Bucknell Students at Selma March 50th Anniversary

By Mohammed Elnaiem ’16

We are a group of activists in Bucknell that sent a delegation to two important civil rights events that happened last Spring Break. Our Journey began with a trip to Selma to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Selma-To-Montgomery March, And the Voting acts right of 1965 in Selma, Alabama. In commemoration of Bloody Sunday, Bucknellians joined a peaceful march over the bridge where, on March 7, 1965, six hundred peaceful marchers were flanked and beaten by Alabama State troopers, leaving over 50 in a hospital.

Bucknellians then joined a caravan to Saint-louis with the SCLC to join the truth-telling weekend just miles away from the site of the death of Micheal Brown, an unarmed teenager who was shot by officer Darren Wilson. The truth telling weekend brought people together to talk about their experiences and victimization by systemic police brutality in the United States.

President Obama, former president George W Bush, and many Civil Rights leaders were present. They marched alongside a delegation of youth sent from Ferguson, Missouri.
National Tribes in Burma
By Carmen Oo ’17

Burma has had a good relationship with Bucknell since 1858. This dates back to when Maung Shawlooo, the first Burmese student to be in the United States, arrived at Bucknell University, which was then called Lewisburg University. When Burma got its independence in 1948, the first Burma – Bucknell Weekend was held. The purpose of this weekend was to reconnect with friends from Burma, gain a sense of mutual understanding between old and new friends and expand the knowledge of each other’s cultures. It was since then, that the Burma – Bucknell Weekend became an annual event.

After many years, Burma-Bucknell Weekend has evolved to Annual Burmese Dinner. At the start of every year, upper class Burmese students welcome the new Burmese students by going to dinner with them. They then introduce them to the Burmese club and the activities associated with the club. Every spring semester, the Burmese club hosts the Burmese Dinner, which is the biggest event of the year for the club. During the event, performances of traditional dances, songs and cultures are displayed. The food consists mostly of Burmese food which is ordered from nearby Burmese restaurants. Each Burmese Dinner has a theme which is chosen by the members. Past themes have included ‘Burma Meets West’ and ‘Thingyan Festival’. For this year, 2015, our theme was ‘National Tribes in Burma’. The club represented different tribes situated in Burma with dances and a fashion show. Since there are not a lot of Burmese students at Bucknell, a total of seven students, it was hard to manage and organize the club.

However, with the help of the club members, Burmese Dinner each year ends up as a success. There was a membership dinner at the end of the event and it was equally fun as the event. It bonds the club members and executives of the club.

The Burmese Club is also actively involved with SAAB (Students of Asian Awareness at Bucknell) and has been involved in activities such as calligraphy events and The Asian Gala. The club represents Burma in all its activities. In order to improve diversity awareness and keep the Burmese tradition in Bucknell, the club is trying its best to present Burma in every aspect of its immense culture. We welcome Burmese students as well as students from other countries to be part of the club and make the events successful.
Katrina Service Trip

By Fernanda Fonseca

We decided to make our spring break a meaningful time. It has been two years that the Katrina storm happened but its marks still remain on the areas impacted. ‘Friends of Rockaway’ is a group of people that decided to make a difference in the lives of several families that were affected by the storm by helping them fix and rebuild their houses. This group asks volunteers from within the United States and all around the world, to join them in carrying out tasks that do not require professional skills. These tasks include repairing and building houses that were damaged during the storm. Here is the part where Bucknell comes in play; some students and I volunteered for a trip that Bucknell was offering to do community service. At first, I was in doubt whether to go or not on this trip, since I had never done anything similar in my entire life. Fortunately, I decided to go and that was the start of a life changing experience. It was by far, the most rewarding experience. Fifteen Bucknell students had decided to join on the service trip and so we were divided into two groups so we could help out two families rebuild their homes.

Four others and I went to a house to work on the basement. The family that owned the house was still living there as it was only the basement that was affected by the flooding and storm. They told us a bit about their story and what happened during the storm (they decided to remain in the house as the storm occurred). It seemed really terrifying. They saw their house get flooded; the ceiling destroyed and heard people screaming for help. I think it was important for them to share their experience with us, as this gave me and the group a whole new level of motivation in helping them rebuild their home.

Throughout the week, we were able to do so many things. First, we basically destroyed everything, which landed us the nickname “Dames of Demolition”, as we were only women were working in that group. We removed the ceiling, base isolators, walls, frames and carpets. The team was thorough with everything and I am glad and honored to have had the opportunity to work with an amazing and strong group of women.

In the last two days, we started to work on the framing. It was really fun to learn and use all the tools at our disposal, such as screw drivers, hammers and an electrical saw.

I only have great things to say about this trip and the opportunity that Bucknell gave us. All the people that I met, students, staff from Bucknell, the people from the church that hosted us during the week and the families that we helped changed my life and the way I see things. Thank you Bucknell!
Senior Profiles

Name: Zach Berliner

Major(s) and minor(s): Economics & Environmental Studies (Double Major)

Hometown: Livingston, NJ

Favorite/Most meaningful Bucknell Experience (s):
I enjoyed having the opportunity every day to meet new people, talk to them, hear their stories, and expose myself to a multitude of perspectives that not only differ from my own, but that also force me to critically evaluate and sometimes even change my perspective. I also loved getting to explore and feed my addiction to music by playing in various ensembles, performing at multiple events at different venues, and getting to see and meet master performers in the Weis Center and on campus.

Plans after graduation: I plan on pursuing a dual degree, consisting of a law degree (JD) from Pace Law School in environmental law, and a master’s degree (MS/MA) in environmental policy/management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Advice for non-seniors: Get out of your room and expose yourself to as many people, perspectives, ideas, and experiences as possible! College is one of the few times in life where we are (relatively) independent, while also having (relatively) little to lose by trying something new, whether it is a new club, group, course, or setting with new people. Don’t be afraid to put yourself out of your comfort zone; you may just discover yourself in the process. Also, although your academic studies are the primary focus of your four years at Bucknell, remember that so much learning also happens outside of the classroom. Try to always critically evaluate and learn from your experiences with your friends, hall mates, classmates, or other people or settings you find yourself subject to during any day. Every individual on this campus is a treasure trove of information, knowledge, wisdom, and potential fun times waiting to be tapped in to, so make it your business to do so!
Name: Carolina Cormack-Orellana

Major(s) and minor(s): Classics & English double major, concentration in Creative Writing

Hometown: Bellflower, CA

Favorite/Most meaningful Bucknell Experience(s): My relationship with my Posse (shoutout to LA Posse 2 woooo!), excavating an ancient temple site in Greece with the Bucknell Classics Department, attending the JMU’s Furious Flower Poetry Conference through the English Department, shelving books at my job in Bertrand Library, performing stand-up comedy with The ‘Nell Party, studying abroad in Rome, Italy, and spending hours in the back couches of the Bison laughing with my best friends.

Plans after graduation: I have accepted a position in Chicago as a Reading Enrichment Scholar Coach with the Schuler Scholar Program, helping high school students from underrepresented backgrounds broaden their perspective of the world and gain access to top-tier universities. I’ll be doing this for two years, and then applying to graduate school. Right now I’m looking into English PhD programs, Journalism or Higher Education/Diversity Affairs.

Advice for non-seniors: You will be happiest at Bucknell if you are your true self. Although the pressure to conform is huge and it can seem daunting to break apart from the norm, it feels awful to pretend to be something you’re not. Embrace every part of yourself and only change if you want to, not because your social environment makes you feel like you have to.

Facts about International Students Admitted to the Class of 2018

- 26 students were admitted through the Early Decision Process.
- 133 students were admitted through the Regular Decision Process.
- International students admitted are coming from more than 50 countries.
- Some of the countries include Croatia, Tanzania, Russia, United Kingdom, India, Canada, Myanmar, South Africa, Costa Rica, Mauritius, etc.
- To find out more about International students at Bucknell and for recent updates, visit the International Student Services page: http://www.bucknell.edu/ISS
Upcoming IEA Events

- **ISS and MSS Senior Recognition Dinner**
  - April 20th. 5:30PM
  - (RSVP Only)

- **Lavender Graduation**
  - April 21st. 6:30 to 8:00PM
  - (RSVP only)

- **Playing with Fire Film**
  - IEA Multipurpose Room
  - April 16th. 9PM
  - ELC 045

- **Chrysalis 2015**
  - Performed by: Joan Jett and the Black Hearts
  - 24th April. 9PM
  - Gerhard Fieldhouse

- **Global Women Film Series: Africa is a Woman’s Name**
  - April 19th. 9PM
  - ELC 045

**Professional Staff:**
- Bill McCoy (LGBTQ Resources)
- Jennifer Figueroa (ISS)
- Tracy Russell (WRC)
- Vincent Stephens (MSS)
- Padma Ravichandran (Interpersonal Violence Prevention Coordinator)
- Myrna Perkins (Administrative Assistant)
- Sue Radel (Office Coordinator)
- Editors: Chanda Singoyi, Caesar Vulley

**Intercultural Equity and Advocacy Offices**
- ISS || MSS || WRC || LGBTQ
- 064 Elaine Langone Center
- Bucknell University
- 570-577-3216
- Monday – Friday: 8:30 – 4:30
- Visit IEA at: www.bucknell.edu/IEA