



ROTARY PEACE CENTERS

Marty Peak Helman

Trustee, The Rotary Foundation 2022-26

Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club, Maine, USA



TODAY's AGENDA

- Update on the Rotary Peace Centers
 - ❖ New Curriculum
 - ❖ New Center
 - ❖ Application Process
 - ❖ Budget
- Let's meet some Rotary Peace Fellows!



PATH HEANG

Home country: Cambodia, spent boyhood in Khmer Rouge labor camp.

University of Queensland, 2008

Current position: Chief,
UNICEF field office, Cambodia



KEVIN MELTON

Home: Fairfax County, Virginia, USA.

University of Queensland, Australia, 2009.

Senior Policy Advisor at USAID, managing conflict prevention and stabilization policy.

In Afghanistan:

2012: NATO stability adviser
(on staff of General Petraeus).

2011: USAID Office of Transition Initiatives

2007: USAID Community Development

“It’s one thing to teach a former child soldier he shouldn’t use an AK-47 to solve his problems. But if he is hungry, and all he has is an AK-47, that is what he is going to use.”



ROTARY PEACE CENTERS

- ❖ 20 year old program (first students matriculated in 2002).
- ❖ 1500+ alumni work in 115 countries.
- ❖ 130 professionals selected annually to receive fully funded fellowships at one of seven Peace Centers.

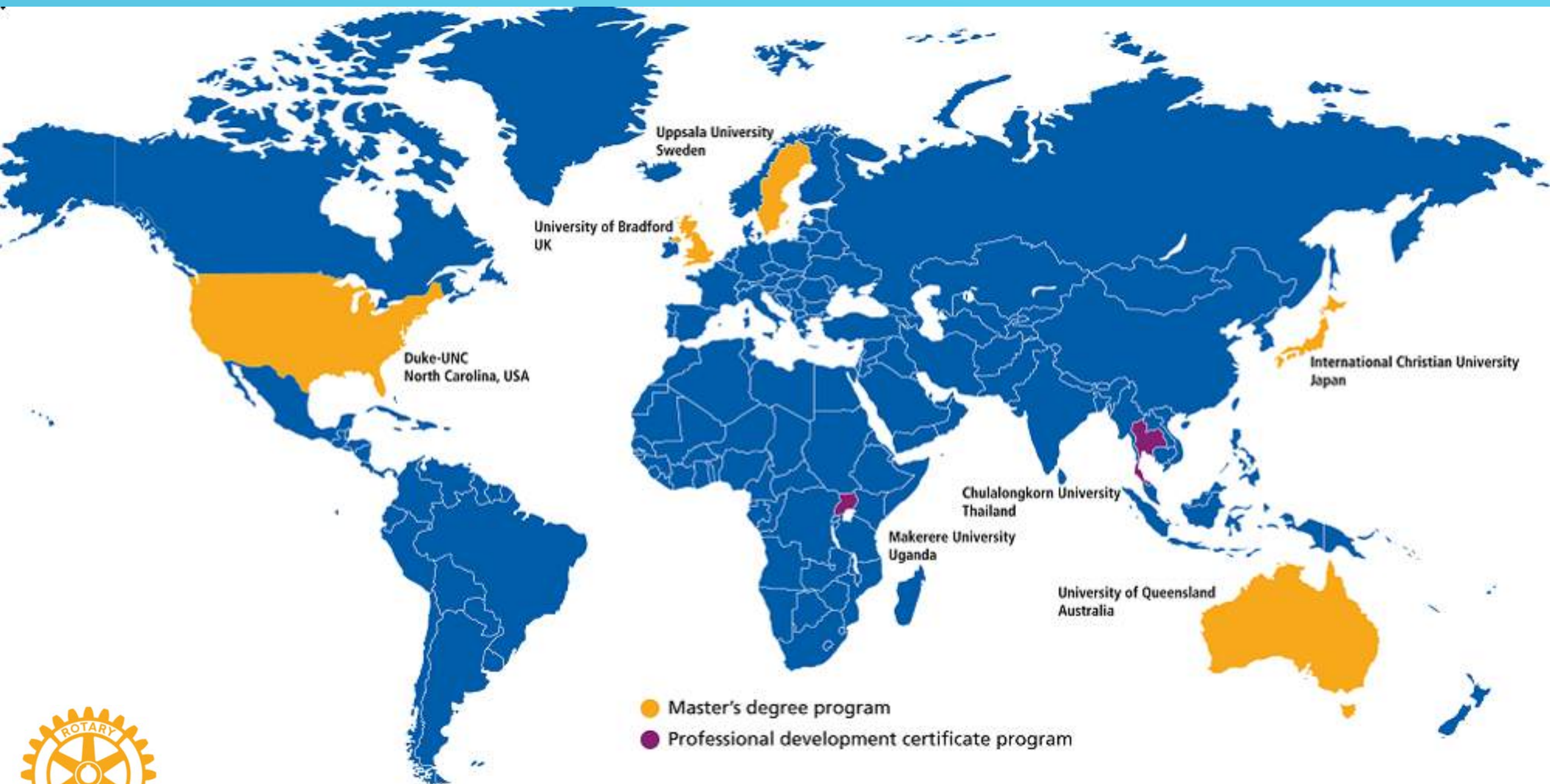


LYTTLETON BRAIMA

Home country: Sierra Leone.
Separated from his family by civil war;
grew up in camps in Liberia.

Duke University, 2015.

Portfolio: Consultant coaching
multinationals in ways to best support
people and customs of Sierra Leone.





MARIA SAIFUDDIN EFFENDI

Home country: Pakistan

Bradford University, 2009

Currently: Professor at Pakistan National Defence University, Islamabad.

Teaches peacekeeping techniques to Pakistani military officers.

2016 BLUE RIBBON REVIEW

Finding: Rotary gets more return on investment from graduate certificate program.

Growth plan: Establish three more *regional* graduate certificate programs and transition Chulalongkorn program to regional program in Asia.

New regional programs to be located in:

Sub-Saharan Africa

Middle East/North Africa

Latin America

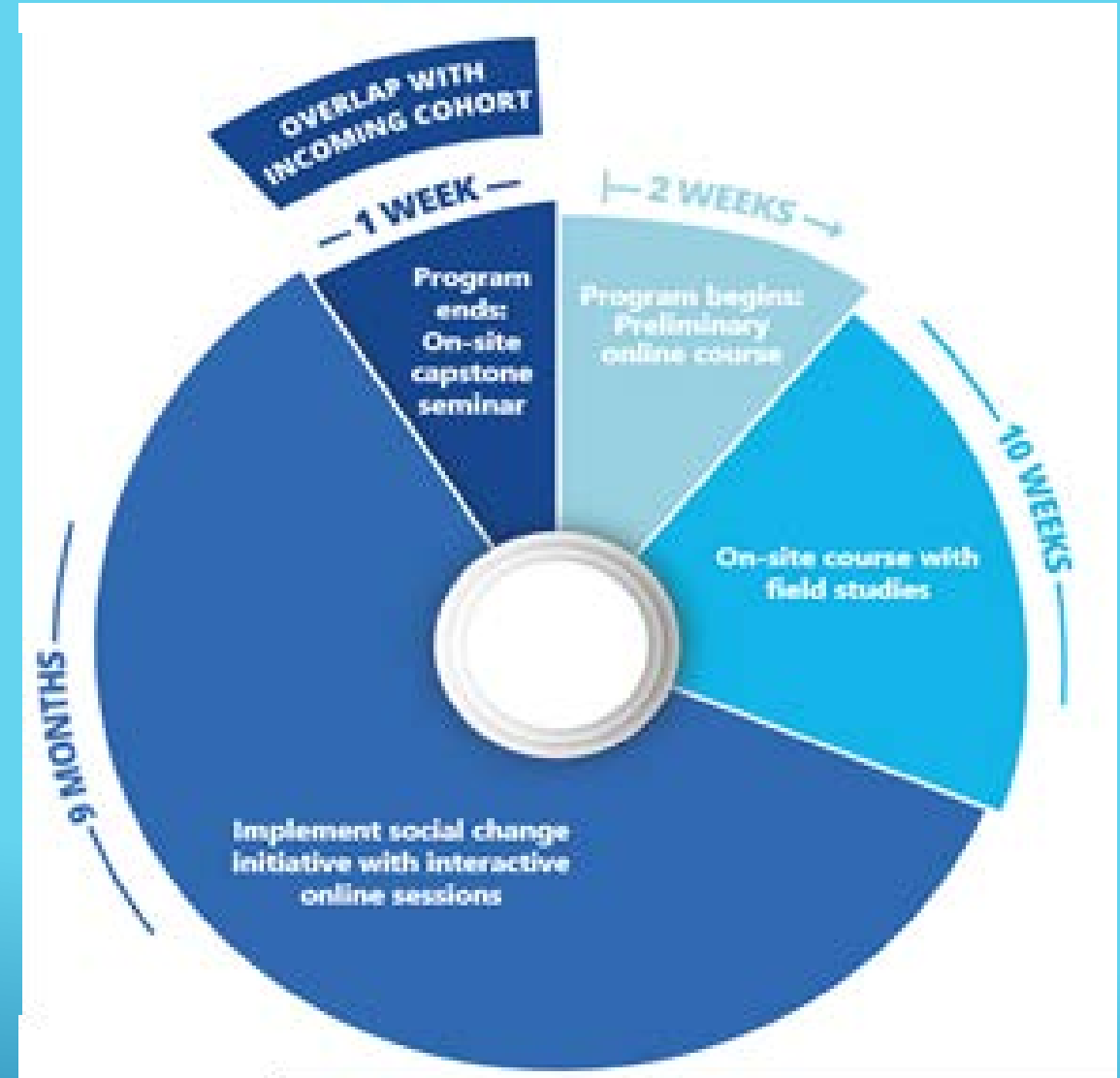
MAKARERE UNIVERSITY

Kampala, Uganda

First class matriculated January 2021.

70% of cohort from Africa;
30% from rest of world.

One-year program emphasizes independent study and implementation of social change initiative, which takes place from home. Cohort comes together in class at beginning and end of program.





Yinka Babalola, Nigeria
RI Vice President 2019-20

MAKARERE UNIVERSITY, UGANDA: A REGIONAL CENTER

"Makarere marks the first time in history that an institution in Africa has been designed to train Africans to find African solutions to African problems."

-- June 2020 Zoom presentation
hosted by Portland Sunrise RC



A BENCHMARK GIFT

February 2021

TRF announces \$15.5 million gift from the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation to fully fund a new Peace Center in Middle East/North Africa region.

To be named: Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center. First time The Rotary Foundation has named program after the donor.

The Walter Foundation is second largest donor in Rotary Foundation history.

Dr. Otto L. Walter

- ❖ Humanitarian
- ❖ Philanthropist
- ❖ Rotarian

Fran Doonan Walter



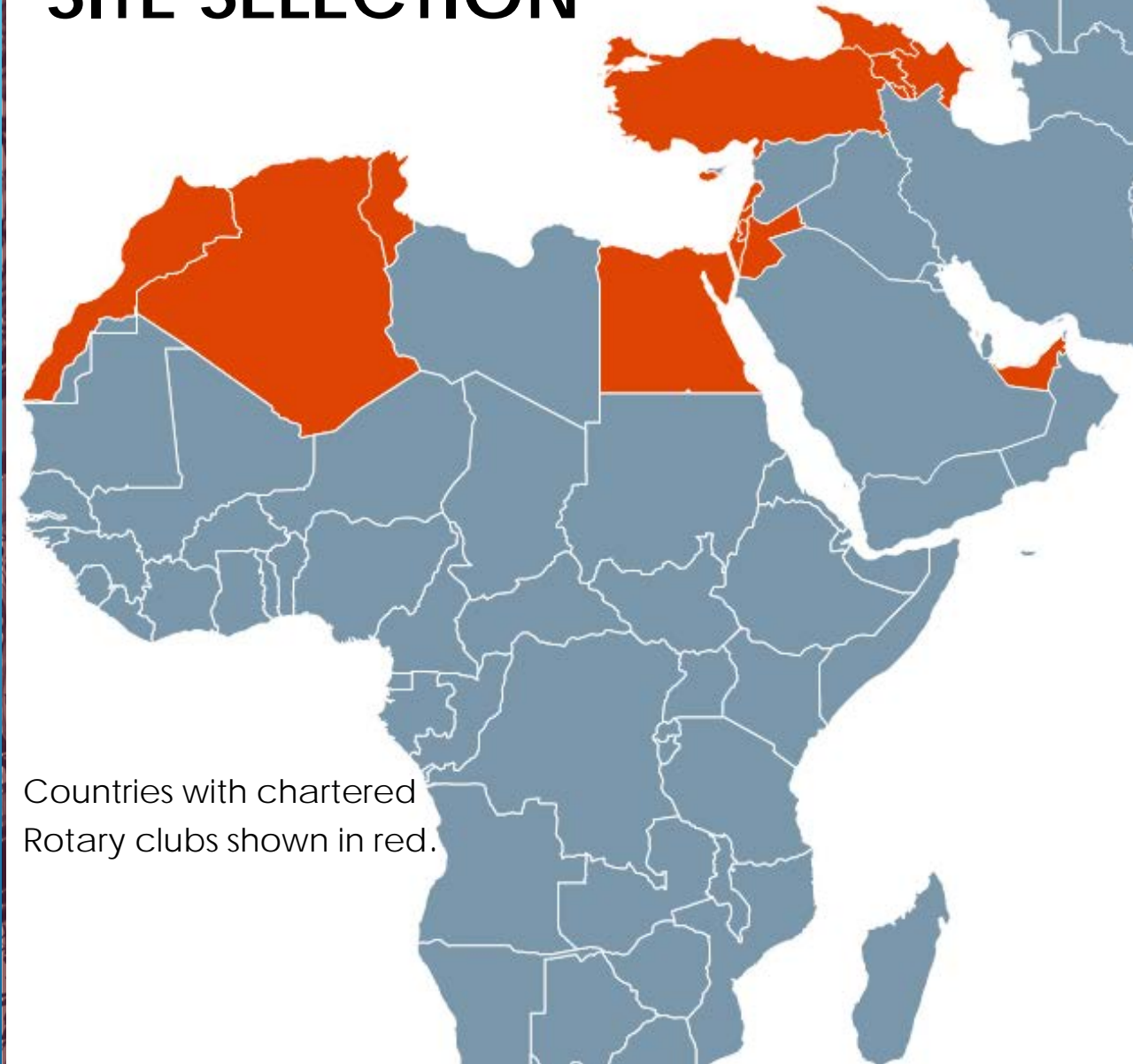
SITE SELECTION WORK GROUP

Past RI President Bill Boyd, New Zealand
Past RI Director/Past Trustee Bryn Styles, Canada
Past MGI Chair/Trustee-elect Marty Helman, USA

SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

- Safe and secure study environment.
- Located in a country with chartered Rotary and Rotaract clubs.
- Partnering with a university with capacity to offer post-graduate certificate program and demonstrated expertise in peace and development issues.
- Accessible to all international students (i.e.: visa availability and open border crossings).

MENA PEACE CENTER SITE SELECTION



Countries with chartered
Rotary clubs shown in red.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Researched 30 schools in 11 countries.
- Asked three to submit RFPs.
- Site visits to take place in October 2022.
- Expect Trustees to vote on partner site in Jan 2023.
- Peace symposium at host institution winter 2024.
- First students matriculate spring 2025.

**Sabanci University
- Istanbul**



**Behcesehir University
- Istanbul**



American University of Cairo





BRIAN SANDBERG

MA in International Relations – Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, 2011. Sponsored by Portland RC.
Currently works with NGOs to improve the life of those living in the slums in Buenos Aires.
Met wife in Buenos Aires, lives in that country permanently.

PEACE FELLOWS SPONSORED BY DISTRICT 7780

DARREN WALLACH

Graduate Certificate from Chulalongkorn University, 2009.
Sponsored by Portland RC.
Teaches social sciences at Oceanside HS in Rockland.
Working to create curriculum so that history is taught via study of peace and diplomacy, not study of wars and conflicts.
MA from University of Maine, 2020. Thesis: "Ways to Peace: Case Studies in Peace and Diplomacy."
Met wife in Thailand, currently lives in Brunswick.



CASSANDRA VARANKA

Accepted at University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia (MA class of 2024).
Sponsored by Bridgton-Lake RC.
Experience: Advocate and policy director for foreign policy and women's initiatives. Legislative assistant to Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL).
Worked to pass Women, Peace and Security Act of 2017.



"I like to do exciting things - life is too short not to do that."

Honors

US Air Force Keenan Award for making most notable contribution to the development of international law.

Colombia's Medalla al Mérito Militar en Derecho Humanos y Derecho Internacional Humanitario and Medalla Militar.

COL. CORNELIA WEISS (retired)

Home country: USA

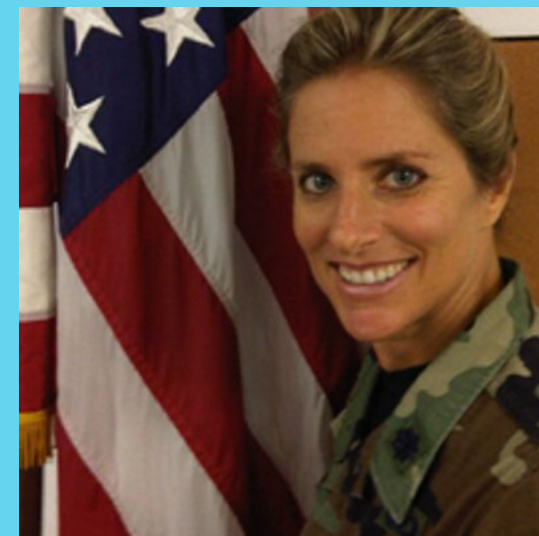
Previous position: Judge Advocate,
US Air Force Reserve

Chulalongkorn, 2016

Helped the Colombian Ministry of Defense develop the legal resources to fight narco-terrorism.

Worked with NATO to establish an international airlift consortium to meet humanitarian and disaster relief needs.

Special interest: To affirm women in today's society by researching past injustices and creating transformative policies and practices.



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Master's Degree

- Two-year academic program.
- Must have three years (156 weeks) work/volunteer experience in related field.
- Must have three years between completion of most recent academic degree program and intended start date of fellowship.
- Bachelor's degree and TOEFL required.

Graduate Certificate

- One-year academic program, mostly independent and remote learning (10 weeks on campus).
- Must have five years (260 weeks) work/volunteer experience in a related field.
- Must have three years between completion of most recent academic degree program and intended start date of fellowship.
- Bachelor's degree and TOEFL required.



MAHMOOD RAHIMY

Home country: Afghanistan

Previous position: secondary school English teacher

Chulalongkorn, 2016

In 2021: Teaching English and empowerment at University of Nuristan.

Currently in hiding.



ACCEPTANCE RATE

No. of Qualified Applicants:

2016: 326

2018: 408

2020: 660

2022: 786

Master's Degree qualified 2022: 589.
50 students accepted (10 per school)

Graduate Certificate qualified 2022: 197.
80 students accepted
(two cohorts of 20 students per school)



ANNE REICHERT

Home country: Denmark
Current resident: Germany

International Christian University, 2012

Current position: Head of ReDi School of Digital Integration, training refugees for high-tech jobs in Berlin.



NAING KO KO

Home country: Myanmar.

University of Queensland, 2013.

Policy Portfolio: Combatting corruption in the financial industry.

Underground since military coup in February 2021.

HOW CAN MY CLUB NOMINATE A STUDENT?

- No cost (no cash or DDF) from club, District or student. Funding comes out of separate endowment at TRF.
- No geographic requirements.
- No age requirements.
- Application and all info on [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org)
- Current application deadline: May 31, 2022 for acceptances October 2022 and matriculation the following academic year 2023.

FMI: Contact Bob Gravino,
District 7780 Peace subcommittee chair

ROTARY PEACE CENTER ENDOWMENT:

\$185 million (cash and expectancies)

Budget per annum: \$5 million



RACHEL DAVIDSON

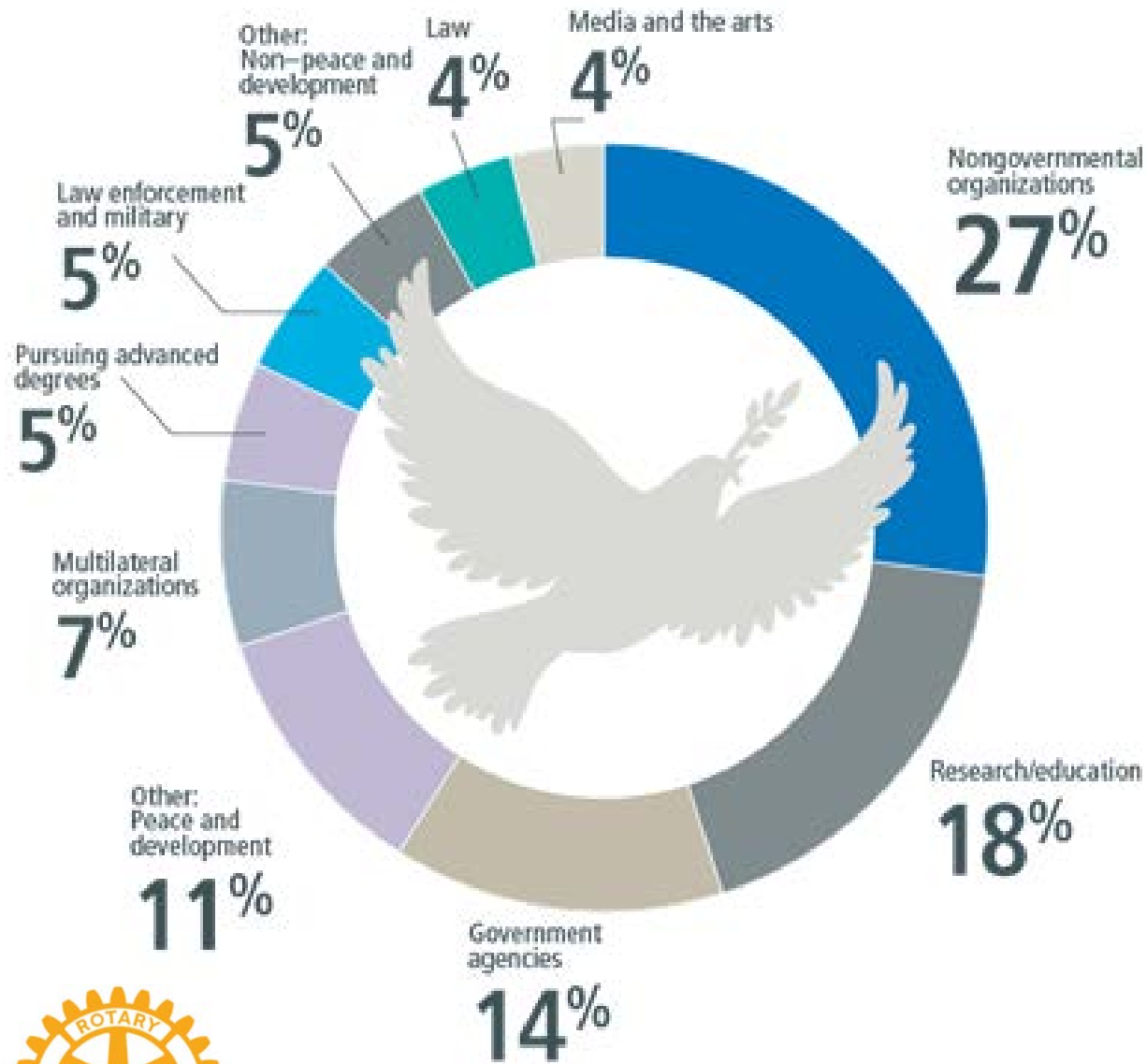
Raised in Chicago, currently resides in New York City.

Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, 2010.

Current position: Managing attorney with The Door in NYC, advocating for child migrants to the US.



WHERE PEACE ALUMNI WORK



D.F. PACE

Home: Philadelphia, PA.

Chulalongkorn University, 2011.

Police Inspector, Philadelphia Police Department.



DR DILSHAD OTHMAN

Home country: Iraq.

University of North Carolina, 2015.

Current position: MD with
International Committee of the
Red Cross, South Sudan.

"It's not a scholarship. It's a fellowship."

