

Andrew Blum, Ph.D.

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Qualifications Summary

Andrew Blum has demonstrated success developing comprehensive strategies for peacebuilding and violence prevention organizations and implementing those strategies to grow the stature and impact of organizations. He is a leading expert in the monitoring and evaluation peacebuilding programs and has deep experience designing and implementing applied research and learning programs. With a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California, Andrew is an accomplished researcher who has published and presented both academic and applied research to a wide range of audiences. He has worked on peacebuilding programs in countries around the world including Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Guyana, and also within the United States. A skilled instructor, presenter, speaker, and facilitator, Andrew receives consistently high evaluations from students, workshop participants, training clients, and other audiences.

Professional Experience

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego **San Diego, CA**

Executive Director

July 2016-current

- Responsible for all aspects of leading an Institute with eight staff and an annual budget of \$2 million plus, including: designing and implementing a growth strategy, fundraising, financial management, and personnel management.
- Built a new, robust portfolio of peacebuilding work in San Diego County including work on police-community relations (The Building Trust Partnership), work with refugee communities (Connected Youth-Resilient Communities), and work with high school students (The Social Fabric Initiative).
- Won \$630,000 Department of Homeland Security grant and increased funds raised by the Institute over 200% in first eighteen months.
- Successfully negotiated agreement to transition the global Women Waging Peace network of over 1000 women peace leaders from its previous home to its new home at the Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice.

Vice-President, Planning, Learning, and Evaluation
Vice-President, Program Management and Evaluation
Director, Learning and Evaluation

August 2015-June 2016
February 2013-August 2015
February 2012-February 2013

- ***Organizational Leadership and Strategy:***
 - Member of senior leadership team of \$60 million organization with 300+ employees. Responsible for strengthening operational systems and processes during a period of rapid organizational growth and leadership transitions, for leading all learning and evaluation work, and for managing annual planning and resource allocation processes. Provide guidance on ongoing basis to CEO and Board of Directors on program management, evaluation, and grantmaking issues.
 - Member of core strategic planning team that developed new Institute-wide strategic plan. Leading effort to monitor progress toward strategic objectives at the organizational level, including quarterly reporting to the Board of Directors.
 - Led redesign of all grantmaking and fellowship activities with the goals of linking initiatives closer to USIP's programming, leveraging the impact of grantmaking through partnership with other funders, and increasing the efficiency of grantmaking processes.
 - Developed successful funding proposals for projects to establish the RESOLVE network on countering violent extremism (\$1.4 million, State Department) and peacebuilding in the Central African Republic (\$1 million, USAID).

- ***Evaluation and Technical Consulting:***
 - Through establishment and leadership of the Learning and Evaluation Team, developed and instituted USIP's first comprehensive approach to program design, evaluation, and knowledge management.
 - Serve as lead internal consultant on program management and evaluation for staff, partners, and grantees working on a wide range of educational, research, and field-based programming.
 - Led evaluation of programs across a wide range of technical sectors in difficult environments including Afghanistan, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Sudan, and Syria.

Senior Program Officer, Grants

September 2008-February 2012

- Managed a \$3 million portfolio of grants, including field-based programming, policy analysis, and academic research. Reduced the number of problem grants in the portfolio by over 50%. Led a successful effort to improve monitoring and evaluation across the full grantmaking portfolio.
- Secured \$600,000 in State Department funding to evaluate conflict management and security sector programming in South Sudan.

- Led strategic planning processes leading to the launch of two innovative new grant programs focused on the Sudan-South Sudan border and the use of information and communication technologies to build peace.
- Cultivated potential grantees and oversaw grants to local civil society organizations in Nigeria and Sudan.
- Designed and launched the Peacebuilding Evaluation Project, now the Peacebuilding Evaluation Consortium in collaboration with the Alliance for Peacebuilding – the first field-wide effort to improve evaluation of peacebuilding programming.

**Center for International Development
and Conflict Management**

Director – ICONS Project

University of Maryland, College Park

October 2003-September 2008

- *Program Management and Business Development:*
 - Director of the ICONS Project, a web-based training and education program with a staff of seven and annual revenue of over \$500,000. Responsible for all aspects of program administration, evaluation, and financial management. Grew revenue by over 50% in 18 months.
 - Director of the Minor in International Development and Conflict Management. Designed curriculum for new undergraduate program. Grew program to over 60 students.
 - Designed and delivered training programs in negotiation, conflict management, collaborative leadership, and crisis management for a wide-range of clients including the Office of Personnel Management, NOAA, DHS, Playing for Peace International, and the Smith School of Business, Executive MBA Program.
 - Wrote successful funding proposals including: the Department of Homeland Security (\$100,00), USAID PVC-ASHA (\$60,000), USAID Africa Bureau (\$180,000), Hewlett Foundation (\$100,000), Brookings Institute (\$37,000), NSA (\$25,000), Carnegie Corporation (\$25,000), Alliance for Peacebuilding (\$10,000).
- *Policy Research and Practice:*
 - Principle Investigator on USAID-funded research project investigating the impact of fragile and post-conflict environments on NGO networks.
 - Member of research team on USAID-funded research project investigating the implementation of information and communication technology projects in post-conflict countries.
 - Organized and facilitated “Trajectories of Ethnopolitical Conflict in Turkey.” Two-day workshop that brought Turks and Kurds to Bulgaria to discuss the future of the Kurdish question in Turkey.

The Institute for International Mediation and Conflict Resolution
Academic Coordinator

Washington D.C.

November 2002 – July 2003

- Organized the IIMCR’s international symposia on conflict resolution and negotiation, including marketing the program to students, designing the

curriculum, hiring faculty, and managing staff. Managed the IIMCR Latin American Symposium on Conflict Resolution at Tec de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico, a month-long symposium for fifty students. Responsible for all aspects of the program including academics, managing staff, working with guest faculty, and managing IIMCR's relationship with Tec de Monterrey.

The Carter Center
Field Representative

Georgetown, Guyana
January 2002 – November 2002

- Developed an integrated strategy to implement the Guyana National Development Program and to promote ethnic reconciliation in Guyana. Conducted analysis of the social and political situation in Guyana including writing briefing papers and talking points for President Carter.
- Wrote concept papers and grant proposals, including a \$1.2 million proposal for a civil society-led conflict management project. Liaised with donor agencies, local stakeholders and senior government officials including the President and Prime Minister of Guyana.
- Organized a two-day retreat for senior-level representatives to review the state of ethno-politics in Guyana. Participants included members of the government, civil society, and the private sector. Facilitated civil society-led conflict management effort, "The Social Partners Initiative," that emerged out of the workshop.

Center for Conflict Management
Conflict Resolution Advisor

Almaty, Kazakhstan
August – December 2000

- Consulted for a local NGO managing community-based conflict management projects in Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Helped run the 2000 Summer School for Conflict Management. The Summer School brought conflict managers from throughout Central Asia to Almaty for two weeks of intensive conflict resolution training.
- Conducted research on ethnic relations and compiled findings in order to assess the impact of the Center's previous programs. Assisted in the development of a strategic plan for the organization.

Relief International
Conflict Resolution Program Manager

Baku, Azerbaijan
May – August 1999

- Organized a series of three UNHCR-funded workshops for teachers of internally displaced children on how to teach conflict management education. Partnered with local NGO to develop workshop exercises and materials.
- Initiated a conflict management seminar in Baku for refugee teachers and students, NGOs, academic specialists, and government officials—the first conference of its kind in Azerbaijan.
- Wrote successful grant proposals to the Netherlands Embassy and the British Know-How Fund, which resulted in matching current funds by 100%.

Education

University of Southern California

Ph.D. – School of International Relations

February 2002

- Dissertation Title: *Territory, Identity, and the Rise of Minority Rights*. Chair: Dr. Hayward Alker.
- Field research on ethnic relations in Estonia (July – August 2000).
- Intensive Turkish language program at Bosphorous University, Istanbul, Turkey (Summer 1998).

University of Virginia

B.A. – Government and Foreign Affairs

June 1990

Selected Publications and Presentations

- “If Youth Are Given the Chance: The Effect of Education and Civic Engagement on Somali Youth Support for Political violence,” Mercy Corp Report, May 2018, Co-authored with Beza Tesfaye et al.
- “Collaborative Design in Peacebuilding: Lessons from the Central African Republic,” United States Institute for Peace Special Report, April 2018. Co-authored with Ruben Graangard.
- “The Peace Bridge to Nowhere, *Foreign Policy*, September 22, 2014, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/09/22/the-peace-bridge-to-nowhere/>.
- “Guiding Principles for Donors to Foster Better Peacebuilding Evaluation,” *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development* 8 (2014). Co-authored with Melanie Kawano-Chiu.
- “Proof of Concept – Learning from Nine Examples of Peacebuilding Evaluation: A Report on 2011 Peacebuilding Evaluation Evidence Summit.” Spring 2011. Co-authored with Melanie Kawano-Chiu.
- “Peacebuilding Evaluation: A Whole-of-Field Approach,” USIP Special Report. June 2011.
- “The Impact of Fragile Environments on NGO Networks in West Africa,” co-authored with J. Joseph Hewitt. Report prepared for USAID. July 31, 2007..
- “Track II Interventions and the Kurdish Question in Turkey: An Analysis Using a Theories of Change Approach.” Co-authored with Ayse Betul Celik. *International Journal of Peace Studies* 12 (2007).
- “Future Uncertain: Using Scenarios to Understand Turkey’s Geopolitical Environment and its Impact on the Kurdish Question.” Co-authored with Ayse Betul Celik. *Ethnopolitics* 6 (2007).
- “The Futures of Conflict: Exploring the Use of Comparative Scenarios in Track II Peacebuilding.” *International Studies Perspective* 6 (2005).
- “Nonstate Actors, Terrorism, and Weapons of Mass Destruction,” Co-authored with Jonathan Wilkenfeld and Victor Asal. *International Studies Review* 7 (2005).
- “Recognition as Protection/Recognition as Threat: Understanding the Link between Minority Rights and Inter-Ethnic Hostility,” *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 7 (2001).
- “Blue Helmets from the South: Accounting for the Participation of Weaker States in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations,” *Journal of Conflict Studies* 20 (2000).