



VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2 - SEPTEMBER 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

.....

Message from the Director..... 1

Spotlight on Development Research - Sarah Brauner-Otto: Family, Fertility and Development..... 2

Spotlight on Development Practice - Michael Brown 3

Inside ISID - What's New? 4

.....Seminars..... 4

.....Research project funding..... 5

.....McDonald-Curie awards 5

.....New ISID website 5

ISID - People 6

2014 March Conference (TRC) 7

Executive education programs 9

News & Miscellanea 10

.....

latitude.isid@mcgill.ca



It is with great pleasure that I present to you the latest issue of Latitude. Latitude was created to highlight the rich and diverse nature of development activities at ISID, and I am happy to report that the 8 months since the publication of the last issue has been a particularly important time for us. Among other things, a new Executive Director, Patrick Brennan, has joined the ISID team and we have appointed our second Professor of Practice in Global Governance, Stephen Lewis. We have also successfully held two Executive Education programs in CSR; one in Ghana last March and one in Senegal last May—our first in francophone Africa.

*Ultimately, the goal of Latitude is to ensure that ISID's growing community of supporters is aware of what we are up to, and that our members get the recognition they deserve. So please **email** us your feedback, including announcements and suggestions for future issues.*

Philip Oxhorn

Professor of Political Science and Founding Director

SPOTLIGHT ON DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

SARAH BRAUNER-OTTO:

Family, Fertility and Development



How do community resources influence some of the most intimate areas of individuals' lives? This is the central question governing Sarah Brauner-Otto's research agenda. A family demographer and sociologist, Dr. Brauner-Otto is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at McGill. She completed her PhD in Sociology at the University of Michigan, specializing in

demography, and was a post-doctoral scholar at the Carolina Population Center at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before coming to McGill, she was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Mississippi State University.

To help answer the broad question above, Brauner-Otto has three connected programs of research in the area of macro-micro linkages. One area investigates how specific dimensions or characteristics of social context influence individual family-related behaviors - for example, the specific services offered by a community organization, type of religious practices, or the specific kinds of natural resources available. For much of this work Brauner-Otto has focused on rural Nepal and has looked specifically at how health services, school quality, and environmental quality are related to women's contraceptive use and the decision to stop having children. A second part of Brauner-Otto's research investigates the roles of attitudes and intergenerational relationships in linking macro characteristics to micro behavior. This research has explored religion as a social or community context in Nepal, the relationship between changing contexts and fertility ideals, and how community resources are related to intergenerational support. Her third area of research extends beyond these substantive issues to include data collection and analytic methods, particularly geo-spatial issues. Because different features of a social context may be more or less important in different settings, in addition to research in Nepal, Brauner-Otto conducts research in other locales, including the U.S. and Europe—all settings with different social contexts, demographics, and family life patterns.

LINKS

Her website at McGill:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/sociology/faculty/sarah-brauner-otto>



Wedding ceremony in Nepal

PUBLICATIONS

Brauner-Otto, Sarah R. 2014. "Environment and Fertility: The Effect of Flora Quality on Fertility Behavior." *Population and Environment*. 36(1): 1-31. (DOI: 10.1007/s11111-013-0199-3)

Brauner-Otto, Sarah R. 2012. "Schools, Their Spatial Distribution and Characteristics, and Fertility Limitation." *Rural Sociology* 77(3): 321-354. (PMID: 23162168)

Brauner-Otto, Sarah R., William G. Axinn, and Dirgha J. Ghimire. 2007. "The Spread of Health Services and Fertility Transition." *Demography* 44(4): 747-70. (PMID: 18232209)

SPOTLIGHT ON DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

MICHAEL BROWN: Professor of Practice in Conflict Mediation



Michael Brown is the United Nations' Senior Mediation Expert on Natural Resource and Land-Related Conflicts. He is also a Professor of Practice in Conflict Mediation at ISID at McGill. Based out of Montreal, Michael spends much of his time on the front line of the world's natural resource conflicts. If tensions over resource disputes or land rights are running high and connected to armed conflict or national political instability, there is a fair chance that Michael will be on a plane in short notice. He is on standby 24-7 for the UN, and ready to mobilize within 72 hours' notice.

Over this past year, Michael has provided advice regarding the role of gold and diamonds in the conflict in the Central African Republic, while also designing a national reconciliation strategy for the country. He designed a land dispute mediation system to resolve thousands of land disputes in the post-conflict provinces of Sri Lanka. He has provided detailed analysis and recommendations, and designed conflict prevention strategies regarding mining and hydroelectric initiatives in various countries in Central Asia and Central America. He has advised on gold mining operations in Kyrgyzstan, and on draft mining legislation within the Bougainville peace process in Papua New Guinea. He participates in senior policy discussions in New York, London and Geneva. He works with grass-roots community groups, senior UN representatives, top government officials, and other world experts. During a recent mission in southern Africa, Michael spent time advising the country's King.



When not traveling, Michael has written most of a book on natural resource mediation that will be published before the end of the year by the UN Environment Programme and the UN Department of Political Affairs. He has also co-authored an upcoming academic article on social cohesion as peacebuilding in the Central African Republic and beyond.

Over the last 20 years, Michael has worked for the UN, the World Bank and other international organizations all over the world. He started his career as a geographer and then lawyer in Canada, specializing in indigenous peoples' issues, and environmental law and policy. Michael will complete his term as the UN's Senior Mediation Expert in early 2015, and will then expand his international perspective to include Canadian dimensions more explicitly.

INSIDE ISID – WHAT’S NEW?

FALL 2014 SEMINAR AND BROWN-BAG SERIES AT ISID

This fall’s impressive seminar series line up (unless otherwise noted, held in ARTS160 on Thursdays, 12:30-2:00). For more information, contact [Erik Kuhonta](#):

Date	Speaker	Topic
Sept 11	Marie Reny, University of Montreal	<i>“How Authoritarian Regimes Manage Opposition Groups in Society”</i>
Sept 25	Juan Wang, McGill	<i>“How does Corruption Spread? The Political Socialization of Corruption in China”</i>
Oct 9 1:00-2:30 LEA232	Eric Helleiner, University of Waterloo	<i>“History of International Development and Bretton Woods”</i>
Oct 30	Emmanuel Raufflet, HEC Montreal	<i>“Extractive Industries and Local Communities: Beyond the Social License to Operate”</i>
Nov 6 IHSP	Rob Huish, Dalhousie Co-sponsored with IHSP	<i>“Fighting Back When Society Makes you Sick: Connecting Activism to Global Health”</i>
Nov 13	Gustavo Setrini, NYU	<i>“Fair Trade and Farmer Organizations”</i>
Nov 27	Donald Clarke, George Washington University	<i>“China’s Stealth Urban Land Revolution”</i>

The internal and informal Brown-Bag series “Notes from the Field” highlights the exciting work our research community is doing in the field. The exciting line-up for Fall 2014 is as follows (Thursdays, 1:00-2:00):

Date	Speaker	Topic
Sept 18 ARTS160	Matt Lange (Sociology)	<i>“Archival Research on Development”</i>
Oct 2 ARTS160	Becky Lentz (Art History and Communication Studies)	<i>“Challenges Studying Transnational Advocacy on Internet Freedom”</i>
Oct 16 ARTS160	Rachel Kiddell-Monroe (MSF and ISID)	<i>“Chronicle of an epidemic foretold: MSF’s response to Ebola and the failure of the international community”</i>
Oct 23 PETH310	Lorenzo Daieff (Political Science)	<i>“Of Mountains, Islands, and Avenidas: Lessons from Pursuing Interviews in Poor Neighbourhoods of Recife”</i>
Nov 20 PETH310	Grace Marquis (Dietetics and Human Nutrition)	<i>“Challenges to Managing Research and Development Projects that Cross Disciplines, Cultures, and Oceans”</i>

For more information about the Brown-Bag series, please contact [Sonia Laszlo](#). If you are a McGill faculty member, student or researcher returning from the field and would like to present at some future time, please let us know!

ISID AND THE CENTRE FOR POPULATION DYNAMICS WIN MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FOR A PROJECT ON IMPROVING CHILDCARE OPTIONS IN NAIROBI SLUMS

We are very pleased and proud to announce the recent award received by members of ISID and McGill's Centre for Population Dynamics (CPD), in partnership with Kenya's Africa Population Health Research Centre (APHRC) for their project "*Creating better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums through improved childcare options*". This \$1M research grant is awarded through the Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GRoW) initiative supported by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The project will provide a mixed-method evaluation of whether improved access to childcare services raises female labour force participation in a Nairobi slum. The ISID team, led by **Shelley Clark** (project PI and Director, CPD) and including **Sarah Brauer-Otto**, **Franque Grimard**, **Sonia Laszlo**, **Claudia Mitchell**, and **Phil Oxhorn**, is joined by a strong team of researchers from APHRC (Caroline Kabiru, Chimaraoke Izugbara, Stella Muthuri, Maharouf Oyolola). This three year project will be launched this fall.

MCDONALD CURRIE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDEES

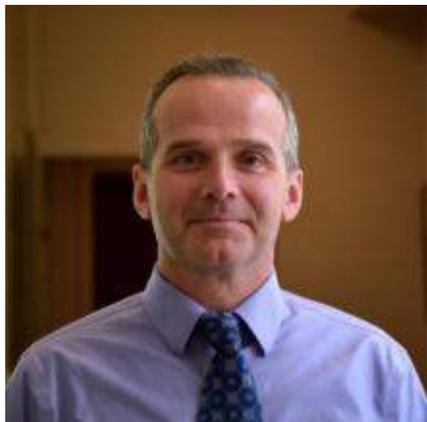
As a result of generous funding made available through the McDonald Currie Fund for International Management and Development, we are pleased to announce the winners of ISID's new Professional Development Awards. These competitive awards are intended to support faculty members' professional development and foster innovation in teaching practices in areas relating to international development, and have been awarded to **Becky Lentz** (Art History and Communication History) and **Juan Wang** (Political Science).

ISID'S WEBSITE HAS A MAKEOVER!

We have been busy over the summer! Our [website](#) has been gutted and rebuilt in the hopes that web browsers will find the wealth of information it contains easier to navigate. We welcome any feedback you might have about how to make it even better.

ISID - PEOPLE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are delighted to welcome **Patrick Brennan** as incoming Executive Director. Patrick comes to us after a very long and distinguished career in the Federal Government, where he most recently served as the Manager of Multilateral Relations in the Intergovernmental and International Relations Directorate at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. One of Patrick's many valuable roles at ISID will be running our very successful Executive Education program. Patrick replaces Robin McLay, who has moved to the MasterCard Foundation but remains connected to ISID as a member of our International Advisory Board.

PROFESSORS

This year, we welcome **Megan Bradley** as ISID's second joint appointment, again with the Political Science Department, as an Assistant Professor. Prof. Bradley's exciting research interests include the human rights and well-being of refugees and internally displaced persons, transitional justice, and accountability for human rights violations.

PROFESSORS OF PRACTICE

We are pleased to welcome **Stephen Lewis** as our new Professor of Practice in Global Governance. Mr. Lewis is the board chair of the Stephen Lewis Foundation and co-founder/co-director of AIDS-Free World in the United States. Prior to this, he was active in the United Nations system in various capacities for more than two decades. This included being the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa from June 2001 until the end of 2006, as well as serving as Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF at the organization's global headquarters in New York from 1995 to 1999. From 1984 through 1988, he was Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations.

The Professor of Practice in Global Governance is the foundation of ISID's new Global Governance Program. Each year, a new Professor of Practice is appointed for a period of residency at ISID to work on a special project and offer a seminar for upper-level undergraduate and graduate students. The focus of Mr. Lewis' project will be on ending impunity for sexual violence committed by UN peacekeeping personnel.

ISID ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

It is with bitter-sweetness that we bid our Administrative Officer **Iain Blair** goodbye as he takes on his new role in the Faculty of Arts as Senior Manager for the "Leacock 1 Administrative Service Centre". Iain has been a pillar of ISID and its predecessor, CDAS. While we are all very proud of his accomplishments, he will be sorely missed by us all.

ISID Conference March 13-14, 2013

WHOSE TRUTH? WHAT KIND OF RECONCILIATION? THE IMPORTANCE OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSIONS FOR PROMOTING DEMOCRATIC GOOD GOVERNANCE,



Commissioners Justice Murray Sinclair, Marie Wilson and Wilton Littlechild of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

This was perhaps ISID's most successful international conference to date, with the participation of all three Commissioners from the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in addition to academic and practitioner experts from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Guatemala, Kenya, Northern Ireland, South Africa, the United States, and Uruguay. The two-day public event allowed participants to critically analyse, through the concrete experiences of past and present commissions, the ways in which societies can and have (or have not) faced up to the legacy of different types of collective injustices and human rights abuses. The discussions analysed the challenges faced by Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRCs), and explored the factors that favour and/or constrain the success of TRCs in contributing to the creation of social cohesion as a foundation for democratic good governance. The overall lessons from these rich discussions can be found in the Conference Report. In addition to the public sessions, the participants met for a private workshop to synthesise the main lessons emerging from the panel discussions, and the answers to the conference's four questions:

How have different TRCs addressed the possible tension between the goals of reconciliation and justice?

There was wide agreement that this may be a false dichotomy, and that reconciliation may in fact require some form of justice, which may or may not, depending on the context, be circumscribed within the limits of a legal conception of justice. It was clear that perceptions of impunity presented a real risk to the legitimacy of TRC processes.

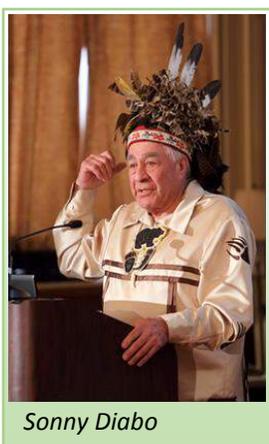


Rt. Hon. Joe Clark addressing the audience

How can we understand the contribution of TRCs to overcoming past divisions in favor of greater consensus and mutual understanding?

The discussion focused primarily on the difference between “process” and “results”. Indeed, the idea that giving a voice to the victims of past injustice was in itself an important outcome from the perspective of justice generated some argument among the group. While some felt that process in itself is important and can have significant impacts on consensus building, others were concerned that process for its own sake might prevent addressing the issue of impunity, and to some extent justify not making important changes in society to address the roots of the injustices that TRCs are supposed to tackle.

How can the lessons learned from TRCs be used to enhance conflict mediation?



Sonny Diabo

The discussion on this topic highlighted the importance of context, and led the group to focus on identifying important factors to consider when designing conflict mediation and prevention:

- ☼ The extent to which the purpose of a TRC is to establish facts, to give a voice to the victims, to bring perpetrators to justice, to heal the wounds of society, to lay the groundwork for harmoniously “living together”, and/or to engender significant social change that will minimise the sources of violent conflict in the future.
- ☼ The extent to which the process is inclusive and participatory, and thus generates ownership not only by the persons directly affected/involved, but also in society as a whole.

How should we try to understand the contributions to democratic governance?

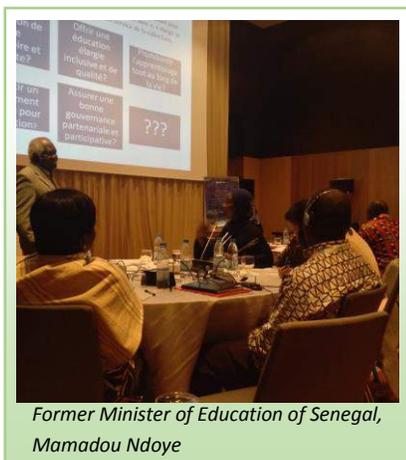
A potential roadmap for measuring these effects within a broader understanding of both justice and reconciliation can be drawn from the Australian experience, which includes assessing the following five areas:

- ☼ Levels of historical acceptance, or acknowledging wrongdoing
- ☼ Levels of material equality, equality of opportunity, and equality of access to services among groups
- ☼ Levels of legitimacy of the process and political leadership in moving forward
- ☼ Quantity and quality of intergroup relations
- ☼ Existence of a commitment to sharing a common future together

A research agenda

The variety of rich experiences represented by the participants, as well as the breadth of the discussion, prompted the idea of putting together a collected volume aimed at a mixed audience that could include practitioners, researchers, students, and also the general public. The component pieces of the volume are in the process of being written, and will also contribute to responding to many issues that remained to be discussed, such as: the intergenerational nature of the consequences of abuse and injustice, the different constraints that different civil society actors face in different contexts, and the delicate balance between aggregating and fragmenting civil society.

ISID Executive Education Programs



Former Minister of Education of Senegal,
Mamadou Ndoye

The Institute for the Study of International Development's latest Executive Education Program held in Dakar, Senegal from May 19th to May 23th was a complete success, with over 40 international participants from a wide variety of backgrounds. The topic, **Corporate Social Responsibility: Creating Value Through Collaborative Sustainable Development**, was discussed in depth over a five-day schedule with experts in various international development fields. The content of the course ranged from theoretical concepts to the recent experiences of seasoned development practitioners, and the diverse group of students contributed substantially to generating stimulating discussion with their own unique perspective and field experiences. Participants from throughout West Africa came from all sectors: from the extractive sector, from government, and from civil society. By the end of the program, the

participants not only developed a holistic understanding of sustainable development, but also brought many new stories home to share with their organization, friends and family.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

BRIDGING THE WORLDS OF THEORY, POLICY AND PRACTICE

AN EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM
AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, QUEBEC
OCT. 27>31, 2014

ISID will re-launch its Executive Education Program on International Development in Montreal, Canada from October 27th to October 31st, 2014. Similar to the program on Corporate Social Responsibility, the program is designed to both provide practical and meaningful theories, tools and approaches that will enable participants to learn and work directly with key leaders from other types of organizations. Experienced leaders from business, government, and civil society will learn and work together to develop practical solutions to real issues. [Visit the ISID Executive Programs Website.](#)

NEWS & MISCELLANEA

PROFESSOR EMERITA KARI POLANYI LEVITT

ISID congratulates **Professor Emerita Kari Polanyi Levitt** on being awarded the Order of Canada “for her contribution to the study and multidisciplinary research in the field of international development as well as her research and insights into the political economy of the Caribbean.” Prof. Polanyi Levitt, a longtime member of the department of economics, made equally large contributions to ISID’s predecessor, the Centre for Developing Area Studies.

FORMER DSO STUDENT? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Are you a former DSO Student? Are you in contact with any former DSO student? Then we want to hear from you! Please send us any information about where your DSO degree has taken you. Current DSO students, please keep in touch. You can reach us anytime at latitude.isid@mcgill.ca.

UPCOMING WORKING PAPER SERIES

If you are an ISID affiliated researcher (professor or graduate student) and would like a little extra publicity and visibility for your research, please consider ISID’s new working paper series as an outlet. We will post your working paper, assign it a working paper number, and create a nice cover page for it. For more information, contact [Sonia Laszlo](#).

ISID AFFILIATED PROFESSORS HAVE BEEN BUSY!

- Prof. **Juan Wang** has received the prestigious La Ka Shing Faculty Exchange Award (Faculty of Arts) for the 2014-2015 academic year.
- ISID Professor of Practice **Wayne Dunn** has been appointed Chair of the Jury for the newly created CSR in Africa Award by the EU Africa Chamber of Commerce. The award will be presented at a Gala in Brussels on November 26. Click [here](#) for more information on the CSR in Africa Award.
- Prof. **Myriam Denov** has won the prestigious Trudeau fellowship for her work on child soldiers. For more details, please read the story in the [McGill Reporter](#).
- The McGill School of Social Work signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Republic of Indonesia’s Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA): On September 17, 2014 a delegation from the Indonesia MoSA, including Minister Salim Segaf Al-Jufri, visited McGill to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the School of Social Work. The MOU outlines a series of bilateral exchanges centered on education, training, and research. The MOU builds on previous relationships with Indonesia formed during the CIDA-funded Indonesia Social Equity Project. ISID affiliate Prof. **David Rothwell** is the project’s contact person.

