

Uppsala Rotary Peace Center

December 2017



Peace Pieces



Photo credit: Marcus Tan de Bibiana.

*Educating and strengthening leaders to
have a positive impact on peace and
conflict
resolution in the world.*

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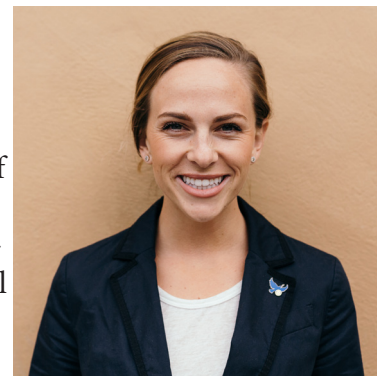
Class XVI: The 6th cohort that the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center hosts

Rotary Peace Fellows Class XVI is the sixth cohort that Uppsala Rotary Peace Center hosts. Class XVI is formed by engaged, positive, and brilliant young professionals that are committed to make a change at the local, national, and international spheres. Rotary Peace Center staff and Uppsala Rotarians have had the opportunity to get to know Peace Fellows and we want to invite everyone to read more about them.

Christiana Lang

I love creating goals for the future. Two current career aspirations are to 1) mainstream women's roles in international peace mediation processes, and 2) advise implementation of a Feminist Foreign Policy within the US. In this field it is easy to become discouraged by tragic decisions, difficult history, and situations that are seemingly impossible to solve. Despite all of that, People inspire me. Witnessing exchange of good from one person to another keeps me hopeful and reminded of our shared humanness and capability of love. So far, the past three months in Uppsala have been magical with the drastic change in light and seasons. I am loving all of the nature here, and also, the constant fika. I enjoy all forms of exercise, learning new things, people and places, community activism, and spirituality through yoga/meditation.

A fun fact about me is that the beach is my happy place.



Juan Diego Duque Salazar

Painters, musicians and artists always look for a piece of life to inspire their art, melody or sculpture. Peace builders are just like artists; we look for our own pieces of inspiration to support a lasting peace. I am one of those who believe that resolving intricate questions of humankind could lead us to practical solutions. In the future, I see myself as a scholar practitioner, either as a university professor or the director of a research organization that promotes evidence-based policies for conflict resolution. My new life as student in Uppsala has a particular allure. Although many people complain about Swedish weather, the lack of light and extremely cold temperatures are the perfect combination to keep me concentrated on my studies with a warm cup of coffee and classical Swedish cinnamon roll. Though you might not believe it, this weather has also encouraged me to return to playing my harmonica as well as hiking and biking through the marvelous Swedish pine forests. You might find a Colombian performing a salsa song, with his harmonica, in the middle of a snowy forest in Uppsala!



Kaitlin McGarvey

Human resiliency and diversity inspire me. The word “Ubuntu” holds great strength in South Africa. It translates to “humanity to others,” and is often used in the phrase “Umuntu Ngumuntu Ngabantu,” which roughly translates to a “person is a person through other people”. It means humanity is intertwined, and only when every person is empowered can we reach our full potential. While it seems abstract, my life goal is to practice this philosophy in both my work and my personal life. I seek to learn from, and understand, those who have lived a life different than my own, and I hope to contribute to the betterment of humanity by recognizing the importance of each person. I believe my professional life will go through several stages. I’d like to spend time in the field working in conflict areas, and eventually work to involve more women in water management policies and decisions. I am in awe of Sweden’s beauty, and the balanced lifestyle that is so prevalent here. Interestingly, even though water management is my area of focus, I love exploring deserts and think desert plants are beautiful.



Maju Honda

I used to be most motivated by anger, anger towards absurd violation of human dignity. While anger is still one of my strongest sources of motivation to study and act, I have softened up a bit after my son, Yujin, came into being. To me, Yujin represents all the possibilities in the world, both positive and negative – joy, kindness, creativity, love, longing for love, jealousy, hatred, greed (right now just hunger), frustration, sadness, curiosity, and so much more to be nurtured and learned. Knowing that all of these, in so many different ways, are there in each and every single individual that exists and existed, female or male, old or young, criminal or saint, and realizing that EVERYone is a miracle was a revelation, a gift Yujin gave to me. My future goal is somehow to reduce violence against these miracles but how is to be learned intensively in the next year and a half. Moving to Sweden was also inspirational as the Swedish society, with all the problems and disagreements I assume, seems to be struggling and striving to embrace the idea of tolerance and diversity by systematically practicing respect for individuals with all the differences we have. In this regard, I am here to learn not only in classroom but from everyone and everything I encounter in my Swedish life.



Ognjen Gogic

Growing up in a conflict-torn region taught me from a very young age that the worst price of a war is paid by those who are the least responsible for its outbreak and waging. This experience induced my motivation to tackle the drivers of violent conflict, both as a scholar and a practitioner. I am positive that coming to Sweden to continue my academic development will turn out to be a defining moment from my future career in the field of conflict resolution and peace-building. Sweden is the perfect place to study about peace. Not only that it represents one of the countries that gave the most to world peace, it is also a stimulating environment to work and generate new ideas. After completing my faculty responsibilities, I like to spend my spare time singing in a choir or wandering around the woods. These are also good ways to appease temperament which can sometimes be too energetic and passionate.



My name comes from a Slavic word oganj which means flame and describes me the best.

Pedro Henrique Souza

One in a million, we are not all the same. I believe that diversity is one of the biggest strengths in our world. By coming together and living with diversity we learn much more. I think that if we take that diversity and turn it to our advantage we can make peace by pieces. From a house to the world, I wish to work more in the field in conflict affected areas, with local organizations, trying to build a critical understanding and developing creative and nonviolent tools for a social change, empowering those to make peace personally.

Uppsala is such a cosy, peaceful and calm city. It makes me glad to be able to recharge my energies a bit and be more in contact with nature, but also makes me a bit unrest and thriving for more things to do. Ever since then,

I put my passion for music more into practice, organizing a music project and curating intimate acoustic sessions in people's living rooms. Besides that, I have great interest in photography and drawing, one of my hobbies is urban sketching, by walking around the streets and drawing the city through my own lenses.



Yin Yin Thatun

There is an old Myanmar proverb that says, *thit ta-bin kaung, hnget tha-thaung narr*- which translates to “one sturdy tree can provide for ten thousand birds to rest”. I am a believer in building a strong foundation, in government, society and in individuals. This core base then allows space for people to come together and be empowered.

My ultimate professional goal is to strengthen my own capacity so that I can be sturdy and work with Myanmar's women and girls and youth to strengthen their capacity and contribute to the peace process in the country, with a focus on promoting and practicing tolerance within and between different communities in Myanmar so that we can truly celebrate diversity and not feel threatened by it. I have been fortunate enough to

meet so many inspiring people in different stages of my life. Through it all, the person who inspires me the most remains my mother – who knows no limit in working to promote human dignity and equality and standing up for those with little or no voice.

Life in Uppsala has given me a space for self-reflection. I have enjoyed the everyday biking, and the weekend hikes, and even the gloomy start to winter which is still far better than over half a year of monsoon season with non-stop rain back home! I have also started Japanese archery of Kyudo here in the centre of Uppsala, a sport I have always wanted to do, but never had a chance to.



Jasper Peet-Martel

I am inspired by people who overcome socio-economic and cultural barriers to collaborate and do so with determination and purpose.

Inclusivity is key, and I am inspired by the endless possibilities presented by the grassroots to policy elites. Inclusive peace and security frameworks, enable meaningful and sustainable development for all communities.

I am excited by the diverse opinions and people with whom, as Rotary Peace Fellows collaborate and engage here in Uppsala and Sweden more broadly. I am optimistic about the skills I will gain here at Uppsala that will help me to promote collaboration and inclusivity.

I really enjoy the natural beauty of Sweden, the many running trails and heated soccer fields are a great way for me to relax and try to get some sun when possible!



Henrique Garbino

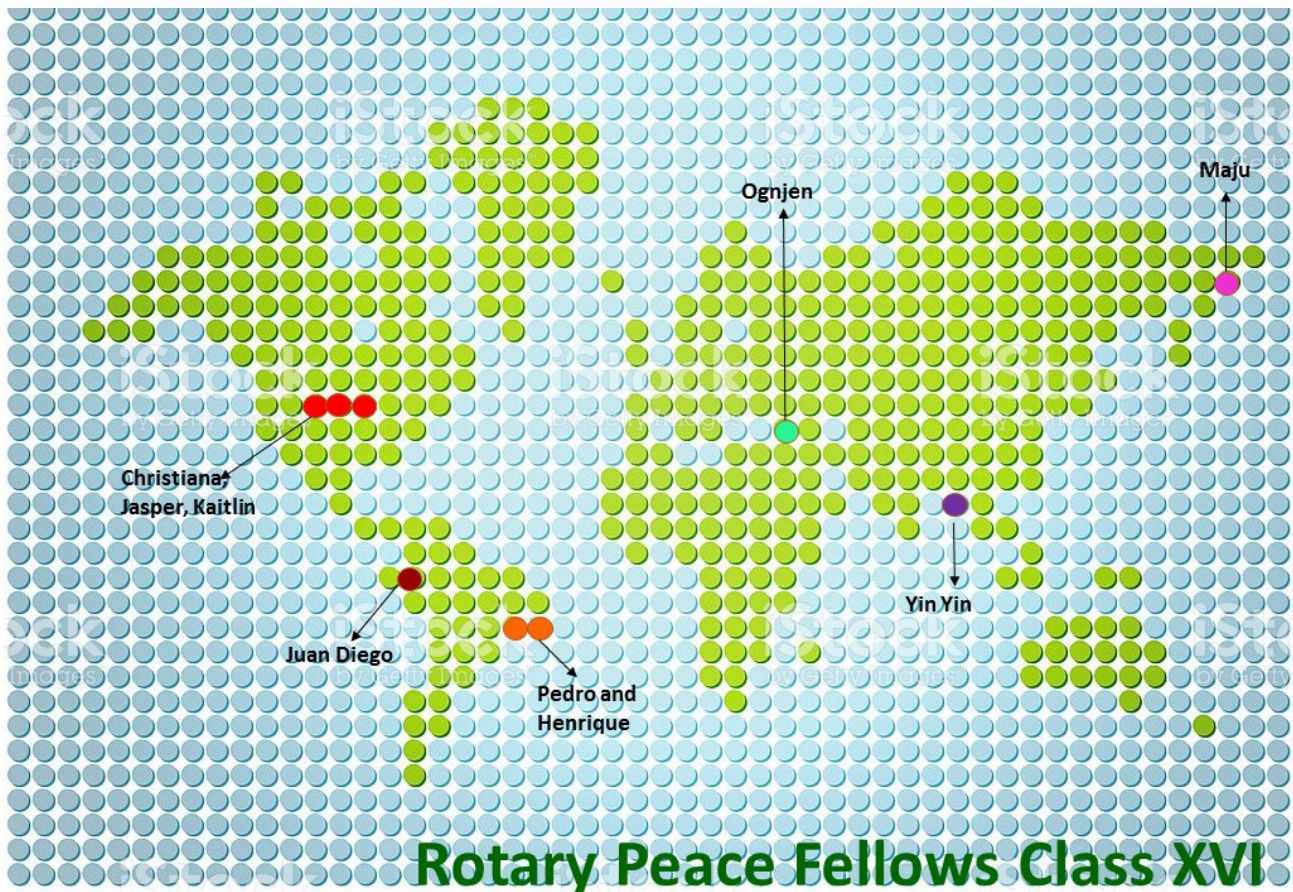
As a combat engineer by training, what fundamentally inspires me is solving practical problems; but much harder than building a bridge is to make, keep, and build peace. After completing this master's programme, I intend to combine my past military experience to a civilian career in the field. Namely, I would like to engage in civil-military coordination activities; emergency relief operations; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes; or humanitarian demining.

It is really easy to get used to living in Sweden: everyone is polite, helpful and nice; every place is clean and tidy; and basically, everything works. What has been keeping me constantly impressed, however, is how beautiful it is and how the colours change so much in each season (even the colour of the curtains!). Though I have not dedicated much time to them in recent years, my hobbies are mountain biking, birdwatching, and photography.

A fun fact about myself it that even though I am a Brazilian, I cannot play football nor dance samba.



Special thanks to Alumn (Class XIV) Marcus Tan de Bibiana for taking the photos of Fellows Class XVI



Internship News

*Kalina McCaul
British Peace Support Team East Africa
Nairobi, Kenya*

Kalina has been acting as the focal point for Gender, International Humanitarian Law, and Human Rights agenda. She has been working on developing learning tools, and delivering trainings to security sector actors on the related topics. In addition, Kalina has conducted research and reported work related to the child protection in emergency agendas.

On the photo Kalina is delivering a training on Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) to 300 soldiers.



*Francisco Magliano,
Jesuit Refugee and Migrant Service-Latin America,
Dajabon, Dominican Republic*



Francisco has been involved in providing Humanitarian Aid and First Immediate Response Assistance to 1200 people in Dajabon and Monte Cristi provinces after Hurricane María. Apart from this, he has been assessing the situation of 24 Haitian communities living in Dominican Republic, delivering trainings to new employees in gender equality, and writing policy papers and project reports.

On the photo, Francisco is assessing the situation in the shelters (after Maria Hurricane) and planning the immediate assistance.

Richard Bell
Governance Facility
Kathmandu, Nepal

Richard has been working, for the last 6 months, in the Governance Facility. His main responsibilities lie on carrying out political and economic analysis on aspects of Nepal's federal transition, program management of National Governance, survey implemented by GoN partners, and Monitoring & Evaluation capacity building with I/NGO partners.

Richard highlights that he enjoys the most when doing field trips to meet newly elected political representatives at municipal level of government.



Carolyn Williams
The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNCHR)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Carolyn's job encompasses multiple tasks that range from project design and implementation, designing and conducting surveys, assessing refugee cases to communities and refugee camps visits.

Carolyn mentions that she loves visiting refugee learning centres run by local NGOs and staffed mainly by refugee teachers to see how happy the children are to have a safe space to learn and just be kids. Public schools do not allow refugee child enrollment so learning centres, basically UN schools and NGO schools fill this gap in Malaysia.

Takashi Ujikawa
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Kenya, Nairobi

Takashi is working with project implementation and providing development support at the IOM in the Nairobi offices. He mentions how interesting it is to learn more about human trafficking situation in Kenya, particularly in the coastal region. While doing his internship, Takashi is studying Swahili.

Alumni News

Heather Murphy, 5 years after arriving to Uppsala

I am currently a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S Department of State. After I left Uppsala in 2014, I returned to the non-profit world first as a consultant and then as a manager for North African election programs with The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). One day, I was talking to a friend who reminded me about the Foreign Service Exam (FSE) and suggested that I take it, so I did. I was quite surprised to have passed! The FSE is a lengthy process and you have to pass each stage to get to the next. The entire process took 2 years from when I took the exam to when I was sworn in. When I first applied for the Rotary Peace Fellowship, I stated that my plan was to use my MA and my professional work experience in the non-profit sector to hopefully get a job in government and continue to work on development issues from the other side. Now that I am here, I have zero doubts that it was the right decision.

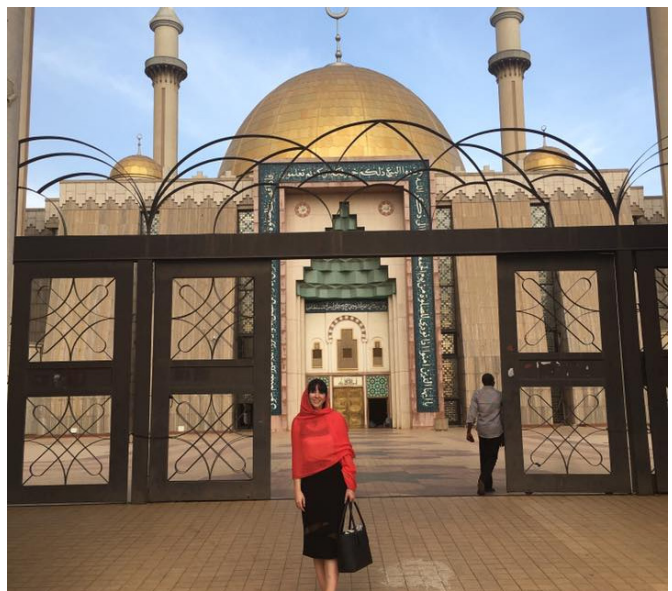
Foreign Services Officers (FSO) have specific career tracks and mine is Public Diplomacy. That means, I will eventually be working on

and leading the U.S. cultural programs at our various Embassies. Currently, I am post in Abuja, Nigeria for a 2-year tour; my primary job at the Embassy is to work on visa issues. The job is incredibly demanding, I usually interview about 110 people and work on 150 visas a day, meaning there is rarely a dull moment.

Being a diplomat has its ups and downs- you are the official public face of the U.S government and I need to represent ideas that I don't agree with, however, the opportunities are fantastic. I work with people from all over the world and get the opportunity to work in different places. I have been in Nigeria for 5 months now and it has been lovely. Abuja is a much quieter city than Lagos and while it may not have the city feel, it has plenty to offer-including, in my mind, good Lebanese and Indian food! It is a real mix of religious and ethnic cultures- and so we celebrate many holidays, including all the major Muslim and Christian ones. People are warm and welcoming and while we do face challenges from a security standpoint, it is a lovely place to start my diplomatic career!



Fulani festival at the USA embassy. .



Visiting the National Mosque of Nigeria.

Uppsala Rotary District Conference

On October 7th, 142 Rotarians gathered at Uppsala University's Ångström Laboratory for the annual Rotary District Conference. After a warm welcome address by the District Governor, Peter Eklund, the conference was followed by a series of interesting and inspiring talks. The theme of the conference was the call for action in involvement, commitment and communication in Rotary activities.

Representing Ian Riseley, current Rotary International President, Peter Kyle emphasized that it is the commitment of its members in reaching out to those in need that makes Rotary a unique international service organisation. Peter Kyle is directly linked with Rotary International's efforts towards peace. As the chair of the Rotary

Peace Centers Committee, among other things, he is responsible for selecting future fellows in the Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Rotary Peace Fellows from Class XVI hosted the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center stand and were able to interact with Rotarians attending the conference. The fellows presented the Rotary Peace Fellowship, the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center, as well as their backgrounds, perceptions and expectations of the programme. Finally, the current Peace Fellows had the opportunity to meet with Peter Kyle and share some thoughts and ideas about the fellowship.



Rotary Peace fellows Class XVI, Peter Kyle, Chair of the Rotary Peace Centers Committee, and Magnus Elfwendahl, Host Area Coordinator.

Uppsala Rotary Peace Fellows Blog

We are excited to share the news that Rotary Peace fellows have started a blog to share with Rotary community and friends their academic and professional experiences during the MA program. Fellows will also use the blog as a space to open debates on relevant topics, such as water management, human rights, and children rights.

Have a look at it here: uppsalarotaryfellows.wordpress.com

We hope that you enjoy it as much as we enjoy writing it!

About the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center

Uppsala Rotary Peace Center educates current and emerging leaders. Admitted Peace Fellows earn a Master degree at Uppsala University.

Uppsala Rotary Peace Center is hosted by the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, established in 1971 to conduct research and offer courses in peace and conflict studies.

Both research and teaching at the department focus on the origin, dynamics and resolution of armed conflicts on a scientific basis. Students will acquire knowledge and skills that provide the capacity to solve problems independently and the ability to monitor and critically evaluate the development of knowledge within peace and conflict research.

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