

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Hello, all!

We've reached the end of yet another semester! I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the graduating Class of 2026. We have 25 majors and 12 minors graduating this year and we wish them the best as they take the next step in their lives. We hope that they will remain in touch as we will continue to support them in their future endeavors. I'd like to specifically congratulate two seniors, Garrett Van Blarcom-DeLuise and Dari Dimitrova. This year they were the dual recipients of the Bucknell Prize in International Relations, which goes to the graduating senior(s) that demonstrate outstanding academic performance in International Relations and engagement with global affairs. Garrett will be attending Johns Hopkins PhD program in International Relations next year and Dari will be attending the Master program of Geopolitics and Strategic Studies at Universidad de Carlos III in Madrid. We wish them the best and are certain that they will excel as they pursue these advanced degrees.

This semester there were quite a few events taking place on campus that were co-sponsored with International Relations or featured IR faculty members or majors. In March, the department co-sponsored a Griot Institute organized talk by Dr. Winnifred Claude-Brown who presented "*Don't Hate Me 'Cause I'm Pretty: Blackness, Colorism and the Bleached Body in Jamaica*". IR also co-sponsored another Griot Institute event that featured current students and alumni who discussed their experiences as young people from Africa and the diaspora and how they are pursuing their aspirations for the future. Notably, this panel featured IR's very own alum Dominic Lyles '22.

IR also co-sponsored a China Institute lecture by James McGregor. McGregor was a former CEO of Dow Jones & Company in China, former chairman of American Chamber of Commerce in China, and The Wall Street Journal's China Bureau Chief. His talk was titled "Navigating China in a Fragmented World" and more on this talk can be found below in the newsletter.

In addition to this event, Professor Bojan Savic participated in a panel discussion, also organized by the China Institute, that focused on the past and present experience of Chinese immigrants in the United States.

In March, the Department hosted its yearly alumni panel and we welcomed back to campus, in-person and virtually, AJ Albanese '19, Emma Wagner '19, Chelsea Peters '10, and Lillian Michel '06. The event was well attended and, most importantly, well received by the students in attendance. In the current economic climate students are eager to hear from successful alums and learn how they navigated the work world since leaving Bucknell. The Department tries to hold this event every year, so if you are interested in imparting some wisdom to our current students, please let us know and we can try and include you in future panel discussions.

Another event involving a member of the faculty warrants a heartfelt congratulations. I'd like to congratulate Professor Fourshey for winning the Class of 1956 Lectureship Award for Inspirational Teaching. Professor Fourshey was notified that she was recipient of the award last year, but this spring gave a special lecture to the campus. Among the faculty and students, Professor Fourshey's teaching abilities are well known.

Since I was only acting chair of the department for just this year, this will be my last newsletter. When you read our next addition, you will be hearing from Professor Fourshey who will be serving the beginning of her four-year term as chair of the department. There is no doubt in my mind that the department will be in good hands.

Be well.

- Professor David Mitchell
Chair, International Relations Department

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FROM LIP GLOSS TO LIBERIA: HOW ONE '26 IR GRADUATE BUILT A BUSINESS ON TRUST AND GLOBALIZATION

A graduating International Relations major reflects on diplomacy, entrepreneurship, and what it means to connect three countries through education and commerce.

"I am here because someone helped me. Whether we see it or not, we can all be a solution in the world."

*Deborah
Gonkpah '26*



DEBORAH GONKPAH AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA TO THE UN IN NYC SUMMER 2025

It started with dry lips and a chemistry experiment.

When Deborah Gonkpah '26, a graduating International Relations major from Liberia, found that every lip gloss she tried irritated her sensitive skin, she decided to make her own. She sourced aloe vera for smoothness, added fragrance for appeal, and adjusted the formula until the product stayed put on the lip without running. She handed samples to friends. The feedback was immediate and enthusiastic.

But she noticed a problem. "Lip gloss is seasonal," she explains. Sales spiked in fall and winter, then dropped off. She wanted to develop a business that could run year-round. Watching what her community in Liberia wanted but could not easily access, she pivoted, into a purchasing and sourcing business that connects Chinese suppliers to Liberian buyers.

The model is straightforward. She identifies reliable suppliers in China for clothing, shoes, handbags, school supplies, and other goods, posts photos and pricing for her customers, and collects orders in advance through a pre-order system before purchasing and shipping. Her fees are dramatically lower than the platforms and agents her customers might otherwise use: \$30 for returning customers, \$50 for first-timers.

"There are so many suppliers in China," she says, "and customers need to know they can trust who they are ordering through. I am a known entity in Liberia. If anything goes wrong with a supplier, I am the one responsible, not the customer." That accountability, she argues, is her competitive edge.

Scaling Up: Containers and China Registration

After graduation, the business is entering a new phase. She is currently shipping goods by consolidating her cargo inside other companies' containers, a common arrangement for smaller operators. Her next step is to register her company formally in China, which will allow her to contract directly with Maersk, one of the world's largest shipping firms, and secure her own container. That move will give the business greater control over logistics, stronger leverage on international taxation, and room to grow into a full-scale shipping operation.

The business is already registered as an enterprise in Liberia. Registering it as a company in China is the next structural step. "Having my own container changes everything," she says. "Right now I am dependent on someone else's space. When it is mine, I control the timeline, the costs, the process."

(cont.)

IR as a Framework, Not Just a Major

She connects her business directly to what she studied. “Globalization is the interconnectedness of countries and people and culture,” she says. “Through my business, I am connecting Chinese suppliers to Liberian businesses and the Liberian market. We are all connected, in products, in ideas, in innovation.”

Her path to IR began before Bucknell. In 2018, she came to the United States as a high school cultural ambassador, placed in Indiana as part of a program focused on international affairs and cross-cultural exchange. The experience taught her to look for both the similarities and the differences between Liberian and American life. When she returned to the U.S. for college in 2022 and enrolled in Introduction to Public Policy, something clicked.

“I realized that people are responsible for their own rules and regulations, not just the government deciding for them. The policies we create involve all of us. I decided I wanted to be one of the people working toward positive change, in my own capacity, at the international level.”

Diplomacy in Practice: Two Internships

Her coursework was complemented by two significant internship experiences, both funded through Bucknell’s BPIP (Bucknell Program for Internship Preparation) grant. In her first year, she interned with T.R.I.B.E. in Liberia. In her second year, she interned at the Consulate General of the Republic of Liberia in New York, an experience that placed her directly inside the machinery of bilateral diplomacy between her home country and the United States.

She is emphatic that international students, and all students, should take advantage of the career center and BPIP funding. “Bucknell has resources that will pay for your internship if it is unpaid. Use them. That opportunity took me somewhere I never expected to be.”



DEBORAH GONKPAH AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA IN NEW YORK SUMMER 2025

What Comes Next

In the immediate term, she is building the business full-time. She is also applying to graduate programs for fall 2027, with Washington, D.C., Baltimore area and Northern California on the Pacific Rim high on her list of possible locations, a natural fit for someone whose professional and intellectual interests run from trade logistics to international policy.

Gonkpah’s advice to future IR majors is characteristically direct: “Be yourself. Step up and engage. Be proactive, whether in your studies or your community. Ask your friends if they need help, you don’t know what challenges they are carrying, and that question might go a long way. I am here because someone helped me. Whether we see it or not, we can all be a solution in the world.”

*C. Cymone Fourshey
Professor of History and International Relations*

TRANSLATING A LIFE-LONG PASSION INTO INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS

"I was the first person in my family to secure a passport and travel internationally. While at times both terrifying and thrilling, this experience was transformative and fueled a life-long passion for cultural exploration and international affairs."

Kim Cahill '89

In the Fall of 1988, I had the opportunity to study abroad during my senior year in Tours, France, with the Bucknell en France program, fulfilling the international requirement for my International Relations major. I was the first person in my family to secure a passport and travel internationally. While at times both terrifying and thrilling, this experience was transformative and fueled a life-long passion for cultural exploration and international affairs.

I have dedicated my 30-year career in higher education to supporting intercultural communication and global business education with experience at three different institutions in Philadelphia – the University of Pennsylvania, the Fox School of Business at Temple University and my current role with the Moran Center for Global Leadership at Villanova School of Business (VSB). At each institution, I developed and led short-term study abroad programming, spanning 25 locations across five continents and impacting more than 500 undergraduates, graduates and alumni participants.

Driven by my belief that every student should have access to international experiences, I have also generated more than \$10 million dollars in grants and scholarships to support international business education, internships and study abroad. Each year, I oversee \$300,000 in scholarship and fellowship awards at Villanova University.

When I arrived at Villanova a decade ago, the MBA program featured short-term faculty-led immersions abroad, but there were no opportunities for undergraduate business students outside of traditional semester or summer programs. Combining my experience at Penn and Temple, I approached the economics professor leading the MBA Asia Pacific immersion to Sydney and secured her partnership in redesigning a VSB Maymester program for undergraduate students. The Sydney Maymester was launched in 2019 and features Global Political Economy, a core requirement for all business students. After receiving 50 applications for 25 spots, the decision was made to add a second Maymester program the following year.

After receiving a grant from IES Abroad, I approached MIS professor, Sue McFarland Metzger, a fellow Bucknellian (Class of 1987), to partner on the Berlin Maymester for another required course, Introduction to MIS. Her previous work experience at SAP and Berlin combined with my experience as an IEA Fulbright Scholar in Germany, were a natural partnership. While COVID initially delayed travel, three additional Maymasters have since been developed – International Accounting in Ireland, Global Supply Chain and Operations Management in Panama, and International Finance in Central Europe.

Immersing oneself in a new culture and learning through direct interaction is one example of the experiential learning taking place in these programs. Maymester students learn about theory in their morning lectures and then engage with professionals in the afternoon company visits, applying theory to practice, learning about real-world challenges and participating in case studies to arrive at real solutions. It is not just about the experience itself, as it requires students to think critically about what was learned and how it relates to other knowledge and situations.

As expected, Maymester programming continues to attract students underserved in traditional study abroad programs. I have found that students who are cautious about embarking on an international experience are often emboldened after a short-term program and go on to participate in a summer or semester abroad. For others, constrained by a combination of academic hurdles, extracurriculars, finances or personal reasons, this is the only opportunity they have to study abroad. What has been unexpected is the number of students that have participated in two or three Maymester programs in addition to those that sought out a longer study abroad option.

(cont.)

VSB Maymesters have also been an effective internationalization tool for VSB faculty and staff. Professor Metzger added, “I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work under the direction and leadership of a fellow Bucknellian. Kim made it possible for me to take students to Berlin for an immersive experience where they can see firsthand how innovative technologies are used across global enterprises—an experience that has become one of the true highlights of my career. It allows me to bring together my international business background from my time at SAP with what I care most about as an educator.”

“Kim’s deep experience in study abroad programming, her thoughtful approach to building sustainable programs with the right structure, and her genuine passion for creating exceptional student experiences have made all the difference and have been incredibly valuable to me and to our students.”

Students who participate in the Maymester program gain an understanding of the political, economic and historic origins of the country and region, while experiencing cultural immersion by living and studying in an international and multicultural city. Through engagement with corporate and cultural leaders, professors, alumni, and local partners conducting international business in the region, students cultivate an international perspective and a global mindset that will foster the desire for further study abroad and future employment overseas. Faculty and staff leaders return to campus with an expanded global network. The international experiences and knowledge gained enhance their ability to support students and adds a global lens to their role and future contributions.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM CAHILL

Kim Cahill '89

NAVIGATING CHINA WITH JAMES MCGREGOR



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROFESSOR MITCHELL

“We in the West must learn how to co-exist with China. Sinophobia does not help and blocking China’s continued growth will hurt the United States itself.”

*James
McGregor*

The International Relations Department co-sponsored a visit by James McGregor in March 2026. McGregor is chairman of APCO’s greater China region and author of two highly regarded books: *No Ancient Wisdom, No Followers: The Challenges of Chinese Authoritarian Capitalism* and *One Billion Customers: Lessons from the Front Lines of Doing Business in China*. He was formerly Wall Street Journal’s China bureau chief and chief executive of Dow Jones & Company in China. A resident of China for three decades, McGregor also served as chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China.

While at Bucknell, McGregor visited Professor Zhu’s East Asian International Relations class, met with a group of faculty and students during a lunch session, and gave a public talk about his perspectives on China and US-China relations titled “Navigating China in a Fragmented World”. He recounted his experience in China from the mid-1980s as a backpacker to his consulting work today, which takes him to China twice a year. His long engagement with China has offered him a ringside view of China’s unmatched great transformations in the past four decades.

The message from Mr. McGregor is clear: we in the West must learn how to co-exist with China. Sinophobia does not help and blocking China’s continued growth will hurt the United States itself. China has marched forward in science and technology while the United States is bogged down by division at home. Unfortunately, the United States only has an attitude toward China, not a viable strategy to compete with China, lamented McGregor, who encouraged Bucknell students—future leaders of the world—to travel to China to see the country first-hand so that they will have an accurate understanding of what China is like today and will be able to develop sound policies to work with China in the future.

Prof. Zhiqun Zhu

PUTTING MLK IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

On January 28, 2026, I had the pleasure of organizing the talk and public discussion “A Global ‘Freedom Now’: Transnational Genealogies and Receptions of MLK’s Philosophy” as part of Bucknell’s 2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Week. Thinking back on this event about the global origins and echoes of MLK’s philosophies, I am reminded of the twin blessings of community and joint effort.

The event explored two paradoxes. First, it asked how King’s anti-colonial and anti-war critique could emerge between the 1940s and 1960s and be inspired by emancipatory philosophies from Western Europe to Ghana and India – while remaining apparently disconnected from the postcolonial radicalism of his time. In other words, how was it possible that Albert Memmi, Frantz Fanon, Aimé Césaire, and Léopold Senghor never appeared in King’s books, essays, or sermons? Second, the event questioned the intellectual and practical-political wisdom of treating King as the singular exceptional thinker and civil rights leader.

The blessing of community was reflected in the privilege of sharing the Hildreth-Mirza Great Room with Bucknell students, academic colleagues, staff, and Lewisburg neighbors who were interested in exploring how the world once made Martin Luther King Jr. and how it has since received his thought and advocacy.

The blessing of joint effort was embodied in the generous help of Prof. Cymone Fourshey (Professor of History and International Relations, Affiliated Faculty in Critical Black Studies, and Director of the Bucknell Griot Institute for the Study of Black Lives and Cultures), Dr. Emmanuel Cannady (Assistant Professor of Sociology and Affiliated Faculty in Critical Black Studies) and Dr. Kenton Butcher (Assistant Professor of English-Literary Studies and Affiliated Faculty in Critical Black Studies). They traced the echoes of King’s work and advocacy from apartheid-era South Africa to the contemporary impact of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Our presentations and the subsequent discussion examined Martin Luther King Jr. through a global (transnational) lens, challenging exceptionalist portrayals of King as a uniquely American figure. We explored the diverse intellectual influences that shaped King’s philosophy, including Protestant theology, Gandhian nonviolence, Black Christian traditions, liberal constitutionalism, Pan-Africanism, and decolonization movements. Highlighting King’s calls for a “world perspective” showed how he linked the struggle for civil rights in the United States to global anti-colonial movements and resistance to militarism from Africa to India and Vietnam. ‘Globalizing King’ helped us draw attention to his philosophical and practical-political engagement with communism, Sovietism, and human rights discourse across East-West and North-South divides.

Regarding the transnational receptions of King’s work, the discussion emphasized its use and abuse – both admiration and political appropriation – across different contexts, including Ghana, India, South Africa, Mexico, the Soviet Union, and China. By tracing how King’s image and philosophy have been interpreted, celebrated, and often instrumentalized worldwide, we invited the audience to reflect on King not as an isolated moral exceptionalist but as part of broader global struggles over colonialism, imperialism, and race/class inequalities.

Nevertheless, the event’s title also reflected the urgency and alarm central to MLK’s philosophy, underscored in his 1965 “Freedom Now” speech in West Philadelphia. While not singular, King’s work continues to be singled out and used to both amplify and blunt the transformative power of “freedom now”. Because racial/class justice is still met with opposition and mockery across the world, the event called on the Bucknell and Lewisburg communities to discuss the fuller – global and still urgent – statement and import of King’s philosophy.

“While not singular, King’s work continues to be singled out and used to both amplify and blunt the transformative power of ‘freedom now’”.

Prof. Bojan Savic

Prof. Bojan Savic

COMING HOME: PROFILES AND ADVICE FROM ALUMNI

On Friday March 20th, IR welcomed four alums back to campus to discuss their experiences after leaving Bucknell. The panel discussion held in the Great Room in the Hildreth-Mirza Hall was well attended and conversation continued as students an panelist continued to talk after the event ended. IR highly values the willingness of the alum to give their time and help students as they think and plan for their futures. We faculty lose touch with students after they graduate and it is a joy for us to hear about the enormous success of former majors.

AJ Albanese '19
Product Marketing Manager, IBM



PHOTO COURTESY OF AJ ALBANESE

AJ is currently a Product Marketing Manager (PMM) at IBM, where he focuses on helping enterprises understand, responsibly adopt, and manage AI and Agents using watsonx.governance. In his role, AJ translates complex technical capabilities into clear business value, helping clients understand how AI can drive efficiency, but also while managing risk, compliance and responsibility. At IBM AJ works with a global team to shape product messaging and positioning to be able to appeal to a wide range of audiences and markets.

After graduating from Bucknell in May of 2019, he began in financial services recruiting, learning how to assess talent, analyze markets, and build client relationships. After spending just under 2 years there, AJ transitioned into nonprofit fundraising at Covenant House. At CHNJ he worked across student engagement and fundraising to benefit the mission of CHNJ. He also had the opportunity to work with the NJ state government on human trafficking awareness campaigns.

Prior to attending NYU Stern, AJ also spent time at Granite Telecommunications in sales and was able to gain a foundational technical knowledge. After graduating from NYU Stern, AJ joined IBM as PMM for watsonx.ai, an AI/ML application development studio before moving to watsonx.governance at the end of 2025 to support product adoption in the responsible AI space.

Career Advice: You do not need to have everything figured out before you graduate. Both times I have graduated higher ed, I wasn't sure what my next move was. Take it one day at a time, focus on building meaningful connections with alumni and growing your network because it really will pay off. Don't be afraid to ask questions about a job role, a company or someone's career since you never know what you will learn from them. Lastly, use your major to your advantage, IR teaches a lot of valuable skills I still use every day even though I might not be in the "typical" career path.

AJ Albanese '19

Chelsea Peters Shale '10
Full Impact Advisory



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHELSEA PETERS SHALE

Chelsea Peters Shale is a global impact leader who has helped direct more than \$3 billion in philanthropic investment to expand opportunity for communities around the world. From refugee camps to boardrooms, her career has been defined by a belief that bold ideas - and the right partnerships - can move systems and change lives. She is the Founder of Full Impact Advisory, where she works with foundations and social sector leaders to turn ambition into measurable impact.

(cont.)

Previously, Chelsea was an executive leader at two of the world's largest nonprofit institutions. She served as Deputy Executive Director and Chief Strategy Officer at the Walton Family Foundation, guiding strategy to improve K-12 education, promote social mobility in the middle of the country, and preserve US-based water resources. Before that, she held multiple leadership roles at UNICEF USA, including Interim Co-CEO, mobilizing a nationwide movement of supporters to advance life-saving programs for children in more than 180 countries.

Chelsea's passion for global work first took root at Bucknell, where she studied International Relations – an experience that set her on a path she still follows today. She is an Aspen Ideas Fellow, part of Fortune's Most Powerful Women, and remains driven by the same question that shaped her time as a Bucknell student: how do we bring people together to solve the world's toughest problems?

Career Advice: Show up. When you don't feel like going to the event, attending the talk, or putting yourself out there—dig deep and show up anyway. So much happens when you do. Doors open. You meet people you never expected. Your life can take directions you couldn't have planned. This doesn't mean pushing yourself to burnout or never saying no. Knowing when to set boundaries is just as important. But when you're on the cusp—when it would be easier to stay home—show up. That's often where the magic begins.

Chelsea Peters Shale '10

Emma Wagner '19
Manager of International and Brand
Management, Penske Media Corporation



PHOTO COURTESY OF EMMA WAGNER

Emma Wagner currently works as Manager of International Brand and Partnership Operations at Penske Media Corporation, where she leads global brand initiatives via licensing agreements for a portfolio of leading media brands, including Rolling Stone, Billboard, Variety, The Hollywood Reporter, WWD, Robb Report, and ARTnews. In her role, she coordinates global brand events and editorial campaigns across more than 90 international licensees. She works closely with the U.S editorial, marketing, creative, and events teams as well as international partners to ensure brand consistency across print, digital, and social platforms. Emma also manages global content licensing and syndication and oversees PMC's product licensing portfolio, helping partners strengthen brand presence and performance across international markets.

Before joining PMC, Emma worked at The Children's Place, where she supported the Global Merchandising team and contributed to international market strategy and product performance analysis. She conducted competitive market research, managed purchase order processes using SAP, and helped develop market strategies focused on regions including the Middle East and China.

Career Advice: Your career path doesn't have to be perfectly linear. Don't be afraid to get your foot in the door somewhere - you'll learn a lot about your interests and strengths once you start working, and it's okay not to have everything figured out right away. When I graduated with my International Relations degree, I wasn't sure where I wanted to go next, so I decided to take another internship to give myself more time to explore. I ended up enjoying it so much that I stayed on full-time, and later chose to leave that role to go to business school and pursue a different direction. Take advantage of the networking opportunities at Bucknell – those connections will open doors that give you flexibility as your career evolves!

Emma Wagner '19

BUCKNELL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AWARD WINNERS

The Department of International Relations proudly congratulates Dari Dimitrova and Garrett Van Blarcom-DeLuise who were awarded the Bucknell Prize in International Relations. Dari and Garrett achieved this award for their outstanding academic performance and their engagement with global affairs. Their performance has ensured that they were able to secure admittance to highly selective graduate programs.

Garrett worked on research projects with Professor Sabrina Harris in International Relations and Professor Doces in Political Science. He also worked as an intern at the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in their department of Immigration Legal Services. Garrett has said of his time at the IRC, "I experienced firsthand the altering frames used to perceive the issue of immigration, as well as the changing social and political norms dictating the lives of migrants in America." Importantly, he says that "I developed valuable cultural empathy leading a project where I utilized my Russian speaking skills to contact and assist Ukrainian clients whose existing applications for citizenship were compromised by their refugee status due to the current war. As a result of this experience, I have taken an interest in the study of citizenship as a concept, considering I witnessed firsthand the struggles of people forced to operate as individuals lacking fully materialized legal status."

Dari Dimitrova also excelled academically and has a notable interest in decision making in the European Union, which was inspired by her experience in Professor Ucarer's International Relations of Europe course. She had the opportunity to serve as an intern in the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs where, among her responsibilities, she prepared a daily bulletin for Bulgaria's embassies around the world. In another experience, Dari worked for a member of the European Parliament where she believes that she developed a more holistic understanding of diplomacy at the European level.

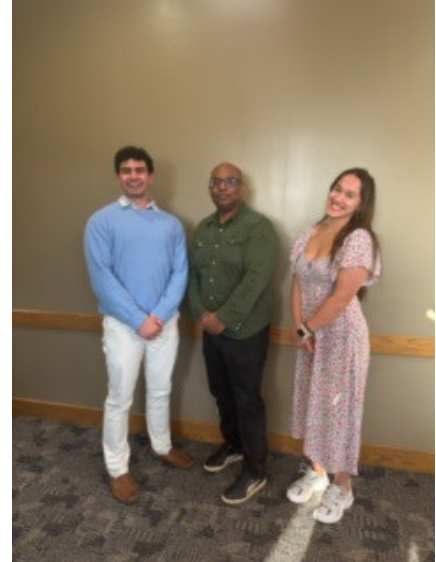


PHOTO COURTESY OF PROFESSOR
SABRINA HARRIS

PRESENTING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLASS OF 2026

On May 18, we gathered on the Malesardi quad for commencement and to celebrate the class of 2026. And, now, we get to introduce you to IR Class of 2026. **Congratulations everyone!**



Class of 2026: IR Majors

Malika Ali
James Barker
Ruot Bijiek
Annie Burtson
Mary Clark
Jack Coddling
Sadie Condon
Caroline Corbett
Dari Dimitrova
Alex Fraser
Dana Friedlander
Deborah Gonkpah
Haojun Guo
Ryan Kats
Jeffrey Killian
Dk Kim
Anna Meyer
Logan Moore
Mary Page
Hilary Quisenberry
Zaely Rodriguez
Wade Shomper
Maxime Touzot
Garrett Van Blarcom-DeLuise
Vicky Zarmakoupis

Class of 2026: IR Minors

Jordan Altom
Carol Anne Bredeson
Dylan Christie
Aidan DeWitt
Spencer Durbin
Devin McConnaughey
Rose McLish
Dana Nguyen
Paige Richter
Bree Steiger
Hugh Straine
Olivia Torchen

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

*'ray
Bucknell!*



OF NOTE: CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS



Undergraduate Research at Bucknell Leads to Four Goldwater Scholarships This spring, Bucknell nominated four students for the Barry Goldwater Scholarship — and all four were selected, a rare four-for-four outcome that underscores the strength of the students and the mentorship behind them.



Bucknell Celebrates Class of 2026 There is no single recipe for success. Instead, the path toward personal and professional fulfillment is filled with trials and triumphs alike. However, to help Bucknell’s Class of 2026 navigate what comes next, Ken Freeman '72 shared a few pieces of time-tested advice.



Advancing Belonging Across the Bucknell Community On Sunday, April 19, members of the Bucknell community gathered to celebrate the recipients of the 2026 Leadership & Inclusive Excellence Awards. The annual recognition honors students, faculty, staff and groups who advance Bucknell’s commitment to inclusive excellence by fostering belonging, challenging stereotypes and helping to bridge divides across campus.

THE DEPARTMENT OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
WISHES YOU A HAPPY AND
RELAXING SUMMER!



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: VISITING PROFESSOR BOJAN SAVIC, PROFESSOR ZHIQUN ZHU, VISITING PROFESSOR SABRINA HARRIS, PROFESSOR CYMONE FOURSHEY, PROFESSOR MANUEL LARRABURE, PROFESSOR DAVID MITCHELL, ACADEMIC ASSISTANT ANDREA STANKEVITCH.

NOT PRESENT: PROFESSOR EMMA BANKS AND PROFESSOR EMEK UCARER

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We'd love to hear from [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.