

Faculty Updates

DR. NISSIM MANNATHUKKAREN has two papers (published/forthcoming) in 2017-18 dealing with first, the unique model of non-antagonistic confessional politics in Kerala, India, and second, the contours of an anti-political civil society movement which has transformed itself into a political party governing the state of Delhi, India. In the first, he dwells on the possibilities of avoiding religious violence in the multi-religious society of India, and in the second, the theoretical debates about populism.



Dr. Nissim Mannathukkaren

Professor Mannathukkaren is also working on revisions to the book manuscript on communism and post-colonialism and writing up the research results of a project on modernity in the Global South. He was one of the invited presenters on a recent conference in Kerala on media, literature, cinema and the arts, which included some of the important practitioners and scholars in the Malayalam language.

Finally, Professor Mannathukkaren has continued his engagement with the public sphere through newspapers and magazines. In the last year, he has published in both English and Malayalam in Indian news venues like *The Hindu*, *Indian Express*, *The Wire*, and *Mathrubhumi*, and in international media outlets like *Open Democracy*.

DR. JOHN CAMERON recently completed a 3-year research project with Dr. Rebecca Tiessen (uOttawa) on the career paths of IDS graduates. The research, financed by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is based on a survey of over 1900 graduates from 14 IDS programs across Canada. The results are good news for students but also give IDS programs food for thought on how IDS curriculums are designed. To learn more, check out: <https://idsemployment.weebly.com/>



Dr. John Cameron

John is also conducting research on the

efforts of Canadian international development NGOs to influence federal government laws and policies in Canada and to support partner organizations in other countries in struggles to change laws and policies that undermine human rights and social justice. Initial findings, based on analysis of data on thousands of NGOs from 1990 to 2016 shows that very few international development NGOs are seriously involved in public policy advocacy work, partly because of very restrictive government regulations and partly because few Canadians are willing to donate funds to support policy advocacy. To learn more, check out John's research website: <http://johndcameron.com>

John also continues to do research in Bolivia, working closely with the Bolivian research organization *Fundación Tierra*, where he and Wilfredo Plata recently completed research with Indigenous organizations on the challenges of self-governance. Their research was recently published in Spanish in *Fundación Tierra's* journal *Cuestión Agraria*.

This year John is teaching the first-year 'Halifax and the World' course and the graduate course in Research Design. In May he will also be teaching a field studies course on '[Public Policy Advocacy](#)' in Ottawa.

DR. OWEN WILLIS continues to teach one of the most popular IDS courses, on Africa.

DR. ROBERT HUISH has spent much of 2017 pursuing avant-garde research on human rights and security issues in North Korea. Of his 5 publications in 2017, 2 articles exposed [how North Korea acquires resources for belligerent activities](#). The article appearing in the *Canadian Naval Review* received an award from the [Canadian Maritime Trust](#).

After returning from New Zealand in January 2017 as the Ron Lister Visiting Fellow in Geography at the University of Otago, Professor Huish took up a visiting research fellowship



Dr. Owen Willis

at the Institute for Health and Social Policy at McGill University in Montreal in May 2017. In October, he received funds from the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation for [public engagement on human rights issues in North Korea](#). In December 2017, he was successful as an [Assistant Investigator](#) on a \$300,000 NZD from New Zealand's Royal Society Marsden Fund to study Cuban cooperation in the South Pacific. Currently teaching 5 courses at the un-



Dr. Robert Huish

dergraduate and graduate levels, Professor Huish has also been [active in media and public engagement](#) on issues of security and human rights in North Korea and Asia (see story below). He organized the panel "Two Minutes to Midnight: How to defuse the crisis in North Korea" with several other faculty members in FASS.

In 2018, he plans to continue research on issues related to health and human security in North Korea, Cuba, and the South Pacific. He will also be teaching at the Erasmus Mundus Summer School in Goslar, Germany, and he will also teach as part of an online course on the Right to Development and the Sustainable Development Goals with the University for Peace and the UN University's International Institute for Global Health.

As well, Professor Huish has a project underway with the National Bureau of Research in Washington D.C. on developing “smarter sanctions” in the maritime industry.

DR. AJAY PARASRAM has been developing classes to complement the department’s anti-colonial and social justice interests. He introduced a fourth year seminar entitled “The Development of Development” that explores the historical imbrications of development with late colonial and imperial practices. Relatedly, he’s been writing book chapters for the *Routledge Handbook of Post-colonial Studies* and the *Routledge Handbook of Ethics in International Relations*, both in press. The first (in collaboration with Lisa Tilley) argues that the ecological crises produced through the modern/colonial encounter cannot be overcome without privileging those knowledge systems that have always existed beyond the limit of modern reason. The second traces the racist origins of international relations theory, revisiting the trope of the “state of nature” and its Eurocentric assumptions.



Dr. Ajay Parasram

After the election of Donald Trump, Ajay participated in a public meeting entitled, “President Trump: Now What?” in which he used his time to argue that structural white supremacy has a longer history (and future) than # 45. Normalizing public conversations about white supremacy is essential to dismantling it, and he worked with students and colleagues around the city to host “Race in a Glass Nation: Fragility and Dissent in the University and Beyond” in the fall. He’s working on an article tentatively called “Pathological White Fragility” for *Studies in Political Economy* to be released later this year.

In the summer, Ajay went



Dr. Emily Kirk

conference hopping, colluding with like-minded pals, and working on different pieces of writing that includes Singaporean soap operas and postcolonial state formation. He also wrote a blog post entitled “*The International Relations of A Tribe Called Red*” which brings together some of his favourite things: rad theory, rad tunes, and the knowledge that better worlds are coming.

DR. MATTHEW SCHNURR’S research focused on three separate streams in 2017. The first is a long-term project investigating the implications of Genetically Modified staple crops on African farmers, which was furthered by a two-week research trip to Uganda and Kenya in the spring. Outputs included two peer-reviewed publications, editing a special section of *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, as well as four invited talks and conference presentations. Media outreach included coverage in Reuters Africa, Global TV Halifax, Ghana’s Joy FM and an extended interview with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

A second area of interest centres on innovation in teaching and learning. Matthew spent much of 2017 spearheading a collaboration of instructors from six Dal faculties who utilize simulation-based exercises in their teaching practice. Funded via a SSHRC Connections Grant, this group aims to establish a community of practice amongst faculty members, grad students and educational developers interested in refining their use of these immersive teaching exercises. Activities included convening a one-day workshop in June, presenting to partner institutions in Atlantic Canada, and creating an online hub that will be hosted by Dal’s Centre for Learning. The team is working towards publishing results as an edited collection, which he will edit.

A third area of research relates to environmental justice. Matthew is a co-applicant on a CIHR funded project entitled *Resilience Youth*



Dr. Matthew Schnurr

in *Stressed Environments*, which is focused on understanding youth coping strategies in petroleum-extracting sites in Canada and South Africa. He is in the process of recruiting a post-doctoral fellow to start in Spring 2018, who will work on assessing socio-ecological measures of resilience. Matthew is also a co-applicant on the SSHRC-funded project *Over the Line: A Bilateral Conversation on Race, Place, and the Environment*, which convened a one-day symposium in October examining environmental racism in Nova Scotia. Looking forward towards 2018, he is excited to begin a one-year sabbatical in July, the first six-months of which will be spent as a research fellow at the Stellenbosch Institute of Advanced Studies in South Africa. He is hoping this will be the much-needed break necessary to finish off a long-in-the-works book manuscript on Africa’s Gene Revolution!

DR. THERESA ULICKI was on sabbatical for 2017. She was in South Africa for 2 months conducting research on women artisans in the South African province of KwaZulu Natal. She’s currently working on two publications related to this research. The first examines how craft production has impacted the capabilities, livelihoods and well being of women artisans; the second explores the role of the middle person in the marketing of women’s craft in rural KwaZulu Natal. In November, Theresa was part of a panel discussion about the current crisis over North Korea’s nuclear program. She spoke about gender and human rights in the DPRK.

DR. EMILY KIRK is a SSHRC post-doctoral fellow. Kirk’s book, *Cuba’s Gay Revolution: Normalizing Sexual Diversity Through a Health-Based Approach* was recently published by Lexington Press.

In the News: Professor Huish

Professor Robert Huish had an extremely busy year of engagements with media outlets across the world on his research on North Korea. He has been featured in:

The Washington Post

The National Post

Radio Canada International

The Australian Broadcast Corporation

The Chronicle Herald

The Daily Star

CBC

CBS Miami

CTV ATLANTIC

Kinh-Te-Do-Thi Daily News

The Japan Times

CNN

Bloomberg

MSN News

MacLean's

Myanmar Daily Times

Quartz (India)

Scroll India

Global News

Toronto Star

1310 Ottawa Radio



Professor Huish discusses North Korean security issues on CTV Atlantic with Heather Butts.

IDS Cuba Study Abroad Program

Recently, we marked the 20th year of the IDS Cuba Program in Havana. The Canadian Ambassador to Cuba, Ambassador Patrick Parisot, honoured Marian MacKinnon, Coordinator, Cuba Program, as well as the Cuban counterpart with a plaque.

Out of some 44 academic exchanges between Cuba and Canada, the IDS program in partnership with FLACSO at the University of Havana is the longest running. After looking at the various other university programs in Cuba, we realize that most of them have failed either due to a constant need for external grants, or lack of a continuous link in terms of coordinating the programs.

Ours has been successful because of Marian and the funding model. Marian has been the constant presence in the 20 years, devoting a large amount of time to the program both here, and in person in Cuba. We realize that the extraordinary relationships, both formal and informal, that she has built with the faculty and staff there in Havana are the key elements in our success.



Marian MacKinnon and Ambassador Patrick Parisot.

Do you have an interesting story to share?

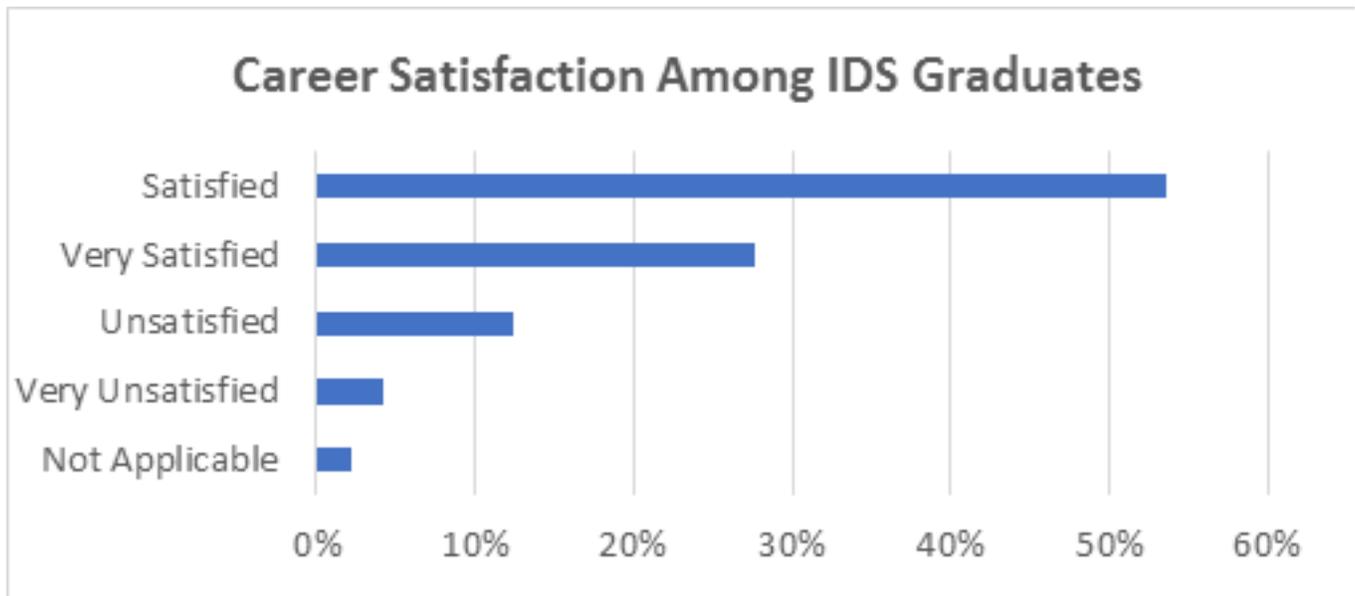
Know of a former classmate who is doing something exciting and newsworthy?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send all comments, suggestions, ideas or inquiries to

fassalum@dal.ca

The Career Paths of IDS Graduates



The survey of over 1900 IDS graduates across Canada found that over 80% were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with their career trajectories. The median age of the respondents was 26.

Many students worry about finding interesting, meaningful and well-paying jobs after they graduate. Recent research by Dal IDS Professor John Cameron and Professor Rebecca Tiessen at the University of Ottawa examines the career paths of more than 1900 graduates of 14 IDS programs across Canada. The research asked questions such as: are IDS graduates happy with their careers? How much money do they earn? What kinds of jobs and what sectors do they work in? What pathways do they take to reach professional employment? Do IDS degrees prepare them for the jobs they seek?

The research findings are significant for IDS students planning their education, IDS graduates planning their careers, and IDS professors and administrators who plan the curricula of IDS programs. The report highlights 5 central findings:

- 1. IDS graduates find well paying, satisfying professional jobs in a wide range of fields. At the time of the survey in 2016, 86% of IDS graduates were employed and just 4.8% were unemployed and looking for work. In total, 40% of IDS grads earned over \$60,000 and 65% earned over \$40,000. These figures are promising given the early career stages of most of the respondents. Over 80% of IDS grads were satisfied or very satisfied with their career trajectories.*
- 2. IDS graduates are also highly educated. Over 57% had an additional degree beyond the Bachelor's level and almost 50% had plans to pursue further education and professional training.*
- 3. IDS graduates also experience significant challenges in breaking into the job market, particularly in the international development sector. Just 19.2% of IDS grads reported that their jobs were directly related to international development, while almost 40% reported that their jobs were not related at all. However, respondents also reported that regardless of their careers, their IDS educations had profound impacts on their worldviews and their ongoing values as global citizens.*
- 4. The skills and competencies that IDS grads identified as most important for finding a job included the transferrable skills of writing, communications, interpersonal and cross-cultural communications and especially networking. Respondents emphasized repeatedly that finding a job requires the capacity to build strong professional networks.*
- 5. IDS grads considered their educational experience to be directly linked to lifestyle factors and values related to global citizenship. Their studies shaped their activism, political activities, consumer behaviour, environmental practices, commitment to development charities, careful following of the news, and community engagement. Thus, IDS degrees prepare students for professional careers but also foster their capacities for active citizenship in Canada and globally.*

Based on the research, Dal's IDS student society IDEAS is working with Professor Cameron to organize a series of events this spring on finding work with an IDS degree.

To learn more about this research, check out: <https://idsemployment.weebly.com/>

Undergraduate Studies Updates

Recent Honours Thesis Titles

Hannah Ascough – Once Upon a Time: Using the Hero's Journey to Develop Development Stories

Destiny Desroche – Health Equity in Cuba's Maternal Health Policy

Julianna Saoud – High Modernist State Building and the Bedouins of the Negev

Jean-Paul St. Rose – Marginalized by the Market: Addressing the Representation of Marginalized Populations within Tertiary Education in India

Sojin Kim – Representation of North Korea in North American Media: Exploring Its Important and Impact

Murray Hancock – Economic Reforms and the Decline of Françafrique: A Case Study of Cote D'Ivoire, 1980-1994

Alysia Strobl – Subtle Othering: Print Media Representations of Syrian Refugees in Canada

Angela (Ching-An) Hou – Where the Girls Are: Military Prostitution and Sex Tourism as Sexual Consumption of the Other in the Philippines

Rachel Berman – Seeking Difference: The Tourist Gaze in Archaeological Sites in Yucatan, Mexico

Rebecca Kingdon – The Benefits of Urban Greenspaces on Promoting Mental Health in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Peter Steele – Effective Strategies for Treating PTSD Within Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Among Former Child Soldiers in North and South Kivu

Statement to Canada's Standing Committee on Finance

In November 2017, **Julianne Karavayeva** was invited by the ONE Campaign to make a statement on their behalf to Canada's Standing Committee on Finance, which is comprised of members of parliament from around the country, who aid in determining the national budget. The ONE Campaign is an international organisation (with over 8 million members worldwide) that addresses poverty through justice and equality-based projects.

The statement Julianne made aimed to put girls' education in the developing world on the radar of the Finance Committee. She spoke to the Committee about the benefits of increasing Canada's Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the purpose of educating girls in the developing world, and the correlation of increased girls' education to better global health indicator; things Julianne has studied for the past three years in the International Development Studies department at Dalhousie.

A few weeks following her presentation, one of the Financial Committee's recommendations for the new national budget reads: "Increase its official development assistance with the goal of allocating 0.7% of gross national income to the International Assistance Envelope by 2030, with 3 year rolling targets. With its official development assistance, the government should target food security, improved nutrition, and inclusive and high-quality education, particularly for girls and young women."



IDEAS Student Society



IDEAS is a student society ran for and by students within the IDS department at Dalhousie.



In partnership with No Chain for North Korea, students can donate their USB drives, which will be used to send media into North Korea.

IDEAS is a student society ran for and by students within the International Development Studies department. During weekly meetings, the society plans IDS related events with the intent of raising awareness on different local and international development policies, programs and concerns. IDEAS often collaborates with professors within the department to put on events that engage IDS students and greater Halifax community. Most recently, with the help of Professor Robert Huish, IDEAS worked in cooperation with No Chain for North Korea. This organization specializes in getting Western and South Korean media into the homes of North Korean citizens and allowing them to see a life outside of the regime. Depending on the weather and season, USBs are filled with media and sent into North Korea via balloons or bottles filled with rice. As a society, IDEAS created media that demonstrates what Canadian students do everyday in a “day in the life” montage and collected USBs. The media was put on the USBs and sent into North Korea via bottles of rice. The No Chain for North Korea USB drive is an ongoing initiative and students can find donation boxes in allocated spaces around campus.

Graduate Studies Updates

Telisa Courtney
(MA Candidate, 1st Year)



Telisa is busily reaching out to NGOs in Uganda with whom they can partner for their upcoming field research on the utility of Theatre for Development in the reintegration of child soldiers at the end of this year. They have secured a theatre company to partner with, now they just need a development agency! Telisa’s first publication on the use of theatre to change attitudes regarding tribalism is in press and should be out any day now. They will also be presenting on

this topic at the annual CASID conference in Regina in May. Here on the home front, Telisa is working with the Child Soldier’s Initiative on an exciting project related to the newly launched Vancouver Principles. It’s been a busy year, but they are loving every minute of it!

Jessica Hirtle
(MA Candidate, 1st Year)



For Jessica, the 2017/2018 school year has been absolutely wonderful. She says it has been great to get to know her MA classmates and foster a strong and encouraging IDS community. Jessica also greatly appreciates the guidance and support of the IDS faculty and staff! Her thesis research focuses on the efficacy of Cuba’s disaster relief system and its possible implementation in other Caribbean countries. In October, Jessica will be travelling to Cuba, where she will be conducting research in both Havana and Las Tunas. This year, Jessica has learned and grown so much and she’s very excited to see what 2018/2019 brings!

Selina Hunt (MA Candidate, 1st Year)

For Selina, the first two semesters at Dalhousie have been wonderful. She says it has been such a rewarding opportunity to learn from faculty and classmates. Selina feels honoured to be part of such a strong and supportive academic and research community. She says the course work has been challenging, but has definitely caused her to examine interna-



tional development in new and critical ways. She has especially enjoyed being a teaching assistant and developing teaching skills.

Selina's research examines how community-based peacebuilding initiatives contribute to sustainable peace in Colombia. She is researching how community-based peacebuilding interacts and intersects with the many other levels and varieties of peacebuilding. This summer, Selina is looking forward to spending several months in Colombia with peacebuilding organizations, learning about their projects and experiences.

**Rachel Matheson
(MA Candidate, 1st Year)**



Rachel's first two semesters at Dalhousie have been challenging, but very rewarding! She has had the opportunity to learn from and work with a variety of kind, intelligent people who have enriched her Master's experience.

Currently, Rachel is working on writing her thesis proposal. Rachel's research will focus on evaluating the impacts of urban agriculture training programs on female farmers in Kampala, Uganda. Specifically, she will be focusing on how these programs improve female farmers' access to and control over resources that are vital for gender equality and food security. Rachel is excited to travel to Kampala this summer for her fieldwork!

Peter Steele (MA Candidate, 1st Year)



This past year has had some ups and downs, but ultimately, Peter been able to come away from this experience with some great preparation for my next steps. In the latter half of 2018, Peter will be traveling to Northern Ugandan to study the systems of mental health that are available for war-affected youth. With some interest shown from regional NGOs and international partners, he will have the opportunity to interview and observe practitioners of mental health programs. Peter's goal for this study is come away with some critical insight of the mental health field in Uganda to build towards progressive and inclusive programming that targets children impacted by war. His experience as a graduate student is very much aligned with the support that he felt as an undergrad in IDS at Dalhousie. Although there is still much to do, Peter is looking forward to the challenge.

**Margaux Wolse
(MA Candidate, 1st Year)**



This was Margaux's first year in Halifax and at Dalhousie University as an MA student in department of International Development Studies. She says it has been a whirlwind adventure in the best possible way. After a year of intense course work, Margaux and her classmates are getting ready to do field-

work. This summer, Margaux plans on doing her thesis research in Natal, Brazil, where she will study how alternative development methods have been used to help urban youth overcome adversity. Margaux is excited to finally start the research component of my MA. Until then, she will be brushing up on her Portuguese.

**Katharina Gref
(MA Candidate, 2nd Year)**



Katharina's MA thesis research evaluates two Inuit midwifery programs currently operating in the Canadian North. Since the 1970s, all Inuit women have been evacuated to southern Canada for the final weeks of their pregnancies and deliveries. This has resulted in negative health outcomes, both social and physical, and in her thesis Katharina situates evacuation policy within the larger scope of medicine used as a colonizing force in Canada, specifically designed with assimilationist and modernizing goals, and discuss the historical trauma this has created. This research evaluates Inuit midwifery programs for their ability to address social and cultural determinants of health, providing a culturally respectful childbirth option. Results indicate that these programs are successful at addressing health in a holistic manner, incorporating Inuit knowledge, and further decolonizing an overly medicalized approach to maternity by returning childbirth to Inuit communities.

**Katie Hamill
(MA Candidate, 2nd Year)**



Katie's research explores the best practices for human rights education in Atlantic Canada. Human rights education is internationally recognized as a tool for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the creation of a culture of rights. Although the Canadian provincial human rights system of Codes and Commissions provides protection from discrimination in day-to-day life, the roles and responsibilities of the Commissions is often misunderstood due to false media representation. Following the UN Decade for Human Rights Education, human rights topics were incorporated into the Canadian educational curriculum, with knowledge of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a general goal. Based on secondary data and related literature, this study explores the successes and challenges of various international human rights education projects to determine what is best suited to raise awareness of local human rights legislation and institutions in Atlantic Canada.

Misaki Ishibashi
(MA Candidate, 2nd Year)



Intimate partner violence (IPV) is the most prevailing form of violence against women worldwide, which recent estimates suggest that 30 percent of ever partnered women experience during their lifetime. Aiming to contribute to the growing body of literature on prevention of IPV on the ground level, Misaki's Master's thesis examines the community level strategies to tackle IPV against women in Havana, Cuba. Misaki conducted field research in Havana last year, where she interviewed gender specialists including academics, lawyers, community leaders, and ground level organization workers. Misaki also participated as an observer in gender transformative programs for women and girls including gender sensitivity workshops where specialists delivered facilitated discussions around human rights, gender equality, gender roles, machismo, patriarchy, and violence. Cuban awareness raising campaign about violence against women and local edutainment programs, which impact

ground level efforts to combat IPV, are also analyzed.

Hala Nader (MA Candidate, 2nd Year)



Although violence against women (VAW) is a problem that exists across all social strata, female refugees are particularly vulnerable and are exposed to violence throughout their displacement experience. Thus, programs have been implemented by organisations to attempt to combat this violence. Using the case study of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Hala's research will address the question: *How do Syrian refugees view efforts to prevent and address violence against refugee women in their host community?* She conducted 21 semi-structured interviews with Syrian refugees living in different areas of Lebanon to explore individual understandings of VAW, including what respondents consider to be VAW, what programs would be helpful to mitigate it, and what factors contribute to women using resources. Hala also conducted interviews with program coordinators at three organisations that provide VAW programming in Lebanon to get an overview of what programs they offer and how they feel their programs are helping.

Annet Namubiru
(MA Candidate, 2nd Year)



Annet Namubiru's thesis is titled: DEPTH OF MATERNAL MORTALITY PROBLEMS. She focuses on obstetric labour, specifically obstetric fistula. As an aspect of maternal morbidity, obstetric fistula offers a unique opportunity to an in-depth understanding of the problem of maternal mortality. Addressing maternal mortality in a data-rich way can guide targeted investment into systematic improvement that can affect millions. Namubiru's work uses the Muskoka Initiative's approach to addressing maternal mortality, new born and Sexual Reproductive Health.

Ivan Okello (MA Candidate, 2nd Year)



As a Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Africa, INTD 2106, Ivan is actively involved in challenging the stereotypical narratives about Africa as a continent, emphasizing the complexities of the continent by drawing on his experiences growing up in Uganda. He has strong interests in the trajectories of the African people within the continent and in the diaspora and has encouraged many to visit Africa.

Ivan is passionate about gender studies, thus inspiring his current Thesis research on *gendered outcomes of copreneur spouses owning small and micro businesses in Uganda*. His topic seeks to explore the experiences of husband and wife teams that own and manage businesses together by analysis the interaction between family and work in Uganda. He hopes this research enhances an understanding of the gendered power dynamics that exist within households and the resulting influence on business.

When not studying, Ivan likes to cook Ugandan dishes and dance to an African music genre called *Afrobeat*.

Graduate Studies Welcome Reception (September 2017)



Individuals featured in the photos include: Selina Hunt, Peter Steele, Anne Flotho-Liersch, Noriko Ikegami, Rachel Matheson, Prof. Mannathukkaren, Prof. Huish, Prof. Parasram, Lorena Botero, Margaux Wolse, Nicole Drysdale, Marian MacKinnon, Katharina Gref, Hala Nader, and Misaki Ishibashi.

Alumni News

Taylor Quinn (BA IDS & Social Anthropology 2015) Hampton Creek - Food Technology (Liberia)

For more alumni news, please check: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/ids/alumni-and-friends/ids-grads-changing-the-world.html>

In his undergraduate studies, Taylor Quinn says his interests centred on the role of business in development and the core systems of food, global health and education.

“There needs to be more people like us with degrees in things like development getting outside of the non-profit space,” says Quinn.

Since 2015, Quinn has worked at Hampton Creek, a food technology company, as the emerging markets director. Hampton Creek produces and sells healthy, sustainable and low cost food, including mayonnaise, cookies and salad dressing.

“People shouldn’t have to make a choice between good food and good taste or good food and affordability,” says Quinn.

Originally from North Vancouver, British Columbia, Quinn now splits his time between Monrovia, Liberia and San Francisco, California. As the emerging markets direc-

tor, Quinn’s goal is to build and produce nutritious, but affordable food that is both culturally relevant and made locally.

In Liberia, Quinn has worked with a chef, food processing companies and smallholder farmers to produce a Cassava-based porridge. Quinn says the porridge provides the sufficient amount of vitamins and minerals for children to thrive and be healthy. In addition, he also works with the Liberian government to create food safety laws.

With Hampton Creek, Quinn has also travelled to the United Kingdom,

Sierra Leone, South Africa, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Armenia, Morocco, and the United Arab Emirates.

Quinn says the most rewarding part of working with Hampton Creek is the ability to have conversations and work with the



Taylor Quinn knew that there was more to International Development than the non-profit sector. Now he is an Emerging Markets Director in Liberia.

people he serves everyday.

"I wake up everyday and don't feel like I have a job," says Quinn. "It's too important not to do."

In 2011, Quinn started at Dalhousie University. Quinn says the school offered "a really holistic university experience." Quinn says that Dalhousie not only offered a strong academic culture, but also a sense of community, volunteering and engagement.

"I feel so lucky with the experience I've had," says Quinn. "It was way beyond my wildest dreams."

During his time at Dalhousie, Quinn says he was actively involved with intramural sports, student politics, activism, the [Student Union](#), and the [Faculty of Arts and Social Science Society](#).

"Dal was this launching point for me to re-

ally build my adult self," says Quinn. "It was the environment where I was able to craft the human being I wanted to be."

Quinn says he also engaged in non-profits within Halifax, such as the [Atlantic Council for International Cooperation \(ACIC\)](#), and advises students to get involved outside of the classroom.

"The classroom is that foundation, but those other skills you need to thrive in the world can be found across the campus," says Quinn.

In hindsight, Quinn says he appreciates the flexibility and [multidisciplinary approach](#) to the program. He says the ability to take classes in different areas, such as business, sociology and political science, was "incredibly valuable."

Quinn says he also enjoyed the ability to focus on big issues or thematic areas of in-

ternational development, such as health care and education, while incorporating theory.

"I have a solid foundation in understanding in how the world works and my place in it," says Quinn. "But, also a very clear understanding of my own limitations and knowledge gaps."

In 2015, Quinn graduated with a Combined Honours in International Development Studies and Social Anthropology.

For Quinn, his current profession "1000 per cent" relates to his studies in international development.

"I never would have thought that what I learned in school would be relevant to my day to day life," says Quinn.

Source: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/ids/alumni-and-friends/ids-grads-changing-the-world/taylor-quinn.html>

Marie-Geneviève Nightingale (BA IDS 2002) International Committee of the Red Cross (Algeria)

The atmosphere on the plane was electric. En route to Goma, a city in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the aircraft was filled with around 40 children who were just demobilized from armed groups. Some had been gone for six months, others up to seven years.

With the help of Marie-Geneviève Nightingale (BA IDS 2002) and her team at the [International Committee of the Red Cross \(ICRC\)](#), the children's families were located and their safe return was arranged. They were all going home.

"It was the most amazing experience," says Nightingale. "It was the fruit of the labour of a lot of people."

Since 2010, Nightingale has worked as a protection delegate for the ICRC. Currently based in Algiers, Algeria, she has previously worked in Kuwait, Rwanda, the DRC and Kenya.

While Nightingale says her job description changes from one mission to another, a protection delegate does a handful of things: provide protection and assistance services to civilian populations, help victims of armed conflict or other violent situations and restore family links.

Nightingale works closely with the [Algerian](#)

[Red Crescent](#) and government to "help them realize their objectives in terms of meeting the needs of vulnerable people within their society."

Spending most of her time listening and asking questions, Nightingale says it is morally satisfying to engage with communities and collectively work toward a solution to make things better.

"My most favourite thing about my job is when I spend my day working with people or communities in a collaborative manner," says Nightingale.

"It's exciting, it's interesting, it's engaging."

Originally from Montréal, Nightingale moved to Halifax in 1999 to study International Development Studies at Dalhousie University and contemporary studies at the University of King's College. Nightingale graduated with her bachelor's degree in 2002.

"It's a very dynamic place to be," says Nightingale. "There was a lot of positive energy and there were a lot of possibilities and opportunities to meet new people and learn new stuff."

Nightingale's biggest takeaway from her degree: how challenging and difficult develop-

ment can be.

"It's almost like a mine field," says Nightingale. "So many things can go wrong."

Nightingale credits the program for reviewing examples of challenges and failures in development, allowing students to learn



On a plane headed to Goma, with the help of Marie-Geneviève Nightingale and the ICRC, 40 children who were just demobilized from armed groups were all going home.

from previous mistakes.

“It doesn’t save you from mistakes of your own, but at least you are more aware of what the possible pitfalls could be,” says Nightingale.

Nightingale says her degree in international development studies taught her the importance of humility and awareness.

Tara Gilroy (BA IDS 1999) Right to Play International (Toronto)

When Tara Gilroy left high school, she didn’t know what she wanted to study in university. But, when she found out about international development studies, Gilroy says a “light bulb went off.”

“I thought maybe that’s the thing for me.”

From Oakville, Ontario, Gilroy says she toured other East Coast universities, but ultimately picked Dalhousie University.

“When I laid eyes on the Dal campus, I was smitten,” says Gilroy. “I could see myself sitting on the quad and entering those old buildings.”

“It felt easy and comfortable and not intimidating at all.”

Gilroy began her studies in International Development in 1996. For Gilroy, Dalhousie offered an element of fun, liveliness, curiosity, inclusivity and openness.

“I loved Dal,” says Gilroy. “I had a really good experience.”



The transformative power of play should not be underestimated when it comes to International Development.

“You have to tread very softly,” says Nightingale. “The last thing you want to do is romp around in your own country or someone else’s country and be like, ‘Okay guys, we’re going to figure this out, we are going to fix this.’”

Nightingale’s advice to international development students: stay humble, get as much field experience as you can and learn a

Gilroy says the program offered a multi-disciplinary approach to learning; exposing her to many subjects, like political science, history, language and economics.

“Flexibility and freedom in my course selection allowed me to pursue the things that I found interesting,” says Gilroy. “At the same time, it pushed me to do things that I might not have necessarily considered.”

Gilroy’s biggest takeaway from her studies: a global perspective. She says the program allowed her to study different countries, their stories and situations and, in turn, come to understand global systems, structures and strategies.

“It was the exposure to these bigger ideas,” says Gilroy. “The realities and issues that people were confronting and had confronted across history.”

In 1999, Gilroy received a Bachelor of Arts in International Development Studies from Dalhousie University. She graduated from Mount Saint Vincent University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Education.

“It was just very rich and diverse experience,” says Gilroy. “That was just right for me.” “I wouldn’t change my undergraduate studies.”

For the last five years, Gilroy has worked for Right to Play International. The NGO is based in 20 countries around the world, including Ghana, Lebanon and Thailand.

Gilroy says Right to Play International uses “the transformative power of play” to help children learn life skills and school curriculum in marginalized communities.

“I absolutely love my job,” says Gilroy. “I really believe that play is an extremely powerful and necessary part of a child’s life.”

language.

“Learn it really well,” she says. “Your comprehension and, therefore, your contribution to any given context increases exponentially when you understand what’s being said.”

Source: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/ids/alunmi-and-friends/ids-grads-changing-the-world/marie-genevieve-nightingale.html>

Since 2014, Gilroy has held the position of manager, training and capacity building, and works in the global program development team in Toronto.

Gilroy oversees training and determines how to best build capacities for partners, staff and volunteers in communities across the globe. Gilroy helps train and support program staff members, who then train local teachers or volunteers of Right to Play International’s methodologies to use in their own communities.

In addition, Gilroy says she and her team develop training materials and games used in classrooms and community programs.

For Gilroy, it is “very rewarding to be a part of the chain that brings play to children and it’s changing the way they see learning.”

Gilroy says there is “an easy connection” between her undergraduate degree and her current position at Right to Play International. Gilroy says she leans on her International Development Studies degree when confronted with programming decisions, looking to understand context and background, how systems function and the main issues affecting a community.

“I definitely lean on all the pieces that I learned about in IDS,” says Gilroy. “It helps me think programmatically. How to plan, how to develop, how to implement, how to evaluate.”

Gilroy’s advice to students: go overseas, get practical experience and be open to what others can teach you.

“Follow your passion,” she says.

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