



# IR Matters!



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Dear International Relations Students, Alumni, and Friends:

I write these lines the day after graduation, always a highlight of the academic year. This year, we graduated 39 IR majors and 11 IR minors of the Class of 2011 who now join the ranks of our alumni. It has been a very busy year for us, and as you will be able to tell from some of the following stories, it has also been a rewarding one for IR and its extended community. We feature some of those highlights in this issue.

At the end of this semester, I will be stepping down as the chairperson of the IR Department, as I am preparing to leave for a year-long sabbatical in Europe in June. I have greatly enjoyed serving in this capacity, and building bridges between my departmental and university colleagues, our students, and our alumni. I have witnessed firsthand the strength of the bonds that bind the IR community and have been humbled by the generosity of spirit of our alumni to connect back to their alma mater and give of their time and talent. We are very proud of all of your achievements and are forever grateful for all that you do for us. Professor Hilbourne Watson is assuming the duties of leading the department, starting this summer. He brings to this position a wealth of experience and the cumulative wisdom of his 30+ years in the profession which will make such a transition easier than most.

## Professor Stamos Retires

After 37 years of distinguished service, Professor Stephen C. Stamos will retire in July 2011. It is difficult to summarize his vast contributions to our campus. He came to Bucknell in 1974 after getting his PhD in Political Economy and has been serving tirelessly since. Those who know him no doubt realize that Professor Stamos wears many hats. He has served Bucknell in the Department of Economics, and later in the International

As always, we look forward to hearing from you with feedback, suggestions, comments, and news and welcome submissions for our next newsletter.

Finally, I'd like to thank the IR community on and off campus for your energy and support. It has been a privilege to work with you.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful spring and summer,

Emek M. Uçarer  
Chair, International Relations Department



Relations Program, pioneered with a handful of colleagues the Latin American Studies Program that has become a thriving focus, and has been teaching and writing on issues of the environment and sustainability long before these became mainstays of contemporary academic curricula.

He is an Economist who has been a longtime champion of and has a natural facility in teaching in an interdisciplinary fashion.

## Stamos, Cont'd



Stephen C. Stamos

Professor of  
International  
Relations

*"I love teaching and still think I am very good at it. I continue to do research and write and enjoy it as well. Yet, there comes a time to give oneself the opportunity to do something different as tempting as it is to continue doing that which you love and have a passion for doing."*

*Prof. Stamos*



Professor Stamos celebrating the end of the semester with his capstone students in 2006. Photo courtesy of Brianna Evans

As his students will attest, he is a very serious and challenging teacher who expects his students to be able to understand and evaluate unfolding events through the lens of the particular class that he's teaching. So it is no surprise that he has been recognized by the university for his accomplishments in teaching—he is the recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and is also a Presidential professor. He crosses disciplinary boundaries with ease and functions effectively in different settings, no doubt because of his endless desire to learn and share.

He has written prolifically on themes relating to Latin America, Globalization, and Sustainability. He has always been an active participant and leader in university governance by serving on and chairing the University Review Committee, directing and co-directing the Latin American Studies Program as well as the International Relations Program, and working tirelessly to promote the internationalization and greening of our campus.

To honor his contributions to Bucknell and his academic discipline, the IR Department organized a panel discussion entitled "Globalization: Anticipating the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" on April 15, 2011. The panel featured Professors Tom Riddell and Patrice Franko. Tom Riddell is

Associate Dean of the College and Dean of the First-Year Class at Smith College. He taught in our own Economics Department before he moved to Smith College and is the coauthor of a popular economics textbook *Economics: A Tool for Critically Understanding Society*. This book, now in its 9<sup>th</sup> edition, is co-authored with our own Jean Shackelford, Steve Stamos, and Geoff Schneider. Patrice M. Franko is the Grossman Professor of Economics in the economics department and Professor in the international studies program at Colby College, where she teaches international economics, Latin American economic policy, and microeconomics. She is the author of *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development*, *Toward a New Security Architecture in the Americas: The Strategic Implications of the FTAA*, and *The Brazilian Defense Industry*. The panelists engaged the issue of globalization through the disciplinary lens of economics, paying particular attention to how these processes impact Latin America and the environment, two areas in which Professor Stamos has been working over the course of his career. The event was well-attended and provided interested members of the campus community with an opportunity to think about some of the issues that Professor Stamos cares about so deeply. We were also very pleased that almost all of his immediate family as well as a number of his students over the decades could attend.

## Retirement Thoughts from Professor Stamos

I came to Bucknell in 1974 to join the Economics Department. After 15 years in the Economics Department, I accepted the opportunity to become a full-time member of the International Relations Program as that program was growing quickly and needed more faculty attention and participation. After 22 years serving the IR Program and the university for 37 years, I have decided to retire at the age of 64 years. I love teaching and still think I am very good at it. I continue to do research and write and enjoy it as well. Yet, there comes a time to give oneself the opportunity to do something different as tempting as it is to continue doing that which you love and have a passion for doing.

Being at Bucknell has given me a great number of opportunities to develop myself as a person and a professional and as a consequence be able to give more back to my students. My interdisciplinary knowledge and interests have allowed me to teach: economics courses (Principles, Intermediate Micro Theory, Radical Political Economy, Economic Development, Environmental Economics, Energy Economics, and Latin American Economic Development), IR Capstone courses and seminars and courses on Globalization, and Foundation Seminars for the Environmental and Global Residential Colleges. I was able to develop and teach in the summer Institute for Leadership in Technology and Management for 15 years. Since coming to Bucknell, I have been a part of the Latin American Studies Program and the Environmental Studies program. My research in Latin American Development, International Economics and Finance, Globalization and the Political Economy of Energy allowed for the publication of seven books and many articles. Outside of the academy, I had the good fortune to serve on the Board of Directors of a publically traded environmental company, be an

economic consultant and advisor to an investment group, and to teach in the JP Morgan training program.

My wife Lucie (who retired last year) and I are looking forward to having the time to see more of our children (Barry our son, his wife Sydney and their son Beau in Chicago; Lisanna our daughter and her husband Ocaly in Raleigh), our families, and our friends. We, of course, have our list of countries that we want to visit in the next few years. I can't wait to read fiction and enjoy art, music, poetry, and theater – things that I love but have not had the time to experience to the extent that I would like. After taking some time off (real time off!) walking beaches and rainforests, watching birds fly, and flowers grow, I am inclined to do some writing....it could even be future oriented global political economy fiction.

As you are no doubt aware, the IR Program in the past couple of years under the leadership of Prof. Uçarer has become a Department, has a new major, and has a phenomenal staff. It has become one of the most successful, visible, and dynamic Departments in the university.

I would like to suggest that if you are so inclined, it would be a great benefit to the IR Department to make an annual [designated gift](#) to the IR Department that can be used to support student initiatives, travel, and guest speakers. Our budget does not provide any money for these kinds of things.

I look forward to seeing many of you at future alumni gatherings and homecomings as well as hearing from you from time-to-time on e-mail. Take care, Prof. Stamos.

## Lessons from Southern Sudan: Public Health at Work in the Field

In July of 2009, I began a journey from Los Angeles to rural Southern Sudan, to take on a new role as a Technical Advisor for The Carter Center-supported Southern Sudan Guinea Worm Eradication Program (SSGWEP). Guinea worm disease (GWD) is an ancient scourge that predominantly afflicts communities lacking access to clean water, as it is solely transmitted by drinking contaminated, stagnant water – mostly from ponds. However, GWD is slated to become the second disease in the world – after smallpox – to be eradicated. Since 1986, the number of detected GWD cases has plummeted from over 3.5

million worldwide to 1,797, and been localized to 4 countries of sub-Saharan Africa at the end of 2010.<sup>1</sup> Southern Sudan reported 95% of these cases.

While this reduction represents the concerted efforts of The Carter Center and other coordinating entities, The Carter Center's work is a living, breathing example of why international relations matter and how to do it right. The Carter Center staff does not come to do the job for a community – the impossible, especially as related to Guinea worm.



*“I look forward to seeing many of you at future alumni gatherings and homecomings as well as hearing from you from time-to-time on e-mail.”*

## Lessons from Southern Sudan, Cont'd

“ ...

*The model is often an innovation in the field, where years of top-down international interventions need to be untaught for a Guinea worm sub-program to be successful.*

*In my time as a technical advisor, I discovered that the most important aspect of my position was giving people the knowledge to reclaim their communities from this disease, by explaining modes of transmission and how to properly protect themselves from the parasite. ...”*

*Bozena Morawski '04*



Instead, it works with communities to provide tools that the community may adapt and use in the local context. The model is often an innovation in the field, where years of top-down international interventions need to be untaught for a Guinea worm sub-program to be successful.

The above-referenced reduction in cases most importantly represents the will of individuals to eradicate the threat of GWD to their community. In my time as a technical advisor, I discovered that the most important aspect of my position was giving people the knowledge to reclaim their communities from this disease, by explaining modes of transmission and how to properly protect themselves from the parasite. Your team has succeeded when a current Guinea worm patient, who previously refused to be admitted to the local GWD Treatment Center, presents herself at its gate the day after a community meeting is held with village elders. Working as a Technical Advisor is a lesson in humility and patience because of these vital relationships with local communities.

Besides working in the field, I managed and made decisions for a team of people upon whom I depended equally – and almost totally – for everyday life and professional success. They are men from a highly patriarchal culture; they are older than me; and they live having experienced things seen – by most of us – only on the evening news. They are simultaneously staff and the only consistent social outlet for miles. They are guides, translators, and sometimes negotiators. The complexity of navigating these relationships is a defining aspect of this experience – much more so

than the lack of amenities in everyday life. For this reason, and many others, working in this capacity is among the most difficult and rewarding positions that I will ever hold.



The campaign against GWD continues, and I am honored to have participated in this unique triumph of health education over an ancient human parasite. I am struck by the fact that Guinea worm's story is coming to a close at the same time the story of a new nation begins. Southern Sudan will soon be the world's newest country, and there exists equal amounts of struggle and hope. The triumphs of the SSGWEP speak to the enormous potential of the Southern Sudanese to work towards a more equitable and secure future. I hope that my Sudanese colleagues and I carry the lessons learned from SSGWEP equally into the future.

*Bozena Morawski '04*

Bozena will be starting a PhD in Epidemiology at the University of Minnesota in the fall.

<sup>1</sup> All case information is based on provisional 2010 figures.



*Photos courtesy of Bozena Morawski '04*

## IR Professors Promoted

During this academic year, three International Relations professors have been promoted. Professors Mitchell and Zhu have been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure. Professor Uçarer has been promoted to Full Professor. Congratulations to all three for reaching these important career milestones!

## Sigma Iota Rho Induction

On April 23, 2011, the Delta Alpha Chapter of Sigma Iota Rho initiated its second group of seniors. This was also an occasion to pass the executive baton from the current Executive Committee (Cassie Castorino, President; Nicole Meyers, Vice-President; Allie DeRosa, Secretary; and Kat Humphrey, Treasurer) to the newly elected executive committee (Leila Ensha, President; Erinn Flandreau, Vice President; Katherine Skilling, Secretary; and Holly Schock, Treasurer).

The keynote speaker for the event was Clare Ribando Seelke, a Specialist in Latin American Affairs with the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the research arm of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. She came to CRS as a Presidential Management Fellow and completed rotations with the State Department in the Dominican Republic and with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Her visit was made possible by the Annenberg Speakers Bureau (ASB), which educates students about the federal workforce and inspire a new generation to serve. She delivered a keynote address entitled "Pathways to a Fulfilling Career in International Affairs."

This year's inductees are as follows: Cassandra Castorino, Alexandra DeRosa, Caroline Dunne, Stephanie Frank, Nicholas Gonsalves, Grace Han, Kathryn Humphrey, Lauren Kostas, Nicole Meyers, Claire Munley, Emily Norton, Meredith Schuessler, Jocelyn Scott, Emily Seldin, Ashley St. John, Adam Straubel, Jennifer Welch, and Eric Willner. Congratulations! We wish you all well.

## IR Students Receive Awards at Graduation

Each year, a number of students are presented with awards during graduation week. This year, four IR students received a number of university-wide

awards. Nicole Meyers '11 (IR and Political Science double major) and Jennie Welch '11 (IR and East Asian Studies double major) shared the Bucknell Prize in International Relations, an award presented to a senior demonstrating outstanding academic performance in the study of International Relations. Nicole was additionally awarded the Charles Longley Prize for achievement in Political Science and Jennie was also presented with the Prize for East Asian Studies. Andrew Rath '11 (IR and Economics double major) and Nick Gonsalves '11 (IR and Geography double major) received the University Prize for Men awarded to a senior with the highest GPA. Andrew also received the William C. Gretzinger Prize which recognizes achievement in Economics and Nick was awarded the Bucknell Prize in Geography (Achievement in Geography). We congratulate these students on their exceptional achievements.

## Jennie Welch '11 Awarded a Fulbright to China

Bucknell senior and IR major Jennie Welch has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Grant for a 10-month policy research project in Xi'an, China. She will be working to implement an academic counseling program in rural secondary schools in the hope that more students will attend high school. "Only about one out of 20 youths ends up going to high school in this area," Welch said. "We are hoping the academic counseling will encourage them to go to high school or vocational school." Welch hopes to receive funding to complete a study abroad program through Middlebury College in Hangzhou before beginning her Fulbright research. Last summer, Welch traveled to western China to study regional development policy with the help of a National Science Foundation research grant (see story in this issue). In the summer of 2009, Welch completed an intensive language program in Beijing. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.



## Sigma Iota Rho



*Sinesis: Prudence*

*Ideodoi: Ideals*

*Rhomi: Power*

## Incoming Sigma Iota Rho Executive Committee

*Leila Ensha  
(President)*

*Erinn Flandreau  
(Vice President)*

*Katherine Skilling  
(Secretary)*

*Holly Schock  
(Treasurer)*

*Check out the Sigma Iota Rho web page (which is currently under construction) at [www.bucknell.edu/~x60952.xml](http://www.bucknell.edu/~x60952.xml)*

*See also*

*[www.sigmaidarho.org](http://www.sigmaidarho.org)*

## An Adventure in Uganda



Tom Travis, Professor Emeritus of IR, climbing in Peru

*“Uganda has been called “the pearl of Africa” and for good reason. It is blessed by a favorable climate, and has fertile land, lush forests, many lakes and high, misty mountain ranges.”*

Tom Travis

IR Professor  
Emeritus

Retirement has enabled me to expand my world-wide traveling in a search for cross-cultural knowledge. In late 2010 I took a five week trip to Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya in East Africa. I concentrated on Uganda, wanting to observe how the country had responded to decades of despotic rule and civil war, to teach in its universities, and to observe the beautiful countryside and diverse wildlife.



A class at Kampala University

Uganda was plagued by the tyrannical rule of Idi Amin from 1971-79 who murdered more than 300,000 people, targeting the northern tribes, intellectuals and rival politicians and ruining the once promising economy, partly by expelling the Asian merchant community. After he was expelled by an invading Tanzanian army, the country descended into a brutal, destructive civil war, which ended with the triumph of the National Resistance Movement headed by Yoweri Museveni in 1986.

Museveni has been president ever since, and has

engineered a quite remarkable transformation of Uganda. He ended civil conflict in all of the country, except in the north where the government only recently defeated the fanatical Lord's Resistance Army. He has created a sense of common national identity and diminished rivalry on tribal/ethnic lines. He has established a quasi-democracy, with reasonably free national elections and improving civil liberties. He has liberalized the economy and invited ousted Asians to return, which energized a steady 8-10% growth rate, one of the highest in Africa. Public education has expanded and universities are spreading across the country. Kampala, the capital city, has developed rapidly, the center city full of skyscrapers, the hills dotted with middle class houses, and the roads full of automobiles. The government initiated a successful program to combat AIDS, which has significantly decreased the percentage of HIV positive people.

However, I noticed plenty of problems, too. The democracy is imperfect, with some political opponents being jailed on trumped up charges, and Museveni engineered a constitutional amendment that abolished Presidential term limits, which will extend his rule. Corruption is rampant, with too much money going into the pockets of politicians rather than being used for the public good. Money has also been wasted on military expenditures, and interventions in neighboring countries. The road system is horrible and Kampala is being polluted by automobile exhausts and choked by traffic jams. Economic growth has not reduced huge inequalities. Rural Uganda, where most of the people live, remains very poor, and most of the villages lack electricity and potable water. I was saddened by the condition of many rural children who walk barefoot on the rutted roads, wear torn clothing, and are malnourished. I also was bothered by the religious fundamentalism of the Catholic and Protestant churches (75% of Ugandans are Christian), which has led to extreme positions on social issues.

I lectured on American politics and American foreign policy toward Africa at a number of public and private universities. I generally found the students to be bright and well-informed about the world; they asked good questions and were eager to engage in debate. However, the students and faculty tended to be conservative about social issues of gender and homosexuality.

Uganda has been called “the pearl of Africa” and for good reason. It is blessed by a favorable climate, and has fertile land, lush forests, many lakes and high, misty mountain ranges. Beyond its topographical beauty, it has a well developed system of national parks, and I visited most of them. I was enchanted with the gorillas at Bwindi National Park, the chimpanzees at Kibale National Park, and the hippos, lions and giraffes at Murchison National Park.

I developed an affection for the Ugandan people, who are friendly and resilient, and plan to return in 2012 to teach for a month at Kampala University.

*Tom Travis*  
*Professor Emeritus of International Relations*



*A group of fifth graders.  
Photos courtesy of Tom Travis*

## IR Launches International Relations Student Speaker Series

This spring, the International Relations Department hosted a series of student presentations to highlight the research and experiences of IR majors and minors. Four students were featured: Stephanie Frank (Class of 2011), Jennie Welch (Class of 2011), Lima Ahmad (Class of 2013), and Adam Straubel (Class of 2011).



*Stephanie Frank '11*

Stephanie Frank began the speaker series with her presentation on February 25<sup>th</sup>, entitled “A Glance into Morocco's Present and Potential Future: the Migration of Unaccompanied Minors to Spain.” Stephanie explored Morocco’s “culture of migration” and what forces influence so many Moroccan youths to migrate to Spain. Her analysis reveals that “inadequate education, family pressure, lack of labor rights, and globalization” are the major factors that compel Moroccan youths to migrate to Spain “in unsafe manners.” She argues that this trend is endangering not only the young migrants, but also Morocco’s potential to develop in the future.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, Jennie Welch presented her research on

rural economic development in China as the second installment of the speaker series. In the summer of 2010 Jennie participated in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), in which she travelled with a team of students to northwestern China to examine the impacts of China’s regional growth policy, the Great Western Development Strategy (GWDS). Her team’s research revealed that the policy has had different levels of success within the region due to disparities in the allocation of funding and government support, but that overall the GWDS has contributed positively to the west’s economic growth and development of social institutions. However, her team fears that the shortage of secondary and post-secondary education opportunities, the lack of water conservation policies, and the ongoing scarcity of jobs in the region could threaten future development.

Lima Ahmad '13 presented in the third installment of the series on April 13<sup>th</sup> and discussed her experiences at the 2011 Clinton Global Initiative Conference. The conference’s aim was to gather the future generation of world leaders so that they may collaborate on developing programs to address serious international needs. Conference participants made “Commitments to Action” across five different categories: education, the environment, peace and human rights, poverty reduction, and health. Lima’s commitment was to pilot a library program in a school for girls in Afghanistan, a region that is “now recovering from the negative effects of Taliban-taught education.” She reported that the conference helped her to develop her commitment further through “sharing and learning from others who

*The International Relations Student Speaker series provides students with an opportunity to showcase their research, develop presentation skills, and educate the campus on a topic of interest. This series was made possible by the donations of alumni to the IR Department.*

## Student Speaker Series, IR Hosts Alex Dupuy: Examining Haiti's Sovereignty



Lima Ahmad '13

have the same commitments in their countries."

The final presentation of the series was given by Adam Straubel on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Adam's research, entitled "Morocco and Tunisia: Divergent Paths for First Generation Human Rights," explored the different political and historical trajectories of these two states. His analysis revealed that while both states were very similar immediately after achieving independence, today they have distinctly different sets of civil and political rights. These "divergent paths" emerged, according to Adam, as a result of differences between the Moroccan and Tunisian leaders and differences between the type and amount of international pressure applied to Morocco versus Tunisia. Adam found that international pressure regarding human rights was more successful in Morocco because this pressure was stronger and because there was a new Moroccan king that was open to reform and responsive to this pressure. The paper on which Adam's presentation was built was published by *Eidos*, Bucknell's academic journal publication.



Prof. Dupuy

In April, IR hosted Alex Dupuy, professor of sociology at Wesleyan University, who gave the talk, "Class, Power, and Sovereignty: Haiti Before and After the Earthquake," on Thursday, April 21.

In his talk, Dupuy examined the notion that Haiti lost sovereignty with the creation of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission following the Jan. 12, 2010, earthquake. He argued that the concept of sovereignty must be understood as relational and relative, contingent on the specific configuration of social relations within a society and relations of force (economic and political) between countries. Applied to the specific case of Haiti, many have decried the loss of Haitian sovereignty with the creation of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission.

"I argue that the assumption that Haiti was sovereign prior to the earthquake was an illusion, because the dominant political and economic classes in Haiti long ago surrendered political autonomy and the formulation of economic policy to the foreign powers and international financial institutions involved in Haiti to enter into a partnership with foreign capital for their mutual benefit," said Dupuy.

Dupuy is an internationally recognized scholar and specialist on Haiti who has given interviews and commentaries on Haitian affairs on local, national and international radio and television networks, including the "News Hour" with Jim Lehrer, National Public Radio, the BBC, and the CBC.

He is the author of *Haiti in the World Economy: Class, Race, and Underdevelopment Since 1700* (1987); *Haiti in the New World Order: The Limits of the Democratic Revolution* (1997); and *The Prophet and Power: Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the International Community, and Haiti* (2007). The talk, which was open to the public, was part of the University's series, "[Resist, Reclaim, Recreate: Stories of Survival and Transformation in Haiti](#)." It was supported by a generous donation to the international relations department from the Chuck and Gail Dombeck Family, with additional funding from the Griot Institute for Africana Studies, the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Bucknell Institute for Public Policy.



Adam Straubel '11

Read about other IR-sponsored events [here](#).

## The Value of Undergraduate Research

In the summer of 2010 I participated in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), a program in which I was given funding to travel to rural western China and conduct research on China's regional growth policy, the Great Western Development Strategy (GWDS). Later in 2010, my teammates and I were extended the honor of presenting our project at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Eastern Economics Association (EEA) Conference and at the Council on Undergraduate Research's (CUR) 2011 Posters on the Hill event.



Paul Krugman's Key Note Address

Thanks to the International Relations Department's support, I was able to attend the EEA Conference, held in New York City on February 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>. The EEA is an academic association that publishes the *Eastern Economics Journal* and hosts an annual conference and meeting of members. The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, which my teammate Meredith Houck (University of North Carolina Asheville) and I attended, showcased the research of hundreds of career economists and Economics professors, as well as the work of undergraduate students. My teammate and I presented our team's research on the GWDS before an audience of peer undergraduates and their faculty advisers, and then spent the remainder of the weekend attending the professional presentations. These presentations covered a multitude of topics, from the connections between poverty and the insurgency in Afghanistan, to how internet gaming communities model real economic behaviors. A particularly relevant subject was the 2008-2009 financial crisis, which was addressed by EEA president and Nobel Prize-winner Paul Krugman. Dr. Krugman's key note address argued that economists had failed to recognize signs of an oncoming crisis in part due to the deficiencies of modern Economics curriculum and that education, now more than ever, requires flexibility, collaboration, and a willingness to

address problems from multiple perspectives. The EEA Conference was a wonderful opportunity for my teammate and I to develop our presentation skills, to critically analyze our own and others' research methodologies and findings, and to begin to explore the plethora of subjects under the umbrella of Economics.



Congressman Van Hollen and Jennie Welch

In March of 2011, my teammates and I were notified that we were one of 70 successful applicants (out of a total pool of 700 applicants) invited to attend CUR's annual Posters on the Hill event in mid-April. The Dean of the College of Arts and Science provided me with the support necessary to present the REU research with my teammates Meredith Houck and Isa Harrison (Central Washington University) through a large poster which would be displayed in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill. The event also included individual meetings with our Congress members and Congressional staff members.



From left: Isa Harrison, Meredith Houck, and Jennie Welch in front of team poster

*"The (Eastern Economics Conference) was a wonderful opportunity for my teammate and I to develop our presentation skills, to critically analyze our own and others' research methodologies and findings, and to begin to explore the plethora of subjects under the umbrella of Economics."*

Jennie Welch

'11

*“The skills and lessons gained ... have laid an essential foundation for my future career ambitions, and applying to participate in an undergraduate research program was without a doubt one of the best decisions I have made at Bucknell.”*

*Jennie Welch '11*

*Join the [International Relations Alumni Group on LinkedIn](#).*

I met with Congressman Chris Van Hollen of Maryland's 8<sup>th</sup> District, a Legislative Correspondent (LC) on Maryland Senator Ben Cardin's staff, and an LC from Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski's staff. The program concluded with the poster session in the Rayburn House Office Building, during which my team discussed our research on China with other students, faculty members, CUR members, and Congressional staff members. Posters on the Hill was an especially timely event given the current budget debate and initiatives in Congress to cut funding from the NSF, which helps to support a great deal of undergraduate research.

From my own experience conducting research as part of the REU in China last summer, I can say with confidence that undergraduate research presents a learning opportunity unlike any other. The skills and lessons gained from this REU have laid an essential foundation for my future career ambitions, and applying to participate in an undergraduate research program was without a doubt one of the best decisions I have made at Bucknell.

*Jennie Welch '11*

## The New Economic Landscape: The United States and the World after the Global Financial Crisis

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the IR Department, in conjunction with the Career Development Center, hosted a lively panel discussion featuring Professors Stephen Stamos, Bill Gruver, and Patrice Fanko '80. The talk focused on the place of the U.S. in the new global economy, the challenges for the U.S. economy in the new global economy, the prospects for global financial stability, and a global strategy for the United States. Professor Franko, one of Professor Stamos's first Bucknell students and now the Grossman Professor of Economics at Colby College, urged participants to consider the second world as next emerging drivers of globalization, specifically Brazil.

Professor Gruver concentrated on the strategy behind key players in the financial crisis, how a few select robber barons laid out the framework for the collapse and since reaped the benefits of the bailout.

Professor Stamos explained how the financial system misjudged the risk of the crisis and thus accountability is still up for debate. In light of the global recession, one of the central issues which will continue to be addressed is the relationship between state and market. The notion has developed that when markets fail, governments need to pick up the slack. One must ask the questions what is the United States doing in the industries it needs to win? What is its strategy? Consumption, investment, and government spending are all dormant with negative or anemic growth, yet these are the tools the public and private sector need to capitalize on to bring about targeted growth.

The discussion also had an inherent international dimension as globalization is the study of economic, political and social interconnectedness within the world system. As Professor Stamos, Gruver and Franko clearly explained, the United States no longer governs a unipolar world and actors such as the BRICS will inevitably carve out the new economic landscape.

*Nicole Meyers '11*

## IR To Launch LinkedIn Group for Alumni

In an effort to further enhance our alumni network, the Department of International Relations will soon be launching its own group on [LinkedIn](#). We realize that many of our alumni are already LinkedIn users and thought that a designated group would better assist us to keep in touch. The new group is called [Bucknell University International Relations Alumni](#). Be on the lookout for an invitation to join soon. We hope you do if you think this initiative is appropriate and helpful.

## Student News

After graduation, they will be...

- Volunteering in Guayaquil, Ecuador for a year with Rostro de Cristo, a Catholic non-profit that is committed to spirituality, service, community, simplicity and hospitality. She will be working at an Ecuadorian non-profit, clinic or school during my term (Emily Norton '11).
- Working in San Francisco for CBS Interactive as an Account Representative selling advertising space on tech, business, and news websites (CNET, CBS Moneywatch, CBSNews, BNet, TechRepublic, and ZDNet) (Eric Willner '11).

## Student News, Cont'd

After graduation, they will be...

- Living in Xi'an, in Shaanxi province of China, completing a Fulbright grant to conduct research on academic counseling in China. Jennie will study the impacts of a counseling program that will be implemented in rural secondary schools (Jennie Welch '11).
- Working in New York City for Grameen America, a domestic microfinance agency, as a Project Manager. Nicole will be working on strategic partnerships and corporate sponsorships (Nicole Meyers '11).
- Working in Washington D.C. at the US Senate for Senator McCaskill as a Press Intern. Emily will be working on social media, tracking clips, media lists, and new media (Emily Seldin '11).

## IR Faculty News

**Professor Shinko** has been asked to serve as the Publicity Officer/Secretary for a new IR Theory Section for the International Studies Association. This is a two year position which involves the development and promotion of this new section. At the ISA Conference in Montreal, March 16-19, 2011, she served as discussant for a panel entitled "New Militarism and the Politics of Knowledge", roundtable participant on "Substantive Diversity in International Studies and the International Studies Association, chair of "Being Fab in a Dangerous World: The International Politics of Fashion" and presented a paper "This is Not a Mannequin: Enfashioning the Body of Resistance." She has been invited to attend the World International Studies Conference in Porto, Portugal and will present "Embodied Resistance Practices" as part of a panel she organized and also will chair. As a result of her work on the body she was asked to contribute a section on "Theorizing the Body in IR" for a new book *Designing Critical Inquiry*, edited by Mark Salter and Can E. Mutlu.

**Professor Uçarer** made a number of presentations this semester. In February, she delivered a talk entitled "Trafficking in Women: A Global Challenge in Regional Context" at Florida International University in Miami. At the International Studies Association meeting in Montreal in March, she presented two papers: "Third Country Nationals and the European Union: The Multilevel Governance of a Regional Mobility Regime,"

and "May It Please the Court: Using an International Criminal Court Simulation to Teach International Law." At the European Union Studies Association Meeting in Boston, she presented the paper "Resisting the EU: NGO Advocacy in Justice and Home Affairs." She is currently working on developing all three papers into publications. She will be on sabbatical leave during the 2011-2012 academic year. In fact, she leaves for Berlin in June 2011, to return to the United States in August 2012. She will be affiliated with the [Kolleg-Forscherguppe "Transformative Power of Europe"](#) at the Free University of Berlin where she will undertake and present research on the role of nonstate actors in European Union governance, the creation of an Area of Freedom, Security, and Justice in the European Union, and trafficking in persons in the EU territory. She was awarded a Bucknell International Travel Grant in Spring 2011, with the help of which she will be travelling to Brussels, Belgium in June 2011 to conduct research. She looks forward to seeing everyone again in August 2012 and would welcome visits from those who plan on traveling to Berlin next year.

**Professor Watson** worked with Bucknell faculty and administration to organize the Bucknell University Haiti Semester through which four Haiti specialists were brought to campus during the spring semester. He organized the public lecture by Alex Dupuy (see earlier story) as well as the faculty reading group associated with his visit. He participated in the panel on the crisis in the Middle East which was sponsored by the Griot institute and spoke on "Egypt and the Middle East in the Current Crisis of Global Capitalism." He attended the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference in Curacao, the Netherlands Antilles, in May/June and presented a paper on "Sovereignty, Development, and Democracy in the Caribbean: Antinomies of Transnational Capitalist Globalization."

**Professor Zhu** presented a paper titled "China-India Relations Today: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" at the 2011 Midwest Political Science Association conference in Chicago in April; he also chaired a panel on public opinion in China. He has been invited to present at the London Debates on Human Rights seminar hosted by the University of London in May 2011.

We invite you to see our [faculty profiles page](#) to see the Curriculum Vitae of our faculty and peruse their research and teaching interests.



*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.*

*Take a look at a short [video](#) we produced about the IR Department and major. We would be pleased to bear your [thoughts](#).*



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

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.

**Shannon Schissler '04.** I graduated in May 2006 from the University of Miami with a MA in International Administration and a concentration on Russia. In June of 2006 I joined the Peace Corps as a Municipal Development Volunteer in Santa Rosa de Copan, Honduras. After serving as a volunteer for two years, I was selected as an intern for the United States Agency of International Development (USAID). There I worked in both the Program and Strategy Office and the Democracy and Governance Office. After my one year internship, I received a contract from USAID to continue my work in the Democracy and Governance Office as a Project Development Assistant. In November 2009, I was selected as a Program and Project Development Foreign Service Officer for USAID and moved to Washington DC to begin training before heading off to my assigned country.

## Of Note: Campus News and Events

**[Blind Everest climber speaks at Commencement.](#)** Erik Weihenmayer, a mountain climber, author, filmmaker and humanitarian, who in 2001 became the only blind person in history to reach the summit of Mount Everest and has since completed his quest to ascend the highest peaks on all seven continents, was Bucknell University's 161st Commencement speaker.

**[Haiti Recovery Efforts Featured on Patriot League Academic Network.](#)** The Patriot League Academic Network was launched earlier this year to showcase some of the nation's premier academic institutions.

**[Jennie Welch '11 receives Fulbright for research in China.](#)** Bucknell senior Jennie Welch has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Grant for a 10-month policy research project in China. She will be working to implement an academic counseling program in rural secondary schools in the hope that more students will attend high school.

**[Philip Roth '54 wins prestigious Booker Prize.](#)**

Author and Bucknell University alumnus Philip Roth, Class of '54, is the winner of the fourth Man Booker International Prize.

**[Reunion to welcome thousands June 2-5](#)**

Bucknell University will host Reunion Weekend June 2-5, with close to 2,000 alumni and their families planning to return to the campus.

**[Student groups work to bring classmate's sister from Ghana to U.S. for brain surgery](#)**

A group of students has come together to help their classmate Kodjo Karikari, a native of Ghana whose 17-year-old sister has a brain tumor. Karikari hopes to bring Akua Adoma Ofori, to the United States for life-saving surgery.

**[Bozella talk April 28: wrongful imprisonment.](#)**

Dewey Bozella, who was wrongfully imprisoned for 26 years before being exonerated and released in 2009, delivered the speech, "Freedom: One Man's Quest to Prove his Innocence".

**[Professor examines Haiti's sovereignty .](#)**

Alex Dupuy, professor of sociology at Wesleyan University, gave the talk, "Class, Power, and Sovereignty: Haiti Before and After the Earthquake".

**[Bucknell Forum: Haitian-American Edwidge Danticatt.](#)**

Noted Haitian-American author Edwidge Danticat, who has been honored with the MacArthur Genius Award and other top honors for her writing and work on behalf of Haiti, gave the talk, "Create Dangerously."

**[Peace activist addresses non-violence.](#)**

Jesuit priest and internationally known peace activist John Dear S.J. gave the talk, "The Road to Peace: Practicing Non-violence in a World of Violence and War".

**[Bucknell hosts 'Gasland' screening.](#)**

The documentary film, "Gasland," was screened on campus. The screening was followed by a discussion with the film's writer and director, Josh Fox, who will also participate in a question-and-answer session.

**['Resist, Reclaim, Recreate' series explores Haiti.](#)**

Academics and authors, a performance artist and an alumna activist explored the history, culture and effects of the earthquake on Haiti and its people in the series, "Resist, Reclaim, Recreate: Stories of Survival and Transformation in Haiti".