

PIAF FELLOWS' FLYER

News and views for and by current Princeton in Africa Fellows.

July 2007



FELLOWS DEPARTING FOR AFRICA



Thomas Bohnett '07
IRC, Uganda

Joe Falit '07
Jacana, Mozambique

Ritu Kamal '07
m2m, South Africa

Lindsey Locks '07
UN WFP, Uganda

Amity Weiss '07
Plan, Rwanda

Nahal Zebarjadi '07
IRC, DRC

NOTES FROM THE FIELD *By Hilary Robinson, 2007-2008 Fellow at Plan Uganda in Kampala*

-- **Number of days in Uganda so far:** 19

-- **The first thing I did when I arrived...** was trek out in a monsoon to a rugby club (where I met several players on the Ugandan National Rugby team, which was particularly special because I could personally congratulate them on their recent win against Namibia, the number 2 team in Africa). I then ended up at "reggae night" at Club Silk, "the" Ugandan nightclub.

-- **Something about being here that I love is...** that Ugandans say "yes, please" to EVERYTHING and are so incredibly friendly.

-- **Something about being here that I could do without is...** Nescafé. You would think that a country whose largest export is coffee might have something other than the instant variety...

-- **I have yet to figure out...** why Ugandans have a hard time understand my pronunciation of the word "water."

-- **I wish I had brought...** Claritin and a CD that could clean my computer's defunct DVD player.

-- **My job is...** enlightening, challenging, and, at times, confusing.

-- **All day at work I...** enjoy the company of my colleagues, who constantly come into my office to check up on me and make sure that "I am welcome to Uganda."

-- **Best/worst thing that has happened to me so far:** The best thing that has happened to me so far is after a disastrous batch of oatmeal chocolate chip cookies that our housekeeper threw away because they looked so unappetizing (a big deal because food, no matter how gross or expired—as evidenced by the Tang bottle with a 11/03 expiration date in our cabinet—is never thrown out), my eventual conquest of a gas oven with some delicious peanut butter/Cadbury chocolate cookies. On the flip side, the worst thing that has happened to me is the invasion of ants into my blanket, causing a new linen run and some unfortunate bites on my legs.



L-R: A morning soccer game near Hilary's flat; Hilary and Stuart Campo '08 at a 4th of July barbecue; a view of Kampala and Lake Victoria.

RETURNING FELLOWS

Welcome Back! Please let us know where you're headed next... email piafasst@princeton.edu

Jen Austin
IRC, Liberia

Erin Blake
mothers2mothers, South Africa

Carter Clement
BroadReach, South Africa

Page Dykstra
IRI, Sudan

Lisa Frist
Jacana, Mozambique

Marilyn Waite
UN WFP, Madagascar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 16
Sandra Hart
Carla Laroche

July 18
David Cape

July 27
Susan Farbstein

REFLECTIONS FROM A RECENTLY RETURNED FELLOW

In late May, Carla Laroche returned from her 2006-2007 PiAf fellowship, where she taught math, science, English, writing, and spelling to kindergartners and 4th-6th graders at Notre Dame Primary School in Njiro, Tanzania. Here are some of her words and pictures.

It's been a month and a half since I've been back in the States. I miss my students, but it's good to be back. I had to adjust to the American lifestyle and get used to some things, like the fact that people expect me to speak and understand English. I had become

accustomed to the pause and looks Tanzanians gave me when I spoke in English and/or when they found out I was American. I'm not a novelty in America!



Clockwise from top left: Carla in her 4th-grade science class at Notre Dame Primary School; Carla (center) with 2006-2007 Fellows Erin Blake and Cherice Landers in Cape Town; an elocution contest at the school; wildlife Carla saw on her trip to the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater; one of her students.



Hey, returning and other recently returned Fellows: We want to feature your words and photos here, too! Email piafasst@princeton.edu