

Savo Heleta

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Undergraduate

Saint John's University, Minnesota, United States (2002-2006)

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa (Spring 2005)

Degrees: History and Business Management

GPA: 3.46 out of 4.0

Honors: The Whalen Family Foundation four-year scholarship; Dean's List (Spring 2004, Spring 2005)

Masters

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa (2007-2009)

Degree: Magister Philosophiae in Conflict Transformation and Management (Cum Laude)

GPA: 79% (75% and above is distinction, equivalent to an A in the United States)

Honors: Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University postgraduate research scholarship (2008); Passed 8 out of 10 modules with distinction

DPhil

DPhil candidate in Development Studies at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Focusing on post-war reconstruction, development, peace-building and state-building in South Sudan, Somaliland and Bosnia. Expected completion by June 2012

Honors: Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University postgraduate research scholarship (2010, 2011)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Violent conflict; conflict analysis; conflict transformation and management; politics of foreign aid; post-war reconstruction, development, peace-building and state-building

EXPERIENCE

South Sudan Executive Leadership Programme, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

February 2009–Present

Programme Coordinator/Technical advisor – Coordinate the design, development and implementation of the programme aimed at training high ranking government officials from South Sudan. Act as a link between students, university and facilitators. Travel to South Sudan to work with the students. Provide academic support to students and advise university staff on South Sudan-related issues.

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

2011/2012

Lecturer/supervisor – Lecturing second year Political and Governmental Studies module *Introduction to Conflict Management and Negotiation Skills*; guest lecturer on first year Development Studies module *Development Issues in Contemporary Africa*. Supervising five Development Studies masters students working on their guided research reports and treatises.

TransConflict, Belgrade, Serbia

Since February 2011

Member of TransConflict Bosnia Advisory Board. TransConflict is an international

think tank working on transformation of violent conflicts in the Balkans.

Lectures, presentations and talks

Since 2008

Giving lectures, presentations and talks about violent conflict, conflict management, peace-building and post-war recovery to students in the United States from St. John's University, College of St. Benedict, California State University Chico and Appalachian University; Georgetown University, Qatar campus; Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa; lecture about police reform for police officials and policy-makers from South Sudan at the South African Institute for Security Studies; and lectures and talks to students and public organized by TransConflict and International Academic Center in Belgrade, Serbia and NGO Nesto Vise in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Journal Article

August 2009

Published a study in collaboration with Dr. Lyn Snodgrass titled *Teachers' experiences of conflict and violence in township schools: A case study of Walmer-Gqebera, South Africa* in Commonwealth Youth and Development journal, Volume 7, No. 2, 2009.

Book – "Not My Turn to Die: Memoirs of a Broken Childhood in Bosnia"

March 2008

Published a book based on the personal experience during the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the early 1990s. ISBN: 978-0-8144-0165-1. Publisher: AMACOM Books, New York, March 2008.

College of St. Benedict/St. John's University International Student Office, St Joseph, Minnesota

May 2003–May 2006

International Student Consultant – Guided international students in their integration process in the United States. Planned and organized cross cultural activities. Provided information on immigration and career issues. Dealt with confidential information. Worked with over 250 students from 40 countries.

The Whalen Family Foundation/NGO "Nesto Vise," Bosnia and Herzegovina

May 2000–June 2002

Trainer/Coordinator – Trained groups of young people from Bosnia and Herzegovina, participants in the PeaceTrails Youth Leadership Program designed to help youth to become leaders in their communities. Taught project development and proposal writing; supervised project implementation and financial reporting. Member of a team which managed a \$400,000 annual budget and interviewed over 250 people to select participants. Worked directly with 100 participants.

Volunteer for Non-Governmental Organizations, Bosnia and Herzegovina

1998–2002

Planned projects, wrote proposals, and personally raised \$30,000 from the UN Development Program, CARE and The Whalen Family Foundation. Implemented projects: youth camps, educational workshops and peace conferences for youth from Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia. Attended over 50 educational conferences and workshops on leadership, non-violence, peace-building, proposal writing, fundraising and project implementation.

LANGUAGES English and Serbian

INTERESTS Long-distance running, reading and writing