

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Greetings, all!

Just a few days ago, we bid farewell to Bucknell's class of 2025 during our 175th commencement ceremony. It was a cool and overcast day but the collective joy and pride in the audience was palpable. We start each academic year with convocation and candlelighting, a cherished Bucknell tradition for our first year students. And then, in four short years, those same students walk again through the Matthewson gates on their way to commencement, bringing their Bucknell experience full circle. Just as it is hard for first years to imagine commencement, it is hard for our seniors to imagine leaving Bucknell to start a new chapter of their lives. But, without fail, first years become seniors and seniors launch new lives, armed with knowledge, skills, and lifelong friendships they have cultivated throughout their time here. IR's Class of 2025 has cherished members, 18 majors and 13 minors and we are immensely proud of each and every one of them. We wish them well and hope to hear from them regularly to celebrate their milestones and accomplishments. It was a privilege to accompany them through their years at Bucknell.

The campus is now quiet until summer session starts, but it was a busy spring for all. With the world in constant flux, we brought IR theories and practice to life in our classes as we sought to keep pace with developments at home and abroad. We hosted Professor Jeffrey Pilcher, a food historian and professor in the Department of History at the University of Toronto in Canada, for a talk about global interconnectedness, using the political economy of beer as a case study. Professor Pilcher attended classes and interacted with students during his visit, to the delight of students and faculty colleagues alike. He gave a highly engaging campus lecture, the details of which you can glean from Professor Mitchell's review in the following pages.

Our students have been busy as well. Many of them studied abroad in the spring. We are very happy that student study abroad participation has returned to its pre-pandemic levels and are delighted that many are able to have this formative experience that generates empathy, cultural competence, and memories to last a lifetime.

In this issue, you can read about the experiences of two students, Caroline Corbett '26 who studied in Amman, Jordan for the entire year (what a time to be living in the Middle East!) and Grace Kim '25 who studied abroad in Asia Pacific. Their stories are a testament to the unique value of studying abroad. Just a few weeks before graduation, we celebrated the Class of 2025 during our senior send-off. This is a wonderful opportunity to pause and reflect on their approaching graduation, even when the semester is in full swing and end-of-semester papers and projects are due. We use this opportunity to also announce the winner of the Bucknell Prize in International Relations, awarded to a graduating senior demonstrating outstanding academic performance in International Relations and engagement with global affairs. Please read on to find out the recipient of this year's prize.

At our senior send-off, I told our students that I felt as if I was graduating with them. I took on the role of chair of International Relations four years ago, just as they were arriving on our campus. It has been an honor to serve the IR Department as chair during the last four years and now it is time for me to pass the baton. Professor Mitchell will be assuming the role of chair for a year next year before Professor Cymone Fourshey takes on the mantle for a four year term. The Department will be in steady and capable hands as both are experienced and accomplished campus leaders. As I step down from this position, I am grateful for the community of colleagues, students, and alumni who have contributed in countless ways to the mission of IR and Bucknell. It has been a privilege to serve. As the world changes and adjusts to new realities, it is as important as ever for us to remain engaged and develop and apply the tools to understand the causes and consequences of global processes.

As always, let us hear from you. If you are ever in the area, stop by for a chat and catch us up on what is happening in your lives. We would love to hear from you.

Warm regards,

Professor and Chair, International Relations Department

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HOW THE US AND CHINA SLEEPWALKED INTO A TRADE WAR

A week after announcing “reciprocal tariffs” on virtually all US trade partners on 2 April, President Trump paused tariffs for all other countries for 90 days but increased them to 145% on China. China is going out on a limb, engaging in a tit-for-tat tariff war. Trump claims that countries are dying to make deals with him. China’s recalcitrance must be extremely humiliating for him.

The tariff war reflects deep problems in US-China relations. America’s bipartisan, knee-jerk reactions to China’s rise with hostile and punitive policies, and China’s failure to assuage America’s anxieties about its decline have contributed to the sorry state of the bilateral relationship. The tariff war is not just about trade; it reveals an inconvenient truth: the two powers are struggling to handle competition properly.

To make America great again, Trump has vowed repeatedly to eliminate America’s trade deficit and bring manufacturing jobs back. His solution is using high tariffs. China has insisted that disputes must be resolved through negotiations based on mutual respect and equality. However, Beijing has not done enough to address concerns and complaints from the American side, including the business community.

Both sides knew the tariff war was coming but failed to prevent it. The bilateral relationship started off well as Trump recaptured the White House. Xi gave Trump a congratulatory call, and Trump invited Xi to his inauguration. Xi sent Vice-President Han Zheng to Washington in his place, a friendly gesture since Beijing typically sends a lower-ranking official to attend such events.

Poor communication channels

However, communication channels between the two governments have not been smooth. On 24 January, Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a phone conversation with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, during which Wang used a four-character Chinese idiom to tell Rubio hao zi wei zhi, translated neutrally as “act accordingly” or more harshly as “conduct yourself well”.

In the following weeks senior Chinese officials including Wang Yi tried to engage the Trump administration, they found only closed doors. Wang reportedly sought a meeting with Trump’s national security adviser Mike Waltz in February while he was in the US for a UN meeting but was unsuccessful.

Meanwhile, Trump suggested that he and Xi would have a call soon but insisted that Xi should reach out to him first. Though he has maintained politeness towards Xi and praises Xi as a smart leader, Trump clearly felt upset and snubbed by Xi’s inaction.

The Chinese conduct business differently. Typically, lower-level officials would iron out an agreement or at least reach some consensus before top leaders talk and make announcements. Unable to work out an agreement with their counterparts, Chinese officials must feel frustrated and disappointed. Lack of effective communication led to the eventual breakout of the tariff war. Beijing’s swift, multi-pronged responses to Trump’s new tariffs suggest that China is prepared for a protracted trade war. Beijing’s retaliation notwithstanding, it needs to double the efforts to reach out to the Trump administration to lower tensions.

Mutual trust deteriorating

In the midst of the tariff war, mutual trust continues to evaporate, putting future US-China relations in great jeopardy. Chinese authorities have issued advisories to warn Chinese tourists and students of potential risks of traveling or studying in the US now.

On 9 April the Chinese Communist Party held a central conference on China’s relations with neighbouring countries. Days later Xi travelled to Vietnam, Malaysia and Cambodia and called President Prabowo of Indonesia to mark the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations. China has been working with Japan and South Korea to promote trilateral trade recently. Xi also hosted Spain’s Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez in Beijing on 11 April. All these are clear messages to Washington that the US is not China’s only market, and perhaps not an indispensable one either.

Indeed, China’s reliance on the US market has steadily declined since the first Trump administration. In 2018 China’s exports to the US accounted for 19.2% of its total exports, and in 2024 they dropped to 14.7%. China has been actively diversifying its international markets, with total exports to global south countries already surpassing those to developed nations.

Misunderstanding US decline

The tariff war will not cripple the two economies, but will hurt consumers on both sides and disrupt the global supply chain, causing economic distress worldwide.

“The US-China rivalry is not a game of chicken; it is a competition for the future, and that future can be created together.”

Prof. Zhiquan Zhu

(cont.)

Trump's desire to bring manufacturing jobs back to America and revive America's middle class is understandable. However, reindustrializing America faces huge hurdles.

Decades of offshoring have drained critical manufacturing skills and dismantled essential supply chains in America. It takes years, if not decades, to rebuild these systems. In addition, American workers are more expensive than those in developing countries, making it difficult to bring back mass production without driving up consumer prices.

Even if the US can build factories, lack of raw materials and industrial components would stall any reindustrialization ambition. Simply put, high tariffs will not protect American workers and industries.

No great power can maintain global supremacy forever. America's relative decline is not caused by China or any other power. It is a result of what historian Paul Kennedy called "imperial overstretch" in his seminal book, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*.

As an example, the US had around 750 military bases in at least 80 countries as of July 2021, and as of September 2022, there were over 170,000 active-duty troops across 178 countries. The actual number may be higher since not all data is published by the Pentagon.

Maintaining military personnel and facilities abroad is costly. If the US government cuts the ever-growing military budget and spends more on education, infrastructure and healthcare, Americans will live happier and be better prepared for competition with foreign rivals.

A win-win future?

Both countries need to focus on domestic problems that a tariff war cannot solve. China's slow economic growth may create challenges for political and social stability. The Chinese government must identify ways to boost domestic consumption and stimulate growth. The US government needs to stop viewing China's development as naturally menacing and destabilising. Instead, it should encourage young Americans to study China and Chinese so that they can become more competitive globally.

A win-win future?

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The US-China rivalry is not a game of chicken; it is a competition for the future, and that future can be created together. Both sides hold out hope for negotiations and seem ready for de-escalation from the tariff war. It is high time that political leaders on both sides demonstrated wisdom and courage to map out a viable path forward together.

Kishore Mahbubani, retired senior Singaporean diplomat and one of Asia's greatest thinkers today, suggested in his acclaimed book *Has China Won?* that the question is not whether America or China will win, but rather whether humanity will win.

In this highly interdependent and globalised world, great power competition is not a zero-sum game. Rising tides lift all boats. For the interests of their own people, and for peace and prosperity of the international community, the two great powers must be realistic and learn how to live together and manage their relations constructively.

Prof. Zhiqun Zhu

Originally published in [ThinkChina](#)

"In this highly interdependent and globalised world, great power competition is not a zero-sum game."
Prof. Zhiqun Zhu

“HOPPED UP”: HOW BEER BECAME A GLOBAL COMMODITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROFESSOR UÇARER

Sometimes the more mundane aspects of life can offer us some of the most significant insights into the world around us, once we are willing to look below the surface. This is no truer when considering the spread and popularity of beer. Yes...beer! For the aficionados among us this might be self-evident, but for the rest of us (or a teetotaler like myself) this is something we need to learn. So, the lecture by Dr. Jeffrey M. Pilcher, Professor of History and Food Studies at the University of Toronto, who was invited by the IR Department to lecture on his most recent book, “Hopped Up: How Travel, Trade, and Taste Made Beer a Global Commodity”, proved to be an illuminating experience. Pilcher gave the audience an overview lecture of his book, mainly skipping the early chapter that focused on pre-modern beer making, to highlight the emergence and global spread of European style beer, with a specific focus on lager. Instead of reproducing his lecture, I'd like to highlight some themes that emerged in the lecture and his book that reveal how our consumption of this everyday product is connected to historical and contemporary circuits of knowledge, identity formation and politics, and the development of multinational corporations.

Modern beer brewing benefited from both formal and informal networks of brewers borrowing, sharing knowledge, and in some cases stealing brewing styles and techniques. Individual brewers and family businesses competed against one another for local and regional markets and, as particular types of beer became more popular, brewers sought to adopt new forms of fermentation or experiment with ingredients. The development of railroads gave these brewers greater reach for their product, which in turn fueled more competition as consumers were attracted to newer beers, such as Pilsners. This was accelerated in the nineteenth and early twentieth century with the creation of schools where there was increasing adoption of scientific techniques.

The overall growth of the industry was further fueled by brewing journals and professional societies that were increasingly at the center of new global networks spreading brewing expertise. However, what truly accelerates the growth of lager is colonization. Colonial settlers brought with them their tastes and established breweries in different parts of the world creating global networks of brewers. Brewers in Africa, North American, and South America brought their style of brewing to these regions, but maintained linkages with other brewers in Europe as ways to develop their beers to meet the taste and quality expected of settlers. The beers became popular with colonial communities and indigenous populations, where they came to outcompete traditional forms of beer or alcohol.

Emerging throughout his lecture was a recurring theme of identity in connection to beer. The growth of lager among indigenous populations, for example, wasn't simply about a preference for the taste of the beer, rather it was shaped by prohibitions against the brewing of local drinks and the associations connected to European beer. For indigenous elites, in increasingly urbanized settings, European beer was treated as a sign of sophistication with its “clean” and “brilliant” taste indicative of a modern lifestyle. Ironically, among European and North American brewers, the advertising often harkened to a nostalgia for bucolic or patriotic past. Pilcher noted that the convergence between brewing, consumption, and identity is not a thing of the past, as modern micro-brewing that is dominated by men relies on masculine imagery. The same brewers conceive of themselves as outsiders challenging the big brewers, even though they engage in the same type of imaging making and benefit from the technological developments and know-how of larger brewers.

(cont.)

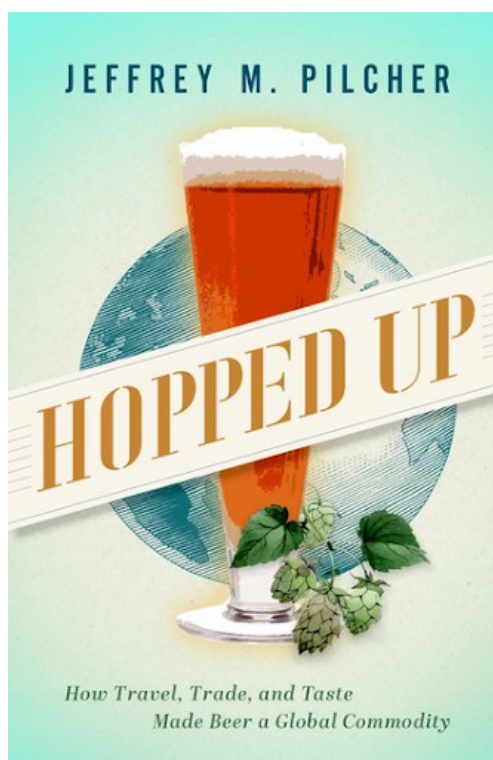
“Modern beer brewing benefited from both formal and informal networks of brewers borrowing, sharing knowledge, and in some cases stealing brewing styles and techniques.”

Prof. David Mitchell

An especially interesting aspect of Pilcher's lecture and book highlighted the place of women in the history of brewing. Around the world women brewed beer, however, with the commercialization and consolidation of the industry women were often shut out or prohibited from brewing. Nonetheless Pilcher argues, women continued traditional brewing, which in the case of South Africa, became an alternative to the government sanctioned beer halls, thus acting as source of practical opposition to the apartheid system.

Last, in Pilcher's history, we get a glimpse into the history of the modern global economy and multinational corporations. Pilcher explains that by the mid-twentieth century, lager had become nationalized on a global scale with many countries possessing their national beer champions that dominated their respective markets. The processes varied from country to country, but national consolidation, mass marketing, and, in some cases, a political decision to cultivate domestic beer production ensured the creation of national brands. But this was not to last as a number of factors converged to lead to consolidation on a global scale. Domestic desire for imported beers, a desire to expand to new markets, and the neo-liberalization of the global economy created the conditions for a rush of mergers by large multinational brewers. Most high-profile of these was Anheuser-Busch's purchase by AB Inbev, which was the product of a merger between Brazilian Ambev and Belgium Interbrew. A consequence of this consolidation by a handful of mega-conglomerates is the similarity of lager beers. Pilcher argues that this history of lager's development is a beer that largely tastes the same regardless of brand and where it is purchased, despite the claims of the individual brands and the perception of consumers. Micro-brewers have developed in response to these giants, but for Pilcher, many of these "small" brewers are producing some of the same type of light lager and aspire to the same scale.

Pilcher gave us a well-crafted lecture that presented the history of lager beer that touched on political, economic, and cultural developments, but in doing so, gave us a case that can be used to think more deeply about global relations.



For those that are interested, Pilcher has written extensively about Mexican food, including three books: ¡Que vivan los tamales! Food and the Making of Mexican Identity (1998), The Sausage Rebellion: Public Health, Private Enterprise, and Meat in Mexico City (2006), and Planet Taco: A Global History of Mexican Food (2012). He is also the sole author of the Oxford Handbook of Food History and Food in World History.

Prof. David Mitchell



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROFESSOR UÇARER

"Pilcher gave us a well-crafted lecture that presented the history of lager beer that touched on political, economic, and cultural developments, but in doing so, gave us a case that can be used to think more deeply about global relations."

Prof. David Mitchell

"I began learning Arabic during my freshman year at Bucknell and quickly fell in love with the challenge of 'connecting the dots.' Now, having reached an advanced level, I realize I have more dots than ever to connect: How do we foster meaningful cross-cultural communication? How can we promote a spirit of curiosity over competition? And most urgently—what comes next?"

Caroline Corbett '26

MY YEAR IN JORDAN

I spent the past year in Amman, Jordan studying Arabic and International Relations as a Boren Scholar— an honor awarded through the Department of Defense-funded Defense Language and National Security Education Office (DLNSEO). Its purpose is to encourage students to study languages critical to American national security in non-western facing countries.

I began learning Arabic during my freshman year at Bucknell and quickly fell in love with the challenge of "connecting the dots." Now, having reached an advanced level, I realize I have more dots than ever to connect: How do we foster meaningful cross-cultural communication? How can we promote a spirit of curiosity over competition? And most urgently—what comes next?

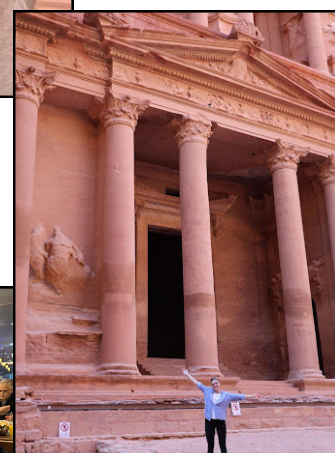
I studied geopolitics of the Middle East with the School for International Training, then focused on Arabic in the spring with CET. I lived with a host family, learned about tribal law's intersection with civil law, witnessed Jordan's parliamentary election, rode camels, met American diplomats, and even saw Iranian missiles fly overhead. Most importantly, I solidified my passion for connecting people to promote cross-cultural communication.

In the fall, I interned at the Politics and Society Institute, Jordan's leading political think tanks. On November 5, I spent the morning working on my principle project of compiling a list of American students to connect with Jordanian peers who had written policy papers on environmental issues, part of a project sponsored by the U.S. Embassy. I ended my evening surrounded by Jordanian politicians, academics, journalists, and activists, as a participant in an impromptu Chatham-House Rules roundtable—conducted in Arabic—on the outcome of the U.S. presidential election and its international implications. I was not only honored to be included in the conversation, but was impressed by the parallels between political divisions in the U.S. and Jordan. Experiences like these reaffirm my passion for fostering cross-cultural communication, as I witnessed firsthand how dialogue can bridge differences and create understanding across borders.

In the spring, I pivoted to enhance my Arabic so that I can participate even more fully in future conversations. I took 5 classes, 4 of which were in Arabic including my two electives: "Modern Influences of the Arab Spring" and "Islamic Shar'ia Law".



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAROLINE CORBETT '26
TOP CAROLINE AT WADI RUM, RIGHT CAROLINE AT PETRA, JORDAN, BOTTOM CAROLINE'S HOST MOM, OBEIDA, AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER LEEN



In this new program (CET Jordan), I was able to experience life as a Jordanian student would. My school introduced me to a medical student named Layan and I met with her every week to explore Amman and speak Arabic. We developed a true friendship and still talk everyday via social media (we both cried when we said goodbye).

I am grateful for the academic and personal growth these programs fostered, the meaningful relationships I built abroad, and the steadfast support of my home community that continues to empower me. I still have many dots to connect, particularly how to integrate the lessons learned abroad into my life in the United States, my community, and my future endeavors. I plan to graduate in May 2026 with a double major in Arabic and International Relations, concentrating on Foreign Policy with a Middle Eastern focus. I look forward to continuing to foster dialogue on critical global issues throughout my career and am eager to begin pursuing employment opportunities that will allow me to do so. Ultimately, I also hope to return one day to the home I created for myself in Jordan.

Caroline Corbett '26

IR BIDS FAREWELL TO THE CLASS OF 2025

On April 24, 2025, we gathered for our annual senior sendoff where we celebrated the upcoming graduation of 18 students in the Class of 2025. This class is small but mighty, hard-working and accomplished. In addition to their keen interest in world affairs, they are students with double majors in psychology, economists, classics and ancient Mediterranean studies, and biology. Among them are budding lawyers and accomplished athletes. A number of them are planning on attending graduate school and many of them either have jobs or are close to landing one.



There was a lot to celebrate in this group of lovely humans we have had the privilege of accompanying through the last years. They did internships and studied abroad, sometimes in off-the-beaten-path places like Kyrgyzstan. They earned fluency in another language which opens vistas into other cultures and introduces them to different ways of thinking and being. They learned to write well, to speak and communicate in ways that will invite careful listening.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PROFESSOR UÇARER

They sharpened their skills in critical thinking and cultivated a commitment to lifelong learning. We trust that they will keep these skills sharp as they will serve you well in life.

After graduation, some are off to graduate school (at Georgetown and IE University in Madrid), others are headed to New York to start a new adventure. Two are commissioned in the armed services, one as an Army Second Lieutenant in Cyber Corps. Two will be working towards a career in law. All are bright and exceptionally capable. They will be faced with a complex world with many challenges, but we know that they have the tools to handle whatever comes their way.

The degrees that they just earned are a testament to their resilience, hard work, and adaptability. Take a peek at our [Class of 2025 tribute reel](#) to get a better sense of their paths and accomplishments. We are very proud of them and wish them the very best.

*Congratulations
IR Class of 2025!*

GRACE KIM '25 AWARDED BUCKNELL PRIZE IN IR

Every year, IR awards the Bucknell Prize in International Relations to the senior demonstrating outstanding academic performance in International Relations and engagement with global affairs. And every year, we have outstanding candidates for this award. This year was no different. The Class of 2025 is a highly accomplished class, so this was not an easy decision.



Port Stephens, Australia
Photo courtesy of Grace Kim '25

Grace just graduated with a double major in IR and Global Management and has worked hard to have her two majors inform the way she knows and understands the world. She has traveled abroad through the Management in Asia Pacific Program, and worked as a digital marketing intern in a multinational team while abroad. On campus, she served as the president of the Korean Cultural Association and in that position she collaborated with other cultural organizations on campus to develop cross-community support and dialogue. During the pandemic, which unfortunately caused a rise in anti-Asian sentiment, she sought to engage her fellow Bucknellians in groups and informal conversations by aiming to raise awareness to build a community of informed individuals on our campus. She is planning on bringing these skills to a new consulting position at Deloitte. She eventually hopes to get a dual masters degree in public policy and business administration. Congratulations Grace!

BUILDING BRIDGES: MY JOURNEY IN IR AND GLOBAL MANAGEMENT

My interest in International Relations began during my very first semester at Bucknell, when I took POLS 170: International Politics. This was a class that I did not initially need, as I came in as an intended Global Management major in the Freeman College of management. The class opened my eyes to the complexities of global affairs and sparked a deeper curiosity about how states interact, how policies are formed, and how international institutions function. Coming from a family without a background in the liberal arts, I hadn't previously been exposed to this kind of interdisciplinary thinking. Bucknell gave me the space to explore new subjects and uncover interests I didn't know I had.

People often say that being a Bucknell student and living in Lewisburg is like being in a bubble, in central Pennsylvania with everything you need within a reachable distance. Thus, studying international relations and taking classes that focused on global affairs allowed me to learn more about what was happening around the world, why it was happening, and how it affected so many. Being an International Relations major has given me a solid foundation in understanding complex global systems, policy-making processes, and geopolitical dynamics. The interdisciplinary nature of this field, from drawing on areas of political science, economics, and history, has taught me to approach problems from multiple perspectives, which is essential for developing practical and strategic solutions in team settings.

In addition, I developed critical analytical and research skills, a strong understanding of geopolitical dynamics, and the ability to think across disciplines. These have become foundational skills that are significant and applicable across disciplines. This major has sharpened my communication and problem-solving abilities, especially when working on team-based projects and working on papers which directly align with values of collaboration and professionalism.

(cont.)

"Studying international relations and taking classes that focused on global affairs allowed me to learn more about what was happening around the world, why it was happening, and how it affected so many."

Grace Kim '25

"One of the central components of my application was an 800-word essay discussing the significance of Jordan to United States national security. Through numerous revisions, I delved deeper into topics such as the Jordanian refugee crisis stemming from neighboring countries like Syria and Palestine, the robust economic ties between Jordan and the U.S., and the historical context of U.S. defense involvement in Jordan."

Grace Kim '25

Both written and verbal communication is key, as they are crucial when presenting new ideas or proposing opportunities for growth or change.

During my time at Bucknell, I've developed a strong set of skills that span academically and professionally. Academically, I've honed my critical thinking and research abilities through rigorous coursework and independent projects. Collaborative learning and frequent group work have helped me build strong teamwork and communication skills. I've also become highly adept at managing my time and balancing multiple commitments, including academics, extracurriculars, and leadership roles. Beyond the classroom, Bucknell's emphasis on experiential learning helped me develop real-world problem-solving skills, particularly through internships and community engagement projects.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRACE KIM '25
CHICHEN ITZÁ, MEXICO

within the industry and becoming more knowledgeable, I would like to pursue a dual-masters degree in Public Policy and Business Administration.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRACE KIM '25
TOP ASIAN GALL BUCKNELL

Following graduation, I will be returning to Deloitte as a Business Solutions Analyst in the Government and Public Services division. After gaining more hands-on experience working The combination of these studies are reflective of my two majors at Bucknell, an intersection that I am interested in pursuing further. With the tools and knowledge in areas of business, policy, and international affairs, I would like to engage in a career that balances these aspects. I am excited to apply the dynamic skills I have accumulated in school when collaborating with different groups of people to achieve better outcomes.

Grace Kim '25

PRESENTING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLASS OF 2025

On May 18, we gathered on the Malesardi quad for commencement and to celebrate the class of 2025. Despite the unusually cold weather and the drizzle, our hearts were warm and swelling with pride as we watched the Class of 2025 walk across the stage with smiles on their faces.

And, now, we get to introduce you to IR Class of 2025. **Congratulations everyone!** In the words of Semisonic, "It's closing time.. It's time for you to go out to the places you will be from." It's been a privilege getting to know you and working with you as you made your way through the major. Please stay in touch!



Class of 2025: IR Majors

Christine Ajao
Joseph Antner
Tales Carneiro Passos
Sam Coughlin
Daisy Crystal
Bridget Gardella
Grace Kim
Riley King
Grant Laws
Anna Lajos
Cassie Lawler
Isabel Rondinelli
Gabby Segura
Gracyn Shaw
Charlotte Sullivan
Eleni Vasiliadis
Blythe Wallick
Ella Wolff

Class of 2025: IR Minors

Jack D'Agostino
Luke Derr
Aidan DeWitt
Justin DiSanto
Susannah Gerhardt
Evan Goldstein
Billy Kender
Katie Loew
Callie Mowry
Jack Renaghan
Rachel Saltman
Chloe Troy
Ariel Ulrich

*Wishing
our newest
alumni
only the
best for
their next
adventure.*

*'ray
Bucknell!*



OF NOTE: CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS



Bucknell celebrates class of 2025 graduates

The Bucknell community gathered together on Malesardi Quadrangle Sunday, May 18, to celebrate the academic achievements of the Class of 2025, a group of graduates whose educational journey was distinguished by passion, resilience and poise.



Meet the Student Speaker and Soloist for Bucknell's 175th Commencement

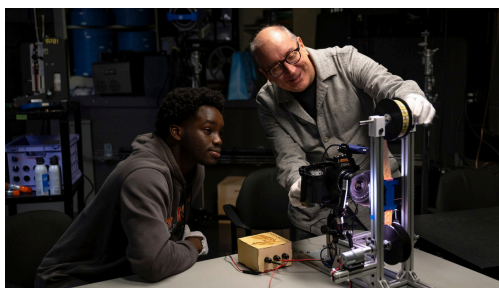
By the time she reached her senior year, Gabby Diaz '25 had fully embraced the spirit of what originally drew her to Bucknell. "I felt like this University was a place that wouldn't simply change me for the better," she says. "It was a place where I could also promote change."

WISHING YOU A GREAT
SUMMER!
-IR@BUCKENLL



Bucknell Professor Abby Kopec Part of Breakthrough Dark Matter Research

Bucknell University Professor Abby Kopec, physics & astronomy, is part of an international team of scientists that has reached a new milestone in the global search for dark matter — the mysterious substance that makes up most of the matter in the universe but has never been directly observed.



Bucknell Interdisciplinary Team Uncovers and Preserves Rare Japanese Films

A nearly forgotten piece of cinematic history has been brought back to life, thanks to the research of Professor Eric Faden, English — film/media studies, and a team of Bucknell students. Their work has not only revived a rare set of Japanese short films from the 1930s, but it has also taken them across the globe to unlock even more lost media.



Bucknell Students Earn Major National Scholarships

Each year, Bucknell students pursue some of the nation's most prestigious and competitive scholarships — an undertaking that requires not only exceptional academic achievement, but also deep passion, persistence and a significant commitment of time and effort.

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you. Send your updates
and/or your short
submissions on projects
or perspectives

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.