

Marc Lindenberg Center

*for Humanitarian Action,
International Development
and Global Citizenship*



Autumn 2003

At the University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs

Everyone Can Make a Difference in the Fight Against AIDS

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Worldwide, over forty million people are infected with HIV and 14,000 more are infected each day. Ninety-five percent of these people live in developing countries. To date, twenty four million people have died from AIDS, leaving more than thirteen million orphaned children. The statistics are astounding, yet all too familiar.

What difference can any one person make in the fight against AIDS? A lot, according to those leading the fight.

On June 19, 2003, more than 700 people gathered at the Bagley Wright Theatre in Seattle for a premier screening of the Home Box Office (HBO) documentary *Pandemic: Facing AIDS*. This was followed by a panel discussion featuring distinguished experts in the field, including CEOs of three international organizations working to combat the AIDS pandemic. Hosted by the Lindenberg Center, World Affairs Council and HBO, the event raised awareness of the global AIDS crisis, highlighted current work on the issue and most importantly, offered ways for the Seattle community to take action.

Pandemic: Facing AIDS is a documentary film series produced by Rory Kennedy, youngest child of Robert F. Kennedy and co-founder of Moxie Firecracker Films. The series profiles the lives of five people living with AIDS in different countries of the world: Thailand, Uganda, Russia, Brazil and India.

The five-part documentary, aired on HBO in June, is the centerpiece of a multifaceted global campaign to raise awareness of the AIDS crisis. Kennedy's hope is that the film and public education campaign will personalize the statistics by capturing the stories and imagery behind the staggering numbers and encourage people to take action against AIDS.

The panel discussion following the film screening featured:

Peter Bell, President and CEO of CARE

Nicolas de Torrente, Executive Director of
Doctors Without Borders USA

Helene Gayle, Director of the Bill and Melinda

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HBO Aids continued

Gates Foundation's HIV, TB and
Reproductive Health Program

Neal Keny-Guyer, Chief Executive Officer of
Mercy Corps

Rory Kennedy, Co-founder of Moxie
Firecracker Films

Harry Strachan, Managing Director of
MesoAmerican Investments and President
of the Strachan Foundation

The panel discussed challenges in the fight against AIDS—lack of health infrastructure in developing countries, social stigma associated with the disease, need for a vaccine and low cost treatment—as well as measures that have proven successful: mobilization of national leadership and financial resources as well as citizen demands for action. The panel offered many ways that people could help make a difference.

"There's a tremendous amount to be done at every level," Peter Bell of CARE acknowledged, but "I can do a lot in a year, and we can do a lot in a year." One thing people can do, Bell suggested, is support full appropriation of the HIV/AIDS package President Bush laid out in his State of the Union Address.

Dr. Helene Gayle of the Gates Foundation encouraged the audience to make it known that this is a critical issue, not only to policy makers but also with groups we all belong to—families, communities, churches and civic organizations. "In all the different roles that we play as individuals, we can take this issue with us and move people to action."

Neal Keny-Guyer of Mercy Corps proposed people join one international and one local organization involved in AIDS to remind us of the "seamless web of compassion and need that connects a homeless child here in Seattle with ... an AIDS child around the world." Keny-Guyer continued, "the more in which we see those connections, I feel the better will be our response and the more we have a chance to win the battle for a better world."

For more information about how you can get involved in the fight against AIDS, visit www.pandemicfacingaids.org

Friday, June 20, 2003

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Humanitarian-Relief Organizations Brainstorm on Better Cooperation

By Mary Spicuzza

Seattle Times staff reporter

View this Seattle Times article about the CEO Leadership Forum
sponsored by the Marc Lindenberg Center.

<http://archives.seattletimes.nwsourc.com/cgi-bin/texis.cgi/web/vortex/display?slug=aidgroups20m&date=20030620>

Elaine Chang Named Acting Director

Elaine Chang was recently named acting director of the Marc Lindenberg Center for Humanitarian Action, International Development and Global Citizenship. Chang was critical in starting the Center and in generating momentum for its success. Elaine will focus all her work on the Lindenberg Center and has relinquished her title as assistant dean of the Evans School. She is succeeded as Evans School assistant dean by Linda Lake, who was the Evans School's administrator.

*Peace Corps Master's International (PCMI) Student Updates***Jenn Albee, Itá, Paraguay**

I applied to Peace Corps and the PCMI program at the Evans School at a point in my life when I felt ready to handle whatever they threw my way. I had the image I think most Peace Corps volunteers have when they make the commitment to join. I said I would go anywhere in the world and do whatever work Peace Corps felt I was capable of doing. I packed my bags ready to live in a hut with no running water and use a latrine for two years. I anticipated isolation and solitude—complete immersion into the culture with little contact with the outside world. I was ready to get my hands dirty. While it has been full of challenges, in many ways my Peace Corps experience has been very different from what I

"While the Peace Corps has been full of challenges, in many ways my experience has been very different from what I expected. What I got was not the Peace Corps of 30 years ago, but Peace Corps today."

expected. What I got was not the Peace Corps of 30 years ago, but Peace Corps today.

The experiences of PCVs vary greatly country to country and even within Paraguay. I am a Municipal Service Development Volunteer (MSD) in Itá, a town of about 45,000 people situated about 36 kilometers from the capital city of Asunción. I live in a nice house with an indoor bathroom and running water. I have a cellphone

and the benefit of the capitol city nearby and there is an Urban Youth Development Volunteer in my site about eight blocks from my house. We see each other regularly and collaborate on projects.

When I first received Itá as my site assignment I was disappointed. I thought it was too "cushy," too easy—not at all what I expected when I gave up the comforts of home to help those less fortunate. I felt guilty for having it so much easier than some of my peers from my training group who were put in more remote places. I felt I needed to be suffering more to prove I was doing good work—to prove my worthiness as a volunteer.

They had warned us during training that despite the more "advanced" setting of most of our sites, our job as MSD volunteers would be some of the hardest but most important work volunteers could do for Paraguay today. In this time of decentralization and democratization, our job as MSD volunteers is to help local governments provide services to their communities.

I work directly with the Mayor and his staff to improve their tax collection processes. I am also helping to form a human resources department and train the employees within the municipality since the majority of them were hired out of political campaign promises rather than for their experience or skills. It has been a frustrating and often overwhelming job to try to implement basic changes in a system riddled with corruption, inefficiency and limited resources.

I've also had the opportunity to collaborate with the other volunteer in Itá on a secondary project. Together we have been able to join the needs and resources of our two sectors—youth and government. Working with local youth we administered a survey of the community's needs. The results showed that despite the fact that over half the population of Itá is under the age of 19, and despite the numerous learning

"Paraguay has historically been an oral culture. This, combined with a lack of financial resources, meant that until recently, libraries and even computers were non-existent in Paraguay."



Jenn making cheese with a Señora.

institutions in town, Itá has no public library or access to computers and the internet.

We formed a commission to work with the municipality to meet those needs and nine months after our first official commission meeting, we will be breaking ground on a new community center for Itá in November. The building will include a library, meeting space for community groups and classes, an art gallery to display local art, and with the help of a Nonprofit Technology Leadership Program (NTLP) grant from the Soros Foundation through the University of Washington, a technology center with internet access.

Continued on the back page

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Profile

Ivan Eastin, Liberia, West Africa, 1985-1987

Ivan Eastin is an associate professor at the College of Forest Resources and associate director of The Center for International Trade in Forest Products (CINTRAFOR), an applied research center within the College. Ivan played a key role in launching the new PCMI program in International Forestry, which will begin recruiting its first class of students this year. Here, Ivan reflects on his experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Liberia.

"Would you like to spend a day visiting the leper colony where they carve these Nativity sets and meet the wood carvers"? When I had agreed to help a friend develop a business plan for his small souvenir shop I hadn't planned on getting quite so involved. But, since Peace Corps encouraged us to get involved in a secondary project, this seemed like an interesting opportunity.

It had started innocently enough when another Liberian friend introduced me to Moses, a young Liberian who had recently started a small business selling local crafts to the expatriate community in Monrovia. While he seemed to be doing OK with his business, he didn't really know how to manage a business and was constantly experiencing cash flow problems. Since he didn't know how to manage his inventory, his cash flow or how to decide what his customers wanted and adjust his products mix accordingly, his small business was in financial trouble almost before he started.

At the time, my primary work assignment was as a professor in the College of Forestry at the University of Liberia. However, the University faculty and staff were on strike because the government hadn't paid their salaries for the past four months, a not uncommon occurrence in Liberia. Since the government claimed that they had no money to pay the University workers anytime soon, it seemed that I would have plenty of free time to help Moses develop and implement a plan for his business.

We applied for and received a \$2,000 project grant from the Small Project Assistance Fund to help him cover the costs of opening a small souvenir shop not far from the area where many expatriates lived and shopped. While we were putting out the handicrafts in the store, I expressed an

appreciation for the intricately carved Nativity sets that he was selling. It was then that he broached the idea of visiting the leper colony located about four hours north of Monrovia.

Our trip was uneventful and we spent the day meeting wood carvers who had developed their ability to produce intricately beautiful carvings despite the fact that most of them were missing most or all of their fingers and toes and in some cases hands and feet. They talked with us about the fact that, while most of them were able to control their disease with medication, they all continued to live in this community with their families because their home villages would

not accept them back. The people in the leper colony were resigned to this situation and took a certain solace in the fact that they were surrounded by their families and friends in a community that accepted and supported them in their efforts



Left: Two small children from a village we visited to purchase handicrafts

Below: Ivan with the taxi driver prior to heading out to the village



to lead productive lives. During our visit, a young wood carver presented me with a handmade carving that he had made. I, in return, purchased a Nativity scene from him at a slightly above market price.

I still look at that Nativity scene with fond memories as I unpack it for display every Christmas season.

It continues to bring back fond memories of kind folks with a quiet dignity and a sense of humor who opened their community to an outsider. Clearly, it is I, and not my friend Moses or the wood carvers in the leper community, who gained the most from my acceptance of this secondary project. For all of those in the PCMI program, I would strongly encourage you to get involved in a secondary project in your community as a way of building stronger ties with the community. Without a doubt, it will provide you with a richer, more satisfying Peace Corps experience and will benefit yourself and others in ways that you may never fully understand or appreciate at the time.

PCMI Student Updates

The Evans School welcomed its third cohort of Peace Corps Master's International students for the 2003-04 academic year. The program's first two cohorts are all now serving in their assignments in thirteen countries around the world. The program is about to come full circle as we expect our first cohort of PCMI students to begin returning from their overseas assignments during the Summer of 2004. These students will return to the Evans School for a final quarter of course work and reflection. Returned PCMI students will also play an important role in preparing and mentoring new students in the program.

Now in its third year, the program is well established, in high demand, and has led to the creation of a similar program in the College of Forest Resources (CFR). The new PCMI program in International Forestry presents an opportunity for interdisciplinary collaboration between the faculty and students of the CFR and the Evans School of Public Affairs to more effectively meet the needs of the graduate students in both PCMI

programs. An intradepartmental partnership has already emerged to develop a course that focuses on the role of the forestry sector in the economic development of tropical countries.

PCMI Student Placements

Cohort 1

- Carrie Abendroth *Ukraine*
- Jenn Albee *Paraguay*
- Robin Rask *Grenada*
- Jen Samnick *Togo*
- Michael Stanislawsky *Bulgaria*
- Kala Straus *Honduras*
- Deb Wolfe *St. Lucia*

Cohort 2

- Bryana Britts *Thailand*
 - Tim Forbes *Kyrgyz Republic*
 - Josh Friedman *Mongolia*
 - Sarah Oltmans *South Africa*
 - Katherine Sargent *Mali*
 - Valerie Wonder *Benin*
-

International Brown Bag Series

New Series Connects UW Community with International Visitors and Practitioners

Each autumn, the University of Washington welcomes thousands of international students, visiting scholars and other international experts to the campus community. The Evans School hosts nearly two dozen midcareer professionals from developing countries through the Hubert H. Humphrey, Population Leadership, and Edmund S. Muskie Fellowship Programs.

A new brown bag lunch series will bring together international students, Fellows, faculty and local practitioners for in-depth discussions on global issues and cross-cultural learning opportunities.

"A majority of UW students never travel or study abroad. The aim of this brown bag series is to bring international experience and diverse perspectives on global issues here to the University," explains Elaine Chang, acting director of the Marc Lindenberg Center. "We want to increase opportunities for UW students, faculty and staff to connect with all the international visitors and programs already here on campus as well as our colleagues in the community who work on international issues."

The series was kicked off with discussions on advocacy and the Peace Corps, and environmental protection and sustainable development in Mongolia. Visit the Evans School's online event calendar for upcoming events.

College of Forest Resources Now Accepting PCMI Applications

Encouraged by the success of the PCMI program in NGO Development at the Evans School, the College of Forest Resources has launched a new PCMI program in International Forestry. This program will prepare students to work with local communities to manage and protect local forest ecosystems. It will also help them to understand the relationship between population growth, poverty, and forests as sources of food, fuel and raw materials.

For more information on the PCMI program in International Forestry and how to apply, contact Ivan Eastin at eastin@u.washington.edu.



You're Invited!

Peace Corps Day Celebration

March 1, 2004

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Parrington Hall Commons

Meet returned Peace Corps volunteers, view colorful country-of-service tables, enjoy international refreshments, and witness the presenting of the PCMI Service & Leadership Award.

For information on volunteering or attending this event, please contact us at mlcenter@u.washington.edu.

*Mobility Grant recipient
Karie Anderson (second from
left) with Russian journalism
students in front of
Moscow State University*



Mobility Grants Helps UW Tacoma Students Travel to Russia

Karie Anderson, 2002-2003 Mobility Grant Recipient

I was one of two selected out of a group of UW Tacoma student applicants to travel to Moscow, Russia during spring break to produce a joint publication with Moscow State University's Department of Journalism. Although the MSU students and we at UWT discussed content beforehand, we only had four very short days to produce our publication, which included translating, much much copyediting, and designing our final product.

Together we learned about the differences in style and design of newspapers in our two countries—and threw them both out the window. We compromised on everything and we were all very proud of our unique and original final product. Yet, more amazing than the intense and challenging ideas we exposed in our work, were the warm and considerate attitudes of our Russian colleagues. Beyond many communication barriers they gladly welcomed us into their culture and made us feel at home.

I could go on and on about the many sights we saw and the events that took place throughout this trip, but what I feel is most important to share is how such an experience has left a mark on my life.

A mark that has transformed me to view my world differently. It is as simple as accepting people that do not speak our language, or not judging people for where they come from. But what it is more about is realizing the world in which we live.

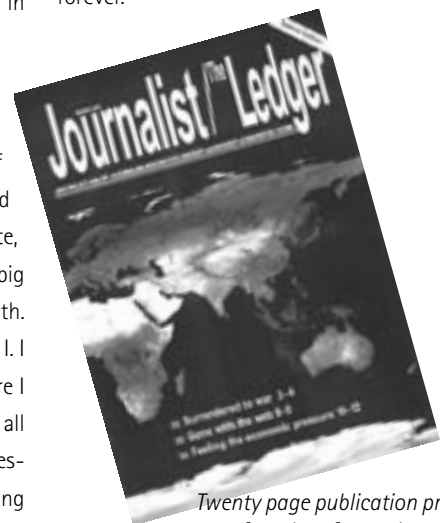
I didn't comprehend how much I was affected by my experience until I was at home and in my routine again. You see, so many of us are stuck and focused on our own lives and problems, we don't see past our city, our state, our country. What we don't consider is how big and how many people really exist on this earth. People who are just as important as you and I. I was suddenly put into many situations where I became a Russian ambassador or a teacher to all of those family and friends that had many questions about my experience in Russia. Providing history, breaking down stereotypes and bridging a gap for many that knew close to nothing about that large country across the world from us.

It is difficult for us to come to a global realization simply through the masked images of the television and the words in our many books. Seeing is definitely believing when it comes to grasping your place in our global society. Aware-

ness of my little place in our society. I am just a small factor in a very large world with many things to explore or consider. Not to demote my substance or contribution to this life, the awareness of my little place is one that leads to big perceptions.

Because of my experience in Russia, I am empowered and confident that tomorrow I could be doing something meaningful while making a difference in our world. The dream of starting my own magazine, one that highlights Northwest human rights groups, does not seem so impossible after what I have experienced this year.

The lessons and insights I have learned from my journey to Russia are not things I could have learned from a book or from the nightly news. The intrinsic values and appreciation I have for every global citizen is something I will build on forever.



*Twenty page publication produced
over four days for students on
both the UW and Moscow State
University campuses.*

Spaseeba balshoye, thank you very much in Russian of course, to the Marc Lindenberg Center Mobility Grant that made all of this possible. And *spaseeba* to all of you who care about our world.

International Travel Grants Promote Global Citizenship

This fall, the Lindenberg Center announced its second annual competition for small grants that allow UW students to travel with faculty to developing countries. The International Mobility Grant program was created to provide more opportunities for students to have an international learning experience as part of their degree program.

The Center received over thirty proposals this year from across campus. Hollie Sheriff, program manager for the Lindenberg Center, and the other selection committee members were excited to learn about the many exciting international projects under way throughout campus—choosing which projects to fund proved difficult.

"Our hope," explains Sheriff, "is that students come back from these trips with a new or

enhanced global perspective and respect for diverse cultures that stays with them for the rest of their lives."

Grants Support 40 Students in 12 Departments

Complete project descriptions will be posted to evans.washington.edu/research/mlc

- Aquatic and Fishery Sciences
- Dental Public Health Sciences
- English
- Evans School of Public Affairs
- Family and Child Nursing
- Fibers Program, School of Art
- Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, UWT
- Neurology
- Pathobiology
- Program on Law, Societies, and Justice
- Psychology
- Sociology

Better Safer World Campaign Launched

In the wake of the 9/11 crises, Marc Lindenberg brought nine relief and development organizations together to initiate a public education campaign in the United States for a better, safer world. The Better Safer World Campaign, launched this summer, aims to alleviate global poverty through a multi-faceted approach. Key elements include public participation, affecting policy, educational outreach and international and national partnerships. To get involved, please visit the website at <http://www.bettersaferworld.org>.

Participating organizations include:

- CARE
- Childreach/Plan
- International Rescue Committee
- International Medical Corps
- Mercy Corps
- Oxfam
- Save the Children
- World Concern
- World Vision

Nonprofit Technology Leadership Program Funds Innovation in the Developing World

Over the last four months, the Nonprofit Technology Leadership Program (NTLP) has brought together members from the University of Washington and nonprofit community to help create a database for the Naguru Teenage Health and Information Center in Kampala, Uganda. Since its formation ten years ago, the Naguru Health Center has seen its clientele increase from less than 2,000 clients in 1994 to over 20,000 clients in 2002. This growing demand put a strain on the health center's service, with some clients waiting up to four hours before being seen by a service provider.

In order to reduce waiting times and improve service delivery, Edith Mukisa, one of the founders of the Naguru Teenage Health Center and the current program director, applied for a technology grant through the Nonprofit Technology Leadership Program at the Lindenberg Center. While attending the University of Washington during the previous academic year as a Population Leadership Fellow, Edith had participated in the NTL course sequence that qualified her to apply for a Technology Innovation Grant. Edith not only received the grant, but also received an offer to become the first recipient of a NTL Service Learning Team that would assist with technology implementation.

This summer a team from Seattle traveled to Kampala to visit the health center and create a database to track clients. The team was made up of Frank Schott, a former Microsoft employee, Frank Ordway, nationwide coordinator for NPower, and Debika Shome, a second year Evans School student. They conducted a needs assessment and documented the technology implementation process for a case study.

Back in Seattle, the NTL team has been working on a customized database that will help Naguru better serve its clients with the help of Nathan Freier, a PhD student at the Information School and Steve Morris, a freelance database programmer. The database will be completed this winter.



The NTL team gathers with the Naguru Teenage Health and Information Center staff.

Where There's a Will

In today's uncertain economic climate it may seem impossible to make significant charitable gifts—but you can do the planning now to support the things you believe in. One example of an opportunity that allows you to make a gift for the future is to create a will or a revocable trust.

Creating a will or trust allows you to control where your property goes. Gifts you make through your will or trust not only distribute your goods and resources, but also express your values and your philosophy about what is worth supporting. If you do not have a will, state law will determine to whom your property is given—with no provisions for gifts to friends or charities.

A bequest to the Marc Lindenberg Center for Humanitarian Action, International Development and Global Citizenship can be part of your

legacy of values. You can support students, faculty, research, teaching—whatever you value most. Every gift makes a difference and helps the Center continue to prepare and inspire students to change the world. Bequests to the Marc Lindenberg Center may designate a piece of property, a fixed sum, or a portion of the donor's estate, and are fully deductible for estate tax purposes.

The Marc Lindenberg Center gift planning staff can provide sample language to match your interests with the needs of the Center. To find out more about including the Marc Lindenberg Center in your will or living trust, or if you have already done so and would like to let us know, please contact (Mr.) Lynn Schrader, CFRE at 206-616-9683 or email at givespa@u.washington.edu.

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Wait a minute! Working with the Mayor? Tax collection? Human resources? Technology center? This isn't Peace Corps, is it? Where's the dirt under my fingernails going to come from if I spend my day at an office computer teaching people how to make spreadsheets in Excel? Where's the grassroots group of villagers learning a new trade? Is this really what I signed up to do?

Not long after arriving in site I realized that despite its "modern" appearance, it was exactly

what I had signed up to do. In fact, not only were my trainers right in saying it was some of the most challenging yet important work we could do for Paraguay, it made the most effective use of my individual skills. What better way to implement years of work experience in the nonprofit sector and a year of graduate level work in public administration than to place me in such a setting?

I realize now that I came to Paraguay with good intentions but with a clear idea only of what I needed to get out of the Peace Corps experi-

ence and with very little idea of what Paraguay needs. I needed to adjust my goals so I could better serve my community. As a result, I will leave Paraguay in ten months enriched by what I have learned and grateful for the experience that has taught me many things both personally and professionally. In whatever work I do in the future I will have a better understanding of the challenges that governments and organizations of the developing world face on a daily basis. In the end, I am walking away from this experience better prepared than I ever imagined.

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and Global Citizenship

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