



John Firestone (left), PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Olam International, interviewing a farmer-chief in the Brong-Ahafo Region of Ghana.



Current (2014-15) and former (2013-14) Maru-a-Pula Fellows meeting up in Botswana. From left to right: Lauren Richardson, Nada Ali, Riley Brigham, Lavina Ranjan, Kwame Gayle, and Phoebe Carver.

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Olivia Thompson (right), PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Kucetekela Foundation in Zambia, with a KF gap year student.



Becca Merrifield, PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with The Rwanda School Project, teaching a class.

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Message From the Executive Director

Dear Princeton in Africa Friends,

My third anniversary with Princeton in Africa was March 12th, and I could not have found a better way to celebrate – in Jinja, Uganda, for PiAf's midyear retreat. Surrounded by 47 of our current Fellows, staff, several alumni, and one of PiAf's founders, I was reminded once again what a special program we have. **I am proud to provide hardworking, bright, thoughtful young adults with the opportunity to spend a meaningful, productive year in Africa.** Visiting with Fellows' supervisors during my travel to Africa, I heard about the valuable contributions that our Fellows make on the ground. Speaking with PiAf alumni over the last three years, I've also learned the impact this one, formative year can have on Fellows' personal and professional growth, and their commitment to the continent.

Thank you for supporting us in so many ways and for believing, like us, what a transformative experience a Princeton in Africa fellowship can be.

Over the past three years, we have enhanced the Princeton in Africa fellowship program in a number of ways, including: providing Fellows with new resources to better prepare them for their fellowship year; developing new health, safety and security resources; providing travel grants so all Fellows can benefit from a thought-provoking, restorative midyear retreat; taking steps to improve our ability to measure and report on the impact of our work; launching a new "look" and new communications materials; and strengthening our internal operations.

But as we look to the future, what I am most excited about is increasing opportunities for alumni engagement – with each other, with PiAf, and with the continent. We are committed to not only enabling *Service for*

a Year, but also *Commitment for a Lifetime*. As a first step, we will soon be launching a new PiAf alumni website and online directory for our nearly 400 alumni worldwide, thanks to the hard work of our PiAf Alumni Working Group. We look forward to supporting additional new alumni initiatives in the future.

We hope you enjoy reading about what our 2014-15 Fellows have been up to across Africa this year, and seeing what some of our remarkable alumni are doing now.

Warm regards from Princeton,

Katie Henneman
Executive Director



Greetings from the Princeton in Africa staff! (left to right) Program Director Stephanie Hooper Leroy, Program Manager Liz Braden, Program & Communications Associate Cara Vu, Executive Director Katie Henneman, and Development & Impact Manager Vanessa Pope.

Message From the Board President

Dear Princeton in Africa Friends,

It's been another great year at Princeton in Africa! This year was a particularly special year for PiAf, as we celebrated 15 years of sending Fellows to Africa. It's incredible how much our program has grown from its beginnings – placing two Fellows with the International Rescue Committee in Rwanda in the summer of 1999 – to today, when **we now have placed nearly 400 Fellows with more than 70 diverse organizations in 35 countries across the African continent.** While many things have changed, we are proud to still send Fellows to support the IRC's work and to provide young adults with such a meaningful year in Africa.

One of my many privileges as PiAf's Board President is to meet with many of the supporters who make our program possible. At our annual gala last October (see more on page 3), we were honored to award the *Princeton in Africa Medal* to the Tierney Family and the first-ever *Princeton in Africa*



Jim Robinson (third from the left) with several members of the Princeton Class of 1969 at PiAf's 2014 gala. From left to right: Clay and Pinky McEldowney, Jim, George and Mary Beth Hritz, and Chris and Rick Kitto.

Founders' Medal to Jim Floyd, George Hritz, and Frank Strasburger, the Co-Founders of Princeton in Africa. It was our pleasure to celebrate our 15th anniversary with many PiAf friends and to recognize the Tierneys' and founders' tremendous commitment to public service and to the advancement of the African continent. The funds raised through the gala will be critical to our Board's goal of strengthening our program further in a strategic and thoughtful manner.

This year, I participated again in the Fellow selection process, reviewing applications and interviewing many of the candidates for Princeton in Africa's 2015-16 fellowship class. **We received 442 fellowship applications this past fall for approximately 45-50 posts – a very competitive 10% acceptance rate.** It was inspiring, as always, to see the talent, drive, intelligence, humility, and enthusiasm on display in this year's candidate pool. I look forward to seeing some of these young individuals go on to become Fellows and develop a lifelong commitment to the advancement of Africa.

I offer my sincere thanks to all of you who have assisted PiAf over the past year through your support, advocacy and spreading the word about our program. I look forward to the year ahead with much excitement and encourage you to follow our progress via our website, Fellows Flyer emails, and Facebook.

Jim Robinson
President, PiAf Board of Directors

Princeton in Africa 2014 Gala – Celebrating 15 Years of Fellows

On Thursday, October 23, 2014 in New York City, we presented the *Princeton in Africa Medal* to the Tierney Family and the first-ever *Princeton in Africa Founders' Medal* to three PiAf Co-Founders (Jim Floyd, George Hritz, and Frank Strasburger). We also celebrated our 15th anniversary of sending Fellows to Africa. It was an extraordinary evening that brought together more than 230 Princeton in Africa board members, alumni, and friends – a record turnout! It was a wonderful opportunity for PiAf supporters both new and old to hear from those involved in our program (including 23 former Fellows who attended the event) just how life-changing a Princeton in Africa fellowship can be.



PiAf Board President Jim Robinson (left) with PiAf's Co-Founders (Frank Strasburger, George Hritz and Jim Floyd) as they accepted the first-ever *Princeton in Africa Founders' Medal* at our 2014 gala.

The gala raised more than \$200,000 in gross revenue for our fellowship program – a truly incredible amount! These funds will be used to support our Fellows currently on the ground in Africa, to make more transformative fellowships possible next year, to build an even stronger network amongst our nearly 400 alumni, and to strengthen our program and organization further.

Thank you to everyone who supported our event and thanks to all who joined us – you helped make the evening a great success!



The Tierney Family accepting the 2014 *Princeton in Africa Medal*. From left to right: Michael Tierney, Susan Tierney, Jim Robinson, Fred Swaniker (Co-Chair of the 2014 Gala, and Founder & Executive Chairman of African Leadership Academy, a current PiAf partner organization), Trish Tierney, Matthew Tierney, and Paul Tierney.

To Be Young in Botswana

By Lauren Richardson

PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

A year ago, I was 22, on the cusp of graduating, and anxiously awaiting an email from Princeton in Africa. When it finally came, I was offered a teaching position at Maru-a-Pula School (MaP) in Botswana. Oddly enough, “education” was the only box I didn’t check on my application.

Upon arrival at MaP, my title was *Junior History and Geography Teacher*. Over the course of my fellowship year, I have added a few others. Oddly enough, “*Mighty Ducks*”-*Quoting Soccer Coach, Boarding House Mistress, Resident Horticulturalist, Foolish Dancing American, and Giant Paper Mache*



Lauren (back row, fourth from the left) playing soccer with the Maru-a-Pula girls' soccer team.

Scorpion Statue Engineer are just a few more boxes I never anticipated I would check.

Youth on the continent are lauded internationally as the future of an ‘Africa Rising,’ or bemoaned to be the idle anchors of a resource-poor continent with a billion young people too many. In this two-dimensional characterization, they are only defined as economic assets or liabilities. Their lives are condensed into marginal units of productivity.

MaP, a school where students embark on pursuits as competitive, creative, and compassionate as cycling across the Kalahari Desert for charity, winning global computer programming contests, and opening their boarding houses and hearts to refugees, provides a foil to this flat characterization of African youth.

In my classroom, on the soccer field, and between rows of spinach, I have had the opportunity to work alongside young people in Botswana who are active, imaginative assets. From moderating debates about the “Rhodes Must Fall” movement at the University of Cape Town, to quietly convincing both my students and myself that the fledgling fruits of our labor would survive the summer heat wave, working at MaP has shown me the power of imagination in social change.

Today, I am 23, on the cusp of finishing my fellowship, and anxiously awaiting more emails full of unchecked boxes. I will leave Botswana with a fuller picture of what it means to be young, imaginative, and committed to social justice. This experience has been a residency in reflection and compassionate collaboration and given me a rare opportunity for meaningful work as a recent graduate.

A Newfound Appreciation for Water

By Maggie Cochran
PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Nyumbani Village, Kenya
Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

"In an age when man has forgotten his origins and is blind even to his most essential needs for survival, water along with other resources has become the victim of his indifference." - Rachel Carson

I never knew how much I take water for granted until this year. At home, I have constant access to clean water for showers, drinking, cooking, cleaning, etc. Throughout this year, at my post at Nyumbani Village in rural Kenya, I have realized the value of water and one's access to it. My weeks now are frequented with what I call "water walks." Many times throughout the year, especially in the dry seasons, my house's borehole tap goes "out," thus commencing my "walk." I take my 10L jug and begin visiting other taps throughout the Village, moving further away from home until I get lucky and find a working tap. These journeys, which were at first daunting, have now become fun and habitual. I get to visit the children living nearby and take a walk around the place I now call home. After lugging my water back home, I take a cold bucket shower that is that much more refreshing knowing that I worked for it.

My water walks are just a tiny micro-example of what the Nyumbani community and many people across Kenya have to do just to secure



Maggie filling a 10-liter jug from a nearby borehole tap.

water that may or may not even be safe to drink. My mere few hundred-meter walk for water is nothing compared to the water insecurity that many Kenyans and Africans face. I now use less than 10L of water per day and I know that this experience will shape my appreciation towards water security upon my return home. Part of my job at Nyumbani is overseeing and expanding the Village's rainwater harvesting system. It is so exciting to see sustainable, simple solutions to water security being put into place!

I don't think I really understood the privilege and luxury of having water security until my time at Nyumbani Village.

water that may or may not even be safe to drink. My mere few hundred-meter walk for water is nothing compared to the water insecurity that many Kenyans and Africans face. I now use less than 10L of water per day and I know

Adolescent HIV in Botswana: Urban vs. Rural

By Emily India Richter
PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Botswana
Sponsored by the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

As Teen Club Coordinator for the Botswana Baylor Children's Clinical Centre of Excellence, I am in charge of curriculum development and support groups for adolescents living with HIV in the capital, Gaborone, and three satellite sites in more rural areas. With a population of only two million, Botswana is a very small country, so I was surprised when my experiences at Teen Club varied so significantly from city to city. Part of me figured teenagers are the same everywhere; this may be true, but the challenges faced by teenagers with regard to HIV differ wholly depending on location.

I have started calling the teenagers in Gaborone my "divas" because they know exactly what they want, refuse to sit on the ground if we don't have enough chairs, and prioritize having fun over learning life skills. These "divas" have taught me valuable lessons in making learning entertaining (and always making sure we have enough chairs to go around). Working with teens in other districts, however, has been an eye-opening experience in an entirely different manner. In contrast to our "diva" teens in Gaborone, teenagers in other towns are still paralyzed by stigma, still under the impression that they are alone in the fight against HIV, and still struggling to establish basic support systems. This is true to such a degree that many teens in rural areas prefer attending Clubs in buildings with no windows so that they are not seen or "found out" by their local community members.



India participating in a "Silly Olympics" activity at Camp Ya Chesa, a camp for HIV positive teenagers struggling with medication adherence.

My work in Gaborone has given me a glimpse at the hope of what awaits HIV positive adolescents as they transition into adulthood; a life with less stigmatization and more freedom is very possible with widespread dissemination of accurate information and proper education about HIV. Nevertheless, my time at our satellite sites constantly reminds me of how much more must be done to address both the physical and psychosocial needs of adolescents living with HIV. Teenagers truly are the same everywhere, and each and every one of them deserves an equal opportunity at a life free from discrimination.

PIAF 2014-2015 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Thank you to our partners for their generous support of our 2014-15 Fellows!

African Cashew Alliance (Ghana)

African Impact (Zambia)

African Leadership Academy (South Africa)

African School of Economics (Benin)

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (Botswana, Lesotho & Tanzania)

Clinton Health Access Initiative (South Africa)

Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (Tanzania)

eleQtra (InfraCo) (Uganda)

Equal Education (South Africa)

Gardens for Health International (Rwanda)

Global Shea Alliance (Ghana)

Hope Through Health (Togo)

Imani Development (Malawi)

Indigenous Education Foundation of Tanzania (Tanzania)

My Activist Education

By Gabriel Nahmias
PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Equal Education, South Africa
Sponsored by the EGG Foundation

“I am buying labour. Four rand. It’s good price. You won’t get better,” yelled the little capitalist my simulation had created. A dozen of these entrepreneurs ran around enthusiastically, racking in the dough, while white workers made enough to invest in education and the pool of unemployed black workers grew ever bigger.

I cannot be sure any of them got it, that any of the 120 kids playing the game understood the fundamental idea that the structure of the economy, the political economy, creates winners and losers. The idea that Apartheid was not just a political institution, it was an economic institution



Gabriel (far right) marching with 2,500 learners down the streets of Cape Town to a rally for education equality.

which cannot simply be undone by an election. That widespread inequality is not inherent to capitalism, that it is the result of the choices, current and past, of political leaders. I cannot be sure they got any of that, but I do know they felt the injustice in the game when “black workers” became permanently unemployed because they could not earn enough to play. I know some learned to empathize with the capitalists we generally deride, as they perpetrated the same greedy behavior the system, both in the game and in life, is designed to encourage. And I know some saw how an unequal ability to invest in education aggravates economic inequality.

This was a game I designed for Equal Education’s annual summer camp. Camp is part of our ongoing effort to teach working-class kids to be activists and to organize them to fight for a better education in South Africa. But when we say activists, we mean this in a holistic way. We are not just rabble rousing, we are creating citizens prepared to check those in power, throughout their lives. In addition to designing this simulation of South Africa’s political economy over time, I created activities to teach about logical fallacies, abuse, social media, gender inequality, corporal punishment, school governing structures, and the multifaceted nature of the state.

At EE, I am helping disadvantaged youth to think critically, to understand their rights, and to know how to fight for them. Being a part of this South African organization, which is fostering a generation of citizens, of guardians of this burgeoning democracy, is an honor and a privilege. This experience has helped me to think critically, to understand my duties, and to know how to fight for them. I will forever be grateful to Princeton in Africa for making this possible.

Karibu from Kasulu

By Akua Agyen and Hannah Brown
PiAf 2014-15 Fellows with International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

Here, in north-western Tanzania, “karibu” is a term often heard. We hear it while buying produce at the local market, when eating at a neighborhood restaurant, and while working in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp. Variations include “karibuni” and “karibu tena,” but no matter the form, the bottom line is the same—you’re welcome here. “Karibu” is commonly heard among International Rescue Committee (IRC) staff as well. We are gifted with a “karibu,” whether we are entering an IRC vehicle, arriving at the IRC Kasulu office, or starting the day in Nyarugusu Camp. To us, the IRC staff is “karibu,” embodied.

We felt “karibu,” when an IRC employee explained the critical importance of parenting programs. We saw “karibu,” when watching an IRC staff member ask a group of young women how we, as an organization, could serve them better. We hear “karibu,” each time we sit down with clients to hear their stories. It’s contagious, this “karibu.” It’s a reflection of our colleagues’ unceasing passion. It is part of what makes us a family.

When working in the humanitarian field, and when traveling to and from the refugee camp every day, it can be easy to only see the existing gaps—how much more support needs to be given. However, each



Akua (left) and Hannah on their way into Nyarugusu Refugee Camp in Tanzania.

“karibu,” provides an opportunity to step back and see just how much is being done with the scarce resources available. IRC staff members rarely get discouraged, and while working to build resilience with IRC beneficiaries in camp, they simultaneously build their own individual and community resilience as well. Each “karibu” supports and connects IRC beneficiaries and staff with the global IRC family, and “karibu” guides us during our fellowship year.

Karibu, you are welcome here.

International Rescue Committee (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia [based in Kenya] & Tanzania)

Kucetekela Foundation (Zambia)

Lutheran World Federation (Burundi)

Maru-a-Pula (Botswana)

mothers2mothers (South Africa)

Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation (Kenya)

Nyumbani Village (Kenya)

Olam International (Ghana)

Plan International (Uganda)

Population Services International (Kenya)

Sanergy (Kenya)

The BOMA Project (Kenya)

The Kasiisi Project (Uganda)

The Rwanda School Project (Rwanda)

UN World Food Programme (Malawi, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa & Uganda)

Village Enterprise (Kenya/Uganda)

PiAf 2015 Fellows' Retreat Reflections

By Allie Stauss

PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with African Cashew Alliance, Ghana

Sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kalaris

From March 6 to 10, 47 of the 2014-15 Fellows, four enthusiastic alumni, two stellar PiAf staff members, and PiAf co-founder, Frank Strasburger, traveled to scenic Jinja, Uganda from all corners of the African continent and the US for the 2015 PiAf Mid-Year Retreat. Nestled on a hillside backed against the Nile River, we were able to reflect together on our experiences thus far and grow as professionals, advocates, searchers, and a community of committed individuals.

This retreat is an integral element of the fellowship year and serves as a source of excitement, relaxation, and solidarity. As a class, we are extremely grateful to the PiAf staff and alumni for thoughtfully creating a balanced weekend of introspection and fun. We celebrated triumphs and empathized with struggles; we challenged and validated one another through conversations about development, stress management, race, and the importance of nuance when discussing the African continent; we swam in the Nile, ate meals together, and danced late into the night.



A group photo taken at the 2014-15 Fellows' Retreat.

“At orientation in June, all of us Fellows became part of the PiAf family. This bond has never felt more real than at our mid-year retreat, which felt less like reflecting on our fellowships and more like coming home,” said Ryan Elliott, based in Lesotho at Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative. “To me, the most valuable take-away from retreat was a deep awareness that I’m part of a mission-driven family whose connections and collaborations will extend far beyond our fellowship year.” Although we hail from very different parts of the continent and work for a diverse array of organizations, we have shared many similar experiences which enable us to relate in an inimitable way. Oluseyi Segun, working for Gardens for Health International in Rwanda, indicated that the retreat “provided clarity, peace, and support from those who not only understood where I was coming from, but who were living the same experience themselves.”



Some of our 2014-15 Fellows enjoying some post-retreat rafting.

It is humbling and empowering to be supported by such brilliant minds and compassionate hearts. Re-energized by meaningful discussion and exhilarating adventure, we have now returned to our respective posts with refreshed perspectives and gratitude for the Princeton in Africa community.

PiAf Fellows: Managing Stress and Bolstering Resilience

Did you know that, according to some studies, approximately 30% of expatriate humanitarian aid and development workers report significant signs of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and 20% report clinically significant signs of depression?¹

These figures are not surprising, given that humanitarian aid and international development professionals work closely with communities in extreme poverty or help rebuild following devastating conflicts or natural disasters. They frequently work long hours, in unfamiliar cultures, with limited resources, and sometimes in dangerous environments. Even those working in office settings, with more resources at their disposal, may struggle with the inevitable setbacks and the time it takes for substantive changes to be made on the ground. Humanitarian workers are often service-oriented and passionate about making the world a better place, but over time can become overwhelmed, burned out, and jaded. In recent years, international organizations have begun doing more to help humanitarian workers build their resiliency and address their mental health needs.²

Princeton in Africa offers yearlong fellowships, but a year can be enough time for our Fellows to begin to feel the stress and burnout common to humanitarian workers worldwide. **Princeton in Africa recognizes that stress management and building resiliency are not only critical to a positive fellowship year, but important life skills for Fellows**

to develop and use throughout their career. We have joined with the KonTerra Group to develop new ways to prepare and support our Fellows, including providing:

- A session at orientation with information on identifying stressors and tips on stress management and building resiliency, presented by a KonTerra professional.
- A follow-up session for Fellows on stress and resiliency as part of our midyear retreat
- Collecting tips from PiAf alumni to share with current Fellows on staying motivated
- Access for individual Fellows to speak confidentially with KonTerra’s mental health professionals throughout their fellowship year
- Additional resources, including breathing and other stress management exercises, in their Fellows’ Handbook and via emails from PiAf for Fellows to reference during their fellowship year

Resilience is the ability to “bounce back” to normal functioning after difficult experiences – it won’t make problems go away, but can give one the ability to see past them, and the energy to work through them and still find enjoyment in life. During our midyear retreat, **our 2014-15 Fellows shared ways they have found to build their resilience and stay motivated this year**, including: exercise, scheduling regular personal time/alone time, establishing better work/life boundaries, starting the day off with something they love, laughter and trying not to take themselves too seriously, dancing, developing a local support network/community, keeping in touch with family and friends back home, writing letters to themselves, practicing gratitude, planning things to look forward to, and occasionally treating themselves, to name a few.

¹ *Managing Stress in Humanitarian Workers: Guidelines for good practice.* Antares Foundation, March 2012, page 5, available at: <https://www.antaresfoundation.org/guidelines>

² See, for example, articles on mental health in InterAction’s *Monday Developments* magazine, October 2013 edition: http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/MD_October_2013_web.pdf

PIAF 2014-2015 FELLOWS

Akua Agyen (*Tale '14*)

International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

Nada Ali (*Princeton '14*)

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

Audrey Atencio (*Georgetown '14*)

UN World Food Programme, Uganda

Anu Ate (*Colorado College '13*)

International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia

Emily Bensen (*Middlebury '14*)

Hope Through Health, Togo

Sponsored by the Diamond Family Foundation

Alexandra Broner (*Stanford '12*)

International Rescue Committee, Somalia (based in Kenya)

Hannah Brown (*UC Davis '12*)

International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

Margaret Cochrane (*Princeton '14*)

Nyumbani Village, Kenya

Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

Laura Courbois (*University of Wisconsin-Madison '14*)

Imani Development, Malawi

Yasmin Dagne (*Princeton '14*)

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

Jayne Daniel (*University of Texas at Austin '10*)

Sanergy, Kenya

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Margaret Derby (*University of Georgia '14*)

African Impact, Zambia

Ryan Elliott (*Princeton '14*)

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho

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John Firestone (*Colorado State '10*)

Olam International, Ghana

Nava Friedman (*Princeton '13*)

Plan International, Uganda

Sophia Geffen (*Pomona '13*)

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Tanzania

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Christina Goldbaum (*Tufts '14*)

The BOMA Project, Kenya

Sponsored by Segal Family Foundation

Sally Goodman (*Princeton '14*)

Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya

Sponsored by the Keller Family

Kaitlin Grant (*UC Berkeley '12*)

UN World Food Programme, Malawi

Berhan Hagos (*Duke '14*)

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

Kaitlin Hodge (*Smith '12*)

UN World Food Programme, Malawi

Rachel Jones (*UC Berkeley '09*)

Clinton Health Access Initiative, South Africa

Erin Keating (*University of Wisconsin-Madison '11*)

Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania, Tanzania

Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

Hilary Kinka (*Johns Hopkins '10*)

Population Services International, Kenya

Chelsea Lee (*Vanderbilt '12*)

mothers2mothers, South Africa

Rebecca Liron (*Northwestern '14*)

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Brianna Losoya (*Claremont McKenna '12*)

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

Rebecca Merrifield (*Davidson '14*)

The Rwanda School Project, Rwanda

Sponsored by Barry and Dolly Segal

Lorna Morris (*UNC Chapel Hill '14*)

UN World Food Programme, Rwanda

Gabriel Nahmias (*Emory '13*)

Equal Education, South Africa

Sponsored by the EGG Foundation

PiAf Partner Profile: Introducing Hope Through Health

By Emily Bensen

PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Hope Through Health, Togo

Sponsored by the Diamond Family Foundation

Every morning when I arrive at work, I pass under the sign that reads, “Association Espoir Pour Demain” or “Hope for Tomorrow.” I get a warm welcome from our receptionist, my friend, Meheza. I give a high five to Providence, the daughter of one of our community health workers. Patients smile at me and giggle as I practice my Kabyé greetings, “How are your children? And your health? How did you pass the night?”

Hope Through Health is a community. Hope Through Health is a family. We believe that everyone deserves access to high-quality healthcare regardless of the latitude and longitude of their birthplace. We live and breathe our mission every day: to save lives by making healthcare accessible and effective in Togo, the West African nation ranked 159 of 187 on the Human Development Index.



Emily (behind table, second from the left) and her colleague Sahaletou leading a community meeting in the village of Sarakawa to introduce the Maternal and Child Health program they will be launching in the community.

For over ten years, HTH has worked with people living with HIV, providing community-driven treatment and care. Through our years of experience we have borne witness to another health injustice: in Togo, one in ten children die before the age of five and approximately 300 pregnant women die per 100,000 births. The major killers of children in Togo—malaria, diarrheal disease, and pneumonia—are all preventable or treatable for relatively low costs.

With the advice and support of the Ministry of Health, Hope Through Health is launching a maternal and child health program in four deserving communities in the Kara region. Since arriving last June as a PiAf Fellow, I have had the unique opportunity to participate in the planning process from the beginning. Last fall I performed a health facility assessment to evaluate the services currently being provided in rural health clinics. This winter I contributed to our supply chain management strategy, to make sure that our community health workers will have access to the supplies they need at all times. Currently I am building a monitoring and evaluation plan, starting with creating the indicators that will best demonstrate our work. I am thrilled to have been given the opportunity to stay on a second year with Hope Through Health after my PiAf fellowship and see how this program succeeds.

The HTH community and their thoughtful and effective work has had a greater impact on me both personally and professionally than I ever could have imagined when I started my fellowship. Walking through the doorway every morning, I am reminded why I am here—to be part of an inspirational family who do not stand for the current healthcare delivery in Togo and who strive for a brighter, more equitable future.

Vivian Ojo (*Georgetown '14*)

African Leadership Academy, South Africa

Sponsored by Princeton Class of '72

Gilles Ouedraogo (*Gustavus Adolphus College '10*)

Lutheran World Federation, Burundi

Camille Pendley (*Georgia Tech '12*)

International Rescue Committee, Somalia (based in Kenya)

Grace Perkins (*College of William and Mary '14*)

Global Shea Alliance, Ghana

Elizabeth Quinlan (*Occidental '14*)

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Courtney Quinney (*American University of Paris '11*)

African School of Economics, Benin

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Lavina Ranjan (*Texas Christian '14*)

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

Katherine Reott (*Georgetown '13*)

Village Enterprise, Kenya

Lauren Richardson (*University of South Florida '14*)

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

Emily India Richter (*Pitzer '14*)

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Botswana

Sponsored by the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

Oluseyi Segun (*American '12*)

Gardens for Health International, Rwanda

Sponsored by the Cronan Family in honor of Toni Morrison

Allison Stauss (*American '14*)

African Cashew Alliance, Ghana

Sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kalaris

Meredith Strike (*Georgetown '14*)

eleQtra (InfraCo), Uganda

Sophia Stylianou (*Penn '13*)

Sanergy, Kenya

Sponsored by Segal Family Foundation

Max Sugarman (*University of Washington '14*)

The Kasiisi Project, Uganda

Sponsored by Alicia and Tim Mullen

Olivia Thompson (*University of Michigan '14*)

Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

Jennifer Umberg (*UC Berkeley '13*)

UN World Food Programme, South Africa

Morgan Wolf (*Northwestern '14*)

Indigenous Education Foundation of Tanzania, Tanzania

Sponsored by the EGG Foundation

Eva Zenilman (*Emory '14*)

The BOMA Project, Kenya

PiAf Alumni Profile: A Q&A Session with Sarah Rawson

Interview by Kaitlin Hodge

PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with UN World Food Programme, Malawi

With Sarah Rawson

PiAf 2013-14 Fellow with UN World Food Programme, Malawi

Now a Reports and Communications Officer at UN World Food Programme, Malawi

Princeton in Africa has placed Fellows with the UN World Food Programme since 2006, and currently has two Fellows (Katie Grant and Kaitlin Hodge) working at WFP's country office in Lilongwe, Malawi. Sarah Rawson, one of last year's WFP Malawi PiAf Fellows, now works as a Reports and Communications Officer and as Kaitlin Hodge's supervisor at WFP Malawi. Here, Kaitlin asks Sarah about her work, the PiAf fellowship program, and everything in between.

Sarah was one of the first people I met upon taking up my fellowship post in Malawi. She was my introduction to the Lilongwe social scene, graciously letting my horribly trivia-poor self join her champion pub quiz team (my first weekend was spent relaxing like a celebrity at a lakeside getaway won in the same pub quiz tournament). A month into my fellowship, the departure of our boss meant Sarah also became head of our unit and therefore my supervisor. Did I mention she is also a former Fellow and my direct predecessor?

KH: Can you tell us about your fellowship position and how it influenced your decision to stay on with WFP?

SR: What is great about our unit (Reports, Communications, and Donor Relations) is that we really are at a crossroads of all the sections, so one gets exposed to so much so quickly. It's a very dynamic job where every day is different, and it's a great place to learn about how the UN works and our varying programmes. In this context, I spent much of my fellowship year learning, and just as my fellowship had started to wind down, I felt like I was in a place where I stood to contribute. The multifaceted nature of the position also showed me the areas where I'd like to begin focusing my work as I go forward.

KH: How has it been going from being a Fellow to supervising a Fellow?

SR: As I don't have prior experience managing, it's been a lot of learning

on the go. Over the past few months, though, I feel like I've really grown into the position. In January, Malawi was hit by the worst floods disaster in living memory, and working on WFP's floods response likely played a role. For the first time, what we were doing was truly life-saving. In this context, we had to get really serious, really fast – and I think we stepped up to the challenge. We were even named WFP's global communications heroes of the week. It has really fueled me.

KH: You became head of our unit at the age of 22. When you reflect on that, how does it make you feel?

I'm very proud of that, and I'd also say it's pretty directly attributable to my fellowship year. Coming here as a Fellow brought a type of credibility behind my work. At least in Malawi, WFP knows that when Fellows come in, they're coming from top academic institutions and are extremely motivated. Already having that backing helped, as well as the constant support to let my skills and contributions shine through (and, of course, some good luck). Even more than my age, though, something I'm really aware of is that there are actually so few women in management roles, so I'm very proud of where I am now and I hope to pay that forward to other young women in our office, particularly the national staff.

KH: Any last words as one of the newest members of the PiAf alumni family?

SR: Princeton in Africa has developed a pretty significant network of alumni who are committed to the advancement of Africa. PiAf finds excellent candidates from all walks of life and puts them in positions where they can really work and contribute to not only their personal development, but also the mission of wherever they are working. I really do believe in the PiAf motto, which is "Service for a Year. Commitment for a Lifetime."



Former and current PiAf-WFP Fellows worked together on WFP's emergency flood response in Malawi. From left to right: Kaitlin Hodge (2014-15), Sophia Robele (2013-14), Katie Grant (2014-15), and Sarah Rawson (2013-14).

PiAf Connections



Several PiAf staff, board members, and alumni participated in interviews for the 2015-16 fellowship year. From left to right: PiAf Advisory Board Member and Alum Mike Scharff (2008-09), Board Member Daniela Kaisth, Executive Director Katie Henneman, and Program Manager Liz Braden.



2011-12 Fellows Yassi Tamdji (left) and Desiree Bailey at PiAf's alumni happy hour in July 2014 in New York City.



Current 2014-15 Fellows Yasmin Dagne (far left) and Brianna Losoya (far right) enjoying a meal in Dakar, Senegal with PiAf Board Member Christian Kemp-Griffin (third from the left) and 2013-14 Fellow Ryan Kirlin (second from the left).

Announcing New PiAf Partners for 2015-16

Princeton in Africa is excited to announce four fantastic new partners for our upcoming 2015-16 fellowship year. We are honored to be working with such innovative, dynamic, and inspiring organizations – and welcome all of them to the PiAf family!

Lwala Community Alliance – Lwala Community Alliance works to build the capacity of the people of Lwala (a rural village in the Nyanza Province of western Kenya) to advance their own comprehensive well-being, through programs in small-scale micro-enterprise, public health, water and sanitation, and education.

Soko – Soko is a for-profit social enterprise that provides e-commerce solutions for artisans in developing countries, beginning in Kenya. Soko enables talented artisans in emerging markets to connect to online consumers through simple mobile phone technology, cutting out the traditional middlemen, reducing logistical costs and increasing profits for the artisans. The pieces sold are ethically produced and handcrafted from sustainable, responsibly-sourced materials.

Spark MicroGrants – Spark MicroGrants supports rural poor communities throughout Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi to design, implement and manage their own social impact projects. Spark

provides microgrants of between \$2,000 and \$10,000 to enable project implementation (such as of a school, electricity line or farm), with no interest or repayment of the funds requested. Our Fellow will be based in Burundi.

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) – The World Agroforestry Centre (or International Centre for Research in Agroforestry) works to generate science-based knowledge about the diverse roles that trees play in agricultural landscapes, and to use its research to advance policies and practices that stimulate agricultural and forest growth, raise farmers' incomes, and protect the environment. Our Fellow will be based in Kenya.

Alumni Updates

Mark Adams
PiAf 2011-12

Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

Following my fellowship, I spent two more years in Zambia in a Management Development position with FINCA, an international microfinance institution. Late last year I moved to One Acre Fund, as an Analyst on their new Microfinance Partnerships team. I now live in western Kenya.

Cynthia O. Akatugba
PiAf 2004

Foundation for Sustainable Development, Uganda

After graduating from Princeton University in 2006, I taught middle school math at YES Prep Public Schools in Houston, Texas for four years. In 2013, I graduated from The University of Texas School of Law. I am currently clerking for the Honorable Elaine D. Kaplan of The United States Court of Federal Claims.

Akornefa Akyea
PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Gabon

I began working at Bates College as an Admission Counselor in 2014. I have had the opportunity to travel across the country for Bates and I am also the geoDean for Africa.

Kate Albers
PiAf 2012-13

African Impact, Zambia

Since my fellowship with African Impact, I moved to New York City to intern with the International Federation for Human Rights, a human rights group that conducts UN advocacy. I now work in Development for the International Rescue Committee, a refugee relief organization and PiAf partner. I will be attending graduate school this fall of 2015 for a master's in international affairs, with a focus in international law and human rights.

Alexandra Altfeld
PiAf 2013-14

eleQtra (InfraCo), Uganda

After my fellowship I have stayed on with my partner organization, eleQtra, as a financial associate and now split my time between New York City and Kampala. I am currently working on developing and investing in a number of power projects in Uganda and Rwanda, including gas, solar, and hydro.

Amaka Anku
PiAf 2006-07

International Rescue Committee, Democratic Republic of Congo

Immediately after PiAf, I attended law school, then clerked with a federal judge for a year. I then went on to work in the international arbitration practice of global law firm Shearman & Sterling. In January, I quit to work with a think tank based in Nigeria. I also had a baby last year who's turning 1 on May 7!

Michael Arnst
PiAf 2012-13

Equal Education, South Africa

Since my fellowship, I've gone back to my adopted hometown of Baltimore to combine my previous work experience in philanthropy and, thanks to PiAf, education policy to assist a group of family foundations in the city primarily with their human rights, education and arts portfolios. Specifically, I work as a Program Associate at the Blaustein Philanthropic Group. I also joined the board of Greater Homewood Community Corporation, a 47-year-old organization serving the north central neighborhoods of Baltimore.

Byron Austin
PiAf 2009-10

mothers2mothers, South Africa

After my fellowship, I stayed on with mothers2mothers for another two years. I moved back from Cape Town to New York City, where I got married and started at Rabin Martin, a global health strategy consulting firm. After about a year and a half at the firm, I transitioned onto the Corporate Contributions team at Johnson & Johnson. Funnily enough, in this new role, I manage a mothers2mothers grant and work with Rabin Martin on communications strategies for portfolios. Full circle!

Desiree Bailey
PiAf 2011-12

Equal Education, South Africa

After my fellowship at Equal Education, I worked for Harlem Children's Zone, received writing fellowships from The Norman Mailer Center and the Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop, and have been a recipient of the Poets and Writers' Amy Award. I have also taught poetry workshops at Roger Williams University. I am currently in the MFA program at Brown University, where I write and teach undergraduate fiction courses. I am also the fiction editor at Kinfolks Quarterly, a journal that publishes art and creative/critical writing by black artists and writers. Some of my own writings are published or forthcoming in Muzzle, Blackberry, Learn then Burn anthology, Callaloo and Best American Poetry.

Becca Balis
PiAf 2010-11

International Rescue Committee, Liberia

I'm back in the U.S., at Georgetown Law, where I'm focusing on refugee and humanitarian law (and missing the field every day!) I'll be here this summer at Human Rights Watch, and would love a PiAf get-together!

Devan Darby Bartels
PiAf 2006-07

Harvard University AIDS Institute, Botswana

I'm still in Boston with my wonderful husband and fellow PiAf-er, David Bartels! Yes, we *finally* got

married last year. Over the past year, we have been continuing our residencies in Anesthesia, Critical Care, and Pain Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. We're looking forward to bringing our training to work in a few years back on the continent. Please let us know of opportunities for Critical Care and Anesthesia in Africa! We'd love to help. Much love to the PiAf family.

Louise Lamphere Beryl
PiAf 2004-05

Tanzanian Children's Fund / Rift Valley Children's Village, Tanzania

I'm currently living in Palo Alto, CA, working for the Palo Alto Medical Foundation as a Qualitative Research Analyst and working for Samsung as a User Experience Researcher. I recently completed my PhD in Anthropology and Education from Columbia University, Teachers College.

Shameika Black
PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Gabon

In January I moved out of the nonprofit world and started working as a Management Trainee at McMaster-Carr, a MRO supply company. I commute from my home in Philadelphia to New Jersey. I am focused on learning how to support and develop people while maintaining high standards and increasing logistical efficiencies.

Christine Bohne
PiAf 2011-12

Lutheran World Federation, Burundi

I've been working in Rwanda with One Acre Fund, a social enterprise investing in smallholder farmers across East Africa, since finishing my fellowship. Before starting the Doctor of Public Health program at the Harvard School of Public Health this year, I will be traveling across Russia, Mongolia, and China on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Douglas Bove
PiAf 2013-14

Village Enterprise, Kenya/Uganda

I'm a Master's Candidate at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), doing my first year at the SAIS Europe campus in Bologna, Italy. I will be doing my second year in Washington, DC. I study Energy Resources & the Environment with a special focus on renewable energy technologies and project finance. This summer I will be doing a summer internship at the US development finance agency the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), doing structured finance for energy, infrastructure, financial services and foreign policy priority projects.

Allie Bream
PiAf 2010-11

UN World Food Programme, Ethiopia

Since completing my fellowship, I've worked at One

Acre Fund, a social enterprise that helps African smallholder farmers increase their crop output. I'm currently a People Operations Senior Manager, focusing on implementing strategic initiatives designed to help the organization's staff work more effectively. I'm based in NYC, but frequently travel to East Africa.

Laura Budd

PiAf 2011-12

Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya

I am currently a 2nd year veterinary student at UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, located in Davis, CA. Last summer, I was able to return to Mpala to conduct research on camel milk quality and production. It was wonderful to return and catch up with many friends from my year at Mpala.

Hannah Burnett

PiAf 2010-11

mothers2mothers, South Africa

After my PiAf fellowship I worked with Tiyatien Health (now Last Mile Health) as a Global Health Corps fellow in development and communications. I am currently living in Boston and working in Admissions at Northeastern University, where I am also pursuing an MBA with a focus in social entrepreneurship.

Tim Callahan

PiAf 2008-09

International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

After my fellowship, I first spent time working for an agricultural start-up company in Kenya, and subsequently worked at a Princeton-based investment bank. I'm now in business school at UVA/Darden and looking forward to a summer internship with Cargill.

Dara Carroll

PiAf 2012-13

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

I wrapped up my PiAf year at the International Rescue Committee, Kenya in 2013. After a great month of travel in Kenya, I started at Dignitas, an education support organization focused on school leader and teacher development. As the Program Quality Manager, I get the chance to think about how to improve our program evaluation and use data to gain new insights.

Phoebe Carver

PiAf 2013-14

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

I am now working on marketing and expansion for One Acre Fund in Western Kenya.

Jasmine Clerisme

PiAf 2008-09 Africare, Sierra Leone

PiAf 2009-10 International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia

After ending my fellowship in Ethiopia, I moved to Haiti, where I was involved in post-earthquake recovery efforts. I then attended Columbia University, graduating with an MPA in Economic and Political Development. Serendipity led me back to Sierra Leone in 2013, where I am now the head of Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy for Sierra Rutile Limited, the mining company I worked with in partnership with Africare during my fellowship year to establish a technical vocational training institute for youth living in the mining community.

Adrienne Clermont

PiAf 2009-10

UN World Food Programme, Benin

This past January, I completed my M.S. in nutrition and international health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, here in Baltimore, where I've been living for the past 4 years. I was lucky enough to be hired on as a Research Associate at the school almost immediately after finishing my degree, so I am now working on a variety of research/evaluation programs related to maternal and child health in low-income countries. The majority of our work is with international organizations and country governments in sub-Saharan Africa, so I spend all day looking at data about Africa, and hopefully may have a chance to return there in person soon!

Erin Culbertson

PiAf 2003-04, 2004-05

Plan International, Uganda

After my two-year fellowship in Uganda, I attended law school and began working as a litigation and international arbitration associate at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP. From 2011 to 2013, I had the opportunity to move back to Africa and live in Gabon, because my husband was posted there with the State Department. In 2013, we returned to D.C. and I'm working again at Milbank.

Cydnee DeToy

PiAf 2011-12

mothers2mothers, South Africa

After completing my fellowship in 2012, I spent another year doing business development for mothers2mothers in Cape Town, SA before enrolling at the NYU Stern School of Business in 2013. I will receive my MBA from NYU Stern in May 2015. I'm spending the summer as a pro-bono consultant with the African Entrepreneurs Collective in Kigali, Rwanda. In September 2015, I will join Strategy&/PwC Consulting in their organization design and leadership practice.

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Lillian Jin (second from the right) attending a youth group workshop with a visiting youth group coordinator and Baylor's Wise Youth and Teen Club staff.

"The friendships I've made with other Princeton in Africa Fellows, expats in Lesotho, and Basotho co-workers have given me a more nuanced, human understanding of development and remind me to believe in the power of community. My Princeton in Africa year has given me confidence in my abilities and the possibilities of development work. Above all, Princeton in Africa has empowered me to act on the values I believe in and to fight for a more equitable future."

Lillian Jin, 2013-14 Fellow with Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho
Now pursuing a Master's in Public Health at University College Dublin

Shelly Slep Doley

PiAf 2007-08

Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service, Tanzania

2014 was an eventful year! After helping Medair transition into the "new" South Sudan context following the start of a conflict in December 2013, I left South Sudan to take a brief hiatus from aid work. In August I married a wonderful man named Kelly Doley and we moved to Berkeley, CA for what we plan to be a two-year stay. I am now studying theology at the Jesuit School of Theology and Kelly is working in San Francisco for an IT non-profit called Inveno. We have been lucky to befriend several folks with international and even South Sudan specific aid experience and are enjoying the community that comes with those connections.

John Drollinger

PiAf 2012-13

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

I've moved north to Rumbek, South Sudan, to

manage a women's social and economic empowerment program with IRC. The work's been challenging and fascinating, but after two years in South Sudan I'm leaving in June. Though as they say here, once you've drunk the Nile waters, you'll always come back.

Vicki Esquivel-Korsiak

PiAf 2010-11

International Rescue Committee, Uganda

Since my fellowship year I've gotten my master's at LSE in human rights and returned to Uganda, where I worked as human rights researcher with the Ugandan NGO the Justice and Reconciliation Project in Gulu. I spent a brief period in New York working for the Polyphony Foundation on a classical music and peacebuilding program in Israel, and am now in Washington, DC working for the Justice, Rights and Public Safety unit of the World Bank's Governance Global Practice.

Sarah Evans

PiAf 2013-14

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Tanzania

I took a few months off after my fellowship ended in September to see family at home in the States and travel in South America and Europe. I then started at Vera Solutions (a social impact consulting company) in Mumbai; I'm happily enjoying working here alongside PiAf alum Josh Wunderlich.

Katie Fackler

PiAf 2010-11

UN World Food Programme, Benin

I'm finishing my first year of a joint MBA-MA in International Studies at Wharton and the Lauder Institute in Philadelphia. This past year I helped organize the Wharton Africa Business Forum that brought in hundreds of participants and speakers from all over both the US and Africa to engage in the question of "The Inflection Point -- What is Africa's Onward Growth Model?" I will be interning this summer at Morgan Stanley in New York.

Joe Falit

PiAf 2007-08

Jacana, Mozambique

Post-fellowship, I completed my MPP at Harvard, and I spent a summer in Malawi and 4 years in Retail Banking Strategy in NYC. I recently began a role as a public sector consultant for Censeo Consulting in Washington, DC.

Katie Camille Friedman

PiAf 2010-11

2iE / International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering, Burkina Faso

I'm working on my PhD in Environmental Sciences and Engineering through the University of North Carolina and am currently spending a year at TU Delft in the Netherlands for my research. On the side, I am partnering with an NGO in Burkina Faso to work towards turning my PiAf project into a viable business. This year, 2iE has pushed forward on the ceramic water filter research and now has working prototypes in a field study, which was exciting to hear!

Flannery Gallagher

PiAf 2011-12

Invisible Children, Uganda

Since making my way back to the US from Uganda, I've done some Monitoring and Evaluation consulting work for PiAf and worked in investigations of police misconduct in NYC. I'm now pursuing a joint degree in law and public health at Vanderbilt and Johns Hopkins respectively, but am pining for a trip back to Uganda. I will leave Nashville for a year come June to complete the public health portion of my program. If anyone is in Nashville or Baltimore, please look me up!

Ida Girma

PiAf 2012-13

UN World Food Programme, Ethiopia

After my fellowship, I stayed in Ethiopia to work with a microfinance institution called the Amhara Credit and Savings Institution, which provides financial services to over one million productive poor in the Amhara region. I wrote the institution's gender policy, including provisions for gender-responsive

budgeting, gender mainstreaming in the provision of microfinance services, gender equitable staff recruitment and development, parental leave, and sexual harassment protocols. I also conducted an evaluation of the institution's Youth Savings Program, primarily using surveys and client interviews. Upon returning to the U.S., I worked at Virginia Commonwealth University's Division of Epidemiology, where I worked on a randomized controlled trial testing the effect of the timing of postpartum clinical visits on various postpartum health outcomes. Since June 2014, I have worked at Arabella Advisors, a philanthropy consulting firm, where I provide strategy, evaluation, and implementation consulting services to a wide range of institutional, family, and corporate clients, and specialize in the firm's global philanthropy practice.

Morgan Goheen

PiAf 2009-10

mothers2mothers, South Africa

Since leaving m2m, I enrolled in the MD/PhD program at UNC Chapel Hill and am now in my 5th year, working as a graduate student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. My research focus is on the relationship between falciparum malaria susceptibility and the host iron status. A number of studies have found that iron deficiency is protective against malaria and iron supplementation may put people at increased risk. My PhD work involves trying to determine the molecular mechanisms dictating iron deficiency protection and iron supplementation, with the ultimate goal of developing safer iron supplementation practices in malaria endemic areas. My lab is now involved in conducting the safety analyses for a large scale iron supplementation clinical trial in The Gambia, and I currently spend half my time living in the rural village of Keneba working at our laboratory field site.

Emily Harris

PiAf 2006-07

Plan International, Uganda

Following my fellowship in Uganda, I spent another six years living in Kenya, DRC, Nigeria, Cambodia, and Liberia working on a series of global health initiatives for Population Services International, the Clinton Health Access Initiative, and Liberia's Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. After graduating with an MBA from the Yale School of Management this spring, I will be moving to Minneapolis, MN to work for Medtronic, a global medical device innovation company, where I will focus on emerging markets strategy and technology for cardiac care initiatives.

Anne Healy

PiAf 2004-05

Tanzanian Children's Fund / Rift Valley Children's Village, Tanzania

I'm currently Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources at the State Department in Washington, DC. Since my fellowship, I've worked at Poverty Action Lab, attended grad school at Harvard Law School and Harvard Kennedy School (where I got my MPA/ID), and worked at McKinsey.

Alexandra Hellmuth

PiAf 2013-14

Olam International, Ghana

I am currently a first-year MBA student at the Yale School of Management. I will be spending my summer interning at the Boston Consulting Group in Philadelphia.

Lisa Hendrickson

PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Gabon

After my fellowship, I took time off to backpack Thailand and Australia with some friends. I am now living in Washington, DC (my roommate is other former PiAfer!) working for Deloitte's federal emerging markets practice, where I've been focusing on capacity building and training development for USAID and its counterparts.

Jessica Hickok

PiAf 2002-03

Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya

I have been living in San Francisco since returning from Kenya in 2003, working in the field of philanthropy. I spent six years with the Koret Foundation, which funds in the Bay Area and Israel, and now I am the Grants Manager at The James Irvine Foundation, a private foundation that funds across the state of California. I am a leader in the all-volunteer arts collective the Flaming Lotus Girls (www.flaminglotus.com), with whom I make large, interactive, metal sculptures that shoot fire (our stainless steel and LED sculpture, Soma, is currently installed for a year at Pier 14 in San Francisco).

Michael Honigberg

PiAf 2008-09

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Malawi

After my fellowship, I moved to Boston to complete an MD and an MPP at Harvard. I am currently a resident in internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, also in Boston.

Reflections From a Current Partner Organization



Laura Courbois, PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Imani Development, and two enumerators conducting household surveys in Ntchisi District, Malawi.

"I have seen two PiAf Fellows during my employment at Imani and believe that high calibre young professionals come through this programme. Both Fellows were able to work independently and in a professional manner, which allowed them to effectively contribute to the work Imani undertakes in Malawi."

Donna Mataya, Business Consultant with Imani Development, Malawi

Emma Impink

PiAf 2011-12

The BOMA Project, Kenya

Since leaving Kenya, I've been working as an Innovations and M&E Manager with One Acre Fund, helping to grow our program in Tanzania.

Michaela Jacova

PiAf 2005-06

Africare, Uganda

After returning from Uganda, I worked at an international affairs NGO in Prague, facilitating informal business talks between South and North Korea at that time. I later moved to Oxford in England, where I stumbled upon a job in technology transfer for Oxford University. I then did my Master's in Geneva, Switzerland, including a semester exchange at the Fletcher School in Boston. Following my graduation I finally moved back to Slovakia (initially for a year or two) and ended up loving it. I'm a co-founder of the biggest startup event/competition in Slovakia, called the Startup Awards. SK which is now in its fifth year. I work full-time as an investment manager at Neulogy Ventures, the first regulated seed and VC fund in Slovakia. Unfortunately, due to our investment restrictions, no investments in Africa yet, but it's in the works! I am in regular touch with my friends and adoptive family in both Uganda and Kenya. I also help fund an orphanage in Nairobi and work as a part-time dilettante advisor to my TV news

reporter brother, who travels to East Africa frequently to cover development aid projects run by Slovak NGOs.

Alec Jahncke

PiAf 2011-12

Generation Rwanda, Rwanda

I currently live in Boston, where I am working for the Harvard Clinical Research Institute. This summer, I will move down to New Orleans to begin my MD/MPH at Tulane School of Medicine.

Lillian Jin

PiAf 2013-14

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho

After completing my fellowship, I moved to Dublin, Ireland, where I'm currently completing my Master's in Public Health. Next year, I'll be returning stateside to start medical school in New York City.

Ryan Kirlin

PiAf 2013-14

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

Following my fellowship, I returned to Senegal to work as a consultant in the nutrition unit of the WFP Dakar Regional Bureau.

Julie Kornfeld

PiAf 2011-12

Lutheran World Federation, Uganda

I am currently a 2L at the University of Michigan Law School, concentrating on international human rights law, specifically refugee law. At school, I'm a student attorney in the Human Trafficking Clinic and the Legal Supervisor for the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project. Last summer, I lived in Phnom Penh, conducting research on the Khmer Rouge tribunals. This summer, I'll be living in D.C. working for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. I am excited to be completing my last semester at law school (Winter 2016) in South Africa – job and city TBD!

Kelly Laboc

PiAf 2013-14

Clinton Health Access Initiative, Uganda

I'm still at CHAI in Uganda for now (coming up on 2 years), but I'm heading back to the U.S. in a couple months to begin a graduate degree in Bioengineering Innovation and Design at Johns Hopkins. I'm looking forward to bringing my learnings about needs identification for essential child medicines and diagnostics to the program, and continuing to pursue systemic change to global health challenges in low-resource settings through strategic private sector initiatives.

Theresa Laverty

PiAf 2010-11

Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya

I'm two years into a PhD in Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana and wrapped up a pilot season in northwest Namibia this January. My research focuses on desert food webs, specifically what drives bat diversity in the Namib Desert. Highlights from my pilot season are currently being featured in a National Geographic Society blog, <http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/author/tlaverty/>.

Kelsey Lilley

PiAf 2012-13

International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia

I'm working in the Atlantic Council's Africa Center as an Assistant Director, where I had the privilege of welcoming four African heads of state to our offices as part of the first-ever US-Africa Leaders Summit in August 2014. I've also continued my quest to find the best Ethiopian restaurant in Washington, DC!

Emily Moder

PiAf 2013-14

access:energy (now SteamaCo), Kenya

I signed on to a longer contract with SteamaCo and am now working as their Digital Product Manager in Nairobi. We are using our technology to operate 25 microgrids across East Africa, and are currently raising money to expand internationally.

Mary Reid Munford

PiAf 2010-11

African Impact, Zambia

I worked with The Traveling School this past fall, where I led a semester of camping and learning for American girls in southern Africa. I'm enjoying a spring outside, learning how to backcountry ski in the Tetons and rafting the Grand Canyon with friends from the Zambezi. This summer I will begin a one-year Master's of Education program at Harvard to earn my license to teach secondary English in public schools.

Jamie Nadeau

PiAf 2010-11

Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

I am the Manager of College Access Partnerships at a nonprofit called The Opportunity Network, which prepares high-achieving, underrepresented students for success in college and careers. I am also in a graduate program at Teachers College, Columbia University, studying Higher and Postsecondary Education.

Kaitlyn Neuberger

PiAf 2013-14

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

After leaving Dakar, I started a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy at The Fletcher School at Tufts University, where I will be focusing on political-military cooperation in Africa. This summer I plan to be interning with the US State Department at the American embassy in Djibouti.

Dana Nickson

PiAf 2013-14

Equal Education, South Africa

After my fellowship, I began a Master's of Education program in Education, Culture and Society at The University of Pennsylvania. I also work part-time at West Philadelphia High School as a college counselor. I will complete my master's this summer and relocate to begin a PhD at The University of Michigan in Educational Studies with a focus on Foundations of Education and Policy. I plan to study how African-American secondary students conceptualize and contest dynamics of race and class in school reform. One distant day, I hope to make this work comparative with the South African context. All of this is undoubtedly inspired by my time at Equal Education!

Christiana Parreira

PiAf 2013-14

Gardens for Health International, Rwanda

I'm currently a first-year Ph.D. student in the political science department at Stanford University, where I study identity formation and public goods provision with a focus on the Global South.

Julia Peppiatt

PiAf 2009-10

International Rescue Committee, Uganda

Following PiAf, I spent 4 years living in San Francisco and working in product development for Google payments and YouTube monetization. I'm now getting my MBA at Harvard (Class of 2016!) and will spend summer of 2015 working with Akengo, an early venture in mobile education based out of Nairobi.

Ettie Philitas

PiAf 2009-10

African Leadership Academy, South Africa

Since my fellowship, I have completed the MBA program at Wharton and am now working in Credit Suisse's Leveraged Finance Origination & Restructuring group in NYC. I've also remained involved in several African education and social entrepreneurship projects (such as the SEED Project, based in Senegal) since the fellowship.

Isabel Pike

PiAf 2011-12

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

After three years of working for WFP in West Africa, I returned to the US this fall to start a PhD in Sociology at UW-Madison. I am currently taking my master's course sequence, focusing on demography, sociology of the family and statistics. I am planning to be back on the continent this

summer, working at a population center in Nairobi.

Ida Posner

PiAf 2012-13

access:energy (now SteamaCo), Kenya

I currently live in San Francisco, where I work for the Pisces Foundation, an environmentally focused philanthropy organization. At Pisces, my work is concentrated in the Climate & Energy Program, which aims to reduce global warming by cutting emissions of short-lived climate pollutants.

Sangeeta Puri

PiAf 2001-02

International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

After my PiAf fellowship, I went to law school. Then I went to work in Central America as a Legal Investigator at the UN's Commission Against Impunity. While in Guatemala, I fell in love and got married. My husband is an Engineer in the Oil & Gas industry so his career brought us to Texas. I now work for a British Oilfield Services company as their Legal Advisor and Recruitment Manager. My company operates globally and my experience in East Africa has recently come in handy, since I have been working on incorporating us locally and hiring local talent in various parts of Africa. My fellowship year was well over a decade ago, but I remember it fondly and will hopefully make a trip to East Africa in the near future, as my best friend from Tanzania recently got engaged.

Meredith Ragno

PiAf 2012-13

African Cashew Alliance, Ghana

I'm currently living in Brooklyn, NY where I lead sales and marketing at Soko, a social enterprise startup that uses technology to empower artisan entrepreneurs in Kenya. After almost two years in NYC, I'll be moving to San Francisco in June, where I'll continue my work at Soko. I look forward to returning to Africa this fall to work with our team in Nairobi (and meeting our inaugural PiAf Fellow!).

Sarah Richards

PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Ghana

I currently work with the Global Impact Investing Network in New York City, increasing the scale and effectiveness of the impact investing industry. I have loved living in New York and working in the field, but will be leaving in May to travel before starting business school at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management in the fall!

Sarah Sagan

PiAf 2013-14

UN World Food Programme, Benin

After concluding my fellowship in June 2013, I moved to Dakar, Senegal to work as a Field Manager with Dimagi. Dimagi is a social enterprise that develops mobile tools to support the work of frontline workers throughout the world with the goal of using technology to improve development outcomes. While I am based in Dakar, I travel throughout the region to support project implementation and train end users.

Mike Scharff

PiAf 2008-09

International Rescue Committee, Uganda

Since my fellowship I've revisited Africa a number of times for work and study. My most recent trip was last March to Kenya to study the country's aviation industry as part of research for my thesis at Oxford, from which I graduated in July with a master's in African Studies. I'm also passionate about government innovation, which is the focus of my current work at Bloomberg Philanthropies in New York City.

Molly Schmalzbach

PiAf 2011-12

mothers2mothers, South Africa

Since my fellowship, I've moved back home to the Washington, D.C. area and have been working at USAID for the past couple years (as the Public Affairs Advisor for USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS), traveling back to Africa as much as I can! I'm very excited to be getting married this June, and my fiancé and I are currently planning a year-long trip around the world!

Marielle Schweickart

PiAf 2012-13, 2013-14

Sanergy, Kenya

Since my fellowship, I have been job hunting in Boston, MA, looking for positions in international development, specifically in global health programming. While I look for a position more aligned with my career goals, I am currently working as a Program/Executive Assistant at Funders Together to End Homelessness, a homelessness advocacy nonprofit that works to leverage philanthropy's power, knowledge, and resources to end homelessness.

Victoria Shepard

PiAf 2010-11

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Following my fellowship, I stayed on with the IRC Kenya program for an additional year and a half supporting their urban protection programming. I then moved to South Sudan with the IRC and managed both urban and emergency protection programs. As of October 2014, I moved to Southern Turkey, where I am the Protection Cluster co-lead (hosted by the IRC) for the cross-border Syria response.

Fritz Siegert

PiAf 2013-14

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

After my fellowship ended in June 2014, I moved to Moscow, Idaho where I am completing my first year of medical school at University of Washington School of Medicine. This summer, I will be implementing small-scale global health initiatives within a longitudinal cardiovascular study in Nepal. This fall, I will move to Seattle, WA to start my second year of school.

Molly Slotznick

PiAf 2010-11

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

After my fellowship, I moved to WFP's Communications Division in Rome, Italy, where I managed the external communications for WFP's public-private partnerships. This spring I will graduate from the MPA in Development Practice program at Columbia University, and in the fall I will start with Deloitte Consulting's public sector practice, based in New York City.

Meghan Smith

PiAf 2013-14

Project Mercy, Ethiopia

I'm currently attending medical school at UBC in Vancouver, Canada. I returned to Project Mercy for 2 weeks in December 2014 to continue a vision screening project I started while there with PiAf. It was fantastic to see the children and people I worked with last year!

Kelly Souls

PiAf 2012-13

Indego Africa, Rwanda

I'm currently living in Yangon, Myanmar working for the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI). Under an ambitious grant awarded to CHAI by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, I am working on malaria elimination in the Greater Mekong Subregion (Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam). My fellowship in Kigali provided me a unique opportunity to meet inspiring individuals from various organizations, including CHAI. With help from networks formed in Rwanda during my PiAf fellowship, I began working at CHAI Rwanda for 6 months after the completion of my fellowship, then transferred to CHAI Malawi for a year to begin working in malaria. I am now on a third journey with CHAI Myanmar in a completely new region - and while I miss Eastern and Southern Africa dearly, I'm thrilled for a new adventure!

Christopher Speers

PiAf 2012-13

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

I live in Boston, MA and just finished working for Governor Deval L. Patrick as a member of his senior staff. I started in his office right after my fellowship year ended. Since completing my work with the Governor in January, I have spent a few

months traveling to Turkey and Egypt. Still sorting out what might be next for me, but hope to stay in the Boston area.

Helaina Stein

PiAf 2010-11

Generation Rwanda, Rwanda

After my fellowship ended, I spent one more year in Rwanda working for Eos Visions, an educational travel and capacity building company. In May 2012 I joined the U.S. Foreign Service as a Political Officer and in August 2012 I moved to Abuja, Nigeria for my first assignment at U.S. Embassy Abuja, where I served as a Political-Military Officer. I returned from Nigeria in August 2014 to begin training for my second assignment. I am currently living in Washington, D.C. and participating in long-term language and functional training at the Department of State's George P. Schultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center in preparation for my next assignment with the U.S. Foreign Service. I am preparing to move to Buenos Aires, Argentina in May 2015 to serve a two-year tour as Vice Consul at U.S. Embassy Buenos Aires.

Corinne Stephenson-Johnson

PiAf 2012-13

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

I spent my fellowship year (2012-13) in Dakar, Senegal working at the UN World Food Programme. I then did a Master's at U. Chicago and now am a research assistant to an economist at The World Bank in Washington, DC, which is also my hometown. I very much miss Dakar and the feeling of unexpectedness that came with every day. Many friends from Dakar pass through DC, so in that sense the unexpectedness has continued.

Anne Stotler

PiAf 2011-12

Save the Children, Ethiopia

After my fellowship year, I worked with Human Rights Watch and a nonprofit in the LA area that provides services for survivors of domestic violence, spent time traveling in Ecuador, and studied Portuguese at Middlebury. I am currently in my second and final year of the Masters of Public Policy Program at Harvard Kennedy School, where I've focused on international policy, human rights, and children's issues. I'm a Finalist for the Presidential Management Fellowship, and I hope to work on human rights or international development policy with the federal government or an NGO after graduation.

Elly Sukup

PiAf 2010-11 UN World Food Programme, Ghana

PiAf 2011-12 UN World Food Programme, Ethiopia

Following my fellowship in Ethiopia, I moved to London to pursue my MA in Social Anthropology of Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). After four years of living abroad, I am currently back in Iowa working as a Lecturer in the Global Resource Systems program at Iowa State University. While it is strange being on the other side of the desk, I get to spend my summers in Uganda conducting research on youth entrepreneurship activities and livelihood opportunities while serving as faculty co-lead for our service learning program.

Chris Suzdak

PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Gabon

After completing my fellowship, I went on to work with One Acre Fund, where I am now a Program Manager for their operations in Malawi.

Carolyn Pichert Swen

PiAf 2004 Straight Talk Foundation, Uganda

PiAf 2006-07 International Rescue Committee, Tanzania

I'm currently living and working in Chicago, IL. Since my fellowship, I have been working in public health policy and social policy. I did program evaluation of public health programs for the US Department of Health and Human Services. Now I am pursuing a PhD in the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern.

Yassi J. Tamdji

PiAf 2011-12

Student Sponsorship Programme, South Africa

I'm currently still full-time with Community Resource Exchange, a consulting firm for nonprofits in NYC, and pursuing a graduate degree part-time at The Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy at The New School. My most meaningful weekends are spent catching up with SSP Scholars in South Africa via Skype.

Alison Thurston

PiAf 2012-13

Lutheran World Federation, Uganda

When my fellowship ended, I headed home to Fort Lauderdale, FL. I studied for the GRE while visiting family and friends before moving to Washington, D.C. in January 2014. I work in USAID's Bureau for Global Health with a team focused on implementation science in HIV. I've had the opportunity to return to Africa since my fellowship ended, and will be visiting Tanzania, Malawi and Benin this spring and summer.

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Dan in Olam's head office in Accra, Ghana during his fellowship year.

"The Princeton in Africa program is an incredible opportunity to work in a developing country at an early stage of your career... I know from experience that it can be very challenging to find a meaningful position in international development without past work abroad, and that it can also be very challenging to find work abroad without past work at home. By providing a way for recent college graduates to spend a year working in Africa, Princeton in Africa solves this dilemma and offers a remarkable platform for young people to make an impact, both during a year in Africa and a future career dedicated to making the world a better place."

Dan Robinson, 2013-14 Fellow with Olam

International, Ghana

Now pursuing a dual degree in Food Policy (& Economics) and Development Economics at Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

Emily Trautner

PiAf 2011-12

Plan International, Uganda

After my fellowship, I spent another year working for Plan in the same capacity as a Technical Writer and took on some additional roles and responsibilities. I then returned to the US for a year to do some remaining coursework in order to apply to medical school. I am currently working for UCSF as Research and Training Coordinator for Kenya. I coordinate a program that facilitates medical and master's students and residents to do clinical work or research here in Nyanza Province as well as connect researchers to one another since we have a multi-institutional research

collaboration. I am based in Kisumu, Kenya until June this year, when I will go back to the US for medical school. I am not yet sure which school I will attend, though I have a couple of options already!

Alex Villec

PiAf 2013-14

The BOMA Project, Kenya

I'm currently working for One Acre Fund in Rwanda, using data to make small-scale farmers more prosperous.

Ariel Wagner

PiAf 2009-10

International Rescue Committee, Liberia

After PiAf, I obtained my MD and MMSc in Global Health Delivery from Harvard Medical School. I will be starting my internship in family medicine this summer at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center.

Liz Wangu

PiAf 2012-13

African Leadership Academy, South Africa

I am now based in Durham, North Carolina, where I attend Duke Law School.

Eliza Warren-Shriner

PiAf 2013-14

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

Following my fellowship, I headed to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, where I'm working as a consultant for WFP's Purchase for Progress initiative. The project aims to leverage WFP's purchasing power to develop farmers' organizations and allow smallholders to access formal markets; I am primarily working on developing country-level strategy for the post-pilot phase, which starts this year.

Bjorn Whitmore

PiAf 2012-13

Lutheran World Federation, Burundi

After finishing my fellowship, I returned to Burundi to help launch Spark MicroGrants' new Burundi country program as their Burundi Country Director. I have been working with Spark to establish and grow the new program here in Burundi since January 2014. I will soon be returning to the U.S. to pursue a graduate degree.

Joshua Wunderlich

PiAf 2013-14

UN World Food Programme, Malawi

I'm currently working at Vera Solutions in Mumbai, India, as a consultant designing cloud-based monitoring and evaluation and other data management systems for a range of social impact organizations (from IPA and GAVI, to your small social enterprises). Sarah Evans (PiAf 2013-14) is also working at Vera!

Jane Yang

PiAf 2011-12

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

After two years in DC working in public-sector consulting, I finally gave in to the siren call of Nairobi again. I'm now working on the central strategy and research team in One Acre Fund. Outside of the office, it's incredible to see Nairobi continue to grow as a metropolis, and I'm so glad to be able to enjoy all it has to offer from rock-climbing to picnics in Nairobi National Park to a casual evening of board games with friends. And, of course, the PiAf family -- Nairobi is now 14 strong amongst the current fellows and alumni!

Nahal Zebarjadi

PiAf 2007-08

International Rescue Committee, Democratic Republic of Congo

After my year at IRC in DRC, and the great opportunity of a second mission with IRC (this time briefly in Chad), I moved back home to Australia where I completed a JD at Melbourne Law School. I then spent about three years advising and representing the state in constitutional and administrative law matters, before moving from being a civil servant to an international civil servant at the World Intellectual Property Organisation in Geneva this year.

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PRINCETON IN AFRICA'S 2014-15 FELLOWS



2014-15 Fellows Rebecca Liron, Ellie Quinlan and Jayme Daniel at the Kenyan equator in Nanyuki.



Our 2014-15 Fellows at their orientation weekend in June 2014.



Three of our 2014-15 West Africa Fellows enjoyed lunch in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire during their regional meetup in November 2014. From left to right: Allie Stauss, Emily Bensen and Grace Perkins.



Four generations of Mpala Princeton in Africa Fellows met up in Kenya. From left to right: Sally Goodman (2014-15), Laura Budd (2011-12), Stefanie Siller (2013-14), and Morgan Pecora-Saipe (2012-13).

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Since 1999, PiAf has sent nearly 400 Fellows to work in 35 countries across Africa.

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Emily (third from the left) with fellow PiAf alumni Yash Gharat (2013-14), Phoebe Carver (2013-14), and Mark Adams (2011-12) in Eldoret, Kenya.

“In the end, it was Princeton in Africa that connected me to my dream job. They were the ones who had found companies doing exactly the kind of work I was interested in, formed relationships with these companies, and connected me to them. They were also the ones that gave me the training and support I needed to move to a completely new continent and successfully start my life out of college. And when my company relocated to a new city a few months after I arrived, the connections I had from Princeton in Africa ensured that I already had friends when I landed in my new home, making the fresh start much easier... This experience has been so transformative that everything I do after this will be, in one way or another, a product of this fellowship.”

Emily Moder

PiAf 2013-14 Fellow with access:energy (now SteamaCo), Kenya

Now working with SteamaCo as their Digital Product Manager in Nairobi, Kenya