The INTL News

Message from the Director

This is our very first alumni newsletter. The mailing of this newsletter marks the increasing maturity of our program. It’s been only a short time since we celebrated the graduation of the first program graduates – Rachel Barnhard, Guilhermina Muhongo, Adam O’Bara and Kim Ray at Le Petit Café. At this writing, we have almost 200 majors, a projected 2006 graduating class of nearly 30 and some 20 program alumni. It has been an absolutely tremendous couple of years!

As I face my third year as director of the program, we are refocusing our efforts increasingly away from our early emphasis on recruitment. At 200 majors we are an established major, larger than many in the College of Arts and Sciences. Increasingly, I’ll be focusing on better helping our students with the issues they face as they near graduation – internships, employment, and the transition to graduate school. If you have any suggestions about these items, or anything else having to do with the program please pass them along.

I hope that each of you can take a few seconds to periodically drop me an email at knudsen@indiana.edu to let me know what you are doing and how life is treating you. I’ll try to do the same.

Message from Tracy Bee

The first International Studies majors were pioneers. You put faith in an untested program and helped define it.

I came in as advisor just a year and a half ago, but because of the pace of change within International Studies, I feel like I have always been here. The program still faces some challenges, but each semester International Studies offers more to its students. As pioneers, you couldn’t reap the benefits of an established program. When you were a student there was no hint of an International Studies scholarship; Career Services had never heard of your major; your advisor was inexperienced. I could go on with the disadvantages you faced, but you should feel pride that you were there when it all started and that your experiences and opinions shaped the program for future students. Because you had the ambition and determination to start a finish a program that was still finding its place at IU, that program now has a history and a future.

We want to know what you’re doing. We also want to help you to stay in touch and network. If you are interested in joining the International Studies Graduate Listserv (intlgrads-l), let me know. This list has only a few members so far, but I hope that graduates will see it as a resource to learn about and share after-graduation opportunities such as relevant jobs openings. Interested in joining? Write me at tbee@indiana.edu or intl@indiana.edu.
Mikolon Challenges INTL Alums!

Robert Mikolon is the first of the INTL alumni to send a gift to the International Studies Enrichment Fund. Rob’s gift of $10 arrived on 15 February 2005. He challenges any and all alumni to match his gift! In Rob’s own words, “Let’s see a little love for the development of such a great program that allowed us to study what we enjoy as a major. Give some cash to your old school as a show of support and appreciation to our great profs and the hope of continued education in this field.” Dan Knudsen has agreed to match the sum of all gifts received from alumni before 1 June 2006 up to $200.

If you want to meet Rob’s challenge, checks may be written to the Indiana University Foundation care of the International Studies Enrichment Fund (32-AS63-01-7), P.O. Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402. Questions? Write iuf@indiana.edu or call 1-800-558-8311.

Goings On at INTL

_Irene Meister_ (BA, Linguistics 1948; MA, East European Studies 1949) recently endowed a scholarship in her will for International Studies. As part of festivities surrounding the official announcement of the endowment, Dr. Meister chatted for an hour with a group of International Studies students.

The _International Studies External Council_ met for the first time on 30 September 2005. The Council is comprised of eight prominent individuals from the public and private sector. They have been brought together to advise the director on the future direction of the program and to especially help formulate better strategies to assist our students seeking internships and employment. At their first meeting they reviewed the International Studies strategic plan and proposed a number of improvements in the program, sponsored a job forum for International Studies students, watched presentations of the best projects from the Academic Year 2004-2005 Capstone seminar and hosted a reception for the International Studies faculty.

We had two distinguished visitors to the program last year. _Can Seng Ooi_ of the Copenhagen Business School spent four days on campus in late March. He presented lectures in several of our I200-level classes and made two formal presentations on identity, nationality, landscape and tourism. While on campus he was a guest of Foster International. _Arthur Cyr_ from the Clausen Center in Kenosha, Wisconsin visited the program in April. He presented lectures on U.S. foreign policy in I100 and I206.

New Hires in INTL

The College of Arts and Sciences has recently begun hiring new professors as part of the Commitment to Excellence program at Indiana University that have a 25% teaching commitment to International Studies and will become our core faculty. This year we welcome the first of these new hires.
Christiane Gruber is Assistant Professor of Islamic Art. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 2005. Her research interests are in illustrated "Books of the Prophet Muhammad's Ascension" (Mi'rajnamas) and Islamic calligraphy. She is currently teaching a course on Islamic architecture and will offer a course on Persian painting in the spring. Prior to coming to I.U., Christiane lived in Cairo, Tehran, and Istanbul. She teaches I201: Culture and the Arts.

Shane Greene is Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and was awarded a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago. His primary research and teaching interests are in the areas of Latin America, social movements, ethnic politics, development, social theory, and political ecology. In addition to courses in Anthropology he teaches I203 "Global Markets and Governance" in the International Studies program.

Ron Sela is assistant professor of Central Asian history. He holds the Ph.D. in Central Eurasian Studies from Indiana University. His research interests are in the history of Muslim peoples, and in political and cultural self-representation in the Islamic world, focusing on Central Asia. He teaches I206: Nations, States and Boundaries, as well as courses on history, historiography and travel literature in the Department of Central Eurasian Studies. Prior to coming to I.U., Sela taught at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is currently writing a book on stories and storytellers in Central Asia.

Ho-Fung Hung is assistant professor at the Department of Sociology. He received his Ph.D from Johns Hopkins University in 2004. Ho-fung researches and publishes on contentious politics, globalization, nationalism, and social theory. His current projects include one that expounds China’s particular form of modernity by examining how the neo-Confucianist ideology shapes its trajectory of state formation and social protests from the eighteenth century to the present, in contrast to the European trajectories. Another project traces China’s changing conception of nationhood and frontier in light of Beijing’s contentious interaction with such intractable regions as Tibet, Hong Kong and Taiwan since 1949. Besides these two major projects, Ho-fung also writes about the rise of Asia in the modern world-system, orientalist construction of non-western civilizations in modern social theory, and globalization of the SARS epidemics, among others. He teaches I206: Nations, States, and Boundaries.

Ilana Gershon is a professor in Communication and Culture. Her background is in cultural anthropology, and she researches Pacific diasporas, especially in New Zealand and California. Her interests are in indigenous politicians, transnational migration, and how knowledge circulates. She teaches courses such as Cultures of Democracy; and Ethnicity, Class and the Model U.S. Citizen. She teaches I205: International Communication.

David M. Oldenkamp is the International Studies Librarian at the Herman B Wells Library. He received his Master of Library Science and MA in International Relations.
from Syracuse University. His academic interests are in international information policy and the digital divide. Before arriving at Indiana University, David worked at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA. He has lived in eight other states (including Alaska) and the country of Brazil. When not working diligently with international studies students, he watches entirely too many films and attends too many concerts.

Recent Graduates

**May 2005**
- Jane Charney – International Studies and Journalism
- Melissa David – International Studies and Spanish
- Katelyn Fates – International Studies
- Tara Fuda – International Studies and Political Science
- Dane Mount – International Studies
- Julia Nelson – International Studies and French
- Christian Ruark – International Studies
- Margaret Walsh – International Studies and French
- Lindsay Woodall – International Studies and Theatre

**August 2005**
- Sarah-Daisy Dygert – International Studies
- Kimberly Stoltz – International Studies and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
- Daniel Lichtblau – International Studies

Students in the News

**Amy Herman** who minors in African Studies was awarded a $1000 research and travel grant sponsored by the Project on African Expressive Traditions (POAET) for her project: African Dreams: Cartooning in East Africa; a Historical Retrospective.

**Katherine A. Ntiamoah** presented the invocation at the 2005 Freshman Induction Ceremony on the Bloomington campus.

**Cyndi Valentin**, a senior guard with IU women’s basketball, was selected to be part of the Big Ten Foreign Tour Team last summer. Last season, she received All-Big Ten Honorable Mention. She spent the summer of 2004 playing for the Puerto Rican national team.

Student Profile

**Jeff Lightfoot** (Class of 2006) is an International Studies, French and Business triple major. At Kelly School of Business Jeff is concentrating on management and international business. In 2004, Jeff participated in study abroad in Rouen, France. In addition to his coursework in French language, business and politics, he also did
independent research. His research culminated in a 73-page thesis on Franco-American
relations under Charles de Gaulle written entirely in French which he then defended in
French to professors at the Institut de Formation International. Jeff hopes to secure a
Fulbright fellowship for additional research in France in 2006-2007. Jeff plans on
working for the U.S. State Department upon completion of his graduate degrees.

Alumni News

Rachel Barnhard (May 2004) – Rachel reports that she continues to work in the music
industry in Nashville, Tennessee. She currently serves as administrative assistant, human
resources coordinator, and head of the music publishing department for Astro Media/
Marco Productions.

Adam O’Bara (May 2004) – Adam works for a freight forwarding company in
Indianapolis, Indiana, and is contemplating graduate school.

Kim Ray (May 2004) – Kim worked as an English teacher in Madrid, Spain, last year and
is entering the MA Program in Peace and Development Studies of Universitat Jaume I
Castellon this fall.

Giancarlo Caserto (December 2004) – G.C. spent 2 months backpacking around in the
Peruvian jungle after graduation and then worked for “America TV – Channel 4” as their
economic and international correspondent in Lima, Peru. While there he got to interview
Peru’s Vice President and noted economist Hernando de Soto. In mid-April, he was hired
by British American Tobacco, the largest cigarette producer in the world.

Robert Mikolon (December 2004) – Rob bartends and skis in Billings, Montana and is
contemplating graduate school at Montana State University in the future.

Katie Fates (May 2005) – Katie recently accepted a position with Phoenix International.
She is the inaugural person in a newly-designed management training program at
Phoenix, one of the world’s premier freight-forwarding companies.

Scott Shackelford (May 2005) – Scott serves as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from
District 6580 and is assigned to the Cambridge University. He is reading for a MPhil
degree in International Relations at Darwin College at Cambridge. After his degree, he
hopes to enter law school or seek employment with an NGO.

Lindsay Woodall (May 2005) – Lindsay is working as an accounts assistant for Euroffice
Limited in London. She plans on moving to Ireland in the spring.

Tara Fuda (May 2005) is currently a M.A. student at New York University studying
Political Campaign Management. Recently she has worked on a local campaign, Mike
Beys for city council, in NYC and is now preparing for her internship with a political
campaign firm.
Meg Walsh (May 2005) – Meg is administrative assistant to the director of operations at Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Edelweiss is one of four resorts catering to the R & R needs of active-duty and retired U.S. soldiers and NATO employees.

Kelly Long (May 2005) – Kelly is attending graduate school for International Affairs at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs in Washington, D.C. She is also interning in the Press and Information Office of the French Embassy where she spends part of her time answering emails from irate Americans attacking the French for various things.

Danny Lichtblau (August 2005) – Danny spent the summer as an intern at the University of Minnesota’s Learning Abroad Center creating travel guides for students. He plans to move to New York and work in the tourist industry.