

UB INTERNATIONAL

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UB INTERNATIONAL

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CELEBRATING A MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY

President Satish Tripathi led a UB delegation to Singapore in July 2014 to participate in the annual com-

Also attending were the chairs of two departments offering degrees at SIM—Debra Street of Sociology and Stephen Tif-



Seated l. to r.: E. Bruce Pitman, Stephen Dunnett, Peggy Lim, Satish Tripathi, Kwok Cheong Lee, Charles Zukoski, and Arjang Assad, with graduating students who received academic honors at the UB-SIM commencement

mencement for UB’s degree programs offered at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM), the university’s long-time partner. The commencement marked the tenth anniversary of the establishment of UB’s undergraduate programs at SIM, first launched in May 2004,

Nearly 500 undergraduate students in six degree programs—the most ever—received their degrees during the ceremony at SIM on July 18.

Also participating in the commencement ceremony from UB were Provost Charles Zukoski, Dean Arjang Assad, Dean Bruce Pitman, Stephen Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education, and Joseph Hindrawan, Associate Vice Provost and Director of International Enrollment Management.

fany of Psychology—as well as a representative of UB Libraries, Christopher Hollister, who was doing a site review of library support for the program.

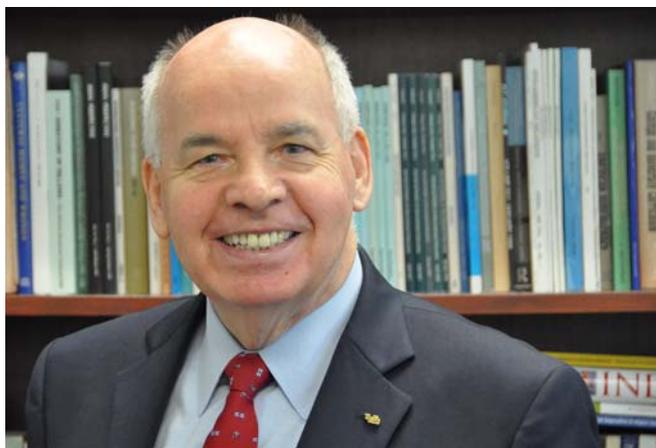
Senior leadership from both institutions took the opportunity to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the launch of UB’s undergraduate programs at SIM, which began in 2004 with one UB Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree program and only 50 students. Over the past decade the number of undergraduate degree programs has grown to six (Business, Communication, Psychology, Sociology, Economics and International Trade), and enrollment in these programs has increased to some 1,600 students.

“We are delighted to join our SIM colleagues in celebrating our highly successful
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FROM THE VICE PROVOST

By Stephen C. Dunnett

Among the priorities established by UB's strategic internationalization plan "The Global Imperative" and Provost Zukoski's "Realizing UB 2020" plan is the internationalization of the student experience and specifically of the undergraduate curriculum.



One of the distinctive features of a UB education, enhanced global learning opportunities will better prepare students for lives in the globalized, culturally diverse world of the 21st century, and set UB apart as a best-practice institution in undergraduate education.

This priority has been front and center during the ongoing implementation of these plans and an abiding focus of the university's Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP), a university-wide faculty advisory group chaired by David Engel, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Law.

It is therefore with great excitement and appreciation that the university community welcomed the recent approval by UB's Faculty Senate of a new General Education Program that includes an innovative and impactful global learning component. Please see the accompanying article about the new program, page 3.

Cross-cutting global and diversity learning opportunities are intrinsic to the entire new program, beginning with the Freshman Seminar, but they are particularly the focus of the Global and Diversity Cluster, one of two integrative course clusters that comprise the new program. Like the Thematic Integrative Cluster, the Global and Diversity Cluster is a nine-credit requirement that may be fulfilled in a variety of ways, allowing students much more flexibility and intentionality in their engagement with General Education.

A high-impact educational practice, integrative clusters offer students meaningful options that allow them

greater agency over their own learning and oblige them to comprehend connections and contradictions between and among courses. This is a departure from the current General Education program, which is viewed as a "laundry list" of course requirements whose rationale students neither understand nor appreciate.

In particular, the Global and Integrative Cluster offers attractive global learning options that position duly approved foreign language and study abroad courses as attractive ways to fulfill this General Education requirement. There are three basic options or "tracks":

- **Global/Diversity Track**, consisting of three campus-based courses of at least 3 credits each, selected for their international and/or diversity focus and representative of a variety of disciplinary perspectives
- **Language Track**, requiring at least 9 credits of study of a single foreign language
- **International Experience Track**, consisting of a substantive study abroad experience, supplemented, as needed, by related campus-based course work to achieve integration

The International Experience Track, which will encourage and facilitate greater numbers of UB students to study abroad, reflects the excellent work by the Council on International Studies and Programs in recommending ways UB students can acquire *significant international experience* during their studies at UB. As a key option in General Education, study abroad will be a logical as well as attractive choice for increasing numbers of UB undergraduates.

I also commend the work of my colleague John Wood, Senior Associate Vice Provost for International Education, who served on the General Education Steering Committee on behalf of our office and chaired the sub-committee that developed the Global and Diversity Cluster.

One of the principal initiatives of "Realizing UB 2020" to achieve curricular distinction, the new General Education Program reflects the work of two senior task forces that have addressed the reform of General Education since 2009. Now 20 years old, the current program is seriously outdated and lacks the buy-in and, frankly, the proper understanding, of students as well as faculty.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Provost Zukoski, Professor A. Scott Weber, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and Professor Andrew Stott, Dean of Undergraduate Education, for making the reform of General Education a reality. It is Dean Stott who has chaired the most recent task force, convened by Provost Zukoski in 2013, and who, over an 18-month period, led the development and refinement of an outstanding new program that is based on the collective input of many faculty, staff and students and that reflects the current best practices in the field. With the campus approval now in hand, Dean Stott will lead the complex and challenging implementation phase leading up to the launch of the new program in fall 2016. The Office of International Education stands ready to assist this important effort. 🌐

FACULTY SENATE APPROVES NEW GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

By David J. Hill

The undergraduate core curriculum at UB will undergo its first overhaul in two decades after the Faculty Senate voted overwhelmingly on December 2, 2014 in favor of a new general education program that's been several years in the making.

A round of applause filled the Center for Tomorrow Tuesday afternoon after the vote of 51 for and seven against; five senators abstained. In addition to the main resolution to implement a new gen. ed. program, senators voted on five amendments — two of which passed easily.

"This process has been en route for five years — and two years with a considerable effort by the faculty, the Faculty Senate and administration," Faculty Senate Chair Ezra Zubrow said at the start of the meeting.

"We have had two full meetings discussing and amending the general education plan. There have been literally hundreds of meetings and thousands of emails that have gone forth. This is

not the time to continue the debate a priori. This is the time to decide."

The decision made will impact undergraduates at UB for many years to come. General education accounts for approximately one-third of the undergraduate credit hours students are required to take. In addition, the new gen. ed. program will keep UB competitive with its AAU peers, many of which also have revised their curriculum in recent years. The gen. ed. plan is part of the "curricular distinction" initiative, one of the two signature initiatives — along with Communities of Excellence — to be launched from Realizing UB 2020.

Andrew Stott, dean of undergraduate education and chair of the General Education Steering Committee, called the senate's overwhelming approval of the general education proposal "a huge vote of confidence in the future of general education, and clear signal that we as an insti-

tution are eager to provide a revived and inclusive core curriculum for every student at UB."

Efforts to revise general education at UB began in 2009 with the formation of the first General Education Task Force. Since then, more than 140 faculty, staff and students have worked to revamp the program.

The current 19-member General Education Steering Committee submitted its final report and recommendations to the Faculty Senate in October, calling for a 40-credit curriculum for all undergraduates, regardless of major. It includes a seminar for first-year and transfer students; strong foundational courses in communication literacy, scientific literacy and inquiry, and math and quantitative reasoning; thematic and global integrative clusters; and an integrative capstone though an eportfolio requirement.

The goal is to implement the new curriculum in fall 2016, making the Class of 2020 the first to graduate under it. Now that the proposal has been approved, Stott and the Faculty Senate will name a faculty advisory committee

and appropriate working committees to oversee the program's implementation and identify a process for new course review and assessment.

Peter Horvath, the faculty senator and steering committee member who introduced the main resolution to be voted on, noted that many groups on campus, including the undergraduate Student Association, have endorsed the committee's proposal.

"I think we've spent a lot of time — I know you've all read it carefully and I think we're ready to move our university to a cutting edge in terms of best practices in undergraduate education," said Horvath, associate professor in the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, School of Public Health and Health Professions. 🌐

David J. Hill is a content editor for University Communications.



NEW STAFF IN INTERNATIONAL ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

The Office of International Enrollment Management (IEM) recently welcomed two new staff members, Amanda Poppe and Paul Starcher.

Amanda Poppe joined the Office of International Enrollment Management as an international student recruiter with a special focus on Latin America. Fluent in Spanish and a veteran of a Fulbright to Spain, Amanda earned her Bachelor's degree in Spanish Language, Literature, and Cultures with New York State teaching certification in Adolescent Education from Nazareth College in Rochester, New York and a Master's degree in College Student Personnel Administration from Canisius College in Buffalo, New York.

After many positive experiences working with international students at Nazareth College as well as a study trip and semester abroad in Spain, Amanda decided that she



Amanda Poppe at a recruitment event

would attend graduate school for Teaching English as a Second Language. However, plans changed for the better when she was awarded a year-long Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship at San Juan Bautista, a bilingual public school in Madrid, Spain. There she taught English and Theatre, and co-taught Social Studies and Music.

Her favorite part of her year as a Fulbright was the time she spent helping to prepare 22 students for the National Model United Nations Competition in Madrid, where over 400 students debated democratic governance and sports for peace and justice.

As her civic engagement project she took her love of dance to Spain as she taught tap dancing workshops as a unique way of understanding one aspect of the American culture.

During this time abroad she realized, that she wanted to do more for the students than just teach English or

Spanish, her passion was for working with international students and helping them with opportunities and support beyond teaching the English language. That is how she got into Higher Education Administration.



Paul Starcher

A passion for assisting international students gave her the opportunity to intern in International Admissions at Canisius, Office of Student Development at the University of California- Berkeley, and the International Student Office at D'Youville College.

Amanda is excited to discuss the amazing opportunities available at the University at Buffalo with prospective students and families all around the globe. She loves that in her new career she can help students take advantage of unforeseen opportunities, envision their future, and realize their full potential.

In her free time she is a member of the Western New York/Northwestern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Fulbright Alumni Association and serves as the Chapter Coordinator for the Fulbright Young Professionals Network.

Paul Starcher joined the Office of International Admissions as an admissions counselor in late September; Paul is filling a counselor position left vacant when Sherene Milizia moved to the Graduate School. Paul will be responsible for reviewing international freshman and transfer applications, as well as finalizing international graduate decisions.

Paul earned his Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia and a Master's degree in Public Service Administration from the University of Evansville in Evansville, Indiana.

While at Bethany, he had the opportunity to travel to twelve countries, including a semester long study abroad experience at the University of Navarra in Pamplona, Spain. Through long-term and short-term study abroad to both developing and developed countries, Paul gained

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UB MOVES UP TO 17TH IN OPEN DOORS RANKING

By Patricia Donovan

For the 12th year in a row, the University at Buffalo is ranked among the top 20 U.S. institutions hosting international students by the Open Doors Report, which was released Nov. 17, 2014 by the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington, D.C.

For 2013-14, the Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange shows 6,504 international students at UB. This number includes students engaged in Optional Practical Training (OPT), that is, those with an F-1 student visa engaged in temporary employment following graduation that is directly related to their major area of study.

This figure places UB 17th among 2,900 U.S. colleges and universities surveyed. It represents an increase of 700 students, or 11 percent, over the 2012-13 total of 5,806, when UB was ranked 18th on the list. The majority of the 20 top-ranked schools are state universities, but UB is the only State University of New York institution among them.

The "International Student Economic Value Tool" published annually by The Association of International Educators (NAFSA) concurrently with the Open Doors Report indicates that the 8,228 international students attending Western New York colleges and universities contributed \$194,402,020 to the economy and supported 2,294 jobs here. According to NAFSA, UB's international students had a total economic impact of \$140,307,100.

Stephen Dunnett, PhD, Vice Provost for International Education, says, "Moving up in the Open Doors ranking is especially gratifying given the intensifying competition for international students worldwide. Our outstanding international recruitment and admission staff are working harder to achieve year-on-year enrollment growth targets.

"We want to increase our international enrollment in a strategic fashion while continuing to improve the quality profile and diversity of the students who are admitted. Our efforts to attract international students clearly benefit from the advances UB has made in various global university rankings," he says.

"Word of mouth is our best recruiting tool and, especially overseas. It is very important in a student's choice of university," Dunnett says. "UB ranks high in student satis-

faction with the quality of the education, student services and housing options they receive here. This is reflected in our high retention rate. International students and their families find Western New York a safe, welcoming and affordable place to live and study."

The Open Doors Report lists New York State, with a total international enrollment of 98,906, second among the 50 states for international student enrollment. Its numbers are up more than 12 percent from last year.

Besides UB, two other universities in New York are among the top 20 hosting institutions in the U.S.: New York University ranked first, and Columbia University was fourth.

The Open Doors report is published annually by the IIE in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The data was released Nov. 17, 2014 on the occasion

of the 15th annual celebration of International Education Week, a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

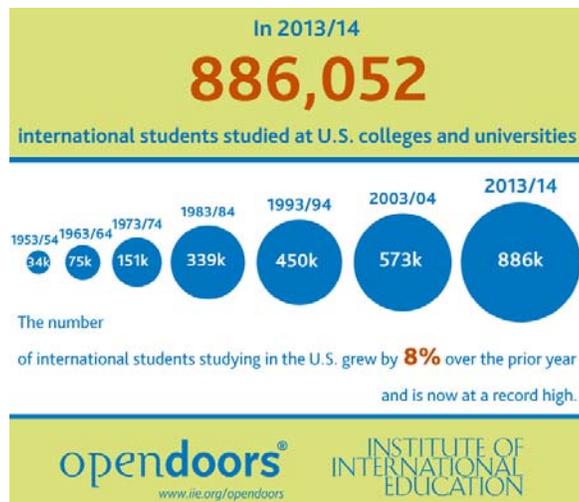
The total number of international students enrolled nationwide in 2013-14 was a record-high 886,052, up 8.1 percent from 2012-13.

These students made up 4.2 percent of the 21,216,000 students enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities. In addition, international students enrolling for the first time increased 7.5 percent in 2013-14 over 2012-13. The largest numbers of international students enrolled in 2013-14 at UB came from China, India, South Korea, Canada, Malaysia, Turkey and Iran.

The 886,052 international students and their families at universities and colleges across the US contributed \$26.8 billion to the U.S. economy and supported 340,000 jobs, most in the educational, accommodation, dining and retail industries.

The 98,906 international students in New York State last year contributed more than \$3 billion to the state economy and supported 40,331 jobs. The average number of jobs supported in a U.S. state is about 6,300 jobs.

The economic impact of international students in New York State was attributed to high enrollment numbers in Buffalo and New York City, and specifically at NYU, Columbia and UB.



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MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY

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ten-year partnership in delivering outstanding UB undergraduate degree programs in Singapore,” Professor Dunnett said.

“This initiative could not have happened without our School of Management’s pioneering Executive MBA program, launched at SIM in 1996. The demand for additional programs over time and the growth in the enrollment is indicative of the quality and popularity of our programs in this part of the world, particularly for those students who cannot travel to Buffalo to earn their degrees.”

All told, 3,920 students have enrolled in the undergraduate programs at SIM and 2,118 have received degrees so far. As part of their UB programs, many students have spent a semester or more at the home campus in Buffalo—some 550 at latest count. At least 70 students from UB’s programs at SIM plan to study in Buffalo in fall 2014.

In fact, some UB-SIM students study abroad together with Buffalo students—for example, through UB’s popular Sociology in London spring semester program. In turn, UB regularly sends Buffalo students to SIM for study abroad. A group of 40 students recently completed the annual six-week summer program in Asian Business at SIM directed by Paul Yong, Director of Asian Initiatives. In addition, several students have been studying at SIM for



Kevin McKelvey, UB Resident Director at SIM, being honored for his service to the UB programs by Kwok Cheong Lee and Satish Tripathi

the entire semester this fall, and six more will go in spring semester. In this year’s first wintersession Buffalo students joined UB-SIM counterparts for a January course in Cinematic Sociology at SIM.

During the commencement President Tripathi pointed out that more than half of the graduates were receiving Latin honors—a much higher rate than in Buffalo. He said, “This is a great accomplishment, and a wonderful tribute to the excellence of our students in Singapore. I know that some of you recently attended our University Com-

mencement in Buffalo, and I am delighted to have the honor of shaking your hand once again today!”

In his prepared remarks for the anniversary celebration, President Tripathi congratulated his counterpart Lee Kwok Cheong, CEO of SIM Global Education, noting, “It is a great source of pride and pleasure to witness the close friendships that have developed between our students and faculty, as well as between our institutions, and between the communities of Buffalo and Singapore as well. I look forward with great anticipation to the next 10 years of cooperation and mutual enrichment between our institutions.” Tripathi took the opportunity to offer UB’s best wishes on the pending 50th anniversary of SIM’s founding, which was to be celebrated in November 2014. 🌐

OPEN DOORS

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The total economic impact of international students on Western New York was \$194,402,020, and their presence led to the creation or support of 2,294 jobs.

In addition to their economic contributions, NAFSA says these students offer an “immeasurable academic and cultural value...to our campuses and local communities.” Specifically, they:

- Build bridges between Americans and those of other nationalities.
- Bring global perspectives to U.S. classrooms and research labs.
- Support U.S. innovation through science and engi-

neering coursework, making it possible for U.S. colleges and universities to offer these courses to U.S. students.

- Support programing and services on campus for all students by paying tuition at out-of-state rates, funded largely by non-U.S. sources. 🌐

Pat Donovan is a senior editor with University Communications.

UB'S MBA PROGRAM ADVANCES INTO TOP 40

By Jacqueline Ghosen

The UB School of Management vaulted 18 places in Bloomberg Businessweek's new ranking of the nation's best full-time MBA programs, coming in at No. 39, the highest the school has been ranked since the ranking began in 1988.

Among public universities, the UB School of Management is No. 16.

The School of Management fared particularly well in the employer satisfaction component of the survey with a rank of No. 19.

"In addition to reflecting our student satisfaction, this ranking is a ringing endorsement from recruiters," said Arjang A. Assad, dean of the UB School of Management.

"It shows that we are producing graduates who possess the skills and attributes most valued by businesses throughout the world."

The UB School of Management is the only school in the Buffalo Niagara region to make the list.

The rankings are based on student satisfaction (45 percent), corporate recruiter satisfaction (45 percent) and an intellectual capital rating (10 percent) based on the number of articles published by each school's faculty in 20 publications. Bloomberg Businessweek also ranks the top non-U.S. schools.

More than 10,600 MBA graduates from the class of 2014 at 112 business schools in North America, Europe and Asia were surveyed. They evaluated their schools on such topics as teaching quality, the effectiveness of career services and other aspects of their B-school experience. New this year, students also were asked questions about school culture.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, this year's student survey scores comprise 2014 student data (75 percent) and 2012 student data (25 percent).

In a newly revised employer survey, 1,320 recruiters from 614 companies selected from a list the five qualities they seek in hiring MBAs and which graduates offer those

qualities. The list was compiled from in-depth interviews with a range of recruitment professionals and included such traits as adaptability, analytical thinking, communications skills, leadership and strategic thinking.

Recruiters were asked to identify and rate up to ten schools at which they had significant recruiting experi-



Dean Arjang Assad (front, 2nd from left) joins Management students in celebrating the new MBA ranking

ence in the last five years.

Employer scores were based on the average rating by employers (a measure of the school's quality) and the number of good ratings it received (a measure of the school's reach). Because of the changes to this year's employer survey, and in the interest of using the freshest available data, Bloomberg Businessweek used only 2014 results, discontinuing the practice of weighting the results using three years of biennial scores.

The UB School of Management is recognized for its emphasis on real-world learning, community and economic impact, and the global perspective of its faculty, students and alumni. The school also has been ranked by the Financial Times, Forbes and U.S. News & World Report for the quality of its programs and the return on investment it provides its graduates. 🌐

Jacqueline Ghosen is assistant dean and director of communications for the School of Management.

PRESIDENT OF BROCK UNIVERSITY RECEIVES SUNY HONORARY DEGREE

Dr. Jack Lightstone, President and Vice Chancellor of Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, was awarded a SUNY Doctorate in Humane Letters, Honoris Causa at the 168th UB Commencement at Alumni Arena on May 18, 2014.

President Lightstone was honored for his leadership in promoting Brock's global engagement and in enhancing collaborative ties between Brock and UB—in particular the

honor at one of the presidential receptions during the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, hosted by Brock in May-June 2014. This annual meeting is the largest academic conference held in Canada each year.

Lightstone was first appointed President and Vice-Chancellor of Brock University on July 1, 2006. In 2010, he was re-appointed to a second five-year term, effective July 1, 2011. He also holds an academic appointment as pro-



Jack Lightstone receiving honorary degree from Satish Tripathi; behind him are SUNY trustees Eunice A. Lewin and Angelo Fatta

comprehensive institutional agreement first signed in 2007 that called for cooperation between the two institutions in a variety of areas, including research, education and policy.

That agreement, which was renewed in 2013, led to the establishment of a unique Master's Degree in Canadian American Studies jointly conducted by Brock and UB. Students in this degree program spend half of their time at each campus. The first students in the Joint M.A. Program were enrolled in fall 2013. Several students have already received their degrees.

Lightstone has worked closely with UB President Satish Tripathi to strengthen bilateral relations and to explore ways the two universities can cooperate to advance the interests of the bi-national Buffalo-Niagara region.

At Lightstone's invitation, Tripathi was the guest of

professor of History in Brock's Faculty of Humanities.

Before coming to Brock, Lightstone spent 30 years at Concordia University in Montreal. A longtime professor of Religion at Concordia, he served, from 1989 to 1992, as Associate Vice-Rector, Academic (Research). He was also Provost and Vice-Rector (Vice-President) from 1995 to 2004, and led an extensive academic planning process into a period of major renewal and expansion.

Lightstone received his BA from Carleton University in 1972, and his MA (1974) and PhD (1977) at Brown University in Rhode Island. He was a Visiting Research Graduate Fellow at Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1974-75. He has written and lectured extensively in his academic field, and remains an active scholar funded by external peer-reviewed grants. He is the author of six books and is widely published in scholarly and professional journals. 🌐

LAW SCHOOL EXPANDS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

By Ilene Fleischmann

Continuing to develop its presence in global legal education, the University at Buffalo Law School has begun two new programs for international students.

The first – a dual LLM program – gives students the chance to earn two masters of law degrees – one in Buffalo and one in Lyon, France.

The second – the Advanced Standing Two-Year JD for Internationally Trained Lawyers program – gives international law students who already hold a law degree from a non-U.S. jurisdiction the opportunity to apply for advanced standing at UB. This allows them to earn a Juris Doctor degree in two years, rather than the standard three-year period. Both programs began in fall 2014.

The Double LLM program is presented in conjunction with the private Catholic University of Lyon (Université Catholique de Lyon or UCL), in east-central France. Students will enroll in UCL's master of laws program in international business law and study there during the fall semester, then come to Buffalo for the spring semester as part of the law school's general LLM program.

"Buffalo has long been a center for innovative, international legal education, and we are most pleased to build on this tradition with Lyon," says UB Law School Dean Makau Mutua. "It will be a wonderful and valuable experience for students."

The Buffalo segment begins with an intensive January course that introduces students to the U.S. legal system. At the end of the spring semester, they graduate with a master of laws degree from each institution.

The program builds on the strengths of both schools, not least of which is each school's location. Lyon is in the heart of Europe, providing students with easy access to international and European institutions. Situated on the international border with Canada, Buffalo is at the crossroads of an internationally ranked research university and a vibrant midsize legal community.

The Advanced Standing Two-Year JD for Internationally Trained Lawyers program is for international law students interested in earning a law degree from an American law school a year quicker than normal.

The students completing this program would usually go on to take the New York State Bar Exam. So far, two students have been admitted to the UB program, which accepted its first students in September 2014.

"We are very pleased with the students we have enrolled in the advanced standing two-year Juris Doctor program," says Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, vice dean for admissions and student life.

"The enrollment of these two is just the beginning. The program is quite rigorous. The students will take all of

the required courses as their first-year classmates. In year two they will take a scattering of other required courses and other classes that will begin to prepare them for the bar exam.

"We wanted to be sure that the students we enrolled in this first class were academically prepared for this intensive experience. We are very pleased with the results. Both students have demonstrated that they are ready to take on this challenge."

The two students enrolled in the program's inaugural class are Yuqing Tian, a native of China who attended the Minzu University of China, where she earned a bachelor of law and arts degree. She also earned her master's degree from UB, finishing with a 4.0 GPA.

Yuqing has an interest in intellectual property law. Prior to coming to Buffalo, she was a paralegal at Holybridge Law Firm in Jiangbei, Chongqing. Yuqing said she enrolled in the UB program because she recognizes the need for attorneys trained in both the U.S. and Chinese legal systems as China continues to move swiftly toward internationalization.

The program's second student, Meron Amare, was born in Ethiopia and earned her degree from Mekelle, Ethiopia. In 2010 Amare began her studies in Oslo, Norway, at the University of Oslo on a full scholarship. She graduated in 2012 with her LLM degree in public international law. While in Norway, Amare interned at the Norwegian Center for Human Rights. She moved to the United States in 2013 and began working for the Equal Rights Center in Washington, D.C. She volunteered with the CAIR Coalition, an organization based in D.C. that assists detained immigrants there.

Amare said her ultimate goal is take the bar exam and be able to practice law and work for the rights of the underrepresented by being part of an international human rights organization. The program had 18 applicants. Wiley-Upshaw said UB hopes to increase the number of students enrolled in the program in later semesters.

"The law school is excited about the contributions these students will make in the classroom and to the law profession," says Wiley-Upshaw. "We are looking forward to enrolling more students in the future."

The two programs add to the law school's existing international presence and offerings, including a joint program with UB and the University of Glasgow School of Law. In addition, Buffalo law students will travel this January to take two new international courses. Meredith Kolsky Lewis will teach International Economic Law in New Zealand; and Stuart G. Lazar will teach International Corporate Transactions in France. 🌐

Ilene Fleischmann is vice dean for alumni, public relations and communications at the Law School.

CROSSING BORDERS DESIGN PROJECT

By Brian Carter

A design class offered by the School of Architecture and Planning in Spring 2014 invited students to work collaboratively to design a new border cross-



Poster display of border station projects at the Crossing Borders Conference

asked to form teams to develop ideas, review proposals developed by other teams in the class and develop design proposals. During the semester the students also had presentations from architects who had worked on the design of new award winning border crossings sponsored by the GSA Design Excellence Program.

The class, Architecture 404, was entitled *Collaboration + Competition*. Several of the design teams selected sites in the United States at the borders with Canada and Mexico.

In addition other teams selected sites at the borders of Syria and Jordan, India and Pakistan, Hong Kong and China and between Paraguay and Brazil as well as locations in the Bering Straits and the Straits of Gibraltar that separate Europe and Africa.

After conducting research on the selected sites and examinations of existing border crossings each student team was required to present their proposals on four drawings.

The semester-long course was taught by Professors Brian Carter and Michael Williams. Work from Architecture 404 was selected for exhibition at the annual Crossing Borders Conference held at UB in spring 2014. 🌐

ing at an international border of their choice.

A total of 28 students enrolled in the class and were

Brian Carter is professor of architecture and former dean of the School of Architecture and Planning.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT IN NORTH BENGAL, INDIA

By Jessica Scates

Through the collaborative efforts of the UB Office of Global Health Initiatives (OGHI), HealthyWorld Foundation and the West Bengal Voluntary Health Association (WBVHA), Lyndsey Milcarek, a Master of Public Health (MPH) student in her final year at UB, was sponsored to perform a community health assessment in North Bengal, India.

The community health assessment (CHA) took place in the Gram Panchayat of Tesimla, encompassing six villages; in total, 65 families were interviewed, accounting for 406 individuals, out of a total population of more than 14,000. Tesimla is a very rural area in North Bengal with extensive rice cultivation and tea garden industries. The area is close to the



Lyndsey Milcarek visiting a family in Tesimla

Himalayan Mountain range, and tea gardens cover most of the terrain.

The CHA had both quantitative and qualitative portions, with the goal of extracting information on the health care system (awareness/knowledge, access and barriers to access) in addition to socioeconomic factors (personal health, finances, education). After analysis, an implementation was suggested to both organizations, in order to improve the lives and health of the individuals in these villages.

HealthyWorld Foundation and WBVHA have only just started analyzing and addressing health care problems in Tesimla. Their intention is to continue with additional projects after basic conditions are addressed from the CHA. Lyndsey

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UB RESPONDS TO EBOLA

By John DellaConrada

The university has responded proactively to the Ebola crisis in a number of ways. In October 2014 UB formed an Ebola Advisory Committee to monitor the global health crisis and prepare the university to respond, as needed, to new developments in the spread of the virus and the directives of federal, state and county health officials.

The committee's work builds on efforts that began in the summer and which mainly involved UB's Office of International Education, University Life and Services, and University Communications.

"As the situation continues to evolve, the university sees the need to include other administrative units in our planning and preparations," said advisory committee chairperson Barbara Ricotta, associate vice president for student affairs.

"The committee's work thus far has focused on continued collaboration with county and state departments of health to ensure UB's compliance with current protocols," Ricotta said, "as well as making recommendations for monitoring the travel and health of the university community and preparing the university to respond should we be directly affected in some way by the virus."

To keep the university community informed about new developments in the Ebola situation and the university's preparedness, UB's Ebola Advisory Committee launched a new website that offers updates on travel warnings and UB policy on travel, as well as official information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the signs and symptoms of Ebola and factual information about how the virus is transmitted (www.buffalo.edu/ebola).

The committee also is focused on implementing precautionary measures outlined in a recent memo to all SUNY campuses from Chancellor Nancy Zimpher. The measures include participation in Ebola emergency drills and expansion of a system-wide Ebola Working Group, which includes UB representatives.

UB's previous experience in planning for the possibility of a pandemic H1N1 flu or SARS outbreak has prepared the university very well to respond to the current situation, said Susan Snyder, director of student health services.

"We are monitoring the situation very closely," Snyder said, "and are well-versed in recommended protocols for screening, evaluation, isolation and protective procedures for Ebola and other infectious diseases."

In addition to clarifying policies on travel by UB students, faculty and staff to Ebola-affected countries, the university is monitoring new students arriving from the most affected countries. While UB does not currently enroll students from Guinea, Liberia or Sierra Leone, it has a small number of students from Nigeria, which was for a time affected by an Ebola outbreak.

Ebola is also the focus of research initiatives by several UB faculty members. Derek Taylor and Jeremy Bruenn of the Department of Biological Sciences recently published ongoing research showing that the family of viruses (filoviruses) from which Ebola is a descendent is much older than previously thought—at least 16-23 million years old.

"These things have been interacting with mammals for a long time, several million years," Taylor notes.

This new research adds to scientists' developing knowledge about known filoviruses, such as Ebola and Marburg, which experts once believed came into being some 10,000 years ago, coinciding with the rise of agriculture.

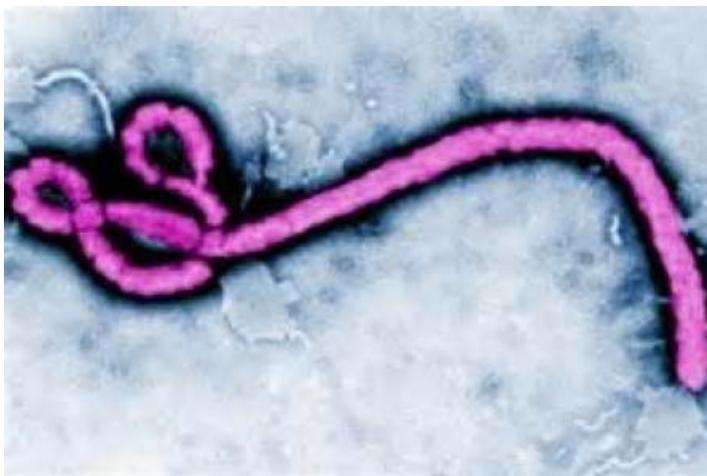
The new study builds on Taylor's previous work with Bruenn and other biologists, which used viral "fossil genes" found in rodents to estimate that the entire family of filoviruses was more than 10 million years old. However, those studies used fossil genes only distantly related to Ebola and Marburg, which prevented the researchers from drawing conclusions about the age of these two viral lines.

The latest study pushes back the family's age to the time when great apes arose. Knowing more about filoviruses in general could provide insight into which host species might serve as "reservoirs" that harbor undiscovered pathogens related to Ebola and Marburg, Taylor says.

In a second research initiative, Janet Yang of the Department of Communication is studying the American public's reaction to the current outbreak, and how the public's view of Ebola is influenced by both emotional and cognitive responses. Yang has been awarded a \$84,110 Rapid Response Research grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct this research.

Yang's study will examine data from 1,000 participants

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LEARNING ABOUT PHARMACY PRACTICE IN TAIWAN

By Sara DiTursi

In summer 2014, I undertook a six-week visit to National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) and Taipei Medical University (TMU) in Taiwan. A third-year Doctor of Pharmacy candidate in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, I was the first student from UB to visit the Institute of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is interested in growing international outreach and educating students about pharmacy practice abroad.

NCKU and UB have an institutional affiliation agreement that was signed when President Satish Tripathi visited NCKU in March 2013. My visit to NCKU included a presentation to the faculty and students about the Doctor of Pharmacy program at UB and an overview of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Following the presentation, I participated in a roundtable discussion with current students and faculty which included a discussion about differences between pharmacy practice in the United States and Taiwan, and also the steps the two schools may take in order to foster future collaborations, such as student and faculty exchange.

I also had the opportunity to spend a day at NCKU Hospital and observe the many services that pharmacists provide there. This included presentations in the outpatient, inpatient, compounding, emergency department and clinical trial pharmacies in the hospital. Pharmacists at NCKU hospital also offer drug information and clinical services to patients and other healthcare professionals.

Pharmacy practice differs significantly from the United States in that Taiwan has a well established National Health Insurance system. The bulk of the dispensing of medications is performed in the hospital rather than in community pharmacies, as in the United States. The workload on hospital pharmacists is quite large in Taiwan because pharmacy technicians are not utilized and because of the sheer prescription volume that the pharmacy experiences on a daily basis.

Since healthcare is offered for a very low copay, the hospitals cater to a larger number of patients as compared with the United States. The hospital offers clinical

services that are similar to hospitals in the United States such as medication therapy management and pharmacist-run clinics.

Currently in Taiwan, a Bachelor's degree is required for new pharmacists, however, NCKU offers Master's and PhD programs to further hone the clinical skills of newly trained pharmacists. Many pharmacists in Taiwan that are interested in clinical pharmacy choose to complete their PharmD degree in the United States.

Following the visit to NCKU, I spent the majority of my

time at Taipei Medical University (TMU) in an internship at a community pharmacy.

I was selected to represent the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists as a part of the Student Exchange Program at TMU.



Sara DiTursi (center front) meets with students and faculty at NCKU in Taiwan

The internship consisted of over 100 hours spent shadowing the pharmacy manager of Pu Cheng Pharmacy, an independent pharmacy in Taipei. I also attended weekly pharmacotherapy classes and field trips to the National Health Insurance Administration, Taipei Veterans General Hospital and Taipei Medical University Hospital to gain insight into many areas of pharmacy practice in Taiwan.

Although the language barrier with patients was difficult, I was able to help the pharmacist in dispensing and preparing medications, as the medication names and indication are listed in English on the prescription, although many brand names are different than those in the United States. I also learned a great deal about the practice of Chinese medicine and how it influences pharmacy practice in Taiwan. Pu Cheng pharmacy sells many traditional Chinese medicines in the over-the-counter section.

However, the pharmacists are resistant to recommend these treatments as they may interact with other over-the-counter and prescription medications. While some pharmacy schools offer an overview class of Chinese medicine, the practice of traditional Chinese medicine is largely separated from pharmacy medicine. Chinese medicine physicians are trained in separate programs from pharmacists and general physicians.

The visit to NCKU and internship at Pu Cheng Pharmacy was an extremely eye-opening experience for me, changing my outlook on the pharmacy profession and the role pharmacists play in patient care. 🌐

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RESEARCH INSTITUTE LAUNCHED

By Marcene Robinson

For decades, Buffalo's population has shrunk. But the city's number of immigrants and refugees is on the rise.

With the sudden population surge come a host of problems. The University at Buffalo will tackle these issues through the Immigrant and Refugee Research Institute (IRRI), a new institute under the School of Social Work and Buffalo Center for Social Research.

IRRI will work to improve the lives of immigrants and



Hilary Weaver

and refugees in Western New York through research on issues involving the welfare of newcomers. The institute will also offer support to newcomer students and provide research data to local organizations.

"I think there's power in bringing people together," says Hilary Weaver, IRRI co-director and associate professor in the School of Social Work. "We envision IRRI as an umbrella where scholars, community members and people from various human services can gather together around research and service needs. We will be the bridge between the university and the community."

Immigrants and refugees are the only growing segment of the Buffalo population. Ten years ago, one might have found three Burmese people in Buffalo. That number has ballooned to 8,000 people, says Weaver.

refugees in Western New York through research on issues involving the welfare of newcomers. The institute will also offer support to newcomer students and provide research data to local organizations.

"I think there's power in bringing people together," says Hilary Weaver, IRRI

"The social work profession has a mission to work with disenfranchised populations," Weaver says, "and that includes being culturally responsive, to be able to address and be effective with people of diverse backgrounds," Weaver adds.

Refugees are placed in U.S. cities based on which have the available infrastructure to support new residents. Buffalo, says Weaver, is an ideal location for newcomers due to the city's ample stock of homes – particularly in the city's West Side – and numerous supportive social agencies.

Wooksoo Kim, also IRRI co-director and associate professor in the School of Social Work, adds that increasingly stringent immigration policies in Canada have closed the nation for some newcomers, leaving Buffalo as a close alternative.

However, Kim believes that the boom in immigrant and refugee populations is an opportunity for Buffalo. Kim and Weaver look to the city of Utica as a model for economic resurgence through newcomer resettlement.

"Refugees who found their home in Buffalo are a valuable asset to the city," says Kim. "In order to help them realize their economic and cultural potentials, we must be clear in our commitment to these people. Research is an essential tool to guide such actions." 🌐



Wooksoo Kim



Marcene Robinson is an assistant news content manager for University Communications.

AGREEMENTS RENEWED FOR UB CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

In September 2014 a new five-year agreement was signed between UB and Capital Normal University (CNU), UB's longstanding partner in Beijing, China, to extend and expand the operation of the UB Confucius Institute, first launched in April 2010.

The signing occurred during the visit by a delegation from CNU led by President Gong Huili and Dean Han Mei, Director of CNU's Confucius Institute Administration Office, to participate in the annual UBCI Board of Directors meeting hosted by UB and chaired by Professor Stephen Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education.

"We are delighted to partner with CNU to further enhance the impact of our Confucius Institute in terms of promoting knowledge of Chinese language and culture at UB and throughout Western New York," Dunnett said.

Following the signing of the UB-CNU agreement, a second agreement between UB and Hanban, the unit of China's Ministry of Education responsible for the 300+ Confucius Institutes around the world, was also ratified.

Jiyuan Yu, UB Professor of Philosophy and Director of the UBCI, noted that the new agreements will allow UB to



Presidents Tripathi and Gong exchange new UBCI agreements

take advantage of generous Hanban funding to support a variety of programs for UB students and faculty. As director, Yu has sought to align UBCI priorities with UB's own, and make the institute an enhanced resource for the university.

Yu is keen to raise awareness around campus of the appealing UBCI opportunities, which include scholarships to fund study and research by undergraduate and graduate students in China, funding for both faculty- and graduate student-organized conferences at UB on topics relating

to China and for students and faculty to attend international conferences elsewhere on such topics, and funding for UB students to participate in specific UB study abroad programs in China including the annual summer program in Chinese language and culture conducted at CNU.

These opportunities are in addition to the extensive support already provided by the UBCI to local K-12 schools for the delivery of Chinese language and culture instruction by certified teachers from China, funded by Hanban and approved by UB. Currently, the UBCI has placed Chinese teachers in 15 local schools in Western New York. Thousands of local children have benefited from instruction that would otherwise not be available. 🌐

NEW IEM STAFF

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knowledge and experiences that changed his perspective as a human being and made him more connected to our ever more interdependent world.

Before coming to Buffalo, Paul worked as an international admission counselor at the University of Evansville and as a field organizer for the Ohio Democratic Party on the 2010 Ohio coordinated campaign. While at Evansville, he worked to develop the Office of International Admission's use of technology and created a communication email campaign for prospective and accepted students. Paul looks forward to immersing himself in the University at Buffalo community and is excited to work with international students on a daily basis guiding them through the admission process.

Outside of work, Paul volunteers with the Harrison County Historical Society (Ohio) and with the Boy Scouts of America. He is also a keen outdoorsman who loves to go backpacking, skiing, kayaking, and cycling. 🌐

UB RESPONDS TO EBOLA

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sampled through a survey. Subjects were randomly assigned to two experimental conditions: one that emphasized there are people infected with Ebola in the U.S., and another that stressed the opposite.

Yang will draw conclusions from the data using theory from social psychology and risk communication. "The findings may improve the design of messages related to risk issues that are perceived to be psychologically distant from the American public — issues such as climate change and overpopulation," says Yang.

The data may also inform public policy on risk-related issues, promote an appropriate public response and prevent panic grounded in misinformation, adds Yang. 🌐

John Dellacontrada is associate vice president for media relations and stakeholder communications. This piece is also based on reporting by Charlotte Hsu and Marcene Robinson of University Communications.

AUDIOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM IN BEIJING

By Christina Stocking

In collaboration with the General Hospital of the People's Liberation Army in Beijing, the UB Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences (CDS) has organized an audiology clinical training program that has run for three weeks each summer in 2013 and 2014.

We were invited by Dr. Wang Qiuju, who is the professor and director of the Chinese PLA Institute of Otolaryngology, and has research associations with Wei Sun, associate professor in CDS. The inaugural program was titled "Sino-US Joint Training of the Audiological Physicians and Audiologists Project."

Eleven audiology students and four audiology faculty members participated in this program each summer in 2013 and 2014. The hosting hospital is one of the finest hospitals in China. The Department of Otolaryngology is incredibly busy with ear surgery, including cochlear implants and middle ear device implantation, as well as treating a wide range of auditory and vestibular disorders.

Their audiology group administers state of the art audiological tests, including auditory steady-state response test, newborn hearing and gene screening, vestibular tests, cochlear implant mapping and hearing aid fitting.

During each three-week program, the students had opportunities to work with the local otolaryngologists and audiologists on clinical cases and research projects. They had hands-on experience testing patients and opportunities to observe cochlear implant surgery as well as surgery to remove acoustic neuromas. Accommodation was generously provided by our hosts.

In addition, each year we attended a two-day conference for audiological physicians in China, where Wei Sun, Christina Stocking, and Nancy Stecker were among the presenters. Our faculty and students as well as Richard Salvi gave talks to the hospital staff, Chinese students and research groups.

Students and faculty had numerous discussions about possible research collaborations with the staff at the hospital and research center. Our hosts were also interested in learning about how we practice and train for audiology in the U.S.

The credential for an audiologist in this country is a professional doctorate degree, requiring 4 years of graduate education. The four-year program includes

three years of coursework, along side clinical practicum, and then a fourth-year full-time clinical externship. Students must also complete and present a significant research project within the first 3 years.

In China, until recently, there was no such audiology



Participants in the program at an Audiological Physicians Conference in Beijing

degree program. In China, audiological physicians are medical doctors who choose to concentrate their practice in the non-surgical realm of treating hearing disorders. They work with technicians who perform routine hearing testing.

Now, the first audiology degree program has been established in Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, which offers a bachelors degree program in audiology. Last year, one audiology student worked in the UB Center for Hearing and Deafness as a visiting scholar. We plan to recruit more students to come to UB for further graduate studies.

Aside from the unique experiences our students obtained with clinical practice and research, these visits also provided the opportunity to learn about the Chinese culture and their health care system. We worked side by side with the Chinese audiologists and physicians and enjoyed getting to know them as friends.

Our hosts were very generous about introducing our group to local food, customs, and sights. We were able to visit several of the most famous sites in and around Beijing, including the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, and the Great Wall of China. We also visited Chende, a mountain resort city that used to be a palace for the emperors as their summer residence, and Taiyuan, a beautiful modern and historical city west of Beijing.

Here are some reflections from a few of our students:

Tara Warren: In the hospital ward, we donned white coats
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AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM

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and assisted the staff during audiological evaluations. We observed methods of treatment much different from what we learn at home to manage various disorders including sudden deafness, and tinnitus. One of the most exciting encounters was the day we scrubbed in to the operating room and observed the removal of an acoustic neuroma, and the implantation of a cochlear implant.

When we were not at the hospital, we were generously guided around by volunteers from the hospital to China's most important historic and cultural sites, including the Forbidden City, the Great Wall of China, the Silk market, and the Pearl market. We were invited into the homes of the doctors to join their families for traditional Chinese meals. These included delicacies of Peking duck, roast lamb, and Ting dynasty style feasts. Never did we leave hungry!

Although it is impossible to encapsulate three weeks into one paragraph, if there is one thing I can highlight it would be the grace, pride, and friendliness of the Chinese people. I am very thankful to have experienced this tremendous opportunity and will forever remember this trip along my journey in the field of audiology.

Vanessa Rogers: In the outpatient clinic I was able to assist in mapping a cochlear implant on a child, adjust the map for an adult, as well as perform various evoked potential testing on all ages. Although the language was different, it was amazing because I was still able to understand the procedures and processes. I became close with several of the audiologists, physicians and nurses. It was very rewarding to get to know each other on a personal and professional level. They were intrigued about my culture and education as a student in America, just as I was curious to learn about the Chinese culture, way of life, and education of audiologists in China.

Madeline Vojak: Having the opportunity to live in Beijing, China is an once-in-a-lifetime experience within itself but also being able to be personally involved with the doctors, audiologists, nurses, and patients in a Chinese Hospital was remarkable. While applying to graduate schools, I never would have thought that by choosing the University at Buffalo it would take me to the opposite side of the world! If I were currently an undergraduate student, knowing that UB provided such vast clinical experiences would definitely put UB at the top of my list.

We were able to witness what it was like to be a patient in China. In the US, we make an appointment with our doctor and complain about waiting an hour past our appointment time. In China, it's standard for patients to draw numbers (similar to a grocery store deli) and wait for their number to be called. The halls were packed with

patients and their families, patiently waiting to be seen. My heart went out to these patients and the overworked doctors. China has taught me to not worry about what is on my schedule, but to focus on the current patient.

Our stay in China was life altering for many reasons. Staying in western Beijing, we all were able to see the culture on a daily basis with minimal westernization. We bought fruit on street corners, took the subway on a daily basis, and ate traditional Chinese food for almost every meal. (Yes, we did have McDonalds once or twice...) One of the greatest things I took away from China was how gracious their people are.

The experiences gained in China will have an impact on my professional and personal life throughout my lifetime and I am forever thankful for all the hard work that went into planning the Sino-US Joint Training of the Audiological Physicians and Audiologists Program.

Sarah Hayes: As a graduate student interested in both clinical care and research, an important aspect of my future career will be to address the fact that hearing loss, tinnitus, and other audiological disorders are global health problems. Establishing research and clinical collaborations with scientists and clinicians from diverse countries can accelerate our understanding of audiological disorders. The opportunity to visit and work alongside the clinical and research staff at the PLA General Hospital in Beijing has not only allowed me to learn about audiological diagnosis and patient care in China, but has also allowed me to establish research and clinical relationships with audiologists and scientists worldwide. I am very excited to have made so many new friends during our trip and to continue collaborating on future research projects.

Since returning from our trip, we have hosted several Chinese visitors who have come to study here on a more long-term basis. Chao Zhang, an audiologist, and Dr. Jun Liu, an otolaryngologist, spent one year conducting research on tinnitus and hyperacusis in the Center for Hearing and Deafness with Dr. Sun. Dr. Liu also brought his 5 year old daughter, Xingyi, who attended Kindergarten at Windermere Elementary School in Amherst.

We look forward to an on-going cooperative relationship between Beijing and Buffalo with the purposes of educational and research exchange in the fields of audiology and hearing science, as we continue to build long lasting friendships with our Chinese colleagues. 🌐

Christina Stocking is a clinical assistant professor of Communicative Disorders and Sciences.

UB ALUMNA MARIAM ASSEFA RECALLS 40-YEAR HISTORY OF WORLD EDUCATION SERVICES

By Nick Clark

In 1974, in its first year of operations, a fledgling World Education Services (WES) completed credential evaluations for 20 foreign-educated individuals. Fast forward 40 years to 2014 and the now-largest foreign credential evaluation organization in North America is on target to help over 150,000 internationally educated individuals meet their U.S. or Canadian educational and workplace goals.

WES has had close ties to UB for many years. The longest serving member of the WES team, UB Alumna Mariam Assefa (Ed.M. 1977), has been with the organization for 33 years, and at the helm as the Executive Director for all but one of those years.

Professor Stephen C. Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education, is the longest serving member of the WES Board of Directors, and a former chair of the board. Dunnett and Steven Shaw, Director of International Admissions, have been frequent presenters at WES workshops and forums. In addition, President Satish K. Tripathi was the invited keynote speaker at the recent WES 40th Anniversary Forum on Attracting and Integrating Global Talent, held in New York City.

In a recent interview with *World Education News & Reviews*, on the occasion of WES's 40th anniversary celebrations, Ms. Assefa reflected on the growth of the organization over the last 30 years and on changes within the world of credential evaluation more broadly.

Immigrants Helping Other Immigrants Realize Their Dreams

Originally an immigrant to the United States herself, Ms. Assefa's story is much the same as many of the hundreds of thousands of WES clients that she and the organization have helped integrate into the social, economic and educational fabric of the United States and Canada over the last four decades. Born in Ethiopia, educated in France and the United States, Ms. Assefa embodies both the organization she heads and the clients she and her staff of over 200 serve.

"In the office today, we have so many people who are immigrants themselves. They understand and have ex-

perienced the same issues faced by the applicants that we serve. This work isn't for everyone, so you have to be dedicated to the mission of the organization."



Credential Evaluation: Part of the International Admissions Ecosystem

One of the biggest changes that Ms. Assefa has seen in the world of foreign credential evaluation is the acceptance by admissions offices of external agencies such as WES. Much like the current debate surrounding the use of international recruiting agents, outsourcing the evaluation of international student credentials by academic institutions was once a taboo subject not much discussed, let alone admitted to.

"External credential evaluation is not as mysterious as it once was. In fact, a lot of institutions frowned upon it. Admissions departments believed that evaluations could not be done by services outside the campus. They seldom referred students to us. But that has completely changed, nowadays many academic institutions find it more convenient to use an evaluation service and there is no stigma attached to

it. Nowadays evaluation services are part of the international admissions ecosystem."

Today, WES delivers evaluations to more than 2,500 academic institutions, employers and licensing bodies in the United States and Canada. There are many reasons for the eventual acceptance of credential evaluation services by higher education institutions, and much of that has been budgetary. It takes a long time to train the skills needed to accurately evaluate foreign academic credentials, and oftentimes when key international admissions personnel retire or leave an institution, the knowledge of foreign education systems and credentials departs with them.

Changes Within the Industry

Much of course has changed within the credential-evaluation industry as well over the last 40 years. Access to information, for example, has become much quicker and more convenient. As a result, the WES turnaround time for evaluations has shortened significantly.

"It used to take a month and now [for the standard service] we do it in a week," stated Ms. Assefa, adding that, "there is a lot more information available today. When I first started in this field, we were always looking for information, mail was slow and information was not

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WES HISTORY

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easy to come by.”

However, with change come new challenges. This has been especially evident with the exponential growth in the numbers of students and academics moving across borders for study and re-

search. And, perhaps more significant for the workload of credential evaluators has been the explosion in the number of higher education institutions and programs.

“What has changed is that there are many more programs and institutions all over the world now. In the old days, the feeder countries and feeder schools were limited. Nowadays, higher education provision has exploded all over the world so you see new programs, new schools all the time. Determining the status of these schools: Who they are? When did they open? What’s their status? That’s a lot of work.”

And it’s not just the new programs and new institutions that are adding to the complexity of accurately evaluating foreign academic credentials. New cross-border delivery methods raise significant questions related to oversight, to quality and to legitimacy.

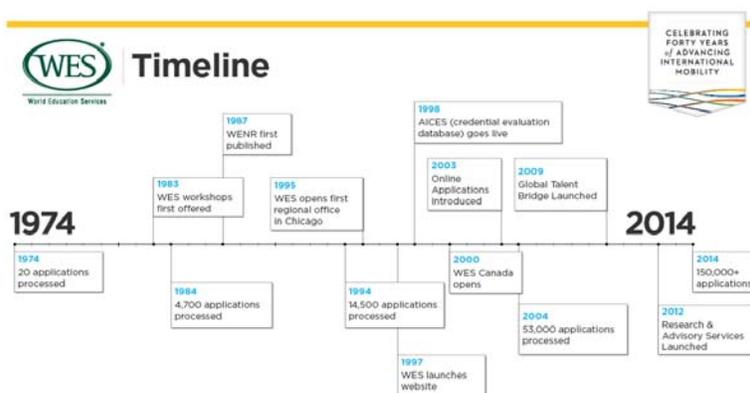
“We not only do evaluations, we provide tools, we share our knowledge through *World Education News & Reviews*, through our workshops and webinars. We’re not only delivering evaluations, but we’re also contributing to the knowledge base in the field, and that makes me very, very happy.”

Over the last decade, in fact, WES has added three new departments to help meet its mission of sharing research findings and in fostering the integration of foreign-educated individuals into academic and professional settings.

“Research and Advisory Services, Global Talent Bridge and the Knowledge and Research Exchange all really go the core of the WES mission, the integration piece: what happens to people once they get their evaluation? For us, it is very important to make sure that people receive the right information and resources to help them progress to the next stage of the integration process,” Ms. Assefa said.

Changing Evaluation Needs

The end use of a WES evaluation has also changed significantly over time. In the early years, WES evaluations were used primarily by immigrants looking for employment. And while that continues to be the case with evaluations



completed by the WES Canada office, the majority of the evaluations done in WES’ New York office are used for educational purposes.

Reflecting on this fact, Ms. Assefa pointed again to the fact that in the past,

campuses tended to perform their own evaluations, so just with the shift in attitude towards third-party credential evaluation among admissions departments, the end use of WES evaluations has shifted markedly. But another factor at play is the policy arena into which temporary immigrants are arriving.

“So now, 80 percent of the work that we do – in the United States – is for educational purposes. In Canada it is the opposite, 90 percent is for immigration and employment because that is where the demand is.”

10 Years From Now

Thinking about current trends in the delivery of educational programs and the awarding of academic qualifications, and also the manner in which students and workers acquire skills, WES may look different and be offering newer, more innovative products in 10 years’ time, according to Ms. Assefa.

“We might be doing a lot more in terms of innovative services. People’s qualifications are no longer just about the pieces of paper they get from attending a school. It’s also the skills they have acquired along the way. Perhaps we need to be in the business of skills assessment. People are going to complete a lot of courses through MOOCs for example, so we might need to look at skills assessment and outcomes assessment. That’s going to be very important in the future.”

Whatever the future holds for WES, the foundational tenors of the organization have long been set and they remain the same today as they did 40 years ago. It is an organization that grew out of a mission to serve the needs of immigrants; an organization that is staffed by the sons and daughters of immigrants; and an organization that is spearheaded by a woman from Ethiopia, who was educated in France and the United States, and today continues to be driven by her first-hand understanding of and dedication to the communities that she serves. 🌐

Nick Clark is the Editor of World Education News & Reviews (WENR), published by WES. This article is adapted from Clark’s original piece in WENR. Used with permission.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Department of Architecture

Brian Carter, professor, was a co-editor of the recently published book on the new building at the Glasgow School of Art. The book was published by MSA in the U.K., and the building was designed by the American architect Steven Holl. A book on the work of Canadian architects Battersby Howat edited by Brian Carter received the best book prize in the 2014 international COUPE awards.

Joyce Hwang, associate professor and director of Professional Studies of Architecture, was selected to exhibit her installation project "Bat Cloud" as part of the 2014 International Architecture Biennale in Rotterdam, Netherlands (May 29 – August 24, 2014). At the conclusion of the biennale, Bat Cloud was re-installed permanently in the city of Rotterdam as part of a new public park. Joyce was also featured as an exhibitor for the 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale, as part of the Taiwan Pavilion, curated by Jimenez Lai.

Mark Shepard, associate professor of architecture and media study, organized and taught a 9-week summer program in the Netherlands in 2014 for students in the department of architecture. Titled Second Nature: Future Grounds, the program explored new strategies and tactics for the design and planning of urban regions that are understood not in opposition to—but in consort with—natural processes. Shepard is currently participating in a faculty exchange with the Bauhaus-Universität in Weimar, Germany, with whom we have established the International Media Architecture Masters Studies (IMAMS) program. Michael Markert is visiting Buffalo from Weimar in my place. Shepard delivered keynote lectures at two symposia - one at SUPERMARKT in Berlin, Germany and one at the Interactive Media Art Lab (iMAL) in Brussels, Belgium - organized by the Connecting Cities network. Connecting Cities is an EU funded network initiated by Public Art Lab (Berlin) in cooperation with Ars Electronica Futurelab Linz, Amber Platform Istanbul, FACT Liverpool, iMAL Brussels, m-cult Helsinki, Medialab Prado Madrid, Media Architecture Institute Vienna, Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb, Riga 2014 and Videospread Marseille.

Despina Stratigakos, associate professor, recently completed a two-year Marie Curie Fellowship at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. In August, she presented a paper, "Architectural Propaganda and the Nazis as Colonial Builders in Norway" at the Art in Battle conference held at the KODE Art Museum in Bergen, Norway. She also participated in the Feminist Futures symposium organized by the KTH Stockholm in Sweden.
The Regional Institute

Regional Institute

Kathryn Bryk Friedman, research associate professor and director of international research, has been named a Presidential Fellow for AY 2014-2015 by the SUNY Research Foundation. The RF Presidential Fellowship Program exists to enlist the expertise and assistance of faculty across the system in system-wide research collaboration. Presidential Fellows lead and foster multidisciplinary research collaboration among campus researchers and other partners in support of SUNY's research agenda. Friedman will work to stimulate international elements of RF's research enterprise.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Arts Management Program

Miriam Paeslack, assistant professor and director of graduate studies, organized an international workshop titled Urban and Architectural Imaginaries: Explorations in Photography, Film and Video. This workshop was part of the third international meeting of the European Architectural History Network (EAHN) in Turin, Italy, in June 2014, and the second one Paeslack initiated as founder and

coordinator of EAHN's Urban Photography, Film and Video Interest Group. Scholars from Turkey, Brazil, Italy, Spain, Israel, the UK and the United States discussed questions of 19th century and early 20th century urban representations. The group is planning a third workshop during EAHN's fourth meeting in Dublin in two years. In the Summer of 2014, her text "High-Speed Ruins: Rubble Photography in Berlin, 1871-1914" was published in Future Anterior Journal's special issue on photography and preservation (Univ. of Minn. Press). Her catalog text "Contemplating the past through the present. Johanna Diehl – photography as a medium of historiography" is forthcoming in the publication Johanna Diehl, Borgo, Romanità, Alleanza (Hatje Cantz), which shows Diehl's photographs of Italian sites, buildings, and interiors of the Mussolini Era. Paeslack was elected member of the International Committee of the College Art Association in February 2014. This fall, she will bring the German music theater scholar and director Johanna Dombois to campus with the generous support of Techne, the departments of Theatre and Dance, and Media Study.

Department of Chemistry

Luis Colón, professor, was one of two plenary speakers at KOFAS 2014, an international scientific conference in South Korea. The event, which took place June 11-13, 2014, was organized by the Korean Federation of Analytical Science and Technology, and other groups. Colón delivered a lecture titled "Carbon-based nanoparticles and chromatography."

Paras Prasad, SUNY Distinguished Professor, was awarded an honorary doctorate by Aix-Marseille University (AMU), the largest university in France, in recognition of his scientific achievements. Prasad received the honorary degree during a ceremony at AMU on November 18, 2014.

Department of Classics

Roger Woodard, Raymond Professor of Classics and chair, served as Visiting Scholar at the American Academy in Rome in summer 2014 where, among other activities, he researched and wrote an article on the Roman warrior Coriolanus, interpreting him as a particular Republican Roman expression of a much older trope, that of the warrior who turns his combat rage against his own society. In September Woodard visited Merton College, Oxford, where he read a paper on his interpretation of Coriolanus as a participant in the international conference *Historical Consciousness and Historiography*.

Department of Comparative Literature

Krzysztof Ziarek, professor and chair, gave two talks at the Tel Aviv University (Israel) in March, 2014: "Heidegger on the World and the Humans" in the Faculty of the Humanities and "Event and Singularity After Heidegger" in the Department of Philosophy. In July, he was invited to present a lecture, "Image-less Thinking" at the Hermeneutisches Kolloquium: Space of Imagination Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies., Germany He also conducted a text seminar at the 2014 Collegium Phaenomenologicum in Italy, July 13-19. In November, 2014, he will be a keynote speaker at "Imagine There Were No Humanities" conference at the University of Warsaw, Poland and present a paper in a conference on democracy in Wroclaw, Poland.

Department of Economics

From June 28 through July 14, **Alex Anas**, professor, visited the Department of Economics at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia where he taught a course in Urban Economics to 31 undergraduate and master level graduate students. Anas is organizing an international conference *Advancing Metropolitan Modeling for the Analysis of Urban Sustainability Policies* to be held at Riverside, California on January 16-17, 2015. The conference will consist of

16 papers to be presented by scholars from the United States, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland and the Netherlands.

Hye Mi You, assistant professor, presented a paper titled "Wage Volatility and Changing Patterns of Labor Supply" at Yonsei Global Research Team Workshop in Seoul, South Korea in February 2014. She also attended the 68th European meeting of the Econometric Society hosted by Toulouse School of Economics in France in August 2014 to present her research on anticipated wage growth as a factor of educational attainment.

Paul Zarembka, professor, has had four recent international engagements. In May 2014 he was invited to the National Autonomous University of Mexico to present lectures on Marx's evolving conception of value, and on a critique of the U.S. government's conspiracy theory against Muslims about September 11th. Later in May he presented the value paper for the Society for Socialist Studies at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Brock University, Canada. In June-July 2014 he participated and gave three lectures at the summer school for "Rosa Luxemburg's Thought and the Contemporary World" at the Institute of Western Marxist Philosophy, Wuhan University, China. Finally, in September he attended the conference of the International Initiative for the Promotion of Political Economy, held in Naples, Italy, and gave an updated version of his work on Marx's value theory and promoted the upcoming volume of *Research in Political Economy*, published by Emerald Group, UK, for which he has been general editor since 1977.

Department of English

David Alff, assistant professor, delivered an invited lecture at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario called "What is a project?" in March 2014.

Jerrold C. Frakes, SUNY Distinguished Professor, published two essays: "Quid Shmuel cum Homero? Greek Culture and Early Yiddish Epic," in *The Global Middle Ages*, eds. Geraldine Heng and Lynn Ramey, special issue of *Literature Compass* 10.1111 (2014), 1-12; and "Outliers of Yiddish Literature: Early and Late, Italy and Poland, Rhetorical and Peripheral," in *Jewish Quarterly Review* 104 (2014), 289-306. In July 2014 he attended the Celtic Studies summer school at the Institute for Advanced Studies, Dublin, and in August he taught in the intensive summer program at the Vilnius Yiddish Institute in Lithuania.

Judith Goldman, assistant professor, was a featured reader in March, 2014, at a poetry reading for the Grey Border Series, St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada; and in October, 2014, for the Materials Reading Series, Cambridge, UK. In July, 2014, "Domination Matrices" (a suite of poems from *l.b.; or, catenaries*) was published in *Fear of Language [Poetic Series #3]*, by Sternberg Press in Berlin. In October, 2014, she was a Visiting Fellow at Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

Walter Hakala, assistant professor, delivered an invited talk, "Two New Kinds of Fire: Syphilis and Capsicum in Early Hindvi Vocabularies," at a conference in honor of the late historian of Islamic South Asia, Simon Everard Digby, held at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, on June 11, 2014. He worked with M.A. Naru to translate a 300-year-old Urdu poem describing coffee connoisseurship in later Mughal India. The translation and an accompanying essay appear in the summer 2014 issue of *Eighteenth-Century Studies*.

Irving Massey, professor emeritus, has a visiting Fellowship at Wolfson College, Cambridge, England, for the winter term, 2014-15.

Steve McCaffery, professor, gave a talk and reading at Cambridge

University, UK; and a talk and performance at Corsham Court, Bath Spa University, UK, in June, 2014.

Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor, co-organized and gave a keynote address at the Center for Literary Translation Studies of Fudan University conference, "Emily Dickinson Dwells in China: Possibilities of Translation and Transcultural Perspectives," in Shanghai, China, November 22-24, 2014. She also gave three lectures in Taiwan on Dickinson preceding this conference.

Nnedi Okorafor, associate professor, was a guest speaker at Scottish PEN, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2014; the Sharjah Children's Reading Festival, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, 2014; the Bienal Brasil do Livro e da Leitura, Brasilia, Brazil, 2014; the Ake Festival of the Arts, Abeokuta, Nigeria, November, 2014; and Mandela Day, Mayaro, Trinidad 2014.

David Schmid, associate professor, gave a keynote address entitled, "The Moors Murders and the 'Truth' of True Crime" at *True Crime: Fact, Fiction, Ideology* in Manchester, England in June 2014.

Dennis Tedlock, SUNY Distinguished Professor, was at the Primer Congreso Internacional Poéticas de la Oralidad, UNMA, Morelia, Michoacán, México (June 2014), for a poetry reading, together with the French poet Serge Pey. He was also at the Tenth Oxford Conference on Archaeoastronomy and Cultural Astronomy, convened by the International Society for Archaeoastronomy and Cultural Astronomy (ISAAC) and hosted by the South African National Observatory and the University of Western Cape (July 2014), where he delivered a paper titled "The Earth and Sky of the Storyteller."

Howard Wolf, professor emeritus and Senior Fellow, gave two presentations at Wolfson College, Cambridge, England, on May 28, 2014: a Lunchtime Seminar Series entitled "Some Roles of the Literary Journalist and Creative Nonfiction Writer in Post-1960's America: 'a mid-wood bird,'" and a lecture entitled "The Fourth Genre: Between Fact and Fiction." A condensed version of the lecture will appear as "Self-Defense in George Orwell" in the December "George Orwell Society Blog," (ed. Ron Bateman, England). Wolf is a member of the advisory boards of *The Commonwealth Review* (New Delhi) and *Literary Miscellany* (Editor, Pradip Lahiri, Delhi).

Department of Geography

Christopher Renschler, associate professor and director of the Geographic Information and Analysis Lab, delivered a plenary presentation titled "The PEOPLES Framework—Enabling a Structured Conversation and Quantitative Assessment of Resilience in Communities at Various Scales" at the second regional forum of higher education in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region. It was held in Bogotá, Colombia on November 24-26, 2014. The forum was organized by three parties: REDULAC, which is a network of higher education institutions in DRR for the LAC Region, UNISDR Regional Office in Panama, and USAID/OFDA. At this conference Renschler also gave a talk titled, "Building Partnerships in Integrated Extreme Events Assessment and Management."

Department of History

Hal Langfur, associate professor, edited and contributed to a collection of essays by historians and anthropologists titled *Native Brazil: Beyond the Convert and the Cannibal, 1500 – 1889* (University of New Mexico Press, 2014). He presented the paper "Conglomerate Science: Historical and Literary Sediments in the Birth of Brazilian Mineralogy, ca. 1800" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference, Williamsburg, VA, and the paper "Native Informants and the Limits of Royal Dominion in Late-Colonial Brazil" at the authors' workshop "Borderlands of the Iberian World" in Mexico City. The workshop brought together some forty specialists contributing to a volume on the global borderlands and frontiers of the early modern Spanish and Portuguese empires to be published by

Oxford University Press. He concluded his six-year term on the editorial board of the *Hispanic American Historical Review* and joined the editorial board of the Brazilian journal *Varia História*.

Tamara Plakins Thornton, professor, presented a paper titled "Blank Forms and Interchangeable Parts: Mathematical Values and the Creation of Impersonal Bureaucracies in the Early American Republic," at the annual conference of the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, held at Brock University in St. Catharines, ON, on May 24, 2014.

Department of Linguistics

Wolfgang Wölck, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, presented a paper on "The dynamics of standard-dialect relationship" at the second international conference on Variation in Language Acquisition in Grenoble, France on Dec. 3, 2014.

David Zubin, professor, has a long-term ongoing research project on nominal classification systems and gender with Klaus-Michael Köpcke of the University of Münster, Germany. In recent years their focus has been on phonological, semantic, and discourse pragmatic properties of the gender system in German. Most recently Zubin was keynote speaker at the symposium on "Genus, Klassifikation und Kategorisierung" in Münster, November 28-30, 2013, where he gave a paper entitled "Schminke: über Genusintegration und (-wandel)." Zubin and Köpcke's continuing research is currently directed at an evaluation of the "entropy" of the gender system, i.e., the extent to which patterns of gender assignment in the system are motivated or arbitrary.

Department of Mathematics

Joseph Hundley, assistant professor, gave a series of four invited talks at the Morningside Center of Mathematics in Beijing, China, entitled, "Eisenstein series on $GL(2)$ and $GL(n)$."

Department of Music

Cort Lippe, associate professor of composition, joined the editorial board of the *Journal of New Music Research*, Taylor and Francis Publishing Group, U.K.; the advisory board for *Vortex Journal of Music*, published by the Escola de Música e Belas Artes do Paraná, Brazil; contributed a back-jacket endorsement for the book *Musica Informatica* by Leonello Tarabella, University of Pisa, Maggioli Editore; reviewed two book proposals from Cambridge University Press and Oxford University Press; and was on the music nominating committee for the *Inamori Foundation's Kyoto Prize in Music*, Japan. In September, he presented a paper at the conference *Platonic Rhizomes in Contemporary Music*, held at the archeological site of Plato's Academy in Athens.

Lippe also served on the program committees for the *Electroacoustic Music Studies Network Conference*, Berlin; the *New Interfaces for Musical Expression Conference*, London; the 7th *Toronto Electroacoustic Symposium*, and the music and paper committees for the combined *International Computer Music Conference and Sound and Music Computing Conference*, Athens, Greece, where, as an invited speaker and composer, he presented a paper entitled "Musings on the Status of Electronic Music Today" and his composition "Music for Septet and Computer" was performed at the Onassis Center in Athens. In addition he had five performances of his compositions in Germany, four in France, three in Switzerland, two in Canada, as well as performances in the U.K., Korea, and China.

Yuki Numata Resnick, assistant professor, will be the featured violin soloist this fall in UK-composer, Max Richter's *Vivaldi Recomposed*. This piece is a modern-day, re-imagined take on Antonio Vivaldi's much-loved classic, *The Four Seasons*. The performances take place at Australia's Sydney Opera House and Melbourne Recital Centre in November 2014. Numata Resnick will perform an additional chamber music concert featuring the works of Bryce Dessner and Pulitzer Prizewinners Caroline Shaw and John Luther Adams at the

Melbourne Recital Centre with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME).

Department of Physics

Hao Zeng, associate professor, co-authored a paper "Room Temperature Ferromagnetic $(Fe_{1-x}Co_x)_3BO_5$ Nanorods" with Shuli He, professor of physics at Capital Normal University, UB's partner university in Beijing, China. The paper appeared in the June 6, 2014 issue of *Nano Letters*, a leading journal in nanoscience. Professor He was a visiting scholar in Zeng's lab several years ago.

Department of Political Science

Frank Zagare, professor, delivered a paper titled "Reflections on the Great War," at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C. in August 2014.

Department of Psychology

Eduardo Mercado III, associate professor, was a visiting researcher at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) in Mexico City, Mexico in August 2014. There he worked with researchers in the experimental psychology laboratory of Vladimir Orduña to develop data analyses techniques designed to explore the temporal dynamics of learning in rodent models of developmental disorders.

Leonard J. Simms, associate professor and director of clinical training, presented a paper titled "The CAT-PD Project: Introducing an Integrative Model & Efficient Measure of Personality Disorder Traits" at the 17th European Conference on Personality in Lausanne, Switzerland in July 2014.

Department of Sociology

Thanks to the UB Faculty Internationalization Fund Grant, **Erin Hatton**, assistant professor, traveled to Finland in March of 2014 to further her research collaboration with Liisa Lähteenmäki, who is on the Faculty of Law at the University of Turku in Turku. Their research has culminated in the paper "Selling Neoliberalism, Legitimising Insecurity: Peddling Precarious Work in the United States and Finland," which is currently under review at *_Work, Employment and Society_*. While in Finland Hatton was invited to give a lecture to the Department of Social Research at the University of Turku. Her talk was titled "'Never-Never' Workers: From 'Kelly Girls' to Prisoners."

Department of Theatre and Dance

In June 2014 **Kazimierz Braun**, professor emeritus, had a book signing tour in Poland. He presented and signed four new books published in Poland, with the following English titles: *My Theatre of Rozewicz*, Rzeszow University Press, 2013; *My Theatre of Norwid*, Rzeszow University Press, 2014; *Good Shepherds* (with Zofia Reklewska-Braun), Bernardinum, 2014; and *Kazimierz Braun's Bibliography (1039 entries in between 1955-2014)*, Compiled by Barbara Bulat, A. Marszalek, Torun, 2014.

Anne Burnidge, associate professor of dance, performed her solo choreography, *Necessary Grace*, and presented a workshop focusing on cultivating embodied awareness through the somatic practice of Bartenieff Fundamentals at PERFORMÁTICA: foro internacional de danza contemporánea y artes del movimiento in San Andrés Cholula, Puebla, México April 2014. Burnidge will present "Breath and dynamic alignment: dance science and somatics converge through Bartenieff Fundamentals®" at the International Association of Dance Medicine and Science conference in Basel Switzerland, October 2014.

As a member of the Board of Directors for Performance Studies International, **Sarah Bay-Cheng**, professor, participated in the organization's first conference presented in China at the Shanghai Theatre Academy (July 2014) and is part of the conference committee preparing for the 2016 conference in Melbourne, Australia. She

presented research on digital historiography and performance at the International Federation for Theatre Research, where she was a founding member of the new working group for the digital humanities in theatre research. Sarah also serves on the conference planning committee for the International Society for Intermediality Studies which will meet in Utrecht, Netherlands in April 2015, and continues work as a member of the Advisory Board for the Robot Culture at Aesthetics (ROCA) project at the University of Copenhagen.

Department of Transnational Studies

Kari Winter, professor, presented a paper on "Slaveholding Widows" at an international conference on "Nontraditional Slaveholders in the Atlantic World" at the University of London, UK in July 2014. While in London, she also conducted research on transnational horticultural practices at Kew Gardens.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Department of Periodontics and Endodontics

Othman Shibly, associate professor of periodontics, established in October 2012, with the help of the UB and Western New York communities, several dental clinics in Turkey to care for Syrian refugees. In June 2014, his dental clinics in Turkey were selected to be the sites for the Alliance for the Oral Health Across Borders. The Alliance is an organization that is committed to promoting peace and well-being through oral health by building bridges among dental and health professionals around the world, especially in areas of conflict. The Alliance includes more than 36 U.S. dental schools and many others around the world. These dental clinics will be the site for faculty and students from around the globe to carry out dental missions to help Syrian refugees. Shibly established a network of volunteers from the U.S., U.K., France, Denmark, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordan to provide dental treatment for refugees in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon. His work was featured on American Dental Association (ADA) News, which is the biggest newsletter for dentistry in the world.

Shibly is establishing a plastic surgical team from the U.S. to treat oral maxillofacial defects, including cleft lip and palate. In May 2014 he joined a dental team from A.T. Still University Arizona, School of Dentistry, headed by their dean Jack Dillenburgh, and from the University at Buffalo to provide treatment at the Zaatari Camp in Jordan. The purpose of this trip was to provide surgical care for Syrian children refugees with cleft lip and palate and facial and oral malformations. Syrian refugee children with these facial and oral malformations have largely been ignored because UN medical funding is limited to war injuries, and does not address congenital problems. The 2nd surgical mission to correct these problems was conducted in August 2014. Shibly is now expanding the surgical team and planning for the next mission in December 2014.

On May 21 to 23, 2014 Shibly presented at the London Action Research Center conference, U.K. on educational programs for children refugees. As a result of his presentation in London, the action committee conducted a boat trip in July 2014 from London to Beirut to raise awareness of Syrian refugees and raise money to support the dental clinics and children's education. Shibly presented at the Syrian American Medical Society conference in Gaziantep, Turkey, June 18 – 22, 2014. His presentation was on the role of health care providers in helping patients. Shibly presented at the University of Gaziantep, Turkey School of Dental Medicine. His lecture was soft and hard tissue grafting in patients with severe bone loss. He discussed with the university administration potential exchange programs and continuing education courses. Shibly presented on June 24 at the Lebanese Dental Society in Beirut. His presentation was: "Alternative to block graft in the anterior Zone: New methods and techniques." Shibly established a collaboration with Professor Steve Olwehn, director, Common Bond Institute, to create a new model to treat, protect and prevent transgenerational trauma that affect children in war areas and save them from being lost in the extremism mentality as a result of post traumatic disorder. This model combines psychological, spiritual and cultural therapy to treat and

prevent transgenerational trauma that affects thousands of children as a result of Syrian crisis. Developing this model will be the result of collaboration with Common Bond Institute at the University of Michigan, which is an organization grounded in the application of humanistic psychology principles in its commitment to capacity building at both the grass roots and social institutional level, providing the individual in society with practical skills and visions for transforming conflict in their daily lives. These educational programs will be provided to children in Syrian war areas through customized tablets/iPads and technology supported by MTC Dubai.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy

Seong Won Han, assistant professor, received the Thomas J Alexander (TJA) Fellowship from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The TJA Fellowship is named after a former director of the OECD's Education, Employment, Labor and Social Affairs department who launched the first Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2000. This fellowship program aims to support quantitative research to provide evidence-based analysis relating to improvements in education quality and equity. Recipients of a TJA fellowship have an opportunity to work closely with OECD staff in Paris headquarters. Over the course of the fellowship, Dr. Han carries out her proposed research, "Teacher Pay, Working Conditions, and Students' Career Expectations for the Teaching Profession: Evidence from PISA 2000 and 2007". By using large-scale international surveys and student achievement data from the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2000 and 2006, her study examines the degree to which teachers' working conditions and salaries are associated with students' expectations for the teaching profession across countries. The project analyzes data from approximately 40 countries including the United States. This work will give policymakers a chance to empirically gain some insights about whether the improvement of teacher pay and working conditions can attract academically talented students to the teaching profession and ultimately improve the quality of teaching workforces in both developed and developing countries.

Stephen L. Jacobson, UB Distinguished Professor, authored the following international publications: Garza, E., Drysdale, L., Gurr, D., Jacobson, S. & Merchant, B. (2014). "Leadership for school success: Lessons from effective principals," *International Journal of Educational Management*, 28(7): 798-811; and Jacobson, S. (2015). "Practicing successful and effective school leadership: North American perspectives," in *Successful school leadership: International perspectives*. P. Pashiardis & O. Johansson (Eds.) London: Bloomsbury Publications. Jacobson delivered two invited presentations overseas: "Leadership practices for sustained improvement in two high-need schools: Understanding the importance of positional longevity and trust," a paper presented at the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada in June 2014; and "Leadership development to improve education results: Is it really working?" a roundtable discussion at the European Conference on Educational Research, Porto, Portugal in September 2014, September. Jacobson serves as a member of the Israeli Council for Higher Education's International Quality Assessment Committee that has evaluated eight Educational Studies programs in Israel in 2014: Bar Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University, Hebrew University, Open University, Technion (Israel Institute of Technology), Tel Aviv University, University of Haifa and Weizmann Institute.

Jacobson has several current international research projects: "An examination of school leadership, social justice and science and environmental education curricula development at Ocean Academy in Caye Caulker, Belize," co-investigators: Dr. Noemi Waight, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Learning and Instruction and Lorenda Williams, Doctoral student, Dept. of Educational Leadership and Policy; and "Culturally Responsive Leadership Practices in High Need, Early Childhood Education Centres in New Zealand," co-investigator: Dr.

Ross Notman, Assoc. Professor and Director of the Centre for Educational Leadership and Administration at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. This project will be conducted during Jacobson's sabbatical leave in New Zealand in spring 2015.

Lois Weis, SUNY Distinguished Professor, presented an invited paper entitled "The Role of Education in Promoting Social Justice" at the Euroscience Open Forum held in Copenhagen, June 2014. She delivered a second invited paper entitled "Critical Bifocality" at the University of Helsinki summer school as part of the Nordforsk funded *Just Education* project that encompasses all Nordic countries. She delivered three papers at Beijing Normal University in October 2014, entitled "Class Warfare: Class, Race and College Admissions at Top-Tier Secondary Schools; Critical Bifocality and Circuits of Privilege and Dispossession"; and "Publishing in Top-tier Venues: Beyond the Basics." She also delivered a paper entitled "Class Warfare: Class, Race and College Admissions in Top-Tier Secondary Schools" at Renmin University, October 2014.

Department of Learning and Instruction

Sarah A. Robert, assistant professor, has been invited to facilitate classes and deliver a talk to the faculty of Georg-August-Universitaet Goettingen, Institute for Educational Science, in Germany in June 2015.

Department of Library and Information Studies

Faculty members **Heidi Julien**, professor and chair; **Valerie Nessel**, associate professor; and **Amy VanScoy**, assistant professor; recently presented refereed papers at the prestigious ISIC: Information Seeking in Context conference held in Leeds, U.K., September 3-5, 2014. Valerie Nessel and Heidi Julien presented papers at the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science, held at Brock University, Canada in May, 2014. This year, Julien's paper won the Best Conference Paper Award.

A new Memorandum of Cooperation has recently been signed between the Graduate School of Education (GSE), and the Faculty of Engineering, The Built Environment, and Information Technology at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. This agreement focuses on faculty exchanges and joint research between the Departments of Library and Information Studies in the GSE, and the Department of Information Science at the University of Pretoria. This relationship is being launched by the visit of Dr. Ina Fourie from the University of Pretoria to UB in late October, when she will be giving a public research seminar titled "Compassion Fatigue and Information Behavior".

One of the exciting activities in the Department of Library and Information Studies is a new **Research Seminar Series**, which brings in guest speakers from a wide range of international universities to speak on a diversity of topics. This past year the department hosted the following international speakers: Andy Large, McGill University, Canada, "A Long and Winding Road: Children and IT in Retrospect"; Brian Detlor, McMaster University, Canada, "Helping Libraries Conduct Research"; and Lynne McKechnie, Western University, Canada, "Spiderman is not for Babies: The Boys and Reading Problem from the Perspective of the Boys Themselves." In 2014/15 the following speakers are planned: Shelagh Genuis, University of Alberta, "Working with Youth Co-Researchers: Promoting Personal and Community Engagement with Health Information"; Ina Fourie, University of Pretoria, "Compassion Fatigue and Information Behavior"; Lisa Given, Charles Sturt University, Australia, Tayo Nagasawa, Mie University, Japan; and Mary Cavanagh, University of Ottawa.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

Paschalis Alexandridis, UB Distinguished Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering (CBE) was an invited speaker at the 20th International Symposium on Surfactants in Solution (SIS 2014), held in Coimbra, Portugal, in June 2014, where he presented on the topic of "Self-

Assembled Templates for Nanoparticle Synthesis, Surface Modification, Colloidal Dispersion, and Long-Range Organization".

Alexandridis gave seminars on "Nanostructured Polymers: Opportunities in Health, Environment, and Energy Applications" at the Departamento de Engenharia Química and the Centro de Investigação em Engenharia dos Processos Químicos e dos Produtos da Floresta, University of Coimbra, and at the Istituto per i Processi Chimico Fisici (IPCF), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Messina, Italy.

In July 2014 Alexandridis delivered an invited lecture, co-authored with CBE colleague Marina Tsiangou, on "Hydrocarbon Extraction and Oil Spill Clean-up: Recent Developments, Challenges, and Opportunities Afforded by Surfactant, Polymer and Colloid Science" at the 2nd Hellenic Forum for Science, Technology and Innovation, organized by the National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos" in Aghia Paraskevi, Greece. In the context of this trip, Alexandridis also visited and had discussions with colleagues at the Laboratory of Fuels and Lubricants, School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, Greece.

Mark T. Swihart, UB Distinguished Professor, gave invited lectures in June and July 2014 on "Semiconductor Nanocrystals based on Non-Toxic Earth-Abundant Elements for Optoelectronics" at both Nanjing University and Nanjing University of Science and Technology in Nanjing, China and at Shanxi Normal University in Linfen, China. He has also been appointed to a three-year term as an overseas advisory professor at Nanjing University of Science and Technology.

Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

Andre Filiatrault, professor, taught a graduate course entitled "Seismic Design of Nonstructural Building Components" at the ROSE School of the University of Pavia in Italy from June 23 to July 18, 2014. The course, part of the Master of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (MEES) Program of the Rose Program, was attended by 27 graduate students and practicing engineers from Italy, Columbia, Israel, Costa Rica, Argentina, Russia, Greece, the United States, Ireland, Peru, Turkey and Switzerland.

On August 29-31, 2014, Filiatrault co-chaired the First International Workshop on the Seismic Performance of Non-Structural Elements (SPONSE) held at the Institute of Engineering Mechanics / China Earthquake Administration (IEM/CEA) in Harbin, China. The workshop was co-organized by IEM/CEA, Harbin, China and UB's Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering research (MCEER). The workshop was attended by invited participants from China, New Zealand, Italy, Chile, the United States and Japan as well as a group photo taken in front of the IEM/CEA main building in Harbin, China. On September 1-5, 2014, Filiatrault taught a short course entitled "Seismic Design of Nonstructural Building Components" at the Institute of Engineering Mechanics / China Earthquake Administration (IEM/CEA) in Harbin China. The course was attended by over 30 graduate students and faculty from IEM/CEA.

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Shambhu Upadhyaya, professor, visited the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) at Pilani, Rajasthan, India in December 2013 and gave a talk on "Insider Threat - Analysis and Countermeasures," which was simultaneously broadcast to the other BITS campuses at Goa and Hyderabad in India and at Dubai, UAE. Collaborative ventures between BITS and UB were discussed with the director and vice chancellor of BITS during this visit, an outcome of which is the joint organization of the 6th International Conference on Secure Knowledge Management (SKM 2014) at the Dubai campus of BITS in December 2014 by Upadhyaya and H. R. Rao, professor in UB's School of Management.

Department of Electrical Engineering

Kwang W. Oh, associate professor, delivered 15 invited talks at major universities and research institutes in South Korea in May and

June 2014. The institutions that he visited include Advanced Institutes of Convergence Technology at Seoul National University in Suwon, Applied Chemistry department at Kyunghee University in Suwon, Bio and Brain Engineering department at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in Daejeon, Biomedical Engineering department at Chung-Ang University in Seoul, Biomedical Information Technology Convergence Center in Gumi, Bionano Engineering department at Hanyang University in Ansan, Center for BioMicrosystems at Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) in Seoul, Chemical Engineering department at Pohang University of Science and Technology (POST) in Pohang, Electrical Engineering department at Kwangwoon University in Seoul, Energy Science department at Sungkyunkwan University in Suwon, Healthcare Business Division at SK Telecom in Seoul, Mechanical Engineering department at Chonbuk National University in Jeonju, Mechanical Engineering department at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST) in Ulsan, Polymer Nanoengineering department at Chonbuk National University in Jeonju, and Samsung Bioepis in Songdo.

His presentation consisted of brief introduction of UB programs to students who might have an interest in studying abroad, and the research activities at his Sensors and MicroActuators Learning Lab (SMALL). An example of the title of his talk was "A journey of trains of droplets in droplet-based microfluidic devices". Through this visit to his home country, he expects to bring more attention to potential students and collaborators in Korea.

Mohammed Safiuddin, professor, was invited to speak and chair the technical session on "Grid Integration & Energy Storage for Renewable Energies" at the BIT's New Energy Forum 2013, held last year in September in Xi'an, China. This international conference was scheduled in parallel with the "International Economic Forum 2013" sponsored by various ministries of the government of China and the UNDP, with high level participation by presidents, prime ministers and deputy prime ministers of several Central and South Asian nations. A paper based on the presentation was subsequently published by the online *Renewable Energy World* magazine in 2014.

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Kemper Lewis, professor, was the keynote speaker at the Complex Systems Engineering Conference hosted by the Gordon Center for Systems Engineering at The Technion, Haifa, Israel. His presentation was entitled, "Finding Simple Solutions to Complex Problems: Elegant Engineering."

INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON WOMEN AND GENDER

The Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender actively promotes research and education related to women, gender, and sexuality throughout the world. Their spring 2014 "Gender Across Borders" conference on the theme of "Suiting Up: Disciplining the Aesthetics of Difference" brought together 70 scholars from American and Canadian universities to explore how fashion shapes human expressions and readings of identity.

The institute hosted several major international scholars in 2014, including **Beata Kowalska**, professor of Sociology, Jagiellonian University, Poland, who spoke on "Women's Touch In The Arab Spring: The Struggle of Jordanian Women for Equality in Citizenship;" and **David Batchelor**, London-based artist and cultural theorist, who spoke at the Albright Knox on "The Luminous and the Grey" as part of the institute's fall 2014 "Gender and Color" symposium. In 2014 the institute also provided grants, fellowships, and scholarships to UB faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates to support research in Argentina, Chile, the Dominican Republic, France, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Mexico, Pakistan, the UK and Zambia as well as the United States.

LAW SCHOOL

James A. Gardner, SUNY Distinguished Professor, presented a paper

entitled "Distinctive Identity Claims in Federal Systems: Judicial Policing of Subnational Variance" at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark and at the World Congress of the International Association for Constitutional Law in Oslo, Norway in June 2014.

Jessica Owley, associate professor, presented on both land conservation and local property taxation issues at the Association for Law, Property, and Society in Vancouver, Canada in May 2014. She helped coordinate a legal conference held at UB regarding the future of the Great Lakes, with participants from the U.S. and Canada. She also served as a consultee for the British Law Commissions regarding a proposal for a Conservation Covenants law for England and Wales. She has also been working with researchers and nonprofit organizations in Canada seeking creating solutions to land conservation struggles. She is a member of several international academic organizations, including the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights; the International Association for Society and Natural Resources; and the Society for Conservation Biology.

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Kevin Curran, adjunct instructor, will once again be teaching an International Business Course to the Executive MBA students. Curran recently retired as CEO General Manager of Fisher-Price. He brings his extensive corporate experience to this course that focuses on best business practices in global business. Executives from the EMBA program spend their week long residency in Beijing and Shanghai, China conducting interviews and meeting with a variety of organizations that help them understand the opportunities and challenges of doing business in a global environment.

Department of Finance and Managerial Economics

Veljko Fotak, assistant professor, took part in the 2014 Asian Finance Association Annual conference in Bali, Indonesia, where he presented a paper, discussed a paper, and chaired a session. He presented "Why do Governments Lend? Evidence from the Syndicated Loans Market;" he discussed: Duan, Jin-Chuan, Baeho Kim, Changki Kim, Woojin Kim, Donghwa Shin, "Default Probabilities and Interest Expenses of Privately Held Firms;" and he chaired session 24, Corporate Debt.

Fotak is involved in an ongoing project with a team of researchers hosted by the Sovereign Investment Lab, Paolo Baffi Centre on Central Banking and Financial Regulation, Università Bocconi, (Milano, Italy). The team publishes an annual report on sovereign wealth fund activity. This year, aside from a general collaboration in preparing the report, Fotak co-authored one of the sections of it: Bernardo Bortolotti, Veljko Fotak, and Laura Pellizzola, "Sovereign Wealth Fund Investments in 2013," in *The Great Reallocation. Sovereign Wealth Fund Annual Report 2013*, Report by the Sovereign Investment Lab, June 2014, pages 13-37. The report was presented (by a co-author, Bernardo Bortolotti) in June at a conference in Florence, Italy.

Sahn-Wook Huh, assistant professor, gave a paper at the KFA-KFAs Joint Conference in Cheonan, Korea, May 30-31, 2014; the title of the paper was "Asymmetric Effects of Informed Trading on the Cost of Equity Capital." At the FMA Asian Conference in Tokyo, Japan, May 9-11, 2014, Huh presented, "Asymmetric Effects of Informed Trading on the Cost of Equity Capital". This won the Best Paper Award in Investments at the conference.

Jerchern Lin, assistant professor, presented paper "Fund Manipulation and Skewed Bets" in a conference at Venice over the summer. V World Finance Conference, Venice, Italy, July 2014.

Department of Marketing

Arun K. Jain, Samuel P. Capen Professor of Marketing Research, was a visiting professor at Bilkent University, UB's sister institution in Ankara, Turkey, from June-August, 2013. He taught Marketing Strategy

to MBA students at Bilkent. Jain served as co-chair of the 2014 Annual Conference of the Emerging Markets Conference Board, with a focus on Listening to Consumers in Emerging Markets. It was held January 8-11, 2014 at the Noida Campus of IIM/Lucknow, India. The School of Management co-sponsored the conference, which drew participants from all over the world. A two-day pre-conference workshop was organized to share research experience on Metaphor analysis and Ethnography research. Jain edited a volume on Global Marketing with focus on the work of Dr. Yoram (Jerry) Wind, published by Sage.

Charles Lindsey, associate professor, will be teaching an International Marketing Practicum course in the Professional MBA program in Spring 2015. This is the third time this course has been offered and includes a week long residency that focuses on doing research for group projects that are part of the course. Additionally, participants will meet with marketing professionals in a variety of industries to learn best practices first hand. The 2015 residency will be to Milan, Italy and Munich Germany. Twenty working professionals have signed up to take this elective course.

Bezawada, Ram, associate professor, gave an invited research talk entitled "Customers' Social Media Participation and Business Value for Firms: An Empirical Investigation," at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, India on July 11 2014.

Debabrata Talukdar, professor, is currently involved in several international research projects which deal with issues at the intersection of business strategy and public policy in the context of developing countries. In summer 2014 he was invited by the World Bank to serve as a research consultant to one of its research projects for the Africa division. The project is investigating the living and economic conditions faced by the residents in 15 major cities in Kenya and how relevant policies – including public-private sector partnerships – can help with sustainable development goals in Kenya as it faces rapid urbanization. Based on works on this area, Talukdar recently co-authored a published research article entitled, "A Tale of Two Cities: A Multi-Dimensional Portrait of Poverty and Living Conditions in the Slums of Nairobi and Dakar," (*Habitat International*, 2014, Vol. 43, pp. 98-107).

Telukdar is also currently working with faculty collaborators from the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta, India on a research project that investigates how typical consumer research tools used by businesses can be leveraged to aid poverty alleviation policies through better understanding of the living circumstances and consumption constraints faced by the poor in developing countries like India. In another India-focused current research project, Talukdar is analyzing how a "culture of corruption" — that is often endemic in developing countries – affects businesses' decisions to adopt productivity enhancing technologies when such technologies can also make their business practices more transparent to regulatory agencies. He made an invited presentation of a paper entitled "Productivity versus Transparency: Information Technology Adoptions in Emerging Markets," based on this research project at a recent prestigious international conference at New York city on emerging markets organized by the Yale University's School of Management and Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business (Beijing, China).

Department of Management Science and Systems

Rajiv Kishore, associate professor, served as program co-chair of the 52nd Annual ACM SIGMIS Conference on Computers and People Research on the theme, "The Globalization of IT Work" held in Singapore May 2014. At this conference he organized and moderated an industry panel on the theme, "The Globalization of IT Work" and presented a paper entitled, "The Influence of Labeling and Social Exchange on Group Cohesion of IT-Contract Employees" with Bandi and Narasimhamurthy. Kishore serves as an associate editor for the 2014 International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS 2014) to be held in Auckland, New Zealand in December 2014.

Kishore visited Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan for approximately two weeks in May 2014 to collaborate with Professor Akie Iriyama on research on competitive dynamics in global IT outsourcing and the IT industry in India. Kishore presented a research seminar to faculty and graduate students at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan in May 2014 on the topic of contract adaptation risks in global IT outsourcing. He taught a course on Analysis, Modeling and Design in UB's MS in Management Science (Business Analytics) and Systems program in Bangalore, India during August 2014.

Department of Operations and Human Resources

Prasad Balkundi, associate professor, conducted a two day workshop on "Using UCINET to conduct social network studies" at Xavier Labour Research Institute, Jamshedpur, India. The workshop was conducted on August 27-28, 2014.

Yong Li, associate professor, organized a workshop for the Ph.D. students at the City University of Hong Kong on May 26, 2014.

Winston Lin, professor, engaged in research collaborations with National Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan for the period from 1994-2014, with two grants from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (USA) and partially supported by National Sun Yat-sen University.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

M. Laura Feltri, professor of biochemistry and neurology, organized an international school in neuroscience in summer 2014 in cooperation with the University of Salento in Lecce, Italy, attended by the world experts on diseases of the peripheral nervous system. The program was sponsored by the Italian Ministry of Research, the European Community and local authorities. The meeting was a big success, and was reported on the Italian news. Some 100 students selected from the best European, US and Singapore universities participated.

Department of Medicine

Supriya D. Mahajan, Associate Professor, Division of Allergy, Immunology & Rheumatology, was hosted by Ken-Tye Yong, an assistant professor in the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Yong has expertise in Engineering multifunctional nanoparticles for biomedical and Nanomedicine applications, and has collaborated with Mahajan over the last couple of years. They have submitted grants together to NIH and to the Biomedical Research Council of Singapore.

Mahajan made a presentation on Nanomedicine, to the undergraduate and graduate students and faculty in the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at NTU. Specific plans to expand collaborations were made, which will utilize novel Mn:ZnSe Quantum Dots made by Yong's team and will be used in Mahajan's lab to deliver biomolecules such as DNA/siRNA to neuronal cells for neurotherapeutics. Additionally, Yong's group have made special nanodevices that will be implanted in animal models in Mahajan's lab which will allow sustained and targeted release of nanotherapeutics.

During this visit to Singapore, Mahajan was also hosted by David T Leong, Assistant professor in the Department of Chemical Biomolecular Engineering at the National University of Singapore. They will partner on using ultra-bright organic dots with aggregation-induced emission (AIE dots) which Leong has developed in his laboratory and which have advanced cellular imaging and cell tracking capabilities. These AIE dots possess high fluorescence, super photostability, and excellent cellular retention and biocompatibility compared to commonly used pMAX-GFP labelling plasmids and have enormous biomedical applications.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Carol Brewer, UB Distinguished Professor, traveled to Toronto, Ontario on July 10, 2014 to discuss with representatives from Amrita

University, India potential global health initiatives. **Gina Prescott**, clinical assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; **Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen**, professor and chair of the Department of Geography; and **Nancy Smith**, dean and professor in the School of Social Work, also attended this conference. The group met with Amma who is the Chancellor and spiritual head of the Amrita University as well as the medical director and CNO of their 1000 bed hospital.

Jessica Castner, assistant professor, traveled to Ottawa, Canada from February 11 – 14, 2014 for Health Canada. The purpose of her visit was to learn time-stratified case-crossover methods from two experts in the field. As a result she has published one book chapter regarding study in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. "Air pollution and emergency department visits for conjunctivitis in Calgary, Canada: A case crossover study in Conjunctivitis: Bacterial Etiology, Diagnosis and Clinical Management," Kousha, T., & Castner, J. (2014). The authors also have a second manuscript under internal review for government approval regarding nine cities in Ontario and Quebec, Canada titled, "Air pollution and emergency department visits for conjunctivitis: A case crossover study," Szyzkowicz, M., Kousha, T., & Castner, J., submitted March 13, 2014 to Health Canada.

Davina Porock, professor and associate dean for research and scholarship, attended the 18th Annual International Philosophy of Nursing Conference titled "Brave new world? Health, technology and evidence based practice" in association with the International Philosophy of Nursing Society (IPONS) in Birmingham, United Kingdom from September 8-10, 2014. This conference was hosted by the School of Health Sciences, University of Nottingham, England, United Kingdom. Porock was also the keynote speaker at the New Zealand Aged Care Association Annual Conference titled "Facing Tomorrow's Challenges Today" from October 10-18, 2014 in Auckland, New Zealand.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Javier G. Blanco, associate professor, recently spent time in Argentina teaching and delivering invited lectures. He organized a post-graduate level course in Clinical Pharmacogenetics for students, pharmacists and medical professionals at the Faculty of Pharmacy, National University of Córdoba, as well as presented a lecture to their pharmacy faculty entitled "Pharmacogenetic Determinants for the Cardiotoxicity of Anthracyclines in Cancer Patients" from July 2-4, 2014. He also delivered two lectures to students and medical professionals at the Faculty of Medicine at Barceló University in La Rioja entitled "Basic Notions on Clinical Pharmacogenetics: Recent Developments and Clinical Utility" and "The Pharmacogenetic Bases of Cardio-oncology" on July 7, 2014.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Department of Biostatistics

Albert Vexler, associate professor, serves in editorial roles for the following international journals: *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, a peer-reviewed journal (associate editor); *American Journal of Biostatistics* (editorial board member); *The Open Statistics & Probability Journal* (editorial board member); and *Biometrics & Biostatistics International Journal* (editorial board member). He also serves as a reviewer for some 15 international journals.

Center for Assistive Technology

Joseph P. Lane, director, participated in an October 2013 meeting sponsored by the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation to discuss best practices in Assistive Technology around the globe, along with invited representatives from the European Union, Asia and South America. Lane presented the paper, "There is Method Behind the Madness of STI Policy," at an invitation-only conference titled, "Changing Political Economy of Research and Innovation: Public Policy, Commercialization and Neoliberal

Technoscience," held at York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada in December 2013. He organized a meeting at the ATIA conference Orlando in 2014 for a delegation representing a proposed new professional organization in Assistive Technology encompassing South America, Central America and the Caribbean — to be called ALACTA — so they could gain support and guidance from existing North American (RESNA & ATIA) and European Union (AAATE) organizations. These organizations supported the creation of ALACTA which was subsequently ratified at the Sao Paulo REATECH convention in April 2013. Lane returned to Brazil in April 2013 to present a seminar on the origins of terms and concepts related to technological innovation at the CNRTA Renato Archer government agency in Campinas, and to present a full-day workshop on the Need to Knowledge Model for technology transfer for ABRIDEF during the REATECH conference in Sao Paulo.

Department of Epidemiology and Community Health

Youfa Wang, professor, co-chaired the session "Hypertension in children and adolescents" in The 16th International Symposium of Hypertension and Related Disease held on Sep 11-14 2014 in Shanghai, China. He also gave an invited presentation during the conference entitled "Tracking of blood pressure from childhood to adulthood, and benefits of childhood obesity prevention programs." Wang visited multiple cities in China during Sep 1-14 to work on their collaboration research projects including those funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) and those regarding global childhood obesity prevention and control. During the trip he visited a number of collaboration institutions such as the Chinese Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the School of Public Health of Fudan University. Funded by the US federal agencies including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), Wang and collaborators from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and School Medicine and few other institutions have been working on a comprehensive study to examine the effectiveness of childhood obesity prevention programs conducted worldwide. They have collected and assessed approximately 150 studies published worldwide from high-income countries over the past several decades and conducting more related research.

Their research team has published a number of important reports and manuscripts including an 835-page research report published by the AHRQ research papers in Circulation and Pediatrics. In August 2014, the AHRQ released a video continuing education program filming Wang reporting the key findings of the 835-page report. The target audience for this learning activity includes all primary care physicians (PCPs), including family medicine physicians, pediatricians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, and health educators. This module would also be of interest to school nurses.

Recently, Wang's team published a new study in Obesity Review in September 30, 2014. They examined the effect of Childhood Obesity Prevention Programs on Blood Lipids based on findings from seventeen studies that met inclusion criteria. Wang will help lead a global health Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) working group with the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), an association of research universities in the Asia Pacific Rim region. Wang will co-chair the NCD group with Richard Taylor from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at The University of New South Wales in Australia. The working group will produce lectures that can be posted online, as well as share information, develop research collaborations and practicums, write papers, and organize special events.

Department of Rehabilitation Science

Kimberley Persons, clinical associate professor, presented at the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Congress in association with the Japanese Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference in Yokohama, Japan. The WFOT Congress is held every four years and is attended by occupational therapists from the

77 member countries. Persons, with OT alumna Donna Costa, presented a workshop and oral presentation on Service Learning in a Developing Country based on their nine years of experience mentoring occupational therapy students and practitioners on service learning trips to Ukraine.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

In June 2014, **Michael Basinski**, curator of the Poetry Collection of the University Libraries, presented a lecture titled "Turkey and Fixins - the James Joyce Collection of the Poetry Collection at the University at Buffalo," at the Dylan Thomas Center in Swansea, Wales. In July he presented a paper, "Of Use – Poetry Manuscripts: A Crooked Line from Robert Graves to Charles Abbott" at the Twelfth International Robert Graves Conference: *Robert Graves: Humour, Irony, Tragedy, and the Grotesque* in Palma and Deià, Mallorca, Spain.

In July 2014 **Christopher V. Hollister**, information literacy librarian, conducted a site review of library support for UB's undergraduate programs at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM). In addition to evaluating facilities and collections at the SIM Library, Hollister assessed the accessibility and extent of use of UB online library resources by students and faculty in the program. His site visit report will help guide future development of library support for the UB-SIM programs. He also joined the UB delegation led by President Tipathi to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the UB/SIM partnership, and to participate in this year's UB/SIM commencement ceremony.

Fred Stoss, associate librarian, Arts and Sciences Libraries, received the first Friend of the Biblioteca Nacional Aruba Award (BNA, National Library of Aruba), in Oranjestad, Aruba, for his work with BNA in green education programs and his role in designing the library's Caribbean Energy, Environmental, and Sustainability Education Program. The award was presented at the opening session of the Green Education Symposium III, whose theme in 2014 was Sustainable Agriculture. His presentation, "The Realities of Food's Carbon Footprint," included select slides from Al Gore's climate change slide deck, for which Stoss trained.

VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION

John T. Ho, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Physics and Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, served on a panel on "Canada-US Comparisons on the Crisis of PhD Surplus, Cross Border Research and Talent Mobility" at the Congress 2014 of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario on May 27, 2014. He was also appointed to the Physical Sciences Panel of the Hong Kong Research Grants

Council, and attended a panel meeting in Hong Kong on June 16-17, 2014.

VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and Vice Provost for International Education, chaired the committee that organized World Education Service's 40th Anniversary Forum on *The Global Talent Agenda: Attracting and Integrating High-Performing Candidates*, held at the Scandanavia House in New York City on October 2, 2014. In September 2014 Dunnett was a presenter for the panel session, "Cultural Globalization: Contributions to Academic Growth" at the annual conference of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) in Prague, Czech Republic.

John J. Wood, senior associate vice provost, will be a presenter at the annual conference of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) in Washington, DC in February 2015. The panel session is titled, "Fighting Back Against Fraud in the Academic Space." 🌐

NORTH BENGAL

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is using this CHA and her analysis to complete the requirements for her Integrative Project, which is required for completion of her MPH degree. She presented her findings on her CHA in December 2014.

Life is simple in Tesimla, filled with generous people who are resilient and hard-working. Though the jungle conditions expose the people to many viral and bacterial diseases, many individuals overcome these exposures and continue to enjoy their thriving social environments. Chronic disease, however, also touches many lives in Tesimla. Family and friend connections are very strong in the villages and represent one of the greatest satisfactions in life for the people.

The UB OGI, HealthyWorld Foundation, WBVHA and Lyndsey are looking forward to future projects and efforts made to improve health in the lives of the people in the Gram Panchayat Tesimla. 🌐

Jessica Scates is coordinator of the Office of Global Health Initiatives.

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UB PARTICIPATES IN JAGIELLONIAN'S 650th ANNIVERSARY

Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and Vice Provost for International Education, was one of the invited dignitaries at the celebration of the 650th anniversary of the founding of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland on May 10, 2014.



Stephen Dunnett speaking at the Jagiellonian on behalf of its exchange partners worldwide

UB faculty and administrators visit the Jagiellonian regularly, and UB receives junior faculty and advanced doctoral students from JU interested in working with UB faculty and accessing resources for research here. [🌐](#)

The Jagiellonian is one of the oldest and most distinguished universities in central Europe and has been an institutional partner of UB for the past 25 years.

Dunnett was asked to deliver remarks at the ceremony on behalf of the Jagiellonian's many distinguished international partners around the world. He spoke of the illustrious his-

tory of the Jagiellonian, its extraordinary advances in recent times, and its emergence as a major global university.

He also noted the powerful impact that the affiliation has had on UB over the years. The relationship has had different phases over the years, evolving to suit the needs of both partners to the mutual benefit of each.

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John J. Wood, Editor