



Peace Pieces



On 2 June, Rotary Peace Fellows Class XIV concluded their Master Programme in Peace and Conflict Studies. The graduation ceremony and celebration took place in Uppsala Domkyrka and Skytteanska Trädgården.

On the occasion, Lindsey Doyle was awarded the Mats Hammarström Prize for Outstanding Student Essay in Peace and Conflict Studies for her thesis entitled "The Talks Before the Talks: Effects of Pre-Negotiation on Reaching Peace Agreements in Intra-State Armed Conflict".

The Rotary Peace Center congratulates Fellows Class XIV for their excellent achievements and wishes them all the best in their future endeavors.

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Master Students Class 2017

Annual Seminar 2017: creative arts' role in peacebuilding

Over 100 Rotarians, Peace Fellows, academics and community members filled Uppsala University's Ihrsahlen auditorium on 6 May for the 2017 Annual Peace Seminar: 'Peace Research and Practice: Lessons from Around the World'. Throughout the day the role of creative arts in peacebuilding was a recurring theme. Keynote co-speaker and social entrepreneur Honey Al Sayed told of her work using media and arts as tools for empowerment in her native Syria. Cultural counsellor at the Swedish Embassy in South Africa, Hedda Krausz Sjögren, spoke on how documentary theatre can be used to create social change, including, gender issues. Outgoing class XIV Uppsala Peace

Fellows presented their research, Applied Field Experience (AFE) and post-fellowship aspirations. Alden Jacobs and Marcus Tan de Bibiana both spoke of their AFE in Cyprus and Kenya respectively, and how this had shaped their desire to work in the field of creative arts and peacebuilding. Christie Nicoson and Lindsey Doyle presented their research on the role of climate adaptation and pre-negotiations, respectively, in contributing to lasting peace.



José Francisco Alvarado Cobar and Júlia Ito Landers outlined lessons learned from AFE in Spain, Jordan, and Ghana, respectively. Ana Paula Peñalva Torres shared her perspective on the Colombian peace process and Peter Dien recounted the story of his family's journey to the US as Cambodian refugees and how this had shaped his post-fellowship aspirations. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Lucienne Heyworth and James Petermeier were unable to attend, however their research and AFE were presented by class XV Fellows.

The seminar concluded with Peace Fellows inviting the audience to suggest ways in which we all could contribute to peace.

The work of Rotarians on the integration of recently arrived migrants in Sweden received particular mention. The value of Rotary's networks was also highlighted, with one response inviting participants to reflect on how best to further capitalize on Rotary's strong links to political leadership.

By, William Underwood, Class XV



Spring Activities

2016 Martin Holmdahl Award

Lindsey Doyle was the recipient of 2016 Martin Holmdahl Award for the Promotion of Human Rights from Uppsala University.

For her Applied Field Experience and internship, Lindsey explored the role of the performing arts in post-conflict reconciliation. She worked with dancers from the University of Cape Town School of Dance in South Africa on how improvisational dance theater could be used for the purposes of dialogue and reconciliation. She trained them in a technique called "playback" in which the group would elicit stories from the audience and perform the story through dance and acting "on the spot."

In addition, she worked with the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation on how to expand their own approaches to dialogue by using creative techniques with people who had little experience with arts. She ran workshops using dance, guided meditation, painting, and craft with women affected by gender-based violence in rural areas.

Back in Uppsala Lindsey and Professor Peter Wallenstein held “The 2017 Martin Holmdahl Seminar: Creative Approaches to Human Rights”. Lindsey spoke on her experiences of the role of arts in uplifting communities affected by violence, how she got inspired to use art techniques as reconciliation and conflict resolution mechanisms, and possibilities to bridge the gap between peace and conflict research and arts.



AFE: more than a summer experience

In 2016 Julia participated in a writing competition organized by the student magazine, Re:Peace Magazine, from Tromsø University (Norway). The fall 2016 edition focused on topics related to “Peace and War”. Julia submitted an article about the Songor Lagoon conflict in Ghana, communities’ role and the use of media. She complemented it with photos that showed her experiences while being in Ghana.



Julia was not only published but also had the opportunity to do a field trip. She traveled to Finland for a cultural exchange. In Finland, she got the opportunity of visiting the Sami TV/Radio (NRK), the Center of Northern Peoples, the Sami Parliament, the Sami College and a Sami high school (Samisk Videregående Skole). In addition, she met with the students that run the magazine and also study peace and conflict.



Her article was based on her Applied Field Experience (AFE), this shows how fellows gain more than a summer practical experience will doing their AFE.



If you want to read Julia’s article click here: [HTTP://WWW.REPEACEMAG.COM/VOL4/](http://www.repeacemag.com/vol4/)

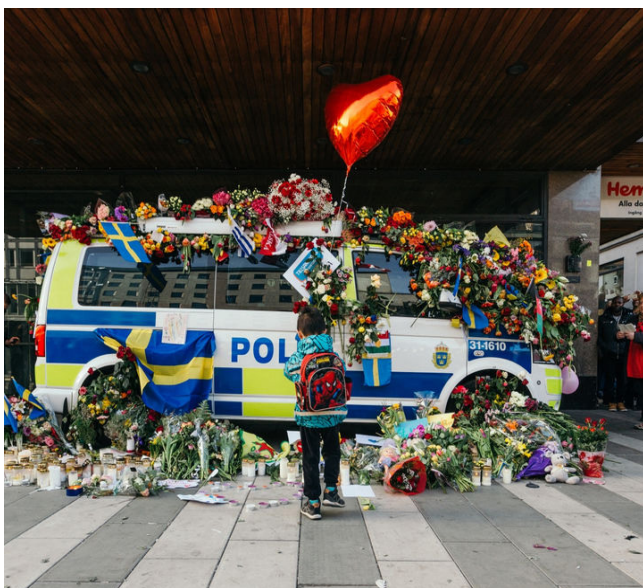


Can love combat terror? A Canadian perspective on Sweden's post-attack response

Days after the terror attack in Stockholm, Marcus Tan de Bibiana writes how unity, solidarity and love can combat terror. He confirms how Sweden, becoming a multicultural country, chose love over terror. His perspective comes as a Canadian that finds several similarities

between both countries, Sweden and Canada, "In my view, both make generally positive international contributions and maintain non-aggressive defense policies. Both are liberal, peaceful and thought to be welcoming societies to newcomers." The photos below were taken by Marcus to explore photography as a reconciliation tool.

Read Marcus' whole article here: [HTTP://WWW.CBC.CA/2017/](http://www.cbc.ca/2017/)



Negotiation Workshop

The first collaboration between the Rotary Peace Centers at Duke University and North Carolina and Uppsala University, took place in May this year. Shai M. Tamari, Acting Director of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations, facilitated a five-day Negotiation Workshop for Fellows from Class XIV and XV.

The workshop aimed to boost fellows' abilities in managing and solving conflicts and learning tools to be proactive negotiators. During the multiple sessions fellows participated in negotiation exercises that represented future working scenarios, learned negotiation methodologies, power relation dynamics, and what type of negotiators they are. Exercises and theory were based on the Program on Negotiation at Harvard University.

Reflections from Fellows Class XV

How Time Flies!

We are already done with the first year of the Master's program. It was both challenging and exciting. The first month in particular, was all about adjusting to a new country and city as well as to a new profession, being a student. Being out of school for a couple of years and then coming back to sit in a classroom is not as easy as it sounds. Many of us Peace Fellows, had to retrain our brains for school. Unlike the work environment where you work from 9am to 5pm always running around to meetings, trying to beat report and proposal deadlines, going out for field reviews, being a student is a whole other game.

As a student, the context is not as fast pace except for when you have to submit course papers within a week, then you get that adrenaline rush. Sometimes you may end up drifting away not knowing what the teacher is talking about, wondering about the deadlines for the next reports (which you no longer have to do) then something suddenly brings you back to reality. Nonetheless, our brains pick up fast and by the second month we were getting the hang of the system, school life was manageable after all.



This has also been a great opportunity to understand different perspectives, particularly from the academia, on conflict prevention and resolution. We have also mastered the use of terms such as 'causal mechanisms' and 'levels of significance' and deepened our understanding in topics such as, rebel movements. Nowhere in my professional career had I considered the use of such terms. It has been quite an enlightening process, easily complementing the practical field experience with the theoretical perspectives. Overall, it was quite an exciting year, having had the opportunity to make new friends whom we have enjoyed trips and local events such as the Valborg and Gasque – the true Uppsala experiences.

We are now heading out for our Applied Field Experience, each of us going to carry out diverse and exciting activities in new contexts. We have gotten so accustomed into the student life that the idea of going back to the work environment sends shivers down our spines. However, if we were able to re-learn how to be students we will be able to learn how to be employees again. We look forward to another exciting year!

By, Maria Clara Osula, Class XV

First Time Rotary Hosts, Tia and Kåre Eriksson

Q1: What motivated you to become Rotary Hosts?

A1: We became interested after hearing several of our Rotary friends tell about their experiences and after having met some previous students whose impressive stories inspired us. We also wanted to contribute to Rotary and the Peace Center.

Q2: What were you hoping to gain from the experience?

A2: We were eager to learn more about the studies at Uppsala Rotary Peace Center, the challenges in conflict resolution, and how we as Rotarians can contribute. We also hope from our part, to be able to convey something of our experiences from our studies and active lives, both within the university and as alumni.

Q3: What has been your most surprising discovery?

A3: How intense and complex the studies seem to be, and how closely the students interact within one another within the program. And how little we actually know and should learn.

Q4: Can you share one thing you want Rotarians, who are considering becoming Hosts, to know?

A4: Go for it! It's a unique chance to better understand the world, the challenges we are facing, and above all great hope for the future. And besides all that, you will get new friends for life.



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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