

FutureGenerations

Graduate School

EMPOWERING WOMEN LEADERS
WORLDWIDE FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE



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MASTER'S DEGREE IN APPLIED COMMUNITY CHANGE AND CONSERVATION



The Future Generations Graduate School is committed to building the skills and capacity of mid-career professional development workers.

This two-year program uses a distinct pedagogy of community-based learning that allows community development practitioners to remain in their home countries and continue serving their communities. The Master's program:

- Blends interactive online coursework with four one-month residencies and a practicum project in each student's community
- Enrolls diverse cohorts of students from around the world with wide-ranging backgrounds to promote cross-cultural learning across development sectors
- Builds comprehensive knowledge and skills in such areas as primary health, conservation, social change, peace building, leadership, and management

Since its inception in 2003, the Graduate School has educated over 40 community leaders including 24 women from 13 countries. These women lead and enable community change in areas ranging from health, local governance and empowerment to education, peace building, and environmental protection.

This booklet introduces you to the women graduates and current students of our program. We hope you enjoy getting to know them as much as we have.

WOMEN IMPROVING THEIR COMMUNITIES



Shannon Bell
United States
"Primary Health"



Margaret Kaggwa
Uganda
"Maternal/Child Health"



Wendy Reese
United States
"Social Change"



Erin Blanding
Canada
"Youth
Empowerment"



Ellen Lampert
United States
"Sustainable
Development"



Jacqueline Robertson
Guyana
"Local Governance"



Joy Bongyereire
Uganda
"Sustainable
Agriculture"



Tshering Lham
Bhutan
"Conservation"



Goldie Luanna Scott
Guyana
"Empowerment"



Tsering Digi
Tibet, China
"Sustainable
Development"



Jarka Lamacova
Czech Republic
"Youth Empowerment"



LeeAnn Shreve
United States
"Community
Empowerment"



Shellon Eversley
Guyana
Agape Network Inc.
"Empowerment"



Kim McLennan
United States
"Community
Empowerment"



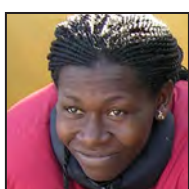
Pratima Singh
India
"Health"



Traci Hickson
United States
Future Generations
"Global Learning
Community"



Suzanne McRae
Guyana
"Conservation"



Ikwo Udoh
Nigeria
"Community
Empowerment"



Torril Iverson
Norway
"Sustainable
Development"



Angela Mutashobya
Tanzania
"Community Health"



Tshering Yangzom
Bhutan
"Substance Abuse/
Health Care"



Melene Kabedege
Rwanda
"Maternal/Child
Health"



Sivan Oun
Cambodia
"Maternal/Child
Health"



Mavis Windsor
Canada
"Cultural Preservation"

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Shellon Eversley (Guyana)

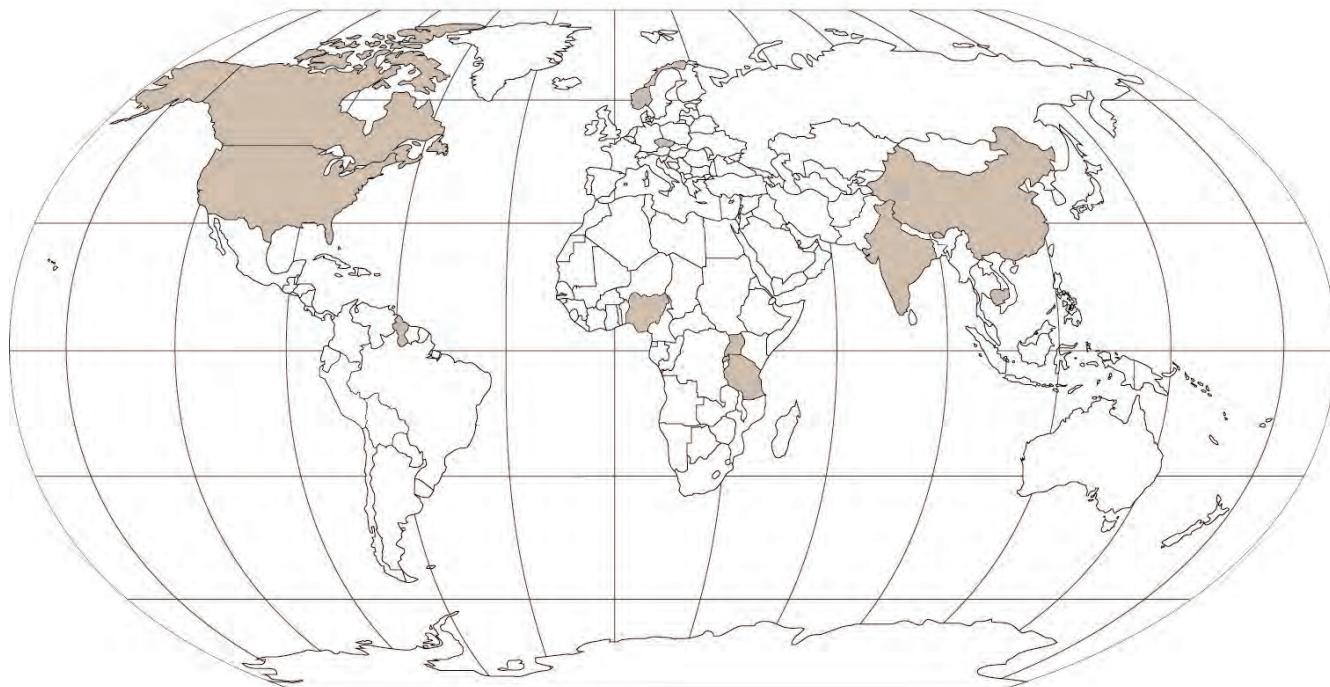


“I’m motivated because I am in a position where I can help people in my community. I’m grateful that I’m part of the Future Generations network where I can really impart into someone’s life to see a change not only in one person but hopefully in generations to come as well.”

Kim McLennan (U.S.)



“One thing that makes this program unique is the mix of international students that come together to share each other’s stories, which are different but yet similar. We can help each other in very unique ways that I don’t think I could do in any other program.”



Through the Future Generations Graduate School Master’s Degree program, 24 women from 13 countries have gained skills to improve their communities. The countries they represent include: Bhutan, Cambodia, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Guyana, India, Nigeria, Norway, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and the United States.

CLASS OF 2009, JOY BONGYEREIRE



UGANDA

In 2010, Joy founded an organization in Uganda called Biodiversity Conservation for Rural Development.



Joy grew up in Uganda with an interest in the way communities manage their natural resources. On a scholarship to Makerere University, she majored in political science and public administration. This allowed Joy to work with Africa 2000 Network-Uganda, which enables households to transform their land into ecologically sustainable and financially productive farms.

As part of her M.A. studies, Joy worked on two major projects. Her practicum project focused on the widespread use of chemical fertilizers among potato farmers in Kisoro District and new methods for promoting organic alternatives.

Joy's second project focused on farmers bordering two of Uganda's national parks, which are home to the world's rarest mountain gorillas. In 2009 Joy received a \$10,000 Davis Peace Prize to reduce conflict among local farmers and Uganda's wildlife agencies over the management and protection of endangered mountain gorillas. In six months, Joy implemented a strategy that has increased community involvement in

nature conservation, leading to more protection for gorillas and more benefits for local people neighboring the parks.

Joy discovered that local farmers were in conflict with Uganda's wildlife agencies over the mountain gorillas. Communities bordering the parks were not receiving an adequate share of the tourism revenue, especially for gorillas located on community lands. Joy recognized that partnerships needed to be strengthened and that communities needed to benefit from conservation.

Joy's strategy, emerging from her lessons as a Future Generations Master's Degree student, was to train local volunteers as village peace trainers to foster good relations and solutions among villages and wildlife agencies.

In addition, Joy worked closely with the Kisoro District Local Government and provided them with tools, ideas, and skills to be more involved in park management, tourism, and conservation activities.

CLASS OF 2007, MAVIS WINDSOR



In 2009 Mavis used the skills she gained from M.A. courses such as non-profit management to raise over \$400,000 for her community.



Graduate, Mavis Windsor, has used her Master's Degree skills to raise more than \$400,000 to fund capacity building projects for her island community of Bella Bella. Home to the Heiltsuk Nation, her community is located on the Central Coast of British Columbia, which contains one of the largest remaining tracts of temperate rainforest left in the world, the Great Bear Rainforest.

Mavis, recently elected to the Tribal Council of the Heiltsuk Nation, contributes to the preservation of the Heiltsuk culture, tradition and customs through program development projects that build capacity and leadership skills. She describes these projects as, "capacity building initiatives for the members of my community. The projects not only offer work experience, but life and essential skills to enhance each participant's employability skills."

Mavis' practicum/thesis for her Future Generation's master's degree focused on the impact of colonization of Heiltsuk lands and recommended solutions for strengthening

tribal culture and identity. Of great concern is that "Heiltsuk culture and knowledge of the conservation of our valuable lands is becoming lost with each passing year, and our native language is nearing the point of extinction."

Her proposed strategy to reconnect the people to the land included rebuilding the Heiltsuk centuries old culture, government, and stewardship practices. She proposed that the Heiltsuk people achieve this through a respectful process of enculturation and resiliency.

Presently, Mavis continues her work as the Director for Social Development Programs and as an On-Reserve Councillor for the Heiltsuk Tribal Council. She continues to develop similar programs, especially those focused on building career skills. She is a dedicated member of her nation, believing that the Heiltsuk Nation can continue to move forward in a respectful and honorable way.

CLASS OF 2011, JACQUELINE ROBERTSON



In Peru during the Term III residential, Jacqueline Robertson visited the model health district of Pitumarca to learn from community successes in primary health and housing.



In a mountainous inner region of Guyana, Jacqueline links government policy with community participation among a diverse community of indigenous people, St. Lucians, Afro- and Indo-Guyanese, and Brazilian miners.

Jacqueline, a Social Services Worker with the Ministry of Labor, Human Services and Social Security in Guyana, describes her community of Mahdia as having a high level of dependency on the mining industry. “This dependency,” she says, “has led to many social ills, including child abuse, inequity, substance abuse, trafficking in persons, and domestic violence.”

As a student in Future Generations Master’s Degree program, Jacqueline’s goal is to activate community participation to create sustainable solutions. She envisions a Guyana where people of all ages and ethnicities are empowered to take ownership of their futures.

She currently facilitates four community groups focused on such issues as domestic violence and child trafficking. Jacqueline encourages

collaboration, provides a safe space for dialogue, and trains local leaders in methods to create action plans based on a shared vision.

Jacqueline initiated two of these groups following her participation in the Term I Master’s Degree field residential in India, where she observed the effectiveness of women’s action groups. She returned to Guyana and created “Women on the Move,” which empowers youth, single mothers, and the unemployed with leadership and vocational skills. “Women on the Move” also advocates for children and raises awareness of child trafficking laws.

She works with another group originally named the Fire Disaster Committee (created in response to a 2010 fire that left dozens homeless). Following a Term II U.S. residential course in Leadership and Organizational Dynamics, Jacqueline facilitated leadership workshops and enabled this group to broaden their vision, renaming themselves the Mahdia Development Committee.

MISSION, HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND WAYS TO SUPPORT THE FUTURE GENERATIONS GRADUATE SCHOOL

Future Generations and the Future Generations Graduate School share a common mission: “to teach and enable a process for equitable community change that integrates environmental conservation with development.” With this mission as its core, the Graduate School seeks to expand its reach to more women with each succeeding class and to integrate them into a global network of development workers committed to lifelong learning.

Founded in 2003, the Graduate School offers a two-year Master’s Degree in Applied Community Change and Conservation. The Graduate School also supports multi-year research initiatives in community-based approaches to conservation, child health, and peacebuilding. Since 2003, the Graduate School has trained community leaders from 26 countries and graduated three classes of students.

- Visit www.future.edu to learn more.
 - Sign up for our e-newsletter to receive monthly updates.
 - Check out our student blog and “like us” on Facebook.
- Recruit qualified students for future classes. Contact our Director of Admissions at: admissions@future.edu
- Host a fundraiser. Contact our Director of Development and Partnerships at: development@future.edu
- Contribute to our student scholarship fund at: <http://www.future.edu/donate>

All contributions made to the Future Generations Graduate School are tax deductible in the United States.

With your support, students will develop comprehensive leadership skills for community change and gain deeper capacity to manage their organizations. Organizations also benefit from connecting their dynamic leaders with global best practices and a network of community change agents.



www.future.edu

For more information, contact:

Future Generations Graduate School
HC 73 Box 100
Franklin, WV 26807
ph. 304-358-2000
email: graduate@future.edu