

2016 Newsletter

Princeton in Africa's Mission: Developing Young Leaders Committed to the Advancement of Africa



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WHO WE ARE

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Princeton in Africa Friends & Family,

It is hard to believe that as I write this message, I just passed my half year anniversary as Executive Director of Princeton in Africa. As I reflect back on my experiences over the past six months, I feel both grateful for the opportunity to work with PiAf's talented and dedicated staff, board, alumni and supporters like you, and excited to continue providing exceptional young adults the opportunity to spend a life-changing year working with organizations across Africa. On my very first day, I attended an alumni event where it was immediately clear that PiAf is developing leaders committed to the advancement of Africa. **Of our 2014-15 class of Fellows alone, 37% stayed on the continent after their fellowship ended, and over 70% of those working are doing so in a field in some way related to Africa's advancement.**



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

In my second month, I had the opportunity to come face to face with many of PiAf's corporate, nonprofit and individual supporters at our Annual Gala. Thank you to all of you who have and continue to support PiAf. **Your collective contributions highlight the importance of creating a generation of professionals who understand the complexities of the issues and opportunities throughout Africa and the dedication to see them through.**

Throughout the winter, the staff and I, along with many board members and alumni, reviewed the applications of nearly 450 young professionals eager to become a part of the 2016-2017 fellowship class. This outstanding group of candidates came from

over 140 colleges & universities and 15 countries, demonstrating what a truly unique opportunity PiAf offers.

Then, in March, while conducting site visits, I was finally able to meet the Fellows and see them in action. I heard from supervisor after supervisor how important PiAf Fellows were to the organization's work, evidenced by the **25% of 2014-15 Fellows who were hired by their host organization**, although many more were made offers. The perfect capstone to this trip was the Fellows' Retreat held at the base of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Moshi, Tanzania. Seeing them all gathered in one place, representing such a wide range of skills, backgrounds and experiences, but all motivated by one common thread, finally put the true picture of PiAf into focus.

As we move into spring, I am equally excited to see what this exceptional group of individuals will tackle next, as I am to bring together the next group for orientation in June.

I hope you find even a fraction of the inspiration within the pages of this newsletter as I have been fortunate enough to find through my engagement with our board, sponsors, candidates, alumni and Fellows.

All the best,
Jodi

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Princeton in Africa Friends,

2015 was another great year for Princeton in Africa! Our fellowship program continues to grow each year: **we've now placed nearly 450 Fellows with more than 80 diverse organizations in 36 countries across the African continent.** In 2015, we added Swaziland as our 36th country (a full profile of our new fellowship post with Clinton Health Access Initiative in Mbabane, Swaziland, written by 2015-16 Fellow Lauren Theis, is on page 7). We also added four new fellowship organizations – Lwala Community Alliance (in Rongo, Kenya), Soko (in Nairobi, Kenya), Spark MicroGrants (in Musanze, Rwanda), and World Agrofor-

estry Centre (in Nairobi, Kenya). **All together, 2015-16 brought us our largest fellowship class yet – 51 Fellows** from 38 colleges and universities, 5 graduation years, 9 countries, and 10 U.S. states, who majored in 43 different subjects and speak 16 languages (from Swahili to French to Luganda).

This year, I participated again in the Fellow selection process, reviewing applications for Princeton in Africa's 2016-17 fellowship class. **We received 428 fellowship applications this past fall for approximately 45-50 posts – a very competitive 10% acceptance rate.** This year's applicants displayed tremendous talent, intelligence, drive, and passion for service on the African continent and elsewhere. We look forward to selecting PiAf's 2016-17 Fellows and seeing them grow into future leaders dedicated 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 encourage you to follow our progress via our website, Fellows Flyer e-newsletters, and social media, and I look forward to the year ahead with much excitement.



Jim Robinson (far right) with Jagdish, Sarla, and Ashish Thakkar, who were honored with the Princeton in Africa Medal at PiAf's 2015 Annual Gala.

Jim Robinson
President, PiAf Board of Directors

INTRODUCING THE PIAF ALUMNI NETWORK!

In September 2015, Princeton in Africa launched the PiAf Alumni Network, a new engagement strategy dedicated to strengthening our alumni community. The PiAf Alumni Network was conceived as we marked 16 years since sending a summer class of two Fellows to Rwanda to work with the International Rescue Committee. Since then, our alumni community has grown to comprise nearly 400 (and counting!) passionate and adventurous alumni from over 75 colleges and universities who live across the world.

The launch of the PiAf Alumni Network involved several initiatives:

- **Creation of Alumni Working Group** – These 24 alumni volunteers have provided crucial support in strategizing, writing, and reviewing initiatives; generously hosting alumni events in their home cities; and serving as our best ambassadors for our program.
- **Alumni Website** – In late September, we launched piafalumni.org. The website (also referred to as the “alumni portal”) allows alumni to find and connect with one another via messaging/email, post job opportunities and topics on discussion boards, plan events, and share resources.
- **Alumni Events** – In September-October, PiAf alumni hosted get-togethers (happy hours, a picnic, and a wine tasting) in nine cities across the globe – Boston, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Kampala, Kigali, Nairobi, New York City, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. New connections were made and the events were a great success!
- **Alumni Fundraising Campaign** – PiAf held its annual alumni fundraising campaign between August and October, 2015. Nearly 30% of alumni participated to raise a total of nearly \$4,000. These funds will be used to help provide support to our Fellows on the ground, including financial aid, health/evacuation insurance, travel, stress/resiliency support,

orientation, and a mid-year retreat.

- **Alumni Survey** – PiAf held its biennial alumni survey again this summer. A snapshot of the 2015 survey results can be found on our website at <http://www.princetoninafrica.org/about/our-impact/>
- **First-Ever Alumni Professional Development Webinar** – As the kick-off to a new professional development series for alumni, PiAf hosted a webinar in November titled “Leading Effective Teams: Applying cross cultural skills in the workplace.”

Other exciting initiatives in the works include: a quarterly alumni-led career development webinar series; biannual city-based events such as career panels, networking nights, and volunteer opportunities; and a pilot buddy program pairing alumni with outgoing Fellows as they join the alumni community. We look forward to sharing more alumni news and developments in the coming year!



LEARNING TO LEAD

By Joan Larbi

PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with African Leadership Academy, South Africa

Sponsored by Princeton Class of 1972

Prior to my Princeton in Africa fellowship, I taught at a public elementary school in Miami. I think of my 5th grade students arguing over who would be the line leader when it was time to walk to the cafeteria. I realize we all have a longing for leadership, an inherent desire to be and/or be led by a good leader (whatever that means to us).

But let's face it. Historically, leadership has been problematic on the African continent. Enter, my fellowship organization, African Leadership Academy (ALA), with its powerful mission to transform Africa by developing the next generation of African leaders. ALA identifies high-potential youth aged 16 to 19, develops their academic and leadership skills through hands-on practice, and connects them to opportunities to further their growth.

I don't teach at ALA, but as the Donor Relations Fellow, I interact with and prepare profiles of newly admitted, current, and/or past students enough to know that our young leaders are impressive. They have built schools, launched job-creating ventures, and implemented innovative solutions to pressing challenges in their communities. I am glad to be gaining a more holistic view of the education field by experiencing it from the other side of the classroom door. My role on the Strategic Relations team (ALA's

fundraising arm), has taught me, for example, to appreciate the work required to maintain the financial engine of a non-profit organization.

Moreover, just being at a leadership development institution has forced me to consider the leadership types that I have encountered in the past. I have learnt about the Servant Leadership of Jesus at Sunday school, the Teaching as Leadership (TAL) model while serving with Teach For America, and the Adaptive Leadership framework in an online +Acumen course. And now, most recently, I have discovered Entrepreneurial Leadership, ALA's signature leadership development program.

ALA's mission speaks deeply to me because I can easily apply it myself. I am an African young professional passionate about leading change across the continent through my work, but in order to do this I must learn to lead. For this reason, I am extremely grateful for my PiAf fellowship. It is more than a year working on the continent. It is the beginning of a career committed to continental change. It is my latest lesson in leadership.



Joan (far left) and her advisory family after ALA's Talaaw welcome ceremony.

THE NEW RULES OF DIGITAL STORYTELLING

By Emma Sakson

PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania, Tanzania

Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

How are you reading this newsletter? On a computer? Tablet? Smartphone?

The manner in which stories are told has changed significantly over the last decade, and in the modern age of storytelling, the Internet is King...or should I say, Bard. To reach an audience and communicate effectively, everything you write needs to be shorter.



Emma (second from right) and the Communications Team at CCBRT pose for a professional photographer, Sala Lewis, who spent time at the Disability Hospital.

Throughout my fellowship, I've been trying to reconcile these new rules of storytelling through my work on the Communications team at Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT). CCBRT is the largest local provider of disability services in the country. In Dar es Salaam, where I work, CCBRT operates a Disability Hospital that treats patients for a range of orthopedic and ophthalmological conditions, from clubfoot to cataract to obstetric fistula.

Pithy. But also engaging. Nuanced. Mobile-friendly. And shareable across all platforms, please and thank you.

Throughout my fellowship, I've been trying to reconcile these new rules of storytelling through my work on the Communications team at Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT). CCBRT is the largest local provider of disability services in the country. In Dar

There is a lot going on at CCBRT.

So how do I tell the story – or stories – of CCBRT in a way that is nuanced and engrossing, but also concise and cohesive? How do I avoid the danger of a single story, while adhering to the mantra that no one will read a post that's longer than two sentences?

To be frank, I'm still figuring it out. But I've learned a lot from asking the questions. In keeping with the new rules of digital storytelling, below is a list of the most salient things I've learned from my fellowship thus far, in 140 characters or less.

- Don't count your chickens until they hatch. Once they do, count them twice & build an impenetrable fence around them. Then count them again.
- Words matter. Language matters. Take the time to get the words and the language right.
- Street food will not make you sick. The fancy restaurant down the street will.
- It takes more time to unlearn something than it does to learn something. It's important to actively do both each day.
- Asking for help is not a sign of weakness; it's quite the opposite.
- Whether you like it or not, you are an unofficial spokesperson for your country. Try to be an honest, gracious, and open one.
- Life is too short to say no to chapati.

SERVICE IN ACTION AT KF

By David Lunde

PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

At the Kucetekela Foundation, the community service program is an important component to our mission of developing our students as active citizens who contribute meaningfully to Zambia's society. By engaging in community service at a young age, KF students learn they can make a positive impact on their community no matter their age or their family's financial status.

In the past, we KF staff usually arranged for students to volunteer at clinics, orphanages, or libraries during the month-long term breaks. This term, I introduced a slight tweak: students would have the opportunity to start their own projects addressing a need they saw in their communities. I saw giving them this ownership as a way to make it a more meaningful experience as well as to give them a constructive leadership opportunity that would come with designing and executing a project on their own.

As the Programs Coordinator, I worked with each team of 1-3 students to plan their own service projects. Over the term, I supported them in devising problem-solving strategies, establishing timetables, and setting goals for their projects. Two teams identified proper waste management as a significant need in their communities and so they came up with a strategy to recycle plastic bottles and paper. One group felt that youth development was lacking. In response, they intend to form a club that develops children's talents in singing, drama, and poetry. Some students who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine decided to continue volunteering at clinics in their areas to help make the health services more efficient. Many



David (right) with KF's Executive Director Florence Nkowane.

students saw education as an important area to address and will return to their former primary schools to lead tutoring programs. Now, the term has finished, and 29 students are returning home to implement 13 projects. I'm looking forward to spending the month of April jetting around Lusaka to monitor the projects. I'm quite excited to observe how they turn out and discuss with the students their reflections on the experience.

Ultimately, the KF community service program is about instilling a lifelong commitment to giving back to one's community. Long after KF students graduate and begin their adult lives, I am confident they will continue to find creative ways to benefit and serve Zambia's society.

WHAT'S LANGUAGE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

By Sol Eskenazi and Zara Riaz

PiAf 2015-16 Fellows with African School of Economics, Benin

"Tu es la?" asks the lady who sells us fruit and vegetables every day. Towards the start of our time in Benin, we responded to this phrase with baffled looks. Despite the fact that we both studied and spoke French, we could not figure out what this phrase meant. Translated to English, the expression just seems to be asking "Are you there?" yet we kept hearing it everywhere and in a variety of different contexts. After some time, we finally learned that this phrase, along with many other greetings used in southern Benin, are direct translations from the local language Fon into French; therefore, the translations seem uncommon at first for the Westerner French or English speaker. Now, eight and nine months into our fellowships, "Tu es la?" and other expressions such as "Tu as fait un peu?" (Have you done a little?), which is often used to ask how your day has been, have become standard phrases in our vocabulary.

By Charnelle Etti

PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with Lutheran World Federation, Uganda

“Imagine the 4 x 100 race. It is a team effort, requiring both speed and coordination from all athletes. Success depends ultimately on passing the baton from one athlete to the other; drop it and the race is lost. The same is true with aid. Bridging the gap between emergency humanitarian assistance and long-term development aid is essential to help people survive disasters and get back on the path to self-reliance and dignity.”

- Michel Gabaudan, President of Refugees International



Charnelle at her fellowship post with LWF in Adjumani, Uganda.

It's been six months since I landed at the bustling Entebbe International Airport. While I am no stranger to Uganda, The Pearl of Africa, nothing could have quite prepared me to take up residency in Adjumani Refugee Settlement supporting South Sudanese refugees who fled their country in December 2013. During my undergraduate years at Macalester College, I took courses in everything from Humanitarianism in World Politics to Post-Genocide Restoration and Peace-building. I believed these would be enough to prepare me for working in a humanitarian context. I was wrong. Nothing in the classroom can quite prepare you for living with a deeply traumatized yet highly resilient community. Every day in Adjumani brings new, unique and peculiar challenges. Every day, I am humbled to be a part of a community that continuously strides to move forward and thrive in the face of tremendous adversity.

As a Princeton in Africa Fellow with the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), I have the unique opportunity to engage with the intricacies of development and humanitarianism within the context of the South Sudanese refugee influx into Uganda. I immediately gravitated towards LWF's Livelihoods sector which I believe presents as a fundamental intersection between humanitarianism and development. Through our livelihoods programming, I have been directly involved in the implementation and design of a cash grants program which allows beneficiaries to start a variety of businesses, creating a sustainable source of income for themselves and their families. LWF strides to create a system that can quickly respond to crises yet provide effective development assistance: “bridging the gap.” While this may seem trivial to some, a pressing question remains how to bridge the gap from humanitarianism to development to enable refugees to rebuild their lives in a sustainable and dignified manner. Who is financially responsible? When should this happen? What should this look like? Humanitarian and development actors continue to grapple with these questions on a daily basis and it may take a while to deconstruct and reconstruct the system. I am very grateful, however, to have had the opportunity to see these challenges manifest on the ground, and in my own little way contribute towards “bridging the gap.”

While understanding the different ways in which Fon and French are integrated in Benin may have been challenging at first, we quickly realized that students at the African School of Economics (ASE) are constantly navigating between not only French and their local languages, but also between French and English, the language of instruction at ASE. While some students hail from Anglophone countries such as Ghana or Nigeria, the majority of students are Beninese or from other Francophone countries in West Africa. Often, students listen to lectures and complete readings and assignments in English, communicate with their peers in French, and use local languages in other aspects of their daily lives.

Over the course of our fellowship, we have realized that the layers of languages here in Benin, whether French, Fon, English, or other local languages,



Sol (third from the left) and Zara (far right) with ASE Academic Program Manager Meritxell Roca (far left), ASE Founder (and PiAf Board Member) Leonard Wantchekon, and PiAf 2012-13 Fellow Abhit Bhandari (second from the right).

Thank you to our fellowship organizations for their generous support of our 2015-16 Fellows!

African Cashew Alliance (Ghana)
African Leadership Academy (South Africa)
African School of Economics (Benin)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (Botswana, Lesotho & Tanzania)
Clinton Health Access Initiative (South Africa & Swaziland)
Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (Tanzania)
eleQtra (Ghana & 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)
International Rescue Committee (Kenya, Somalia [based in Kenya], Tanzania & Uganda)
Kucetekela Foundation (Zambia)
Lutheran World Federation (Uganda)
Lwala Community Alliance (Kenya)
Maru-a-Pula (Botswana)
mothers2mothers (South Africa)
Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation (Kenya)
Nyumbani Village (Kenya)
Olam International (Côte d'Ivoire)
Population Services International (Kenya)
Soko (Kenya)
Spark MicroGrants (Rwanda)
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)
World Agroforestry Centre (Kenya)

represent a complex history and play an instrumental role in shaping the country's future. We often think about the implications of speaking French in a former French colony. On the one hand, French has become a language of inclusion in Benin; it unifies people who otherwise speak over 50 local languages. On the other hand, French is also a significant source of tension and exclusion. It reflects one's educational level; it's an elite language that fills the halls of government offices, and it's a constant and stark reminder of Benin's colonial past. Our fellowship has not only allowed us to observe the different ways in which multiple languages interact and morph, but also how they have shaped Benin's society. In thinking about international development, languages represent a gateway to understanding the multiple intricacies of local communities.

By Caleigh Hernandez
PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with International Rescue Committee, Kenya

When I first arrived at my fellowship post, the Fellows' Retreat seemed ages away. But after seven short months, I couldn't believe I was already boarding a bus to Moshi, Tanzania. Five days of an insane number of icebreakers, deep reflection, hikes to waterfalls and bonding. The relatively awkward orientation in Princeton several months prior made (re)introductions seamless.

The PiAf fellowship can feel really isolating at times. It can be exhausting to explain to friends and family personal experiences because they likely have not lived in the field for an extended period of time. But all of a sudden I was surrounded by 50 others who could so easily understand the highs and lows, the frustrations and the

funny moments in the field. Other Fellows seemed to understand and laugh more at ridiculous transportation anecdotes.

My fellowship year has been overwhelming and stressful at times (as have they all). Retreat was an opportunity to get away from work, have fun and reflect. From Zumba exhibitions to boy band renditions to the best/worst evening of karaoke ever heard, we had an opportunity to let loose a bit. We also were given the opportunity to take a break from the daily grind to reflect upon our fellowship experience thus far, explore identity and race issues, our frustrations with the development field and future career plans. Many of us came into this fellowship wearing rose colored glasses. This year has allowed us to more realistically understand the joys and pitfalls of development, considering what we want our own role to be in the field.



A group photo taken at the 2015-16 Fellows' Retreat.



A waterfall excursion during the retreat.

PIAF FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZATION PROFILE: CLINTON HEALTH ACCESS INITIATIVE

By Lauren Theis
PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with Clinton Health Access Initiative, Swaziland

While Clinton is a household name in America's heated political discussions, many households across the globe use the Clinton name while discussing transformative health improvement strategies. The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) was founded by President William J. Clinton in 2002 with a single goal: "help save the lives of millions of people living with HIV/AIDS in the developing world by dramatically scaling up antiretroviral treatment." This seemingly lofty goal was accomplished as the entrepreneurial CHAI team pushed the boundaries of what is considered feasible by working alongside governments to address global health challenges with a business-oriented approach.

CHAI is now supporting 33 governments and 70 countries in building capacity to deliver high-quality care and treatment programs, particularly for the high disease burden areas of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. To achieve these expanding goals, CHAI's country teams conduct work in areas ranging

from optimizing human resources for health, to altering commodity markets to decrease care and treatment costs and accelerate access to life-saving health services.

As the 2015-16 Princeton in Africa Fellow at CHAI Swaziland, I am able to approach global health through the lens of the Sustainable Health Financing team. The goal of CHAI's health financing work is to help "remove financing as a barrier to achieving universal health coverage" through improved understanding of resource needs, management of existing resources, and security of long-term health funding. During my fellowship, this approach has allowed me to work hand-in-hand with government actors across the health system to improve financial management tools and processes for efficiency and effectiveness of spending.



Lauren (right) with some of her teammates at CHAI Swaziland.

Throughout this year, I have partnered with actors across government ministries to develop systems to identify bottlenecks in payment processes that prevent Swazi citizens from receiving specialized health services and increase transparency of government grants to non-governmental and faith-based health service organizations. My experience as a PiAf Fellow has challenged my

PIAF 2015-2016 FELLOWS



Our retreat programming included a career panel featuring professionals working with Africa-focused organizations in international development, humanitarian aid, and social entrepreneurship.



Malcolm Temple (2015-16 Fellow with UN World Food Programme in Rwanda) and Nima Hassan (2015-16 Fellow with Population Services International in Kenya) during a “20 Questions” icebreaker at the retreat.

understanding of sustainability, a key facet of CHAI’s large-scale, high-impact work. CHAI does not intend to be a permanent fixture in a given health system, and thus our work must be simultaneously government-led, evidence-based, and impactful. I have learned to approach my tasks inside and outside of work with CHAI’s core values, including humility, frugality, and urgency; recognizing that improving access to healthcare for all individuals must be a collective effort amongst government members. It is crucial for CHAI staff to listen and learn from those within the Ministry of Health, but also test data-driven approaches that shift the status quo of operations. My experience as the CHAI Swaziland PiAf Fellow has given me the unique opportunity to straddle government and NGO approaches to support cohesive and sustainable health system transformation, and I am excited to carry the CHAI values and perspective throughout my global health career.

- Nafees Ahmed (Georgetown '12)
Village Enterprise, Kenya/Uganda
- Danielle Allyn (UNC-Chapel Hill '15)
Gardens for Health International, Rwanda
- Melissa Barber (Harvard '13)
Clinton Health Access Initiative, South Africa
- Katie Bernhard (Dartmouth '15)
The Rwanda School Project, Rwanda
- Martha Bierut (Scripps '15)
The Kasiisi Project, Uganda
- Victoria Bonds (SUNY Albany '12)
Soko, Kenya
- Mary Caroline Brazill (American '15)
International Rescue Committee, Kenya
- India Bulkeley (USC '15)
The BOMA Project, Kenya
- Kendall Carpenter (Bowdoin '15)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative,
Botswana
- Meghan Casey (College of the Holy Cross '15)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative,
Tanzania
- Jessica Chirichetti (GWU '14)
International Rescue Committee, Tanzania
- Jasmin Church (Spelman '10)
eleQtra, Uganda
- Erin Collins (Georgetown '13)
UN World Food Programme, Malawi
- Marlotte de Jong (Vanderbilt '15)
World Agroforestry Centre, Kenya
- Monica Dey (Stanford '15)
Hope Through Health, Togo
- Alex Domash (Northwestern '15)
The BOMA Project, Kenya
- Michael Elhardt (Claremont McKenna '15)
eleQtra, Ghana
- Agustina Sol Eskenazi (UPenn '15)
African School of Economics, Benin
- Charnelle Eti (Macalester '15)
Lutheran World Federation, Uganda
- Melissa Gibson (UMich '15)
UN World Food Programme, South Africa
- Margaret Gould (UVA '15)
Maru-a-Pula, Botswana
- Nima Hassan (Harvard '15)
Population Services International, Kenya
- Caleigh Hernandez (Northwestern '15)
International Rescue Committee, Kenya
- Joan Larbi (UPenn '12)
African Leadership Academy, South Africa
- Anya Lewis-Meeks (Princeton '15)
Maru-a-Pula, Botswana
- David Lunde (University of Denver '15)
Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia
- Meghan Magee (Harvard '15)
Indigenous Education Foundation of Tanzania,
Tanzania
- Danielle Martin (Princeton '15)
Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation,
Kenya
- Tyler McBrien (Claremont McKenna '14)
Equal Education, South Africa
- Kelsey Miller (Harvard '15)
International Rescue Committee, Somalia (based
in Kenya)
- Meghan Murphy (UMD-College Park '15)
Maru-a-Pula, Botswana
- Akinyi Ochieng (Yale '15)
Global Shea Alliance, Ghana
- Anna Oltmann (Georgia State '14)
mothers2mothers, South Africa
- Anthony Orlando (University of Arizona '13)
Imani Development, Malawi
- Violette Perrotte (Johns Hopkins '15)
UN World Food Programme, Senegal
- Kelly Peuquet (UNC-Chapel Hill '13)
Lwala Community Alliance, Kenya
- Kara Poppe (University of Northern Iowa '15)
Nyumbani Village, Kenya
- Zara Riaz (Davidson '15)
African School of Economics, Benin
- Emma Sakson (GWU '13)
Comprehensive Community Based
Rehabilitation in Tanzania, Tanzania
- Melissa Salazar (Smith '12)
Olam International, Côte d'Ivoire
- Monique St. Jarre (Hamilton '15)
African Cashew Alliance, Ghana
- Johnna Sundberg (University of Wisconsin-
Madison '15)
Spark MicroGrants, Rwanda
- Malcolm Temple (Ithaca '14)
UN World Food Programme, Rwanda
- Lauren Theis (Rice '13)
Clinton Health Access Initiative, Swaziland
- Susan Tuberville (Birmingham-Southern College
'14)
Maru-a-Pula, Botswana
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Rehabilitation in Tanzania, Tanzania
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UN World Food Programme, Malawi

Interview by Anthony Orlando
PiAf 2015-16 Fellow with Imani Development, Malawi

With Laura Courbois
PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Imani Development, Malawi
Now a Junior Consultant at Imani Development

Princeton in Africa has placed four Fellows with Imani Development since 2012. Laura Courbois, our 2014-15 Fellow with Imani Development, stayed on with Imani after her fellowship year as a Junior Consultant, and now frequently works with our current 2015-16 Fellow, Anthony Orlando. Here, Anthony asks Laura about her work, the PiAf fellowship program, and everything in between.

While many Princeton in Africa Fellows may only have a day or two of overlap with their predecessor, I was lucky enough to work side by side with Laura since starting my fellowship six months ago. We initially met via Skype when her passion for her work and life in Malawi helped solidify my decision to leave a great position in Washington, D.C. to join her at Imani Development. Since my arrival, we have worked collaboratively on several projects and she has provided an example of how to onboard and train the Fellow that will eventually come and take *my* place. Outside of the office, Laura has shown me how to navigate around the hustle and bustle of Malawi's business capital, Blantyre.



Anthony (right) talking to a tea farmer about how to pluck the best-quality tea leaves.

What are the top three things you enjoy about working at Imani?

First and foremost, my colleagues. Imani Development brings together international and Malawian staff from varied backgrounds to work as a team. Each and every one of them has been a source of knowledge which has helped me grow professionally; but above all, a family away from home.

Second is the balance between field work and desk based work. I have had the chance to work alongside local change-makers and support them in their efforts to better communities around Malawi. Spending time in the field has enabled me to see firsthand the impact of Imani's work. It's allowed me to acquire a nuanced perspective of development work on the ground while also enjoying the benefits of working in an office environment.

Third, the variety of work is something I've really enjoyed while working at Imani. I came into the office with a background in economics and international relations. The nature of consulting has enabled me to grow my skillset and apply it to a wide range of projects across many sectors. I have worked on projects that include everything from doing a sector analysis of Malawi's housing market, to conducting a baseline evaluation for a project using livestock as a resilience mechanism for shock-prone communities, to implementing a nutrition project to better tea workers' health and productivity.

What are some projects you've enjoyed the most?

One of my favorite projects I recently coordinated, was piloting a nutrition project aimed at improving the health status of Malawian tea workers through food fortification. In this role, I helped oversee all logistical aspects beginning to end, working directly with tea estates and tea workers to ensure sound implementation. Another project I really enjoyed was co-leading an end of project evaluation for an NGO project that worked to strengthen the prevention and response mechanisms to school-related gender based violence in one of Malawi's most vulnerable districts.



Laura (center) with two colleagues at Imani.

How has your fellowship experience changed your life?

While going into the fellowship I knew I wanted to pursue a career in economic development, this experience allowed me to narrow down what specifically inspires me about this line of work and where I see myself in the next five years. It's also helped me gain a more contextualized understanding of

development work on the ground. Additionally, it's provided me with an invaluable network of like-minded and inspiring individuals. Going forward, I anticipate keeping in touch with these people both as peers and as professional resources.

What's next?

I'm looking forward to finding a position that has the same high level of responsibility as I have at Imani and allows me to continue making an impact. Since completing my fellowship and working at Imani, I've only grown more confident of my choice to work in economic development and have developed skills and experience that I will apply throughout my career.

ANNOUNCING NEW PIAF FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZATIONS FOR 2016-17

Princeton in Africa is excited to announce two fantastic new fellowship organizations for our upcoming 2016-17 fellowship year. We are honored to be working with such innovative, dynamic, and inspiring organizations, and welcome them both to the PiAf family!

HelpAge International – HelpAge International works with partners across the globe to ensure that people everywhere understand how much older people contribute to society and that they must enjoy their right to healthcare, social services and economic and physical security. Program areas include disaster risk reduction and climate change, HIV/AIDS, health and care, income and financial inclusion, and social protection. HelpAge works with 113 affiliated organizations in 75 countries across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and North America. Our Fellow will be based in Kenya.

Young Love – Young Love, based in Botswana, works to enhance young girls' and boys' agency and reduce teen pregnancy as well as new HIV infections through school-based campaigns, led by youth for youth. Young Love has reached over 32,000 young adults in Botswana with "sugar daddy" awareness classes – the organization's flagship program. This class was shown in randomized trials to reduce pregnancy – a proxy for unprotected sex and HIV transmission – by 28% in a year. Young Love is delivering this class nationwide throughout Botswana, and aims to reach one million youth in Southern Africa by 2017.

Mark Adams**PiAf 2011-12****Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia**

Following my fellowship, I started in a Management Development position at FINCA, an international microfinance institution, and stayed for two more years in Zambia. In 2014, I transitioned to a role at One Acre Fund, an agricultural social enterprise, as part of a fledgling Microfinance Partnerships team working to catalyze investment in smallholder finance. Since then we've launched some exciting work, including a coalition of smallholder finance practitioners called Propagate. I am based in rural Western Kenya.

Jessica Annis**PiAf 2011-12****Generation Ubuntu (formerly Ubuntu Africa), South Africa**

I am currently a second year law student at UC Berkeley. I plan to work for a large law firm in San Francisco this summer and hope to stay in the Bay Area after graduation. To indulge my wanderlust, I am returning to Cape Town next fall for a human rights internship. While I love life in the East Bay, nothing quite compares to the Mother City.

Amaka Megwalu Anku**PiAf 2006-07****International Rescue Committee, Democratic Republic of the Congo**

I'm still in Washington, DC and my daughter is now almost two years old. Last year I quit my law firm and started a strategic consulting firm focused on Africa (specifically Nigeria, for now). Things are going quite well so far!

Byron Austin**PiAf 2009-10****mothers2mothers, South Africa**

I'm still at Johnson & Johnson working in the CSR department, where I manage a portfolio of grants related to HIV/AIDS and digital health. I'm also enrolled in the Executive MBA program at Columbia Business School (Class of 2017).

Jen Austin**PiAf 2005-06, The New Vision, Uganda****PiAf 2006-07, International Rescue Committee, Liberia**

I recently graduated from the MPAID (Masters in Public Administration in International Development) program at the Harvard Kennedy School. I worked for The World Bank for a few months last summer and I am now living in Washington, DC, working at the State Department as a Senior Advisor to the US Special Envoy for Climate Change, focusing on India.

Becca Balis**PiAf 2010-11****International Rescue Committee, Liberia**

I am now based in DC, concentrating in refugee and humanitarian law while finishing my JD at Georgetown Law. In the past few years, I've represented asylum-seekers and advocated for refugee and migrant rights in the US, Europe, and with the Inter-American

Commission on Human Rights. I am currently working on the peace process and rights of civil society in Syria and Myanmar with the Public International Law and Policy Group. I look forward to returning to fieldwork to work with refugees and populations displaced by conflict upon completion of my studies.

Nate Barker**PiAf 2012-13****The BOMA Project, Kenya**

I currently work at Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), a research organization that evaluates programs and policies in developing countries. I am based in Tamale, Ghana, where I am overseeing two research projects. The first examines the link between mental health and economic productivity, by incorporating Cognitive Behavioral Therapy into more traditional welfare projects. The second examines how farmers make decisions regarding the adoption of new technologies.

Emily Bensen**PiAf 2014-15****Hope Through Health, Togo**

I have been living and working in northern Togo since 2014 with Hope Through Health, a growing social enterprise that works in partnership with the Government of Togo to make high quality healthcare accessible to all. I coordinate the Maternal and Child Health Program, which launched in August 2015 and serves over 5,000 women and children through an integrated clinic and community-based approach to health systems strengthening.

Abhit Bhandari**PiAf 2012-13****UN World Food Programme, Senegal**

I'm finishing up my third year in the political science doctoral program at Columbia, where I study political economy of development in West Africa. I'll be heading back to Senegal (where I did my PiAf fellowship at WFP from 2012-13) this summer to set up some RCTs for dissertation work I'm doing on contract enforcement and trade in areas with weak rule of law. I'll also be in Burkina Faso and Niger this summer to work on a separate academic project.

Shameika Black**PiAf 2012-13****Olam International, Gabon**

I'm currently living in Philadelphia and commuting to work in Robbinsville, NJ where I work as an Operational Supervisor. I manage a team of nine phone contact center representatives. After my fellowship, I worked to promote HIV/AIDS awareness throughout the mid-Atlantic region with a local nonprofit, Philadelphia FIGHTE. I recently joined the current class of Fellows on their annual retreat as an Alumni Coordinator in Tanzania. I led the Race & Identity Dynamics session.

Christine Bohne**PiAf 2011-12****Lutheran World Federation, Burundi**

I worked for One Acre Fund, a social enterprise investing in smallholder farmers, in Rwanda for three years after completing my fellowship. This past year I moved back

to the U.S. to start my Doctor of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. I just got back from working on a TB project in India and I look forward to spending the summer at the Gates Foundation in Seattle.

Allie Bream**PiAf 2010-11****UN World Food Programme, Ethiopia**

I'm continuing to work as a People Innovations Director at One Acre Fund. My work focuses on building the organization's long-term HR strategy. I split my time between New York and East Africa.

Adrienne Clermont**PiAf 2009-10****UN World Food Programme, Benin**

Since last year, I have been working as a Research Associate at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. I am working on modeling, program evaluation, and capacity building for evidence-based program planning in the area of maternal and child health. As the Francophone of the team, I am getting to work in particular with partners and government staff in West Africa. I now live in DC and commute up to Baltimore for work, but I am happy to be celebrating 5 years in the Baltimore-DC area!

Molly Cole (formerly Schmalzbach)**PiAf 2011-12****mothers2mothers, South Africa**

I recently left my job as the Public Affairs Advisor in USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS in Washington, D.C. After getting married in 2015, I embarked on a yearlong trip around the world with my husband, Enser. Enser and I are blogging our travels and lessons learned on Mollyandenser.com. We look forward to returning to the D.C. area in Fall 2016, where I plan to continue pursuit of my African foreign policy career.

Toni DeMello**PiAf 2006-07****UN World Food Programme, Senegal**

I'm in Toronto, working as the Director of Equity and Diversity at the University of Toronto. I love, love, love, my job and I also get to teach at the undergrad level. I'm working on a PhD and loving the class but not so excited about that research-alone-in-a-cube part. I am closer to home to be near aging parents and while I have moments of intense wanderlust and miss working in the field, it feels so good to see my parents all of the time. I am happy and full and grateful.

Margaret Derby**PiAf 2014-15****African Impact, Zambia**

After my fellowship, I took a short term contract scaling up an education program in Ghana. Currently I am working for CARE USA in Atlanta as the Program Manager for Nutrilite Little Bits, a partnership between CARE and Amway that uses a micro-nutrient powder to treat malnutrition, micro-nutrient deficiency and anemia in 14 different countries globally.

Cyndee DeToy

PiAf 2011-12

mothers2mothers, South Africa

I'm currently living in NYC and working for Strategy&, the strategy consulting arm of PwC. I graduated from NYU Stern with my MBA in May 2015, with a focus on social enterprise and strategy. I took advantage of having the summer off and hopped on the first plane back to Africa. I spent two months working with the African Entrepreneur Collective in Kigali, mentoring two small businesses. Since joining Strategy&, I've worked with clients on a variety of strategic planning and organizational design projects.

Shelly Slemp Doley

PiAf 2007-08

Tanganyika Christian

Refugee Service, Tanzania

Currently I live with my husband in Berkeley, California and am wrapping up a Master's degree in theology. Between my PiAf fellowship and now, I got a teaching license through Princeton's TPP program and spent just over 5.5 years working for non-profits in East Africa. After graduation in May we plan to spend the summer with family and then head back overseas. We are looking for field-based relief jobs and are open to a wide variety of countries. Time will tell where we land!

John Drollinger

PiAf 2012-13

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

After a few months break post-South Sudan, I moved to Iraq in November 2015 to start a job with Norwegian Refugee Council. I am coordinating the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Cluster, covering all of Iraq for GBV prevention and response in the emergency. A formidable challenge and sadly away from East Africa where I've spent the past three years, but I'm enjoying my new life here and work with incredibly passionate colleagues from NGOs, UN and the government.

Ryan Elliott

PiAf 2014-15

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho

I am currently living in Boston and serving as a Clinical Research Fellow with OpenBiome as part of the Princeton Project 55 Fellowship Program.

Sarah Evans

PiAf 2013-14

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Tanzania

I'm currently working as a consultant for Vera Solutions in Cape Town. After my year as a Fellow at BIPAI in Mwanza, Tanzania, I joined Vera Solutions in Mumbai. I've really enjoyed the work Vera does, which straddles the line between management and technology consulting to bring data solutions to social enterprises. Moving to Cape Town to help start the hub here has been incredible and

challenging! Thanks PiAf for all of your help in getting me to this point.

David Friedman

PiAf 2013-14

Save the Children, Ethiopia

I am finishing my second year at Duke Law School and will be starting as a summer associate at the New York office of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley, & McCloy, LLP in May. I plan to work in Project Finance, facilitating large-scale infrastructure and energy deals in emerging markets. My interests include travel, fitness, and food. I currently serve on the advisory board for Camp Kesem

REFLECTIONS FROM A FORMER FELLOW



Kate (left) helping a VE business group complete paperwork for receiving the second half of a business grant.

"I wouldn't trade my PiAf experience for anything. Working in the field, speaking with program participants on a weekly basis—these are learning opportunities you can't get anywhere else. Because of the freedom that Village Enterprise gives its staff, I've been able to accomplish some amazing things during my time as a Princeton in Africa Fellow. I can't capture in a few sentences all that I've learned while working in Kenya, but I can confidently say I learn something

every single day I'm here. Asanteni sana to the staff of Princeton in Africa for making this opportunity possible."

**Kate Reott, 2014-15 Fellow with Village Enterprise, Kenya/Uganda
Now a Program Manager with Village Enterprise**

North Carolina, a non-profit providing free summer camp to children with parents affected by cancer. I will be moving to New York full-time after graduating next year and I hope to be able to work again on projects related to African development in the near future.

Katie Camille Friedman

PiAf 2010-11

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

I am currently finishing up a 1.5 year research stint in the Netherlands for part of my PhD through University of North Carolina. I started my PhD in Environmental Engineering directly after returning from my fellowship and hope to finish in 2017. My topic includes trying to improve the microbiological efficacy of ceramic water filters, the household water treatment technology that I worked with during my fellowship. I also remotely help out with the ceramic water filter project in Burkina Faso when I can. Progress has been slow, but I'm happy to report that things are still moving forward.

Kwame Gayle

PiAf 2013-14

Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

I am currently a first year graduate student at American University in DC, pursuing a Masters in International Training and Education. After my fellowship, I returned to my home country (Jamaica) for a year where I did

some courses in teaching at a local university and taught English as a Second Language (ESL) to Venezuelan petroleum engineers on exchange to Jamaica, through the Petro-Caribe agreement. I then spent the summer before graduate school in Massachusetts, where I worked as a Residential Director at Exploration Summer Programs before beginning graduate school in fall 2015.

Yash Gharat

PiAf 2013-14

Olam International, Zambia

My fellowship year with Olam was phenomenal - a true development opportunity, both personal and professional.

Working and living on a commercial farm, I got to observe agriculture at the commercial and smallholder scale closely, and gained firsthand experience of the ups and downs of agriculture. After Olam, I wanted to continue working in the farming sector; so I joined One Acre Fund, working on their Uganda pilot project. I led the Field Operations team there, working on training farmers on effective agricultural practices and financial planning so that they could repay their loans at the end of the year. After a successful season in Uganda, I have moved to the Malawi pilot operation, where I am working in Innovations - identifying, trialing and de-risking all new products and services that could continue to create impact for our farmers. I am based in Zomba, Malawi - any PiAf

Fellow/alumni will find a couch to crash on and a hearty meal if they are passing through!

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 6th year, working as a graduate student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. My research focuses on trying to understand the relationship between the human host iron status and falciparum malaria susceptibility. A number of studies have found that iron deficiency is protective against malaria and iron supplementation may put people at increased risk, which has resulted in a big public health conundrum in terms of how to best combat iron deficiency in malaria endemic areas. My PhD work involves trying to determine the molecular mechanisms dictating iron deficiency protection and iron supplementation risk, to help work towards 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 there in the rural village of Keneba, working at our laboratory field site. I'm very happy to have my PhD research so intimately connected to the continent!

Kaitlin Grant**PiAf 2014-15****UN World Food Programme, Malawi**

After the conclusion of my fellowship, I stayed on as an M&E Officer with the WFP Malawi Country Office, and have enjoyed being able to continue to explore the Southern African region, develop my Afropop dance *technique*, and welcome in the new generation of PiAf Malawi Fellows.

Jessica Grody**PiAf 2009-10****2iE/International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering, Burkina Faso**

Following my fellowship, I moved across the continent from West to East Africa and spent two years living in Nairobi. I am currently finishing my MBA at the Wharton School, and I will be moving to Boston this summer to start work at Liberty Mutual.

Emily Harris**PiAf 2006-07****Plan International, Uganda**

I graduated from the Yale School of Management last May, and currently work on Global Strategy and Market Development for Medtronic, an innovative health technology and services company, based in Minneapolis. As part of my new role in the cardiology business I've traveled to four continents in six months -- so continuing a good track record of professional globetrotting. Most recently I've been providing support to a smart-technology hypertension project in Ghana, so getting back to my West African roots!

Nabil Hashmi**PiAf 2012-13****Olam International, Gabon**

I finished a two-year stint working at the Center for Global Development where I focused on migration and aid effectiveness research. I thoroughly enjoyed working there and learning about a lot of different aspects of international development. While at CGD, I did a lot of programming and have since been further refining those skills as a web developer at Comcast's headquarters in Philadelphia.

Lisa Hendrickson**PiAf 2012-13****Olam International, Gabon**

Since completing my fellowship, I joined Deloitte's Emerging Markets Practice, where my most recent project focused on developing innovative financing solutions to fund Mozambique's national HIV/AIDS strategy. I have since relocated to Deloitte's office in Sydney, Australia and look forward to leveraging my corporate social responsibility experience with Olam Gabon to help grow their new Social Impact Practice.

Lillian Jin**PiAf 2013-14****Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho**

I'm currently a first-year medical student at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, where I am a Human Rights and Social Justice Scholar and an inaugural Mount Sinai-GLG Global Health Scholar. This summer, I will be doing research on adolescent HIV and interning at UNICEF.

Rachel Jones**PiAf 2014-15****Clinton Health Access Initiative, South Africa**

I am in my first year of a Masters in International Development Policy at Georgetown's McCourt School of Public Policy. This summer, I will be working on an impact evaluation in Côte d'Ivoire with the World Bank's Gender Innovation Lab.

Erin Keating**PiAf 2014-15****Comprehensive Community Based****Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT), Tanzania**

After completing my fellowship with CCBRT, I took a leap of faith and moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia where my boyfriend is stationed with the Navy. With a little bit of luck and a lot of determination, I landed my dream job as Communications Producer with Operation Smile. I am beyond thrilled to be able to work with such an incredible global health organization and continue to help children access essential surgeries in my post-fellowship professional life. This year, I have exciting plans

New York. Over a period of three years, I worked in human resources, PR/Communications and lastly as the Operations Administrative Consultant for UNICEF's Innovation Unit. I am currently pursuing a master's degree in Development Studies at SOAS in London.

Ryan Kirlin**PiAf 2013-14****UN World Food Programme, Senegal**

Following my fellowship, I returned to Senegal for a year to work as a consultant in the nutrition unit of the WFP Dakar Regional Bureau. I recently moved back to the US and I am currently working in Boston with a small social impact consulting firm, Root Cause.

Julie Kornfeld**PiAf 2011-12****Lutheran World Federation, Uganda**

I am currently in my last year at University of Michigan Law. I have spent the last two and half months (my last semester of law school) doing strategic litigation for an organization called Lawyers for Human Rights in Johannesburg (first time back on the continent since my fellowship year!). Before that, I spent a year in New York working for the American Jewish Joint Distribution. In mid-April, I will return stateside for an internship with Human Rights Watch in their Refugee Department. Come September (after law school graduation and the dreaded bar), I will be working at the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP). I hope to improve IRAP's representation of refugees in Africa over the course of my employment and have many more trips back to Africa!

Thomas Launer**PiAf 2012-13****Project Mercy, Ethiopia**

I was fortunate enough to return to Southern Ethiopia after my fellowship year to work as the Country Director for a reforestation and poverty reduction NGO. Lack of secure funding drove us out of the country, and put me out of a job, though I'm still very interested in the intersection of conservation and poverty. If you've got advice, connections or a job offer for me, please don't hesitate to call!

Theresa Laverty**PiAf 2010-11****Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya**

After PiAf, I worked for three years as a field technician back at Mpala (Kenya), in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (Uganda), in Yellowstone National Park, and along the coast of southern and central NJ. I then began graduate school at the University of Montana, but transferred with my advisor this year to Colorado State University's Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology department. I'm still studying the drivers of desert bat diversity in the northern Namib Desert of Namibia and will be in the field for most of this upcoming year.

REFLECTIONS FROM A CURRENT FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZATION



Anya Lewis-Meeks (far left) and Meghan Murphy (far right), two of our four 2015-16 Fellows with Maru-a-Pula, with students from Meghan's IJ science class at MaP.

"I strongly believe that PiAf's programme has achieved our shared goal at Maru-a-Pula, and greatly benefited our students. In the past several years the Fellows have contributed significantly to our programme and expanded our students' vision and understanding of the wider world, as well as their education. We hope that this relationship will continue and grow. Thank you for the talented and driven young people you send to us."

Judy Brown, Deputy Principal at Maru-a-Pula, Botswana

to participate in a medical mission in Madagascar and to get a personal project to help children and adults in South Sudan receive surgical care off the ground. I also look forward to hosting some PiAf alumni events in my beautiful beach town this summer!

Tiffany J. King**PiAf 2010-11****Plan International, Uganda**

Since my fellowship, I moved back home to New Jersey and started working as a consultant with UNICEF in

Brianna Losoya**PiAf 2014-15****UN World Food Programme, Senegal**

After my fellowship with WFP in Dakar, Senegal, I moved to Mbour, Senegal to work for the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences as a Program Officer. This month I am assisting in organizing the Next Einstein Forum's 2016 Global Gathering, the first global forum for science on African soil.

Lauren Manning**PiAf 2013-14****Invisible Children, Uganda**

I'm the Campaign Manager for Girl Rising, a global advocacy campaign for girls' education. I lead the organization's community engagement initiatives, connecting hundreds of thousands of audience members and building online and offline communities to inspire change for girls worldwide. Upon returning from my fellowship, I worked as Digital Storyteller for an education and service learning nonprofit organization.

Case Martin**PiAf 2010-11****International Rescue Committee, South Sudan**

After completing my fellowship in 2011, I received a master's degree at the University of Oxford and returned to South Sudan for my master's dissertation on healthcare development. Since then, I have been in medical school back home in Dallas, Texas at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where I have continued to pursue my interest in global health and orthopaedic trauma by doing research and working in Cape Town when possible. My fiancée and I are excited for the next step of residency in her home city of San Antonio in obstetrics and gynecology and orthopaedic surgery, respectively.

Taylor Mayol**PiAf 2012-13****Blue Ventures, Madagascar**

Since my fellowship, I've completed my Master's at Stanford in African Studies and spent a couple of summers in Kigali learning Kinyarwanda. I'm currently living in San Francisco, working as a journalist with OZY, a global digital magazine focused on the new and the next. I'm always looking for story ideas from around the continent so feel free to send them my way at taylor@ozy.com.

Gabriel Nahmias**PiAf 2014-15****Equal Education, South Africa**

I am a Research and Training Officer for Equal Education. I have managed a social audit of safety and sanitation conditions in 236 schools in the Western Cape. I have also spearheaded the development of an activist training resource database. I will continue with Equal Education until June. I will then move back to the US to begin a PhD in Political Science. I am still deciding between programs.

Nastasia Paul-Gera**PiAf 2012-13****Save the Children, Ethiopia**

Upon completing my fellowship with Save the Children, I moved to Washington, D.C. where I worked with the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) for

almost two years. My fellowship cemented my interest in working on issues of gender, particularly violence against women, and this was the focus of my work at ICRW. In November 2015, I moved to Delhi, India. While I am Indian, I have not lived in India for almost 20 years. While here, I am working with Sangat, A South Asian Feminist Network, and re-connecting with my roots.

Ettie Philitas**PiAf 2009-10****African Leadership Academy, South Africa**

Since the fellowship, I've graduated from Wharton's MBA program and have worked in finance (Investment Banking with Credit Suisse's Leveraged Finance Group and Private Debt investing with Muzinich & Co, an asset management firm). I have remained involved with the continent through consulting engagements related to African education and as a member of the Young Professionals Board of SEED, a Senegalese organization which teaches civic engagement and leadership through basketball.

Isabel Pike**PiAf 2011-12****UN World Food Programme, Senegal**

After three years with WFP in West Africa, I am now in my second year of a PhD program in Sociology and Demography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I've settled nicely into life here, which involves lots of reading, writing, biking, grad student hang outs, and deep fried cheese curds! I am continuing to take the sociology and demography course sequences but I also took up Swahili again this semester, which I started in college. I'll get to put it to use when I go to Kenya this summer to explore dissertation ideas!

Sangeeta Puri**PiAf 2001-02****International Rescue Committee, Tanzania**

It's been about fifteen years since my PiAf fellowship with IRC Tanzania, and it is interesting to reflect on the impact it has had on my career and personal life. After my fellowship, I got my J.D. and then went to work for the United Nations in Guatemala. While working for the UN, I fell in love with my amazing husband and his career returned us stateside. We now live in Houston, Texas, and I made the transition into the private sector as the in-house legal counsel and global recruitment manager for an energy company. My PiAf fellowship coupled with my time at the UN taught me many things that are applicable to my current career, but the most useful skill I developed was how to apply empathy in the workplace, which truly helps me connect with my co-workers/candidates in the US and around the world. Also, thanks to PiAf, I met my best friend while living and working in Tanzania. Whenever my best friend or her family tell me - karibu - it's like music to my ears. Asante sana PiAf.

Meredith Ragno**PiAf 2012-13****African Cashew Alliance, Ghana**

Following PiAf in Ghana, I moved to NYC to work with Soko, an ethical fashion-tech company using technology to empower artisan entrepreneurs in Kenya. Last summer we moved offices to San Francisco -- a welcome homecoming for me! Part of my brand strategy and growth team is our wonderful current PiAf Fellow, whom I had the chance to meet in person this fall during a visit to Nairobi.

Lauren Richardson**PiAf 2014-15****Maru-a-Pula, Botswana**

Since my fellowship at MaPI I have been working in southwest Colombia for the Colombian Ministry of Education. I am an International Teaching Fellow for Colombia Bilingue, a bilingual education program that targets under-resourced, government secondary schools to improve English language education, increase teaching capacity and create a more inclusive public school system for the country. In June, I will move to New York City to begin my JD at NYU School of Law.

India Richter**PiAf 2014-15****Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Botswana**

I'm currently pursuing my MSPH degree at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Studying International Health, my time as a PiAf Fellow at BIPAI inspired me to focus my coursework on adolescent health and infectious disease. I'm currently a research assistant for the Madagascar Rural Adolescent Health Research Collaborative (HC3) at Hopkins. Next fall, I'll begin qualitative research with Jhpiego and the Namibian Planned Parenthood Association to increase access to and quality of integrated HIV/SRH services for vulnerable populations, including adolescents, in Namibia.

Sarah Rogers**PiAf 2013-14****African Impact, Zambia**

After my fellowship year in Zambia, I moved to Bujumbura, Burundi and began working with a small artisan focused social enterprise, helping them with their program development and business expansion. Unfortunately, around April of last year the political instability in Burundi began to worsen and in June I made the difficult decision to leave. After spending the summer at home in Massachusetts, I landed a great job as a Program Manager with the organization Human Network International (HNI). I moved to Accra, Ghana this past October and I am setting up and launching HNI's products and services in both Ghana and Burkina Faso. It has been a great experience thus far, and I am really enjoying exploring another part of the continent!

Sarah Sagan**PiAf 2013-14****UN World Food Programme, Benin**

Since concluding my fellowship in June 2014, I've been working with Dimagi and living in Dakar, Senegal. As a Senior Field Manager with Dimagi, I travel throughout West Africa to deploy mobile tools to support last-mile service delivery in a variety of sectors, including health and agricultural. In this role, I've worked on projects in Cameroon, Mali, Niger and Senegal, though unfortunately have yet to return to Benin!

Kelly Souls**PiAf 2012-13****Indego Africa, Rwanda**

I am working for the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and am based in Yangon, Myanmar. As part of the malaria elimination project I am currently working on, I split my time between Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. I made the move to Southeast Asia after working with CHAI in Rwanda, where I started

immediately after my PiAf fellowship, and in Malawi. However, I will be returning to the US in the fall to get my MBA, with a focus on utilizing business models for development in sub-Saharan Africa.

Corinne Stephenson

PiAf 2012-13

UN World Food Programme, Senegal

During my fellowship, I worked at WFP in Dakar, Senegal as a Public Information Assistant from 2012-2013. I then braved a year of frigid temperatures in Chicago before coming back to my hometown, Washington, DC. After a year at the World Bank, I'm now a Research Analyst at the IMF, where I work on low-income countries.

Anne Stotler

PiAf 2011-12

Save the Children, Ethiopia

I graduated from Harvard Kennedy School in May 2015, and moved to DC in October. I'm a Presidential Management Fellow at the State Department's Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator. I just spent a month at the PEPFAR country office in Namibia - my first work trip to Africa since PiAf! I also recently began a five-month rotation to State's International Organizations bureau, helping plan a summit on refugees and migration at this year's UN General Assembly. I hope that next year I'll have an opportunity to spend a few months in another African embassy.

Chris Suzdak

PiAf 2012-13

Olam International, Gabon

I served as a Princeton in Africa Fellow in Libreville, Gabon in 2012-13. During my fellowship, I provided strategic guidance on corporate social responsibility to Olam International for their large-scale agricultural projects in Gabon. After my fellowship, I joined One Acre Fund as a New Country Scout, where I conducted early-stage market research in Uganda, Zambia and Malawi. Now as the Malawi Country Manager, I oversee a growing team of 80 staff serving nearly 3,000 smallholder farmers with seed, fertilizer and solar light loans.

Yassi J. Tamdji

PiAf 2011-12

Student Sponsorship Programme, South Africa

I'm still working for Community Resource Exchange, a nonprofit management consultancy firm in NYC. I recently returned from visiting South Africa for 10 days in February 2016 where I was able to see former colleagues and a scholar of Student Sponsorship Programme. It was a marvelous "homecoming."

Alexandra Altfeld Tesser

PiAf 2013-14

eleQtra, Uganda

After staying on with eleQtra between New York, Kampala, and London, I left the firm at the end of 2015

to pursue a sabbatical and ultimately to attend Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania. I am currently on a round-the-world honeymoon and have so far visited Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and Chile and plan to continue on to Bolivia, Peru, New Zealand, Nepal, and India in the coming months.

Emily Trautner

PiAf 2011-12

Plan International, Uganda

After my fellowship with Plan International in Kampala, Uganda, I ended up staying at Plan for a second year. After two years in Uganda, I completed my premedical classes (2012-13) and applied to medical school the subsequent year while working in Kisumu, Kenya for University of California, San Francisco (2013-14). I'm now a first year medical student at Emory University School of Medicine with plans to complete another degree in public health or policy. I'm staying engaged with global health as a member of the Executive Board of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) to the Global Health Institute and attending lectures about global health in the public health school. Last year, I began learning Swahili while working in Kenya, and I'm continuing to develop my language skills through an independent study program at Emory.

in May 2015 and moved to New York City to work for Bennett Midland, a civic sector consulting firm that works with foundations, non-profits, and city governments. Really enjoying the new perspective on social impact work, learning a lot, and staying involved with PiAf and Spark MicroGrants as much as possible.

Alex Villec

PiAf 2013-14

The BOMA Project, Kenya

I now live, work, and play in Rubengera, western Rwanda (working for One Acre Fund), where I monitor and evaluate a business approach to making small-scale farmers more prosperous.

Jane Yang

PiAf 2011-12

International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Between my fellowship year and working for One Acre Fund, I've now lived in Nairobi, Kenya for about three years – and am loving every minute of it! I'm now a Strategy & Research Manager in One Acre Fund's internal consulting team, where I spend my days tackling interesting problems and coaching incredible people. Outside the office, Kenya continues to offer a wonderful community and lots of unforgettable activities. I recently climbed to Nelion Peak in Mount Kenya -- a really

epic experience that I highly recommend to any climbers out there! For anyone passing through Nairobi, and/or interested in discussing a career at One Acre Fund - feel free to reach out!

REFLECTIONS FROM A FORMER FELLOW



Allie (left) interviewing a factory worker at Mim Cashew during her fellowship year.

"During my fellowship with African Cashew Alliance, I learned how to write proposals, report on grants, and develop M&E mechanisms while simultaneously interacting with the cashew farmers that these activities benefited. This combination of professional development and substantive experience abroad, coupled with the impressive network of past and current Fellows, is unrivaled for young professionals. I feel humbled and honored to be a part of this community of driven and inspired leaders, and have the utmost gratitude

for PiAf for seeing our potential, despite our youth."

Allie Stauss, 2014-15 Fellow with African Cashew Alliance, Ghana

Now working in the East Africa division of TechnoServe

Marilyn Waite

PiAf 2006-07

UN World Food Programme, Madagascar

I'm currently leading the energy practice at Village Capital in Washington, D.C. I founded SustainableVisit.com in 2014 and have an upcoming book, Sustainability at Work: careers that make a difference (Routledge - Earthscan, 2016). If you know of any energy entrepreneurs and/or start-ups, please get in touch with me at marilyn@marilynwaite.com!

Bjorn Whitmore

PiAf 2012-13

Lutheran World Federation, Burundi

I finished up my time with Spark MicroGrants in Burundi

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PRINCETON IN AFRICA'S 2015-16 FELLOWS



Top left: Our 2015-16 Maru-a-Pula Fellows at Victoria Falls. From left to right: Anya Lewis-Meeks, Meg Gould, Meghan Murphy, and Susan Tuberville. *Top right:* Our 2015-16 Fellows at their Orientation in June 2015. *Bottom left:* Three of our 2015-16 Fellows on a trip to Swaziland. From left to right: Melissa Gibson, Mariah Wood, and Lauren Theis. *Bottom right:* Our 2015-16 Uganda Fellows with 2013-14 Fellow Yash Gharat (far left). From left to right: Yash, Johnna Sundberg, Olivia Woldemikael, Liz Wojnar, Martha Bierut, and Jasmin Church.

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Since 1999, PiAf has sent nearly 450 Fellows to work in 36 countries across Africa.

REFLECTIONS FROM A FORMER FELLOW



Erin at the construction site of CCBRT's Maternity and Newborn Hospital.

“What makes Princeton in Africa’s model unique among African development organizations is that while most traditional development organizations focus solely on the provision of services for their target population, Princeton in Africa believes that it is equally important to invest in the development and training of the individuals who make this service provision possible. Through the Princeton in Africa fellowship, the next generation of international development practitioners will have the chance to gain field experience, develop technical skills and learn from a community of like-minded individuals who share a passion for service. I feel overwhelmingly fortunate and grateful to have had the opportunity to take part in this program. My experience with PiAf has not only shaped and affirmed my commitment to development projects in Africa, but it has also allowed me to see, as well as demonstrate through my contributions to my placement organization, the positive impact that stems from investments in development professionals in addition to their projects.”

Erin Keating

PiAf 2014-15 Fellow with Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT), Tanzania