenos Aires Province, Argentina, as undersecretary in a court of law. He focuses on complex cases involving human rights and has joined the College of Magistrates and Functionaries of Buenos Aires Province.

Raseema Alam (Chula July 2009) works for the Canadian International Development Agency's Afghanistan Task Force in Ottawa.

Tenzin Bhuchung (Berkeley 2002-04) is involved with Buddhist studies and meditation as an oral and written translator and sometimes as a teacher.

Matthew Bright (UO 2002-04) is an associate lecturer at the University of Queensland in Australia, teaching master's and undergraduate courses.



Vanessa Contopulos (Bradford 2008-10) is a music therapist in San Diego, California, USA. Her research focuses on the role of the arts and music in peace-building. She is starting a consultancy called Create4Peace, with the mission of supporting peace-building organizations by providing creative resources, workshops, and training.

Laura Graham (USAL 2007-09) works in the Americas Division of Human Rights Watch in Washington, D.C.

Satoko Hara (Bradford 2008-10) is a development consultant in Japan. She helps implement projects with the Asian Development Bank, Japanese Official Development Assistance, and other agencies.



Susan Stigant (2003-05 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is in Nairobi, Kenya, providing support to the constitutional committee and convention for the Sudan program of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. She also plans to conduct a civic education campaign on the constitution throughout South Sudan.

Cecilia Moifula (Chula July 2008) was appointed to be the peace-building coordinator of the Justice and Peace Commission of Caritas of the Catholic Church of Sierra Leone.

Shannon O'Brien (ICU 2003-05) is a product marketing manager for Aperian Global, a cross-cultural consulting firm in Boston. She will work with the company's webtool, GlobeSmart, helping clients to increase their effectiveness across cultures.



Amy Kay (2002-04 University of Queensland) is working in Cairo for the United Nations Development Programme's HIV/AIDS Regional Programme in the Arab States.

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Aime Saba with Hage G. Geingob, former Namibian prime minister and current minister of trade and industry.

PEACE FELLOW ALUMNUS PRESENTS AT THE BRUSSELS, CRANS MONTANA FORUM ON AFRICA

Peace fellow Aime Saba was invited to give two presentations to the Crans Montana Forum on Africa in Brussels, Belgium.



ANDREW FEINSTEIN, 1987-88 AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF GROOTE SCHUUR, SOUTH AFRICA (DISTRICT 9350) TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY IN USA

Andrew Feinstein is a former member of the African National Congress (ANC) in South Africa. He was born in Cape Town and received education at King's College, Cambridge, the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Cape Town. His political life began when he served as an advisor to then-MEC of Finance, Jabu Moleketi in Gauteng (a province of South Africa) from 1994 to 1996. He also worked as an economic advisor to Tokyo Sexwale, current South African Minister of Human Settlements.

Feinstein was elected as a member of the South African Parliament's lower house in 1997 and rose swiftly through the ranks. During his time in office, he served as ANC's official spokesman on the National Assembly's public accounts committee, Scopa. Referred to as "one of its most vocal and talented MPs", he sought a thorough investigation into bribery allegations on the South African Arms Deal, however, resigned in 2001 after the ANC refused to launch the investigation.

Feinstein now resides in London with his wife and two children. He chairs the Aids charity Friends of the Treatment Action Campaign and works as a securities coordinator for Investec Bank UK Ltd. He also lectures and writes on South Africa. He is known for a bestseller "*After the Party – A Personal and Political Journey inside the ANC*", a critical memoir of the political culture of the ANC.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2011-13 CLASS OF ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS ARE DUE 1 JULY 2010

Please help the Rotary Peace Centers save the environment and stay green. When submitting applications, please try to send all materials via e-mail or fax.

If you have questions or need help, TRF is happy to provide guidance through the application process.

Please contact rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org for more information.

RECRUITING SCHOLARS REQUIRES AN ONGOING EFFORT

By Peter Schmidtke
Rotary International News

Loa Magnúsdóttir, a former Rotary Peace Fellow from District 1360 (Iceland), worked for UNICEF's Icelandic National Committee prior to her fellowship year and performed duties including filming a television program at a UNICEF-funded school in Nairobi, Kenya. *Photo courtesy of Loa Magnúsdóttir*



[Rotary Peace Fellows](#) and [Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars](#) can be the pride of their sponsor districts. But finding the best candidates requires an ongoing, strategic effort.

Gudmundur Haraldsson, Rotary Peace Fellowships subcommittee chair for District 1360 (Iceland), says his district taps contacts within the local university and humanitarian aid organizations, advertises in newspapers, and relies on past fellows to advise, educate, and recommend candidates. "Put the main emphasis on the good academic record of the students, and their experience and ambitions regarding humanitarian aid," Haraldsson says.

In District 5890 (Texas, USA), ongoing recruitment efforts have led to 36 Ambassadorial Scholars over the past 10 years, an achievement that Bill Barmore, district scholarships subcommittee chair, attributes in part to word-of-mouth publicity and continual relationship-building.

"Each year, we ask the members of our committee if they know a contact person at a local university who will be an advocate," Barmore says. The committee also sends scholarship information kits to every club in the district.

District 5890 asks its Rotaract clubs to help recruit candidates, and it encourages former Ambassadorial Scholars to speak to clubs and universities.

If you need to narrow down your pool of candidates, District 6440 (Illinois, USA) Scholarships Subcommittee Chair Linda Lutz suggests using personal interviews not only to get to know your applicants but also to observe how they interact with Rotarians.

She also recommends emphasizing the unique advantages of a Rotary experience, such as the networks of Rotarians available to fellows and scholars before and after they go abroad. "That's a huge asset over other scholarships," Lutz points out

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SEEKING POTENTIAL ROTARY PEACE FELLOW CANDIDATES PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2010 DEADLINE

Through your district's recruiting efforts to date, you may have started to notice that there are more potential Rotary Peace Fellow candidates in your area than you thought. Keep in mind that when creating the Rotary Peace Centers program, The Rotary Foundation Trustees crafted Rotary's objective to seek potential leaders in many areas of vocational service in order to develop specific skills to aid their own respective countries and communities.

Every candidate is different and you are continually finding applicants that exceed our expectations. This month we'd like to answer some of our frequent application questions to better assist you in working with your district's Rotary Peace Fellowship candidates. As always, if you have additional questions, please contact TRF.



- **How many applicants can a district endorse? If we endorse more than one, will it affect our applicant's competitive chances?**

Districts can endorse as many applicants as they deem qualified for either program. Applicants that are endorsed by a district which sponsored multiple applicants will be reviewed and selected based on merit and not the other applicants from that district. For example, this past year D-9800 endorsed 4 candidates that were all selected for fellowships.

- **If our district's candidate is selected, are we responsible for funding them?**

No! The Rotary Peace Fellowship Program is generously supported by a fund of DDF and donor contributions allocated to Rotary Peace Centers. A district is welcome and encouraged to support the fund but any contribution has no bearing on the success of the application.

- **How much experience is enough experience when it comes to being a competitive applicant?**

We strongly advise that applicants have at least 3-5 years professional full-time experience (paid or unpaid) before applying for a fellowship. Normally successful candidates exceed that requirement. However the relevancy and extent of the experience is also important.

- **Does an applicant need TOEFL/IELTS scores and a language ability form?**

If the applicant's native language is not English they will most likely need to submit qualifying TOEFL or IELTS scores. The language ability form relates to a separate program requirement regarding second language proficiency. All Rotary Peace Fellow MA program applicants must be proficient in a second language (not necessarily English) which will be evaluated on the form.

- **When will applicants be notified of their selection?**

This year the short-term program applicants will be notified of their selection by 20 October 2010. The Master's degree program applicants will be notified by 15 November 2010. Endorsing districts and clubs will be copied on that correspondence.

SUCCESSFUL CLUB RWPF STRATEGIES

I wanted to share with you briefly how I think our Washington DC Rotary Club is successful in sponsoring Peace Fellow candidates:

- 1) Our communications work. If an applicant looks us up on the RI website, the number is correct. I recommend clubs get a cell phone or use Google voice so that contact number never changes. When the club president (the last three to be precise) gets a message from an interested applicant, they pass it along to me Peace Fellow Chair Daniel Sturgeon) immediately, and I call them within a few days. I have had numerous applicants tell me they've tried to contact other Rotary clubs around the country, and either no one answers, the number is incorrect, or if they do reach someone the applicant is told that club "does not participate" in the Rotary World Peace Fellow Program (RWPF).
- 2) The Ambassadorial Scholarship is well known, and we get many unsolicited calls from people interested in this program (especially among graduate students). I "sell" the RWPF to these applicants who are qualified. This year, two of my applicants fit into this category.
- 3) Our alumni do our recruiting for us. Two of our four RWPFs were found by a single Peace Fellow Alumnus who works on Capitol Hill. I ask them to pass the word, and they have applicants find me. Our fellow who just returned from Bangkok recruited an applicant within a week of her return to Washington. This is absolutely our best resource for spreading the word, and an effort that will grow exponentially.
- 4) We don't recruit at universities (students are typically not qualified). Instead, we use our club's networks to recruit among alumni associations of other international programs: JET Program, Peace Corps Volunteers, etc. One of our applicants was a fellow Alumni of the JET Program.
- 5) Our success is not without drawbacks. There is some push back from rural clubs who are not convinced that they have successful applicants in their communities. They overlook the certificate program, and don't try to recruit among police officers, teachers, social workers, educators, theater arts. This "lack of imagination" stems from a misunderstanding of the goals of the RWPF - Rotarians imagine "UN Workers" as fellows, not peace builders among them already. This also stems, I believe, from the confusion between this and the Ambassadorial program. Also, some Rotarians don't understand that the Peace Fellowship is not designed to be a "cultural exchange program."
- 6) I still meet Rotarians who don't understand how this program is funded - i.e., they think that like the Ambassadorial that if they choose someone they must fund it themselves.

These are some quick thoughts that I hope help you develop an agenda. These are from the perspective of an RWPF alumnus and club foundation chair (me) - not necessarily from a district perspective.

Rotarian Daniel Sturgeon,

Rotary World Peace Fellow Alumnus (RWPF)



ONE PEACE FELLOW'S JOURNEY



Kristin Post

KRISTIN POST RECEIVES ROTARY FELLOWSHIP, WILL STUDY IN BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Oct. 3, 2006

Kristin Post, a master's student in culture, curriculum and change, has received a two-year Rotary World Peacte Fellowship to study in Australia.

Beginning in February 2007, Post will earn a degree in peace and conflict studies from the University of Queensland in Brisbane.

In 2007-08 the Rotary Peace Fellows, who represent approximately 30 nationalities, will study for two years at six Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution.

Together, the University of North Carolina and Duke University are home to one of only two centers in the United States; the other is at the University of California, Berkeley. Others are located in West Yorkshire, England (Bradford University), Buenos Aires, Argentina (Universidad Del Salvador), Brisbane, Australia (Queensland University), Tokyo, Japan (International Christian University) and Bangkok, Thailand (Chulalongkorn University).

The fellowship covers tuition, room, board and travel expenses, with additional funds available for a summer internship. (Applied Field Experience) Rotary International chose 60 fellows from a pool of 175 applicants.

Post said she became interested in international politics when she joined the Junior United Nations club at Charles E. Jordan High School in Durham, N.C. She graduated from Jordan in 1991, and from UNC-Chapel Hill, with a bachelor's degree in English, in 1995.

Post then traveled for a year, visiting 21 countries including China, Egypt, England, France, India, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand and Vietnam. She concluded that many Americans have a sheltered exposure to different ways of life, even though different cultures are represented within the United States.

**ROTARY PEACE
FELLOW
ALUMNUS
KRISTIN POST
HAS HELD FIRM
TO HER VISION.**

**THE POWER
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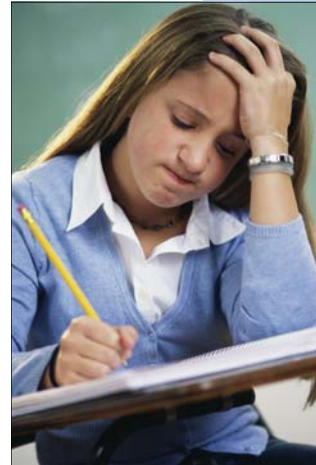
**READ KRISTIN'S
PEACE FELLOW
JOURNEY OVER
THE FOLLOWING
EIGHT PAGES.**

Kristin wrote: "When you're working with different cultures, it's important to know how you are similar, and from there to understand how to get through conflict or disagreements," she said.

Post will receive her Master of Arts degree from the School of Education in December 2006. In her master's thesis, conducted under the direction of Neikirk Distinguished Professor George Noblit, Post is examining charter schools in North Carolina.

After completing her Rotary Peace Fellow study in Australia, Post intends to return to the United States and found a charter school based on the principals of global education and conflict resolution.

"I certainly love other countries, and I love living in other countries," she said. "But there's work to be done here."



ROTARY PEACE FELLOW KRISTIN POST, USA, DISTRICT 7710

BEFORE ARRIVING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AS A ROTARY PEACE FELLOW, KRISTIN LIVED IN CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA AND COMPLETED A MASTER'S DEGREE IN EDUCATION THAT FOCUSED ON CURRICULUM AND PUBLIC POLICY.

PRIOR TO THAT, SHE WORKED IN A GLOBAL EDUCATION MUSEUM THAT EMPHASIZED CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING THROUGH PARTICIPATORY LEARNING. KRISTIN ALSO TRAVELLED AROUND THE WORLD FOR ONE YEAR, AND ENJOYED THE HOSPITALITY OF HER NEIGHBOURS IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES.

KRISTIN IS DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT SHE HAS RECEIVED ON ALL LEVELS OF ROTARY.

SHE IS INSPIRED AND ENERGIZED TO DEDICATE HER LIFE TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNITY BUILDING EXPERIENCES THROUGH EDUCATION.

**"I AM
INSPIRED AND
ENERGIZED TO
DEDICATE (MY)
LIFE TO THE
TRANSFORMA-
TIVE COMMUNITY
BUILDING
EXPERIENCES
THROUGH
EDUCATION."**

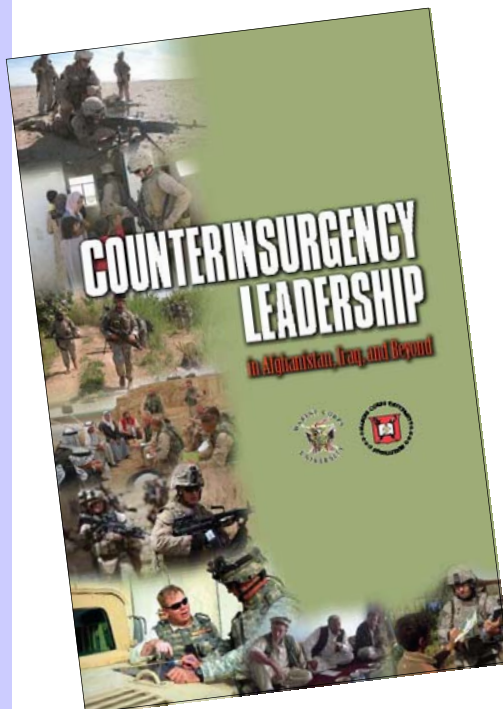
CIVILIANS TRAIN IN ARTIFICIAL “AFGHAN CITY” IN MIDWESTERN USA

Artificial Cities? The last stop for “specialized” groups before shipping out to Kabul or Kandahar in Afghanistan is a simulated war-torn city in Midwestern USA. This is where the US government trains Americans who are part of the most ambitious civilian campaign ever mounted in a foreign country ... the civilian surge intended to improve the lives of Afghans.

WINNING THE TRUST OF LOCAL RESIDENTS

They will be deployed along with the 30,000 additional troops that President Barak Obama is sending to Afghanistan — a civilian vanguard.

PEACE
FELLOWS
TRAINED IN
MEDIATION,
PEACE AND
CONFLICT
RESOLUTION
CAN HELP
CONTRIBUTE
TO A JUST
VICTORY



“With a thorough understanding of our allies and local political and social conditions, we can help newborn nations develop the leadership required for long-term success.

The need for leadership goes beyond today’s conflicts and, indeed, lies at the heart of current debates over the future of our national security organizations and strategy.

Although most of the public discourse thus far has concentrated on questions of equipment and future threats, leadership will also be a crucial variable.”

CIVILIANS AND TROOPS ARE CONDUCTING A GROUND LEVEL COUNTERINSURGENCY (COIN)

The idea is that COIN (meaning Counterinsurgency) is the way to fight a “good war”. Professionals surveying their areas of operation, collecting information on the economy and patterns of governing, work and travel. (see Kristin Post’s story on the next page).

They regularly sit down with local elders to collaborate on development and security measures.

A WIN-WIN SITUATION

The task in Afghanistan is to gain the cooperation of the population. Without the population’s tacit support the insurgency will wither away.



The Problem: Achieving “stability” in Afghanistan and the wider region – however defined – requires a level of U.S. military, political, economic and personal commitment that will be very difficult to sustain.

See Peace Fellow Alumnus Kristin Post’s story on the next page

yesterday-- 2:32 PM ET

At Least Six Americans Killed in Attack at Base in Afghanistan

At least six Americans were killed Wednesday when a suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest made his way into an American base in Khost Province in southeastern Afghanistan, according to NATO military officials. The suicide bomber died in the blast. Six more Americans were wounded, some of them seriously, suggesting that the death toll could climb, the officials said.

KRISTIN POST ROTARY WORLD PEACE FELLOW

ROTARY CENTER: UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
CLASS: 2006-08
SPONSOR ROTARY CLUB: ROTARY CLUB OF CHAPEL HILL, USA
SPONSOR DISTRICT: 7710
CITIZENSHIP: USA
LANGUAGES: SPANISH AND ENGLISH
APPLIED FIELD EXPERIENCE: AL-LAZ THEATRE, ACRE, ISRAEL.
CITY: LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
COUNTRY: USA
CURRENT POSITION: CIVILIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCHER FOR THE US ARMY, TRAINED AT FT. LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS USA.

LIFE AFTER THE FELLOWSHIP ..

Kristin Post (Queensland 2006-08) recently accepted a position as a civilian social science researcher for the U.S. Army. She wrote to describe her first days in training at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and recent deployment:

"It's true, I'm in Kansas now. Why? I've gotten a job! I'm training near Fort Leavenworth, which is a U.S. Army post. I've been hired as a social science researcher.

After I learn what that means, and if all the medical exams and endless paperwork go well, then in five or so months, I will be deployed to Afghanistan as a civilian with an Army unit.

I'm really enjoying the acronyms and military lingo I encounter. You see, this training is preparing me for when I'm "downrange," and one important function I have as a social science researcher is to interact with the local population, ideally giving my Army commander "visibility" into what the issues are, with the primary goal of solving problems before "going kinetic." So, I guess you could say that if I'm doing my job well, then all the soldiers can return "up range" sooner rather than later, because they won't have anything left to fight about.



This past week, our class has been learning about counterinsurgency, or COIN, the strategic label the Army uses to define what's happening in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Insofar as we (the Americans) are going to succeed in countering the insurgency, our campaign to win hearts and minds must successfully address individual and group grievances. From the vignettes we've been given thus far, the kinds of grievances my team will address are the kinds that the military created, usually through a series of misunderstandings. Some are simple, like when young soldiers do something that they think is funny that isn't funny to the local population. Some are more complicated, like when an old man was arrested because he possessed "terrorist literature" that, when translated, turned out to be a child's homework.



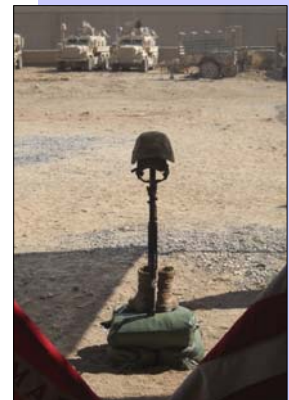
The second incident was handled with a culturally appropriate apology (rather than the way the military would have normally done, which was to set the man free unceremoniously).

Following that apology, the women of the village came by the Army barracks to report incidents. Eventually, the town sheikh offered his support, which was what the Army had desired in the first place.

I just finished taking a walk wearing an IBA. (That's the heavy, metal-plated camouflage vest that we'll be issued and have to wear when we are "outside the wire.")

We've been advised that we should get used to walking with the IBA now, and I agree because I can tell how I could detest this vest very quickly, despite its intended lifesaving function. My group will arrive in Afghanistan in September and be there primarily for the winter and maybe part of the Afghan springtime too.

I hope I make it to pomegranate season. I want to see how they grow on the trees. Maybe they'll look like the redbuds I saw blooming today in the Kansas City neighborhood while taking an afternoon stroll with my bullet-proof camouflage vest."



Sincerely, (WRPF) Kristin Post

Continued on next page

ROTARY: STANDING APART!

This note from Kristin Post is an example of the value of the Rotary World Peace Studies Fellowships. Kristin is a Peace Fellow who graduated from the University of Queensland Center fairly recently. She is en route to her family home in North Carolina after a year as an member of a cultural team advising the US Marines in Helmand Province, Afghanistan on the likely impact on the local Pashtun cultures of military decisions they were contemplating. Yes, it will take a lot of Kristins; the Rotary Peace Program has many and we seek more.

**WORLD
ROTARY
PEACE
FELLOW
(WRPF)
KRISTIN POST
MOST RECENT
LETTER SENT -
JUNE 2, 2010**

From: Kristin Post Rotary World Peace Fellow Alumnus — Sent: June 2, 2010 1:31 PM

Well folks,

I'm sitting on "the Boardwalk" at the Kandahar Air Force base, feeling like I have come full circle. Nine months later I'm back where I started- physically speaking. A lot has changed, though, spiritually speaking. I've learned, I've grown as a person, I've come to appreciate the stark simplicity of life in the desert. To name a few.

The big question is, has Afghanistan changed in the blink of an eye that I've been here? And does it need to? In an ideal world, the answer to the second question would be, "No. Let all the Helmand farmers keep to their simple ways as they have for centuries."

Unfortunately, doing that means that there is no structure, no governance. Hobbes argued for governance because otherwise life is "nasty, solitary, brutish and short." (everyone always forgets the solitary part.) Another way to look at it is that nature abhors a vacuum, and the Taliban are the way that vacuum was filled once before. So yes, Afghanistan does need to change, and even though the farmers say they want to be left alone, they also accept the changes that have come.

For my last research mission outside the wire, I witnessed exactly what change has come to Afghanistan, or at least one little hamlet of it. I want back to Noorzai patrol base, it's at the southernmost portion of the Nawa district. It struck me as beautiful the first time I was there way back on my first research mission in September, and it didn't disappoint the next two times I went there. I fell under its spell all three times. My second visit was in November. at the tail end of the deployment for one battalion and I observed how they handed over their relationships and cultural knowledge to the incoming Marines. This time, I went back to see what had happened to those relationships and all the development projects that were just getting started.

What I saw was indeed remarkable. It was a noticeably different place six months later. There was a mosque just down the street from the PB. In November, it was in shambles. Now it had decorative windows, the front "yard" was cleared of debris- construction and improvements were happening. Likewise, there was a rickety road crossing from one side of the irrigation canal to the other. Now there was a nicely built block foundation and a bridge wide enough for vehicles and people traffic.

That's just the visible improvements. The ANA commander that used to be there in November was a nice enough guy, but he spent all day everyday inside the compound. His replacement not only went on patrol, he was actively making relationships with the Afghans...to the extent that he was able to tell me all about this one 20-year-old man I was interviewing- where he was going to school, what he was studying. With the command doing a better job, so were the enlisted soldiers, and the patrol base, which had once been in a bit of disarray, was now spic and span. They even had a prayer tent which served as their mosque.

And then there are the people themselves. Many of them remembered me, and they fondly remembered the former Marine commander that left in November. They clearly had a better attitude about themselves and their security. To the point that, when the Taliban came to assassinate one of the community council members, he fought back, and he and others caught two of the Taliban and handed the detainees over to the ANA. That is a stark contrast to when I was there last, the Taliban had killed a community council member, and all the other members fled to Lashkar Gah.

One of my favorite interviews this time around was with a young boy. I remembered him from before- like most kids, he was always asking for a "qalam" (pen.) I saw him on one of our patrols, standing in his usual place by the road that goes along the canal. When I'm all geared up, it's tough to tell me apart from the male Marines. As I got closer and said "Tsangaye" (how are you?), I wondered if he would remember me. Suddenly, his eyes got big, and in an incredulous voice, he said "Noria???" (That's my Afghan name, by the way.) We both got big smiles on our faces, as if we were long lost friends finally reuniting.

Continued on next page

I had never stopped to talk to him before, but on my last day there, I asked him some questions about the school. It had opened a month ago and then closed abruptly. In the course of the conversation, I saw the quality of his mind. He is a perceptive and analytical child, the real future for this country. Most adult males accept that farming is their lot in life, but when I asked him what he was going to do as an >adult, he said if he got an education and learned some math, perhaps he could be a businessman and sell some things at a shop. He didn't see his only option as farming, which is an astounding change.

Inshallah, the Noorzai school will reopen after the summer break, and this boy and others like him will finally become what they deserve to be- students. Just like I'm still a student, especially of Afghan culture, which is difficult at times, because I represent myself to the Marines as someone who understands culture, but I find myself learning major things all the time. This time around, I got a doozy of an object lesson. Literally, it had to do with objects. Ironically, they were objects I had my heart set on giving away, and I kept getting frustrated in actually being able to do that. I brought down a big box of all kinds of things- storybooks and gifts and winter gear, but most importantly, I had a special Koran to give to one of my favorite elders, Gudumdar. The first time I met him was in his fields near his pomegranate orchard, reading a tattered version copy of the stories of the prophets- it had no cover, and he kept it wrapped in a plastic bag. I told you about him in my last update, where so many of you kindly replied with the names of Mary's parents, whom I planned to impress him with when I saw him. Unfortunately, this time around, we kept missing out on chances to patrol by his place.

I had bought a Koran in Egypt back in January, on the slim chance that I might get back to Noorzai to give it to him. I had hoped to find a religious book in Farsi at one of the many bookstores there. But, since everything was in Arabic, I figured a Koran would be the best option- at least that Arabic would be familiar to my scholarly friend. The Koran has special handling rituals, and I could tell even the bookseller was hesitant to sell it to me, lest I mistreat it in some way. As it happens, I did unthinkingly come close to putting it on the ground more than once.

With this in mind, when I got to Noorzai, I gave the Koran to my interpreter. It would be much more acceptable for him to carry and handle it, which he was kind enough to do for several patrols where we hoped to go by Gudumdar's. But we never did. Deeply disappointed, I mentioned briefly to Ahmad that we would need to give the Koran to the ANA commander so that he could give it to Gudumdar in the future.

Later, as I was drinking tea with the ANA, I saw the Koran. It quickly became apparent that the commander thought the Koran was for him. Frustrated, I asked Ahmad what was going on. He explained that he understood me to say I wanted to leave it with the commander, and as he was packing and not sure how quickly we would leave, he gave it to the commander (without waiting for me.) When I asked if we could explain the misunderstanding and my real intent to the commander, Ahmad said that he could not do this. As he had given the Koran to him, he could not, in essence, "take it back."

There's more to this story than just this Koran. That box of stuff I mentioned earlier that I had brought to hand out to the Afghans had suffered from a previous misunderstanding, where the ANA soldiers understood a Marine to tell them they could take what they wanted and burn the rest. We tracked down some of the things, but others were charred remains by the time I figured out what had happened.

Emotionally, I was at the end of my rope. Why was it so difficult to just give? But intellectually, I knew I was stubbornly holding onto an idea that clearly was not happening, and it would be far far easier to just "let it go." I was truly torn. I deliberated and asked advice of another Marine. Should I accept fate and leave the Koran with the happy ANA commander? Or get another interpreter to help explain the situation, and see if this one thing that I had carried all the way from Egypt might end up with the person for whom it was intended?

This is a choose your own adventure cliffhanger. You decide. Which course of action would you choose?

I'll be setting foot on terra Americana in a matter of days. First I'll be in GA, giving back my Army equipment, then Kansas, where I'll be out processing with HTT HQ, then I'll be back in steamy NC. Invite me out for a coffee or call me (919-967-2412) and tell me what you would have done, and if I decide you're worthy, I'll tell you the choice I made.

No, seriously. I will save the ending for later. But the real ending to this adventure is in gratitude. I may not have accomplished much, but whatever I did achieve, I am grateful. And I am especially fortunate, for so many of you have been there with me in this journey-- with a prayer, with a note, with a gift, with an email, with a thought of me, or a word to a stranger about me. As I said at the end of every interview with an Afghan, and I now say to you, there manana, "thank you very much."

Until we meet again-
WRPF Kristin Post

**WHEN THE
TALIBAN CAME
TO ASSASSINATE
ONE OF THE
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
MEMBERS,
HE FOUGHT BACK,
AND HE AND
OTHERS CAUGHT
TWO OF THE
TALIBAN AND
HANDED THE
DETAINEES
OVER**



BE PROACTIVE - TELL THE ROTARY PEACE CENTERS STORY - HELP TO ENDOW THIS IMPORTANT PEACE PROGRAM

The 2010-11 Rotary Foundation World Peace Fellowship Informational Brochures and Application is available for download in either Word or Adobe formats at:

<http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/foundation/educational.html>

(Scroll down about two-thirds of the page for the application.) Please note that TRF prefers that applications be submitted electronically.

THE ROTARY CENTERS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL PRIORITY FOR THE ROTARY FOUNDATION.

- Please do not overlook the fact that TRF advises that candidates should have at least three years of professional experience in a field related to peace and conflict resolution. TRF is seeking mid-career professional who are focused in peace related fields. Please keep this in mind during your candidate search process.
- Any Rotary Club worldwide may submit as many qualified applicants as they wish to their district (at no cost for these Fellowships to the club). Each Rotary District then interviews the applicants and may submit as many qualified candidates for the worldwide selection process for 60 Rotary Peace Scholars (Masters Program) and 50 (Short Term Certificate) for the upcoming classes.
- The Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution has been identified as the highest educational priority for The Rotary Foundation. With the graduation of Rotary World Peace Fellows and subsequently their work worldwide in peace related employment, this program is no longer a dream but is a program producing tangible results.
- The financial future of the program will be secured through the initiative of The Rotary Foundation which seeks named and endowed gifts and commitments worth a cumulative amount of US\$95 million to cover Rotary World Peace Fellowship program expenses by 30 June 2015. The program is called the Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative.
- As of May 2010 the initiative has almost reached 47 million dollars. The long-term fund development plan focuses on identifying, cultivating and securing major gifts from US\$25,000 to US\$1,500,000.
- Districts, are encouraged to continue donating District Designated Funds (DDF) to become Rotary Centers Peace Builder Districts.

Additional information on communications, major events, training, donor relation activities and naming opportunities are available *from Peggy Asseo, Director of Planned and Major Gifts*. Please contact: Peggy at: peggy.froh.asseo@rotary.org with any questions or if you know a Rotarian who might be interested in supporting the Rotary Centers in a significant way.

THE ROTARY PEACE PROGRAM – ARE WE ACCOMPLISHING WHAT WE EXPECTED WE WOULD?

These great statistics are for all Rotary Peace Centers alumni through the 2007-09 class. They also include the 2008-10 class from the University of Bradford and the January – March 2010 class from Chulalongkorn University. These statistics are accurate as of 2 June 2010.

There are 461 peace fellows that have reported their current position to The Rotary Foundation (out of 485 total alumni) or 95.1%. This is an incredible statistical response, and the highest percentage ever reported.

Perhaps more significantly, the number of peace fellows who are actively looking for work, who are working in fields that fall into the "other" category, and who were working academic support positions all decreased. This implies that peace fellows are finding more and better jobs in their peace related fields. It also represents a maturation of peace fellows who are beginning to move into the middle and upper levels of their chosen fields.

It is also significant to note that the number and percentage of peace fellows who are working in the Middle East and Africa also increased. This is reflective of an increasing number of qualified candidates being put forward from these regions who return to their sponsor countries, and it also reflects a willingness among peace fellows to work in areas where their presence can have a positive impact.

OF THESE 461 ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS:

- 145 work for NGOs or other peace-related organizations (31%)
- 94 work for a government agency (20%)
- 56 are pursuing additional advanced degrees in peace-related fields (12%)
- 40 are teachers/professors (9%)
- 33 work in research or academic support positions (7%)
- 25 work for United Nations agencies (5%)
- 11 are journalists (2%)
- 11 are lawyers or work in a law-related field (2%)
- 9 work for the World Bank (2%)
- 19 defy easy categorization; these include: bankers,



Continued on next page...

human resource professionals, and business owners (4%)

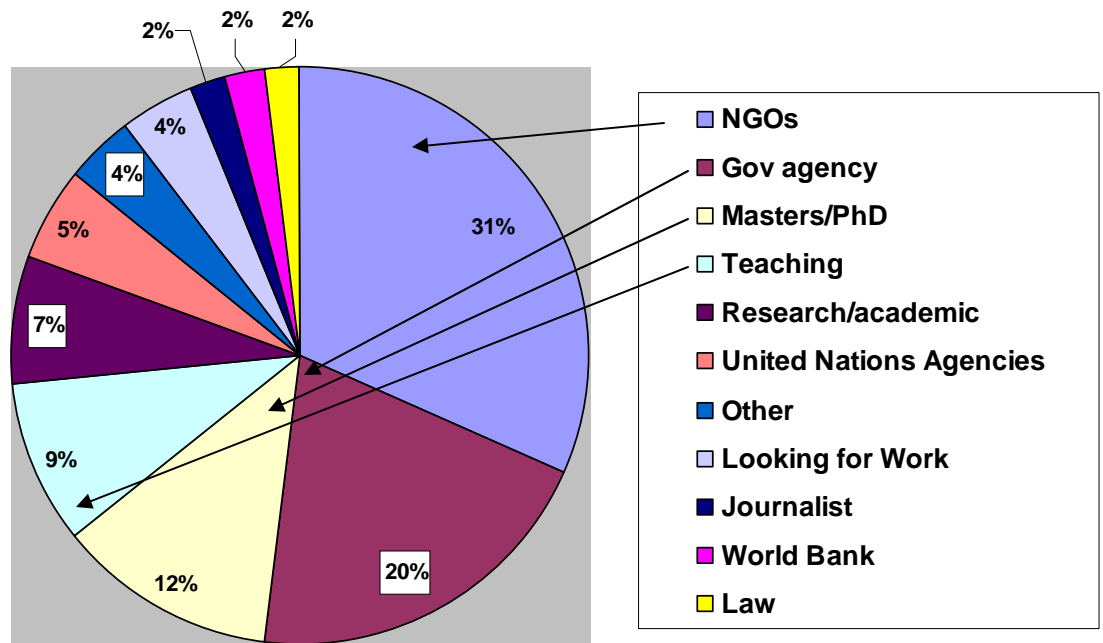
- 18 reported they are actively looking for work in the field (4%)

OUR ROTARY PEACE CENTER ALUMNI ARE WORKING AROUND THE WORLD:

- 138 reside in North America (30%)
- 114 reside in Asia (25%)
- 69 reside in Europe (15%)
- 44 reside in Africa (10%)
- 35 reside in Australia and Oceania (8%)
- 33 reside in South America (7%)
- 21 reside in the Middle East (5%)
- 7 reside Central America and the Caribbean (2%)



ROTARY WORLD PEACE FELLOW ALUMNI EMPLOYMENT



WHAT PAUL HARRIS SAID...

"It is easier to interest men in war than in peace; it therefore requires more moral courage to talk peace than war."

**Paul P. Harris, 'Rotary just at the Threshold',
'THE ROTARIAN, February 1917'**

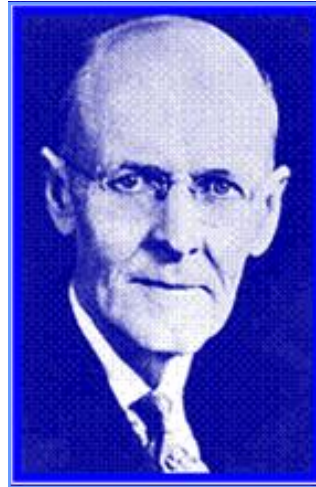
The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to support the efforts of Rotary International in the fulfillment of the Object of Rotary, Rotary's mission, and the achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs.

Purposely, our mission .. the achievement of world understanding and peace!

Rotary's founder Paul Harris was explicit when he said, *"It is easier to interest men in war than in peace; it therefore requires more moral courage to talk peace than war."*

He set the course 93 years ago, set it for all Rotarians to follow.

*Eddie Blender,
Chair, Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative*



Paul P. Harris



Rotary History features will be sent to you every week (free-of-charge) and also to whom-ever you wish. Please register for this free service at: www.historycomment.org

What Paul Harris Said is a monthly feature of the Rotary Global History Fellowship

Our Foundation

June 15, 2010

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