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Australia



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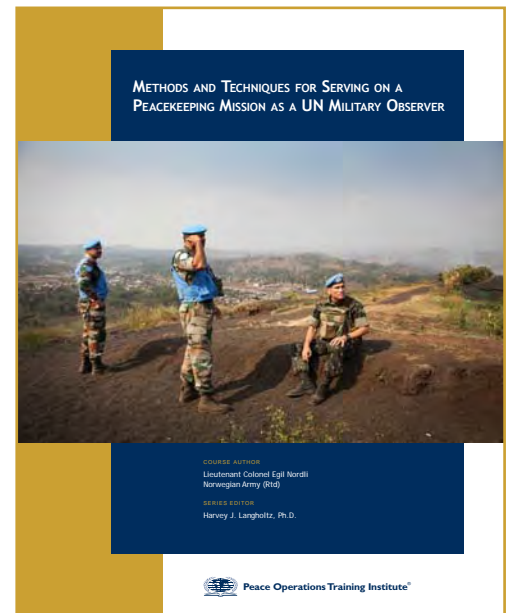


United Kingdom

New author and revision for *Methods and Techniques for Serving on a Peacekeeping Mission as a UN Military Observer* course

The course, *Methods and Techniques for Serving on a Peacekeeping Mission as a UN Military Observer*, has been updated and revised by a new course author, LTC Egil Nordli (retd), Norway. This course puts the work of UNMOs and other Military Experts on Mission in context by offering an enhanced explanation of peacekeeping operations in general and by illustrating specific methods and techniques for serving on a peacekeeping mission. Beginning with a strategic overview of the United Nations, the course moves through the operational spectrum of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and ends at the tactical level of “on the ground” knowledge and skills required for an individual UNMO to succeed. LTC Nordli has extensive field experience as

a senior military officer in international operations, including most recently his service as the Military Assistant to the Head of Mission in the United Nations Supervision Truce Organization (UNTSO) from 2009 to 2011. He is also an accomplished military trainer. He held the appointment of Chief Instructor of Combined Joint Operations/CIMIC at the Norwegian University College and Norwegian Defence Command and Staff College at the time of his retirement – an appointment he held twice during the period 2002-2011. His experience and expertise is reflected in both new and expanded lessons through updated practical recommendations and new technical detail included in the fourteen lessons of this course.



Newly revised Mine Action course includes updated terminology, new lesson on IEDs

The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) have collaborated with POTI to develop and now update the *Mine Action and Explosive Hazard Management: Humanitarian Impact, Technical Aspects, and Global Initiatives* course.

Topics included in this eight lesson course are: The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty (Ottawa MBT); mine

action guidelines for ceasefires and peace agreements; landmine and ERW safety training; identifying landmines and ERW; International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and guidelines for application; victim assistance; mine risk education; UNICEF mine action strategy; mine information; mine action assessment; the electronic mine action network E-MINE, and identifying and responding to Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).



Dr. Langholtz (left) met with Mr. Paul Heslop (right), Chief, Programme Planning & Management Section, UN Mine Action Service, to present a copy of the collaboratively developed course *Mine Action and Explosive Hazard Management* in New York, 15 December 2014.

ALCOPAZ Members plan for June General Conference at preparatory meeting in Guatemala City

POTI Registrar Vanessa Anderson attended the Preparatory Meeting for the General Assembly of the Latin American Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (ALCOPAZ) from 9 to 12 February in Guatemala City, Guatemala. The meeting was in preparation for the seventh General Assembly for ALCOPAZ, which will also take place in Guatemala City during the first week of June later this year.

All members and observer members in attendance shared presentations on their centre's activities, specifically the

courses currently offered. Members also met to discuss ideas about what and how ALCOPAZ as an association will present at IAPTC later on this year in 2015. The preliminary agenda discussed during these days will be debated further and voted upon during the general assembly.

The preparatory meeting was attended by representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, as well as observer members from Germany, France, the United States (GPOI and NPS), POTI, and a special invited guest from Mexico.



L-R: First Technical Officer (AP) Armando Cabrera, CECOPAZ, Peru; Coronel Christian Leon, Mexico; and Vanessa Anderson, POTI Registrar outside the ALCOPAZ Preparatory meeting, which was held in Guatemala City 9-12 February.

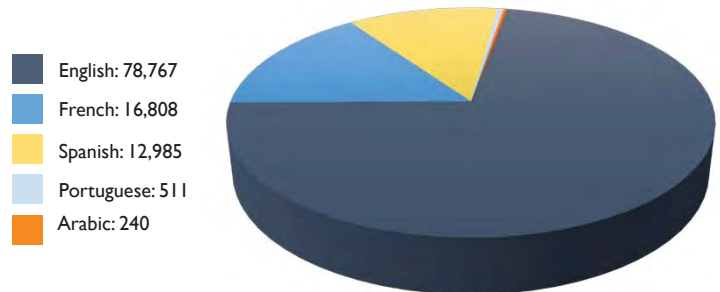
During 2014, POTI served thousands around the world and across languages

With students from diverse geographic and cultural backgrounds, we do our best to make each course available in a number of languages. When students take a course in English or French, they are also practicing their proficiency in the languages used officially by UN peacekeeping operations.



"Mision de paz, Chipre". Submitted by Mm. Cabral, Argentina.

Total Course Enrolments by Language 2014



181
Countries represented by students during 2014.

25,471
Number of new students served during 2014.

109,311
Total number of course enrolments during 2014.

New feature for students: Achievement Badges



Virtual badges are a new way POTI recognizes individual achievements related to course study and active participation in our student community. These badges are meant to highlight students' initiative. Badges are categorized in three tiers of accomplishment: gold, silver, and bronze. All badges earned are displayed in the individual student classroom profile.



Chief Superintendent of Police John Bosco Rutishisha (left), Rwanda, is a top badge earner. So far, he has earned one bronze badge, six silver badges, and four gold badges. He is a senior police officer currently serving on his second peacekeeping mission at UNMISS. He writes, "These courses have made me a better PSO trainer at home and a better peacekeeper. I have gained knowledge that is useful to me and the institutions I serve. For instance, I understand and can explain Protection of Civilians (PoC) in the mission now in South Sudan. That is one of the most current issues at hand."

Read more about CSP Rutishisha's achievements at www.peaceopstraining.org/student_spotlight/377/csp-john-bosco-rutishisha/.

APSTA Discusses E-Learning from POTI

POTI Executive Director Dr. Harvey Langholtz participated in the 12th annual conference of the African Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA) when it met at the Headquarters of the African Union (AU) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 8-10 December 2014. Commandants and representatives of national and regional peacekeeping training centres in Africa discussed the standardization and harmonization of the selection and training of military personnel, police, and civilians for deployment on United UN, AU, and hybrid missions. Representatives of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) Integrated Training Service, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other organizations working in Africa and beyond also joined the discussions. Mr. Sivuyile Bam, Head of the AU's Peace Support Operations Division, addressed the group.

Commandants and trainers from several African national peacekeeping training centres spoke highly

of the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP), which is provided by POTI and is funded by the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The website <www.peaceopstraining.org/programs/ntcelp/africa/> lists all participating and eligible African national peacekeeping training centres and other institutions. African peacekeepers not in attendance at a national peacekeeping training centres are able to participate in e-learning through E-Learning for African Peacekeepers (ELAP) funded by Australia, Finland, the Netherlands, and the UK. During 2014, NTCELP and ELAP provided more than 49,000 enrolments to African military peacekeepers, police, and civilian humanitarian relief workers.



POTI Executive Director Dr. Langholtz (left) and APSTA Executive Director Festus Aboagye (right) greet each other at APSTA.



LCOL Issa Coulibaly, Director of L'Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin BEYE (EMPABB) (left) with Harvey Langholtz, Executive Director POTI (right) standing in front of the African Union HQ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. EMPABB is one of the Francophone national peacekeeping training centres that uses NTCELP and blends POTI e-learning into its classroom programmes. It starts with a link to "E-Learning" on the EMPABB website at <www.empbamako.org/>.

POTI stays committed to measuring course effectiveness, student satisfaction

Student focus groups are conducted on Thursdays. Want to participate? Click the appropriate box on your course feedback sheet.



Capt. Bruno Fett, Brazil (left) and Capt. Cristian Villarroel, Chile (right) at the UNFICYP buffer zone. Submitted by Capt. Villarroel.

POTI employs a system of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) in order to measure course effectiveness and student satisfaction.

During the training cycle, students complete pretests, end-of-lesson quizzes, and end-of-course examinations to gauge learning. After an examination is submitted, students are encouraged to complete course feedback sheets.

Information about preferred study methods and perceived course value is gathered through focus groups. Follow-up surveys at three and nine months after course completion provide additional opportunities for students to suggest improvements. Thoughtful consideration is given to suggestions and feedback from students through these M&E methods.

80.6%
Average End-of-Course
Examination Score

Peace Operations Specialized Training (POST) Certificate proves popular with students

POST Certificates Available:

Military Studies Police Studies Civilian Service Gender Awareness Logistical Support Human Rights

In March 2014, POTI launched a unique certification process; the Peace Operations Specialized Training (POST) Certificate programme. Students are able to demonstrate their professional competency and add to their qualifications by completing the prescribed set of courses, passing a comprehensive exam, and earning one or more of the six certificates available. A tabbed dynamic chart in each student classroom provides a convenient tool to track progress. This chart contains a page for each POST Certificate specialty, and students can quickly see which courses to sign up for, which courses are in progress, and which courses have been completed.

**Students earned
162 POST
Certificates
during 2014**

Students may sign up for courses to earn a POST Certificate through any POTI programme for which they are eligible. Many POST Certificate students sign up for courses through the regionally sponsored E-Learning for African Peacekeepers (ELAP) and E-Learning for Peacekeepers from Latin America and the Caribbean (ELPLAC) programmes. Since March 2014, individuals representing the entire range of the POTI student community have earned and are working towards POST Certificates.

Learn more about the POST Certificate at <<http://www.peaceopstraining.org/specialized-training-certificates/>>

Continued collaboration anticipated between POTI and CECOPAC



Course Editor Michelle Marshall (photo centre) visited the Chilean Joint Centre for Peace Operations (CECOPAC) in Santiago de Chile, 9 January 2015. She met with the Centre's Deputy Director, Commander Alberto Ardiles (left) and Chief of Studies, Major Jose Aravena (right), who each took the time to provide an in-depth look at one of the largest peace operations training centres in the region, which jointly serves military personnel, civilians, and police. Marshall also observed coursework taking place at the Centre as part of pre-deployment preparations for the Chilean contingent to EUFOR's Operation Althea in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

POTI and CECOPAC have collaborated before to deliver the CPTM course in part and anticipate future collaboration in course development.

From the desk of the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz

Looking back and looking ahead, this has – and will continue to be -- an active period for POTI. I am pleased to note the institutional partnerships POTI maintains with UN, AU, and hybrid missions through E-Learning for Mission Staff (ELMS), which provided 22,098 enrollments during 2014. In 2014, through the combination of E-Learning for African Peacekeepers (ELAP) and the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP), we provided 49,117 no-cost enrollments on the African continent. Through NTCELP and E-Learning for Peacekeepers from Latin America and the Caribbean (ELPLAC), we provided 15,563 enrollments. The overall global enrollments for 2014 exceeded 100,000 again during this year. It is our pleasure here at POTI to serve this population of peacekeepers.



Dr. Harvey Langholtz

As the pages of this newsletter indicate, we also have much to look forward to during 2015. We are pleased to release the new UNMO course by LTC Egil Nordli (Ret) of the Army of Norway and veteran of several peacekeeping missions. Our participation as a Member with Observer Status in the Latin American Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (ALCOPAZ) will continue to keep our partnerships strong in the region. It was also my privilege to participate in the recent annual meeting of the African Peace Support Trainers' Association (APSTA) and we look forward to continued partnership with APSTA and its members during 2015.

I anticipate several more new and updated courses during 2015. It is our privilege here at POTI to work with so many dedicated and committed individuals from so many missions and training centres, and representing so many nations. We do this to serve peacekeepers deployed on missions and to contribute to the success of these missions.