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NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2019

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## New French, Spanish translations coming to POTI curriculum

The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) is pleased to announce the upcoming release of two new translations of a recent course. *Protección de los derechos de la mujer en los escenarios de conflicto y mantenimiento de la paz* and *Protéger les droits des femmes dans le conflit et le maintien de la paix* will be available for student enrolment by early 2020. They are the Spanish and French editions, respectively, of the Institute's 2019 course *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping* by Captain (retired) Jennifer Wittwer, CSM. The English version of the course was released in May 2019 and was developed in association with Megan Bastick of DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance. The course aims to help peace operations personnel promote the human rights and security of women and girls. Readings and case studies serve as examples to assist peace operations personnel as they consider how they, as individuals and as teams, can work to promote gender equality and change the attitudes and behaviours that perpetuate violence. Captain (retired) Wittwer is an international consultant on gender and

women, peace, and security (WPS). She retired from the Australian Defence Force in 2018 after 37 years, during which time she was seconded to the Peace and Security Section of UN Women. She has extensive experience in cultural reform, strategic human resource management, gender equality, and implementation of the WPS agenda. Ms. Bastick has developed many of DCAF's publications on gender and security and has also worked with the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Preveniendo la Violencia Contra la Mujer y La Desigualdad de Género en el Mantenimiento de Paz



#### Autor del Curso

Jennifer Wittwer, CSM  
Megan Bastick, DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance

#### Editor de la Serie

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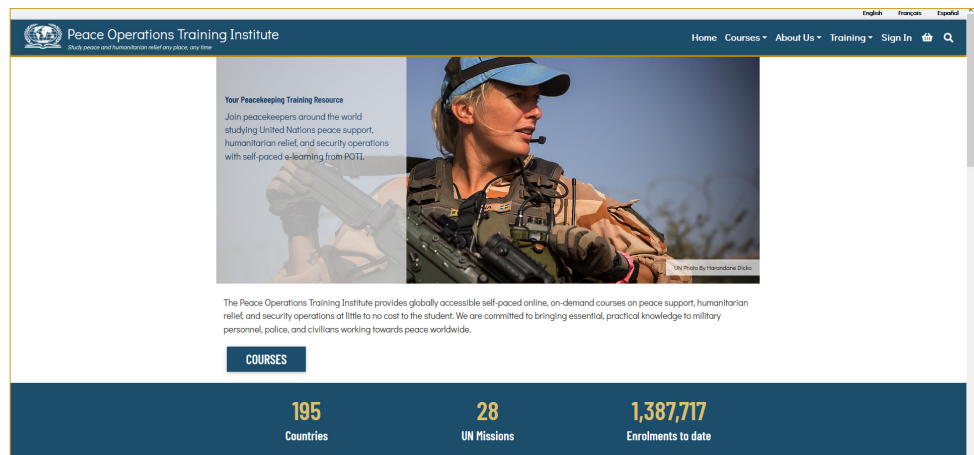
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## Updated intermediate logistics course now available for enrolment

The Institute is pleased to announce the release of *Operational Logistical Support of UN Peacekeeping Missions: Intermediate Course* by Major (retired) Don Leslie, Canadian Forces. It is an updated edition of Major Leslie's 2018 course of the same name. This intermediate course builds on the lessons of the introductory course, *Logistical Support to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: An Introduction*. Where the introductory course provided students with the evolution, focus, and objectives of the Global Field Support Strategy (GFSS), this intermediate course explores the practicalities the GFSS has on mission support. The 2019 edition also includes updated information on UN reforms that began in January 2019 and a new lesson on postal logistics in peace operations. Major Leslie served as an Army Officer in the Logistics Branch of the Canadian Forces until 1997 in assignments across Canada and in Germany. He provided liaison service with UNHQ through the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations and participated in several planning conferences for emerging missions and was a Canadian delegate to the United Nations Working Group on the Reform of the Methodology for Reimbursement for Contingent-Owned Equipment (COE).

## New website design upgrades user experience

On 25 October, POTI launched a completely redesigned website. The new website features upgrades to the user experience, including: more intuitive navigation; decreased wait times for page uploading; and a fresh look and feel to each page. We look forward to entering 2020 with this fresh design and improved functionality.



## Best wishes from the team at POTI

Thank you for your work each day in the interest of peace. All of us at the Peace Operations Training Institute wish you a joyful holiday season together with health, happiness, and peace in the New Year!



Left to right standing: Christopher Leber, Marianne Wrightson, Lindsay April, Susan Terrien, Frank Benner  
Left to right sitting: Ramona Taheri, Dr. Harvey Langholtz, Vanessa Anderson

## Board of Directors member visits POTI offices

The Institute had the distinct pleasure of hosting Colonel (retired) Roberto Gil de Vargas at its Williamsburg, Virginia, office in December. Colonel Gil joined the Institute's Board of Directors in October 2019 as its newest member and brings more than 40 years of peace operations experience. During his visit, Colonel Gil toured the Institute's facilities and discussed the curriculum and programmes with the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz, and members of the POTI staff. POTI looks forward to working with Colonel Gil closely throughout his tenure as Board Member.

## Enrolments by the numbers

**21**

*Average days between course enrolment and completion in 2019*

**114,693**

*Total enrolments to date in 2019*

**40%**

*Percentage of total enrolments made by African nationals to date in 2019*

**26,538**

*Number of new POTI student accounts to date in 2019*

## From the Desk of the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz



Dr. Langholtz

It is always my pleasure to communicate directly with our students and partner institutions worldwide through our quarterly newsletter and report on recent activities. In order to maintain a full curriculum of 29 self-paced e-learning courses in English, 23 in French, and 17 in Spanish, we are continually updating what we offer. During this quarter, we were pleased to release French and Spanish translations of *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping*. This topic is the focus of several recent reports, including Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) and the Cruz Report. We were also pleased to release an update of the course *Operational Logistical Support of UN Peacekeeping Missions: Intermediate Course*.

We were also glad to complete work on our new and updated website. The POTI website gets heavy use 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. On an average day, we receive 1,400 visits from 600 users and provide more than 300 enrolments. Students come to our website to download courses, ask questions of our course authors, watch videos, submit their exams, download their Certificates of Completion, and yes, sometimes just browse. In order to ensure our users enjoy reliable and speedy connections and responses, we maintain servers around the world. The new website was redesigned to take advantage of the newest technological advances and to provide increased functionality and ease of use. If you have not seen it already, I invite you to visit it now.

During this quarter, we were honoured to be visited by a member of our POTI Board of Directors (BOD), Colonel Roberto Gil de Vargas of Uruguay. The POTI BOD Members are all highly placed and well-respected individuals with experience at all levels of the peacekeeping and diplomatic communities, ranging from an on-the-ground peacekeeper to a Force Commander, a Mission Police Commissioner, a UN Under-Secretary-General, and an Ambassador to the United Nations.

As this final quarter in 2019 draws to a close, the rest of the POTI staff and I got together for our holiday picture, shown on page 3. It is my privilege to collaborate with each one of these dedicated individuals, and it is our collective honour to provide e-learning to the institutions and individual students of the peacekeeping community.