



PRINCETON IN AFRICA

SERVICE FOR A YEAR. COMMITMENT FOR A LIFETIME.

2013 Newsletter

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

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PiAf 2012-13 Fellow Bjorn Whitmore interviewing a family as part of his work with the Lutheran World Federation in Burundi.



A few of our fantastic 2012-13 Fellows! Mark Birhanu, Nastasia Paul-Gera, Kelsey Lilley, John Drollinger and Ida Girma.



PiAf 2012-13 Fellows Alison Thurston, Neha Dubli, John Drollinger, and Lisa Hendrickson took a break from work to spend some quality time with lions in Zambia.

Message From the Executive Director

Dear Princeton in Africa Friends,

We have another fantastic newsletter to share with you this year! I hope you enjoy reading stories from current Fellows, learning more about our partner organizations, and catching up with our alumni network.

Princeton in Africa placed a record number of Fellows this year – during our 2012-13 fellowship year, 47 Fellows from 28 colleges and universities have been working with 26 partner organizations in 19 countries across Africa. Here in Princeton, we have been busy supporting our Fellows and alumni, but also improving our programming, adding a few terrific new partner organizations for 2013-14, and launching a new website and logo (more inside).

With this growth, PiAf now has four full-time staff members – Program Manager Agatha Offorjebe, a Princeton University graduate and a former Fellow (PiAf 2009-10 with BIPAI in Botswana), joined us last August.

As for me, my first year with PiAf brought many wonderful memories:

- Experiencing the palpable excitement among our new Fellows at PiAf's pre-departure orientation last summer.
- Seeing the tenacity, hard work, and passion our Fellows have demonstrated throughout the year to make the most out of their fellowship experience.
- Learning how Princeton in Africa changed the lives of many of our alumni, launching their professional careers and instilling in their hearts a lifelong love for Africa.

- Being inspired, during my trip to East Africa, by the changes that PiAf partner organizations are fostering in the communities they serve.
- Last, but definitely not least, feeling the strong sense of community when 39 Fellows, PiAf alumni, staff and one of our co-founders came together in Kampala for our mid-year retreat in March.

From all of our Fellows, partners, and our 300+ alumni worldwide, I send heartfelt thanks to those of you who helped make this year possible! It is only through donations from foundations, corporations, and individuals like you that we are able to send our Fellows to Africa year after year to assist our partner organizations and to provide these truly life-changing opportunities.

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 Agatha Offorjebe, Executive Director Katie Henneman, Program & External Relations Assistant Liz Thurber

Message From the President

Hello Princeton in Africa Friends,

It's been a remarkable year for Princeton in Africa. Enthusiasm for Princeton in Africa's program only continues to grow – from well-qualified fellowship applicants as well as from high-impact organizations eager to benefit from a Fellow's assistance. We received a record 466 fellowship applications this November for approximately 50 fellowship posts in 2013-14 – a very competitive 10% acceptance rate.

Our Board is committed to growing our program further – creating more opportunities for recent graduates with an even greater number of outstanding partner organizations – but doing so in a strategic and



In November 2012, PiAf President Jim Robinson (right) presented Conrad Person (left), Director, Corporate Giving, Johnson & Johnson, with the Princeton in Africa Medal, along with PiAf Alumni Chris Courtin and Allison Bream (center).

thoughtful manner. We are finding new ways to support our Fellows, strengthen the network linking our alumni, and deepen our relationships with our partners across the African continent.

I had the pleasure of participating again in the Fellow selection process, reviewing applications and interviewing many of the candidates for Princeton in Africa's 2013-14 fellowship class. The interview process is always an energizing and stimulating one, and we are thrilled to have so many qualified candidates available to support our partner organizations. It's inspiring to witness the tremendous talent, drive and passion of so many young people eager to spend a year living and working in Africa.

Our mission to develop young leaders committed to the advancement of Africa has never been more vital. It has been my privilege to meet with many of our supporters to listen to why they believe our work is important, and to share our vision for the future of Princeton in Africa. We need your help to achieve our shared vision, and I offer my sincere thanks to all of you that have already assisted us through your support, advocacy and sharing information about our program.

I look forward to the year ahead with much excitement and encourage you to join us on this journey.

Jim Robinson
President, PiAf Board of Directors

Note to Future Fellows: Don't Pack White Socks

By Stephen Tuozzolo, PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with Nyumbani Village, Kenya
Sponsored by: Johnson & Johnson

When people ask me what I miss from home, the answer is obvious: I miss clean socks. While it may seem a pedestrian problem, the dirtiness of my socks represents my PiAf experience in microcosm. My sock situation can be examined by asking three questions: Why do I wear so many socks? Why are they dirty? Why can't they be cleaned?

Why do I wear so many socks? My fellowship is with Nyumbani Village, a children's home styled on a rural village in Kitui, Kenya. At Nyumbani, I work on water-related projects that are funded by Johnson & Johnson, my fellowship sponsor. I spend a lot of time walking around, and thorny branches pierce my sandals. I also fear snakes, so I wear shoes and socks every day.

Why are my socks so dirty? Kenya is equatorial and Kitui is hot. Such harsh environments are not conducive to sock cleanliness. Nyumbani is also located in a semi-arid region of Kenya. The land is dusty and the dust turns everything red. Especially socks.

Why can't I clean them? Water is readily accessible in the village, but people in surrounding communities still travel miles to fetch water. Sustainable use is needed to protect this easily accessed but highly

exhaustible resource, and I'm working with children in the village to make sure that water is conserved. My socks aren't clean because I practice what I preach. Washing dirt-infused socks is a labor and water intensive process: if I can get my socks to change from 'dark red' to 'red' without lowering the water table by a few feet, it's an accomplishment.



Stephen poses with Peter, a co-worker helping to fix rainwater harvesting gutters in Nyumbani Village.

My sock problem may sound silly, but it's a fact of life in a world where millions use laundry machines while millions of others travel miles to collect water. Living and working in a dryland environment has taught me to be conscious of my own natural resource use. It has also taught me to stop wearing white socks.

Introducing Princeton in Africa's New Look!

You may have already noticed – Princeton in Africa has a new look! We are excited to introduce our new logo and tagline. A number of former Fellows, partner organizations, supporters, PiAf board members and staff worked with Paragraph, a small agency in Philadelphia, to create the new look.

Our new logo and tagline are a great representation of who Princeton in Africa is today.

Logo. Our new, ribbon-like logo communicates the idea of our Fellows fluidly working together with our partners and communities across Africa, while also projecting a strong, professional feel. We are proud of our roots, and continue to have a vibrant Princeton orange, but the new colors reflect the diversity of today's fellowship program. We are now open to recent graduates from any accredited college or university in the United States.

Tagline. Our new tagline – *Service for a Year. Commitment for a Lifetime.* – sums up what makes our program distinct: Princeton in Africa enables bright, hardworking, skilled young adults to help our partner organizations create meaningful change on the ground in Africa during their year of service. But Princeton in Africa brings so much more! Our Fellows, tomorrow's leaders, are forever changed themselves in the process, and will remain engaged in the continent both personally and professionally in the years to come.

We also launched a new Princeton in Africa website late last year to better communicate with prospective applicants, partners, supporters and others interested in our work.

A big thank you to Paragraph for working so hard on the new logo and tagline, and giving us a reduced non-profit rate. And thank you to all of the PiAf supporters and friends who helped make this project possible!



How a Fellowship is Like a Senegalese Tea Drinking Ritual

By Corinne Stephenson
PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with the World Food Programme,
Senegal

Attaya is a Senegalese tea drinking ritual. A capstone to all meals, it is part and parcel of Senegalese tradition. Attaya is served in three phases, starting with a very bitter tea and increasing in sweetness with each subsequent cup to culminate in a liquid desert.

The focus of attaya is not on each individual cup of tea, but rather on the experience as a whole, how the bitterness of the first cup informs and enhances the second, and then the third.

My fellowship bears resemblance to the attaya experience.

When I arrived in Dakar to work at the Regional Bureau of the UN World Food Programme, the 2012 food and nutrition crisis that affected eight countries in the Sahel was at its height. The learning curve to understand food security and nutrition issues in the region, and navigate a large office environment, while overseeing nineteen country offices, was overwhelming.

Gradually, my surroundings that were foreign at first became second nature. I became attuned to the contrasts – both large and small – that characterize so many developing countries. The man who sells fruit by

our house no longer confused me with the previous PiAf Fellow, but knew me by my first name.

My work at the Regional Bureau consists chiefly of writing about the World Food Programme's humanitarian activities in the field. I was recently able to travel to Sierra Leone for work, interviewing people who receive food assistance to better understand its impact.

Seeing the World Food Programme's activities put in perspective and bridged the schism between the subject matter and nature of my work. Policies that I had previously written about, I was able to see in action.

Just as the third cup of attaya is the sweetest in comparison to the preceding ones, the last part of my fellowship has been the most rewarding. A previously daunting city has grown into a familiar village.



Corinne trying palm wine from a bamboo cup.

Launching a New Blood Drive in Tanzania

By Liza Plafsky
PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with Baylor International Pediatric
AIDS Initiative, Tanzania
Sponsored by: Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

So here at Baylor Center of Excellence- Mwanza, our finance officer is an ideas man. Unfortunately, though, he is stuck in his office all day surrounded by piles and piles of cash advance, reimbursement, and budgeting spreadsheets. He doesn't quite get to pursue his dreams as an ideas man.

After watching me coordinate a Serengeti safari for our staff, he realized I too am an ideas woman and, more importantly, have the time and flexibility to implement those ideas. Since then, a partnership was born; he started sharing his ideas with me as to how our clinic, its staff, and our activities could be improved. One of his recent ideas was to hold a blood donation day here at the clinic. As a healthcare facility, we know how critical blood transfusions can be in the care of an individual, so why not act on that knowledge?



Liza at the blood donation drive she organized for the Baylor Center of Excellence.

On Friday, February 1, more than ten Baylor staff members gave back to their community by donating 450 ml of blood. Of course, our staff is doing community service each day by advocating for children with

HIV, but an intentional, tangible day of community service felt different and refreshing. Throughout the day, staff were peeking their heads into the blood donation room to cheer each other on, try and sneak a soda, or just watch in amazement as the "fearless" ones got their blood taken. It was definitely surprising to see how many staff members of this healthcare facility were squeamish about giving blood.

Here in Tanzania, people are allowed to give blood every four months, so I'll plan for another blood donation day in the beginning of June. I hope this becomes a Baylor tradition as it is a great way to demonstrate our commitment to the community, establish solidarity with the blood bank that is in the building just next to ours, and improve staff morale.

PIAF 2012-2013 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

access:energy (Kenya)
African Cashew Alliance (Ghana)
African Impact (Zambia)
African Leadership Academy (South Africa)
Amadeus Institute (Morocco)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (Botswana, Lesotho, & Tanzania)
Blue Ventures (Madagascar)
eleQtra (Infracore) (Uganda)
Equal Education (South Africa)
Generation Rwanda (Rwanda)
Imani Development (Malawi)
Indego Africa (Rwanda)
International Rescue Committee (Ethiopia, Kenya, & Liberia)

Video Production Reveals More About a Student as well as the Fellow Filming Him

By Jill Ross
PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with the Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

We worked our way slowly through the dusty streets of Chipata compound. The video camera my friend carried drew stares from people whose yards we crossed and shops we passed while wending our way through the narrow dirt roads. Despite the twists and turns, the camera never left Edson's face. One of Kucetekela Foundation's sponsored students, Edson had agreed to be the subject of a video for KF's fall fundraiser.

As we followed him on his walk to the tap where his family drew water, he talked about life growing up in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Lusaka and the opportunities that had opened for him as a result of the KF scholarship. Though I had been working with KF's scholars for five months at this point, our film was a whole new glimpse into my student's life. I learned more about the struggles he and his family faced before becoming



Jill with several of the students supported by the Kucetekela Foundation.

part of the KF program and I witnessed firsthand how eloquent, self-possessed, and confident his top quality education had made him. I felt honored to listen to his story and be a part of his journey on the way to a better life.

Working at a small organization such as Kucetekela has empowered me to take on challenges and acquire new skills. Video editing, grant writing, and event management are just some of the areas in which I've grown through working at KF. However, tackling these projects serves more than my professional development; it allows me to constantly discover and be amazed by new facets of my students. Through pushing myself to attempt the unfamiliar, I have been able to forge bonds with a group of exceptional young people. This has ended up being one of the things I appreciate most about my job at Kucetekela.

Supporting New Initiatives in Corporate Responsibility

By Nabil Hashmi & Chris Suzdak
PiAf 2012-13 Fellows with Olam International, Gabon

As PiAf has grown, it has started to partner with a few private-sector organizations to see how they contribute to development in Africa. Interested in how large corporations could operate responsibly in Africa, we came to Libreville, Gabon to work on the Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability team at Olam International, a Singapore-based agribusiness that works in 65 countries.

Over the past decade, corporate social responsibility has shifted away from simple philanthropy to an evaluation of all aspects of a company's operations and impacts. One way to encourage sustainability throughout an organization is to increase transparency. In 2012, Olam agreed to participate in the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). To comply with

GRI, the company must collect and report data on the gender makeup of our workforce, compensation, land use, and many other indicators.

Collecting such data is important, but can be difficult for a company with hundreds of offices around the world. To find a system that will work for all of Olam's offices, we have been working on a pilot project in Gabon to understand how data are collected at the field level before being aggregated at business-unit, national, and global levels. But reporting is not an end in itself. By tracking sustainability indicators, Olam will have the opportunity to reduce waste and act more responsibly towards the communities we work with. Using data from a reporting system should not only make Olam a more sustainable organization, but also a more profitable one with fewer risks.

Of course, not everything that is counted counts, and not everything that counts is counted. But transparency and reporting can be a starting point for Olam to work with its key stakeholders to have meaningful conversations about how the company can work in a financially, environmentally, and socially sustainable manner.



Chris and Nabil at an Olam project site visit.

PiAf 2013 Fellows Retreat Reflections

By Kelsey Lilley
PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia

From March 1 to 5, 39 of our 2012-13 Princeton in Africa Fellows, PiAf alumni, staff, and PiAf Co-Founder Frank Strasburger met in Kampala, Uganda. It was five days of reflection, bonding, and fun—a well-deserved break from each of our hectic lives.

For me, it was the first time in a while that I really reflected: **What had I learned about myself? About development? About “Africa?”** The retreat was a chance to share with each other our successes, challenges, and failures. More than that, it was an opportunity to hear that I wasn’t alone—despite living in different countries and cultures, other Fellows shared and supported me in my joys and struggles.

“When working in a new country and in a new environment, it’s easy to think that the challenges I’m facing are unique, that there isn’t anyone who can fully appreciate the experiences I have on a day-to-day basis, both good and bad,” Nate Barker, from The BOMA Project in Kenya, said. “The retreat was a great opportunity to receive support from others who are facing the same issues, and to offer sympathy to others who are facing challenges I hadn’t even thought of.” The chance to learn about and share with each other reinforced the sense of community begun by our group emails, our 2012-13 Fellow’s “book club,” and planned (or spontaneous) city layovers, meeting up with other Fellows.

“Quite simply, I don’t think I have ever had a peer group as extraordinary as the rest of the Fellows in my life, nor am I sure I ever will again,” Nate said. “It was overwhelming to be in the company of so many brilliant and motivated people who also happen to be laid back and kind.”

The best part, for me, was our last day. Spread out over the beautiful grounds of our hostel, we pinned posters to each other’s backs and “celebrated” each other with compliments, admiration, and reminders of all the fun we’d shared over the previous five days.

Explained Taylor Mayol, from Blue Ventures in Madagascar, “Living in Madagascar means that I am quite literally isolated from the rest of my fellow Fellows, but the retreat changed that. I walked away from my week in Uganda with a renewed and tangible sense of community and a keen understanding of that indescribable feeling of being a part of the PiAf family,” she said, “Now Madagascar doesn’t seem quite so far away.”



PiAf 2012-13 Fellows, staff, alumni and co-founder Frank Strasburger enjoyed our time together during this year’s retreat in Uganda.



During the retreat, the 2012-13 Fellows spent a day in the Mabira Forest Reserve outside Kampala, Uganda.



Co-founder Frank Strasburger joined several of the 2012-13 Fellows for a post-retreat rafting trip in Jinja, Uganda.

PIAF 2012-2013 FELLOWS

Akornefa Akyea (Columbia ‘12)
Olam International, Gabon

Kate Albers (Emory ‘12)
African Impact, Zambia

Michael Arnst (Johns Hopkins ‘10)
Equal Education, South Africa
Sponsored by the EGG Foundation

Nate Barker (Georgetown ‘12)
The BOMA Project, Kenya

Abhit Bhandari (Northwestern ‘12)
World Food Programme, Senegal

Mark Birhanu (Northwestern ‘12)
Save the Children, Ethiopia

Shameika Black (Swarthmore ‘11)
Olam International, Gabon

Jennifer Byrne (Scripps ‘12)
World Food Programme, Benin

Dara Carroll (Northwestern ‘10)
International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Katherine Collins (Johns Hopkins ‘10)
Imani Development, Malawi

Annette Dekker (Princeton ‘12)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Botswana
Sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

John Drollinger (Washington University in St. Louis ‘12)
International Rescue Committee, Kenya

Neha Dubli (NYU ‘11)
Invisible Children, Uganda

Tal Eisenzweig (Princeton ‘12)
Amadeus Institute, Morocco
Sponsored by PRIME

Neal Emery (Northwestern ‘12)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho
Sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

Camille Fenton (UCLA ‘12)
World Food Programme, Senegal

Ida Girma (Columbia ‘12)
World Food Programme, Ethiopia

Brittany Grabel (Kenyon ‘12)
World Food Programme, Malawi

Nabil Hashmi (Georgetown ‘11)
Olam International, Gabon

Lisa Hendrickson (George Washington ‘11)
Olam International, Gabon

David Hutchinson (Harvard ‘12)
eleQtra, Uganda

Sachi Lake (Princeton ‘12)
Project Mercy, Ethiopia
Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

Thomas Launer (Whitman ‘12)
Project Mercy, Ethiopia
Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

Kelsey Lilley (Davidson ‘12)
International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia

Taylor Mayol (USC ‘10)
Blue Ventures, Madagascar

Elizabeth Mulvey (Princeton ‘12)
World Food Programme, Senegal

Nastasia Paul-Gera (Georgetown ‘12)
Save the Children, Ethiopia

Morgan Pecora-Saipe (Princeton ‘10)
Mpala Research Centre & Wildlife Foundation, Kenya
Sponsored by the Keller Family Foundation

Liza Plafsky (Columbia ‘12)
Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Tanzania
Sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

Ida Posner (Princeton ‘12)
access:energy, Kenya
Sponsored by the Segal Family Foundation

Meredith Ragno (Duke ‘12)
African Cashew Alliance, Ghana

Stephanie Rapp (Vassar ‘11)
Generation Rwanda, Rwanda
Sponsored by the Segal Family Foundation

Bridget Rhinehart (Smith ‘12)
World Food Programme, Malawi

Sarah Richards (Bowdoin ‘10)
Olam International, Ghana

Jill Ross (Barnard ‘11)
Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

Marielle Schweickart (Rice ‘12)
Sanergy, Kenya

Mike Snavely (Macalester ‘12)
Maru-A-Pula, Botswana

Kelly Souls (Georgetown ‘12)
Indego Africa, Rwanda
Sponsored by Princeton in Africa Alumni

Michelle Spada (Vanderbilt ‘12)
International Rescue Committee, Liberia

Chris Speers (Bates ‘12)
Maru-A-Pula, Botswana

Léa Steinacker (Princeton ‘11)
Search for Common Ground, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Corinne Stephenson (Princeton ‘12)
World Food Programme, Senegal

Chris Suzdak (Occidental ‘12)
Olam International, Gabon

Alison Thurston (Princeton ‘12)
Lutheran World Federation, Uganda

Stephen Tuozzolo (Princeton ‘12)
Nyumbani Village, Kenya
Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

Liz Wan’gu (UNC Chapel Hill ‘12)
African Leadership Academy, South Africa
Sponsored by the Princeton Class of ‘72

Bjorn Whitmore (Harvard ‘12)
Lutheran World Federation, Burundi

PiAf Partner Profile: Introducing access:energy

Princeton in Africa was very excited to welcome access:energy as a new partner for our 2012-13 fellowship year!

Based in Kisumu, western Kenya, access:energy is an exciting organization that designs, manufactures, services and installs an award-winning portfolio of renewable energy technologies in East Africa. They have been featured in BBC and Al-Jazeera news reports as well as news sources across Kenya.

Founded by Harrison Leaf in 2010, and drawing from the experience of Dr. Sam Duby, who joined soon after, access:energy has transformed the wind-turbine manufacturing process and introduced an innovative economic model that allows customers to rent the turbine and pay off the cost by selling the electricity that it produces. This business model allows access:energy to engage high-income Kenyans as custodians of the turbine in communities while ensuring that members of all economic sectors have access to the power it produces. In February 2012, access:energy delivered its first wind turbine to a remote home in rural Kenya.

Today, access:energy is focusing on micro grids – small village power stations (5-10kW of solar and wind hybrid), owned by access:energy or by organizations such as companies or NGOs, with distribution wires running to energy users in the immediate vicinity. Through the micro grids, access:energy sells power (kilowatt hours) rather than technology (wind turbines), enabling them to serve even very low income households with modern energy services. access:energy will be designing, installing and operating six new micro grids in villages around Lake Victoria, which will

power productive activities like irrigation and fish refrigeration as well as electric lighting and mobile phone charging for the homes and businesses connected.

Ida Posner has been working with access:energy since August 2012 – our first PiAf Fellow with this exciting new partner! As an engineering student graduating from Princeton University in 2012, Ida was well qualified to work with the new organization and has taken full advantage of the opportunities available in the fast-paced environment of this rapidly-growing business. Her responsibilities included streamlining their supply chain and implementing a new inventory and stock purchasing system. Additionally, she has assisted in researching and developing an LED charging system that will be offered to customers.



PiAf 2012-13 Fellow Ida Posner at work with access:energy, a new PiAf partner organization.

We have been very pleased to partner with access:energy in 2012-13, and look forward to having additional PiAf Fellows support access:energy’s renewable energy efforts in the future.

Announcing New PiAf Partners for 2013-14

Princeton in Africa is excited to announce three fantastic new partners for our upcoming 2013-14 fellowship year. We are honored to be working with such innovative, respected, dynamic organizations – and welcome all of them to the PiAf family!

Clinton Health Access Initiative – CHAI is saving lives in low- and middle-income countries by helping people gain access to essential medicines and health services. CHAI partners closely with governments, to strengthen and sustain their own capacity, and focuses on large, catalytic, “game-changing” opportunities. Program areas include HIV/AIDS, malaria, and maternal and child health. Our Fellow will be working in the CHAI Uganda office.

Village Enterprise – For more than 25 years, Village Enterprise has been equipping people living in extreme poverty with the resources they need to create sustainable businesses. They work in rural communities rarely served by microfinance groups and work with individuals who cannot access or do not qualify for microfinance loans. The PiAf Fellow will work in Uganda and Kenya.

Gardens for Health International – GHI is an innovative NGO that works in partnership with Rwandan health care centers to provide lasting agricultural solutions to the problem of chronic childhood malnutrition. Caregivers receive the education, tools and other inputs they need to help their children stay healthy.

PiAf Alumni Profile: A Q&A Session with Stuart Campo

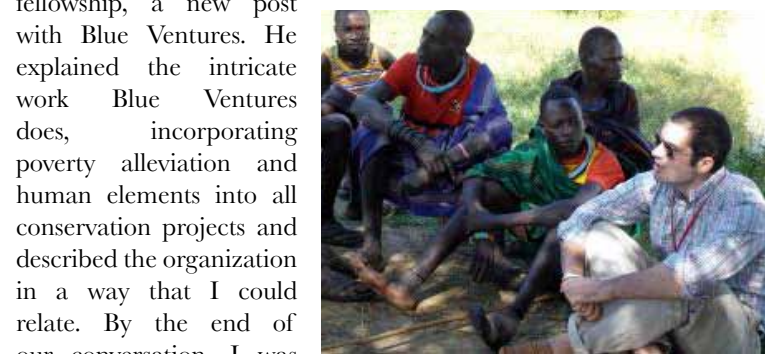
Interview by Taylor Mayol

PiAf 2012-13 Fellow with Blue Ventures, Madagascar

With Stuart Campo

PiAf 2008-09 Fellow with Straight Talk Foundation, Uganda

I first met Stuart via Skype, when I was hesitant to accept my fellowship placement with a marine conservation NGO in Madagascar, since I had very little knowledge of conservation. Stuart was working in Madagascar for UNICEF at the time, and engineered my proposed fellowship, a new post with Blue Ventures. He explained the intricate work Blue Ventures does, incorporating poverty alleviation and human elements into all conservation projects and described the organization in a way that I could relate. By the end of our conversation, I was sold. Once I arrived in Madagascar, Stuart was as equally supportive. He was there to give me a huge warm welcome, then later to offer advice and check in via email. Though my fellowship with Blue Ventures was the first, and in a country without any other Fellows, I still felt like I had a strong PiAf connection.



Stuart sitting in on a discussion of health and development issues with a group of young pastoral warriors in Uganda's rural Moroto District during his 2008-09 fellowship with Straight Talk in Uganda.

Stuart's relentless motivation and enthusiasm, serious desire to have fun and disregard for the notion that work and play are intrinsically at odds, are exactly why his career has taken off so quickly. Since graduating from Princeton in 2008, Stuart has called Uganda, Madagascar and South Sudan home, and has managed to visit 12 countries on the continent.

Stuart, why did you choose PiAf? I felt like this was the best way to force myself to make a real decision about my interests and career path and force myself outside of my 'comfort zone.'

Let's start at the beginning, what exactly did you do in Uganda? My fellowship in Uganda was with Straight Talk Foundation (STF), a Ugandan NGO specializing in Communication for Social Change. STF was founded and, at the time of my fellowship, still run by Cathy Watson (Princeton '78, mother of Isabel Pike -- Princeton '10 and PiAf '10-'11)--making the Princeton connection that much stronger. My role at STF involved designing and managing the organization's "Special Projects," which exposed me to an incredible range of sectors/specialties, programming environments, and partnerships. Following my fellowship, I stayed-on with STF for another 15 months, building on the experience that ultimately led me to join UNICEF.



Taylor at a field site on the west coast of Madagascar, in a village called Belo sur Mer. This turtle suit she's wearing is used for the turtle festivals held by Blue Ventures in villages (with games, t-shirts and trivia) to raise awareness about the importance of sea turtles.

Then what led you to work in Madagascar? I first traveled to Madagascar on behalf of STF to complete a consultancy with one of my Ugandan colleagues in early 2010. We were tasked with assessing the potential of youth-led radio programming throughout the country and designing a program that UNICEF and partners could implement at scale. This exposed me to the wonders and complex challenges that characterize Madagascar, and led me to return in late 2010 working directly with UNICEF. I lived and worked in Madagascar for two years (September 2010 - September 2012) on a range of different projects. The majority of my time was spent developing our innovative programming portfolio, which--being in Madagascar--focused on leveraging mobiles for data collection, connecting students for distance learning and exchange, and exploring the possibilities of child-centered climate change adaptation.

...and the world's newest country, South Sudan? Following Madagascar, I moved to Juba, where I have been leading our Tech4Dev & Innovation team for the last 7 months. UNICEF is rapidly expanding its work in this space, developing a global network of innovation labs and generating user-centered solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing the world's children. In South Sudan, our focus has been on supporting improved information management for both development and humanitarian operations -- support intended to improve service delivery. Being part of the global UNICEF Innovation team has been an inspiring and humbling experience. I'm privileged to work with an amazing team of young, energetic practitioners who make this work possible on a global scale, and I'm loving the chance to lead this work in the world's newest nation.

It seems obvious to me, but for those out there wondering, why exactly do you do what you do? When I speak to people back home about my work, they often react the way they might to a young child doing something cute -- "Oh, isn't that sweet". Five years on, some people still think I'm going through a phase; I'm not. I do what I do because I love the challenges and experiences that characterize my work and life abroad. In my current position, I'm steadily inspired by the people I'm surrounded by, both on the ground in South Sudan and farther afield, with the global team that I'm privileged to be a part of at UNICEF. I wake up each morning excited and energized by my job; who wouldn't love that?

Stuart is now on a brief hiatus from South Sudan for a mix of holiday and short-term assignments, true to his nature, working with the UNICEF offices in both Pakistan -- his first assignment 'off the continent' -- and Chad. He is already itching to get back to Juba in mid-May, the hot, dusty, chaotic place that now feels like home. Stuart, I know the feeling.

Alumni Updates

Mark Adams

PiAf 2011-12

Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

After my fellowship with Kucetekela Foundation, I extended my stay in Lusaka working as a consultant for FINCA within their Management Training Program. It is a two-year program so I expect to be in Zambia until late 2014.

Sheila Agiti

PiAf 2011-12

African Leadership Academy, South Africa

I moved back home to Ghana following my PiAf fellowship. I now work as a Research/Monitoring & Evaluation Analyst at the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) in Accra. This is a new position the organization created to ensure accurate tracking of all our engagements. Daunting as the task appeared, I have settled in well and am enjoying the challenge of building the system from scratch. Without a doubt, my time at ALA taught me to appreciate the novelty that comes with building systems and today I look forward to seeing how the skills I learned there comes to bear at ACET.

Cynthia Akatugba

PiAf 2004

Nambalani Girls High School, Uganda

I graduate in May from The University of Texas School of Law. Last semester, I studied abroad in Hamburg, Germany at Bucerius Law School. In addition to learning about German and European legal systems, I lived with a wonderful host family and worked at a local alternative secondary school tutoring English. A surprisingly similar experience to my time in Uganda - loving family, great students, and dedicated teachers. I will remain in Austin over the summer to take the Texas Bar. Beyond the bar? An exciting universe of opportunities (sometimes inappropriately named unemployment). I am looking forward to not studying for any exams for a while.

Jessica Annis

PiAf 2011-12

Ubuntu, South Africa

After completing my fellowship with Ubuntu Africa, I stayed on in the South Africa office before moving to NYC last December, taking on the position of US Director of Operations and Strategy. As the first US-based employee, my time is spent doing a wide range of activities including program development, communications, and institutional fundraising. Living in NYC has been fantastic and I'm thrilled to be living with PiAf 2011-12 Fellow, Janelle Morris. Here's to hoping for many more trips to the continent soon!

John Arndt

PiAf 2009-10

Invisible Children, Uganda

For the last year, I have been working on a small sheep, pig and cattle farm in Lancaster, PA. In my spare time I enjoy getting to know and better understand Christians. This gig is up soon and I would like to study and practice Buddhist philosophy, learn homesteading skills and eventually

join an intentional/spiritual community. Do get in touch if you come through Lancaster.

Tensai Asfaw

PiAf 2003-04

Right to Play, Ghana

I am working with the United Nations, OCHA, in Geneva focused on improving outreach and partnership with Africa.

Jen Austin

PiAf 2005-06 The New Vision, Uganda

PiAf 2006-07 IRC, Liberia

I spent 2012 as the Press Secretary for President Obama's re-election campaign in Pennsylvania. Since December, I have been re-acquainting myself with long lost friends and family, catching up on sleep and travelling - including an awesome trip to Amy and Steve Porter's wedding in Cape Town (a

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Nellie (left) with PiAf Fellows Molly Schmalzbach (center) and Jessica Annis (right) in Cape Town

"It is hard to say my fellowship experience has ended because there is no doubt that my fellowship will continue to affect me for the rest of my life. I gained invaluable skills and experienced more than I ever imagined. From the life-changing people, the culture, the unexpected twists and turns, the ability to gain perspective on what is important in life and to make decisions you never foresaw, the past year has impacted the way I will approach the future and has ignited me with a passion to continue to do what I love."

Nellie Morris, 2011-12 Fellow with NeXii, South Africa
Co-Founder, Kantian Advisors, a consulting firm that helps companies integrate millennial beliefs, behaviors and social impact focus into their business strategy

phenomenal PIAF power couple!). I am heading to the Kennedy School MPA/ID program this fall to study international development and climate change, and enjoying a bit of a retirement until then.

Byron Austin

PiAf 2009-10

mothers2mothers, South Africa

I'm approaching my one-year anniversary at Rabin Martin, a global health strategy firm based here in New York City. Aside from all our client-driven projects, we've partnered with the Center of Health & Wellbeing at Princeton to launch a series of

panel discussions on various global health topics at the Woodrow Wilson School. So far, we've hosted a panel on the role of the private sector in global health and on noncommunicable diseases in the developing world. If you're ever in the Princeton area, you should come on down. In other news, I hope to be applying to grad school (MBA/MPP) in the fall and getting back abroad!

Desiree Bailey

PiAf 2011-12

Equal Education, South Africa

After my fellowship in Cape Town, South Africa, I returned to Queens, NY. I began working as a Writing Specialist for Harlem Children's Zone where I facilitated academic and creative writing workshops for lively groups of middle and high school students. I also traveled to Trinidad to visit family and to take part in the Carnival festivities.

I am currently participating in a poetry workshop with the Cave Canem Foundation, an organization that nurtures up and coming poets of color. In August, I will begin an MFA program in fiction at Brown University. I never thought I would be this excited to move to Rhode Island!

Becca Balis

PiAf 2010-11

IRC, Liberia

I am wrapping up my time with the IRC in Bamako, Mali, where I've had an incredible experience working on emergency response projects responding to the current conflict. I love French West Africa and Mali, but am looking forward to some time traveling elsewhere (East Africa! Finally!) and then figuring out my next country of residence. Hope to meet up with other PiAfers along the way!

David Bartels

PiAf 2006-07

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Lesotho

I will be graduating from Harvard Medical School this Spring and pursuing Anesthesiology training at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. I was a co-author on the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2010 published in the Lancet in December 2012. I plan to pursue obstetric and regional anesthesia long term and hope to apply this training in the developing setting through service and teaching. And I am recently engaged to Devan Darby - Princeton '06, PiAf 2006-07!

Christine Bohne

PiAf 2011-12

LWF, Burundi

After completing my fellowship with the Lutheran World Federation in Burundi, I moved to Rwanda to start working for One Acre Fund, a social enterprise investing in subsistence farmers across the continent. I live on a beautiful farm on Lake Kivu with my colleagues, cows, pigs, chickens, and bee hives, and commute to work on a boat every week.

Allie Bream
PiAf 2010-11
WFP, Ethiopia

I recently started my second year as a Talent and Communications Associate at One Acre Fund in NYC. One Acre Fund is a social enterprise that helps farmers in East Africa double their farm income on every acre. I've had the opportunity to travel back to Africa twice since ending my fellowship, and was even able to pay a visit to this year's PiAf retreat!

Laura Budd
PiAf 2011-12
Mpala, Kenya

I will be starting vet school this coming fall at UC Davis! I'm hoping to direct my veterinary career towards working in Africa in some way.

Tim Callahan
PiAf 2008-09
IRC, Tanzania

Returned to East Africa to work for agricultural start-up company re:char (founded by Princeton classmate Jason Aramburu '07) in Kenya from 2010-2012. Now back in Princeton, NJ, working for a boutique investment bank.

Stuart Campo
PiAf 2008-09
Straight Talk, Uganda

I'm writing from JFK, where I'm about to take a flight to Pakistan. Brief break from the continent as I expand my work with UNICEF. The Pakistan gig is just a few weeks, and I'll be back in South Sudan next month continuing my role leading UNICEF's Innovation team in Juba. If things continue to improve in the world's newest nation, I'm hoping to organize a fellowship for next year!

Damon Clark
PiAf 2001-02
IRC, Somaliland

Last summer, I accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology at Yale, so I've moved to New Haven and am slowly setting up a lab here.

Sam Clendon
PiAf 2008-09
WFP, Mauritania

Following my fellowship, I spent the next three years with WFP in Yemen, living through the chaotic turmoil of the Arab Spring and the Yemen revolution/essentially civil war; searching for more peaceful climes, I've spent the past year with WFP Sudan, working on social safety nets and cash-based interventions across the country, but primarily Darfur IDP operations and protracted refugee operations in eastern Sudan. This email comes to you from El Geneina international airport (there are daily flights to Abeche, so the rather grand title for the dirt strip airport holds true) waiting for a heli back to Fasher... After five years with WFP I am departing on a three

month break in service mid-June, which will involve two months driving from Cape Town to Kigali with my brother, hitting up all the national parks across southern and central Africa, before a long awaited return stateside in August/September... After that, who knows... I've decided that peaceful, family duty stations (Khartoum) aren't my cup of tea, but apart from that...

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Grace discusses cashew quality at a new cashew processing factory in Techiman, Ghana

“At our Princeton in Africa orientation, we were asked to list one word that we thought would define our Fellowship experience. I picked “Growth.”

If only I knew just how true that would be. I have grown in knowledge. I have grown in maturity. I have grown in personal strength. I have grown in confidence. I have grown in compassion. I have grown in humbleness. When I think back to the person I was when I arrived in Accra six months ago, naïve about the intricacies of economic development and still screaming every time I saw a spider, that person almost feels foreign to me now, and I couldn't be more happy about that fact.

Through my work at ACA, I have learned that the neat and tidy way trade interacts with economic growth in economic textbooks is nowhere close to the reality when you add in the often-troubled politics of Africa, insufficient infrastructure, and the intricacies of altering long entrenched behavior. However, my work at ACA has also made me more convinced than ever of the great potential that does exist. The energy and commitment of the inspiring people I've worked with, the successes I've seen with my own eyes, all make me continually hopeful about Africa's future, a future I now know that I undoubtedly want to be part of.

This is what Princeton in Africa has given me: inspiration, direction, and yes, growth.”

Grace Hoerner, 2011-12 Fellow with African Cashew Alliance, Ghana
Now pursuing Master's Degree in Economic Development at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs

Adrienne Clermont
PiAf 2009-10
WFP, Benin

I have been living in Baltimore and working as a Program Manager for the International Youth Foundation for the past two-plus years after returning from my PIAF fellowship. This fall I am tentatively planning to continue my stay in Baltimore and pursue an MSPH in Human Nutrition within the International Health program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The program includes a semester-long international practicum, so a return to Africa may be in my near future!

Jessie Cronan
PiAf 2007-08
Rift Valley Children's Village, Tanzania

This past summer I started as the Executive Director of Gardens for Health International (GHI). We work in partnership with Rwandan health centers to provide lasting agricultural solutions to chronic childhood malnutrition. I've been really lucky to split my time between Boston and Rwanda, and more importantly to be part of a really wonderful organization (although of course I'm biased). This summer GHI will welcome our first PiAf fellow, which I'm incredibly excited about! If you find yourself near Kigali, come visit GHI!

Tanya (Toni) De Mello
PiAf 2006-07
WFP, Senegal

After becoming a lawyer in Canada, I began working in Litigation as one (in the courts!) and found it to be, well, a little uninspiring. In the middle of that, I had a breast cancer scare (I'm totally fine but man, was it scary!), which prompted me to quit my job and travel to 10 destinations that I wanted to see before I die. I left for 6 months, which turned into 8 and has been the best time of my life. I'm home now and deciding what's next. Keep you posted when I figure that out.

Cyndee DeToy
PiAf 2011-12
mothers2mothers, South Africa

I extended my contract with mothers2mothers for another year and am still in Cape Town, SA. I'm moving back to the States in June to attend business school at New York University.

Thomas Dollar
PiAf 2008-09
Africare, Sierra Leone

In August, I moved to New York City to begin law school at NYU. I'm finding my first year challenging but rewarding. I'll be interning for the EPA in Washington, DC this summer.

Page Dykstra
PiAf 2006-07
IRI, South Sudan

2013 is promising to be a year of change for me. On May 11, Jason Brooks and I will be getting married in my hometown of Spearfish, SD. I'll be moving back to England once my visa comes through in late summer and starting a two-year apprenticeship on a biodynamic farm in Stroud. After spending so much time travelling or working at a desk I'm looking forward to settling down a bit and getting my hands dirty.

Vicki Esquivel-Korsiak
PiAf 2010-11
IRC, Uganda

I worked with the IRC in Uganda for a little over a year on communications, grants, and research for project proposals. After my fellowship, I moved to London to pursue a Master's in Human Rights at the London School of Economics. I'm now back in

Uganda working for the Justice and Reconciliation Project, a local human rights NGO doing research and advocacy around transitional justice issues in the northern region.

Katie Fackler
PiAf 2010-11
WFP, Benin

After my fellowship I briefly returned to the US only to leave two months later to work as a junior consultant for WFP in Cote d'Ivoire. After 6 incredible months in a country I immediately loved, I moved to Mauritania to continue my work with WFP as part of a communications, reports and donor relations team responding to the food security crisis due to a severe drought in the Sahel and the influx of Malian refugees. However, by then I had the Abidjan bug and in September 2012, I started a new job as the Head of Information and Communications for the European Union in Cote d'Ivoire. I'll be here at least through September 2013 and then hope to return to the US to pursue a Masters degree, most likely a joint MBA-MPH.

Joe Falit
PiAf 2007-08

Jacana, Mozambique

I recently moved from working in a Strategy Group at JP Morgan Chase to a role leading a customer segment at Citibank, although I have remained in the retail banking world. My girlfriend Stacy and I also moved out of Manhattan over to Astoria in Queens (Yay for more than 500 sq ft of space!). As we look to the future, we would love to hear about strategy, finance, and start-up opportunities across Africa. :)

Katie Camille Friedman
PiAf 2010-11
ZiE, Burkina Faso

I am currently pursuing a PhD in environmental engineering at UNC's School of Global Public Health. I am working on improving virus inactivation in household water treatment. I am also remotely helping to turn the water filter production I started in Burkina Faso into a sustainable business.

Allie Gips
PiAf 2010-11
mothers2mothers, South Africa

I'm slowly but surely chugging my way through med school in NYC, and I still love all things women's health.

Morgan Goheen
PiAf 2009-10
mothers2mothers, South Africa

In the middle of pursuing an MD/PhD at UNC Chapel Hill, I just joined a malaria lab in the Microbiology and Immunology Department. My PhD research is going to involve looking at the molecular mechanisms of how iron deficiency anemia protects against malaria infection. There is a huge need to better understand the relationship between iron deficiency anemia and malaria susceptibility, so as to develop safe methods for giving iron supplementation to people who live in malaria endemic areas. Despite spending most of my time in the lab, I'm excited to have a very translational research project with direct public health relevance to many populations in Africa.

Emily Rose Harris
PiAf 2006-07

Plan International, Uganda

Following my PiAf fellowship with Plan International/Uganda and almost five dynamic, challenging and rewarding years back in Africa working on market-based solutions for improved health access with Population Services International (PSI) and Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) in Kenya, DRC, Nigeria, Cambodia (oh yeah -- Asia too!) and Liberia, I am finally bringing my global health experience back to the classroom as I pursue an MBA this fall. PiAf was an integral launching pad for my young career in health and development innovation, and while I will miss meeting up with new Fellows abroad, I look forward to re-engaging with the PiAf alumni community back in the USA.

Sandra Hart
PiAf 2007-08
WFP, Mauritania

After 3 years working in Haiti (earthquake emergency work as Cluster Coordinator for WFP, followed by Director of Social Performance at a local microfinance institution, followed by project manager for setting up an M+E system for the Haitian National School Canteen Programme, once again with WFP), in addition to completing an MA in gender and international development at the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies, I moved out of Haiti in January. I just got married in February - a fantastic week-long bash just across the border in Dominican Republic.

I am now in the midst of a year-long honeymoon/sabbatical: a trip around the world that began in March. So far we have hit France, Dubai, South Africa, Hong Kong, China (Beijing) and I am now writing this email from Japan, before departing for SE Asia, and then heading down through Australia and the South Pacific towards South America.

Anne Healy
PiAf 2004-05

Friends of Tanzanian Schools, Tanzania

I finished a joint JD and MPA in International Development at Harvard last May, spent the summer traveling and working on my Spanish, then started working at McKinsey in DC in the fall. I've had the good fortune to meet many development- and Africa-minded folks there and to have as clients several development organizations. Looking forward to getting back to the continent later this year for work.

Adam Herling
PiAf 2007-08
One Acre Fund, Kenya

I graduated from NYU Law in May, where I was a Root-Tilden-Kern public interest scholar. After taking the NY bar and a celebratory trip to Burma, I've been clerking for a federal judge in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I'll be heading back to NYC in August, but until then, if anyone finds themselves, for some strange reason, in Oklahoma please do be in touch!

Jessica Hickok
PiAf 2002-03
Mpala, 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 throughout 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, often displayed at Burning Man, and I am also a member of the Leadership San Francisco class of 2013.

Michael Honigberg
PiAf 2008-09

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, Malawi

I am starting my final year in an MD-MPP program at Harvard. Inspired partly by my fellowship at the Baylor Pediatric AIDS Initiative in Malawi, I plan to train in obstetrics and gynecology and eventually specialize in high-risk obstetrics.

Emma Impink
PiAf 2011-12

The BOMA Project, Kenya

I am currently working with One Acre Fund in Tanzania.

Meg Itoh
PiAf 2005-06

Botswana-Harvard AIDS Institute, Botswana

I'm in my first year of a pediatric infectious disease fellowship at Stanford, continuing to do research in pediatric HIV, but also with a budding interest in TB as well!

Alec Jahncke
PiAf 2011-12

Generation Rwanda, Rwanda

After leaving Rwanda in July, I returned to my alma mater to begin the Tufts Post-baccalaureate Premed program last fall. While nothing has made me miss Africa more than Boston winters and chemistry exams, I'm hoping to return to the region many more times as I pursue a career in global health.

Shahrazad Joharifard
PiAf 2005-06
IRC, DRC

I am almost through with my first year of general surgery residency at the University of British Columbia. Being back home in Vancouver has been fantastic and I've enjoyed rediscovering all the restaurants, skiing, hiking, and culture that the city has to offer. As an added bonus, UBC has perhaps the leading center for International Surgery in North America and with their assistance I'm planning at least 2 months per year in Africa for the duration of my 5-6 year residency.

Ritu Kamal
PiAf 2007-08
mothers2mothers, South Africa

I have recently started a new position at Stanford University managing global projects for a medical technology entrepreneurship program. I work with student teams who are developing new medical technology products appropriate for use in the Global South (think low-cost jaundice diagnostic or limb prosthetic). I also conduct research on medical

technology innovation in emerging markets in Asia and Africa.

Julie Kornfeld

PiAf 2011-12

LWF, Uganda

Since coming back from Uganda, I've been living in NYC working for the world's largest Jewish Humanitarian Aid Agency, The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (www.jdc.org). Next fall I will be attending the University of Michigan's Law School to study International Human Rights Law.

Hilary Lambert

PiAf 2010-11

Invisible Children, Uganda

I've been doing Alzheimer's research at Rockefeller University in New York for the past year and a half. I'm going to be starting my PhD in Child Clinical Psychology at the University of Washington in Seattle in the fall. I'll be focusing on how early childhood adversity impacts brain, emotional, and cognitive development and can lead to psychopathology later in life, as well as potential interventions that could prevent this transition. I'll be able to work both domestically and internationally. Very excited!!

Theresa Laverty

PiAf 2010-11

Mpala, Kenya

In March, I wrapped up my one year contract working as a research assistant for a long-term Max Planck Institute mountain gorilla project in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda. I have since returned to the US and now work as a field technician in South Jersey, addressing the impacts of Hurricane Sandy on several species of beach nesting birds. I'm also very excited to be starting a PhD program in Fish and Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana this fall.

Yuting Bev Lien

PiAf 2006-08

ALA, South Africa

I'm in my second year at Stanford GSB. Next year I'm moving back to NYC to work for Dalberg Global Development Advisors, a consulting firm that works on international development projects for corporate, multinational, foundation and NGO clients.

Lindsey Locks

PiAf 2007-08

WFP, Uganda

After my fellowship, I stayed in Africa and worked for the Clinton Foundation in Tanzania, and later worked for Helen Keller International in Nepal. In September 2012, I started my doctorate at the Harvard School of Public Health in Nutritional Epidemiology. My research is on under-nutrition in infants and young children, and I am hoping to go back to Uganda or Tanzania at some point in the near future!

Sarah Manion

PiAf 2010-11

IRC, CAR

Still in the Land of a Thousand Hills where I continue to work for the Minister of Infrastructure as his Technical Advisor. Additionally, I run a small

jewelry company called Maji Designs, which uses local African materials and traditional craft to create modern Africa-inspired jewelry.

Amaka Megwalu

PiAf 2006-07

IRC, DRC

I'm about to complete my second year at the DC office of Shearman & Sterling, a large international law firm (although I'm technically a "third year associate" because I clerked before I started there). I'm in the international arbitration group and have had to travel to West Africa for work a couple times, which has been awesome. In other exciting news, I celebrated a traditional marriage last December.

Jamie Nadeau

PiAf 2010-11

Kucetekela Foundation, Zambia

I'm working at a great organization called The Opportunity Network, doing college access and career development with high achieving, underserved high school and college students.

Agatha Offorjebe

PiAf 2009-10

Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative Botswana

In August of 2012, I moved back to Princeton to work as Princeton in Africa's Program Manager. It's been an exciting journey learning about all the hard work that goes into making these incredible fellowship opportunities possible. I will apply to medical school later this year and hope to matriculate in summer 2014. In the coming years, I would like to combine my interests in health care disparities, program management and leadership development.

Lide Paterno

PiAf 2006-07

Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services, Tanzania

After engaging issues of human rights from global and local levels, first in the Office of the Legal Adviser at the Department of State and later as a child advocate at a legal non-profit in Charlotte, NC, I started law school at the University of Virginia this past fall. I'll be in D.C. this summer working with the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section of the DOJ, an office that prosecutes individuals who have committed war crimes, genocide, torture, human rights violations, and human smuggling. I am grateful to continue to make it back each year to the village where I lived in Tanzania. The organization that grew out of my PiAf fellowship, Tumaini Tanzania, recently celebrated its first class of graduates (several of whom a few of y'all got to meet when you visited the village during our '06-'07 fellowship year)! We're now supporting around 75 students in Forms One through Six.

Julia Peppiatt

PiAf 2009-10

IRC, Uganda

I've been living out in San Francisco working for Google, but actually had the chance to spend January-March in Brazil and Argentina focusing on a specific project. I'll be returning to the Bay area in early April to transfer internally to a new job at YouTube. Really looking forward to catching up with all the 08ers at the 5th in May!

Niklas Peters

PiAf 2011-12

Olam International, Ghana

After my year in rural Ghana, I moved to Brooklyn and started working for Acumen, a non-profit that invests in emerging leaders, breakthrough ideas, and social enterprises that deliver critical goods and services to the poor.

Isabel Pike

PiAf 2011-12

WFP, Senegal

I've stayed on with WFP in West Africa, currently working as the Reports Officer in the Burkina Faso office.

Jing Ren

PiAf 2009-10

IRC, Sierra Leone

I am currently a 3rd year medical student at the University of Pennsylvania. Although school has not been conducive to traveling these last few years, I am excited to head to Kenya for a year-long Doris Duke fellowship to do clinical research starting this summer. I will be based in Eldoret in western Kenya and am eager for the opportunity to explore a different part of Africa this time around (so anyone looking for a travel buddy or eager for visitors let me know)!

Michael Scharff

PiAf 2008-09

IRC, Uganda

I've been at Princeton's Innovations for Successful Societies program (ISS) for almost three years! ISS is a policy center in the Woodrow Wilson School that tells the stories of reformers leading change in difficult places. In my role, I've had the opportunity to continue traveling, including a few trips back to Africa. I'm always on the lookout for reformers to profile, so feel free to send any leads you might have!

Molly Schmalzbach

PiAf 2011-12

mothers2mothers, South Africa

When I first returned from my PiAf fellowship in South Africa last summer, I joined the Global Health Policy Center at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. While there, I was able to participate heavily in AIDS 2012, an historic international conference convening over 25,000 HIV and AIDS professionals and stakeholders. In December, I joined USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS as part of the public affairs team, and I was recently offered a promotion to be the Public Affairs Advisor. This new position will be part of the Global Health Fellows Program, so I'm excited to enjoy all the benefits of a fellowship community once again! While I'm so happy to be back in my hometown, I have definitely not lost the urge to travel, so I recently took a short vacation to Iceland with friends and absolutely loved it!

Nina Sheth

PiAf 2010-11

IRC, Cote d'Ivoire/Liberia

After two years with Internews Network Africa Team, a media and journalism development NGO, in DC, I am getting ready to head to law school in the fall. I'm still deciding between a couple of

exciting choices, but it's looking like I will end up at NYU Law where I am hoping to study International Human Rights Law.

Molly Slotznick

PiAf 2010-11

WFP, Senegal

After my fellowship with the World Food Programme in Senegal in '10-'11, I moved to Rome to continue in WFP's communications division, this time at their headquarters. My primary area of focus is working on communications activities around and for WFP's partnerships with the private sector. After two years in Rome, I'll be moving on in August, to start an MPA in Development Practice at Columbia SIPA. I'm very excited to move to New York, and if anyone has apartment tips, let me know!

Anne Stotler

PiAf 2011-12

Save the Children, Ethiopia

Since getting back from Ethiopia in June, I've been all over the place - I took some classes at UCLA, traveled to catch up with friends and family, and spent 2 months working on my Spanish and volunteering in Ecuador. Since late December I've been back home in Long Beach, CA working with a nonprofit that provides services for domestic violence survivors and volunteering with Human Rights Watch's Student Task Force program. I'm headed to South Africa in June for a family wedding, and then I'll spend the summer learning Portuguese at Middlebury before heading to Harvard Kennedy School in the fall. I'll be working towards an MPP degree with a focus on human rights and child welfare. At least 4 friends from Addis will be in Cambridge in the fall, so I'm looking forward to our reunion. I'd love to catch up with any PiAf alums in the area too!

Elly Sukup

PiAf 2010-11, WFP, Ghana

PiAf 2011-12, WFP, Ethiopia

I am halfway through my Master's in Social Anthropology of Development at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) in London. I love my course and preparing for my dissertation in which I will be focusing on the impact of specific agricultural interventions (OFSP, etc.) on overall food security in Africa. I love the London life, although I'm itching to get back to the field. Upon submitting my thesis in September, I am planning on traveling and visiting friends before (hopefully) settling back down somewhere (I'm totally open!) in Africa, continuing to work in food security.

Yassi Tamdji

PiAf 2010-11

Student Sponsorship Programme, South Africa

After a fantastic year with the Student Sponsorship Programme and living in Johannesburg, I decided to return home to reconnect with family and friends. Following my time at SSP, I have found ways to remain connected to the organization through continuing to be the Editor-in-Chief for the quarterly e-newsletters distributed to stakeholders. I also have had the opportunity to work remotely on communications related projects for SSP's annual holiday mailing and a fundraising gala. As I actively

seek employment, I am volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club in Glen Cove, Long Island with the most charming and enthusiastic third graders. Johannesburg is a captivating city and I hope one day to return again.

Hannah Tappis

PiAf 2004-05

IRC, Tanzania

I am still in Baltimore, finishing up my PhD in international health at Johns Hopkins and providing technical support to NGOs in Afghanistan and South Sudan. This spring I'll also be working with UNHCR on a project in Kigoma, Tanzania where I did my fellowship and can't wait to see how things have changed there since 2004.

Emily Trautner

PiAf 2011-12

Plan International, Uganda

I am currently finishing up my second year in Uganda working with Plan Uganda in a similar capacity to my fellowship year. This year I have had

Reflections From a Former Fellow



Stephanie visiting a women's co-operative in Ségou, Mali

“PiAf is a window into an exciting world, an opportunity to discover things about a different culture, career and lifestyle. It is a chance to learn about yourself, and what you want out of life and your profession. PiAf has changed my life, and I urge anyone who would be remotely interested in challenging their views on the world and themselves to fully support PiAf.”

Stephanie Rademeyer, PiAf 2011-12 Fellow with Save the Children, Mali

Now pursuing a post-baccalaureate pre-medical program at the University of Virginia

the opportunity to take on some additional roles including helping to start-up the largest grant in Plan International's history, which is funded by USAID, and recently I started managing Plan Uganda's partnerships. My time in Uganda has been great, but now I am looking to move on to the next phase of my life. Thus, this summer I will be starting a year-long post-baccalaureate program and then applying to medical school starting summer 2014.

Molly Fay Urquhart

PiAf 2006-07

Mpala, Kenya

I'm currently in my third year of medical school at Mount Sinai in NYC and have decided that I'm 99% sure I'm going to go into pediatrics (and hopefully be able to have a global health component built in). In more exciting news, September 12, 2012

marked a very big moment when my husband and I welcomed our son Jack into the world!!! I'm still waiting for the official PIAF onesie but until then we'll have him wearing his official Princeton gear.

Katie White

PiAf 2007-08

UN Population Fund, Senegal

After some four years of exciting opportunities in public healthcare (mostly maternal health) and health in emergencies, based in West and East Africa, Haiti, and UNFPA's headquarters in New York, I spent 2012 completing an MSc in Humanitarian Emergencies at the London School of Economics. I thoroughly enjoyed our programme's somewhat subversive position in LSE's community and caught up with UK-based humanitarian networks, while basking in the Olympic buzz about town. Since graduating, I've been doing contract work as an Afghanistan Stabilisation Analyst for the Helmand Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, as well as freelance research into humanitarian issues ('resilience' and I are in a complicated relationship).

The best part has been being able to take this work with me, as I gradually exhausted my welcome in Europe, and now, very recently, back in my hometown in New Jersey. But I'm looking forward to linking back in to work based in the communities I spend so much time studying. And of course, I can't wait to run into many of you out there. Grateful to PiAf for setting up such an unpredictable but entertaining and challenging (in all the right ways) ride!

Jane Yang

PiAf 2011-12

IRC, Kenya

I'm in DC with Deloitte and have somehow managed to land in the World Bank account, which is exciting. I also do part-time work with a project for the Global Impact Investing Network and a USAID clean energy project in Bangladesh. All in all, trying to get back abroad to see a private sector company's approach to development, while enjoying all that DC has to offer.

Alyson Zureick

PiAf 2007-08

IRC, Sierra Leone

I'm in my second year of law school at NYU, where I'm a Root-Tilden-Kern public interest scholar. I actually made it back to Africa for the first time since my fellowship (IRC Sierra Leone 2007-08) last summer. I was in Kenya working for the Kenyan National Commission on Human Rights where I worked on prison reform, women's health issues, and the implications of proposed anti-terror legislation for human rights. I also traveled a ton - including, hiking in the Great Rift Valley, enjoying the beach on Lamu, and getting my scuba diving certification in Watamu! This summer should prove to be fun, if less travel-filled. I'll be in Washington, D.C. splitting my summer between Sidley Austin LLP and the State Department Office of the Legal Adviser.

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PRINCETON IN AFRICA'S 2012-13 FELLOWS



PiAf 2012-13 Botswana Fellows hiking in the Mabira Forest Reserve during our mid-year retreat (L to R: Mike Snaveley, Annette Dekker, and Chris Speers)



Our Olam Gabon Fellows in their newly-tailored outfits for African Print Fridays (L-R: Nabil Hashmi, Akornefa Akyea, Shameika Black, Chris Suzdak, and Lisa Hendrickson)



PiAf 2012-13 Fellows enjoyed the Rift Valley Music Festival in Kenya (L-R: Marielle, Dara, Ida, Steve, Alison, Nate, and John)



Jen Byrne helping local fishermen in Benin to pull in their catch



PiAf 2012-13 Fellows during our May Orientation



PiAf 2012-13 Fellows during our June Orientation



Executive Director Katie Henneman with Sachi Lake and Thomas Launer at Project Mercy in Ethiopia during her site visit this past spring



Our WFP Dakar Fellows at Lac Rose, named for its pink waters caused by algae in the water that produce a red pigment (from L to R) Elizabeth Muvey, Corinne Stephenson, Camille Fenton, Abhit Bhandari

Bridget Rhinehart co-conducting an M & E-based School Meals Program teachers training in Kasungu district 2



Nate Barker, PiAf Fellow with The BOMA Project in Kenya discusses the Saving Group Members practices along with Translator Peter

Reflections From a Former Fellow



“The opportunity to work in a significant capacity for an NGO doing real, meaningful work has been incredible. It is so hard for recent college graduates to find viable opportunities doing actual work, and I was feeling like I would never make it back to the continent before I found Princeton in Africa.

Princeton in Africa has provided me with the ability to make considerable differences in a year, but it has also given me the understanding that, in a sense, this work is not about ‘making a difference’ so much as it is about the long view, about developing a truly holistic understanding of the issues, the structures, the contexts and then figuring out the most meaningful intervention. For that, I am ever grateful.”

Emma Impink
PiAf 2011-12 Fellow with The BOMA Project, Kenya
Now working with One Acre Fund in Tanzania



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Since 1999, PiAf has placed over 300 Fellows in 34 countries.