Ambassador Aas

On October 12 of 2016, Salisbury University's Department of Conflict Analysis and Dispute Resolution hosted Norway's Ambassador to the United States, Kare R. Aas, through the Royal Norwegian Embassy's Virtual Ambassador Program. This event was part of the Global Peacemaker Lecture Series, and allowed the Ambassador to connect with university students and faculty live via Skype to discuss *Norway's Role in Peacekeeping.*

Ambassador Aas spoke of topics such as The Arctic, the importance of education, international peace and reconciliation, and Norway's role in the Colombian Peace Process. The Ambassador began his discussion to speak briefly on his background, working in the Norway Arctic. His distinguished career began when he worked for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ambassador was responsible for Norwegian security policy and Norway's cooperation with other countries.

Ambassador Aas then spoke on the importance of studying at a university and the value of education. He highly encouraged university students to study abroad in Norway if given the opportunity. "One's education can have such a profound impact upon their future aspirations and can impact lives," stated Ambassador Aas.

Ambassador Aas then led this discussion into Norway's active involvement as a guarantor country in the Colombian Peace Process. The Ambassador focused on Colombia's desire to become a knowledgeable community that values and facilitates synergies between the parties in the conflict, and has a platform of dialogue between those who want to contribute from the distance and the Colombian people.

The event ended with questions from students and faculty to the Ambassador. The Ambassador answered questions about Syria and Russia, and then concerning the importance of learning about Norwegian diplomacy that day and the affect it has on university students that aspire to be peacemakers.