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Board of Directors Chair and staff review programmes

General (retired) Robert Gordon, Chair of the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) Board of Directors, visited the Institute's offices in Virginia on 7 February 2019. During his time at the offices, General Gordon met with the Institute's staff and participated in discussions about curriculum development, course author recruitment, staff roles and responsibilities, technology developments in e-learning, and the overall mission of the Institute. General Gordon also discussed issues facing United Nations peacekeeping, particularly the environmental impact of UN Peacekeeping, and how the Institute can best serve the needs of current and future peacekeepers.

General Gordon has served as Chair of the Board of Directors since 2017. He has extensive experience in UN peacekeeping and served as the Force Commander of the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). General Gordon is the author of the POTI course *Principles and Guidelines for UN Peacekeeping Operations*, which was adapted from the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO, now the Department of Peace Operations [DPO]) document *United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines*, which he also co-drafted. He also served as a senior mentor on UN Senior Mission Leadership courses.



General Gordon (centre) reviews one of the Institute's reports with POTI Executive Director Dr. Harvey Langholtz (far right), Deputy Director/Senior Editor Ramona Taheri (second from right), and Chief of Content Ian Brickey.

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Kenyan training centre records most NTCELP enrolments so far in 2019

The National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) enables national training centres, non-governmental organizations, and other institutions to supplement face-to-face classroom training with POTI e-learning to create a blended learning experience for students. Through the first quarter of 2019, the national training centre with the most enrolments through NTCELP was the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Nairobi, Kenya, with 1,103 enrolments. The mission of IPSTC is to conduct training, education, and research for military, police, and civilian personnel in all aspects of peace support operations in order to improve the effectiveness of the response to complex emergencies.

The courses with the most enrolments were *Gender Perspectives in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations*, *Introduction to the UN System*, and *Human Rights*. Of the 1,103 enrolments from IPSTC during the first two months of 2019, more than a quarter were made by women. The Institute applauds IPSTC's efforts to train female peacekeepers.



POTI-IPSTC dual Certificate of Completion, awarded to IPSTC students for each course they successfully complete.

New African Programmes Coordinator visits Nigerian Training Centre

On 16 January 2019, Superintendent (retired) Augustine Egim, the Institute's African Programmes and UN Missions Coordinator, conducted a goodwill visit to the Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership and Peacekeeping Centre (MLAILPKC) in Kaduna, Nigeria. During the visit, Superintendent Egim briefed senior personnel at the centre on the Institute's programmes and courses as well as the benefits of the centre's use of the NTCELP programme.

During the meeting, MLAILPKC leaders and Superintendent Egim discussed barriers that might prevent peacekeepers from taking advantage of e-learning, including problems with internet connectivity and the short duration of classroom training at the centre. POTI offers solutions to both these challenges, as course material can be downloaded for offline use and remains available to students even after they have completed classroom training at a centre.

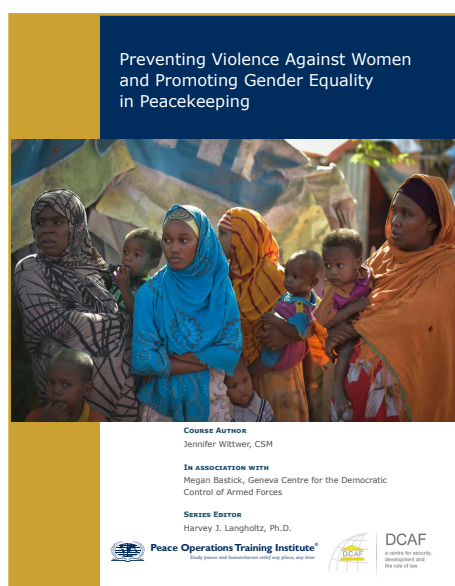


Superintendent Egim joined the Institute in December 2018. He is a retired police official who has served at national training institutions, including the Directorate of Peacekeeping of the Nigerian Police Headquarters and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana. He has also served in various peace support missions under UN and African Union mandates.

Updated Course: *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping*

POTI is pleased to announce the upcoming release of *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacebuilding* by Jennifer Wittwer, CSM. Written in association with Megan Bastick, the course was developed in partnership with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). It is an updated edition of the 2011 course *Preventing Violence Against Women and Gender Inequality in Peacekeeping* by Dr. AnnJanette Rosga.

This updated course aims to assist peacekeeping personnel in the promotion of human rights and the security of women and girls. Lessons emphasize the nature and scope of violence against women and girls around the world, drawing connections between gender inequality and violence in both public and domestic spaces. The course begins with an overview of the historic UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). It then examines definitions and theories of sex and gender and considers the issue of gender equality. Subsequent lessons cover issues like violence, women's rights as human rights, gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, and women's roles in post-conflict peacebuilding.



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<[https://www.
peaceopstraining.
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2019 Releases

New Courses

- *Peacebuilding*
- *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping*

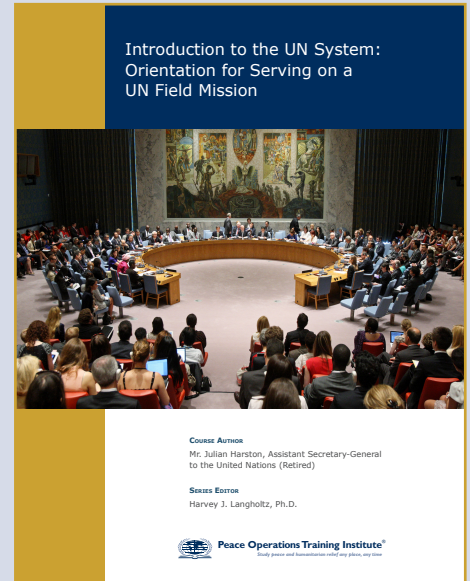
New Translations

- *Apoyo logístico a las operaciones de mantenimiento de la paz de las Naciones Unidas: Introducción*
- *Appui logistique aux opérations de maintien de la paix des Nations Unies : Une introduction*
- *El papel de la Policía de las Naciones Unidas en las operaciones de paz*
- *Le rôle de la police des Nations Unies dans les opérations de maintien de la paix*

POTI adds new course format for mobile devices

Students now have a new way to access the Institute's e-learning on peacekeeping. POTI now offers the common core course *Introduction to the UN System: Orientation for Serving on a UN Field Mission* in EPUB format. EPUBs are ideal for students who study using handheld devices like mobile phones and tablets. With EPUBs, students can change the text size and background colour for ease of reading and accessibility while studying. They also can create notes and bookmarks within the course. Students who opt to study using the EPUB format should use the iBooks app on Apple devices and the Moon+ app for Android devices for best performance. Both apps are available free of charge through the App Store and Google Play, respectively.

EPUB file formats allow for greater flexibility, readability, and accessibility across a multitude of devices. By offering a course in this format, the Institute aims to improve the student experience and looks to the future of e-learning.



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



It is always our goal at POTI to remain engaged with our institutional partners, update our e-learning programmes, and implement new technological developments that provide a better user experience to our student population — all while recognizing that our students are sometimes located in regions where internet service may be unreliable. Our recent activities at the Institute reflect these goals.

Dr. Langholtz

Our thanks go to our Board of Directors Chair, General (retired) Robert Gordon, for coming to the POTI offices to meet directly with the staff, discuss pedagogical and technical advances, ensure that the Institute's courses reflect UN policy and doctrine, and discuss how we can best serve our student population. Thanks also to General Gordon for taking time from his busy travel schedule teaching Senior Mission Leadership courses. Congratulations to Kenya's International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) for showing the most enrolments so far during 2019. More than 50 national peacekeeping training centres worldwide blend POTI e-learning with their classroom instruction, and it is our pleasure to work with each of these institutions.

We are also pleased to announce our first use of EPUB technology. This permits students to view their POTI courses on a wider variety of platforms, which increases access and improves deliverability.