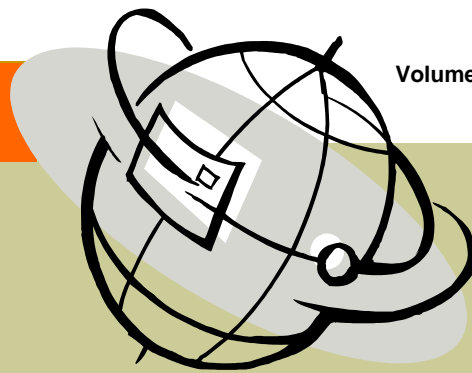


# IR Matters!



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## Celebrating 25 Years of International Relations at Bucknell

In 1973, two enterprising students, Stephen Cope and Richard Ellson (thank you!), graduated from Bucknell with an interdepartmental major they designed with the help of their professors. This was the beginning of what eventually became the International Relations major and the International Relations Program that supported it. Professors Tom Travis (Political Science and later IR), Richard Peterec (Geography), John Peeler (Political Science) and Robert Beard (Russian), all now retired, played a crucial role in advising students who were interested in crafting a degree that drew on a number of disciplines to process and understand international affairs.

From 1973 to 1984, international relations remained an interdepartmental major and enrolled and graduated an increasing number of students. In 1984, under the visionary guidance and able direction of Professor Travis and with the energetic support of Professor Peterec, International Relations officially became a program with a major and a minor. It is that achievement we are commemorating and celebrating this year.

By 1984, over 100 students had graduated with the interdepartmental major. Another 1100 subsequently graduated with the formalized International Relations major. This is comparable to the population of a very small state, say, the Vatican. Jest aside, there has been a steady growth in the number of courses associated with the degree since its inception and we have seen impressive increases in course enrollments and affiliated faculty. And, in Fall 2009, 25 years after the inception of the program, International Relations became a full-fledged department.

The success of the International Relations Department hinges on support from all of Bucknell's constituencies. For starters,

numerous Bucknell faculty members from numerous programs and departments beyond our own support our curriculum. These include the Department of Foreign Language Programs, Spanish, East Asian studies, political science, economics, geography, history, sociology and anthropology, English, management, and Programs in Latin American studies, environmental studies and women's and gender studies. These faculty have contributed their courses, their knowledge, and their enthusiasm to our curriculum. Our students' understanding of international affairs are immeasurably enriched by the disciplinary knowledge and expertise they contribute to our curriculum. Another colleague, Kim DiRocco, who has been our administrative assistant for more than a decade is our pillar of calm and effectiveness and ensures that everything functions smoothly in the department. Thank you!

We are also appreciative of the support of President Mitchell, Provost Smyer, and Dean Zappe. Their collective commitment to educational excellence and the internationalization of our campus is not only consonant with IR's mission but also sustains us as we strive to work towards delivering a curriculum of consistent excellence.

We are also indebted to and proud of our alumni, who represent us beyond Bucknell and who have gone on to interesting and rewarding lives and careers all over the world, in more than 30 countries at last count. Their loyalty to Bucknell and IR is testimony to the lifelong ties that are established in our classrooms. We appreciate your continuing interest in and support of our mission.

And last, but not least, our students. We are excited to welcome to the ranks of our IR community a new group of IR students each year, who carry their curiosity, engagement,



Zhiquan Zhu

Associate Professor of International Relations and Political Science and MacArthur Chair in Asian Politics

*There are two Chinas today: coastal (capitalist) China, represented by Shanghai and Guangdong, where the wealth of China is concentrated; and western (socialist) China, where tens of millions still live below the poverty line...*

and hard work to our classrooms and the Bucknell campus. It is a pleasure to work with them and see them blossom into independent and critical thinkers. Of course, within a few short years, they graduate and join the ranks of our alumni and carry the torch forward.

Without the support of these essential people—faculty, administration, students, and alumni—which together shape our IR community, we could surely not have come this far.

In an increasingly globalizing and interdependent world, it is critically important for us to be informed about world events, to understand how the international system works, and to explain and interpret world affairs. Over the last quarter

century, we have sought to educate our students and ourselves towards these ends.

The International Relations department is delighted to mark this milestone with its students, alumni, our campus and Lewisburg community, and looks forward to the next 25 years!

Emek M. Uçarer  
Chair, International Relations Department

## Joined at the Hip: the United States and China in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

In 1940, US Senator Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska expressed the following hope: “With God’s help, we will lift Shanghai up and up, ever up, until it is just like Kansas City.” Were he alive today, the senator would be surprised to learn that Shanghai, China’s commercial and economic hub, has indeed been lifted up, and is actually much taller and more dynamic than Kansas City or any US metropolis. It is the United States, not God, that has contributed to the fast growth of China in the past 30 years, especially through trade and investment and through maintenance of peace and stability in East Asia.

After 30 years of profound economic reforms, the People’s Republic of China is reemerging as a major player in international political economy. However, China remains a puzzle. Many wonder why economic freedom and political liberty are still divorced and why China’s proclaimed policy of peaceful development is accompanied by double-digit increases in the annual military budget. Are China and the United States friends or foes? What are the prospects for the bilateral relationship?

A growing economic and military power, China has changed the landscape of international political economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. But just how powerful is China now? By some accounts, the Chinese economy is already the second largest in the world and will overtake the United States as early as 2020. Few note that even if this overly optimistic prediction becomes reality, China will remain a low-to-medium income

country for a long time based on per capita GDP. According to the CIA World Factbook, China’s per capita GDP (using purchasing power parity) was only \$6,000 (2008), compared with America’s \$48,000. The Chinese economy is only a quarter the size of America’s. About 60 percent of Chinese citizens live in the much less developed rural areas of the country.

Western media often misinterpret and exaggerate China’s military power. They tend to focus on the annual increase of China’s military budget, without noting that China’s power projection is limited and that China’s neighbors and the US are all enhancing their military strength. China is just beginning to realize the importance of soft power and has established over 300 Confucius Institutes worldwide to promote Chinese language and culture.

Indeed, there are two Chinas today: coastal (capitalist) China, represented by Shanghai and Guangdong, where the wealth of China is concentrated; and western (socialist) China, where tens of millions still live below the poverty line. China is full of paradoxes as it moves up the ladder to prosperity: rising living standards and a growing income gap, luxury condominiums and shantytowns, shining futuristic infrastructure and serious environmental degradation, and most glaringly, limitless economic choices and little political freedom. China faces daunting challenges in the years ahead. It abhors foreign

*Cont’d on p. 3*

## Zhu, Cont'd

intervention in its domestic affairs and has resisted pressure for democratization.

Chinese have a simple and attractive name for the US: *meiguo*, or "beautiful country". Generations of Chinese have harbored fond feelings towards America and hoped that China will become more like it. Even at the height of the Cold War, official contact between the two countries existed. President Richard Nixon made history by travelling to China and meeting with Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai in 1972 before the two countries formally recognized each other. President Jimmy Carter welcomed Deng Xiaoping to the White House in early 1979 when the two countries just established diplomatic relations and encouraged Deng's reform initiatives. Today, exchanges at all levels of the society have greatly expanded across the Pacific.

Whether China and the US are friends or foes is a false debate. It misses the central point that the two countries are so interdependent economically and strategically that they are no longer in a position to make this type of either/or choices. While the academic debate over the nature of US-China relations may continue, the leaders of the two countries have chosen cooperation over confrontation. They realize that a lot of global problems today cannot be resolved without their cooperation. With nearly monthly exchanges among senior US and Chinese officials and regular strategic dialogues, Beijing and Washington are institutionalizing their interactions. Summit diplomacy has maintained its momentum, and President Barack Obama became the first American president to visit China during his first year in office.

China and the US are unlikely to see eye to eye on everything and are in fact still suspicious of each other, but they are not engaged in a zero-sum game in international politics. For the foreseeable future, the two powers will coexist and have to learn to work together. The most critical issue in their bilateral ties in the future will not be Tibet or trade, but determining and abiding by their respective roles in international political economy.

The Sino-American relationship is no longer just of bilateral significance. It now has deep regional and global implications. The era of Chimerica or G-2 will not arrive any time soon, but good relations between the world's sole superpower and its largest rising power are absolutely essential for maintaining peace and promoting prosperity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

*Zhiqun Zhu, Associate Professor of International Relations and Political Science, MacArthur Chair in East Asian Politics, Bucknell University.*

## Bucknell Hosts International Conference on China

As the People's Republic of China marks its 60th anniversary, leading scholars on Chinese politics, economics, history and foreign policy came together Oct. 1 and 2 at Bucknell to discuss the country's past, present and future. The conference, titled "The People's Republic of China at 60: Internal and External Challenges," presented an opportunity for experts from around the world to assess and evaluate the successes, challenges and goals of China, said IR's own Zhiqun Zhu, who organized the conference. "We reflected upon what China has achieved, where China has failed and where China is headed," he said. The conference, which was free and open to the public, included panel discussions with 15 selected experts from around the world. David M. Lampton, director of the China Studies Program at Johns Hopkins University, gave the opening address, in which he explained that the People's Republic of China has become a powerful international force with "extreme" economic and military growth during its 60 years of existence. But he cautioned that the same growth has made the nation vulnerable to domestic issues such as climate change, poverty and an eventual slowdown. Douglas Spelman, deputy director of the Kissinger Institute on China and the United States at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., gave the keynote talk and discussed the history of US-China relations since Nixon's visit in 1972 and observed that despite many differences, the two countries have made tremendous progress in improving bilateral relations. The conference panelists were selected from more than 80 applicants who delivered papers on various issues facing China, such as political reform, changing demographics, energy security, gender equality, climate change and growing Chinese "soft power." Zhu said that the conference was hopefully an "eye-opening opportunity" for participants. "This was a great opportunity for leading scholars to exchange their viewpoints," Zhu said.

*"China and the United States are unlikely to see eye to eye on everything and are still suspicious of each other, but they are not engaged in a zero-sum game in international politics. For the foreseeable future, the two powers will coexist and have to learn to work together."*

*Prof. Zhu*

和平发展 (peaceful development)

和谐世界 (a harmonious world)



## Faculty Profile: Hilbourne A. Watson

Currently in his 16<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Bucknell, Professor of International Relations, Hilbourne Watson specializes in International Relations theory, Caribbean-U.S. relations, and globalization and global restructuring issues around International Relations and International Political Economy. Fresh off a full academic year sabbatical, of which he spent six months in Barbados conducting extensive research on post-war Barbados, he returned to campus this semester. During the six months in Barbados, Professor Watson spent many hours examining documents and other relevant material at the Barbados National Archives and at the West Indies Collection at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies, in addition to interviewing various people who were familiar with the political, economic and social processes during the period he was examining. This academic research is central to the book Professor Watson is currently writing, which he describes as part biography of the first prime minister of Barbados and part analysis of the transformation of the political economy of post-war Barbados. In addition to providing important information for his book, Professor Watson says the sabbatical has made him more informed on many issues that he typically addresses in his classes.

Professor Watson's sabbatical is to a degree unusual because, for him, Barbados is where he was born. He spent the first twenty-two years of his life growing up in Barbados before coming to the United States, and he visits Barbados on a regular basis. This makes his research particularly interesting partly because it gives him opportunities to study the record about what was going on politically in Barbados during his childhood and schooldays: "I'm learning, let's say after the fact, a good deal about the country at a time when I was living there but was not aware about what was taking place because I was young and life in the colony was quite oriented toward colonial issues in the relationship between Barbados and Britain to a significant degree." he explains. Although his trips to Barbados always provide the same familiar feeling of returning home, Professor Watson adds that his time spent in Barbados is always exciting because each time, he's doing new research and looking at new material and gaining new insights often about old issues. "There's always something

on the cutting edge that is relevant to my research," states Watson. He describes the research carried out during this sabbatical as exceptionally fascinating because it allowed him to discover a good deal about the motives, attitudes, perspectives, hopes and expectations of leaders, as well as those of the "ordinary people," that surface in the newspapers articles and through forms of political struggles around decolonization and independence. The research performed during his sabbatical has allowed Professor Watson to return to Bucknell with a better understanding of trade unions, political parties, social movements, and various political struggles in Barbados that connect the island to the wider Caribbean and the world at large.

When asked if there were any observations that he would like to share with current Bucknell students, Professor Watson stressed that it is important for students to understand that globalization is not something that just developed during the past two decades or so. He explains that international organizations, such as the United Nations, the World Bank, and the European Union have deeper roots than many individuals tend to assume. "I think a more critical view that pays attention to the major structural shifts after the World War II in areas of economics, finance, trade, diplomacy, political struggles around anti-colonial and anti-imperialist resistance and foreign policy issues should help to throw a good deal of light on the process we are dealing with today. It's a more interdependent world, but not necessarily a more even world; in fact, globalization is not about creating a level playing field because the material and political basis on which it unfolds is structurally uneven and unequal," says Professor Watson.

In conclusion, Professor Watson emphasizes the importance of research at a teaching institution like Bucknell. His sabbatical in Barbados has reinforced his conviction that if he is not engaged in interesting scholarly research, then he would have much less exciting new information to bring to his students. "You can teach all you want; however, you will be unlikely to contribute to the development of fresh thinking and even help to influence the discourses and debates around paradigm formation and restructuring in a given field. No new horizons, no transformation." We are confident that, with the knowledge acquired during his sabbatical, Professor Watson will continue to provide the students of Bucknell with contemporary and valuable insights into the world of International Relations.

*By Abigail Yingling '10 and Nicole Meyers '11*

*Professor Watson notes that it is important for students to understand that globalization is not something that just developed during the past two decades or so.*

*"I think a more critical view that pays attention to the major structural shifts after the World War II in areas of economics, finance, trade, diplomacy, political struggles around anti-colonial and anti-imperialist resistance and foreign policy issues should*

## IR Launches New Curriculum

The International Relations major continues to be popular on campus and draws 45-50 students to its ranks each year. After carefully reviewing our existing curriculum, which has served us quite well since 1988 when it was last revised, IR faculty undertook a year-long effort to consider possible changes that would retain the strengths of the curriculum while providing new options to serve our students even better. These conversations resulted in a proposal for changes to the IR curriculum which was recently approved. We are excited to be offering this new curriculum to the Class of 2014. The new curriculum will consist of 11 courses and will continue its multidisciplinary approach to international relations. Students will continue to take International Politics, International Economics, and Theories of International Relations. A fourth new requirement is added to our curriculum, which will be a course on Globalization. The Area Concentration carries over from the "old" curriculum. Students will continue to develop a proficiency in a language suitable to their area concentration and we will continue to encourage them to study abroad, in the region in which they are concentrating and using the language they are mastering for the IR major.

Perhaps the biggest change to the curriculum is the launching of three thematic tracks. We see these tracks as complementing the area concentration. While the area concentration is designed to provide familiarity with a geographic area, the thematic tracks will allow students to engage a number of issues that cut across geographic regions. Students will take three courses from a thematic track of their choice, each of which is anchored by a required core course. We will be offering three tracks: Foreign Policy and Diplomacy; Sustainability and Development; and Global Governance and Conflict Resolution. While the first class to graduate with the "new major" will be 2014, the Class of 2013 will have the opportunity to opt into the new curriculum if they so choose.

## Sigma Iota Rho, the International Relations Honors Society, established

IR is pleased to announce that the Delta Alpha chapter of Sigma Iota Rho, Bucknell's IR honors society, was established this fall. Sigma Iota Rho is a

national honors society that seeks to promote and reward scholarship and service among students and practitioners of international studies, international affairs, and global studies and to foster integrity and creative performance in the conduct of world affairs. Bucknell joins a group of 88 schools across the United States with SIR chapters.

SIR publishes the undergraduate *Journal of International Relations*, provides research grants (for students), access to professional networks, and supports participation in conferences. The mandate and vision of the Bucknell chapter will allow us to create and develop an outlet to link scholarship and service among IR majors, aid in recruitment of students interested in international affairs to Bucknell, and provide opportunities for extracurricular academic encounters for students including "coffee chats" with faculty, international relations movie nights, speaker series, simulations and role-playing exercises, presentations made by international students on relevant topics, and exam study breaks.

The organization can also provide opportunities for professional development for students, including trips to graduate schools, Foreign Service exam preparation workshops, and graduate school application workshops. We envision that SIR will encourage student scholarship and enhance opportunities for faculty-student research collaborations, promote academic mentoring and peer-advising opportunities for students, promote opportunities to network, search for jobs and share career advice with other Sigma Iota Rho members from across the country, and assist in enhancing community understanding of international affairs through campus and local school outreach. Ultimately, we see SIR as a venue through which to allow students to take active part in the creation of these kinds of opportunities and, in so doing, foster a sense of responsibility and ownership in their own intellectual and professional development. "International Relations majors of Bucknell are excited about the establishment of a chapter of Sigma Iota Rho. It is an excellent way for students to come together and share their studies, interests, thoughts, and ideas on matters of international relations," said Lindsey Schloss '10, president of SIR. "We're very excited to finally be able to assemble as a group and promote our field of study, added vice President Derek Lombardi '10. Emilie Linsenmeyer '10 is the Secretary and Hilary Smith '10 serves as the Treasurer).

### *Sigma Iota Rho*



*Sinesis: Prudence*

*Ideodoi: Ideals*

*Rhomi: Power*

## IR Lessons at Work: A Personal Account



*“The lessons I have learned through my IR classes do not and cannot remain in the classroom, they are meant to extend into the field. It is one thing to read about the effects of poor infrastructure and instability, but it is another to experience it.”*

*Nicole Meyers  
‘11*

This summer a group of students from Bucknell travelled to Africa to implement a microfinance bicycle project in Gulu, Uganda. The group of students is part of an organization on campus called Bicycles Against Poverty (BAP). Started by Muyambi Muyambi '11, the organization aims to raise the living standards of people living in northern Uganda with bicycles. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to travel with BAP to Uganda and contribute to the project—a phenomenal experience which truly applied classroom lessons to the world at large.

Since its initiation last fall, BAP has been raising money for the project through school fundraisers and foundation grants. With \$36,000 in seed money, fifteen students and three faculty members, Dr. John Doces (Political Science), Dr. DeeAnn Reeder (Biology), and Janice Butler (Service Learning) travelled to Uganda.

To understand the impact of the project, it is important to be familiar with the history of northern Uganda. For the last twenty-two years, northern Uganda has suffered a brutal war led by a rebel group known as the Lord's Resistance Army. The LRA has abducted over 30,000 children to become child soldiers. Due to the magnitude and brutality of the killings, the government of Uganda forced over 1.7 million Acholi to retreat to Internally Displaced Persons camps to safety. Although there has been a cease-fire for the past two years, many people still remain in the IDP camps out of fear and lack of alternative.

BAP chose to work in two communities located in the IDP camps because living conditions in the camps were the direst in the region. With the assistance of several local professionals, BAP surveyed 350 people in the two communities to

collect basic information such as yearly income, distance to water, distance to market, etc. After surveying we created a model to identify our ideal candidate, the person who would benefit the most from a bicycle yet would be likely to pay back the loan, with a few specific outliers to track their progress. Upon completion, BAP returned to villages and successfully distributed 102 bicycles to the respective beneficiaries. With its long term pledge for sustainability, BAP will return to the region over Christmas for its second distribution with the money it received from repayments. We are confident that as BAP grows as an organization, so will its beneficiary base, producing an overall improvement in living conditions within these communities.

As an International Relations major and African Studies minor, the project is a case-in-point of why IR matters. The lessons I have learned through my IR classes do not and cannot remain in the classroom, they are meant to extend into the field. It is one thing to read about the effects of poor infrastructure and instability, but it is another to experience it. After travelling to Uganda and learning how the beneficiaries' lives will be changed with a simple bicycle, I now realize why I must maximize my degree by applying it to the field. Drawing up, fundraising, registering, and finally executing the project was not simple. It was a challenge that our whole group rose to thanks to our local consultants, loyal faculty and supportive Bucknell community who together enabled the project to succeed.

*By Nicole Meyers '11*

For more information about Bicycles Against Poverty, please email [bap@bucknell.edu](mailto:bap@bucknell.edu) or visit the website [www.bicyclesagainstopoverty.org](http://www.bicyclesagainstopoverty.org)

## Coming Home: International Relations at 25



*Homecoming Academic Village*

With our students, alumni, faculty, and administrative colleagues present, the IR Department marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of a formal program in IR with three events that took place during Homecoming weekend.

On October 22, Jeanne Hey, professor of political science and director of international studies at Miami University of Ohio, gave the talk, "International Relations as a Field: Academic Discipline? Interdisciplinary Hodge-podge? Or Something Else?" A 1985 graduate of Bucknell, Hey has taught at Miami since 1992. In 1992-93, she was a Pew Faculty Fellow in International Studies at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Her research interests include foreign policy behavior of less developed and small states, especially in Latin America. She has completed numerous teaching and research appointments in international settings, including in Scotland, Luxembourg and Ecuador. In her talk, she emphasized that because of its multidisciplinary focus, International Relations at Bucknell is more than a study of international politics. She noted that Bucknell's program is unique in its emphasis

On October 23, we held an Alumni Careers panel, which drew an audience of students, alumni, and faculty wishing to hear about the experiences of seven of our alumni. We were very pleased that these alumni, each representing different paths taken by IR students after graduation, with one representative for each of the decades since IR's inception, accepted our invitation and came back to campus to share their experiences. Moderated by Emek Uçarer, the panel included Peter Doerschler '93, professor of political science at Bloomsburg University, Shannon Lack '04, attorney, Thomas O'Toole '00, executive director of professional

development of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs; Laura Romah '06, masters candidate, international development at the American University and Peace Corps volunteer in 2006-08; Mark Siegelman '77, international trade specialist, International Trade Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Todd Zeranski '99, reporter at Bloomberg news. We should also recognize the efforts of the Career Development Center, and Marilyn Shull in particular, in making this event possible.

The panelists reflected on their IR studies at Bucknell as they shared with the audience the different paths they took after graduation. They stressed the importance of studying abroad, observed that globalized workplaces necessitate a solid understanding of international affairs and interactions. Emphasizing that the IR degree is eminently "employable," they urged students to find a way to distinguish themselves, and attain true language proficiency by choosing study abroad programs that offer language immersion opportunities. All stressed the importance of learning to write well. Many of the panelists completed graduate programs, and as they reflected on graduate school as an option after graduation, they cautioned the students in the audience to select graduate programs carefully to truly align with their interests. They encouraged students who are thinking about earning post-graduate degrees to develop their disciplinary writing skills, perhaps through writing honors theses.

They urged students to develop mentoring relationships with IR (or other) faculty and cautioned them to not take for granted the quality of the IR instruction and advising at Bucknell, especially if they are considering graduate work. Many reflected fondly on the mentoring relationships that formed with various IR faculty during their studies at Bucknell and observed that those relationships continue even today. While some of the panelists encouraged students to consider public service, others suggested volunteering by underscoring the value of a hands-on experience to augment theoretical knowledge.

Noting that such volunteering experiences, be it through the Peace Corps or through other venues, have tremendous value as skill-building experiences. Ultimately, the panelists reminded the audience of the strengths of a liberal arts background.



*Jeanne Hey '85*

## Coming Home, Cont'd

The last of the commemorative events was a reception held for students, faculty, and alumni on October 24, which brought together all IR constituencies and provided a lovely opportunity to reconnect and mark the occasion. Provost Smyer, who provided opening remarks, described the IR Program-now-Department as "ahead of the curve" and stressed the importance of being educated as globally aware individuals.

We were very pleased to see our students and alumni interact during these events and were once again reminded of the strength of our alumni's ties to IR. Many who could not attend wrote to offer their congratulations and encouragement. We're including some of the notes we got below.

## In Their Own Words: Reflections of Three of Our Early Alumni

Two of our alumni, from the early days of what was to become a major and program shared their memories with us—they shed a great deal of light on how the interdepartmental majors (which later were formalized into the IR major) were conceptualized by students who were interested in international affairs and wanted to engage the subject matter from the vantage point of a number of disciplines. Here's what they recall:

**David Robbins (1974).** I would like to share a story with you that you might find interesting relating to my own International Relations degree which predates the formal International Relations Program by 10 years. When I was a Freshman at Bucknell in 1970 I promised myself I would take a survey of the various humanities and social science programs available and so took courses in among others, Sociology, Psychology, Political Science and Japanese and Chinese History. The two courses that stood out for me were my political science class with Tom Travis and my Japanese/Chinese history class with David Lu. I wound up taking more courses with them and determined to do a double major. Japanese Studies offered a major so that was easy. Political Science of course had a major, but I wanted to focus on the international aspects and particularly to tie my Japanese Studies with a broader understanding of the world and how it works. In my second year I

designed a program that cobbled together my Japanese Studies and Political Science courses with courses in other social sciences, notably Sociology and proposed to the Dean a second major that I called "International Relations". This was approved by the Dean and I graduated in 1974 with the double major in Japanese Studies and International Relations. I hope this is an interesting bit of trivia. My education at Bucknell set me on the path to an international career in law that has taken me to Japan three times to live and work (twice in the '80s and again now) and to places as familiar as London, Paris and Brussels and as far flung as Moscow, Warsaw, New Delhi, Hanoi, Dubai, Sao Paulo, Jakarta, Manila and on and on working on international transactions. A lot of airline miles and a lot of time away from home but also a lot of fun and challenges along the way. And the best reward is a circle of friends that spans the globe.

**Shelley Sternad Dempsey (1976).** As one of the very first IR "majors" at Bucknell in 1976, I could only dream that IR would eventually become a real major and a thriving department. Along with a few of Dick Peterec's advisee's, I asked if I could develop an interdepartmental major that would combine my interest in Political Science, Geography, and Sociology. Other students had similar combinations but included other majors such as economics, business and history. We also travelled with Dick to the Middle East/Rome/Greece and the Eastern Bloc (Russia, Poland, E Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary) in 1975 and 1976. At that time Bucknell had a winter mini-term (Jan Plan) that allowed students to pursue interesting programs both on and off campus. The current IR major and your Dept. have exceeded my wildest expectations. interdepartmental major led me to a career in law and work in Washington, DC for the Federal Communications Commission, State Department, and White House where I helped develop international satellite policy and develop international telecommunications regulations. I then worked for the law firm Chadbourne Parke doing public law and policy for telecommunications, energy and environmental clients. My career was a bit short-lived though since I've been home for the past 25 years raising 4 sons. However, my interest in international issues continues. I am now thrilled to report that we have two current Bucknellians. Connor is a senior Business/Philosophy double major and my youngest son Reed is a freshman, living in the Global Residential College, and hopes to major in IR!! So the tradition continues...

**Rick Laboda (1983).** Could it really be 25 years ago? The Program should indeed be celebrated. I'm sure it has meant as much to others as it did to me. I started as a freshman management major in the Fall of 1980. It wasn't for me. After taking "intro" courses in almost every liberal arts subject, and through interaction with folks like Stamos, Peeler, Sackrey, Susman, Marsh, Peterec, Patton, and Poteet, I knew what I wanted to do. Luckily the IR program was just being formed and it seemed like it was designed with me in mind. I fielded a lot of questions about how I was going to "use" my major in life. I'm happy to say I've used it every day. The critical thinking skills I learned, the appreciation for and interest in the world beyond our borders, and the tolerance of those different from myself will always be with me and made me who I am today. I'll never forget the feeling I had when I handed John Peeler my senior thesis in December of 1983. There wasn't going to be a next semester, I was done and it was time to move on. It was kind of bittersweet, as I had enjoyed the experience so much.

## Homecoming Guestbook



*Homecoming Academic Village, photo courtesy of Nicole Meyers '11*

Bucknell's fantastic International Relations staff and the interdisciplinary nature of the major greatly contributed to my interest in International Development and gave me the academic background to pursue a graduate degree in this area. *Amy Bruno '09*

The Department of International Relations has been an integral part to my liberal arts education at Bucknell University. It has given me invaluable critical and analytical thinking skills that are useful in all walks of life. No matter what career path I ultimately choose, I will always be grateful for my experiences in the

Department of International Relations at Bucknell University. *J. Ward Abel '09*

Though my career has moved into the education field, my IR experience continues to enhance my performance as a teacher. I try to instill in students the same critical thinking skills, thirst for new knowledge, and ability to make "real world" connections that I was able to develop in the IR program at Bucknell. *Kira GaNun '07*

Just want to say thanks so much for organizing this! I wish I could be there. As for my IR major at Bucknell, it was a terrific major and I am still glad I chose it and know it was the right choice for me. I knew that when I realized I actually really enjoyed studying for my IR classes! What I also appreciate is how for IR we constantly discussed world events and I felt so up on the news. It gave me a good understanding of political, economic, social, cultural & religious forces in the world. Here's to another great 25 years! *Kitty McDonnell '94*

The IR program at Bucknell provided me with a holistic foundation of knowledge for my future. The program's interdisciplinary nature allows students to analyze international affairs from many different perspectives and ideologies. This skill is invaluable in the working world and for graduate studies. *Laura Fresco '08*

Thank you for organizing such a great opportunity! *Jess Sturzenegger '10*

I am grateful for the amazing and supportive professors in the IR Department. It has truly added to my educational experience. *Cristina Sacco '10*

What a wonderful reception—even for us "old-timers." *Jill (Brown) Waters '82*



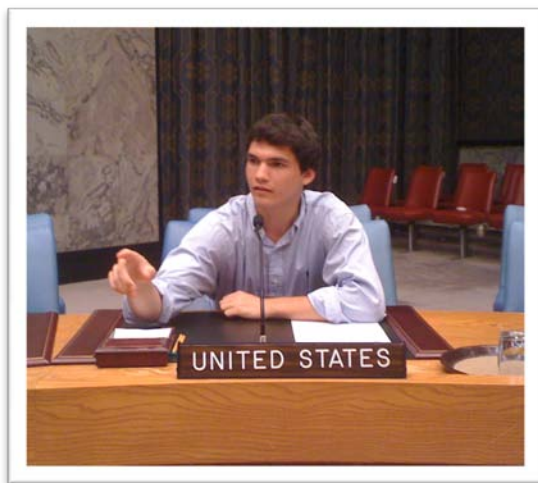
*IR Reunion Reception, photo courtesy of Nicole Meyers '11*

## What They Did Last Summer: Two IR Majors Recount Their Internship Experiences

### Students:

Visit the Career Development Center [website](#) to get more information on how to locate and apply for internships.

Many students are increasingly spending their summers in various internships to gain new skills, apply the knowledge that they are gaining in their courses to specific tasks, network, and explore career opportunities in their chosen fields. IR students are no exception. We asked two IR students to reflect on their internship experience and relate it to their field of study. Specifically, we asked them (1) *where* they worked last summer, (2) *what* their positions entailed, (3) *what* the most *memorable experience* of their internship was, and (4) if their internship changed their *perspective on their major* and, if so, how. Here's what they said:



Isaac Margulis '11

- ✓ I worked at the United Nations Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development (GAID), an initiative approved by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2006, which was launched after comprehensive worldwide consultations with governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical and Internet communities and academia.
- ✓ I organized a database for the steering committee and strategy council. I wrote several press releases, and helped out whichever staff member asked for a hand.
- ✓ My first week interning the UNDESA-GAID held a conference on Sustainable Urbanization in the Information Age. The focus of the conference was to discuss the role of infrastructure in metropolitan development.
- ✓ Yes, absolutely. I had recently picked IR as my major and was not too sure if it was exactly

what I wanted to study. I was able to apply some of the things I had recently learned about the UN's Millennium Development Goals to the organization I was interning for.



Jane Irwin '11

- ✓ I worked at the American Chamber of Commerce in Spain which seeks to foster relationships between American companies and foreign ones. AmCham Spain the companies to do business in the other country by informing them about laws, the local business culture etc.
- ✓ I was involved in a few different projects which included researching member companies and compiling the research to show what percentage of the GDP AmCham Spain's members accounted for and how many jobs they provided. The most interesting project though involved researching the piracy/counterfeit problem in Spain and around the world.
- ✓ When my boss showed me the Board of Director briefing books, a compilation of all the statistics and background information I had gathered over the course of the summer. Seeing the final product of my hours of often tedious work was definitely rewarding
- ✓ Performing my tasks and learning about AmCham's projects did not necessarily change my perspective on IR, but did broaden my scope of understanding. Thinking about it now while enrolled in IREL 250, I realize that IR isn't all about theories of human nature, but sometimes it is just about people working together and sharing ideas.

Interviews by Abigail Yingling '10 and Nicole Meyers '11

### Alumni:

If you are an IR alum who is able to place one of our students in an appropriate internship, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Please send us an [email](#).

## IR Faculty News

**Professor Shinko** had a busy but professionally rewarding October. She was invited to participate on a panel to review Ann Town's new book "Women and States" in addition to making presentations on publishing in IR, networking, service and volunteerism in the International Studies Association at the Northeast International Studies Association. She was also invited to attend the Millennium Conference "After Liberalism?" at the London School of Economics at which she presented an article entitled "Ethics After Liberalism: Why (Autonomous) Bodies Matter." She completed an article for inclusion in a scholarly project on liberalism involving various academics from the UK and the US.

**Professor Stamos** was on sabbatical leave for the Fall 2009 semester. After using the summer months to finish revising a co-authored textbook, *Economics: A Tool For Understanding Society* (9<sup>th</sup> Edition) and continuing to work on a new book for Rowman and Littlefield press, *The Puzzle of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Globalization* (with Patrice Franko, a Bucknell alum and Professor of Economics at Colby College), he spent three weeks in New Zealand and three weeks in the San Francisco Bay area looking at Sustainability and Globalization programs at various universities. He has also been re-elected as the Director of the Latin American Studies Program at Bucknell.

**Professor Uçarer** published two chapters, one on the rights of non-European Union citizens in EU territory and another on the field of Justice and Home Affairs in the European Union. She will be presenting two papers at the International Studies Association meeting in New Orleans in February 2010, one on the politics of humanitarianism in the EU and another exploring the reactive nature of European integration in the sphere of migration.

**Professor Watson** published three articles in the last year: "Raciology, Garveyism and the Limits of Black Nationalism in the Caribbean Diaspora"; "Alienation and Fetishization: A Critical Analysis of 'Radicalism and Innovation' in the New World Group's Approach to and Rejection of Metropolitan Intellectual and Political Hegemony"; and "W. Arthur Lewis and the New World Group: Variations within the Analytic Framework of Neoclassical Economics."

**Professor Zhu** presented two papers recently: "China and the Middle East" at an international conference at the U.S. Naval Academy in October, and "China's New Diplomacy toward Southeast Asia" at the Mid-Atlantic Region Asian Studies Association annual conference held at Villanova University in November. He was

interviewed by the Danish newspaper Weekendavisen to comment on President Obama's November visit to Asia and US-China relations.

## Alumni News

In this section, we hope to highlight news from our alumni. Let us know what you are doing by sending us an email to [international-relations@bucknell.edu](mailto:international-relations@bucknell.edu). We would also welcome short submissions on projects or perspectives.

**Guy A. Messick (1974).** After Bucknell, Guy graduated from the University of Miami Law School where he tried to continue the international theme with classes in international law. Guy went so far as to become the Editor for Ocean Law for the Inter-American Law Journal. Alas, the international career path was concluded when he left law school. After law school, Guy was law clerk to a federal judge in Seattle, a district attorney in Media and then he entered into private practice where he has developed a specialty working with credit unions. Guy helps credit unions learn how to better collaborate with each other in order to successfully compete against larger financial institutions. He works with the federal and state credit union regulators to advocate for a regulatory framework that permits credit unions to innovate and collaborate to meet the challenges of the financial marketplace. He is currently involved as an instructor in a professional certification program for collaborative business structures that is offered at Pepperdine University. Guy lives in Media, PA. He has three children, Bryan, Adam and Allison. Bryan is a Bucknell alum (Class of 2002, Business Management).

**Shereef Zaki (2006).** I love the education and experience I received at Bucknell. After graduating in 2006, I first worked as an analyst at an energy company and then worked in International Development (fundraising) at the University of Pennsylvania. In July of 2008 I took a month of unpaid leave to lead a trip with Putney Student Travel to El Salvador where I guided 15 high school students through a month of experiences reminiscent of the Bucknell Brigade's. In July 2009 I resigned from Penn and led a second Putney trip to Ecuador. I have stayed in South America and am now a Fellow with Kiva Microloans. Currently I live in Northern Peru and am capacitating one of Kiva's new partner microfinance institutions. My fellowship ends in November but I plan on doing another in Lebanon or the West Bank come February. My interest in microfinance is multifaceted, touching on how effective it is as a development tool, a means to conflict resolution (by transforming apparently zero



*The IR Faculty teach a wide array of courses and engage in interesting research—this summary will give you a sense of what we are currently working on.*



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[Visit the IR  
Department.](#)

See the International  
Relations [Fact Sheet](#).

*We'd love to hear  
from you. Send your  
updates and/or your  
short submissions on  
projects or  
perspectives to [us](#).*

*The **IR Matters!**  
newsletter highlights  
events and people in  
the Bucknell IR  
community. The  
publication appears  
once a semester and  
welcomes feedback  
and submissions  
from students,  
alumni, and faculty.*

## Alumni News, Cont'd

sum conflicts into non-zero sum interdependencies) and the potential it holds for spreading sustainable energy resources (along the lines of solar electrification in rural areas).

**Priscilla Enner (2007)** I'm working at the Project on National Security Reform. We are partially funded by Congress. We do research and have started helping some organizations out with implementation. One of these is the National Counterterrorism Center. During my grad school years, I was the Executive Assistant to the Director, and I've now become his Special Assistant, working on his special projects. My first research topic is "regional interagency centers" which looks to establish a truly diplomacy-development-defense base in regions, rather than just the defense-based combatant commands.

**Joseph Flutie '03** I was accepted into Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona where I plan on earning an International MBA and becoming proficient in Arabic. The school will afford me an incredible opportunity to travel and I hope to use my education to get more involved in US Foreign Policy.

**Kim Cahill (1989)** I've enjoyed reading your IR newsletter and wanted to share my update. I spent a semester abroad, Bucknell en France in Fall '89, and it changed my life. I knew that I needed to work in an international and multicultural environment. I have spent most of the last 20 years in international education. I taught English as a Second Language in the evenings and provided some French-English translation in addition to my administrative duties. I then accepted a job at the University of Pennsylvania as an international programs coordinator while I pursued an MS with a concentration in intercultural communications. For the last six years, I have been at Temple University's Fox School of Business, directing the international business initiatives at the Institute of Global Management Studies (IGMS). Last year, we sent more than 100 business students abroad in 14 different nations including India, Brazil and China. This opportunity captures all that fascinates me—helping students gain an international experience, working in an international and multicultural environment, and getting paid to travel! All of this would not have been possible without the leadership of Dr. Travis, the boundless and inspiring energy of Dr. Peterec, and my study abroad experience in Tours, France. When I graduated in 1989 with a degree in International

Relations, people would ask, "What are you going to do with that?" It has led me on this exciting and rewarding career path that would not have been possible with my undergraduate degree, training and experience as an IR major at Bucknell!

## Of Note: Campus News and Events

[International Relations celebrates 25th anniversary.](#) International Relations at Bucknell University celebrated its 25th anniversary with a series of events on Oct. 22 and 23.

[Robert F. Kennedy Jr. leads spring Forum.](#) Internationally renowned environmental lawyer and bestselling author Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will kick off the spring events with a talk titled "Globalization and the Green Economy: A New Vision for American Leadership and Strength."

[Bucknell Forum: Humanitarian Jody Williams to speak March 9.](#) Activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams, the founding coordinator and campaign ambassador of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, will give a talk this spring as part of the ongoing Bucknell Forum speaker series.

[Jim Keady](#) discussed sweatshops and social justice.

[Bucknell hosts Climate Action Festival Oct. 14-17.](#) Michael Dorsey, principal investigator in Dartmouth's Climate Justice Research Project, spoke on Thursday, Oct. 15. He was the keynote speaker at Bucknell's 350 Climate Action Festival, a four-day event designed to draw attention to the environmental and social repercussions related to climate change.

[Speaker says China already a world power.](#) China Conference: Despite "extreme" economic and military growth, China still is vulnerable to domestic issues such as climate change, poverty and an eventual slowdown, speaker David Lampton says.

[Bicycles Against Poverty making a difference.](#) The war-torn villages of northern Uganda are a world away from the Bucknell campus. But a student group - Bicycles Against Poverty - saw an opportunity to address problems there.

