



# 1

## Letter from the Director of Studies



Dear students,

As your new Director of Studies, my driving ambition is to have the Graduate School remain a hub of teaching excellence – and fun. I actively encourage you to contact me and my team if you have any ideas, concerns, praise or other comments that will help us achieve that. In this issue we will focus on the *global studies programme*, where we include texts by current students, teachers, and alumni. We hope you enjoy reading it! And hey – remember that you can contribute here too.

A few quick words about me since I am the new (if somewhat grizzled) kid on the GS block. As a researcher, I am broadly speaking interested in political thought, mainly democratic theory, and organisational politics and leadership theories. I actually started out as an Eng. Lit. major, then switched to informatics before finally hitting the bull's eye at the department of political science. I teach a variety of courses, though international politics and political communications are mainstays. I generally try to take an active



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part in the public (media) debate where I am happy to opine about party-political matters; information security; education policy and British Politics. I also write a column for a regional newspaper, and there I cast my net a bit wider – a proud moment was when I recently managed to link Terry Pratchett’s tortoise-God *Om* and Swedish foreign policy. Now *that’s* innovative cross-fertilisation between the arts and the social sciences, no?

Mikael Sundström,

Director of Studies, Graduate School



# 2

## Student snapshots

In this issue we highlight Martin Björkhagen's pictures from his fieldwork in Indonesia and Banjwa Adventino's photo competition pictures.

### **Martin Björkhagen**

(Development Studies, 2013 cohort)

These are photos from my fieldwork in Eastern Indonesia where I conducted *Reality Check Approach* (RCA) studies in communities going through a peace-building process after a period of extended communal violence.

RCA studies require the researcher to immerse with the community by living in a household for about 4 days and nights. This has proven to be a great way of building trust and showing respect; showing that you care to listen to their views and becoming a learner. This greatly reduces some of the existing power gaps that are usually present when Western researchers/practitioners seek to gather data. The RCA involves immersion with the activities of the household, which is combined with informal conversations about the topic one wishes to explore.



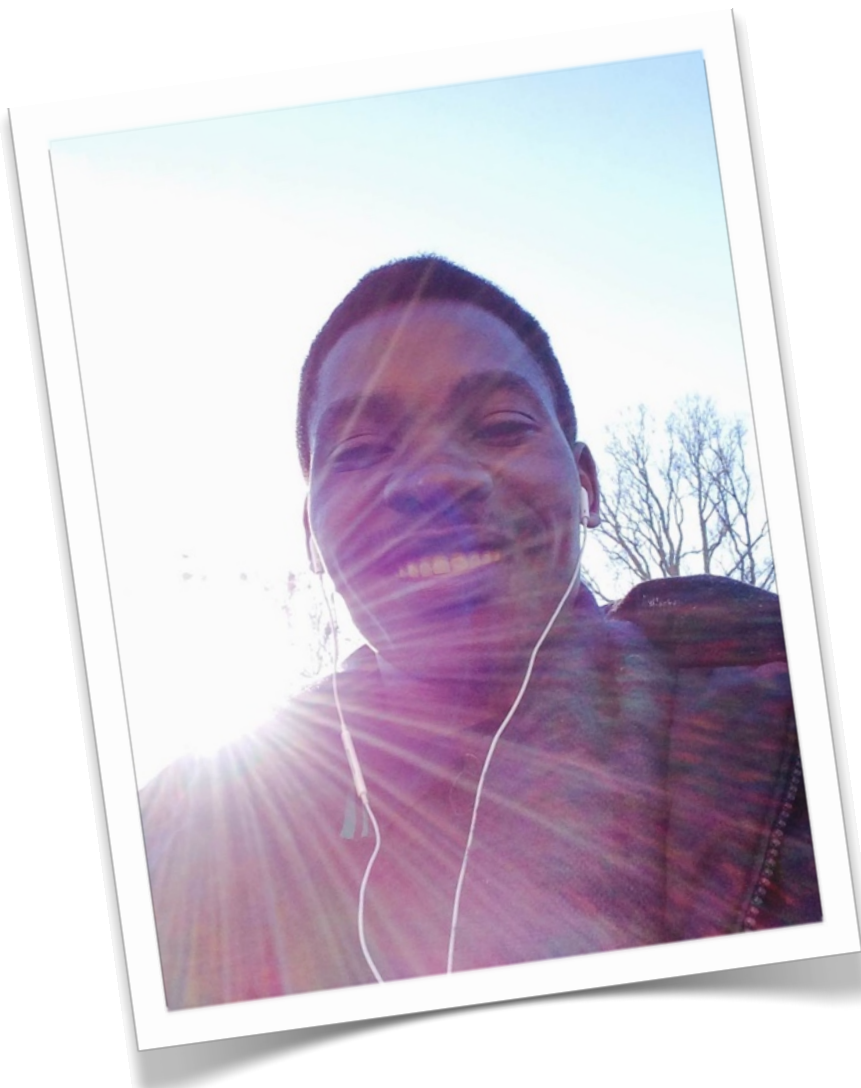




## Banjwa Adventino

(Development Studies, 2014 cohort)

Capturing a moment at Gamla Kirurgen, the seat of the Graduate School, Faculty of Social Sciences together with Alex Muzoozi



Rethinking things we normally take for granted. The sun, back home (Uganda) is something we never take so serious, simply because we have it all-year round.

I had to take a selfie with it (the sun) after its disappearance here for months! [editor's note: this May has been the coldest on record since 1962]



# 3

## Stories from the field

**Fabian Hemmerath** (Global Studies, 2013 cohort)

*Price Water House Coopers in Berlin*

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For the third term of the Global Studies programme, I was interning with the Public Management Consulting division of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The main motivation behind doing an internship in the Public Management Consulting sector was that I wanted to combine my education in Political Science with professional experiences in the field of economics. Since business and economics are not part of the Global Studies programme, I thought that the internship would be the perfect opportunity to gain insights in these fields.

Being a Political Science student, however, it was not so easy to get an internship in the private sector. I had to write many applications until my persistence finally paid off and I was invited for a PwC job interview. I doubt that this would have been possible without my former professional experience with smaller companies.

I knew that the internship would be quite a challenge. The professional environment and requirements at PwC seemed overwhelming at first but when the first tasks came, I managed to solve them by applying the analytical and technical skills I had obtained during my studies and previous work experiences. Having gained confidence through the first, easier, tasks, I was able to



slowly delve deeper into the topic and to become a valuable member of my project team.

My internship proved to me that even if a certain task or condition might at first seem completely overwhelming, it can be overcome by persistence and sometimes even just good timing. Right now, I am still working at PwC while simultaneously writing my Master's thesis – and I am really happy with my PwC experience as I plan to stay in consulting in the future.



The PwC skyscraper in Frankfurt

**Natalie Nolte** (Global studied, '13 cohort)

### *The Danish Embassy in Abu Dhabi, UAE*

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#### *Farewell Arabia, Hello the United Arab Emirates*

Once upon a time, Arabia was only a mirage to many people and depicted as a Kingdom of sand and oil. Now, the Arabia of legend comprises several sovereign states, one of which is the very real United Arab Emirates (UAE), a country that has much more to offer than just sand and oil. During my third term in Master in Global Studies, I was interned at the Royal Danish Embassy in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE. The UAE is one of the most successful emerging states in global political affairs and it has undergone very dramatic development since leaving its British Protectorate status in 1971. All these aspects inspired me to head down to the Arabian Peninsula to see for myself how things worked.

From the very beginning of the Master's program, I was determined to do an internship as part of my studies in order to gain practical experience. Furthermore, as my political science interests have always been focused on security, diplomacy and international relations, these preferences guided me towards a placement within a foreign affairs institution. Being from Denmark I thought that applying through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be the perfect way to find the perfect placement. By searching for nearly half a year and actively keeping track of opening positions, I managed to spot a position as a political analyst in the Autumn of 2014. I immediately applied, and was selected for an interview and eventually chosen for the position.

My internship proved an incredible experience, and I gained a lot of work skills, confidence and knowledge of a very different political-cultural-religious society. By engaging in diplomatic affairs and by reporting directly to the Ambassador or going off to meetings as an Embassy representative, I learned protocol affairs and had



the opportunity to meet with UAE Ministers and other foreign delegates from European as well as Non-European countries. Even though, I felt as if I could perpetually have stayed in my position, I also knew that what I had experienced would be fruitful to bring back to other students. I also learned that thematic careers such as diplomacy, are not always what it may seem. It is therefore extremely valuable to try and get some practical experience within a field that you may be interested in to truly figure out if it is really what you imagined or are in fact interested in. For my part, I know that my internship has led me to a more direct future career path, Insha'Allah.

## Claudia Mallschuetze

(Global studies, '13 cohort)

### *German Development Agency in Manila*

For the third term I chose to do an internship because I think it is an important step for a smooth entry into the labour market after finishing the Master's programme. I interned at the German Development Agency (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – GIZ) in Manila, the Philippines, in a project aiming at the promotion of Micro-insurance in several Asian countries. After a partly frustrating process trying to find a placement – a process which involved my writing numerous unsolicited applications – I was happy to receive the confirmation in mid-July.



Claudia Mallschuetze  
(picture by GIZ-RFPI)

During my stay I supported the project team in their various smaller and bigger tasks – mainly with project evaluation and report writing. I had the chance to gain hands-on insights how a development project works and what steps are needed to evaluate a programme of this kind. An important thing that I learned was to focus on the general aim of a project task rather than getting lost in unimportant details.

A specific highlight was to get invited to speak at the APEC Policy Dialogue in the context of the Philippines' APEC Chairmanship.

My six months were full of opportunities to develop both professionally and as a person. I think that studying Global Studies requires one to be focused on one area within the broad field of studies, and that an internship can help reveal or confirm that focus – that



Natalie standing inside the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates

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was certainly the case for me. My placement also inspired the topic of my Master's thesis which is focused on the links between micro-finance, inequality and poverty.

And of course, the fact that Manila is a great starting point when exploring the Philippines and the South East Asia region on weekends and holidays should not be ignored – it makes the stay a great cultural experience too.





# 4

## Our Alumni: Where Are They Now?

**Becca Palmer**

*Global Studies, graduated 2012*

Yuwalaya – Youth Resource Center is a project that I have been working on since my 1st year at Lund University. While the center was just an idea when I joined the group, we now have 6 employed staff members on location in Kathmandu. Here in Sweden, and internationally, we are currently working as volunteers (for the moment anyway). The group consists mainly of LU students, mostly from Development, Gender, and Global Studies, in addition to a handful of other members. I have the joy of being the International Project Leader for this amazing group and project!

In the wake of the April 25 earthquake, the Yuwalaya staff and volunteers in Nepal have been working extremely hard, putting together and delivering relief packages to people in need in Kathmandu and in hard to reach villages. I am thoroughly impressed by all the work that they are doing. We already had the volunteer base, coordination, outreach and



Becca in Kathmandu

drive, so everything came together, and we were able to quickly reach many people in need. For the first time, I knew that I could make a difference after a natural disaster, even if I was far away. We have been working with our main funder, Forum Syd, as well as a speaking at events, selling Nepali merchandise, in addition to online campaigns, in order to raise money for the center and the post earthquake relief efforts. If you want to find out more feel free to contact me!

For more information about Yuwalaya and our center check out these links:

<https://www.facebook.com/yuwalayayouthcenter?fref=ts>

Donations can be sent to:

SEB Bankkonto: 5624 33 754 55

*With love and hope from the Yuwalaya team*



Nepali staff, and international volunteers at the Yuwalaya center after a workshop

## Eylül Başak

*Global Studies, graduated 2012*

Hey there! My name is Eylül Başak, a 27-year-old from Izmir, Turkey. I first came to Lund in 2010 to take my masters and had no idea that it would turn out to be one of the most rewarding experiences in my life.

Lund University adopts an interdisciplinary approach to international relations which takes on the political, economic, and cultural theories through a gender lens along with other disciplinary perspectives. This was, to me, a distinguishably positive feature of the programme. Besides, not only did we have the opportunity to hold many interesting and intellectually diverse discussions with friends from all over the world, but being in an international environment also provides valuable opportunities to grow and learn to adapt to different situations.

During the development of my thesis, I had the chance to work on topics that have always attracted my interest and curiosity. Due to the courses I had taken during my bachelor and my internship at Amnesty International, I found myself drawn to the subjects of peace and conflict, minority rights, and migration. Therefore, I opted to do my research on Swedish multiculturalism policies. To that end, I first analysed corresponding laws and regulations and then conducted interviews with the Turkish-Kurdish community living in Sweden in order to explore the implementation of said policies and laws. The course on qualitative research methods offered during the programme was extremely helpful to complete this thesis. This research made me more certain of the field I wanted to work in and was possibly a milestone for me in determining my next step.

In 2013, when I was already back in Turkey, I started working at the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) as a UN Volunteer. Although I would have preferred to have had a volunteer experience abroad before I finally settled down, this was an opportunity not to be missed



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as it was directly relevant to my interest and background. I highly recommend you people to seize the opportunity to get involved in volunteering as it is both enriching and helps you make new contacts and discover new passions along the way.

Two years later I am still at UNHCR but not as a volunteer anymore. In my current position as Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Associate, I conduct interviews with asylum-seekers in order to understand why they left their countries and then recommend a decision on their status, which helps determine whether they are refugees or not according to the definition of the 1951 Convention. While doing this, it is crucial to have an analytical approach, apply the standard principles objectively, and do the country research in order to have up-to-date information regarding the situation in their countries of origin.

As you know, today millions of people are refugees or internally displaced and find themselves in need of international protection, which makes this issue a global concern that has impact on economic, social and political world trends. During my work, I have come to realise that Lund University has provided me with an understanding of major social and political trends in the globalised world to which I often refer back in order to comprehend the nature of migration and refugeehood and how they are connected to global, regional and national change processes. The analytical approach and various research methodologies that we were taught in the programme are highly relevant to my job and I apply them in my daily work. Lastly, the gender discourse, which was an important part of the readings and assignments, has provided me with a valuable resource I routinely apply when identifying the needs of the people of concern.

Apart from the academic highlights, studying in an international environment away from your comfort zone improves your communication skills, your ability to handle unexpected conditions, and makes you more tolerant and welcoming towards people with a cultural background different from your own. And above all, it

makes you want to travel more, experience more, and more readily accept challenges. To sum up, this is how my experience in Lund aided me in finding my own path and I hope to be back there one day!



# 5

## What's Happening at Graduate School?

### **Spring Lunch with PhD students**

On April 8th Graduate School organised a spring lunch, inviting 1st and 2nd year students to come listen to current PhD students at the faculty share their experiences. It was also an opportunity for them to meet the new Director of Studies Mikael Sundström, and to catch up with the programme directors. The participating PhD students came from a range of departments including political science, sociology, service management, gender, and school of social work. Students were full of questions about how the PhD students got their positions, what challenges they face, and how they combine their work with their private lives.





## Two students team up to write their thesis

by Caitlin Finlayson

*Development studies, major Sociology, graduated 2014*

& Maria Palmvang

*Development Studies, major Human Geography, graduated 2014*

### Putting our studies to practice

From the outset, Maria and I knew that we wanted to write our thesis together. During our coursework we had worked well together and we had similar interests in, and questions to put to, the development sector. We were curious and motivated to see how development theories (in our case empowerment) were used in the field. We also wanted our thesis to be useful and practical for an institution or an organisation – not to be something collecting dust in the library. To this end we established a connection with the Danish trade union 3F. Our thesis focused on 3F's empowerment programmes with two Zambian trade unions. Zambia was a country that neither of us had visited or worked with before.

### Working as a team

Working in a team turned out to be highly motivating. To have someone to bounce off your ideas and who will force you to clarify your arguments was invaluable. We had to agree on the focus and scope of the thesis which meant much debate and discussion on our approach. Some extra tasks which we faced were coordinating working hours and finding a coworking space. We also had to ensure that our writing styles matched. However, these challenges are in the end what made the thesis such an enriching experience. We strengthened our cross-cultural communication skills and logical reasoning, enhanced our understanding of development theories and learnt how to write more clearly and concisely.

We also developed our ability to deliver projects on time and within budget.

Working as a team meant that we had to be organised. We also had to allocate ample time for discussions. Other things we did were to allocate chapters or tasks and then switch so that neither of us was stuck with one specific task, and to discuss with other students who were also writing their theses in pairs.

All of these efforts made the process run smoothly and while there were some stressful moments, we for the most part thoroughly enjoyed working together and would definitely recommend team-writing to other students. We can honestly say that both the thesis and the process were significantly better as a result of working in a team.



*In union there is strength*

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## Master's Thesis Conference

Graduate School is once again organising the 4th Annual Master's Thesis Conference on June 8th, inviting master's students to present their theses to fellow students, staff, family and friends. The program includes a keynote speech by Mikael Sundström as well as a workshop on publishing and disseminating research led by Catia Gregoratti from the department of political science and Maja Carlson from the social science library. The conference also includes a poster exhibition where students have the opportunity to design a poster to reflect the key aspects of their research visually. A poster-making workshop was organized together with Pluto this year, where Kimberly Nicholas, from LUCSUS, shared her experiences with students on how to make a visual presentation of their research.

Participating programs at this year's conference include Development Studies, Global Studies, Social Studies of Gender, Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science (LUMES), Human Ecology, Sociology of Law, Political Science and Service Management. For an updated program, please see our webpage here.

<http://tinyurl.com/GS-MTC15>

The conference is open to the public and we encourage everyone to attend to listen to some of the exciting fields that our students have been researching! Registration is possible through June 5th here:

<http://tinyurl.com/GS-thesisregistration>

## Graduation Ceremony

This year's graduation ceremony will be held June 9th in the beautiful University Building in the heart of the university. We look forward to smiling faces and sunshine, and the chance to give warm wishes to all students about to take their next steps along their life journeys, and hope to stay in touch with all of them! Pictures will be distributed after the ceremony and posted on our webpage here:

<http://tinyurl.com/GS-gradceremony>





# 6

## Research in Action

**Annika Bergman Rosamond**

*Programme Director of Master of Science in Global Studies  
Senior Lecturer at Department of Political Science*

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My current research investigates the role of individuals in international society. Orthodox investigations into the workings of global politics tend to focus on states and their national interests narrowly defined. Such investigations leave little room for normative considerations in international politics. Nor do they tell us much about the role of individuals in constituting global moral obligation and dialogue in international relations. My recent research seeks to fill this void. I do so in two significant ways, first by looking at the ways in which individual soldiers seek to further cosmopolitan beliefs and values as part of contemporary peace operations. Together with my colleague Annica Kronsell, LU, I have investigated the ethical and dialogical roles of Danish and Swedish women soldiers in Afghanistan. Moreover, the two of us are initiating a project that focuses on the narratives, gender identities and war experiences of Danish and Swedish homecoming soldiers post-deployment in a homecoming environment. Second, I have in recent years produced a range of writings that centre on celebrity humanitarianism, international security and global obligation. For example, I have authored a piece that critically unpacks the gender(ed) and cosmopolitan underpinnings of Sean Penn's humanitarian work in Haiti and New Orleans. My key argument is that although such celebrity humanitarianism is problem-

atic in that it is situated within western and gender(ed) privilege we need to investigate this increasingly important phenomena. It is my aim to bring attention to some of the issues described above in the classroom and share my research experiences and knowledge with my postgraduate students on the Global Studies MA programme at LU.

More on Annika Bergman Rosamond including a list of publications can be found here:

<http://www.svet.lu.se/en/annika-bergman-rosamond>

And a report entitled “Women, Peace and Security – and Denmark”, written by Annika Bergman Rosamond, can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/GS-diis>

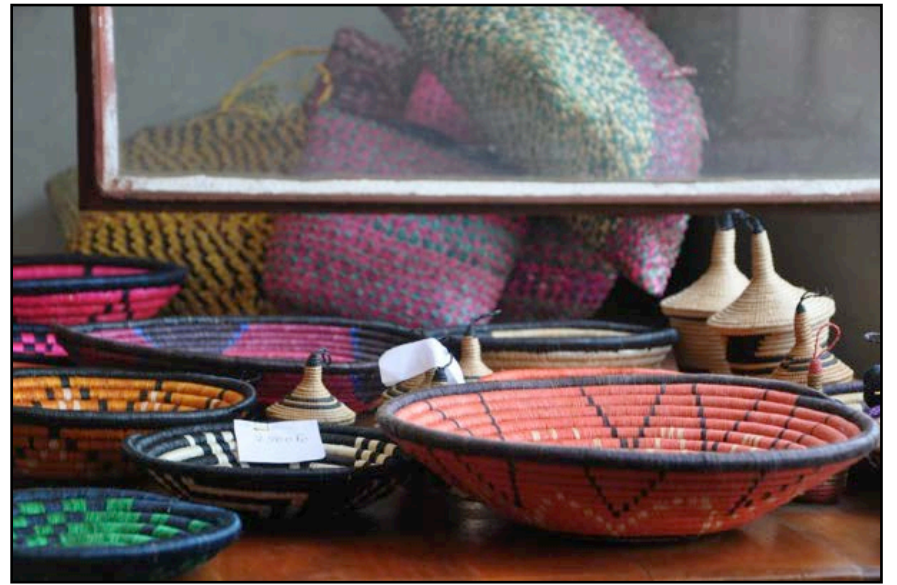
## Catia Gregoratti

*Senior Lecturer at Department of Political Science*

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My current research is motivated by a desire to better understand the role that corporations and businesses are playing in furthering gender equality and women’s empowerment. Since the 2008 financial crisis we have witnessed an increasing number of corporations embracing the two causes and implementing, often in partnership with other governmental and non-governmental actors, various corporate social responsibility and philanthropic programmes centred on women and girls. Goldman Sachs’ 10,000 Women Initiative, Wal-Mart’s Empowering Together and Coca-Cola’s 5by20, the Nike Foundation’s Girl Hubs are cases in point. Recently, these commitments have been conceptualised as an expression of the neoliberalisation of feminism.

In the summer of 2014, together with a colleague at the University of Glasgow, we travelled to Rwanda to research how these hybrid assemblages of development



The photograph was taken at the ICYEREKEZO cooperative in Ndera, Rwanda. The baskets and bags on display are produced as part of the Agaseke project – a women’s empowerment partnership between Kigali City Council and the United Nations.

actors engender equality and empowerment. These partnerships are taking place in the context of country which, since the aftermath of the 1994 genocide, has made significant strides in terms of enabling women’s political participation and economic empowerment. During the course of our research we had the unique privilege and opportunity to speak to and learn about the everyday lives of the women to whom empowerment is bestowed principally through gendered employment opportunities. We listen to stories of double and triple burdens, survival strategies and domestic violence, but we also observed the formation of solidarities that are forged within and transcend the workplace.

Throughout the past academic year, I presented some of the findings of this research here in Lund as well as at various international conferences and workshop. I have also lectured on some of the themes linked to this research to students from the Global Studies programme. In class, I have been particularly keen to open for debate our participation in this new politics of development particularly when we, affluent Western consumers, purchase commodities which are claimed to empower the distant other.





# 7

## Development Practitioners Seminar Series 2015

**By Kevin Wanyonyi**

*Development Studies, cohort 2014*

In line with Lund University's tradition of complementing theory and practice, Graduate School has organised its second season of the Development Practitioners Seminar Series (DPS), where experts in various fields in development from around the world are invited to come and share their insights and experiences of working in the field of development. This series was coordinated together with the Lumid programme. The practitioners not only led the seminars, but also conducted practical workshops that are relevant in the field, yet are not usually taught or covered in the various programmes offered at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Besides the seminars and workshops, these DPS have offered unique opportunities for students to interact with possible future employers, thus creating a network for future employment opportunities. Some students have even taken advantage of the presence of the practitioners to locate internships as part of their study programmes, with the aim to complement their theoretical studies with practical experiences.

In this year's DPS, Graduate School invited Development Practitioners working in Africa (Kenya and Somalia), Central America (Guatemala), Asia (India) and Europe (Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom). They shared their thoughts and experiences in their respective fields of specialisation, ranging



Kevin Wanyonyi and Alex Muzoozi

from working for disability rights; consultancy on development issues for governments and other organisations; working with the diaspora to harness development opportunities and support their countries of origin; working for international development agencies like Cordaid, Save the Children and various UN agencies.

Student response has been very encouraging. For instance, an economics student who attended the seminar by chance, having been invited by a friend, told me that the presentation by the practitioner that day helped her decide on a topic for her thesis. Other students are considering an internship with organisations

that the practitioners work for, with the aim to collect data and write their master's theses based on the projects they will work with. It is interesting to note that one of the development practitioners who conducted a workshop on Citizen's Participation, Mr. Joshua Nyamori from Kenya, has developed a Terms of Reference on solid waste disposal management for the county government of Kisumu. This is a direct outcome of the seminar and the workshop he conducted here at Lund University, meaning that the DPS series has then been of importance to students and practitioners alike. This is a true reflection of the potential when combining theory and practice, and we can only hope that Graduate School will be able to continue funding these events.

For a complete list of the 2015 programme, please see here: <http://tinyurl.com/GS-DPSS2015>

(all pictures by Kevin Wanyonyi)



Zara Todd speaking of disability rights in development work





# 8

## Staff News

As many of you know, Lena Örnberg is no longer the Director of Studies as she has moved on to head the *Study Support and Advising Services* section. We wish her all the best, and thank her for her fantastic work at Graduate School, where she will be missed!

### Important dates for the Autumn term

August 18	Arrival Day
August 25	Meet your Coordinator Day
August 28	Programme Start
August 31	Course start (profile courses)
September 10	Autumn Potluck
September 15 - October 15	Application period exchange students
November 2	Course start mid-term (SIMM31)
December 11	Luciafika
December 22 - January 6	Winter break

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# **Enjoy your summer!**

