



# National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

Banner Photo credit: Liesel Mitchell



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## Welcome from the Acting Director

As the stories and notes in this newsletter clearly show, it has been another exciting and productive first semester. However, the year began with the sad news that Dr Charles Butcher was leaving to take up a new post at the University of Trondheim in Norway. Charles is a superb scholar, an excellent and deeply loved teacher, and a wonderful colleague. We were extremely sad to see him go, but we know that he is moving into an exciting new phase of his career, and are confident that he will maintain his relationship with the staff and students at the Centre.

Happily, we are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Mariska Kappmeier from Harvard University. Dr Kappmeier will take up her post in January 2017, and brings expertise in quantitative methodologies, intergroup conflict and trust, and mediation, among others. We greatly look forward to welcoming her and her family to the Centre next year.

Centre staff and students have published an impressive number of high quality books, edited volumes, articles, book chapters and conference papers in the last six months, attesting to the high quality research environment maintained by the Centre. Centre staff have also been active in giving public lectures and talks around the country and beyond. In addition, the Centre has sustained its usual interesting and varied programme of seminars, posters, public conversations, and public events, such as the Anzac Peace Service.

At the start of the year, we welcomed a new cohort of enthusiastic and highly engaged MPCS students who have since thrown themselves into their studies, and made a real contribution to the life of the Centre. We have also welcomed five new PhD students since January, with another starting in June. A number of Masters and PhD students have successfully completed their degrees. It's not an exaggeration to say that the Centre continues to attract some of the best and brightest students from around the country and all over the world. Our students are also

enthusiastically engaged in working for the local community in peace-related activities, such as supporting re-settled refugees and offering mediation services.

In the first semester, the Centre has also maintained its reputation for attracting high quality visiting scholars. In January, the world-renowned Professor Erica Chenoweth visited to the Centre on a William Evans fellowship, and gave lectures, talks, media interviews and classes on nonviolence. Following this, Professor Stephen Zunes, another expert on nonviolence, has spent a few months of his sabbatical at the Centre. Dr Karen Brouneus, our former colleague visited on a Matariki fellowship, and completed an important report on the Truth Commission process in Solomon Islands. All the visitors made a wonderful contribution to the Centre's research activities and social life, and enhanced its global reputation.

Over the semester, we continued to receive positive reports from Professor Kevin Clements about this research, lectures and public engagements in the UK, Japan and elsewhere during his research sabbatical. Now, we are very happy to welcome Professor Clements back to the Centre, and look forward to his passion and energy as he takes back the leadership role for another year. I am now going on RSL until February 2017. I will be working mostly on my Marsden project, and will spend time in Bristol, Vancouver, and the Amherst. I know that the Centre is going from strength to strength, and is in excellent hands going forward into the next semester.



Me rongo  
Richard Jackson

# News in Brief

**The NCPACS Cartoon Competition** is on again, with the 2016 theme of *Unity in Diversity*. The Centre is looking for cartoons that express how society is enriched and brought together when we embrace diversity and difference. Prizes will be offered in a Open Category and Secondary School Category. Details can be found on the Centre website.

**Stacey Hitchcock** says she feels honoured to have received a grant from the Peace and Disarmament Education Trust (PADET) to complete her Master's degree. Stacey's research is on ownership of resource extraction and its impact on the level of violence countries experience. PADET funds scholarships and not-for profit projects that support their objectives, which include promoting greater public understanding of disarmament, arms control and the resolution of international conflict and promoting through education international peace, arms control and disarmament.

**Michael Ligaliga**, PhD candidate, was selected as the recipient for the 2016 PADET PhD scholarship, which will fund his studies for the next three years. Michael says he feels blessed and humbled to receive this academic award. His thesis entitled *Faa Samoa: Peacebuilder or Peacebreaker? Understanding Domestic violence through Galtung's violence typology* explores whether or not aspects of Faa Samoa contribute(s) or influence(s) domestic violence in Samoa.

**Marie Nissanka**, PhD candidate, recently published a report on her month-long fellowship at the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, located in Braunschweig, Germany. While at GEI Marie was able to access the extensive textbook collection and received generous and constructive feedback on her research.

**Liesel Mitchell**, PhD candidate has been invited to attend a Civil Resistance Workshop for six doctoral/post-doctoral researchers at The Fletcher School, Boston, USA. The purpose of the workshop, to be held in June, is to be a pilot for more regular gatherings of CR researchers in the future. The workshop will also engage with ICNC's Summer Institute. Liesel is hoping to share ideas, get inspired and make some new connections.

**Dr Ellen Furnari**, who was awarded her doctorate in 2014, has recently published a book entitled *Wielding Nonviolence in the Midst of Violence: Case Studies of Good Practices in Unarmed Civilian Protection*. Dr Furnari edited the volume and contributed the Mindanao and South Sudan case studies. The book was launched in San Francisco on 20 May.

**Dr Prakash Bhattarai**, who graduated in 2014, has recently published an article *Third-party co-ordination in conflict resolution: evidence from Nepal and the Philippines* in the International Journal of Conflict Management.



## Professor Stephen Zunes visits

Professor Stephen Zunes, from the University of San Francisco, from February through to May. We asked him to reflect on his time at the Centre.

### What are you currently working on in your research?

My research in recent years has largely centered around two main areas: U.S. policy in the Middle East/North Africa and nonviolent civil insurrections. My critical approach to U.S. foreign policy has focused primarily on cases in which the United States has aided allied governments in their violations of human rights and international law and has used military force in ways which have exacerbated rather than curbed security threats. My research on nonviolent resistance has looked primarily at successful unarmed insurrections against authoritarian regimes. While I am personally sympathetic to normative approaches to nonviolence, my research as largely been from a strategic studies angle, seeing civil insurrections as the ultimate asymmetrical warfare.

### What were your goals for your time at NCPACS?

In terms of my own research, I initially came with some rather ambitious research projects, hoping to complete a book, but instead I have focused on completing a number of conference papers from recent years into publishable academic articles. In addition, I have welcomed the opportunity to interact with faculty colleagues and grad students, learning about their research, contributing my feedback when asked, and being further inspired in my own work.

### How does the work being done at NCPACS compare with your home department in San Francisco?

My base at the University of San Francisco is in a conventional Politics Department. Though most of the faculty are pretty progressive in outlook, only a few of us directly work on issues of peace and conflict. It has been great to be among faculty and students for whom peace and justice issues are their primary focus. In addition, most of my students are undergrads, so I particularly enjoyed working with students who are taking their studies to the next level.

### What have you particularly enjoyed about your time in New Zealand?

Certainly the natural beauty has been inspiring. My wife and I have done three of the great walks as well as many day hikes and scenic drives. There is also something quite refreshing—indeed liberating—about residing even temporarily in a country that, despite the many problematic policies of the current government, does relatively little damage beyond its borders. Living in the heart of an empire can be emotionally draining and it has been nice to get some relief.

# A sad farewell to Dr Charles Butcher

Charles Butcher will never forget his first night in Dunedin. Arriving from Sydney on a cold, dark evening in June 2012, Charles and his wife Kate found that the flat they had rented had no hot water and a strange smell of indeterminate origin. Charles, Kate and eight-month old son Reuben decamped to the nearby home of Centre Manager Rosemary McBryde, where Reuben was bathed in front of a fire and welcome hot drinks were provided for his mum and dad.

Almost four years later, Charles and his family including a second 'Kiwi' son, Luke, left Dunedin to step out on a new adventure. In March 2016 Charles took up a position at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim.

Before he left, Charles reflected on his time at the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and how important it has been to him, both professionally and personally.

"Having two years to concentrate on research has been invaluable. The early career is the hardest for New Zealand and Australian graduates. Gaining a PhD in only three years means that we graduate without the publications that graduates from other parts of the world have when they finish. As new doctoral graduates, we are simply not as competitive and it's easy to get stuck in positions with high teaching demands or even short-term contracts. Once you can get a solid base in good journals, you start getting interviews."

Appointed originally on a two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship, Charles quickly established himself as a productive academic, with 3 or 4 articles published in well-ranked journals. Centre Director Professor Kevin Clement soon realized Charles potential and ensured that his position was changed to Lecturer. As such, Charles proved himself to be an excellent teacher and supervisor, making the finals of the University of Otago Supervisor of the Year in 2015 on the strength of his students' endorsements. He cites great relationships with colleagues and students as being very significant.

"The Centre has been a very pleasant place to work, with high levels of respect for each other's work and lots of social interaction between staff and students. And it's very satisfying to watch the development of my students' academic skills and professionalism."

"I have also been lucky to have good mentors, people who are slightly ahead of me, who are very professional and willing to invest. Ben Goldsmith in Sydney and Isak Svensson in Uppsala are both mentors and collaborators. Karen Brouneus is another mentor, and all three have been important in teaching me the craft of the profession, like academic writing and how to deal with revision memos from publishers. They have also been invaluable in learning how to deal with issues that arise in supervision and other matters of professional practice."



Living in New Zealand has also allowed a different way of looking at the world.

"A different culture, a different landscape is like looking through a new lens and I didn't appreciate that until I moved away from home. This broader outlook will make the transition to Scandinavia a little easier."

The Dunedin landscape has been an important part of Charles life, particularly the local surf beaches.

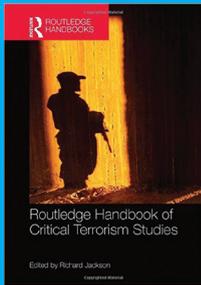
"The water is very cold, but every time I go out it's an adventure, dealing with the isolation and the wildlife."

Breaking his neck after being dumped by a wave at Blackhead and spending three months in a neck brace is something Charles would rather forget but there have been so many important and positive milestones as well.

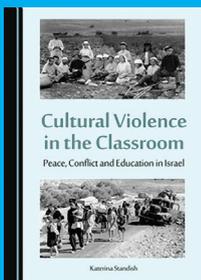
"We bought our first home here, all our children's friends are here, they learned to walk and talk in Dunedin. This is a much harder place to leave than Sydney."

# Publications abound

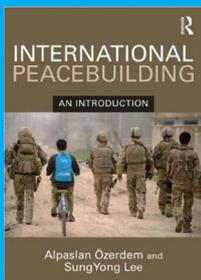
Three recent book publications are representative of the broad range of research interests of NCPACS faculty.



Professor Richard Jackson edited *The Routledge Handbook of Critical Terrorism Studies*, published early this year, which explores the unique contribution of Critical Terrorism Studies to our understanding of contemporary non-state violence and the state's response. With contributions from key thinkers in the field, the Handbook covers a wide range of topics including key debates in the field and emerging issues. This comprehensive collection of essays, including one contributed by NCPACS PhD candidate Sondre Lindahl, investigates the contribution of Critical Terrorism Studies to our understanding of contemporary terrorism and counterterrorism.



In September 2015, Dr Katerina Standish's *Cultural Violence in the Classroom: Peace, Conflict and Education in Israel* was published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. This book explores the unique position occupied by educators during protracted ethnic conflict, as people who may be seen to either legitimize or challenge the social order. The book also considers that a primary obstruction to achieving peace is the ability to conceive of peace and, using future visioning, asks three questions: Do university educators challenge conflict narratives in the classroom? What obstacles exist to prevent educating for peace in Israel? How do educators imagine the future?



Dr SungYong Lee, with Professor Alpaslan Özerdem of Coventry University, co-wrote *International Peacebuilding: An Introduction*, published by Routledge in December 2015. This textbook for both students and practitioners, deals with key aspects of peacebuilding such as core concepts and theoretical discussions, the phases of peacebuilding, and key areas in the practice of peacebuilding. Theoretical discussions are supported by detailed case studies to give concrete ideas about the planning and implementation of peacebuilding programmes.

## Uppsala visitors

In February, the Centre hosted two visitors from Uppsala University, Karin Johansson and Susanne Schaftenaar.

Susanne and Karin are PhD students in the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala, and we were pleased to have them in Dunedin, to add to the growing number of students and staff from both institutions who have had the opportunity to travel over the last three years.

In the final week of their visit, Susanne and Karin presented a well-attended public seminar outlining their PhD research, entitled *Exploring the Determinants of Nonviolent Campaigns and Sexual Violence*.

In her presentation 'Why (wo)men rebel: Exploring the effect of gender equality on conflict onset', Susanne argued that when non-state groups try to resolve incompatibilities with governments, gender norms affect mobilisation patterns and conflict norms in societies. Subsequently, this affects the choice of conflict strategy. Her results support the hypothesis that greater levels of gender equality lead to

greater mobilisation of both men and women, aiding nonviolent campaigns that need mass participation.

Karin's research examines international condemnation, expressed as campaigns for naming and shaming. Her presentation, 'Shaming the shameless: Exploring the conditions under which shaming can reduce sexual violence' discussed the efficacy of naming and shaming campaigns in reducing conflict-related sexual violence. Her research focuses on sexual violence perpetrated by state forces, and three conditions that she expected to have an impact on the probability that governments will improve their sexual violence record following shaming: presence of human rights organisations, foreign aid dependency and the degree of military challenge (when in conflict).

Both Karin and Susanne appreciated the opportunity to present their work, receive feedback and questions, and discuss their findings before presenting at the International Studies Association conference in Atlanta, Georgia in March.



Karin Johansson (left) and Susanne Schaftenaar

# Professor Erica Chenoweth's Fellowship

Over the course of a three-week William Evans Fellowship at the Centre, Professor Erica Chenoweth wrote half the manuscript for a forthcoming book, with approximately 30,000 words written during the first rainy week in Dunedin.

“Being physically out of my home environment and having dedicated time to write is a luxury. It's very hard to put time aside when I'm involved in student supervision, instructional activity and administration.”

Erica was resident at the Centre from 25 January to 15 February, and in that time presented a public seminar and public lecture, recorded a conversation with Centre staff member Dr Charles Butcher and gave a two-hour master class to a group of students from the Centre and the Department of Sociology, Gender and Social Work. In addition she held an open office most afternoons. Working closely with a number of students provided an opportunity to assess the field in New Zealand.

“Being here has given me the chance to see where the field is going, and what the patterns and trends of future scholarship are likely to be.”

In contrast to the work being done across the United States, at the University of Otago Erica noticed a focus on principled approaches to peace making and peace building.

“In the States, even in qualitative research, there is more attention to empirical data and not so much on the normative impacts of the research. This culture can change swiftly with hiring practices, because personnel and faculty interests shape the culture of a school, as Kevin and Richard have done here.”

In her role as Professor and Associate Dean for Research at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, at the University of Denver, Erica tries to bring people together who are attentive to the link between scholarship and practice. Erica is also aware of her ability to bridge the gap between the millennial student cohort and the older generation of scholars, two years shy of being considered a millennial herself.

“People can be very quick to label the millennial group, those born after 1982, as self-interested, even disconnected, in part due to the rise of social media. In my experience, this group is actually very interested in collective problem solving, collaborative approaches and issues of justice. They want solutions to global problems where fairness is central.”

Students in New Zealand seem to have an ethical and normative approach, and a desire for their scholarship to have an impact in the world.

In Denver, Erica's role at the School is to connect faculty with resources to support their scholarship. That might mean matching scholars with funders, shaping resources within the university to provide research support, or helping colleagues prepare their research for presentation to a popular audience.

“Any US newspaper, even the New York Times, wants writing at a 4th grade reading level. I host workshops like media training and linking scholarship to practice. The aim is to help colleagues present their work in digestible pieces so they don't look like eggheads to a general audience. I enjoy the collaborative nature of my work.”

Her own research is collaborative, as she employs 24 Research Assistants who collect and code data, while six PhD students project manage the data collection day to day.

The basis of the research is her phenomenally successful book *Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict* co-authored with Maria J. Stephan and published in 2011. As a

direct result of the attention given to the findings of this exhaustive research, Erica has had access to people at the top of their fields in a range of disciplines. She is well regarded by people she has met, ranging from Nobel Peace Laureates to heads of state.

There is a downside to being considered a luminary and world-famous in her field, including loss of privacy, unwanted attention and having to be very protective of her time; however this is offset by the opportunity to entertain hopes and dreams on a mega-scale. One of those dreams is to create a foundation to fund Centres of Excellence, bringing together multidisciplinary teams of engineers, educationalists, artists, social scientists, computer scientists and others, to work intensively for a decade on alternatives to violence. “There's a willingness to do it. So much research now has to be framed in relation to national security. This is an opportunity to liberate scholarship from government funding by building a foundation on private philanthropy alone.”

With so much going on, the Centre is enormously grateful that Erica accepted the invitation to visit as a William Evans Fellow. And the gratitude is not all one way, with a day's fly-fishing on the Mataura River and trips to Milford Sound and Mt Cook with her partner providing memorable interludes in a very busy academic visit.

“I hope that the Fellowship has benefitted the Centre too. I've enjoyed the opportunity to pick each other's brains for a couple of weeks, to get to know scholars working in the same area, and to hear about all of the important work coming out of the Centre.”



# REI Foundation Scholars, 2016-2018

Now in the fourth year, the REI Foundation (formerly Global Future Charitable Trust) scholarships for 2016 were awarded to Aidan Gnoth and Nick Tobia. The Centre acknowledges with gratitude the ongoing generous support of the Foundation and its founder, Mrs Reiko Fukutake.

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Aidan Gnoth moved to Dunedin in May to begin his PhD under the supervision of Dr SungYong Lee. He is interested in how critical approaches to international theory influence peace-operation policy makers, practitioners, and theorists alike. Currently in the process of refining his proposal, Aidan has written on similar topics when undertaking his Honours at the University of Otago (2010), where he analysed the relationship between regional organisations and the United Nations during two peace-operations, and his Masters at Victoria University (2013), where he looked at how the 'Responsibility to Protect' norm had been diffused within Africa, Latin America, and South East Asia.

Aidan's professional background includes working for the Politics department at Victoria University, interning at the Council for International Development in Wellington, and most recently two and a half years working as a political advisor within local government. He is incredibly excited to be back at the beautiful Otago campus and immensely grateful for the REI Foundation scholarship, which is making his research possible.



Nick Tobia is a human rights professional in the policy and development sectors. Some years prior, he was employed at ASEAN in Jakarta on the regional human rights portfolio. He is now an evaluation consultant for The Asia Foundation, Law and Human Rights Unit in the Manila field office. He is also a panel consultant for Rapid Asia in Bangkok.

During undergraduate study, Nick was more interested in mountaineering and sports, but still managed to earn his bachelors credentials (AB Psychology, Ateneo and JD, University of the Philippines). His work in human rights made him a better student and researcher. On that path, he earned scholarships for his masters credentials in human rights (MHRD, USyd, and MA, Mahidol) and in peace studies (MSc, Uppsala). He is still fanatical though about mountaineering and basketball.

For the PhD, he is working on the subject of participation of multiple armed groups in complex peace processes. He is developing new models anchored on Agonism and other conflict theories with the aim of devising negotiation and participation structures that are capable of wider inclusiveness of severely incompatible discourses. He considers himself honored and very fortunate to find funding support from the REI Foundation for his research.

## Recent publications

Jackson, R., and G. Hall. 2016. "Talking about terrorism: A study of vernacular discourse." *Politics*, first published on April 19, 2016 doi:10.1177/0263395715610791

Johansson, P. Forthcoming 2016. "Hit, men inte länge. Den internationella flyktingregimen och andra sätt att hantera ofrivillig migration." ["Here, but not for long. The international refugee regime and other ways of addressing forced migration."] In *Från krig till fred. RJ:s årsbok 2016/2017, [From war to peace. Yearbook of the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences 2016/2017]*, edited by J. Björkman & A. Jarrick. Göteborg & Stockholm: Makadam förlag.

Lee, S., R. Mac Ginty and M. Joshi. Forthcoming 2016. "Social Peace versus Security Peace." *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organisations* 22. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Standish, K. 2015. *Cultural Violence in the Classroom: Peace, Conflict and Education in Israel*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

# Letter from Kent and Japan!

Professor Kevin Clements

I spent eight very happy months at the Centre for the Analysis and Resolution of Conflict at the University of Kent at Canterbury from July 2015 to March 2016 and two equally happy months at Meiji Gakuin University, Tokyo Japan.

During this time I finished an edited book *On “Dealing with Painful History to Create a Peaceful Present: Identity, Trust and Reconciliation in East Asia”*. Palgrave Press has agreed to publish this book in 2017. I continued work on a monograph on “The Politics of Compassion” which will hopefully be finished in 2017 as well. I also finished a chapter on The New Zealand Peace Movement for a book emerging from the 2015 Foreign Policy School; an article on John Burton’s Legacy for the *Journal of Peacebuilding*; and an article on *The Politics of Compassion in an Age of Ruthless Power*, to be published in *Juniata Voices*.

I gave a series of invited lectures to Conciliation Resources, London, Oxpeace-University of Oxford, the University of York, Kings College London, the University of Manchester, University of Coventry, Juniata College, USA, Soka University Japan, and Meiji Gakuin University, Japan. All of these were helpful to me as I refined papers and books on Compassion, Northeast Asia and the growth of right wing populist movements in Europe, the USA and South East Asia.

I organised and co-facilitated a workshop under the auspices of the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy and University of Otago on “Pacifist and Warrior Traditions in the Abrahamic Religions and Buddhism” in Tokyo from the 4-8th February. This brought together eminent Jewish, Christian, Moslem and Buddhist scholars and practitioners for conversations about just war theory and the nonviolent resources and traditions imbedded in major faith groups. Professor Lester Kurtz, George Mason University, will edit the papers from this workshop.

As part of the STINT collaborative agreement between the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at Uppsala and Otago I gave a lecture there on “Dealing with Painful History” and had collaborative discussions with the Head of Department, Faculty and representatives from different student bodies about how we could consolidate and expand relationships between Otago and Uppsala. I chaired one panel and made presentations at three others at the ISA meeting Atlanta Georgia 16-19 March 2016.

During my two months in Japan, (in addition to research, writing, and lectures), I worked with teachers and senior academics at two High Schools and one University on the development and refinement of state sponsored Global Studies programmes. For a country that is moving in a nationalist direction, support of Global Studies and the development of concepts of global citizenship and global responsibility is a positive move and I was happy to support these initiatives and also lay the groundwork for future collaboration with Otago.

I returned to New Zealand at the end of May and am grappling with “the shock of the old”!

Me rongo  
Kevin Clements

# Unique taonga returned

In February, a work of art and *taonga* (treasure), which the Centre has been privileged to have on display for the last six years, was returned to its home to *Rekohu* (Chatham Islands).

IN THE WORDS OF ARTIST KINGSLEY BAIRD

*Chatham Islands Stela combines imagery from Rekohu – an ‘impression’ of Tommy Solomon, a figure derived from Moriori dendroglyphs and kopi trees and leaves – with the form of a stela or upright slab funeral monument... Writing about this work 18 years after making it, the same feeling that inspired the stela remains. This is an overwhelming admiration for a people who made a conscious decision to follow a longstanding principle of peace and the resolve of their descendants to challenge the mythology of their extinction and promote the beliefs of their ancestors for the benefit of their own people and humankind.*

Tommy Solomon (1884 – 1933) grew up on Rekohu, where he ran a successful farm. He worked tirelessly for the Chathams community. He was seen as a leader by those of Moriori descent and was a repository of knowledge about the Moriori culture.

When the Stela was loaned to the Centre in recognition of the strong partnership relationship between the Centre and the Hokotehi Moriori Trust, it was hoped that Tommy would be a reminder to the Centre to incorporate indigenous peace traditions into its teaching and that he would inspire the ongoing development of the aims of the Centre.

Thanks to Nyssa Mildwaters, Lisa Yeats, Garry Gibson and Scott Reeves, staff of the Otago Museum for their valuable assistance with the safe return of this taonga.

Otago Museum staff Garry Gibson, Nyssa Mildwaters and Lisa Yeats pack the Stela.



# A welcome return visit

The Centre was delighted to host Dr Karen Brounéus from 30 March to 18 May. Karen was a member of the NCPACS faculty from August 2009, when the Centre was first established at the University of Otago, until January 2014, by which time the Centre had grown rapidly to a staff of six and a large international group of students.

When she and her family returned to Sweden two years ago, she promised to return. Her long awaited visit was made possible this year with a Matariki Fellowship.

“It has been a wonderful visit for me and my family,” she said. “We have reconnected with so many people and places that are special to us all.”

In 2014, after Karen’s return to the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University, she took on the role of Director of Studies for a three-year mandate. In the final year of this mandate now, Karen has agreed to extend for a second three-year term.

“The first three years is that hardest as it’s the learning period, whereas I am told that in the second mandate, I will have more idea of what I am doing and be comfortable with the role. I am looking forward to that! And to focusing more on my research again too.”

A major task, which Karen has seen through to fruition, was the redevelopment of the Masters programme at Uppsala. Through a year long consultative process, Karen led the faculty in a process assessing the strengths of the existing programme and identifying areas that could be enhanced. The result, which is now being implemented, is a revitalized two-year programme, consisting of three core courses and about ten elective courses. In the second year, students can choose a practicum or option courses, and in the final half-year produce a thesis.

“It has been a big process, with 25 teachers involved. It was important that we built flexibility into the teaching, allowing everyone to teach in his or her area of expertise. My challenge was to oversee the design of a programme that had ownership from all the teachers.”

Another initiative which Karen has started is a series of pedagogical lunches, occurring twice per semester, where teachers gather for an informal presentation and discussion about issues such as active student learning, IT in the classroom and one of Karen’s hot issues, the detrimental effect of multi-tasking when students engage with their technology rather than what is happening in the classroom.

As all PhD students in Uppsala are required to teach, she also has one-on-one pedagogical development conversations with them, to ensure that challenges are being addressed and to identify ways in which the Department can help them. Karen or other senior faculty

can also act as a ‘critical friend’ in class if they wish, to give feedback and bounce ideas on teaching.

The visit to New Zealand has provided a valuable opportunity to work on the report for her Solomon Islands research, started here as part of Karen’s Marsden Research Grant. She also has a new grant from the Swedish Research Council, which will fund a project on Women, War Trauma and Peacebuilding with fellow Uppsala academic, Dr Erika Forsberg. They will be working with colleagues from the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka, looking at the effect of war trauma and psychological health on attitudes to peace.

“We will be looking at whether gender plays a role. There is evidence that non-lethal violence, such a sexual violence, is experienced more by women, and that women might be more negative than men about issues relating to peace.”

The Horizon 2020 EU Responsibility in Research and Innovation Guidelines will help shape the design of this new project.

As one project begins, other projects draw to a close. The Solomon Islands report on the Marsden research will soon be presented to the government and NGOs there, and Otago students with whom Karen maintains a supervisory relationship will this year be submitting their doctoral theses.

Meanwhile, as Karen, Fredrik, Zacka and Elsa regard Dunedin as a second home, we hope that we will see them again before too long.



## Recent graduates

Congratulations to recent graduates from the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies.

### PhD

Heather Kertyzia  
Janine Joyce

### Master of Arts (Peace and Conflict Studies)

Celeste Donovan  
Marie Nissanka

### Master of Peace and Conflict Studies

Vaoula Atatagi  
Anita Clarke  
Ramzi Dosch  
Maari McCluskey  
Hannah Sadler  
Joanna Tang  
Alison Wadworth  
Lisa Wilkie

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