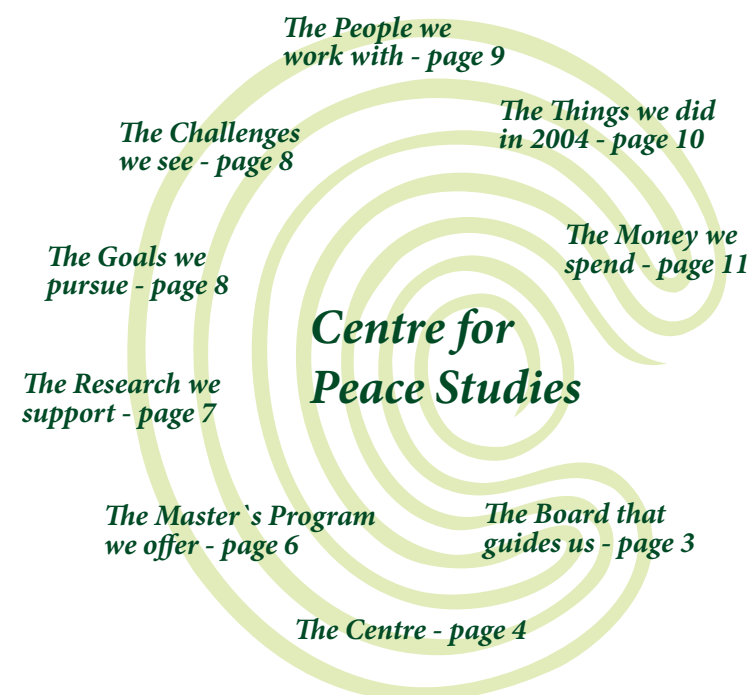


Welcome

by Ole D. Mjøs, Chair of the CPS board

The establishment of the Centre for Peace Studies was a milestone – not only for the University of Tromsø, but also for Norway as a whole. Its establishment made it now possible to study peace, conflict resolution and conflict transformation at the master's level. It was no coincidence that this happened at the northernmost university of the world, and, at that time, the youngest university in Norway. We were an institution that was primed to think innovatively and we saw the importance of a peace and conflict resolution studies in higher education. The huge response by students confirmed what we believed when we established the Master of Peace and Conflict Transformation programme – a dire need for a home in the Centre for Peace Studies in Tromsø.

The Centre has used its unique position to arrange conferences, seminars and workshops focusing on peace related issues such as Identity and Security, Peace Education and the Philosophy of Peace. While the emphasis on peace and conflict transformation related research has been and will be the main focus of our work at the Centre for Peace Studies, scholarships have also been made available for post-graduate students to prepare their applications for a doctoral projects. In this respect, the CPS will also, in the years to come, help put peace, conflict resolution and conflict transformation on the research agenda at the University of Tromsø, in Norway and internationally.



“The establishment of a Center for Peace Studies itself has contributed a lot to recognise Peace studies as an indispensable study area for the present day world with ever increasing tension. By devoting a considerable number of seats in MPCT for international students, the CPS has made a practical environment for peace studies. I am personally grateful to CPS for lending hand to a country in a conflict by choosing me from Sri Lanka.”

HASANTHA SHAMMIKA DEHIWALA LIYANA, STUDENT

The Board that guides us

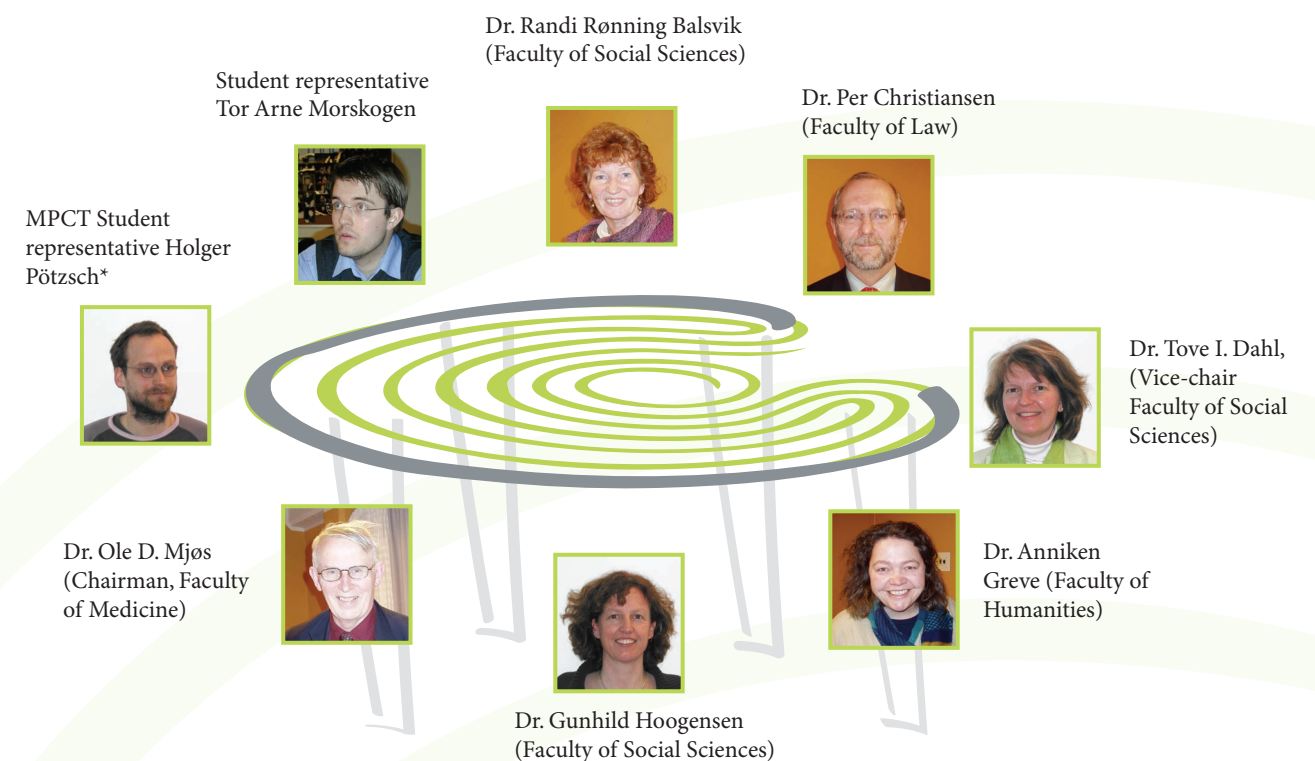
When the Centre for Peace Studies was established it was placed under the Faculty of Social Sciences, making the faculty of social sciences the owner of the project. Still, the composition of the Board shall reflect the inter-disciplinary approach of the MPCT programme and CPS research. The board members therefore represent the entire university community, with representatives from the faculties of law, medicine, the social sciences and the humanities.

Since this is an interdisciplinary board the CPS board, also function as the study committee and the programme board for the MPCT programme.

The CPS board guides the entire enterprise on its mission to uphold the guiding principles of the CPS policy statement. As such, it finalizes decisions about the strategy and finances and oversees the quality of the work in the primary areas of instruction and research, as well as in the area of outreach. In particular, the Board has the mandate to:

- ⇒ Establish a national centre for co-ordination within the field of peace and conflict studies;
- ⇒ Establish research projects to develop new knowledge within this field;
- ⇒ Work to secure further financing of CPS, including external financing;
- ⇒ Approve the CPS' annual budget and annual accounts

Members of the board 2004:



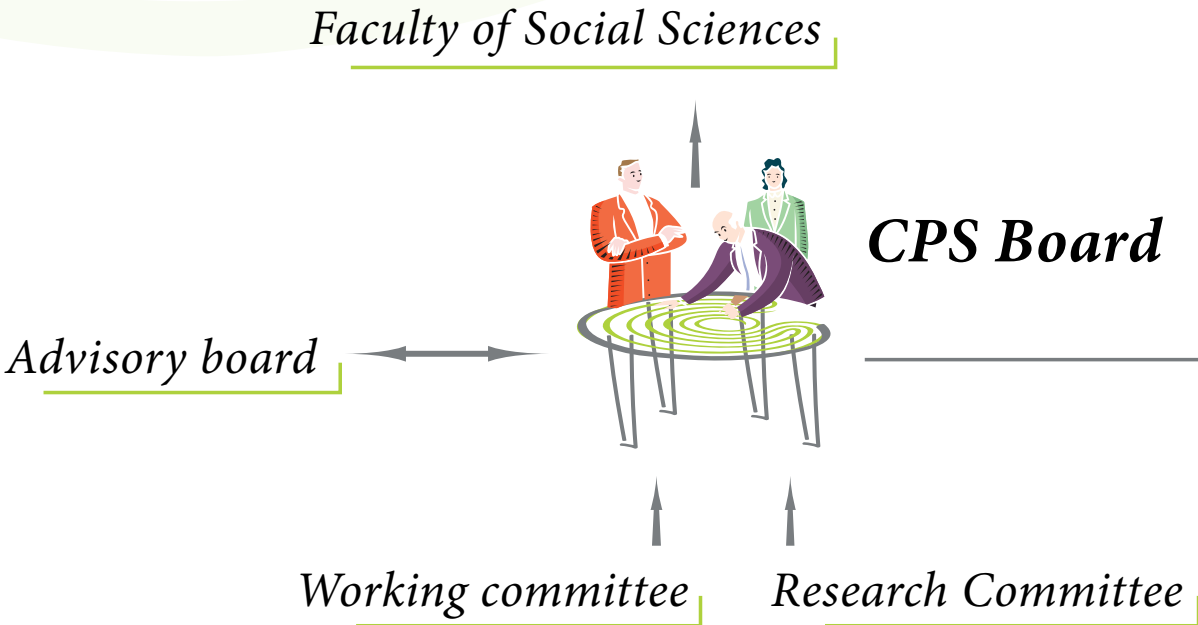
* Holger Pötzsch replaced Ole Henning Sommerfeldt in the autumn of 2004

Centre for Peace Studies

Centre for Peace Studies is a research and coordination project in Peace Studies at the University of Tromsø, Norway. The project is funded for the period 2002-2006. Inspired by the conference Higher Education for Peace on 4-6 May 2000, dreams, ambitions and hopes for such a project saw results when in November 2001 The Norwegian Parliament awarded two million Norwegian kroner to establish a national and international Centre for Peace Studies. The two main aims of the project are:

- 1. To establish new competence within the field of peace and conflict studies, and within such areas as democracy-building and ethnicity. The Centre is to have a coordinating role in the field, both nationally and internationally.
- 2. To run a full (two-year) Masters degree programme in peace and conflict studies at the University of Tromsø. For the time being, the Centre is organized as a five-year project (2002-2006) under the auspices of the Faculty of Social Science. It is relatively autonomous and has discretion to pursue strategies and activities of its own choosing.

Organisation Chart



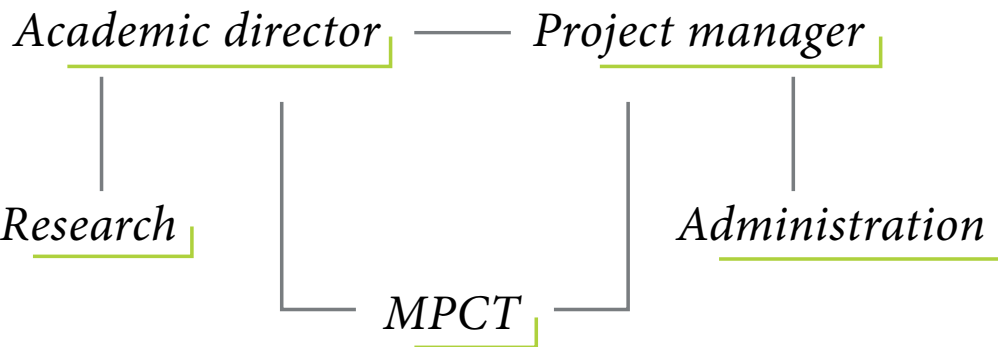
Staff 2004/2005

In 2004 our organisation had a staff of three full-time employees, one half time employee, supplemented by part-time faculty who teach and supervise, and ad-hoc staff hired for specific purposes such as managing conferences, publishing, networking, public relations, etc.

- ⇒ Academic Director, Charles Webel, (started in February 2005) 
- ⇒ Project Manager: Jochen Peters 
- ⇒ Senior Executive Officer: Hildegunn Bruland, 50% 
- ⇒ Acting Academic Director: Stuart Robinson (in 2005 working as the academic coordinator for the MPCT programme until June 2005) 
- ⇒ Associate professor in education Vidar Vambheim (in 2005 back at his job in the department of education, but still doing some teaching and other work for the Centre) 
- ⇒ December 1st 2004, Julia Holte Sempler was hired as an Executive Officer, half time, for a period of six months. 
- ⇒ January 1st 2005, Line Sandanger Nilsen, started as a trainee, full time, for a period of three months. In April 2005 she will continue at the centre as a Conference Coordinator for the Peace Conference 2005. 
- ⇒ Jørgen Johansen, project associate until 30. June 2004 (his contract was not renewed beyond this date) 



Staff



The Master's Program we offer

The most established area of CPS' responsibility is the Master's Degree Program in Peace and Conflict Transformation (MPCT). The program has an international recruitment of students, with a mixture of students from Nordic and non-Nordic countries. All literature, teaching and student work is in English. Admission is limited.

The MPCT has a duration of two years. During the program the student shall acquire the ability to analyse, and improve their capacity to handle and propose solutions to complicated conflict formations at different levels of society. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach covering a variety of mandatory courses, which students can combine with elective courses and specializations in a various fields, such as Peace and Identity, Peace and Globalisation, Peace and Health, Peace and Gender, Peace and the UN, Peace Education and Non-violence, Human Rights, in addition to courses in research methods. During the first year, teaching is intensive, with an emphasis on course work, group work, papers and oral presentations, as well as discussions.

The overall theme of this Master's Degree Program is the problem of violence and violence reduction. The program at Tromsø has been designed to provide the student with knowledge and training in reflection on causes and consequences of violence, of problems, circumstances and relations that may increase the possibility of violence, and exploring possibilities of violence reduction under varying circumstances. Although this gives an explicit value-direction to the course of study, the scientific requirements of explicitness about assumptions and methodology, inter-subjective verification of finds and validity of conclusions are the same as in other human and social sciences.

Students:

The MPCT-programme attracts students from all over the world. Every class consists of 20-24 students, half of them non-Nordic/international students. The program was launched in 2002 and in June 2004, the first students completed the MPCT-program. In 2005 the fourth group of students, starting their Master's Degree studies in August, will be given admission.

The MPCT has seats open for international students under the Quota scholarship programme. So far, 19 quota-students have been admitted to the MPCT. They represent a long list of countries: Armenia (1), Bangladesh (1), Bulgaria (1), Cameroon (1), Costa Rica (1), Ethiopia (1), Macedonia (1), Kenya (2), Romania (3), Russia (1), Serbia & Montenegro (1), Sierra Leone (1), Ukraine (3), Zambia (1)

The CPS decided to establish it's own scholarship programme with the same conditions as the Quota scholarship programme. 4 students have been admitted with a CPS-scholarship. They will complete their studies in June 2005. They come from Argentina, Guinea, Israel and Sri Lanka.

Student's projects

Our students have the World as their field of interest for their individual research projects. Most of the projects are empirically based and connected to field research in a variety of countries, such as the home countries of the international students. In addition, our students have carried out research on peace and conflict related topics in Cuba, Liberia, Japan, Georgia, Kosovo, Angola, Paraguay, India, Olderdalen, to name some. Through the work with their projects, the students have established global relations and networks, which are of crucial importance for the Master's program and the CPS.

Teaching and supervision:

Scholars from many different disciplines take great part when it comes to teaching and supervision. Such a variety amongst the teachers covers the interdisciplinary approach of the program. These teachers represent the departments of history, law, psychology, political science, comparative literature, social anthropology, sociology, education, economics and religious studies. The program also uses researchers from outside the University to give guest lectures and workshops.

Supervision is an important part of our Master's Degree Program, and all students are appointed a supervisor in the course of the first year of study. Supervision is to be given both through seminars and individual supervision.

"I am very impressed with how the centre operates; it's very well run. And best of all, there are many excellent students enrolled. I very much enjoyed the interactions following my talk. My one suggestion is that you invite more speakers who are knowledgeable about approaches to peace in the humanities."

MICHAEL SHAPIRO, GUEST LECTURER

The Research we support

The research work at the Center for Peace Studies is together with the Master Program in Peace and Conflict Transformation the core activity of the Centre. Research took a back seat to MPCT as it was being established, so this is the area that is currently experiencing the greatest growth. Research activity has nevertheless been on the board's agenda and has been fostered in several ways. Until 2005, CPS had provisional directors (Vidar Vambheim, through Spring 2004, and Stuart Robinson, Fall 2004) Still, with the hiring of a full time Centre director in the fall of 2004, Dr. Charles Webel, one of the primary goals of the Centre will be to shore up and clarify even more a coherent research strategy.

Research projects are initiated by the CPS, coordinated or carried out in close cooperation with other national and international institutions. Projects to mention here are on Adolescence Identity ; on Counter Culture ; on Human security in the Arctic; on Building interdisciplinary theory and research on social change and peace by Tromsø University Realist Research Group (TURRG) and Network (TURRN); and Truth, Reconciliation and justice - Truth commissions and international human rights tribunals .

Additionally, our staff is currently engaged in - and has been active in - research for many years. Some of this research will be forthcoming on our site. Our teaching staff are also engaged in research of their own, some of which is very relevant to peace studies.

"It may be that the CPS could place more weight on its comparative advantages. I think these are, among others, the cross-disciplinary and cross-faculty approach; the emphasis in the CPS' Policy Statement on conflict transformation based on low levels of violence and successful conflict handling; and a high degree of adaptability that should characterise a small organisation. In particular, a shared focus in education and research could be further developed."

PER CHRISTIANSEN, TEACHER AND BOARD MEMBER

In 2004, important decisions that the board supported included:

- ⇒ The hiring of a full-time CPS Director
- ⇒ The establishment of a CPS Research Fund. CPS invites proposals to fund projects that seek to advance our understanding of (1) the achievement and maintenance of positive, sustainable peace, and (2) non-violent forms of conflict management and resolution. With the CPS Research Fund, CPS seeks to engage new affiliates in its mission and to promote higher education in peace studies research. All projects must be connected to a member of the faculty or staff at the University of Tromsø and the CPS research committee will review applications 3 times annually.
- ⇒ The establishment of a transitional scholarship for qualified students to write a proposal for doctoral work with which to seek funding.
- ⇒ A two-day research seminar at Lauklines for all the teachers and board members
- ⇒ The appointment of three Guest professors at the CPS, combining teaching at the MPCT-program with research carried out at and under the auspices of the CPS.

"I think the multi-displinary of the MPCT and international student environment together make the MPCT programme very enriching, both academically and personally. I also appreciate that we are a relatively small group, which I think contributes to closer social and personal relations between students as well as between staff and students."

MARIT HOLMQUIST FENNE, STUDENT

The Goals we pursue

CPS has as its aim to develop new competence within peace and conflict-studies. The aim of CPS is further explained in the CPS Policy Statement, which shall be a guide for all activities of CPS:

Our policy-statement describes the focus of our work, and positions us in the diverse and complex field of peace research and peace studies: Our policy is to examine ways of creating peace by peaceful means and to make non-violent handling of conflicts more known and recognized. We believe that valuable knowledge may be found in areas of low levels of violence, and that more useful lessons may be learnt from successful efforts to deal with conflict than from failures.

Therefore, the main task for the Centre for Peace Studies (CPS) at the University of Tromsø is to contribute to examining ways of creating peace by peaceful means and to make nonviolent handling of conflicts more known and recognized. We believe that valuable knowledge may be found in areas of low levels of violence and that more useful lessons may be learnt from successful conflict handling than from areas of atrocities and from failures.

Peace studies are concerned with inter-state relations, but also with a wide range of other social conflict lines, such as those related to gender, generation, culture, class, race, ethnicity and nation, as well as the conflict between

human society and nature. Although our studies are global, our position in the peaceful Far North, a vast and sparsely populated area in a tough natural climate, with a history of complex ethnic and cultural relations including the problems of hierarchy, recognition and cultural oppression, gives us a chance to learn from a wide range of nonviolent conflict handling. The wider region of the North of Europe also gives us a unique context in which to study conflict handling. Another aim is to compare our experience with experiences from other areas.

Peace studies consist of theoretical-empirical, critical and constructive work. As an applied science, peace studies should pay attention to the constructive part of the work.

From numerous and diverse cases, ranging from everyday quarrels to large-scale massive unarmed revolutions in the last two decades, there are experiences to be learned which may have been underestimated, lost or unjustly treated as insignificant by researchers. Even in the midst of violent conflicts, there are often actors using active nonviolence. CPS will study nonviolent conflict handling empirically and comparatively and will apply a multi-disciplinary pluralistic approach. We will discuss the theoretical implications and communicate the results to a wide audience.

The Challenges we see

CPS is a centre established to examine ways to make peace with peaceful means, learn from successful and less successful conflict handling, and to proliferate relevant knowledge gained in the research process. This is a research task as well as an educational task with many challenges. We will maintain our MA program, as well as continue to develop the CPS and UiTø into a national resource and documentation centre in the field of peace studies. In the year to come, CPS will develop a strategy and take concrete steps to move our activities more clearly towards these aims.

Some of the main challenges for the CPS in the two next years are to:

- ⇒ Arrange the Peace Conference 2005 called: New Directions in Peace and Conflict Research: Non-violent Strategies for Confronting Global Terrorism and for Promoting Social Change. This conference will aim to explore the possibilities of non-violence

in the context of two key contemporary themes of global conflict: terrorism and its variety of responses, and social resistance and political activism.

- ⇒ Increase the visibility of CPS
- ⇒ Publicize relevant research sponsored by CPS
- ⇒ Make the master thesis completed by the MPCT-students available online
- ⇒ Develop research projects and a PhD programme
- ⇒ Create a community of CPS-affiliated researchers on the University of Tromsø campus
- ⇒ Maintain the production of competent MA graduates through our MA program.
- ⇒ Develop a coherent, community-building research strategy
- ⇒ Work towards securing financial support for more potential students
- ⇒ Sustain and expand financial support to CPS
- ⇒ Prepare for our 2006 evaluation

The People we work with

The CPS is in touch with an extensive, worldwide network of institutions and organisations doing peace studies and peace work, both in the academic and practical field. In 2004 we have engaged guest lecturers, researchers, supervisors and external examiners from – among others:

Institution	Department	Country
European Peace University		Austria
University of Ngaoundere	Department of History	Cameroon
McMaster University	Centre for Peace Studies	Canada
Roskilde University Centre	International Development studies	Denmark
University of Lapland	Faculty of Social Science	Finland
Haifa University	Centre for Research on Peace Education	Israel
Finnmark University College		Norway
NTNU - The Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Dep. of Education	Norway
NUPI		Norway
PRIO		Norway
Saami University College		Norway
University of Bergen	Dep. of Comparative . Politics	Norway
University of Bergen	Rokkan Centre for Social Research	Norway
University of Oslo	Dep. of Psychology	Norway
University of Oslo	Department of political science	Norway
University of Oslo	Ethnographic Museum	Norway
University of Oslo	Inst. of Educational Research	Norway
University of Oslo	Norwegian Centre for Human Rights	Norway
University of Oslo	Peace and Conflict Studies	Norway
Eastern University - Sri Lanka	Trincomalee campus	Sri Lanka
Nordic Africa Institute		Sweden
University of Gothenburg	Dep. of history of ideas and theory of science	Sweden
University of Gothenburg	PADRIGU	Sweden
University of Stockholm	Department for Criminology	Sweden
Uppsala University	Department of Peace and Conflict Research	Sweden
University of Bradford	Centre for Conflict Resolution	UK
University of Coventry	Centre for the Study of Forgiveness and Reconciliation	UK
University of Keele	Department for International Relations	UK
University of Hawai	Department for Political Science	USA
University of Beograd	Faculty of Civil Defence	Yugoslavia

The Things we did in 2004

Outreach is another CPS responsibility. Outreach is intended to support the work in our two primary areas of responsibility and call attention to the importance of matters of peace and conflict transformation. These are some of the activities for the Centre in 2004:

⇒ **Norwegian Peace Film Award**

In December 2003, the CPS together with the Tromsø International Film Festival (TIFF) and the Student Network for Peace (SNP) established the The Norwegian Peace Film Award. This award is co-sponsored by CPS and TIFF, and awarded annually in January during the Tromsø International Film Festival . Awarded for the first time in January 2004, the winner was “In this world” by Michael Winterbottom. The goal of the award is to emphasize the power of stories in shaping our understanding of the world we have now and desire for the future.

⇒ **Indonesian officials at the CPS**

In June 2004, Indonesian officials visited Tromsø and the CPS to learn about conflict management and human rights. Their training was part of the Indonesia Programme of the Centre for Human Rights (University of Oslo) and its focus on teaching and research on human rights. Between more academic activities like conflict mapping, conflict transformation, and a case-study of federalism as an instrument of peace, the Indonesian visitors were given tours of some of Tromsø's local attractions.

⇒ **6. - 7. October 2004, the Centre for Peace Studies arranges a mini-conference on Identity and Security in a Globalising Context.**

The point of departure for the conference was the fluidity and complexity of identitive associations, which nonetheless tend to ‘re-coalesce’ and harden their ingroup-outgroup boundaries, partly as a consequence of security fixations. Some relevant themes (to name a few) in this regard would be: constitutionalism and security; securitised private communities; and the changing character of nationalism and internationalism.

⇒ **A week with Roy Bhaskar at the CPS, 13. - 17. September 2004 .**

Widely considered to be one of the great philosophers of our time, Bhaskar is the founder of the philosophy of critical realism. On his first visit to Tromsø, in April, he presented an account of critical realism and meta-reality as a philosophical foundation for further thinking about an appropriate philosophy of peace. His work is relevant to both research and action. This workshop builds directly on that foundation. Those already familiar with Bhaskar's work and others interested in peace studies and/or learning more about an approach to social scientific inquiry that offers an alternative to both positivism and post-structuralism, were encouraged to attend.

⇒ **The Peace Forum**

The Peace Forum is a meeting place for students, both first and second year, enrolled in the Master in Peace and Conflict Transformation (MPCT) and for PhD-students at the University of Tromsø focusing on security related issues. The Peace Forum serves as a forum for discussion on a broad range of topics pertaining to peace and war.

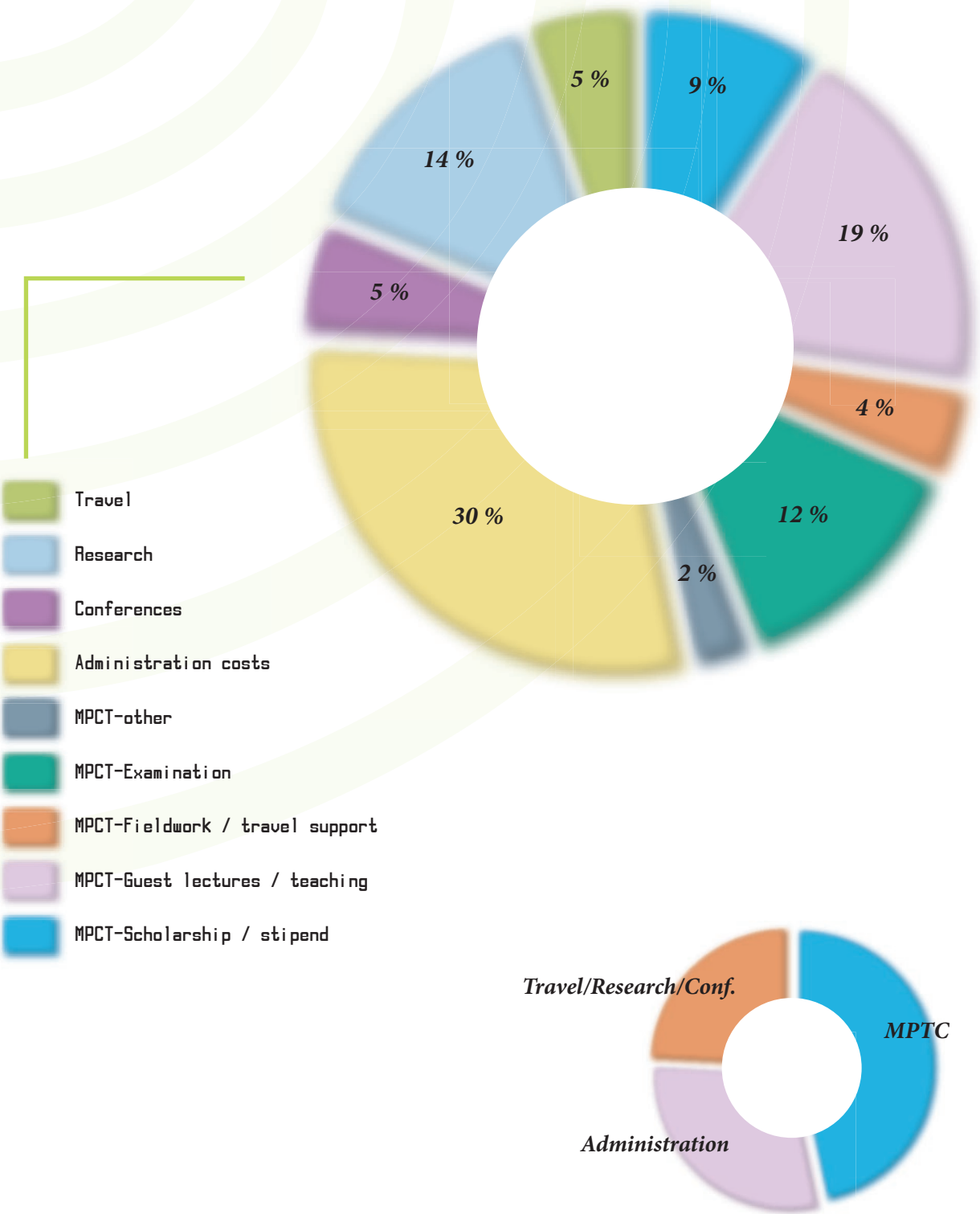
⇒ **The City of Refuge for Persecuted Writers**

Following an initiative of Salman Rushdie, The International Parliament of Writers (IPW) in 1994 established an international network of cities of asylum for persecuted writers. In 1995, the Norwegian city of Stavanger declared itself a city of asylum. Stavanger was joined by Kristiansand in 1999 and by Oslo in 2001.

The City of Refuge for Persecuted Writers is a collaboration between the city of Tromsø, Troms County and the University of Tromsø, including the Centre for Peace Studies. Dr Easterine Iralu from Nagaland will arrive in March 2005 as the first City of Refuge writer in Tromsø.

The Money we spend

The CPS spend o total of NOK 3.58 mill spread on the MPCT-programme and the Centre activities itself. The diagram shows the distribution on the various tasks of the CPS:



“The Centre for Peace Studies has a great deal of potential, and it has demonstrated particularly in the past year that it can move beyond the growing pains of a new program into a well respected program of study. One strong advantage has been that the program has drawn very high quality students who have been active in providing relatively constructive feedback. One can hope that the momentum of the past year’s work on the program will continue and strengthen.”

GUNHILD HOOGENSEN, TEACHER AND BOARD MEMBER



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Centre for Peace Studies

Annual Report 2004



Centre for Peace Studies

