in the classroom and in the world

2016 – 17 ANNUAL REPORT
The Handa Center equips a new generation of leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect and promote human rights and dignity for all. Reflecting a deep commitment to international justice and the rule of law, the Center collaborates with partners across Stanford University and beyond on innovative programs that foster critical inquiry in the classroom and in the world.

The Center pursues its mission through a range of programs that inform and engage the next generation; promote accountability and the rule of law; educate human rights defenders; advocate for the mental health of survivors and prisoners; raise awareness about sexual and gender-based violence; combat human trafficking; and pursue justice through digital archives and new technologies that document crimes against humanity, genocide, and other gross human rights violations.
The Handa Center enhances Stanford's human rights and international justice academic offerings and student opportunities. Housed in Stanford Global Studies in the School of Humanities and Sciences, the Handa Center integrates faculty research into undergraduate curriculum, bridges study in the classroom with real world application through internships, provides community-engaged learning opportunities, and facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration across campus.

In the Fall of 2016, the Handa Center launched Stanford's first Minor in Human Rights, open to undergraduates in any major. With the launch of this new minor, the Center began offering several new courses under the tag "HUMRTS," including the gateway course to the minor, Cross-disciplinary Perspectives on Human Rights Theory and Practice.

The Handa Center is also engaged with several interdisciplinary, policy-oriented programs and research initiatives domestically and internationally, which focus on a wide range of issues including human trafficking, trauma mental health, justice and reconciliation in post-conflict societies, and atrocities prevention and response.

Through its programs at Stanford and beyond, the Center is committed to increasing awareness of and raising the level of discourse around new developments in the fields of human rights and international justice among a variety of stakeholders. Since moving to Stanford from UC Berkeley in 2014, with the generous support of Dr. Haruhisa Handa and his foundation, the Handa Center has been able to strengthen its established international programs while expanding the scope of opportunities for meaningful student engagement.

“There's an extraordinary amount of interest among undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty in thinking about different dimensions of human rights, whether it’s in the context of issues of legal accountability, the history of the human rights architecture, human rights in political thought, or the trauma created by human rights violations.”

JEREMY WEINSTEIN
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FISHER FAMILY DIRECTOR OF STANFORD GLOBAL STUDIES
The past academic year has seen important developments for the Handa Center, both on the Stanford campus and beyond. One of our most important goals at Stanford is to enable students from across the campus to pursue their interests in human rights and global justice while completing their degree in other disciplines. Our launch in September 2016 of the Human Rights Minor, created and administered by the Handa Center, marks an important step towards achieving that goal. Nineteen students have already declared the Minor in the first year, and we graduated our first three Minors in June.

Stanford students who come to the Handa Center seek opportunities to gain knowledge and experience that will help them address the most pressing societal and global issues of our time as advocates for human rights. By expanding our programs, we are seizing the opportunity to provide them with the skills to fulfill these aspirations. In light of the crucial importance of field experience for understanding the complex realities of human rights challenges, we are pleased to have been able to provide summer fellowships in 2016 for 10 students to go abroad and work as interns in the Netherlands, Cambodia, Tanzania, Greece, Ukraine, Italy, and various U.S. cities. We have also launched several new projects in Southeast Asia, including a multi-country project on human trafficking, an initiative to combat legally sanctioned religious persecution and discrimination in Indonesia, assistance to the National Human Rights Commissions of Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as a continuation of our ongoing judicial training initiatives with the Supreme Courts of those countries. In a world that is facing ever greater human rights, social justice, and development challenges, Stanford students aspire to become leaders for change. At the Handa Center, our aim is to help prepare them for that future role.

DAVID COHEN
HANDA CENTER DIRECTOR
MINOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS LAUNCHED

The Handa Center launched a new Minor in Human Rights at Stanford in the Fall of 2016, offering undergraduates from any major the opportunity to undertake an interdisciplinary course of study to improve their understanding of human rights theory and practice. The Minor connects students with invaluable mentorship from experienced human rights scholars and practitioners, while lending academic rigor to the scholastic experience of the undergraduates who choose this path. This is vital for Stanford students serious about pursuing human rights careers; to compete for meaningful work opportunities, young professionals need to come out of their undergraduate years already able to show a track record of commitment and sustained study in this field. For these students, a Human Rights Minor adds value to their Stanford degree and boosts their career prospects as young human rights advocates. The Minor consists of a required introductory course (HUMRTS 101: Cross-Disciplinary Perspective on Human Rights Theory and Practice), and 21 additional units of coursework that may be taken from departments across the university. The Minor culminates in a capstone project, which the student completes under faculty supervision. Student interest in the Minor has been high. During the first year, 19 undergraduates declared the minor, from a diverse array of majors including human biology, history, computer science, English, and product design.

“While most people at Stanford do gravitate towards subjects such as CS or other STEM fields, this minor will appeal to more than just your typical political science or international relations major because it is a purposely interdisciplinary minor. It lets a CS major come in who has a passion for changing the world and changing lives.”

JULIAN BAVA, ’18
HANNA CENTER HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOW
HANDA CENTER SENIOR WINS 2017 MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP FOR GRADUATE STUDY

Alina Utrata, the first Stanford student to declare a Minor in Human Rights, will pursue a Master’s degree in conflict transformation and social justice at Queen’s University Belfast in Northern Ireland as a Marshall Scholar. Her honor’s thesis, “Stories Courts Tell: The Problematic History of the Yugoslav Tribunal in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” builds on four years of study focused on situations of mass atrocity, laws of war, humanitarian intervention, and transitional justice. Alina has contributed to the Handa Center since its move to Stanford, serving on the Student Advisory Board, interning as a trial monitor in Cambodia during Summer 2016, and working as a Student Assistant during the 2016-2017 academic year.

“Alina was the first student to declare a Minor in Human Rights and has been an incredible resource to me. But more than that, the Center has become an academic home for me, a place where I can always visit for advice or to talk through some aspect of my academic endeavors. Its staff and affiliates are now some of my closest mentors at Stanford,” said Utrata.

“Although Alina’s academic interests have often mired her in the worst of human nature, she retains a genuine faith in humanity and an unwavering commitment to leave a positive impact on the world,” stated Handa Center Faculty Fellow Beth Van Schaack, who has worked with Alina throughout her time at Stanford.

Congratulations Alina! The Handa Center wishes you all the best in the future.

FROM CLASSROOMS TO CAREERS

The Handa Center relies on the enthusiastic members of its Student Advisory Board (SAB) to identify priorities and advocate for programs that are responsive to the needs of students studying human rights and international justice at Stanford. The SAB has expressed a keen interest in generating human rights-specific professional development opportunities. Accordingly, the Handa Center focuses resources on connecting students with overseas internships, mentors, networking opportunities, and field experience that can help bring a depth of knowledge and understanding beyond what the students develop through their regular course work. Internships are richer when students can pursue them as part of a broader, deliberately chosen portfolio of curricular offerings. As the institutional home of the human rights minor program, Handa Center faculty and staff commit time and energy to helping students thoughtfully chart a course of study, identify extracurricular opportunities that will complement and enrich classroom offerings, and secure funding for research or overseas experiential learning. Growing the network, particularly of Stanford alumni working in relevant fields, is a high priority for the Center and its students. This year, the SAB put out a call to recruit Stanford alumni willing to mentor and meet with Handa Center students about human rights and international justice career pathways.
Internship & Fellowship Opportunities

STUDENTS ENGAGE IN APPLIED RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

The Handa Center offers paid summer fellowship opportunities for students interested in human rights and international justice, in collaboration with campus partners such as the Stanford Global Studies Division and the Haas Center for Public Service. Placements ensure students have meaningful, applied research and work opportunities to inform their studies and future career pathways.

In Summer 2016, the Handa Center supported 10 students working in seven countries on projects ranging from labor rights research in the Bangladeshi textile industry, to art therapy with refugee children in Greece, to international criminal tribunal monitoring at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (see map, pages 8-9).

The Handa Center offers three types of summer placement opportunities:

- **Stanford Global Studies Internships in Phnom Penh, Cambodia**
  Interns conduct trial monitoring at the Khmer Rouge Tribunal or work at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, assisting in collecting and arranging the museum’s vast archival collections to raise awareness about the Khmer Rouge genocide.

- **Human Rights Fellowships**
  Fellowships are awarded to students who propose and carry out summer research or human rights work with an organization in the U.S. or abroad.

- **Children’s Rights Brazil Fellowships**
  Fellowships are awarded to students who secure placements working on promotion, monitoring, evaluation, or implementation of children’s rights projects in Brazil.

“I came in wanting to do my part and offer as much help as I could. I didn’t realize how much I myself would be helped. I learned concrete lessons like the bureaucracy of running a refugee camp and enhanced Arabic skills. However, I also learned more intrinsic values such as what it means to truly feel compassion, and the extent to which we are able, as human beings, to give unrestrictedly.”

**IBRAHIM BHARMAL, ’18**
HANDA CENTER HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOW
STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE IN CAMBODIA

With support from Stanford Global Studies, Handa Center fellows Alina Utrata, ‘17, Olina Chau, ‘19, and Quito Tsui, ‘18, spent a summer in Cambodia monitoring trials at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). The ECCC was established to try senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge for crimes committed between 1975 and 1979.

While Stanford undergraduates have a theoretical understanding of international justice gleaned from coursework, they have an opportunity to learn how those theories can be applied while working in Cambodia. “One of the really special things about Stanford students is that they are not satisfied with just learning in the classroom. They want to apply that knowledge to real world problems. We’ve found that this is absolutely transformative both for students’ learning experiences, but also in enabling them to think about how to pursue their career goals going forward,” says Jeremy Weinstein, the Fisher Family Director of the Stanford Global Studies Division.

Interning in Cambodia was Olina Chau’s first time traveling abroad. As the daughter of Cambodian refugees who fled the violence of the Khmer Rouge regime, she was originally drawn to participate in order to learn more about her own family’s history and culture. “When I came here, I had this idea that the trial is more about seeking some sort of revenge,” Chau acknowledges. “Since working here…I’ve realized that the trials are more important for closure and for peacefulness — for being able to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again. That’s what I’m hoping to achieve here, and that’s what I’ve learned the most from.”

Handa Center Program Manager Jessie Brunner captures how summer fellowships bridge learning in the classroom and in the world: “I think living and working abroad helps you develop an understanding of your own humanity. It helps you appreciate what you have. It helps you think about how to operate with more humanity. I think these are skills you really just can’t get solely from the classroom.”

Article adapted from Stanford News Service April 17, 2017. Cambodia photos on cover and throughout courtesy of Kurt Hickman, Stanford News Service.
Handa Center Human Rights Fellows & Interns

“For me the summer was impactful because I got to see how a small nonprofit functions, and be a part of working on an issue that I care deeply about, but had previously only been able to approach through a passive role.”

KAYLANA MUELLER-HSIA, ’19
International Labor Rights Forum
Northampton, MA, USA

“My summer experience in Tanzania was nothing short of stupendous and, I am increasingly realizing, will be central in shaping my path ahead. Learning about the challenges and triumphs in international justice, as well as the continuing difficulties and inherent contradictions, gave me a much deeper understanding of not just the contemporary international criminal justice system, but also the relations and dynamics between nation-states and international organizations.”

ZHI PING TEO, ’17
United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals
Arusha, Tanzania

JOHN RAFAEL, ’17
Filipino Women’s Council
Rome, Italy

CHRISTINA SCHICIANO, ’17
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC, USA
QUITO TSUI, ’18
Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

JULIAN BAVA, ’18
Special Tribunal for Lebanon
The Hague, Netherlands

IBRAHIM BHARMAL, ’18
A Drop in the Ocean
Lesvos, Greece

“Living in Cambodia, I got to see first-hand whether Cambodians thought the court was a good mechanism for addressing the legacy of genocide. This experience will provide a foundation for my future work in international law.”
ALINA UTRATA, ’17
Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

“I found the internship to be tremendously valuable in that it made me want to explore other parts of [international] law.”
ISAAC WEBB, MA CREEES, ’16
Global Rights Compliance
Kiev, Ukraine

OLINA CHAU, ’19
Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
**INTERNATIONAL TRIAL MONITORING**

Promotes fair trials, accountability, human rights education, and rule of law by monitoring and reporting objectively on tribunal proceedings around the world, including in Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, and the Netherlands.

**JUSTICE SECTOR CAPACITY BUILDING**

Supports justice sector reform and transitional justice in post-conflict societies with a focus on international and domestic courts in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Sierra Leone, Bangladesh, Rwanda, Cambodia, and the Philippines. The Center’s ASEAN Judiciaries Initiative convenes judicial actors from across ASEAN Member States to examine regional integration.

**HANDA CENTER DIRECTOR AND OTHER EXPERTS LEAD COURSES ON INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW FOR THE PHILIPPINE JUDICIARY**

At the request and under the auspices of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, with the support of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Maria Lourdes Sereno, the Handa Center has provided trainings on international criminal law for the Philippine judiciary. The workshops included participants from all branches of the judiciary, as well as lawyers, and legal officers in various government ministries and other bodies. The workshops addressed salient topics including crimes against humanity, genocide, modes of liability, evidentiary and procedural issues, and maritime security.

The courses have been led by distinguished faculty and criminal law experts, including Judge Fausto Pocar of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and former President of that Tribunal; Dato Shyamala Alagendra, international defense counsel at the International Criminal Court (ICC) and former prosecutor at the UN tribunals in Timor-Leste, Sierra Leone, and the ICC; Karim Khan QC, international defense counsel at the ICC and also a former international prosecutor; Antonio Carpio, Senior Associate Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court; and Professor Diane Desierto, currently a Handa Center and CASBS Fellow at Stanford University.

![Panelists](image1.png)

David Cohen, Judge Fausto Pocar, Karim Khan QC, and Dato Shyamala Alagendra (L-R) sit on a panel convened for an international law training for the Supreme Court of the Philippines at the Philippine Judicial Academy.
USING INTERACTIVE INSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES TO TEACH HUMAN RIGHTS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN CAMBODIAN UNIVERSITY CLASSROOMS

In 2016, the Handa Center continued a successful collaboration with the East-West Center and several Cambodian university partners to run intensive workshop series introducing interactive teaching methodologies to Cambodian law schools through criminal justice and human rights law courses. Trainees focused on fair trial rights, specifically the rights of the accused, under both the Cambodian Code of Criminal Procedure and international human rights law. Building on a program that trained instructors responsible for English-language curriculum, this year the training expanded to apply the methodology to courses taught in Khmer-language. After the initial trainings, participants continue to receive implementation guidance through monthly “community of practice” meetings arranged by the Handa Center.

EDUCATING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

The Handa Center conducts legal trainings to strengthen human rights and criminal justice education and practice by introducing innovative teaching and learning methodologies applied through a fair trial rights curriculum and human rights law courses.

SUMMER INSTITUTE IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Held in partnership with the Human Rights Resource Centre for ASEAN, the annual Summer Institute, now in its tenth year, provides an opportunity for academics and practitioners in Southeast Asia to discuss timely and critical human rights topics. The specific agenda each year is developed in close participation with Association of Southeast Asian Nations’ human rights bodies: the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, and the ASEAN Committee on Migrant Workers. Past focus areas have included human trafficking, vulnerable populations, business and human rights, and internal conflict. The 2016 agenda focused on the human rights implications of ASEAN integration.
EXPERT CONSULTATION WORK WITH INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS
Contributes to criminal accountability mechanisms in post-conflict settings by documenting and describing the traumatic psychiatric impact of human rights violations including genocide, mass killings, rape, and torture. The Lab produces reports and provides expert testimony to international criminal trials.

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT PROJECT
Aims to inform correctional policies and practices in the United States by investigating the mental health impacts of prolonged and indefinite isolation of prisoners in California. The Lab is working with the Center for Constitutional Rights to make evidence-based recommendations for improving prisoners’ transition out of solitary housing as part of the 2015 class action settlement Ashker v. the Governor of California.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT
Affords safe relocation for refugees and other vulnerable survivors of human rights violations. The Lab provides forensic evaluations and expert opinions to immigration courts, which have resulted in the safe relocation of refugees from the Middle East.

ADVOCATING FOR SURVIVOR’S HUMAN RIGHTS AND MENTAL HEALTH
The Human Rights in Trauma Mental Health Laboratory (“the Lab”) is an innovative collaboration between the Handa Center, Stanford Law School, and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford Medical School. The Lab engages faculty, staff, and students from different disciplines in cutting-edge applied research and policy advocacy. Lab affiliates work together to synthesize findings from scientific literature relevant to understanding the full impact of mass trauma on human psychology. The goal is to generate reports and testimony that enable post-conflict justice mechanisms to better understand the range of harm experienced by survivors, and provide evidence-based remedies for human rights violations.

In 2016, Lab faculty gave testimony to the International Criminal Court in Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo regarding crimes committed in the Central African Republic. This was the first ICC case to focus exclusively on crimes of sexual and gender-based violence. The Lab produced an expert report and proffered in-court testimony during the sentencing phase, where Defendant Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo was sentenced to 18 years in prison. Expanding the successful applied research work of the Lab is a programmatic priority of the Handa Center in the coming year.

Dr. Daryn Reicherter testifying before the International Criminal Court in the Bemba case.

The Lab undertook extensive analysis of the effects of trauma on survivors of the Khmer Rouge era. Published findings were accepted as evidence before the ECCC and taken into consideration for sentencing and reparations.
SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE UNDER THE KHMER ROUGE

After decades of silence, growing numbers of Khmer Rouge survivors in Cambodia are now challenging the stigma around sexual violence by speaking out about their experiences of forced marriage, rape, and sexual abuse suffered under the regime. The Handa Center worked with Khmer Mekong Films (KMF) this year on several film projects intended to help foster productive dialogue on this difficult topic, using courtroom testimony from the ECCC as a catalyst for discussion. “Breaking the Silence” combined interviews with experts and survivors with courtroom footage from Case 002/01 and Case 002/02 at the ECCC to explore the multiple dimensions of sexual and gender-based violence, including forced marriage, committed against both men and women during the Khmer Rouge regime. The 50-minute English-language film was commissioned as part of the British Government’s Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, and was produced in collaboration with KMF. Another project, “Time to Speak Out,” was a six-part Khmer-language documentary aired on popular Cambodian television stations CTN and MyTV. In addition to television airtimes, the films were screened in community forums, as well as on the Stanford campus, and are freely available online.

WEEK IN RESIDENCE WITH FORMER UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS NAVI PILLAY

The Handa Center hosted former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay for a week in residence this year, in order to engage students and faculty in high-level discourse and analysis of important legal issues. The week included a panel discussion on SGBV in conflict, where Pillay and several other distinguished human rights practitioners considered the legacy of the ad-hoc criminal tribunals and the new socio-cultural, political, and legal issues facing advocates and policymakers working on SGBV.

FOSTERING COMMUNITY DIALOGUE THROUGH ORIGINAL TV AND FILM SERIES

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) was a major focus of the Handa Center’s two collaborative film projects in Cambodia last year with longtime project partner, Khmer Mekong Films (KMF). Handa Center has worked with KMF for nearly a decade on short films and television series that synthesize and report on key aspects of the trial proceedings at the ECCC. Weekly episodes about Case 001 and 002 have been very popular, and formed the basis for several successful community outreach programs the Handa Center carried out with local NGO partners. The largest of these was the USAID-funded “Voices for Reconciliation,” a joint project with the East-West Center and Cambodian civil society groups that encouraged dialogue about the ECCC using episodes of the show as a catalyst for conversation. It was from this project that the idea for an SGBV-focused series arose, as the value of more targeted discussion focused on this topic became apparent during “Voices” forum discussions.

A community screening of “Time to Speak Out” in Cambodia.

Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay and panelists discuss sexual and gender-based violence in conflict.

The “Time to Speak Out” television series produced by KMF in collaboration with the Handa Center aired on Cambodian television and is available to watch on our website.

PROGRAMS: ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE
Human Trafficking

FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY FORUM
Co-hosted annually at Stanford in partnership with Free the Slaves, this convening brings together key leaders of anti-trafficking organizations from around the world to share best practices and lessons learned, and increase their collective impact.

POLICY ADVOCACY
The Center plays an active role in public policy forums engaging with human trafficking challenges at local, national, and global levels. Center representatives participate in the San Francisco Mayor’s Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking and Alliance 8.7 in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and offer expert consultations to inform national legislation and international standards.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS
The Center’s latest research project aims to understand current practices around human trafficking data collection, management, and analysis by government and civil society practitioners in Southeast Asia with the goal of supporting enhanced inter- and intrastate collaboration. The lack of robust, standardized data on human trafficking impedes the anti-trafficking community’s ability to understand the scale and scope of the problem, to accurately assess the impact of intervention programs and criminal justice responses, and to design and implement effective solutions. The Center is keen to engage experts on database design, data security, and data analytics on this project.

REDDUCING CHILD TRAFFICKING IN BRAZIL
Handa Center Research Fellow Natasha Dolby has undertaken research on gross violations of children’s human rights in Brazil, with a focus on domestic sex trafficking. Her forthcoming report, “Dance as a Tool for Healing Domestic Sex Trafficking in Brazil,” reveals and responds to the lack of research on domestic sex trafficking of children and reveals gaps on re-integration assistance for child victims throughout Brazil. By focusing on the services children need to thrive in a post-trafficking life and the role of local agencies and actors, Dolby aims to address the vulnerabilities that make children susceptible to trafficking. A set of actionable recommendations are provided. Ultimately, aligning national legislation with the United Nations Palermo Protocol is cited as essential to address trafficking consistently and comprehensively in Brazil, while following international best practices on service provision for survivors.

“Inaccurate Numbers, Inadequate Policies: Enhancing Data to Evaluate the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in ASEAN,” provided analysis and recommendations to support regional anti-trafficking efforts. A follow-on study, designed to promote best practices on data collection and government collaboration to combat human trafficking in Southeast Asia, is underway.

The 2016 Freedom From Slavery Forum, co-hosted by the Handa Center, brought together anti-slavery leaders from around the world to discuss promising practices and develop a shared agenda for action.

Young girls, some of whom are survivors of human trafficking, participate in Dance Movement Therapy with Meninas Danças in Northern Brazil. Photo Credit: Natasha Dolby
PUBLIC INFORMATION RESOURCES TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND DEMOCRACY

Ensuring public access to the records of post-conflict justice proceedings that deal with mass atrocity is vital for accountability, but also for learning from the past and developing policy-oriented research for future international justice undertakings. Since its inception, the Handa Center has worked with many institutions around the world to enhance access to records and documents, and to develop innovative ways of making this material easily available not only to researchers, but also to the populations of the countries where conflict and atrocities have occurred. The Center currently collaborates closely with the Stanford University Libraries on a portfolio of digital archival projects designed make discovery of materials within the collections far easier and more efficient for both lay audiences and expert scholarly researchers. The hope is that these historic collections could have a much wider impact on non-traditional users of library archives, including populations directly affected by conflict or living in relevant diaspora communities. This project takes seriously the question of how temporary institutions might leave behind a legacy that will be of lasting value for scholars, experts, and international students, as well as for the people of the post-conflict societies in whose name these tribunals have been pursuing justice.

VIRTUAL TRIBUNALS INITIATIVE

The objective of this initiative is to create a global resource at Stanford built around a comprehensive digital collection of the records of human rights and war crimes trials from WWII to today. The database may also encompass selected records from truth commissions and formal human rights investigations, especially collections from countries that lack the capacity to preserve and make records accessible, or from countries where they are at risk. The overarching aim is to preserve a meaningful historical record of global efforts to end impunity through the law, and to make the documentation of these efforts easily accessible in an integrated and comprehensive repository, using the most advanced digital technologies.

ASEAN DIGITAL LIBRARIES INITIATIVE

In partnership with the Stanford University Libraries and the University of the Philippines, this initiative seeks to build a unique digital collection of government, civil society, and academic documents that deal with the full range of major issues affecting ASEAN as a region. This includes governance, law and politics, science and technology, climate change, environmental issues, public health, and human rights. This collection will be a resource for global, regional, and national users in government, civil society, and academia, as well as an important educational tool.

Handa Center students have the opportunity to study archival materials from international criminal tribunals and truth commissions as part of their human rights and international justice coursework and summer fellowship placements. In 2016, Quito Tsui, ’18, worked in the archives of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia with a human rights fellowship from the Handa Center.
Community Engagement

The Handa Center enhances community engaged learning opportunities on campus in collaboration with the Haas Center for Public Service and the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education. We also engage the broader community through events, bringing leading human rights policymakers, researchers, advocates, and practitioners to Stanford to provide a critical avenue for dialogue, networking, and bridging study in the classroom with real world application.

“'The Rise of ASEAN and the Future of the US-ASEAN Strategic Partnership' panel discussion featured (L-R) Diane Desierto, Handa Research Fellow; Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, former Secretary General of ASEAN; Justice Antonio Carpio of the Supreme Court of the Philippines; and Gerardo Ablaza, Jr., President and CEO, Manila Water Company and Senior Managing Director of Ayala Corporation.

Human rights lawyer Reed Brody offers the Handa Center Annual Public Lecture on Human Rights, "The Prosecution of Hissène Habré: A Victim-Centered Approach to International Justice."

Sareta Ashraph, Global Practitioner in Residence at the Stanford Law School, and Beth Van Schaack, Handa Center Faculty Fellow, discuss the Syrian conflict.

Reed Brody captivates the audience at the Handa Center Annual Public Lecture on Human Rights.
Professor Harold Koh delivers the Handa Center Annual Public Lecture on International Justice, entitled, “The Trump Administration and International Law.”

Chiseche Mibenge, Director of Community Engaged Learning in Human Rights, discusses her career pathway with Handa Center students.
FUNDING PRIORITIES

Our programs are steadily growing and student interest is rapidly increasing. Donations to the Handa Center enable us to collaborate with partners across Stanford University and beyond on innovative programs that foster critical inquiry in the classroom and in the world. The Center leverages partner resources whenever possible in order to maximize the impact of gifts, and strives to complement, not duplicate, the efforts of others working on complementary programming or initiatives.

To build on our success at Stanford in the past two years, current Handa Center funding priorities include:

OPERATIONS
Core funding to support the staffing necessary to serve our students and the community.

TEACHING
Dedicated teaching funds to support innovative new course development and periodic special appointment of distinguished visitors to teach.

FELLOWSHIPS
Student fellowship funding to meet growing demand for summer placements and professional pathway exploration opportunities.

EVENTS
Dedicated events funding to support lecture series and colloquia that bring eminent scholars and practitioners to Stanford.

PROGRAMS
Targeted gifts to fund discrete initiatives, such as our Human Rights in Trauma Mental Health Lab or the Virtual Tribunals Initiative.
GIFTS & SUPPORT

The Handa Center is grateful to our generous benefactors, whose financial support makes our work on and off campus possible. Financial support enables the Center to engage globally and incorporate students in all aspects of our work. This is how we fulfill our mission to build a new generation of leaders in this field, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect and promote human rights, justice, and dignity for all.

YOUR GIFT MATTERS

For more information about how you can support the Handa Center’s initiatives at Stanford, please contact Scott Sugiura, Associate Director of Development at ssugiura@stanford.edu or (650) 723-1208.

PROFESSORSHIP ENDOWMENT

One of the many factors that contribute to a university’s excellence is outstanding faculty. The best professors push their fields in new directions and teach their students to do the same.

Recognizing the Handa Center’s significance at Stanford, Dr. Haruhisa Handa gifted an endowed professorship to Stanford University through Worldwide Support for Development (WSD) to create the WSD-HANDA Professorship in Human Rights and International Justice.

The inaugural recipient of this endowed professorship is Handa Center Director David Cohen. Cohen is a leading expert in the fields of human rights, international law, and transitional justice. He has led justice sector reform initiatives and tribunal monitoring programs in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Sierra Leone, Bangladesh, Rwanda, Cambodia, and the ASEAN region.

The professorship endowment is critical to ensuring academic and intellectual independence. This gift creates a legacy that enables the Handa Center to prepare students to meet the challenges of the 21st century, and will benefit generations of students at Stanford University as they go on to advance human rights and international justice around the world.