

CONFLICT RESOLUTION INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Conflict Resolution Institute, University of Denver, Colorado 80208 • (303) 871-7685 and (303) 871-6477

Winter 2010 • Volume 5 • Number 1

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IS BARACK OBAMA THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION PRESIDENT?

[Editors Note: graduate students in Professor Karen Feste's fall course were asked to write an essay, taking a position and defending it on the question above. Below is a compilation of some of their thoughts]

On October 9, 2009, Andy Borowitz made an interesting, if satirical connection. His column headline read, "Nobel Insiders: Beer Summit Sealed it for Obama" (Borowitz, 2009). He 'quotes' Agot Valle, a Norwegian member of the five-person Peace Prize committee:

'The committee was definitely split down the middle...' but... 'Someone brought up the beer summit, and we all agreed that that was awesome...' Ms. Valle said she hoped that Mr. Obama's victory would be seen not only as a victory for him, but 'as a tribute to the healing power of beer.' (Borowitz, 2009)

Obama's approach to conflict has invited commentators to observe his style and assert that he is the Conflict Resolution President, capital CRP. Some have explicitly analyzed his dealings with Iran and with the Israel Palestine conflict. Others have petitioned him to use and promote conflict resolution skills as the leader of the nation. Borowitz's column connects two separate events surrounding the President and suggests two pieces of evidence that might provide some insight on this debate over the President's skills: Is he the CRP? If so, what type of conflict resolution skills does the President use?

For over two weeks during the summer, the media was overcome with furor surrounding the controversial arrest of Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., by Cambridge Police Sergeant James Crowley and the ensuing controversy. Evidence: a Lexis Nexis search of "Major U.S. and World Publications" using the terms "James Crowley" and "Henry Louis Gates" yields no fewer than 339 results (about twenty-four articles per day). The conflict escalated when President Obama asserted the Cambridge Police had 'acted stupidly' and then finally subsided after the President hosted the 'Beer Summit' for all parties involved.

What is notable about the Beer Summit controversy is that the President was engaging in three separate conflicts – the conflict between the Sergeant and the Professor, the conflict between himself and the Sergeant, and the conflict between himself and the media over their persistent focus on his words, "acted stupidly." After defending the remarks during an interview with ABC's Terry Moran, President Obama initially refused to discuss the issue anymore, then later relented when he personally telephoned Sergeant Crowley to discuss that wily phrase. During that phone conversation, Sergeant Crowley suggested to the president a conversation over beer, a suggestion the President later took seriously when he invited Professor Gates and Sergeant Crowley to join him at the White House for a beer (The American Presidency Project, 2009b). On July 30, the 2009 Beer Summit took place

President Barack Obama receives the Nobel Prize medal and diploma during a ceremony in Raadhuset Main Hall at Oslo City Hall, Dec. 10, 2009. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

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at the White House when Professor Gates, Sergeant Crowley, Vice President Joe Biden and President Barack Obama enjoyed a round of beer for about forty-five minutes (Cooper & Goodnough, 2009). Following the Summit, the media focus finally relented, the Sergeant and the Professor set a lunch date, and the American Nation moved forward on Obama's healthcare and energy initiatives. Conflict resolved.

Or was it? The President made a practical distinction between the three conflicts surrounding the Summit. The President adapted his conflict resolution strategy to deal with each of these conflicts separately. In dealing with the conflict between the Professor and the Sergeant, the President demonstrated a natural affinity for mediation. And the controversy was unique in that it presented itself as one of the few times the American public and the world gained near first hand insight into the interpersonal conflict management skills of the American President. On the one hand, the President was engaged in an interpersonal conflict with Sergeant Crowley who had been displeased to hear the words 'acted stupidly' from the President's mouth. While no one knows exactly what exchange occurred between the Sergeant and the President, the President acknowledged a new-found respect for the difficult position the Sergeant was experiencing. The President together with the Sergeant worked toward and seemed to achieve some sort of resolution.

On the other hand, as primary party to the interpersonal conflict between himself and the press, Obama seemed to lose that knack for conflict resolution altogether, instead appearing to be a natural conflict avoider. His limited response and his attempts to divert attention away from the seemingly absurd focus on his words – 'acted stupidly' – revealed the President's unwillingness or inability to empathize with an opponent – the press – whose actions he simply did not understand. His responses left the distinct impression that he decidedly did not have either the patience or the desire to resolve the interpersonal conflict between himself and some members of the Press.

This is not to suggest that the President ought to have tried to resolve the conflict in any other way than what he did. Perhaps he was insightful enough to understand the monumental task it would have been to divert press attention, and so he chose to navigate around the obstacle rather than confronting it head on. Perhaps he did not have the energy, with the healthcare and energy initiatives and two wars consuming much of his time. Regardless, the President's inclination for action – make change efficiently, recognize barriers when you see them, and adjust your strategy accordingly – leaves a distinct impression of conflict avoidance.

So here we can conclude that when faced with an opposition with whom he can empathize, the President demonstrates a natural affinity for conflict resolution. And as for the conflict between

the Professor and the Sergeant, the President also demonstrated an affinity for mediation. He was able to bring the Parties together and host a conversation between the gentlemen. But the President's conflict resolution skills did not seem to extend to the way he handled the press. That shows us that in some ways, Obama is the CRP and in other ways, he may not be; in other words, that leaves the question open.

On December 10, President Barack Obama accepted the Nobel Peace Prize amidst months of controversy over even his nomination, let alone the Committee's decision to award him the Prize and his subsequent acceptance of the award. The Committee's announcement sparked serious debate in the media and academia about whether the President had actually done anything to deserve the award, launching the President into a conflict in which he probably had no interest being involved.

The Nobel Peace Prize committee does not release their notes detailing the rationale behind the Award, except through the statement released on the day the Award was announced. According to that statement, Obama was awarded the Prize "for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen diplomacy and cooperation between peoples." Some commentators have suggested this statement was meant to create momentum for resolution of the Middle East conflicts. Or perhaps the prize was meant to reconnect the United States with our European allies based on a renewed sense of cooperation. Or the Prize may have actually been based on the President's character and leadership style.

Tim Sisk, Conflict Resolution Professor and Professor at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, suggests that Obama was awarded the Prize because he changed the discourse in the international arena away from unilateralism and back channel diplomacy toward more Norwegian values and norms that include open dialogue and multilateralism. As conflict resolution practitioners and educators, we know the importance of communication and dialogue.

Sisk also noted the historic tendency for the Committee to attempt to link peace with other seemingly unrelated issues. For example, Wangari Muta Maathai was awarded the Prize in 2004 for her work related to climate change, as was Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2007.



President Barack Obama considers the choices to be made during a Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009, budget meeting (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

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Muhammad Yunis and the Grameen Bank were awarded the Prize in 2006 for their work on local-level individual economic development. So the Committee has used the prize to link climate change with peace and economic development with peace. Is it possible the Committee was linking dialogue with peace in order to highlight this connection for the global community? If that is so, then we can say the Award might demonstrate that Obama is the CRP.

On the one hand, Obama seemed a natural mediator and was able to successfully resolve the conflict with Sergeant Crowley. The President has also engaged the leadership of Iran, Cuba, China and Venezuela in dialogue. The President engaged in some aspects of collaborative governance by initiating Town Hall Meetings over the healthcare issue and in the way he dealt with Congress to shape the bill. And in the midst of the controversy over Reverend Wright's rhetoric, the President validated the sources of resentment on all sides of the issue.

On the other hand, he may not have the practical skills or wherewithal to engage in interpersonal conflict with an adversary he simply cannot understand and with whom he does not seek to empathize – the Press. If the President prefers to avoid conflict with the Press because he cannot empathize with its members or because he does not anticipate he can persuade some sort of accommodation, he will find himself in rather uncomfortable conflict situations in the future as he will most undoubtedly be confronting the Press over other issues that will not be as easy to resolve as conducting a Beer Summit. On a much larger scale, the President has also authorized some 30,000 additional troops to be sent to Afghanistan, not exactly a cue to the adversary of a willingness to engage in dialogue.

And even though the US has begun its withdrawal from Iraq, the extent to which that withdrawal can be interpreted as conflict resolution is tenuous at best. It begs the question, "Resolu-

tion for whom?" Perhaps the withdrawal resolves some conflict for the Iraqi government, while creating more at the same time. The same might be true for the average Iraqi citizen. And as for the personal political conflict the President continues to experience over the decision, it is clear the conflict simply shifted from one group to another. Although the troops are being withdrawn, the resolution remains elusive.

Both analyses suggest the President does engage in conflict resolution skills professionals in the field also employ: dialogue, active listening, reflective listening, consensus building, empathizing, validating the Other perspective, etc.... As professionals in the field and as students, we ourselves model these same skills in order to influence others and in order to teach others through action. So it becomes clear that Obama is a president that actively and routinely uses conflict resolution skills, and sometimes he employs them across situations and contexts.

We have already begun to witness the effective use of dialogue in the international community. And the Beer Summit demonstrates the President's natural affinity for mediation between two parties. At the same time he has also led in the escalation of the war in Afghanistan and the conflict with al Qaeda. But the analyses suggest that perhaps the question, "Is he the CRP?" is the wrong question to ask altogether. The nature of state leadership implies contact with conflict. Perhaps what we want to know is what kind of Resolver is he? Or perhaps we ought to ask instead, "How can the President maximize the effectiveness of his strong conflict resolution skills and how can he compensate where those skills are weak?" In other words, how is he the Conflict Resolution President and how could he be better?

*-- Suzie Wagner & Fernando Ospina,
with Jonathan Howard & Joseph Vincent*

AWARDING THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Conflict Resolution and International Studies Professor Timothy Sisk offers these insights from his years of studying the award:

Two conceptualizations of the Prize are typical: lifetime achievement award or doing the most in the past year to support international peace. Controversy most often occurs when the Prize is tied to issues that tie to world peace indirectly, e.g. microfinance, climate change, environmental activism and race relations. Since the history of the Prize shows an emphasis by the Norwegian Nobel Committee to recognize those who have worked to erase racial divisions, in retrospect it is not all that surprising that the Committee saw the first black U.S. President as significant.

Even those with "hawkish views" (some would call them realists) have received the award. Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin shared the Prize in 1994. In 1973, Henry Kissinger shared the prize with Le Duc Tho, a Vietnamese politician who declined the Prize because of the situation in Vietnam. Kissinger later tried to return the Prize and money, but he was declined.

Many have also speculated about the similarity of Obama's views to those of the Norwegian consensus, particularly regarding the role of the U.S. moving away from unilateralism and towards multilateralism and dialogue. Such movement could change the entire framework of international relations, and so this award "might be seen as a great prize in 40 to 50 years," according to Sisk.

Because professors of international studies are eligible to nominate, Sisk is already working on his nomination for 2010.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT - JUDITH E. FOX



Judith E. Fox, Assistant Professor, Director of the International Disaster Psychology program at the Graduate School of Professional Psychology and a member of CRI's faculty.

Judith Fox has been the director of the Masters in International Disaster Psychology (MAIDP) since 2006. She has been on the faculty of the Graduate School of Professional Psychology (GSPP) for 13 years teaching courses in child/adolescent development, diagnosis, and treatment. Prior to working at GSPP she directed the Psychosocial Services in Adult Medicine at National Jewish Hospital where she worked on the impact of respiratory illness on psychological health. Additionally, she has worked with veterans at VA hospitals in Topeka and Denver in inpatient psychiatry and as a psychological consultant to the HIV/AIDS Clinic in Infectious Disease Department. In private practice she works with children, adolescents and families who present with a variety of difficulties including trauma, loss, high-conflict divorce, mood difficulties, emotional self-regulation, and family interpersonal problems. With her interest in trauma she has

worked with clients who have experienced abuse and sexual abuse. Her research interests have included stress and coping in childhood, health psychology, mental health stigma and psychotherapy, and the implications of intersubjectivity and attachment theory for working abroad. (See In Focus on next page.)

The goal of MAIDP is to promote the development of skills to serve the public good and promote mental health and psychosocial well-being of those affected by disaster, domestically and abroad. After the successful partnership between CRI and MAIDP for the 2007 Conference on Trauma and Peacebuilding, Dr. Karen Feste, Academic Director of the Conflict Resolution Institute MA program approached Dr. Fox about forming a collaboration between MAIDP and Conflict Resolution. This collaboration has made it so that Conflict Resolution students are able to take relevant courses in MAIDP and vice versa. One of these courses, taught by Dr. Fox, is a course on lifespan development and trauma in a cross-cultural context. The course focuses on childhood trauma and its implications for child and adult development and its treatment. The course emphasizes cross-cultural theories of childhood development. She encourages Conflict Resolution students to take this course.

Dr. Fox's current research interest focuses on factors that affect the development of therapeutic relationships. She has written about and applied intersubjectivity theory to the formation of international internship partnerships. When Dr. Fox became the director of MAIDP, she worked in the Balkans to make connections with organizations in order to develop place-

ment sites to accommodate an entire class of MA students. She spent much of this time negotiating relationships with organizations, getting to know the surrounding communities, understanding the functioning of these organizations, and providing supervisory tips. She credits her relationships with supervisors as being key to forming these partnerships. Outside of the Balkans, MAIDP has relationships with organizations in Panama, Belize, and Ethiopia, with plans for further partnerships in other areas around the world. In these placement sites, MAIDP students have the opportunity to help support their mission by providing workshops on topics in mental health to staff, working on disaster planning, working with beneficiaries in group formats, and/or becoming involved in developing and/or leading psycho-educational programs. The idea is that students help those who are on the frontlines of working with communities that may have experienced natural or human-made disaster.

One of Dr. Fox's primary goals is to bring clinical psychology perspectives into the international field. In a fascinating intersection between conflict resolution and clinical psychology, she has written about Attachment Theory (See In Focus) and its implications for peacebuilding in conflict and post-conflict communities. In February, she is scheduled to speak at the Conflict Resolution Institute and will share her clinical psychology perspectives and their implications for the conflict resolution field.

Clinical Assistant Professor Judith E. Fox can be reached at jufox@du.edu

-- Fernando Ospina

IN FOCUS - ATTACHMENT THEORY

Attachment Theory posits that the motivational system that leads children to form emotional bonds with their caregiver is the same system that leads adults to form emotional relationships and social connections. The way the caregiver responds to a child's attachment behaviors, such as following, clinging, reaching or crying, will have an effect on social behaviors after infancy. Infants reared in inadequate institutions with minimal opportunity to form attachments to adults have shown increased tendencies toward aggression, delinquency, and indifference to others (Gleitman, 1995). In conflict or post-conflict environments where members of a community have experienced trauma, a dynamic can form that affects the attachment system between caregiver and child. Mothers with histories of trauma in childhood are more likely to display fearful or frightening behavior in response to their child's expression of need (Fox, 2007). This can create patterns of attachment that continue up to adulthood.

The dynamic created by attachment difficulties within a population can have implications for those involved in peacebuilding. It may mean that those working in post-conflict environments may need to be conscious of this factor and adjust to it. Peacebuilding requires social attributes that allow for trust and openness. If parties taking part in peacebuilding have developed unhealthy attachment styles, peacebuilding can be adversely affected. The elements that result from secure attachment systems, the capacity for mutual understanding, for building trust, the ability to forgive and to reconcile are some of the elements needed for effective peacebuilding to take place (Fox, 2007). By using interventions intended to repair the attachment system, some difficulties may be avoided during the peacebuilding process.

-- Fernando Ospina

Fox, J. (2007). Attachment Theory: Relational Elements of Trauma and Peacebuilding. In T. P. d'Estrée (Ed.) *Peacebuilding and Trauma Recovery: Integrated Strategies in Post-War Reconstruction* (pp. 74 - 80). Denver: University of Denver Conflict Resolution Institute.

Gleitman, H. (1995). *Psychology* (4th ed.). New York, New York, United States: W.W. Norton & Company.

CRGSA UPDATE

Congratulations to all the new CRGSA members! All of us at the Conflict Resolution Institute are looking forward to an excellent year of activities and innovative ideas from the new administration. The new officers are: President Adam Brown, Vice President Jonathan Howard, Secretary Brittany Eskridge, Treasurer Briana Callen and Activity Coordinators Aneesha Kumar and Ashlee Stadig, who is returning for a second term after doing a great job last year.

The previous administration had two goals in mind when they kicked off last year. One was to develop closer ties between faculty and students within the Conflict Resolution Program and between other University of Denver graduate programs. The other was to provide opportunities for networking and skills training to the students. We are happy to say that both of these goals were met successfully.

The new administration would like to continue these programs while integrating some fresh ideas and creativity. We hope to promote awareness of Conflict Resolution within the DU community. Most students have little awareness of what conflict resolution is, even though they probably practice the skills on a daily basis.

We would also like to garner more interest in the Conflict Resolution degree, and to cultivate the academic and professional interests of the students in the program. As a recognized graduate student group, an important function of CRGSA is to use our allocation of student fees to provide financial support to students wanting to attend conferences, do independent research or partake in other activities in pursuit of academic and professional goals. We will spread the word and encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity. We look forward to having a bit of fun as well.

A major event CRGSA will be hosting this year is a networking event at the Wellshire Inn sometime in late April. It will be a great opportunity for current students, alum and practitioners of conflict resolution to connect and cultivate relationships. If you are a practitioner and would like to participate in this event or would like more information, please contact Ashlee Stadig at ashlee.stadig@du.edu.

CRGSA will also be planning other events in 2010, so keep your eyes peeled!

-- Jonathan Howard

ALUMNI IN THE FIELD

Issac Nichols: Resolving Conflicts at Metropolitan State College

Since July 2008, Isaac Nichols has been employed at Metropolitan State College as the Student Conflict Resolution Specialist. He began his career eight months earlier as an intern with Metro State's Judicial Affairs Office within the Office of Student Life. His current position, which is new to Metro State, is designed to "resolve conflicts involving students before they rise to a level requiring involvement from the student judicial officer and formal sanctions against the student (i.e. suspension, expulsion, etc.)." Nichols confronts conflict daily, ranging from classroom disruption to disputes between teachers and students. According to Nichols, "In the course of my duties I mediate, facilitate, do conflict coaching, as well as present on conflict to various departments." He says that there are no "typical" days at work, as the types of conflicts he confronts are so diverse. He has also been a guest lecturer in several classes.

When asked what he enjoyed most about his job, Nichols replied that he enjoyed problem solving. He particularly likes finding options and alternatives that are beneficial to those involved in conflict. "I love seeing the light go

off in someone's head when they realize that they do have options."

Nichols graduated from the University of Denver in November, 2009 with a Master of Arts degree in Conflict Resolution. Without the degree, says Nichols, "I would not be where I am today...Simple as that." With the skills, knowledge, and theoretical frameworks that the program provided, he was able



Issac Nichols

to smoothly transition to the new position created by Metro State.

Nichols says that his internship with the Judicial Affairs Office was also essential for his rise to the current position as Student Conflict Resolution Specialist. Nichols says "they were looking for someone to help them set up a restorative justice program and I was taking that course at DU at the time so I applied." The internship al-

lowed him to employ his skills in ways that "hadn't been considered before." After the internship, Metro State encouraged Nichols to apply to a new position they had been unable to fill. He did, and continued his professional career at Metro State.

Nichols provided the following advice to current conflict resolution students: "Anyone wishing to pursue the field of conflict resolution has to be able to market themselves." Because conflict resolution is still a growing field, and because there are rarely positions with "conflict resolution" in the title, there will be a need to explain to employers that conflict resolution specialists are not only important, they are essential to any organization.

The irony that Nichols himself found a position with "conflict resolution" in the title is not lost on him. "If you go out looking for that job you're likely to be disappointed. The challenge is going out and finding the job you want and show how your skills can add value to their company." In a final word, Nichols maintains a firm optimism for the field of conflict resolution: "The great thing about conflict is that it's EVERYWHERE so the sky is the limit on how we use our degrees."

-- Joseph Vincent

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CRI ALUMS - SAVE THE DATE!

Commencement and Reunion

CRI would like to welcome all alums to join us in celebrating our 2009-2010 graduates, reconnect with classmates, and to come see our new space.

When: Thursday, June 3rd 4:30 - 7 p.m.

Where: The new Sié Center at the University of Denver

INTERNSHIPS

Lindsey Sexton Environmental Protection Agency

Lindsey Sexton, who graduated from the Conflict Resolution Institute in the Fall of 2009, recently finished an internship at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington D.C. She worked for the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center (CPRC). The CPRC is a department within the EPA that employs many of the conflict resolution skills students learn at the Conflict Resolution Institute. The main function of the CPRC is to assist any department of the EPA that may need a neutral third party and to identify possible outside sources for a third party that are most appropriate for the problem. While Lindsey was at CPRC, they convened a discussion regarding current laws regulating agricultural pollution in the Chesapeake Bay. The CPRC brought in a neutral party to help facilitate the input of real estate developers, agricultural representatives and the EPA to examine the current rules and to discuss possible changes to further protect the bay area from agricultural pollution.

Lindsey discovered this internship through networking at the ACR Environmental Public Policy Conference hosted this past June by CRI at DU. Networking at the events that the Conflict Resolution Institute hosts is one of the more common ways that students find internships. Not only is networking beneficial, but tailoring academic work to meet the needs of organizations offering internships is crucial for students. Lindsey did just that by supplementing her MA in Conflict Resolution with a certificate in Environmental Policy through DU's University College

While working at the CPRC, Lindsey helped develop a video called *Lessons from Hollywood* that introduced EPA employees to conflict resolution. The video was comprised of movie and T.V. clips that illustrated techniques such as separating people from the problem and active listening. Also, Lindsey wrote for the quarterly newsletter; highlighting the services that the CPRC offered to EPA employees. Not only did Lindsey present information on conflict resolution, she also practiced conflict resolution techniques. She co-facilitated meetings, most importantly the annual North American Pollinator Protection Cam-

paign's International Conference.

The internship at CPRC provided Lindsey numerous networking opportunities and informational interviews, which helped her shape her future career direction. Lindsey hopes to work in consulting to help businesses integrate sustainable practices while maintaining or increasing profitability. Lindsey believes that conflict resolution tools learned at DU along with seeing those tools in action at CPRC could be vital in helping businesses synergize profitability and environmental concern, two ideals that are often thought of as incompatible.

There are many facets of working for the EPA, at the national level, that Lindsey found interesting. She gained a pulse into environmental problems affecting various regions of the United States. The EPA is divided into regional sections, each with its own unique environmental problems. For example, the EPA is always dealing with water rights and water usage issues in the southwest region, known as region 8. She also saw firsthand how crucial collaborative processes and conflict resolution skills are for an organization like the EPA. The EPA often will use consensus building amongst stakeholders when developing a new regulation or process to avoid detrimental conflict later. Also, Lindsey learned that the EPA oftentimes must fill in the details of a new law. For example, a law could pass regulating methane emissions from small businesses. Typically, the law will not define what a small business is, or what level of methane emissions is acceptable. The EPA prefers to convene the stakeholders to finalize the details of these laws, oftentimes using a third party recommended by the CPRC.



Lindsey Sexton

Lindsey sees how positive conflict resolution skills can be used to address environmental justice, which is an emerging area of concern for the EPA. Environmental justice is a problem where groups lower on the socio-economic ladder bear the brunt of environmental problems, such as a disproportionate number of waste incinerators are located in lower income regions. This issue can be contentious and conflict resolution skills could be necessary in planning environmental projects to be more fair or safer for poorer regions.

-- Jonathan Howard

2009 COLORADO STATEWIDE ADR CONFERENCE

CRI was proud to co-sponsor the 3rd Annual Colorado State-wide ADR Conference at the Renaissance Denver Hotel on October 30, 2009. The event was founded by the Colorado Council of Mediators and Mediation Organizations, the Colorado Judicial Department Office of Dispute Resolution and the Colorado Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section.

This year's theme was "Dispute Resolution for Change," highlighted by the keynote address by Former President of Ecuador and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Jamid Mahuad. He discussed his role in solving a long standing, seemingly intractable conflict with Peru. He helped solve the conflict over a small piece of non-strategic, resource dearth territory. Working with then president of Peru, Alberto Fujimori, they discovered divergent interests, which helped them reach an agreement. Ecuador only wanted a very small, symbolic piece of land that Peru had little problem giving them. By dialoguing, working through multi-

ple, potential solutions and discovering interests, both Peru and Ecuador were able to come to a simple solution.

The conference brought alternative dispute resolution practitioners from across Colorado to share knowledge and gain insight into the work of others in the field. Session topics were wide ranging; from discussions of applying ADR to cases of domestic violence, environmental disputes in the courts and elderly care and mediation. Many attendees also received continuing education and ethics credits.

Thanks to our student volunteers: Adam Brown, Tiffany Bruschi-Barber, Mikaela L.W. Gregg, Jonathan Howard, Fernando Ospina, and Debbie Rosenblum. And thanks to everyone who stopped by our booth. It was great to see our colleagues, students, faculty, supporters and alums!

-- Autumn Gorman & Jonathan Howard

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Newsletter Editing and Design: Autumn Gorman

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Center for Research and Practice
303.871.7685
cricrp@du.edu

Graduate Program
303.871.6477
cri@du.edu



UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER
Conflict Resolution
Institute

2201 S Gaylord Street
Denver, CO 80208
www.du.edu/con-res