

PEPPERDINE | LAW

SUDREAU GLOBAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

# Summer Report

SUMMER 2018

## MEMORANDUM

FROM: JIM GASH, SUDREAU GLOBAL JUSTICE PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
RE: SUMMER 2018 TRIP REPORT | JUNE 10 - 22

## BACKGROUND

The Sudreau Global Justice Program (SGJP) has now existed for a decade, and its reach and influence have steadily expanded in the developing world. The naming endowment by Laure Sudreau has enabled us to broaden and deepen our work. This year's summer intern class is the largest we have ever had in Uganda (13). Likewise, we have been able to take two teams of law students and lawyers to Uganda this year to expand our prison work and training programs.

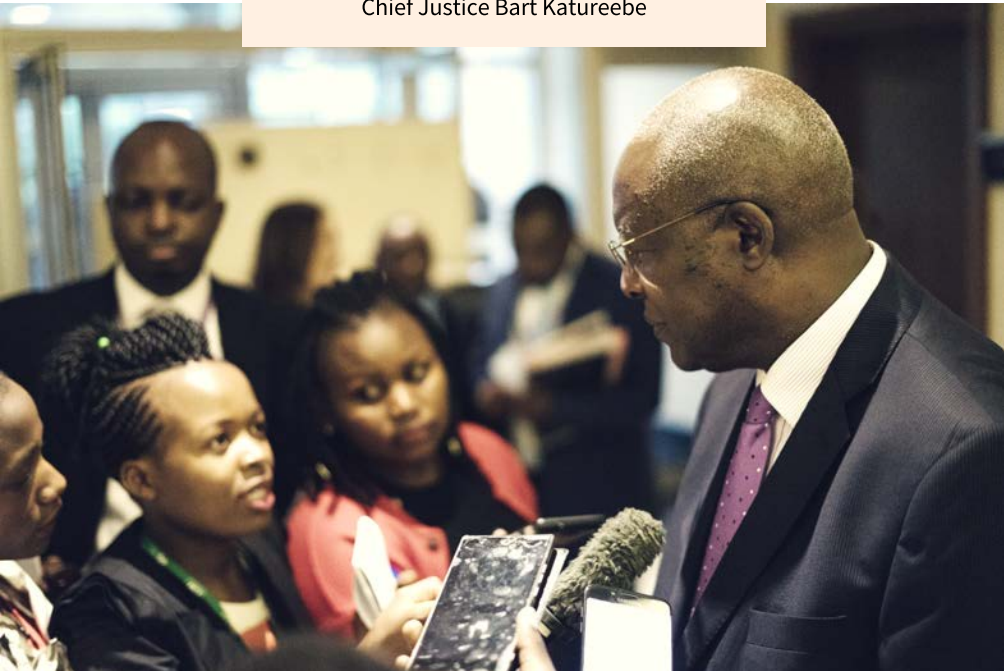
This past March, we took a team of lawyers to Jinja Main Prison for two days of providing access to justice for those awaiting trial. We also hosted two national conference in the capital city of Kampala.

Approximately 200 judicial, educational, and business leaders – including the Chief Justice and First Lady – gathered for the one-day, second annual Women in Leadership Conference at the Sheraton Hotel. The following day, we co-hosted with The Human Trafficking Institute a two-day, second annual national Anti-Human Trafficking Conference. We also laid the foundation for the annual summer prison project.

Women in Leadership | March 2018



Anti-Human Trafficking | March 2018  
Chief Justice Bart Katureebe



## PRISON PROJECTS

Our prison projects began in the juvenile prisons in 2010 and transitioned into the adult realm in 2013.

Prison projects to date:

January, 2010 | Ihungu Remand Home,  
Masindi (five days - juvenile)



Summer 2010 | Naguru Remand Home,  
Kampala (five days - juvenile)



Summer 2011 | Naguru Remand Home,  
Kampala (five days - juvenile)

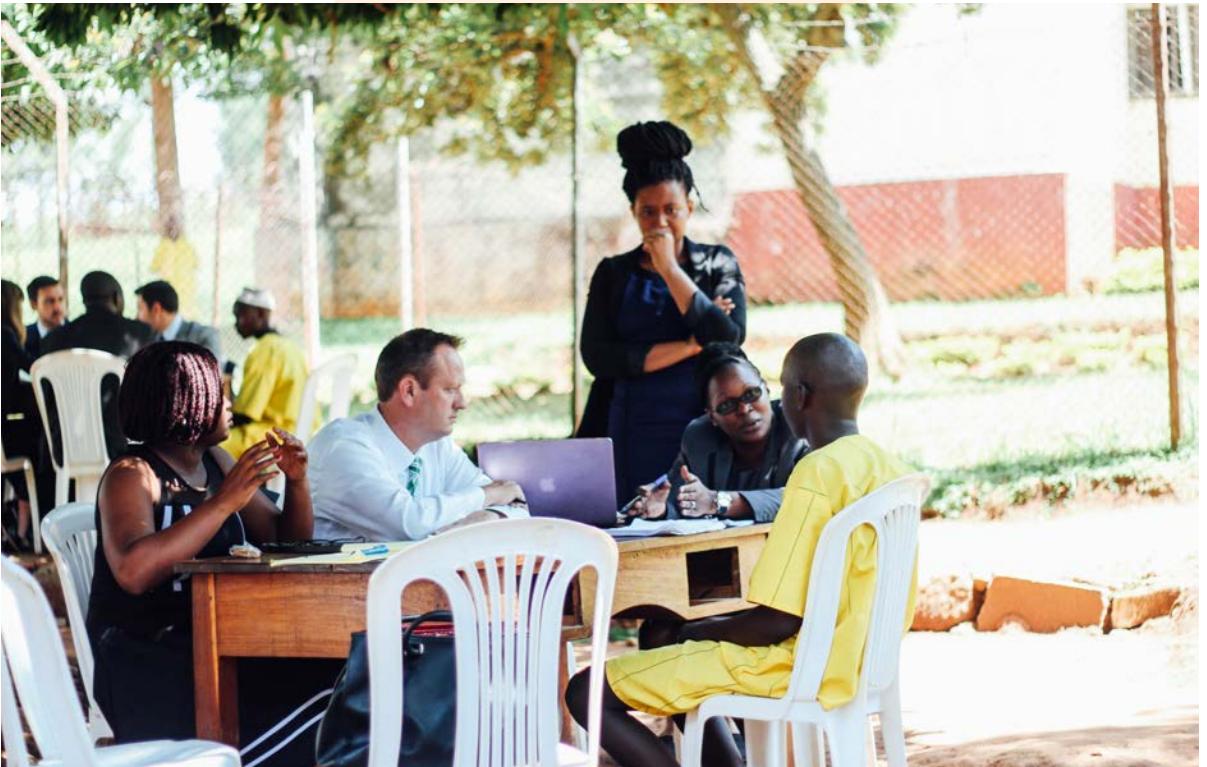


Summer 2012 | Ihungu Remand Home,  
Masindi (five days - juvenile)



A large group of men, likely prisoners, are sitting on the ground in a courtyard. They are all wearing bright yellow jumpsuits. They are gathered under the shade of a large, thick tree trunk. In the background, there is a light-colored building with several doors and windows. Some men are standing near the building. The scene appears to be outdoors in a sunny environment.

Summer 2015 | Mbale, Tororo, Soroti, Lira  
(five days - adult)





Summer 2016 | Fort Portal,  
Bushenyi, Mbarara (five days - adult)



Summer 2017 | Fort Portal, Bushenyi,  
Mobuku, Mbarara (four days - adult)



March, 2018 | Jinja Main  
(two days - adult)

Over the course of just under a decade, we had traversed nearly the entire county. A few places remained, however, and they were our target for the Summer, 2018 Prison Project. These are Gulu, Masindi, and Hoima.

During our prison projects, we assemble teams of Ugandan and American lawyers and Ugandan and American law students to partner together in a training exercise that provides access to justice for approximately 200 prisoners who are waiting in pre-trial detention – or what is called in Uganda, “on remand.”



## THE TEAM

Thirteen students spent their summer in Uganda serving as Sudreau interns for Justices on the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and High Court, as well as for the Department of Public Prosecutions. We were also joined in the prison project by the Pepperdine Law student serving as an intern for Chief Justice Rugege on the Rwandan Supreme Court.

A group of American lawyers also traveled to Uganda to join me, Danny DeWalt (SGJP Chief Counsel), and Jenna DeWalt (SGJP Manager) to participate in the prison project. These included David Nary (Los Angeles prosecutor and Nootbaar Fellow in 2012-13 from the Class of 2012); Dane Ball (Houston Criminal Defense Lawyer from the Class of 2005); Judge Mike DiReda (Utah Trial Court Judge from the Class of 1993); Alan Collier (Los Angeles Aviation Lawyer from the Class of 1990); Jon Wood (Ohio Corporate Lawyer who participated in the 2016 prison project); and Scott Leist (Seattle Criminal Defense Lawyer whose daughter attends Pepperdine's Seaver College). In addition, our Sudreau Fellow (Susan Rogers) and Nootbaar Fellow (Katy Mitchell) – both of whom lived in Uganda – helped lead the team.

We were joined in our work by eleven law students from Gulu University and nine students from Uganda Christian University. The Uganda Law Society also provided about ten Ugandan lawyers in each city where we visited a prison – Gulu, Masindi, and Hoima.

## THE PRISON PROJECT | GULU

We launched our first day of hands-on training in Gulu on Thursday, June 14th in the enclosed courtyard in the overcrowded Gulu Main Prison. Built to hold 250 prisoners, it now lodges over 1,200 – five times capacity. Just under 900 of these prisoners are on remand – waiting for a lawyer and a court date. Of the 900 remandees, over 400 registered to participate in plea bargaining whereby they would admit guilt in exchange for the opportunity to begin serving their sentences.

The night before, our team reviewed the few dozen files we had been provided in advance and supervised the construction of the seven tents inside the prison courtyard so that we could begin our work the next morning.

In order to solemnize the launch of plea bargaining in Gulu, the Ugandan Judiciary planned an opening ceremony.

Knowing from experience that these don't often start on time, our team began meeting with prisoners and reviewing their cases with them first thing in the morning.

The opening ceremony lasted nearly two hours and featured a Supreme Court Justice, the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Chief Registrar, the Gulu High Court Justice, and several other Ugandan court officials. I was also asked to address the crowd of 1,200 prisoners and court officials.

The local media also covered the event:  
[Gulu Prison](#)

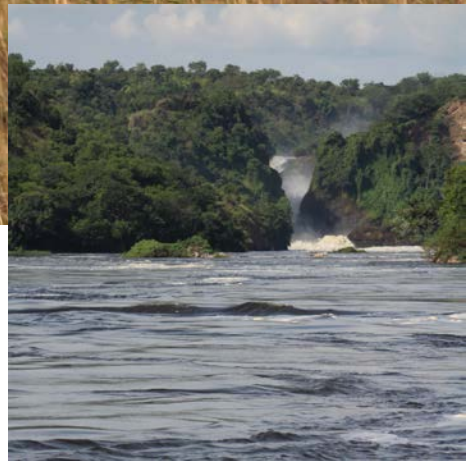


Over the course of the two days of collaborative work, we collectively resolved approximately one hundred cases through plea bargaining. The prisoners were quite engaged and exceedingly grateful for our team's work. We were encouraged when, near the end of the second day, the chair of the Gulu Bar Association informed us that the work would continue after we left, and that a day later that month had already been set aside by the local lawyers, prosecution, and judiciary to continue resolving cases.

As is our custom, we ended our work in the Gulu prison with a soccer shootout between Pepperdine students/lawyers and Ugandan prisoners. Providentially, the World Cup was actually ongoing during our time in Uganda, which allowed for some friendly rivalry between the US and Uganda, as neither country qualified for the actual World Cup this time around. Unsurprisingly, Uganda won this particular match, though we scored a few goals.

Soccer shootout with the inmates, Gulu Prison





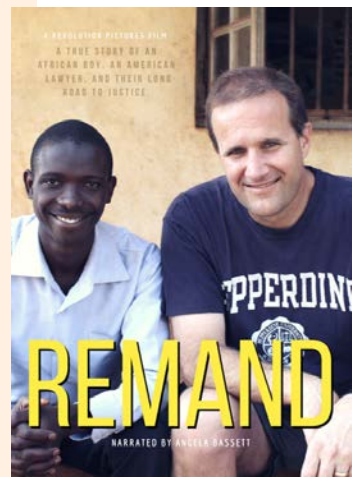
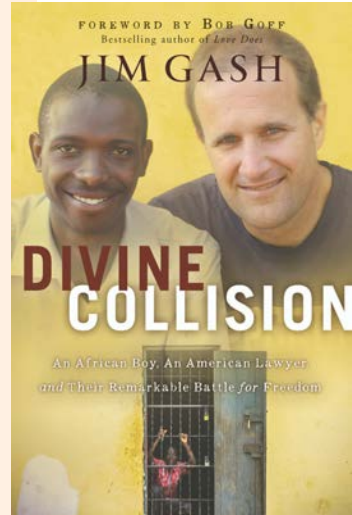
Between Gulu and our next prison lay Murchison Falls National Park. As is usually the case for our prison projects, most of the American lawyers and Pepperdine students participating had never been on a wildlife safari prior to this trip. As is customary, we spent the weekend interacting with the local animals and environment on a Nile River Cruise and a Game Drive.

## THE PRISON PROJECT | MASINDI

As indicated earlier, the Sudreau Global Justice Program has completed two prior prison projects in Masindi. Indeed, the genesis of our prison work in Uganda was the juvenile remand home in Masindi where I first met Henry and the other juveniles imprisoned while awaiting trial there. This personal relationship, in turn, led to the expansion of our work into adult prisons and gave rise to the Divine Collision book and REMAND film that tells the entire story.

Nevertheless, our work in Masindi had heretofore been limited to the juvenile remand home – we had never set foot in the Masindi adult prison where Henry’s father had languished for two years before his case was dismissed. Like Gulu, the Masindi adult prison was overcrowded and the Masindi criminal court docket was backlogged. For the last six years, we have partnered with Uganda Christian University law school. Once again, they provided nine UCU students who assisted us in our work, alongside about that many local Masindi lawyers.

Over the course of the day we spent in the prison, we reached plea bargains in 39 cases. We were encouraged by the interest level and engagement of the local lawyers and prosecutors. As in Gulu, we ended our time with the prisoners by graciously losing to them in a US vs. Uganda penalty kicks match.



## THE PRISON PROJECT | HOIMA

The adult prison in Henry's hometown of Hoima only houses non-capital offenders – those charged with capital offenses await trial in Masindi.

Accordingly, the prison itself is small enough that there wasn't sufficient room for our team (mostly the same local Ugandan lawyers and UCU law students) to set up inside the prison. Consequently, we erected our customary tents on the grounds of the Hoima High Court. As had been the case in both Gulu and Masindi, our work was preceded by an opening ceremony. This time, however, more than 100 local governmental officials and citizens crowded into the work area and participated in the opening ceremony.



One of those in attendance was Henry, who, after being released from prison in 2010, resumed his education in earnest. While Henry is currently attending medical school in Ishaka, he has been assigned to Hoima to serve one of his many hospital rotations during his fourth year of medical school.

In addition to assisting the prisoners by translating for them in their conversations with our lawyers, Henry actually treated a very ill prisoner who was experiencing severe abdominal pain incident to liver disease he is suffering. Henry not only ministered to his needs that day at the courthouse, but continued to assist the prisoner for a few weeks after our team left.

Over the course of the day in Hoima, we were able to move nearly all of the cases pending there through the plea bargaining process. Unfortunately, the periodic torrential rain and the courthouse location kept us from again embarrassing ourselves in the soccer shootout.



## CONFERENCES | PLEA BARGAINING

We returned to Kampala on Wednesday and feverishly prepared for our Fourth Annual National Plea Bargaining Conference the following day. The goal of this annual tradition is to evaluate the progress being made, identify the challenges that still remain, and to chart a course for the future expansion of plea bargaining in Uganda. About 150 judges, prosecutors, defense lawyers, prison officials, and court officials gathered at the Sheraton for a full day of intensive discussion and planning. Several American lawyers, including Judge Mike DiReda, and a few Pepperdine students helped lead the re-enactment of a Ugandan case in the form of a seven-act play.

Each scene in this play was performed twice – once improperly, and once in a manner that demonstrated best practices. This training device was very well received and the entire conference was a huge success, as reported by The Chief Justice, The Principal Judge, and The Director of Public Prosecutions. As discussed below, this conference laid the ground work for a new and promising initiative that is now moving through the planning stages.



## CONFERENCES | CHRISTIAN LAWYERS



Over the course of the past eight years, it has become quite clear that the vast majority of Uganda's judicial leaders are deeply committed Christians. (When they visit Pepperdine, they are always eager to attend the campus church with me). Occasionally, discussions with the Ugandans have included the possibility of partnering on faith-based gatherings in Uganda.

After a showing of REMAND in Orlando Florida at a film festival (where REMAND won), I was invited to dinner with several members of the leadership team of Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU). One of CRU's initiatives is called Faith and Law Around the Globe (FLAG). With the Ugandan interest in Christian lawyer programming in the back of my mind, I eagerly embraced the idea of co-hosting a national conference in Uganda for Christian lawyers when CRU leaders suggested that we collaborate on such a conference with their FLAG initiative. The year-long planning effort included a committee of Ugandans led by the Deputy Inspector General of Government, the Director of Public Prosecutions, the President of the Uganda Law Society, and several other prominent Ugandan figures. Among the nearly 200 attendees were highly influential judges from the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and High Court, current and former Members of Parliament, members of the practicing bar, other governmental figures, Ugandan law students, and members of the clergy.

The speakers included the First Lady of Uganda, the Deputy Chief Justice, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the President of the Ugandan Law Society, the Inspector General of Government, the Deputy Inspector General of Government, Associate Dean Danny DeWalt (Chief Counsel to the Sudreau Global Justice Program), me, two FLAG leaders, and a Catholic Bishop who leads an organization of local churches. Once again, the conference was quite well received and calls for this to become an annual event were oft-repeated by attendees.



## COMING UP

### Ugandan Delegation to Pepperdine

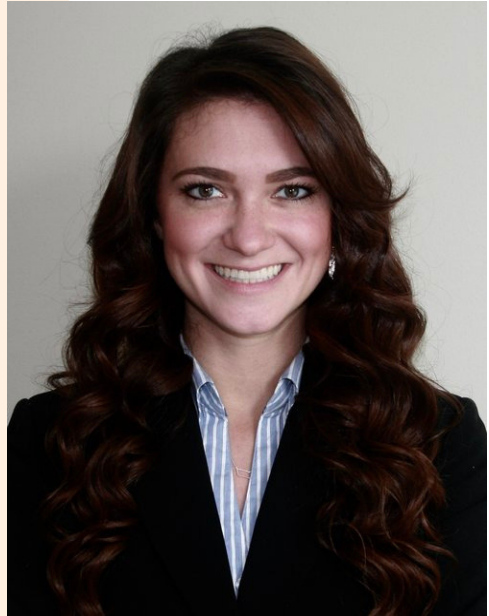
During the week of September 23rd, we will be hosting a delegation of more than a dozen high-ranking judicial officials. Among the delegation will be the Deputy Chief Justice, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the Inspector General of Government, the Director of Public Prosecutions, two justices on the Court of Appeals, two High Court justices, the Senior Technical Advisor to the Justice, Law, and Order Sector, the Technical Advisor to the Judiciary, and a few others. The primary focus of this trip will be mediation training (both trial and appellate). Our world-renowned Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution will be assisting in this training.

In addition to visits to courts and mediation and organizations, our delegation will be featured in an all-school lunch-time gathering and numerous other meals and meetings. One of those meetings will be with me and Pepperdine Economics Professor Julia Norgaard. After having read about the work of the Sudreau Global Justice Program, Professor Norgaard requested a meeting with our team. Over the course of the past few months, this first meeting has blossomed into the plan described in the upcoming October trip.

## October Trip to Uganda

In early October, Professor Norgaard and I will travel to Uganda for a week to gather data and lay the foundation for her to partner with the judiciary in conducting an extensive monitoring and evaluation study of our work in Uganda. Like us, the Ugandans are understandably excited about the addition of an economist to our team. A critical component of most grant proposals is a robust monitoring and evaluation plan. We are hopeful that Professor Norgaard's involvement will materially improve our chances of expanding our work through the receipt of grants from governmental and foundation sources.

This is particularly timely given the exciting new plan we are working with the Ugandan Judiciary to implement. This new plan will involve utilizing the hundreds of recent law graduates each year who are completing their training at what Uganda calls the Law Development Center (LDC). After graduating from law school, all Ugandans spend one year at LDC preparing for the bar examination. During their time at the LDC, they engage in clinical work to familiarize them with the practice of law. We are currently developing a program that will utilize this army of soon-to-be lawyers in delivering justice to those on remand.





## December Trip to Ghana

Over the years and around the world, we have partnered with the International Justice Mission – a Christian human rights non-governmental entity with field offices in about twenty developing countries. We work particularly closely with them in Uganda, including on this summer’s prison project where they contributed both American and Ugandan lawyers to the team in Gulu.

The former Gulu field office director is now stationed in Ghana and has urged us to travel there in December to assess whether we will expand our efforts into the criminal justice sector there. Incidentally, we have several other fairly highly placed contacts in Ghana who have also informed us the conditions in Ghana resemble those in Uganda. Accordingly, Danny DeWalt and I are traveling there to meet with top judicial and governmental figures to explore the possibilities of assisting that West African developing country in delivering timely justice to its citizens.

