

**Rotary International**

**USA – France  
Inter Country Committee**

# **Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace**

**Imagine Peace, Tolerance, and Democracy**

Student Seminar – October 25–27, 2018

Loyola University New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

**Participating Rotary Districts**

6840 7710 1770 1720 1640  
1660 1670 1690 6220

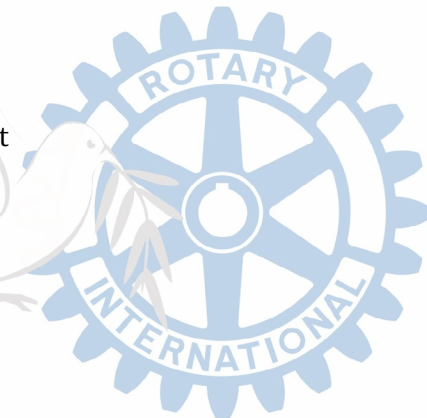


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# Rotary International



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## **I. Rotary History of Peace and Inter Country Committees**

### **Serge Gouteyron**

#### **Building Peace with Rotary**

On 4 April, 2015, at UNESCO in Paris, Rotarians reaffirmed their commitment to bring peace to life through Rotary's culture which inculcates loyal and equitable behavior, with respect for human rights, mutual understanding, sustainable social and economic progress, and ethical governance.

All elements that forge a country's social cohesion are necessary for peace.

Rotary's advocacy for peace began in 1921 when Rotary International adopted the Object of Rotary. Its 4th point is to support the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.

Rotary has contributed and the establishment of several international institutions that are committed to maintaining peace, including the United Nations and UNESCO.

At the same time, Rotary launched its Inter-Country Committees program for promoting a peaceful society.

Rotary also established a number of programs designed to support youth and develop their leadership skills.

Finally, thanks to the expansion Rotary's global network of clubs, Rotary and its foundation have concentrated its efforts of "peace through service" in six areas of focus: supporting education, providing clean water, growing local economies, promoting peace, fighting disease, aiding families and eradicating polio.

It is no coincidence that these programs align with the development objectives of the United Nations.

Since 2002, the establishment of the Rotary Peace Centers has educated 1162 Rotary Peace Fellows.

But right now, to respond to the growing threats to peace, Rotary International--with its network of 1.2 million members in over 35,000 clubs, with no political or religious affiliation--must increase its influence on society.

Rotary's ideas, values, and goals are unique attributes for building a durable peace.

*Serge Gouteyron, Past Vice-Président du Rotary International*



## II. Jean-Marie Poinard

### President, French Section

#### USA–France Inter Country Committee

Born: September 3, 1945 in Corbeil, France.

Married to Françoise, 2 children and 4 grand-children.

Diploma Engineer ESIEE, graduated IAE and Paris school of environmental studies (Leonard de Vinci).

#### Professional Activities

IBM France Semiconductor Factory Corbeil Essonne.  
 Management positions, technical services, director and member of the Committee Board, two years assignments USA NY state.  
 1969–2000

Director of the Ile de France clean rooms M + W Zander.  
 2000–2004

Senior ERM Consultant, 2004–2006

Consulting firm JMP EHS Management, 2006–2010

## Rotary Commitments

### RC MELUN

Member of the Rotary Club of MELUN France since 1995.

During an IBM US assignment became member of the POUGHKEEPSIE New York Rotary club in 1996 and 1997.

Secretary in 2000 and 2001 then Treasurer in 2002 and President of the Melun Rotary Club in 2003-2004.

### DISTRICT 1770

**Governor D 1770 2011-2012** (“team leader” for the “Rabelais” class of governors).

**President of CIP France USA since 2013.** Organization of a first seminar for peace in Paris in October 2016, second peace seminar in New Orleans October 2018.

### ZONE 11

Member of the **regional taskforce membership planning group** for zone 11

**Training leader** San Diego in 2016 and 2017 as a trainer of the French-speaking District Governors elect.

**District International Service chair** for District 1770 workshop August 2018 in Evanston

### PHF 3 rubies

**Opening Remarks**  
**Thursday, October 25, 2018**  
**Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace**

Dear fellow Rotarians, chers amis rotariens,

In 1921, Rotary recognized the importance of peace with the 4th objective of Rotary: “the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service”.

This 4th object is number one for Rotary Inter-Country Committee, and more specifically for France-USA ICC.

After WWII in June 1945 at the San Francisco Conference, 49 Rotarian delegates, actively participated in drafting the charter of United Nation and UNESCO. Today, we have two Rotary Representatives at the UNESCO in Paris.

In 1950, governors from Lille, France and Germany met together and built the foundation of the ICC Rotary program, five years before General de Gaulle and Chancellor Conrad Adenauer initiated what became the European Union.

Between our two countries we have a long and everlasting tradition of peace. We were never at war and there is the constant tradition of friendship between our two nations. It started with Jean Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville who founded New Orleans in 1718, in honor of Philippe II, regent de France after Louis XIV’s death. Then, Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette, known as le Marquis de Lafayette, played a major and decisive role in the American victory of Yorktown against English troops in 1781.

D-day, the Overlord military operation, and the full dedication of American soldiers giving their lives to save democracy were major milestones in peace building between our two nations and for the entire world.

ICC France-USA is continuing this long tradition of peace between our two countries.

Dear French and American students and academic directory, this peace seminar is a one-time, unforgettable experience and an opportunity for you to be fully engaged in the paths of friendship and Peace between France and United States, our two countries. By participating in this seminar, you are engaging yourself on the path of the core values of Rotary: Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity, and Leadership.

While developing these values, you will be our peace ambassadors, and through the Rotary Areas of Focus, you will be putting forward **peace through service**.

As our Rotary International President Barry Rassin has asked of us, you should “be the inspiration” in your community when you are back home.

But, I am also convinced that the beautiful city of New Orleans will have taught or inspired you, giving you many souvenirs that you will never forget. And I am pretty sure you don’t need a seminar to fully comply and fully agree with the New Orleans tradition.

So I wish you, from the bottom of my heart, a good Peace seminar and please. **Laissez les bon temps rouler**.

*Merci beaucoup.*



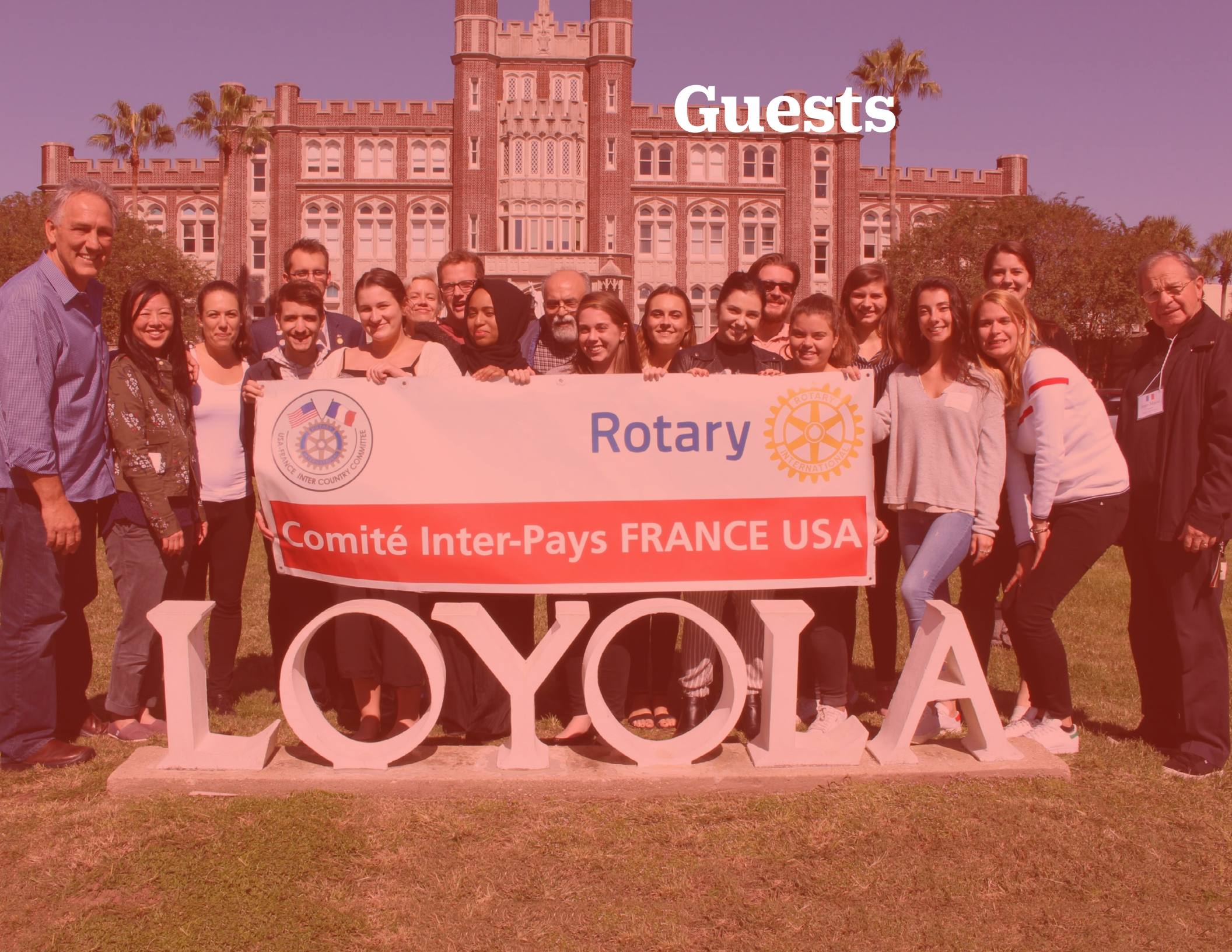
**III. Bart Cleary**  
**President, USA Section**

**USA-France Inter Country Committee**

Bart has been a Rotarian since 1986 and is a member of the Rotary Club of Oxford, North Carolina in District 7710. He was District Governor in 1998-1999 under Rotary International President, James I. Lacy. He was President of his club for two consecutive years from 1992-1994 and has chaired numerous committees. Bart received the District Service Award for his efforts promoting the Rotary Foundation and in 2001 he received The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service award. In 2014, he received the Rotary Service Above Self Award. Presently, he is the USA Section Chair of the USA/France Inter Country Committee for Rotary International. He has made numerous dental missionary trips to third world countries. Bart and Cindy are Major Donors and Benefactors to the Rotary Foundation and members of the Arch C. Klumph Society. Bart and Cindy are very active with Peace Scholars, having hosted each year since the program's inception. They have also hosted numerous Youth Exchange Students. When he is not traveling, playing tennis or volunteering for Rotary, he occasionally works.

Bart earned his Bachelor of Science Degree and his Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a member of the American Dental Association, the North Carolina Dental Society, the Academy of Laser Dentistry, International Congress of Oral Implantologists and the United States Dental Tennis Association. He is also on the Board of Directors for Goodwill Industries of Eastern North Carolina and a past Director for the Granville-Vance District Health Department. He and his wife, Cindy, live in Oxford where they are active in the community. He started the Oxford Community Tennis Association and was President for three years. Bart and Cindy have two cats (Lola & Lucy).

# Guests



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**Tania Tetlow, J.D.**

**President, Loyola University New Orleans**

Tania Tetlow, J.D., is the 17th university president of Loyola University New Orleans. She is the first woman and the first layperson to lead Loyola since the Society of Jesus founded the university in 1912. President Tetlow is also the fourth woman president, as well as the youngest woman president, to lead one of the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the U.S. that comprise the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU.) As university president of Loyola University New Orleans, she is expected to usher in a new and exciting era at the 104-year-old Jesuit, Catholic university. She joined Loyola in August, 2018.

Previously, President Tetlow served as senior vice president and chief of staff as well as the Felder-Fayard Professor of Law at Tulane University, where she was key strategic adviser to President Michael Fitts. In this role, she held oversight of government, community, and board relations; she led special policy efforts on issues including campus safety, race and diversity, and campus sexual misconduct reforms. During her time as strategic adviser, enrollment, retention, and fundraising soared, and the university experienced great cultural, community, and financial transformation.

A renowned lawyer and member of the Tulane Law School faculty since 2005, President Tetlow served as Tulane's inaugural associate provost for international affairs, coordinating the university's international programs, research, and students. Her research helped to usher in new anti-discrimination policies at the U.S. Department of Justice. She directed Tulane's Domestic Violence Law Clinic and raised a total of \$2.3 million in federal grant funds. She advised governments and law clinics in Egypt, Rwanda, and Iran on domestic violence policy and was chosen to participate in the U.S. delegation to the Secretary of State's People-to-People Exchange in Beijing. In 2009, she was the newest faculty member ever to receive Tulane's University Graduate Teaching Award.

Before joining academia, President Tetlow was an associate at Phelps Dunbar, litigating complex commercial transactions. She also served as an assistant United States attorney, prosecuting everything from violent crime to fraud cases.

President Tetlow brings to Loyola a wealth of experience, as well as strong community, donor, and industry relationships. She has served on a variety of nonprofit boards and city commissions. At the mayor's request, she led a turnaround of the NOPD Sex Crimes Unit. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, she chaired the New Orleans Public Library board and raised \$7 million to rebuild flooded branches. She was selected for the British American Project, a bilateral leadership organization, and later served as its U.S. chair.

President Tetlow graduated cum laude from Tulane University with a bachelor of arts degree in American studies and is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School as well as a Harry Truman Fellow. A Catholic and a New Orleanian, President Tetlow has deep family ties to the Jesuits and has been a member of the Ignatius Chapel community at Loyola since she was 6 years old.

### **Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace**

**Welcoming Remarks by Tania Tetlow,**

**President of Loyola University New Orleans**

*Bienvenue, mes amis!* Welcome to Loyola University New Orleans! We are the proud combination of Jesuit social justice and New Orleans creativity.

This year, as the Jesuits celebrate more than 500 years of teaching, New Orleans proudly celebrates its tricentennial. As a former French colony built by slave and immigrant labor, New Orleans has woven its struggles and resilience into a world-renowned culture. This is the birthplace of jazz, a unique blend of African, European and South American musical expression. We are the home to gumbo, a delicious fusion of West African, Native American and French cooking. Our Mardi Gras – traditionally a Catholic holiday – is celebrated by Christians, Jews, Muslims, and non-believers alike. New Orleans and its 300-year old history shows us that collaboration across racial, religious and geographic lines can create magic.

Like jazz and gumbo, Loyola University New Orleans brings together students, faculty, and staff from all over the United

States and the world. Our students come from backgrounds that are rural and urban, from privilege and poverty and everything in between. These diverse backgrounds foster our extraordinary educational community, where students thrive from learning as much from each other as they do from our faculty. I am proud that Loyola New Orleans students organize this annual Rotary Club Peace Conference and I look forward to meeting all of you.



## Vincent Sciama

Consul General of France in Louisiana

Born on March 27, 1974 in Paris.

**He has served in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2006 in the following capacities:**

**Chargé de Mission** with the Director of the United Nations and international organizations. January – July 2017

**Deputy Chief of Staff**, then **Chief of Staff** of the Minister for the Development of French. 2016 – 2017

**Deputy Head of the Press Department**, Deputy to the Spokesperson, Press and Communications Department of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 2015 – 2016

**Diplomatic Advisor**, Permanent Mission of France of the United Nations in Geneva. 2013 – 2015

**First Secretary and Press Advisor**, Embassy of France in Singapore. 2010 – 2013

**Desk Officer**, in the Far-East branch of the Office of Asia and Oceania. 2007 – 2010

**Desk Officer**, Department of Communication and Information of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. 2006 – 2007.

## Education

Diploma of the **Institute of Political Studies of Paris** (Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris), Public Service Section 1998

Master's Degree in Contemporary History, **University of Paris I, Panthéon, Sorbonne** 1998

## Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace

Remarks by Vincent Sciama,

Consul general of France in Louisiana

It is an honor to be with you today for the “Second Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace” organized by the Rotary International-France Inter-Country Committee and Loyola University. And I thank you, President Tania Tetlow, President Poinard, and President Cleary for this invitation.

You are going to tackle serious and urgent issues. There are, from my experience two ways to achieve peace. A global approach which is what the international system, multilateralism, and before all the United Nations, is working on every day. It is not easy, and the progress in this system is not making the headlines. Peace in Middle East is no there yet. Think about Syria, Yemen, for instance. But just think also about some recent breakthroughs, like the relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea, after years of confrontation.

There is a second approach, which is to act locally, with the tools you have in your hands. That is what this Rotary Leadership

Dialogue for Peace is all about. Because you will probably not in your lifetime be the chief negotiator of the issues I mentioned above. But everyone and all participants today have an important role to play, to make a difference, whatever your capacity may be. I have witnessed the crucial role Rotary is playing in the eradication of Polio, through PPG in Geneva. We are on the verge of eradicating a major disease, thanks to the commitment of Rotary members. Moreover, that is a very major development in global health you can all be proud of.

On a different level, you can also make different thought initiatives like the one that starts today. Making peace is not always signing an agreement; it is first understanding the situation and the position of all the parties involved. You can negotiate with your friends, and it can be useful. However, although it is more difficult, it makes better sense to reach out to your opponents or adversaries to understand what motivates them. That is what diplomacy is all about.

Before judging, try to embrace the situation. Try to learn the language if possible, or, better yet, understand the culture or mindset of other countries you will have to deal with. That is the first step toward a solution. Do not hesitate or question yourself: Am I open minded enough? Do I listen to enough? Ask, what are the points the other parties try to make? Is there any common ground we can reach? These are basic questions that will help you bridge the gaps you will face in your career. Please remember also that when you are a negotiator, you are, whether you want it or not, also an ambassador of your country. So keep control. Be exemplary. People are watching you. The people in front of you are doing the same as you, and have a

mission to carry on and interests at heart. Understanding this will help you.

Finally, try to have pleasure in what you are doing. It is an honor to negotiate for a delegation, and give your all to the cause you are serving. It is also sometimes funny, as negotiations are often a drama, where the issue is better if everyone knows their part and plays according to the codes of diplomacy. I wish you success during these coming days. Thank you.



**Ken Thompson**  
**District Governor 6840**  
**Rotary Club of Slidell**

Ken spent most of his working career as a Petroleum Engineer and Engineering Supervisor, working along the Gulf Coast in Texas and Louisiana, and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. He has also worked as a financial representative and stockbroker.

He has been a Rotarian since 2000, serving as Club President in 2008-2009. He was chairman of the Slidell Heritage Festival for three years, a joint venture between the Rotary Clubs of Slidell and Slidell Northshore. He has participated in ten Matching Grants and Global Grants, and traveled five times to Mexico to immunize children against polio.

He has served as Global Grants Chair, Deputy Governor, LA Territories, and District International Service Director. He served for four years as District Newsletter Editor and District Website Manager, and has participated in the last six President Elect Training Seminars. He is a Shelter Box Ambassador, and serves on staff at the annual training in Texas for new Ambassadors. He is a Major Donor, a Bequest Society member, a Paul Harris Society member, and a Benefactor.

In May, 2015, he returned from a US – Russia Friendship Exchange program in western Russia, and spoke on his experiences at an international conference in Houston. He also participated in Friendship Exchanges to New England in September 2015, and to New Zealand (North Island) in April 2018. He has hosted four Rotary Youth Exchange Students and is active in Kairos Prison Ministries. His wife Paula and he have one daughter, Kathryn, who lives in Arizona.

**Opening Presentation**  
**Thursday, October 25, 2018**

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor and privilege to be with you today. I want to share with you the story of how this event came about. About three years ago, I realized that the 300th anniversary of the founding of New Orleans, Louisiana, would occur during my tenure as District Governor. I thought, “how cool it would be if we could arrange something with the Rotarians of Orléans, France, to celebrate the event.”

So, Karen and I got in touch with Bart and Jean-Marie to see if the U.S.A.-France ICC would be interested in pursuing this. We all met during the Atlanta Convention at a breakfast the ICC was sponsoring, and the idea of bringing Rotarians from France to New Orleans took hold. The concepts of holding a peace forum at Loyola, and forming sister clubs with Orléans Rotary Clubs, were added to the agenda. The project has grown much larger than I had originally envisioned. I thank you all for joining us.

## **Gala Dinner Presentation**

**Saturday, October 27, 2018**

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor and privilege to be with you today. Our RI President Barry Rassin has chosen as his theme “Be the Inspiration”. To quote Barry, “I chose this theme because, throughout my years in Rotary, I have seen what truly motivates Rotarians is their work. The Rotarians who have the biggest impact through their service are the ones who are inspired. Whether it was something they did, something they saw, or someone they met, they’ve all had experiences that lit them on fire – and inspired them to serve”.

I’d like to share two moments that have inspired me to serve. At a fundraiser for an orphanage for deaf and blind children in Moscow, I saw blind children dancing to music they could only hear because of hearing aids provided by Rotary. This past February, in Caborca, Mexico, I saw two toddlers, with the benefit of tiny walkers and braces on their legs, walk the forty feet from the back of the room to the front. These children were beneficiaries of the Caborca Childrens Medical Fund sponsored by the local Rotary Club. I know that what Rotary does truly makes a difference in the world. I challenge you all to spread that message to your friends, your community, and to the world.

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### **Behrooz Moazami**

**Patrick G. O’Keefe Distinguished Professor of History and  
Director of Middle East Peace Studies,  
Loyola University New Orleans**

Behrooz Moazami, Associate Professor, is Patrick G. O’ Keefe Distinguished Professor of History. He is the founder and Director of the Middle East Peace Studies program at Loyola University New Orleans. Dr. Moazami joined Loyola’s History Department in 2007 and initiated the annual Loyola University Students Peace Conference in 2008. Previously he taught at several universities, including the New School for Social Science Research, the City College of New York, New York University, and Tulane University.

Moazami holds two doctorates. His first dissertation under the direction of Professor Jean Marie Vincent, “*Les Etats nations européens et l’avenir de la communauté européenne en tant que communauté politique*,” in Political Science (University of Paris VIII, 1998) was acknowledged as *Très Honorable* and earned him the EU Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Center for European Studies, New York University (2001-2002). He received the Albert Salomon Memorial Award in Sociology (New School for Social Research, New York, 2004) for his second dissertation, “The

Making of the State, Religion, and the Islamic Revolution in Iran (1796–1979),” in *Sociology and Historical Studies*, co-directed by Professors Charles Tilly and Jose Casanova.

For nearly two decades before joining academia, Moazami was a professional political activist and contributed to a number of Iranian dissident publications. He co-founded and co-edited *Andisheye Rahai* a Persian review on politics, theory, and society while living in Paris in exile (1983–1992).

His book, *State, Religion, and Revolution, 1796 to the Present* (Palgrave-MacMillan, New York, London, 2013), challenges basic assumptions about recent Iranian history and constructs a new synthesis of the history of state and religion in Iran from 1796 to the present. Arguing that the 1979 revolution has not ended, he relates political and religious transformations in Iran to the larger instability of the Middle East region and concludes that turmoil will continue until a new regional configuration evolves. In December of 2018 the book with a new introduction was published in Turkish by İletişim Yayınları, publishing house in Istanbul, Turkey.

Dr. Moazami is a Trustee of the Ardeshir Mohassess Trust formed to preserve the legacy of the artist and to help other disabled artists in need. Moazami as the friend of late Ardeshir and a Trustee has helped organizing an academic conference and an exhibition at NYU (2010), facilitated production of the documentary, *Ardeshir Mohassess: The Rebellious Artist*, an IFVC Production, New York (2013) and an exhibition at Art Dubai (2014).

***\*Many thanks to Professor Behrooz Moazami for hosting the event at Loyola University New Orleans and his efforts in finding participants.***



### **Karen Swaim Babin**

**PDG 6840**

**District 7930** (Boston, MA area), **DG 1997–1998**

**District 7190** (Upstate NY), **DRFC 2005–2008**, **Citation for Meritorious Service 2007**

**Service Above Self Award 2010**, **Council on Legislation Representative 2010**

**District 6840** (southern part of Louisiana & Mississippi)

**Vice-Governor 2014-2015**, **District Secretary & Executive Assistant 2016–2017 & 2018–2019**

As a new Rotarian in 1987, Karen was impressed with Rotary's power to promote peace through the educational and humanitarian programs of The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Active with the Group Study Exchange Program, in 1997 she and her late husband hosted the GSE Team Leader from Australia, Rotarian Ian Riseley, for the first week of his month long visit to Boston!

For the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program (the precursor of the Rotary Peace Fellows Program) Karen was the Founder, and Chair from 1999-2010, of Northeast Link, the "Regional

Orientation Seminar" for participants in TRF educational programs. Additional work in promoting peace since 1989, has been through Friends Forever International, headquartered in New Hampshire ([www.ff.international](http://www.ff.international)), working primarily with Northern Ireland and Israeli teens.

A native of Denver, Colorado, Karen lived in Dallas, Texas, for 20 years, receiving B.S. and Masters degrees from Southern Methodist University. Moving to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1971, she started, and managed for 30 years, the first do-it-yourself picture-framing store in New England. Invited to join the 110 member Rotary Club of Cambridge in 1987, Karen was the first female President of that club (1993), and the first female DG in D7930 (1997–1998).

Some Rotary roles: represented four RI Presidents; Zone Institute Program Chair (2006); attended 17 International Rotary Conventions, including breakout panelist (2005 & 2008), and chairing the "regional retail store" in the House of Friendship at the New Orleans Convention (2011).

Karen is a Major Donor, and Charter Member of both the Bequest Society and the Paul Harris Society.



# Academic Directors



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### **Linda Low**

#### **Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Fellow**

Linda recently graduated with a Master of International Development Policy from Duke University. She was a Rotary Peace Fellow at the Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center (2016–18). In her community service, she facilitates community dialogues to foster civil discourse and decrease polarization. Prior to moving to North Carolina, Linda worked for the International Red Cross supporting global emergency responses and sustainable development. Her most recent post with the Red Cross was managing communications for the migration crisis in Europe.

She currently leads community engagement and communications for the Orange County Water Authority in North Carolina. Her mandate is to foster meaningful dialogue about the value of water, conservation, and participatory decision-making on the stewardship of this essential resource. She thoroughly enjoys her work, situated at the juncture between community, governance, policy, and the people the water agency serves.

Linda is passionate about building thoughtful and equitable systems, spaces, and places – communities where people are

accountable to each other and their shared planet. Where civil dialogue and recognition of other’s lived experiences enables communities to address, together, the challenges of our world. In what seems like a heavy time in our collective history, Linda is committed to building something better.

She resides with her family in Chapel Hill, USA, and originally hails from Vancouver, Canada.

### **Dialogue to listen, dialogue to peace**

Two-years ago, in my attempt to make sense of a polarized world, I developed a model process for dialogue. I called it a **Leadership Dialogue**. Together with other Peace Fellows and local leaders, I convened diverse voices in North Carolina representing a broad spectrum of views – people with different politics, religions, genders, races, cultures, and communities. I identified a series of facilitation techniques that when packaged together, over a day-and-half of dialogue, would leave participants with a greater sense of connection to their peers, and most importantly, a deeper understanding of the different values and lived experiences that underpin another person’s point of view.

The skill to listen to – and understand – a different perspective is critical to peace building. It is critical to fostering cooperation in our fractured world. It is with this mindset that we convened a **Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace** in New Orleans, uniting college students from France and the United States to tackle hard topics, to engage in stimulating dialogue, to listen to understand, and to listen to foster peace. The topics were crowd sourced from the participants. They chose democracy,

migration, inequity & intolerance, conflict & security: hard-hitting issues that weigh heavy on the world, issues that must be addressed to build a better world.

The facilitation techniques challenged participants to step into another person's shoes, to own their stories, listen deeply, and reciprocate with honest discourse. Third-to-First Person Narrative, Agree/Disagree, Talking Circle, Talk & Walk: these are some of the facilitation techniques we used to enable meaningful, substantive discourse amongst participants. On the topic of inequity and intolerance, dialogue prompts included questions like: "When was a time when you got better treatment or someone else got treated better than you? How did that affect you?" Through introspection, by listening to others reflections, by engaging in authentic dialogue and debate on issues; even in the face of opposing views, it became clear that we all share common values. If we start from a place of common values, we can have civil discourse. We can have dialogue to build peace.

The impacts from participating in a **Leadership Dialogue** are summarized best in the participants' own words:

*"I heard a different perspective I never would have considered before."*

*"I will change the way I listen. I will change how I approach dialogue with others."*

*"I didn't expect to learn so much from other people's opinions; I didn't expect to learn about myself."*

When I created the **Leadership Dialogue**, I interviewed over 100 individuals to develop a model process for dialogue. This

included academia, policy makers, professional facilitators, community leaders, youth leaders, and more. I asked them: "What makes effective dialogue?" I thought the model I created might have a small impact. I had no idea demand would be so great, that it would be so needed and so relevant. I have trained facilitators and am working to train more. Together, we have facilitated or are in the process of facilitating dialogues in diverse communities in the United States such as on college campuses, between political and cultural organizations, and with civil society leaders. I have received requests to take the Leadership Dialogue to international communities, to Brazil and potentially other locations. I am in the process of creating a more permanent structure from which to grow the reach and impact of the Leadership Dialogues, and with this, pathways to civil discourse, collaboration, and peace.

*If you would like to bring a Leadership Dialogue to your community or support its growth, contact Linda Low, Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Fellow Alumni, at [linda.low@duke.edu](mailto:linda.low@duke.edu)*



### **Branka Panic**

Branka Panic is a civil society professional, committed to advancing international development, human rights protection and effective altruism. She started her career at the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, where she worked on strengthening peace, democracy and human rights. She later joined the European Fund for the Balkans (EFB), where she designed and implemented initiatives focused on strengthening democracy, regional cooperation and European integration. She has extensive experience in capacity building through advanced leadership programs and policy development through evidence-based research and advocacy. Her most recent project at EFB is the Civil Society Forum of the Western Balkans, a platform that promotes sustainable dialogue between decision makers, activists, grassroots organizations, researchers and other representatives of civil society.

Branka has a BA in Political Sciences and a MA in International Security from the University of Belgrade, Serbia, with a focus on securitization, societal security and discourse analysis. She is passionate about restoring the rights and dignity of victims of social and political injustice and conflicts. As community leader, she was active in providing humanitarian aid to refugees

passing through Serbia at the height of the refugee crisis and organizing community activities in order to make the integration process effective. She is the founder of a local craft movement, empowering citizens to express their creativity through crafts – later donated to refugees.

Branka is a graduate student at Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. She is a Rotary Peace Fellow at the Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Centre, researching effective strategies of conflict prevention, resolution and making peace sustainable. She is eager to tackle those challenges by using new technologies and digital tools. Branka is interested in designing democracy in fragile and divided states. With her experience in building Balkans' post-war societies, she believes she can contribute to this topic, and learn new methods on successfully achieving this in other settings throughout the world.

### **Reflection**

#### **Dialogue for Peace – Pathway for just and peaceful society**

*I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.*

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Growing up in conflict and post-conflict Balkan region, I realized from an early age the value and importance of dialogue for peace building and reconciliation. I joined the various civil society initiatives that were given a serious assignment of developing a strong culture of openness and trust in a region

that witnessed dreadful crimes against humanity and violations of human rights. Balkanization is often associated with the process of fragmentation of regions or states into smaller, often hostile entities and Balkan, with inability of different ethnic and religious groups to live together in peace. At the heart of this notion is the presumption that violence, intolerance and political fragility are inherent features of this region and that realistic prospects for sustainable peace are hardly possible. As someone who was personally influenced by happenings in Balkans and by outside perceptions that peace will never be reached, I decided to enter the field of peace building and give my own contribution in making our countries peaceful and welcoming for all people and all future generations to come.

Holding war criminals accountable for their acts and prosecuting them in court was crucial for the aftermath of the war on many levels. It was an important step in restoring trust in justice. But it was not enough. Without the dialogue between people directly affected by conflict, there were no prospects for a sustainable peace in the region. This led me to becoming a passionate advocate of reconciliation and peace building, engaged in developing strategies for building effective relationships and honest communication between people. Learning from reconciliation process between French and German citizens after the Second World War, the idea was to implement lessons learned and work with young people from the Balkans and help them lay the roads to peace and build bridges over many obstacles that come on this way of reconciliation. It was rewarding experience working for the previous ten years with young people willing to talk and act in the most difficult circumstances, being energetic in truth

seeking and truth-telling, and aiming towards building more inclusive, peaceful and just societies for all.

Being motivated with this incredible energy and dedication to peace, I become Rotary Peace Fellow and joined the group of inspiring activists working throughout the world in making their societies more peaceful equally for all. As a Rotary Peace Fellow, I had a chance to facilitate the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace in New Orleans, gathering college students from France and the United States. This event gave a safe platform for students to discuss topics of migration, security, tolerance, conflict, some specific for their countries and some of concern for the entire world. Students had a chance to practice different dialogue techniques, learning the culture of dialogue and the importance of active listening. This experience laid a foundation for initiating future dialogues and prepared students to lead their societies in creating lasting peace.



### **Matthieu Grandpierron**

Matthieu Grandpierron is a PhD candidate at Ecole Polytechnique in International Relations. He studies foreign policy issues and power transitions between great powers, with a focus on security issues in the South China Sea. His current research focuses on why great powers and their leaders decide (or not) to respond militarily to provocations in their peripheries. Matthieu also studies China and Taiwan's relations with their neighborhood and monitors U.S-China relations. Matthieu gives lectures on International Relations at ICES and IRCOM and at several other French universities. Matthieu is also a visiting fellow at Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania), where he lectures about conflict resolution in developing countries and about the organization of diplomatic services. Besides this, Matthieu was a NATO trainee on international crisis management. Before coming to Ecole Polytechnique, Matthieu completed his master's degree in political sciences--conflict and cooperation at Leiden University. He is also member of the British International Studies Association. In addition he is founding member and current president of the French Section of the Inter-Country Committee France Taiwan of Rotary International.

### **Seminar**

The Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace had the ambition to teach students how to facilitate dialogue, how to listen, and how to understand different points of view. The other objective was to also develop their leadership skills. Both are keystones of Rotary's goals and their engagement towards new generations: to form leaders of tomorrow who will be able to act for a common good. The need for responsible leaders is even greater in a world where tensions rise and crisis breaks out more and more. In order to act and not be passive in the face of events, one must be able to make sense of what is going on, to be able then to draw a plan of actions and then to conduct these actions. We cannot first solve a crisis if we don't know there is one.

To help participants carry out their future responsibilities, the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, offered participants the opportunity to undergo a crisis simulation. The objectives were to first develop their sense of leadership, to confront them to the realities of crisis management, and to make them practice the techniques for facilitating dialogue they discovered in the first part of the seminar. The crisis was the very opportunity to discover traps of crisis management: the ability to identify and understand a situation, the ability to draw a plan of action and to make it evolve, the ability to gather reliable information, and, most importantly, the ability to put aside personal differences to work in a common effort to solve the crisis.

Prior to the conference, participants were given a reading that theoretically addresses the issues and stages of crisis management, highlighting what should be done and what should be avoided. So, they had a rough idea about what would

await them. Then, during the simulation, they were divided into two groups. One group simulating the central government (the President, Home office secretary, Chief of National police, communication advisors, etc) while, the other group was simulating the local government (the Mayor, chief of local police, advisors, etc). To simulate organisational issues and conflicts, the two groups were put in a context of a rivalry. Indeed, they all had both political and personal objectives to enforce.

The situation they discovered was the following: the President and Mayor are both presidential candidates for the the elections and thus have a strong rivalry. Moreover, this distrust is accentuated by the hosting of Olympic Games in the Mayor's city. Their rivalry was fuelled by frequent polls updates. They also had to manage rivalries within their own staff and a demonstration, and then..... The scenario was conceived to evolve depending on what they did, what they did not do, and what they did too early or too late. To stimulate the issue of gathering reliable information, they were confronted with various sources of information contradicting themselves as well as to the so called "fake news." They soon discovered that information is vital. To illustrate how badly the situation evolved: the demonstration ended up in a street protest against the central government, which was later hijacked by anarchists, a fire broke out in a hotel, IEDS exploded at various parts of the city, and the Olympic Committee was taken as hostages.

The rapid and brutal transformation of the crisis put students under pressure and they had to reorganise themselves and review their communication. Eventually the two groups finally realised that they could not stay rivals but that cooperation was key, although they realised it after the hostages started to

be executed one by one. But the loss of hostages is beside the point of experiencing the pressure of crisis management and its issues. After the crisis was over, there was time for a debriefing during which they assessed what worked and what did not and more importantly why. As future leaders, they also realised that any of their decisions, even very little ones, can have important consequences, thus making them more responsible.

# Speakers







### **Laurie Smolenski**

Laurie Smolenski is the Development and Outreach Officer at the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a global think tank that uses data to better understand and communicate the drivers of peace. She is responsible for managing relationships with foundation and institutional supporters, disseminating IEP's research through diverse public channels, and supporting IEP's educational programming. Laurie was previously the Senior Development Manager at the New York Immigration Coalition, the United States' largest and most diverse immigration policy and advocacy coalition.

Laurie's international experience includes working with female survivors of sex trafficking in Spain and women in the Solomon Islands, and she has collaborated with Democracy Now!, the MacArthur Foundation, Amnesty International, and the U.S. State Department on immigration, human rights and trafficking research. She has a Master of Arts in Peace and Conflict Resolution from the University of Queensland in Australia where she was a Rotary Peace Fellow, and Master of Arts in International Relations from the Autonomous University of Madrid in Spain where she was a Rotary Global Grant recipient.

### **Measuring Peace: The Global Peace Index, Positive Peace, and Economics**

The **Institute for Economics and Peace** (or IEP) is an independent, non-profit think tank. IEP develops methodologies and tools to quantify peace, with the goal of stripping peace of its utopian connotations and making it a concrete, achievable measure of human progress and development. We are interested in understanding the intersection of peace and economic prosperity, as well as “Positive Peace” - which forms the foundation of a formal partnership between Rotary and IEP. The goal of this collaboration is to bring IEP's empirical research and tools to Rotary's network of 1.2 million peace builders around the world.

I began with the question of how peace is measured. IEP uses two key concepts in our research - negative and positive peace. Negative peace is the ‘absence of violence’ or the ‘absence of the fear of violence’. Negative peace doesn't really tell us what is necessary for peace to thrive, however - whereas **Positive Peace** encompasses the factors that exemplify peaceful societies.

Negative peace is the conceptual foundation of IEP's **Global Peace Index** (GPI). The GPI ranks 163 countries and territories according to their relative states of peace, using a weighted scale of 23 indicators. I shared some findings from the 2018 GPI before pivoting to Positive Peace, and the question of what creates peace. From IEP's perspective, it is not enough to look at the risks of violence - we must also look at what builds peaceful and resilient societies over time.

**Positive Peace represents the attitude, institutions and structures that create and sustain peace.** To arrive here,

IEP cross-referenced the GPI with thousands of variables to determine the underlying mechanisms that statistically correlate to the world's most peaceful societies. The result is an eight-part framework of interrelated factors, or "pillars" of Positive Peace: a well-functioning government; equitable distribution of resources; free flow of information; good relations with neighbors; high levels of human capital; acceptance of the rights of others; low levels of corruption; and sound business environment. In outlining this framework, I emphasized the tremendous benefits to making sound investments in building peace rather than merely mitigating conflict: countries with higher levels of Positive Peace have stronger economies, higher levels gender equality and environmental sustainability, and prove significantly more resilient to shocks. With this research, IEP is aiming to better understand the drivers of peace in order to make peace more actionable – and hopefully more achievable.

I also spoke about the alignment between Positive Peace and the Leadership Dialogue for Peace as a peace building tool. Dialogue - negotiation - is of course critical to ending violence (negative peace), though not all of us are in a position to end violence on a daily basis. Yet, most of us are positioned to foster Positive Peace in our own local context. One goal for the Positive Peace framework is to prompt individuals to recognize their role and impact within this peace system, including the value of collaborating across the pillars. Leadership Dialogue for Peace is so powerful precisely because it teaches individuals to engage across sectors, political lines, socio-economic groups, and beyond. I tied this to some concerning deteriorations in

the Positive Peace pillar I found most relevant to Leadership Dialogue for Peace: Respect for the Rights of Others.

In closing, I applauded the Dialogue participants for their eloquence, bravery and sensitivity, and for permitting themselves to be educated, challenged and supported by others whose life experience and perspective might be very different than their own. Throughout the weekend, I was moved by this resilient generation of young peace builders, equipped with new tools I trust will serve as seeds for potentially transformative relationships and initiatives. I closed with a statement of gratitude for the Rotary USA-France Inter-Country Committee for their generosity and commitment in making this possible, to the elected officials and community members who were present to amplify this work, and particularly to the students who participated - as well as immense thanks to Linda, Branka and the other founders for their vision in developing the Leadership Dialogue for Peace framework.



### **Maria Calzada, Ph.D.**

Interim Provost Calzada joined the Loyola University New Orleans faculty in the Department of Mathematical Sciences in the fall of 1991. She became Dean of the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences in 2013, now known as the College of Arts and Sciences.

Her research interests include mathematical computations with an emphasis on applications in statistical quality control. She also enjoys working on teaching projects in collaboration with faculty in her department and the natural sciences. Her teaching interests include all levels of undergraduate mathematics, but she has a special affinity for freshman level calculus. She hopes that college students will learn, understand, enjoy and use calculus as a base for deeper mathematical and scientific explorations. In 2004, Dr. Calzada received the Senate Teaching Award for her efforts to improve student learning in calculus.

In 2008, she received a National Science Foundation grant to pursue interdisciplinary studies in the Loyola Chemistry Department. As a result of that grant, Dr. Calzada pursued interdisciplinary research on Spectroscopy topics together with

Chemistry faculty and undergraduate student researchers.

Her most proud accomplishment as Dean of Arts and Sciences is the continued funding of the Bobet Fellowships in support of faculty and student research, and the establishment of the Fr. James Carter, S.J. Fellowships, also in support of collaborative scholarship and in honor of our former president, beloved Physics professor and Rotarian. In times of financial constraints, she proudly continued to sustain these important initiatives while tightly managing the college budget. Dr. Calzada is a strong believer that close faculty-student collaborations make the Loyola experience what it is and what students come to expect from us.

### **Mathematics and Peace**

#### **Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, October 27, 2018**

First and foremost, I want to thank the Rotary USA-France Inter-country Committee, particularly its co-president Dr. Bart Cleary, whom I know has spent so much time and energy in organizing this event, and Rotary District 6840, our local rotary, for sponsoring this important Leadership Dialogue for Peace Conference. I also want to thank the Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center and our Loyola students and faculty for facilitating and hosting the conference. I am particularly grateful to Dr. Behrooz Moazami, for his tireless work on this and many other projects in support of peace initiatives and international dialogue. It is because of the support of these men and women, our students and the Rotary organization that we were able to offer 11 Loyola students and 8 graduate students from France, as well as two young American Rotarians the opportunity to participate in

this two-day workshop right here in this room. Let me again welcome our guests from France and from other parts of the USA. It is a honor to have you here with us and I also want to thank all of you present for attending this evening.

When the Rotary District 6840 approached Loyola University to host this international event, we were extremely happy and proud to be considered a venue for this important conference. We recognize the Rotary as an organization that has supported lasting and positive change throughout the world and Loyola is pleased to boast some prominent Rotarians among its faculty: Father Jim Carter, S. J., President Emeritus, and a notable Astro Physicist and Dr. Robert A. Thomas, the Director of the Center for Environmental Communication at Loyola. Unfortunately, because previous commitments, neither could be with us tonight; however, I am glad to report that Dr. Thomas will be the faculty adviser working to establish Rotaract, the young Rotarian club, on our campus.

It is only appropriate for us here at Loyola to welcome this Leadership Dialogue for Peace Conference, as we place great value on international education. More than 30% of our students experience study abroad and have taken academic courses with a global perspective. The university has a Center for International Education to facilitate our students studying abroad and to help foreign students achieve success here on campus. Our history department offers a concentration in international history and a number of departments and programs promote an internationally oriented curriculum. In short Loyola University New Orleans is truly an international-orientated institution.

All of our efforts at international understanding serve, in one fashion or another, the cause of peace. In keeping with our Jesuit educational tradition, we seek to critically examine the world and explore avenues and strategies that further the cause of world peace. We seek to instill in our students, through reflective inquiry, a sense of responsibility for the planet as a whole and for the establishment of a just and peaceful world order.

In keeping with this goal, this spring we are organizing our 11th annual Students' Peace conference – that is commonly referred to as Peace Week, (April 8-12). This highly successful conference is largely the product of student initiatives arising out of our robust inter-disciplinary Middle East Peace Studies Program. Indeed, the bulk of organizing this Leadership Dialogue for Peace Conference is the work of our students and faculty in the Middle East Peace Studies program. Peace studies are an integral part of our Jesuit education that strives to prepare our students to be future world leaders. As such, we are committed to continuing this forum as a concrete and efficacious way to engage students in the cause of social justice and world peace.

Dear guests: every field of human study has something to offer in the cause of achieving world peace, and I believe my own field, mathematics, is no exception. Thus, I wish to end my remarks tonight not only as the University interim provost in charge of the University overall academic direction, but also as a mathematician, as someone who has taught courses and done research in computational statistics and physical chemistry. On the surface, abstract, mathematical research may not appear to offer any insight into the human cost paid by those who experience the misery of war and conflict. But let me assure you

that mathematics, at least how I understand it, does contribute a great deal to the discussion of both the causes and solutions to our present world crisis.

Numbers talk. Mathematics offers us tools to understand the world. Some of these tools, Calculus and Statistics, are my favorite subjects to teach. These subjects allow us to measure both progress and deterioration and to measure rates of change. For example, mathematics lets us calculate war expenses and measure its human costs. Anthony Cordesman, the Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy at the bi-partisan Center for Strategic and International Studies, writes in his report, *US Military Spending: The Cost of War*, (July 10 2017), “If one includes the Cold War, the United States has been at war for virtually every year since 1941. The United States has been actively in combat since late 2001.”<sup>1</sup>

The cost of this perpetual state of conflict has been enormous, and Cordesman provides us with these staggering statistics:

- The Department of Defense’s Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) costs of the Afghan conflict since FY2001 will likely rise to \$840.7 billion for FY2018. They will likely be \$770.5 billion for Iraq.
- Total costs for all OCO spending between FY2001 and FY2018 will be in excess of \$1,909 billion. Given the costs omitted from the OCO budget, the real total cost will almost certainly be well over \$2 trillion.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.csis.org/analysis/us-military-spending-cost-wars>

As budgets in military and security spending have increased, government officials have responded with calls for cuts of \$9.2 billion to education, a 13.5% cut.<sup>2</sup>

Let me also quote some data about the human cost of war from *The Costs of War Project* as of April 2015 as reported by The Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University:

“Approximately 370,000 people have been killed by direct war violence in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The number of people who have been wounded or have fallen ill as a result of the conflicts is far higher, as is the number of civilians who have died indirectly as a result of the destruction of hospitals and infrastructure and environmental contamination.”<sup>3</sup>

Again, the numbers would be even more staggering if one includes the human cost of war in Syria and Yemen. According to the United Nation’s high commissariat for refugees, a few hundreds of thousands have been killed in Syria and millions have been displaced around the world.<sup>4</sup> In Yemen, at least 1,248 children had been killed and nearly the same number wounded in air attacks since March 2015, according to UN figures. The European Union acknowledges the Yemeni condition as the “worst humanitarian crisis in the world.”<sup>5</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Anaya Kaments, (May 22, 2017) President Trump’s Budget Proposal Calls for Deep Cuts to education. <https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/05/22/529534031/president-trumps-budget-proposal-calls-for-deep-cuts-to-education>

<sup>3</sup> <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/human>

<sup>4</sup> Global Trends, Forced Displacement in 2017, <http://www.unhcr.org/5b27be547.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Yemen ‘worst humanitarian crisis in the world’: EU, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/08/yemen-worst-humanitarian-crisis-world-eu-180805070256555.html>

As I trust I have demonstrated, numbers and calculation matter. They are not simply figures on a spreadsheet, but they represent real people and real suffering. These numbers should sober us all. If we are attentive to their import, they will keep us honest in discussing the consequences of war and violence. Mathematics, I believe, offers us another service in the cause of peace; it feeds the imagination. By its very nature, mathematics nourishes the imagination; for mathematics is not only the study of numbers but by its very nature it is an imaginative enterprise. Humanity could not invent the number zero without imagination. In the Mayan culture, zero was depicted as an eye-like figure. Looking at the world through mathematical eyes, we think abstractly and by thinking in the abstract we explore the hypothetical realm of possibilities and increase our ability to imagine new and more productive alternatives. I can't think of any mathematical development where imagination has not been a critical component in achieving a breakthrough, a new way of understanding reality. Peace in many ways is an abstract, a definable but elusive concept. However, like a mathematical theorem, it can be achieved, if we use imaginations to solve problems and to persist in our efforts to bring the hope of peace from the realm of possibility to reality. Like the Mayan image of the eye suggests, we need to imagine a world at peace in order to attain it, and I am glad that our University is serving as a platform for this imaginative venture.

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### **Lauren Pugliese**

Lauren Pugliese joined Rotary in June 2017 as the Rotary Peace Centers Coordinator. She works directly with candidates, district officers, volunteer readers, and committee members to coordinate the application process. Lauren's first became involved with Rotary while in high school, where she was the president of her school's Interact club and participated in RYLA. She is a current member of the Rotaract Club of Chicago and serves as the club's Membership Director.

Lauren holds a BA in Sociology from The College of Wooster and is currently working on completing a certificate in Nonprofit and Philanthropy Organizations from Northwestern University and a certificate in Corporate Sustainability from New York University.

### **Program description**

As a global network of 1.2 million community leaders, Rotary International leverages its international membership to make positive, lasting change in communities around the world. Established in 2002, the Rotary Peace Centers program has a vision of sustainable peace - encompassing a network of peace

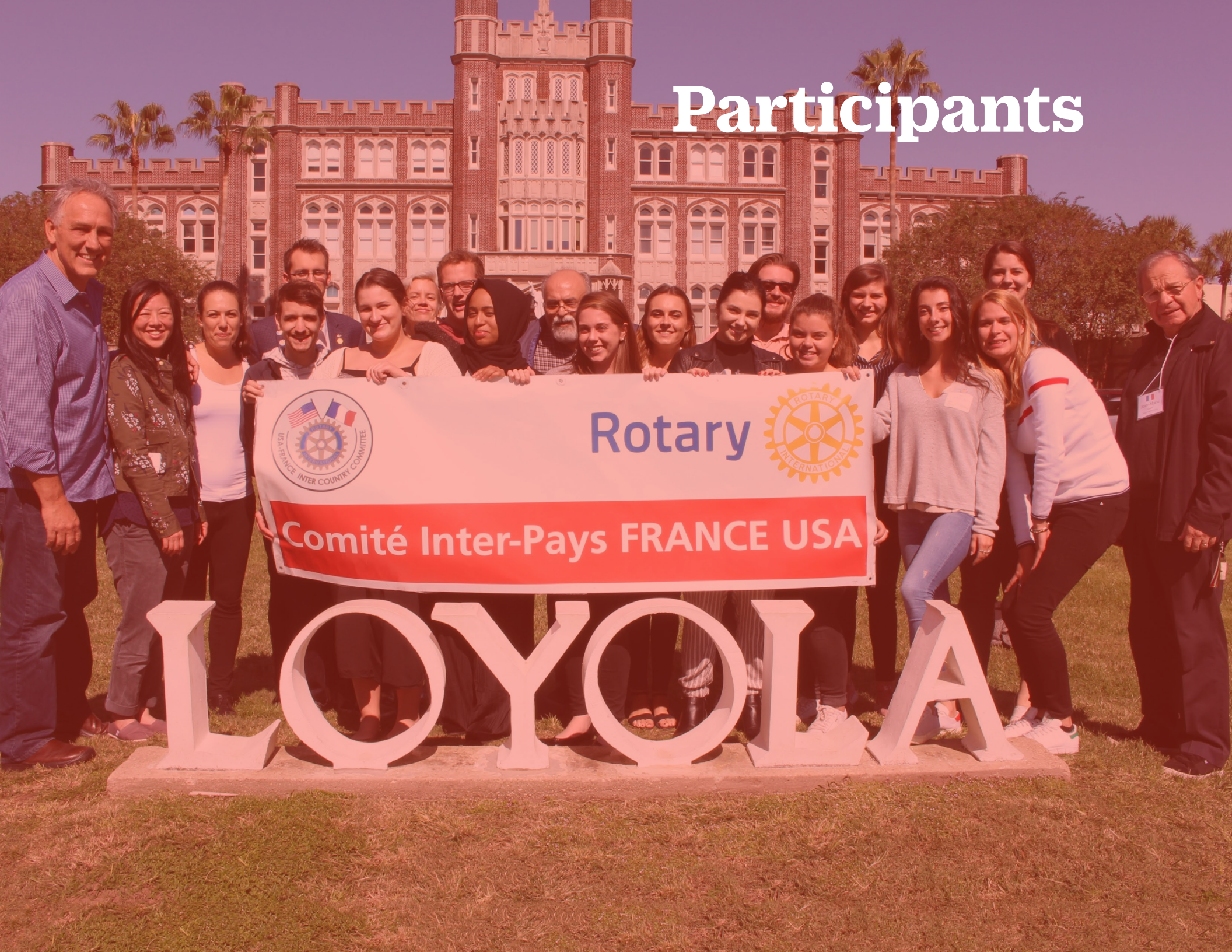
builders and community leaders dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts across the global community.

Each year, Rotary selects up to 100 social change leaders from around the world to receive fully funded fellowships to study at one of our peace centers. Through academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities, the Rotary Peace Centers program develops leaders who are catalysts for peace and conflict prevention and resolution. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses.

The Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,200 fellows to advance their careers in peace building and development. Many of them are serving as leaders at international organizations or have started their own foundations.

Learn more at <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships>.

# Participants







Gala Dinner, Danna Student Center  
Saturday, October 27, 2018



“The Horseshoe”, Loyola University New Orleans  
Saturday, October 27, 2018

## French Section Photo Gallery



Myriam Malikite



Élise Marié



Léa Soulon



Rachel Pommeyrol



Marie-Caroline Debray



Antoine Trostiansky



Pierre Piquard

## American Section Photo Gallery



Gabriel Gutiérrez



Megan Mann



Mary Kate Andrepont



Samantha Ammons



Sophia Brown



Brittney Giardina



Jonathan LeBeau



Allyson Barnes



Omari Caldwell



Huong Tran



## Myriam Malikite

malikite.myriam@gmail.com

### Work Experience

#### Intern

UNESCO Information & Communication / Education Paris, France  
Attending conferences. Redaction of articles Updating the social networks Translation Events organization. January 2018–April 2018

#### Intern administrative assistant

Top Nap Consulting, Dubai - United Arab Emirates Translations from English to French. Updating the website Organizing the meeting schedule. June 2014–September 2014

### Languages

- French Native
- English Fluent
- Spanish Read, written, spoken

### Education

Since September 2018:

**Master's degree in Information and Communication**  
**Sorbonne, Nouvelle, Paris**

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, New Orleans, USA 25–27, October 2018

February 2016–July 2017:

**Intensive Arabic Program & Art of Communication, Al Qasimia**  
University, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

December 2016:

**IELTS Score: 7**

September 2012 – June 2015:

**Bachelor's degree in Applied Foreign Languages, Paris-**  
Sorbonne University, Paris, France, English/Spanish

June 2012:

**French baccalaureate in Literature, Paris, France**

### Interests

Social Networks; Photography; Globetrotter; World Food;  
Charity; Rotary

25 years old from Paris, France

Bachelor's degree: Foreign languages English- Spanish

University Diploma: Arabic Language

Master 1: Information & Communication

### Reflection

Seduced by the New Orleans Peace seminar forum's aim, I really wanted to be part of this intercultural project. My educational background, my personal experiences and my strong interest for the ROTARY Club drove me to apply for this peace-building workshop. Open-minded and tolerant, I am interested in the discovery of new cultures, hence my passion for traveling. Through my travels, I have acquired human experiences, and I

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, New Orleans, USA 25–27, October 2018

am convinced that my international profile was an asset for this forum. Indeed, I speak four languages: French, English, Spanish and Arabic. Languages are, according to me, one of the keys to building peace.

It has been an honor to meet experienced people from all around the world and work together for great causes. During this seminar, Linda Low and Branka Panic taught us debating technics in order to improve our listening capacity, to feel the story of another person, and to understand it even if we did not know him/her. We learned how to extract values, personal experience, barriers, opportunities and unique factors while listening to someone's position.

We debated different themes such as immigration, democracy, intolerance and inequity and security, which allowed us to improve our critical thinking by respecting other's convictions and beliefs. Through those debates, I gained an understanding of the other candidates--American and French--and also about myself; I discovered another aspect of my personality. Indeed, we shared our personal experiences and it was the first time for me to talk about discrimination issues facing me regarding the fact that I am wearing the hijab. I consider that I represent several minorities: Muslim, wearing the hijab, French with African origins and above all I am a woman, so it was really important for be able to explain my ideas during this seminar. I felt blessed to talk in front of people who were listening to me, understanding me, and trying to find solutions. We also had a crisis simulation made by our academic director, Matthieu Grandpierron. With our own roles, we were all working together to manage the crisis properly. That exercise helped me to

realize how team spirit can be strong when we have common objectives.

Being a part of the “2018 New Orleans Peace seminar forum” was an occasion to combine my ethical values, my skills and my personality; I learned from the coaches, from the candidates and from every single person who was there. They all taught me something that I would never forget.

Lastly, this forum is beneficial for my professional project to work for the United Nations Development Program which aims is to make a world where people will enjoy peace and prosperity.



**Elise Marié**

elise.marie@kedgebs.com

### **Scholarships**

Master 1 PGE: Brand And Luxury Management – KEDGE Business School. 2018–2019

L3 Programme Grande Ecole – KEDGE Business School. 2017–2018

License 1 and 2 Economics – University Rennes 1. 2017

Baccalaureate Economic and Social Spain option with honors. 2015

### **Associations**

Treasurer Kedge Sailing Team. 2017–2019

Vice President – Rotaract Kedge BS. 2017–2019

### **Experience**

Secretary – Sailing Center of Roghesneuf. 2018

Executive Secretary – Natixis. 2016–2017

Training course Marking and Communication – PTA. 2017

Babysitter – Grand Hotel Barriere de Dinard. 2016

Volunteer English Teacher – Bali. 2016

### **Languages**

- English (Confirmed)
- Spanish (Confirmed)
- Chinese (Notions)

### **Interests**

Violin, Piano, Traveling, Tennis

### **Reflection**

I'm Elise Marié from St. Malo in France, and I study “Brand and Luxury Management” in a Bordeaux business school. I am the Vice President of my school's Rotaract, and taking part in this association is a great opportunity for me to engage myself in international, charity, or local actions. I'm interested in music (violin and piano), sailing, and traveling to discover more and more culture around the world.

I joined this program because I wanted to learn how to debate in society by discussing and explaining sometimes taboo subjects, such as immigration or religion. I am convinced that discovering more about how the world functions is a great opportunity. Moreover, it is an occasion to meet people from different countries with the same desire for sharing ideas, point of view, or life experiences and to discuss questions relating to peace between world citizens. I am aware that every country needs to have a place in our current, globalized model of development. There also needs to be dialogue. Promoting dialogue for

peace and, specifically, economic peace are closely linked and important for trade. When we talk about peace we often think about big instances like the UN; however, to me, promoting dialogue on different scales and mainly on our own scale is important in our society.

I learned different debating technics like third person to first, agree/disagree and talking-walking-running. These technics were very interesting because they were useful in discovering more about student point of view from both countries. It was a great opportunity to better understand main issues by promoting the dialogue between students from different cultures. The most interesting ones was third person to first because we needed to be in the shoes of the student who was explaining their own story about democracy. The crisis simulation was also a high point of the seminar. Indeed, finding solutions on taboo issues was a good way to develop some ideas by playing roles in the government.

More than learning technics of debates I learned how to listen to other peoples' point of view. Some students talked personally about discrimination, religion, or democracy and this changed my opinion on some subjects by listening to their arguments. I really want to share this experience with my community (friends, Rotaract, school) to show how promoting the dialogue between citizens is important nowadays and how being tolerant can lead to a better world.



**Léa Soulon**  
**Business School Student**

### **Education**

Since September 2017:

Bachelor degree in Kedge Business School, Bordeaux – France.

June to August 2016:

Chinese language training at National Taipei University of Education, Taipei – Taiwan

September 2015 to June 2017:

Preparatory class for prestigious business schools at Lycée Saint Charles, Marseille – France (focused on economics, geopolitics, geostrategics and understanding of the world)

September 2013 to June 2015:

Baccalaureate economics section with Honours at the International Georges DUBY High School, Luynes - France

### **Professional and Personal Experiences**

Since June 2018:

President of the Rotaract of Kedge Bordeaux.

Since October 2017:

Communication manager of AIESEC Kedge Bordeaux

From September to May 2017–18:

giving English private lessons to a high school student

February 2016:

Founding member of the Rotaract 9920 World One, New Zealand (promote international peace through conferences, seminars and specific actions)

October 2014:

Humanitarian trip, “Solidarité Cambodge”, Cambodia (giving English courses and building sanitary facilities)

August 2014:

Waitress in a Creperie, Greece and taking care of sea turtles in a NGO.

July 2012:

Internship at Ajaccio City Hall, Corsica (planning and staffing for the Tour de France)

## Reflection

My name is Léa Soulon from Aix-en-Provence, France; I’m a 20-year-old business student in “international business and geostrategy.”

I firmly believe that travel enriches the individual and broadens the mind. By stepping out of my comfort zone, accepting new challenges, and putting myself in new situations, I am looking to better myself and enjoy new experiences.

In Bordeaux, where I’m studying now, I’m the President of the Rotaract of Kedge Business School. I’ve known the Rotary for

several years and their values immediately caught my attention as they align with my own. It appeared to me that going on a peace seminar with the Rotary was a very good way to “be the change I wish to see in the world.” What brought me to New Orleans is my will to discover the American culture from the inside, their point of view on peace, and their way of seeing democracy, security, immigration, politics... I had the chance to meet seven wonderful students of Loyola University. They were all coming from different backgrounds and taking part in the debates was truly an enriching experience.

In the two days of debates, the experience I preferred was the one called “third to first person” where we had to re-appropriate someone’s experience of the democracy. I had to do this exercise with Huong, from Vietnam. Her story was about a measure that would allow the leasing of land to China for 99 years in three special economic zones against which Vietnamese demonstrated in the street. She was talking about the police brutality, the way they tortured some leaders of the march and about the atmosphere in Vietnam since then. I felt very responsible and I wanted to make justice to this shocking story. It was very challenging to tell the story to the other ones in the group as if it was mine. I feel like that is what this seminar was all about: experiencing the differences. As long as you are not involved in a story, you don’t feel concerned but when someone is telling you their own experience it’s totally different.



**Rachel Pommeyrol**  
**Journalist for *La Voix du Nord*,**  
**a French local newspaper**

### Studies

#### Université Catholique, Lille

History and Journalism Master Degree. TV and radio journalism specialization. September 2016–June 2018

#### Université Lille 3, Lille

History University Degree. Literature, geography and geopolitics options. September 2015–June 2016

#### Lycée Watteau, Valenciennes

Literary preparatory Class. History and geography specialization. German and Latin options. September 2013–June 2015

### Professional Experience

#### Scoop, Wellington, New Zealand

Trainee journalist. Writing web reports and reviews during legislative elections period. August 2017–October 2018

#### L'Est Républicain, Bar-le-Duc

Trainee journalist. Writing reports in a daily newspaper. May 2017–June 2017

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
 Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, New Orleans, USA 25–27, October 2018

#### **La Voix du Nord**, Lambersart

Local Press Correspondent. Writing reports for a daily newspaper. Internship in February 2016. January 2016 – May 2016

#### **L'Observateur du Cambrésis**, Cambrai

Journalist. Writing reports in a weekly newspaper. Managing a zone and its local press correspondents. Layout. July 2015 – September 2015

### Interests

Society. International relationships. Ecology. History. Literature. Economics. Sciences

Travels: Germany, Belgium, England, Ireland, Spain, New Zealand, Rwanda

Literary reviews blog: [expressionraisonnee.wordpress.com](http://expressionraisonnee.wordpress.com)

Occasional volunteer for the association L'Auberge des Migrants

After studies in literature, history and journalism, Rachel Pommeyrol passed her master degree in June 2018, at Lille Catholic University. Her thesis was on the pictorial representation of France in the American magazine LIFE. She is now journalist for La Voix du Nord.

### Reflection

When I applied to the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, I knew that it would be a great opportunity to be part of its second edition. Peace has always had an important part to play in my daily life. This because I have seen inequalities at school. I have conducted research for my history studies about politics, international relationships, economics and migrations. I have

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
 Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, New Orleans, USA 25–27, October 2018



traveled to very different countries including New Zealand and Rwanda. And, I'm working concretely on these issues every day for the last three years, during which I have done reports.

With the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, I wanted, firstly, to understand – even just a small part of – the United States of America. As soon as I heard about this project, I felt that the main challenge would be to debate very complex and sometimes intimidating issues with people who have an entirely different culture and way of thinking. I needed to prepare myself on their society--on the American people themselves--, not just on the theoretical part of U.S. history, politics, or economics that I knew from my studies. And indeed, during the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace

Finally, I wanted to meet people who share in the same interests as me. I didn't want us to have the same ideas. Instead, I wanted to benefit in open dialogue from our similar personalities.

I could not have been more satisfied. I have been lucky to meet very interesting French and American people, students, and organizers. We worked together, during the seminar and outside. The climax of these dialogues and reflections was the crisis management, at the end of the seminar. We had to work with each other, to confront our ideas and to cooperate in a very intense crisis situation. We also had to be clear in what we were saying, because we had to work fast and efficiently. It was a very satisfying experience to be dependent from our instincts and fundamental abilities, and to take the best from each other. I now understand that I will be able to work on crisis situations that I could face.

I have learnt a lot from the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace about the USA, about peace, about how to debate, and about myself. In the two days of work, we condensed years of personal thoughts. This unique opportunity brings you so many things, making you want to do it every day. Even if the seminar itself is over, we are lucky. The benefits of this wonderful experience will last for a very long time and will help us build our ideas, perhaps differently from other people. And, who knows, this could help each of us to find concrete solutions in our own field to bring a little more peace and understanding to this world.

Even when we, as French students, agreed on principles and ideologies about democracy, immigration, or security with American students, the way we would apply those principles concretely was very different. It has opened a lot of doors in all of our minds which enabled us to better understand the issues in their whole. For instance, security may mean no gun to avoid the threat it represents for someone, or, on the contrary, legalized guns to be able to protect oneself for someone else.

Second, I wanted to learn more about the debating process. I have been lucky to debate a lot with my family and my friends at school, at home and during my studies. It helped me make up my own mind, find arguments, and learn how to face adversity. When I was in literary preparatory class and even after, when studying journalism, we were asked to look for ideas contrary to our own and to organize our thoughts. But there is a key difference between debating with people we know or doing so by writing, and opening a debate with fifteen unknown people. During the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, we have been challenged through different exercises to share our own

experience, to precise our ideas, to identify from where they come, to express them, and to open our mind. The exercise I preferred was when we were divided in two groups and everyone had to share their personal feeling about why they didn't feel safe in their country, what they would like to change if they could, or some other questions. It opened many different angles on vast issues and created a space to share experiences which enabled new understandings. Moreover, I have realized that I use some of these exercises in my daily life to share with people, to understand them or to be understood. I primarily use the third to first person exercise which consists in narrating someone's personal story as if it was your own. It really aids in listening to people and opening one's mind.



### **Marie-Caroline Debray**

1 rue de l'Annonciade  
13100 Aix-en-Provence FRANCE

Phone Number: 0659770389

Email: mcaroline.debray@gmail.com

#### **Work Experiences**

Internship at the EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy,  
Prague, May–August 2018

At the European Institute, I will work as a research assistant for Mr. Michelot, deputy director of the institute. My research areas will be EU enlargement, European Neighborhood Policy, EU foreign and defense policy with a specialization in transatlantic issues.

Internship at the National Endowment for Democracy,  
Washington D.C., April–July 2017

I was working as a research and conferences intern for the International Forum for Democratic studies, an internal think tank working at promoting democracy all around the world. I was specialized in the improvement of democratic principles in international public policies.

Internship at the French embassy in Qatar  
Doha, July–August 2015

I was working as an intern for the French embassy of Qatar discovering diplomacy and France's international relations in the Middle East.

## Education

Institute of Political Sciences, Sciences Po,  
Aix en Provence, 2016–2018

I am in my third year at Sciences Po Aix. I am currently studying Law, Economics, Public Policies, Geopolitics, World's issues and Political Sciences. I am also the Vice president of the Model UN club of Sciences po Aix.

Trilingual Humanities, University of Aix-Marseille, 2013–2016

I spent three years learning social sciences in three languages: English, literary Arabic and Russian. I've learned Geopolitics, History, Civilization, International Relations and Sociology in these three areas of the world.

High school Degree in Economics, 2012

I passed my high school degree in Economics option Political Sciences with Honors.

## Special Skills: Languages

French native, Fluent English, good knowledge of Literary Arabic and Russian and school knowledge of Spanish

## Personal Statement

Marie-Caroline Debray is currently a post-graduate student in both European Affairs and Geo-strategy, defense and security issues at Sciences Po Aix-en-Provence. She has previously been an intern for the National Endowment for Democracy, a think tank specialized in Democratic issues, in Washington D.C and for the European Institute for European policy, a Czech think-tank. She is especially interested in conflict resolution, as she would like to work for NATO in order to combine her interests in both European Affairs and Defense issues.

## Reflection

Participating at the Rotary Peace Seminar has been one of the most fruitful experiences I've had so far. Indeed, during the Peace Seminar, I experienced many exercises, met some incredible people, and pushed myself to grow in ways that I didn't think possible. The Rotary Seminar has truly been a life changing experience, as I can already perceive the positive change it has made on my life. I am sure what I've learned during the 3-day seminar in New Orleans is going to be helpful for my professional career, as well as in my everyday life in my local community.

First of all, during the first two days, we discovered the peace program created by Linda and Branka. During this period of time, we did many exercises to have a different perspective of what debates and discussions really are. I think we've all learned what is crucial in diplomacy, in international relations, but also in any kind of discussion, is the ability to listen to different opinions, histories, and cultural backgrounds. By listening, then, you ensure a better understanding of the differences that are, as we all know, at many times the reason why fears, aggressions, divisions, and oppositions appear. The model created by Branka and Linda allowed us to create a sphere of intimacy between us while we've only known each other for less than a week and we soon became very close which, finally, made us more comfortable to debate and to discuss topics that are said to be polemical. It is the case within the French group of students but also with the American students as the techniques from the peace program we've learned made us realize how crucial it is to be confronted

with differences in order to learn from it and to have a better and more concrete understanding of International Relations. Indeed, we can all learn from our national, social and cultural differences in order to grow up and implement more peace building in our own communities. Moreover, from a French point of view, we also had the opportunity to discover a new aspect of what the American society really is as we discussed many topics such as democracy, security, and migration issues. After these discussions, I feel like it is our duty to share this experience as well as other experiences the group has shared with us in order to act at our own scale to ensure peace building in our communities. In fact, after this seminar, I feel reinvigorated in my ability to improve the world by encouraging people to listen more.

Moreover, the crisis simulation orchestrated by Matthieu Grandpierron was the highlight of the seminar; it made us put into practice the theory of peace implementation we learned during the previous two days. This experience made me realize how crucial debate and listening skills are when you want to move on as a group in order to implement change. We truly realized that leadership skills are not just about power and influence, but also about discussion and building trust and confidence. With this crisis simulation, we discovered how easy it is to put aside our values just to gain power or win a situation while always remembering that understanding and tolerance must always be at the core of our behavior. In fact, if this peace seminar has taught me anything, it's that resolution can never be achieved unless we all unite for the sake of the whole community and that we are not divided by the ignorance of divergence. What is really going to change, and I'm sure I'm

not the only participant to have this feeling, is the responsibility I have to spread these values and this message to my local community but also on a bigger scale as I hope to work in diplomacy.

Finally, I would like to thank again Matthieu, Branka, Linda, and all organizers that made this Rotary Peace Seminar such an incredible experience for me. I feel truly blessed to have met many extraordinary people with whom I hope I will keep contact for a very long time. Finally, I would like to thank again Matthieu, Branka, Linda and all organizers that made this Rotary Peace Seminar such an incredible experience for me. I feel truly blessed to have met many extraordinary people with whom I hope I will keep contact for a very long time.



**Pierre Piquard**

pierre.piquard@kcl.ac.uk

piquard9@gmail.com

**2017–2018**

Public policy, Middle-Eastern and Russian studies oriented

Focus on defense and security in the Middle-East

**2014–2017**

European school of Political and Social Sciences at Lille, France,  
European BA in Political Sciences, 2:1 Honours

**2016–2017**

American University of Science and Technology at Beirut,  
Lebanon, International relations, exchange program

Conflict resolution and peace studies courses in a Middle-Eastern context

Weekly visits to social retirement homes in Beirut

**2012–2014**

Lycée Saint-Charles at Orléans, French Baccalaureate, Scientific  
Section with Highest Honours

**Work Experience**

**06/2017–08/2017**

Intern officer at the French Foreign Affairs Ministry

Worked in the Preparedness and Partnerships Unit within the Crisis and Support Center. Assigned to develop crisis anticipation tools with data collected from the French diplomatic services as well as open sources. Drafted countries and regional security briefs illustrating diplomacy priorities. Participation in several crisis exercises, boosting my skills in conflict and crisis management. Good overall knowledge of public administration customs and procedures, valuable presentation skills in meetings. Positive attitude, great team-worker with acute emotional intelligence – essential in nerve-racking and intense activities. Praised for team-integration qualities, motivation, intellectual curiosity.

**06/2016–08/2016**

Storage agent and cashier, Carrefour Market Orléans, France

Work ethics and dedication – average day at work starting at 4 in the morning

Ability to work under pressure while handling disparate sums of money in short time

Deep product knowledge and ability to target customers

Diplomacy skills for dealing with customers

**10/2015**

Journalist at World Forum for a Responsible Economy, Lille, France

Article writing both in French and English in a conference purposed to find new alternatives for the global economy

Interviewed world leading businessmen including mobile phone network Orange CEO, on the solutions they propose to promote a more responsible growth

Gained confidence, communication and journalistic writing skills

**06/2015–08/2015****French Tutor at Alliance Française de Chicago, USA**

Gave French lessons within a summer camp crafted for English-speaking kids wishing to learn French

Ability to work in a testing atmosphere requiring constant focus, sense of responsibility and appropriateness

Capacity of adaptation to the requirements and customs of a foreign country, especially in the challenging area of children keeping

Direct contacts with the French cultural diplomacy services and participation to meetings

**Education**

King's College London, MA in Public Policy

**Languages**

French: mother tongue

English: full proficiency (110 TOEFL score, 2017 – Certificate of Proficiency in English by Cambridge University, 2013)

Spanish: professional proficiency, B2 level

Arabic: beginner, A1/A2 level

**Miscellaneous**

Treasurer of ESPOMUN Society (Model United Nations) in 2015–17

Youth Council in Orléans (December 2009 – December 2011):

“Housses de Sac” Project realised, based on a personal idea and initiative

Keen interest in sports:

Basketball at a competitive level, multiple times team captain

Travelling (Middle-East, North Africa, North Africa, Europe)

Multiple experiences as bartender in music festivals

**Reflection**

Public policies, geopolitics and diplomacy have been at the centre of my studies. I am from Orleans, the “original” New Orleans! I have been travelling and studying in various countries, which all have built in different aspects what my preferences and wishes for the future are. I feel attracted by questions centred around the aspects of conflict resolution, crisis management, negotiations, and, I would like to combine all these elements in my future work. Otherwise, learning new and various languages, such as Arabic, and culture exchange interest me as well. That is precisely what meeting people, who have various ways of thinking, different sensibilities, tastes is about. My studies in London, Beirut, Lille, Paris, and Chicago have been key in this aspect.

Therefore, I was naturally highly motivated to participate in the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace in New Orleans. The concept of the seminar, its academic project, and its context, really pushed me to participate. I was excited at the idea of being part, in a way, of a French delegation, and this, even more in New Orleans being from Orleans, as well as, to participate to a crisis management simulation. The opportunity to meet and to talk to new people about common topics has reinforced my will to participate.

If the different workshops have opened my mind to new aspects of promoting and of constructing peace; the exchanges between students and coordinators constituted the key aspect of the seminar. This was translated into understanding differently contemporary issues, as a way to find solutions to global issues, with other people sharing the idea that dialogue is

key to achieve this goal. This point is a key take away for me. As to the crisis management simulation, it has reminded me that collaborating and building trust are two vital dimensions when it comes to developing dialogue, and this, peace. Indeed, the outcome of the crisis showed that we haven't really understood that the two groups were not necessarily opposed and rivals, but, that it was their common interest was in cooperating to bring peace.

Then, the seminar culminated with the presentation made by Laurie Smolenski, from the Institute for Economics and Peace. She talked about the effects of student exchanges on peace building. Her words perfectly illustrated what we found out during our debates: we all have an individual responsibility in our communities to make our society and States less violent. I hope I will keep a more positive and proactive image of peace and defence. Finally, I had the opportunity to learn how to write a little speech with another student, which I never did before. That was a task that needs to be able to listen and work to be able to deliver two messages at once, and to make the audience feel concerned about it, precisely two other aspects that we practiced during the seminar.

Finally, I would like to congratulate warmly and to thank all members of Rotary Clubs, who have welcomed us, as well as those who have organized this wonderful project, and made it possible. We are all collectively grateful and we will try to put to work these important principles that we discovered and practiced together.

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### **Gabriel Gutiérrez**

My name is Gabriel Gutiérrez and I am a fourth-year student at Loyola University New Orleans. I am originally from Napa, California. I am the proud son of two amazing parents: my father, who came as a Mexican immigrant looking for a better life in the United States and my mother, one of the strongest and hardest working people that I have ever known. Both of my parents worked very hard owning their own business for thirteen years and raised me to have a strong work ethic. They both also had dreams for me to have a better life than they did, and they always pushed me to do my best in school and go on to study at a university. I was accepted at Loyola University New Orleans in 2015 and I will be graduating in May 2019. At Loyola I study History International Studies as well as French and Arabic. Additionally, I have taken my studies abroad as I spent a year in Almería, Spain during the 2017–2018 academic year. My education and travels have really influenced and shaped me to have a more global perspective.

### **Reflection**

Due to my studies I was interested in participating in the Rotary Dialogue for Peace since it had much relevance to all the classes that I have been taking these past four years. Additionally, I could not pass up an opportunity to practice my French with the French students who were also participating. I was thoroughly pleased with the experience that I gained from being able to participate in the Rotary Dialogue for Peace as I found that I gained many new skills and created new friendships. The dialogue was fascinating as we were able to discuss controversial world issues amongst ourselves to better understand each other. I give much credit to the Rotarians for the interesting ideas that they came up with to create different exercises that helped us to better express our opinions as well as understand them. A good example of this, and a for me a personal highlight, was the crisis scenario that we did in which we were placed into fictitious government roles and had to learn how to deal with issues as they unfolded over a three-hour period. The experience was interesting as it taught me the complexities of dealing with a stressful political situation and how one's decisions or indecision can lead to varied results. Sincerely, from the bottom of my heart I want to thank the Rotary Club for allowing me this opportunity to represent my school and my country at this amazing event and I would strongly recommend it to anyone else interested- it was a very valuable and eye-opening experience. Also, and finally, I would like to thank my fellow Loyola classmates who participated and for all the French students and their families who came over to visit us and this wonderful country. Merci beaucoup!





**Megan Mann**

**Reflection**

The Rotary Dialogue for Peace through the Inter-Country Committee was such a blessing to be able to take part in. Being able to converse with students of all backgrounds from all over France allowed us to engage in more diverse dialogue on a spectrum of topics: democracy, immigration, intolerance, and conflict. Opening the dialogue between Loyola and French students of varying backgrounds, ages, majors, and fields in politics and international relations, and at different levels in their studies provided each of us with a unique insight into the views and different approaches that each student had to diverse political global situations. The exposure to all of the participants' opinions through facilitated conversation and throughout the dialogue allowed me to gain new perspectives on all of the topics that we discussed, with ideas that I would have never thought of myself or normally considered. I was unsure of what to expect throughout the workshops, which I later learned was by design. The candid nature of all of the exercises that I participated in promoted a really natural element to all of the exercises, which was evident through all of the facilitated discussions. I cannot express how rewarding this

experience was for me, and how grateful I am to have been able to participate in the discussions throughout the conference, allowing me to learn not only from all of the other individuals that participated, but from myself as I gained new tools and skills to further my ability to have discussions about issues that impact global peace.



### **Mary Kate Andrepont**

Mary Kate Andrepont is a senior political science and international development double major at Loyola University New Orleans. She is president of Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society and sits on the Board of Directors for the National Collegiate Honors Council. Her research experience and interests include conflict resolution, civil war peace negotiations, and organized criminal violence in New Orleans.

Mary Kate Andrepont, mkandrep@my.loyno.edu Loyola University New Orleans, '19 Political Science, Int'l Development.

### **Reflection**

I feel incredibly fortunate to have participated in the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace forum. It was more informative and inspiring than I could have imagined. As I reflect on this past weekend, I see two major themes. First, I am moved by all of the individuals that I came to know and admire over the span of the forum. I learned so much from each person, their stories, experiences, and perspectives. Truly, as a result of the forum, I now have a global network of twenty friends, all of whom are dedicated to the pursuit of peace, dialogue, and justice. I

cannot understate how important this network is in our current contentious national and international landscape. As we were saying our goodbyes to the French students, many of us joked that we would see each other in our future endeavors. With this group of students, I have no doubt that this is a real possibility.

Second, because of my participation in the forum, I feel a great burden to share the lessons of dialogue, tolerance, and compassion that we learned, to live them out, and to cultivate them among my spheres of influence. The forum was a call to action, to not stay locked into my personal judgments of right and wrong, to listen and understand rather than hastily respond and (undoubtedly) generalize. The former approach builds up and paves a path to peace, whereas the latter only sows division deeper. Even now, days later, when I speak to someone, I picture Linda and Branka's speech bubble with the line under it delineating a greater understanding of their position if I only dig below the surface. Indeed, this is a paradigm shift to our collective social conscience, for we live in a world (at least in the West) that values being right at all costs over the value of dialogue and understanding. Because of Rotary's investment in me this past week, I am eager and equipped to go against the grain of culture and to push onward in pursuit of this weekend's shared vision of peace over polarization.



### **Samantha Ammons**

Samantha Ammons is a second-year student at Loyola pursuing a degree in English, Film and Digital Media. She studied French language and culture for four years in St. Louis, Missouri while attending high school. Samantha hopes to pursue a career in screenwriting and film production after graduation.

### **Reflection**

#### **My Experience with the Rotary Club 2018 Peace Dialogue**

In the last weekend of October, twelve Loyola students and eight visiting graduate students from Orléans and other French cities gathered for the 2018 Dialogue for Peace sponsored by the Rotary Club. These students were proficient in areas of business and political science and fluent in English and French. Throughout the week, the Loyola's catering was excellent, and our French guests left with a fine taste of New Orleans cuisine. A heart-warming welcoming address was given by Loyola's President Tania Tetlow who explained why New Orleans was the perfect location to host this event, given that this year is the celebration of its 300th year of founding as a city with countless

French influences. Loyola student Brittney Giardina delivered a speech on division in New Orleans history and Alex Lucas shared his research on assassin John Wilkes Booth's ties to the city. Needless to say, Loyola was a proud host because of its diverse student body with students representing all different religions and ideologies.

Rotarian speakers also addressed what peace is and how we can sustain it. The vision of the Rotarian alliance between Orleans and New Orleans is that through dialogue, both cities will flourish in peace. "Peace" is the cultural understanding among people. Understanding requires listening and acknowledgement of differing points of view. This can be achieved through proper dialogue, which shifts the way we listen to each other. This was explained by our workshop leaders Branka and Linda, who introduced us to the three models of generating peaceful dialogue. On Friday and Saturday our small groups discussed topics of democracy, immigration and security in techniques of "Third to First Person Narrative", "Agree to Disagree" and the Talking Circle. These discussion topics were selected by the candidates so that the conversations would be engaging and tailored to their passions. Additionally, our leaders presented us with a terrorism crisis where we acted as a local and national government to learn how to cooperate in times of extreme chaos.

Friday morning was all about democracy on a national and international scale. Our workshop leaders asked us students to think about circumstances in our lives when democracy was either present or absent, and how this made us feel at the time. Then, with partners, we shared our experiences and then retold each other's stories from our partner's point of view. This is

called the Third to First Person Narrative, and it is much more difficult than one might think. It turns out that sharing someone else's story is a tremendous responsibility and truly forces you to empathize with that person's life even if it is vastly different from your own. Students shared many negative experiences with democracy rather than positive ones. For Linda, democracy in her home country failed to stress the importance of non-English speakers to have access to democratic public information. Similarly, for Jonathan, he watched the sadness in his grandparent's eyes as they could not vote in the United States. The Pilipino immigrants waited for thirty years to receive their citizenship and democratic recognition. For Huong, a Vietnamese student, it's intimidating to live in a country where you're scared to express your personal beliefs. In contrast, French student Rachel shared that voting is a privilege, something she takes great pride in. Altogether, through our morning dialogue, we concluded that democracy is full of challenges and is directly linked to all sectors of political life.

The other two techniques for constructive dialogue, Agree and Disagree and Talking Circle, were implemented in the afternoon as we pondered the controversial matter of immigration. For several hours, students went back and forth on issues such as border control, defining citizenship, the extraneous visa process, economical influences of migration, cultural diffusion, marginalization, the devastating aftermath of war, slavery, and labor rights for immigrants. From this, we concluded that countries such as America and France should not ignore their internal problems to take on the burden of refugees flooding in. We were later challenged to go out into the Loyola community and interview student peers about intolerance and personal

experiences of discrimination. From this social experiment, the French and American students encountered stories of how men are treated better than women in the workplace, stigmas around eating disorders, racism, and bullying based on ethnicity. It seems that in order to have proper dialogue such as this, we must escape our social spheres and mingle with those who come from different cultural backgrounds.

Saturday morning opened with lively conversation over breakfast discussing the findings that surprised us students from the day before. This was also a lovely time to get to know each other better, talking over our studies, passions, and hopes for the future of international relations. In the first workshop of the day, students debated the complications surrounding Trump's latest travel ban. This recent enforcement connected to the daily theme of security and how it seems to be a politically motivated short-term solution rather than a means to ensure lasting global peace. In the second Talking Circle activity, Branka and Linda lead a thought-provoking discussion about the dangers migrants pose to the European Union. Issues that arose here included fear of economic instability, overpopulation, violence on the border, religion, and the purpose of migrant camps in Europe. Later, this transitioned into a dialogue concentrated on cultural security and how our demographics often generate our sense of threat and insecurity in both the U.S.A. and France. This discussion was a great way to prepare us for what was to follow, the crisis simulation.

Perhaps the most challenging activity the students faced was the culminating three-hour simulation where we acted as local and central governments trying to contain a violent outbreak of terrorism. The two teams were organized by French and

Americans and were led by a student who acted as either the mayor or the president. A protest for labor rights in an imaginative city quickly turned violent, leading to building fires and an eventual hostage situation. The most arduous task of this activity was maintaining communication between the two groups. Time after time, the two groups found media sources to be highly untrustworthy. We learned that even if the information isn't 100 percent reliable, the public expects government officials to respond in a manner that enforces public safety and represents the best interest of the homeland.

In conclusion, I found this dialogue for peace to be incredibly transformative and beneficial to my studies at Loyola. I was able to relearn some of the French I had forgotten and constructively share with my new French comrades what it means to be an American in a country that is so divided at this point in history. I hope to maintain the newly forged friendships and promote peace in everything that I do. Laura's closing presentation on the economics of peace was incredibly inspiring as it shows that hope is never absent, but it burns fiercely in the hearts of student leaders who possess the strength and courage to make peace the world's top priority.

*Samantha Ammons,  
Loyola University New Orleans Class of 2020*



### **Sophia Brown**

I was born and raised in the local New Orleans area. As a kid, I attended a French immersion school up where I learned to speak French fluently. Attending a bilingual school has deeply transformed my career aspirations to work internationally. I was captain of my high school girl's soccer team and graduated magna cum laude. I am a current sophomore at Loyola University of New Orleans. I am double majoring in Political Science and French. I am particularly interested in Middle East politics and security. I firmly believe that religion plays a crucial role in the objective of world peace. I am the President of the Loyola's Jew Student Organization and French Club. My freshman year of college, I collaborated with other students from the Honors Program to write policy for Loyola's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. I volunteer weekly as an after-school philosophy teacher at a local New Orleans elementary school.

### **Reflection**

The Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace more than exceeded my expectations. I originally joined thinking we would be lectured at and we would watch power points all day. Instead,

there was not a moment that we weren't actively discussing real world dilemmas and solutions. We were never lectured or had material drilled into us. Instead, we were guided through various exercises that put our own opinions into a broader perspective. Our facilitators instilled in us the difference between listening to respond and listening for the sake of understanding someone else's position. Not only did I learn how to better formulate my ideas and communicate with others, but I had my opinions challenged. In many of our activities, I became progressively aware that being right or wrong is subjective. The activities helped me to put aside my own grounded opinions and opened my mind to different, possibly opposing, narratives. In our final simulation, I walked away with a deeper understanding of exactly how difficult it can be to coordinate among divided governments and divided peoples. Throughout the weekend, we all reached the conclusion that the world is an infinitely complex environment and there are rarely simple answers to hard questions. However, there is still great importance in trying our best to cooperate with each other and reach meaningful compromise, regardless of whether we know nothing will ever be perfect. I am a stronger leader because of the conference and meeting so many brilliant participants gives me hope that there are young people across the world who are actively aiming to transform the world.



### **Brittney Giardina**

Brittney Giardina is a sophomore at Loyola University New Orleans studying History, International Studies with her language of concentration in French and a dual minor in Middle East Peace Studies and Studio Art. Giardina is the current co-chair for the Annual Student Peace Conference and co-editor for the Student History Journal at Loyola. She has held local internships at the Loyola Special Collections and the Contemporary Arts Center, and currently works at the National WWII Museum. Giardina is a recipient of the Mary Ann Reising Flynn Scholarship Award.

### **Reflection**

The seminar-workshop organized by Rotary International was a unique opportunity to say the least. Going in, I was expecting something less interactive and certainly less invaluable than the experience I actually received. It was a culturally enlightening few days that fed my international interests.

In terms of the exercises, their casual nature took some of the pressure off and made it easier to participate; yet, the essence of topics at hand—democracy, immigration, etc.—were not lost.

For instance, in the 3-1 person narrative regarding democracy we were able to explore a variety of themes related to the topic in very personal ways. The task of owning someone else's story not only exposed me and my fellow participants to different perspectives and narratives, it gave us an increased responsibility and care to other's stories. This burden translated into a deeper understanding of our partner—and by extension that person's understanding of democracy. Essentially, the way the exercises were structured allowed for personal, informal interactions to yield great intellectual and conceptual reward.

However, despite the activities and topics discussed, the one thing that left the largest impression was the ability to meet and mingle with international students. It was honestly an experience I would not trade. By interacting with French students, I was able to practice my conversational skills and come face to face with my studies. It was exciting and nurtured my love for the language and the culture. It transformed my want to go abroad into my need to go abroad. My international aspirations were reinforced and my future is now better informed; I am better equipped for further cross-cultural experiences. It was truly an interactive and invaluable experience.

***\*Many thanks to Brittney Giardina for helping coordinate all the student activities for the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace.***



**Jonathan Lebeau**

I was born and raised in Houston, TX. In high school, I developed a curiosity for the medical field and thus studied at a health science high school. There I observed doctors, learned over 300 medical terms, and partook in classes ranging from dentistry to medical labs. Going into college, I knew I wanted to pursue medicine but my science heavy course load in high school had me craving a more humanistic approach to this field. It was through this that I found my passion for sociology and how it intersects with the medical field. During my junior year, I took a year abroad and studied at the University of Birmingham in the fall and at La Sorbonne in the spring. Through this year long experience I met amazing people and learned countless new things. Now in my senior year at Loyola, I am planning to take the MCAT and hopefully go to a medical school where I can pursue both an M.D. and an M.P.H.

### **Reflection**

I am so grateful to have been able to participate in the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace Conference here at Loyola University New Orleans. It was an amazing experience to meet

and work with many like-minded individuals who all wanted to better the world. By engaging in discussion and conversation, we were able to learn about different perspectives that we all hold and use to guide our values. The group of French students allowed me to see many issues in a new light, and think about various topics in ways that I never considered before. My fellow American participants also diversified the discussion with their various areas of study and personal experience. It was impressive how quickly we all became friends and I can say with confidence that I plan to keep in touch with everyone that I met and know that each will be able to take what we learned that weekend and apply it to their future endeavors.

One of the activities that really resonated with me was the Third Person First Person. In doing this it was moving to be vulnerable with another person about my own experience of what democracy was. Even more so was when I heard my partner tell my story using first-person pronouns. When it came my turn to tell my partners story, I did my best to own the story as my own and with it express all the emotions that accompanied it. It was weird at first, but as I continued, I at times did feel that it was my own personal experience. It is through activities such as this that one truly gains a sense of empathy and compassion for the stories that we all hold.

Though I learned so much within the conference, I learned just as much through the discussions that I had outside of it. Through meals, short talks during breaks, and even small cultural remarks I was able to learn more about French culture and foster a greater appreciation for how diverse we are as countries.

I thank the Rotary Foundation and all its members for allowing me to participate this weekend. It really had a huge impact on me and my future endeavors. Thank you to all the amazing people I met and I look forward to seeing all that everyone accomplishes.





### **Allyson Barnes**

**District 6840 Rotaract Co-Chair 2017–2018**

**Rotary Club of Mid-City New Orleans**

**Phone: (813) 205-9439**

Allyson Barnes is originally from Tampa, Florida, USA and has recently graduated from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center with her Doctorate of Physical Therapy. She currently practices in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA specializing in neurological populations. Allyson was president of her Interact Club and Rotaract Club and is now an active member with the Rotary Club of Mid-City New Orleans. Allyson is passionate about increasing young professionals in Rotary by improving Rotaract-Rotary relations, and she took an active role of being Rotaract Co-Chair in Rotary District 6840 last year. In her free time, Allyson enjoys riding her bike around the city, cheering on her LSU tigers (geaux tigers!), and cooking. Allyson wanted to participate in the Peace Summit in order to improve active listening skills and creating meaningful dialogue in her community.

### **Reflection**

It was a beautiful day in New Orleans where three young women were sitting outside of a cafe sipping coffee and indulging in beignets. At first glance, this was nothing out of the ordinary. However, something extraordinary was happening. Three women from completely different walks of life removed their armor and had an honest, open conversation about their ideals, how their experiences have shaped them, and what drives them as individuals. No one planned for this happen, but the three of them created a safe place to talk about the uncomfortable topics that have been polarizing our communities. They pushed each other out of their comfort zones and challenged their beliefs for further understanding. All of this occurred prior to the official start of the France USA Peace Summit, with powder sugar on their clothing.

The Peace Summit discussed different methods of creating productive and meaningful dialogue with heavy emphasis on active listening. Different methods such as “Agree Disagree” and “Third to First Person” were the two methods that will now be integrated into my daily practice. Agree Disagree taught me how to repeat another’s point of view to ensure that I fully understood the other’s perspective prior to stating my opinion. I feel this important for development of a peaceful dialogue because it emphasizes the active listening component to ensure that you have understood the point of view presented. In turn, this may allow for the participants to feel more comfortable and allow for dialogue to occur rather than a debate. Third to First will also be something that I will internalize while listening to another’s point of view. Being the keeper of someone’s story has immense power and responsibility. Putting yourself in someone

else's shoes challenges your outlook and appreciates different experiences that people endure. It allows for a person to deeply reflect on another's story and make it their own including not only understanding the story, but the emotions involved as well.

To be able to summarize everything into a one page summary would not do this past week justice- the friends that I have made, the lessons I have learned, and the new outlook on our global society. I have a new appreciation for how our unique experiences have shaped all of us and introduced biases that I had not considered prior to this summit. The techniques and new insights I have gained will be something that will be integrated into my everyday life- using techniques to better understand and relate to my patients, creating deeper and more meaningful dialogue with community members, and increased introspection. I would like to thank Rotary for yet another life changing experience. I am looking forward to staying in touch with my new friends across the pond.

***\*Many thanks to Allyson Barnes for participating and helping coordinate many of the student activities.***



**Omari Caldwell**

### **Reflection**

I had a ton of fun interacting with French students and am glad they got to experience a part of New Orleans while visiting Loyola. All the activities during the Dialogue for Peace were fantastic but my favorites were “They Say I Say” and the crisis management simulation. I really liked the former because it was an excellent listening exercise. It educated me on taking the time to rationally think about opinions I disagreed with. As for the latter, I enjoyed two aspects of it. The reading and writing press releases was a great experience as I consider a career in politics. Secondly, working with local government truly demonstrated the difficulties of governing in a Federalist system.

# Acknowledgements



**We would like to acknowledge the following  
for their contributions to the  
Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace:**

- Past District Governor Karen Babin
- Rotary District 1720 & District Governor Elect Alain Broussaud
- Rotary District 6840 & District Governor Ken Thompson
- Rotary District 6840 Host Families & Support Team
- Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center
- Brittney Giardina's & Alex Christian Lucas' Seven Flags of New Orleans Tri-Centennial Exhibition
- Professor Behrooz Moazami
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- President Randall Martin & the Rotary Club of Metairie
- Michael Duplantier, Past President Rotary Club of New Orleans
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- Shelly Ferro
- Margaux Shexnider
- Jean-Marie Poinsard
- Matthieu Grandpierron
- Bart Cleary
- Claire Escobedo

# Memoriam



Rotary



Comité Inter-Pays FRANCE USA

LOYOLA



### **William B. “Bill” Bailey**

Bill passed away Monday, September 24th, 2018, having looked forward to participating in the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace in New Orleans. Bill was Secretary of the USA-France Inter Country Committee since 2012 and served the organization well. He participated in many events and was present at multiple Rotary International convention ICC meetings. Bill was born in the USA with English and Scottish ancestry and was reared in the San Joaquin Valley in California, where he graduated with honors in both High School and Junior College before he spent his final two years at the University of the Philippines. After being commissioned in the US Navy, he attended various graduate schools before assignment overseas. As a result, he visited more than 100 countries and served as an attache in Cairo, as a resident staff member in Bahrain, an executive officer in London, and an advisor in Iran and during the Vietnam War. In the US, he served several years as a senior Middle East analyst in the Defense Intelligence Agency. Upon his retirement, he attended Law School and served as an attorney for over 30 years. He represented the Egyptian Newspaper Al Ahram and was on its American Board for over 30 years. He served in community affairs, serving 10 years as

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace, New Orleans, USA 25–27, October 2018

president of a large citizens association, served as chairman of his District Association and served three years as the County Federation of Citizens Associations. As a Rotarian, he served in many positions and later became his Club’s president, and served his district in several positions, eventually becoming an Assistant District Governor. In addition to service on the USA-France ICC, he was selected as President of the Safe Blood for Latin America project. He is survived by his wife, Alice Ward Bailey, of 54 years; two children and two grandchildren. He continued to attend summer Courses at Cambridge University on European Union Law.

Rotary International, USA–France Inter Country Committee,  
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**Ken Thompson**  
**District Governor 6840**

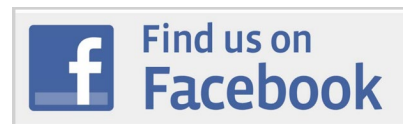
Ken passed away suddenly on Sunday, November 3rd, 2018, just one week after the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace. Ken, along with several other Rotarians at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, initiated the Rotary Leadership Dialogue for Peace Forum to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of New Orleans. As sitting Governor, Ken had already accomplished many projects in District 6840 and was looking forward to accomplishing many in the future, including a District Conference Cruise.

Ken spent most of his working career as a Petroleum Engineer and Engineering Supervisor, working along the Gulf Coast in Texas and Louisiana, and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. He has also worked as a financial representative and stockbroker.

He has been a Rotarian since 2000, serving as Club President in 2008-2009. He was chairman of the Slidell Heritage Festival for three years, a joint venture between the Rotary Clubs of Slidell and Slidell Northshore. He participated in ten Matching Grants and Global Grants, and traveled five times to Mexico to immunize children against polio.

He served as Global Grants Chair, Deputy Governor, LA Territories, and District International Service Director. He served for four years as District Newsletter Editor and District Website Manager, and has participated in the last six President Elect Training Seminars. He was a Shelter Box Ambassador, and served on staff at the annual training in Texas for new Ambassadors. He was a Major Donor, a Bequest Society member, a Paul Harris Society member, and a Benefactor.

In May, 2015, he returned from a US – Russia Friendship Exchange program in western Russia, and spoke on his experiences at an international conference in Houston. He also participated in Friendship Exchanges to New England in September, 2015, and to New Zealand (North Island) in April, 2018. He has hosted four Rotary Youth Exchange Students and is active in Kairos Prison Ministries. He is survived by his wife Paula and daughter, Kathryn, who lives in Arizona.



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