

UB INTERNATIONAL

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UB-SIM PROGRAM MARKS ANNIVERSARY

By David J. Hill

University leaders celebrated a milestone this summer by marking the 15th anniversary of UB's undergraduate programs at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) in Singapore.

President Satish K. Tripathi and School of Management Dean Paul Tesluk were on hand to mark the occasion at an anniversary celebration during the annual com-

Tripathi added that this success is indicative not only of the UB Singapore program's appeal, but of the quality of its students, faculty and administrative leadership. "We have continuously attracted highly motivated and highly accomplished students," he said, adding that UB's success in Singapore reflects the university's global impact and significance.

"In the field of international education, the UB Singapore program in transnation-



Euleen Goh, Chair of the SIM Governing Council, and President Satish Tripathi cut the 15th Anniversary cake

mencement at SIM in July 2019.

They and other university leaders—including John Wood, interim vice provost for international education, and Joseph Hindrawan, associate vice provost and director of international enrollment management—met with government officials, CEOs, UB alumni and key partners in Singapore and Indonesia, and attended the UB-SIM commencement ceremony.

"This program is such a point of pride for me personally, and for our entire university community," Tripathi said. "We should all take pride in the fact that ours is a model program—and one of the most successful U.S. programs in Singapore."

al education is viewed as one of the most successful, if not the most successful, in the world," said Stephen Dunnett, who has overseen UB's SIM programs from the beginning.

"Such programs are difficult to establish and sustain, which is why so few have endured more than a few years," added Dunnett, who stepped down as UB's vice provost for international education in 2018 and has overseen UB's Singapore programs since they were established.

During the anniversary reception, Tripathi thanked Professor Dunnett and the program's other founders:

- Ronald Tan, SIM's recently retired

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FROM THE INTERIM VICE PROVOST

Participating in the happy events in July 2019 marking the 15th anniversary of the launch of our undergraduate programs at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) described in our cover story, I was forcefully reminded of how rare, and how unusually successful, our partnership with SIM has been.

UB has indeed been fortunate to work with such an exceptional partner institution in a country so strongly committed to excellence in higher education. It was therefore especially good news that SIM and UB recently agreed to extend our longstanding contract for another five years. We look forward to celebrating our 20th anniversary in a few short years.

When I recall the fledgling program that we began with in May 2004, with an initial intake of 50 students in only one degree program, I am amazed at the growth and maturation that have occurred since then.

The UB-SIM collaboration now involves seven undergraduate degree programs—our latest, in Geographic Information Science, launched this fall—enrolling a total of more than 1,500 students. Nearly 5,000 students have earned their UB degrees at SIM in the past 15 years—more than 60 percent receiving Latin honors.

The durability and longevity of the program in the typically volatile space of transnational education—subject to the dynamic forces of student markets, rising costs, and frequently discordant structures, policies and systems—is a remarkable achievement and a tribute to our mutual commitment to academic excellence and quality assurance, a student-centered approach, and dedicated, respectful cooperation on each side. Many US branch

programs have come and gone in Singapore during the time our programs have thrived.

Currently the longest-running US program in Singapore, our UB-SIM collaboration can be seen as a model for bilateral cooperation providing exceptional benefits to both sides. From the UB perspective, the programs at SIM have provided unique opportunities for our faculty and students.

The many faculty colleagues who have taught at SIM have had the opportunity to teach in a different cultural context and work with students from a distinctive educational system. This kind of cross-cultural setting affects not only how they teach in Singapore but how they view their pedagogy and curricula in general.

In addition, our UB-SIM programs have afforded the opportunity to hundreds of students on both sides to move between Singapore and Buffalo. More than 600 “UB Bound” SIM students have spent a semester or two at UB—many taking part in our commencement during their last semester—while some 500 Buffalo-based UB students have studied at SIM for a summer term or semester.

Transnational programs like the UB-SIM program are key drivers of institutional internationalization. It may be said that UB’s identity as a global university has been importantly influenced by our long and rewarding engagement with the Singapore Institute of Management.

I congratulate our good friends at SIM and the many colleagues at UB for sustaining our successful and durable partnership. In particular, I salute the far-sighted leaders on both sides—especially Satish Tripathi and Stephen Dunnett at UB, Ronald Tan and K. C. Lee at SIM—who have guided our successful partnership these many years.—John J. Wood 🌐

UB REMAINS IN TOP 25 INSTITUTIONS IN OPEN DOORS REPORT

By Michael Andrei

For the 17th straight year, UB is among the nation’s top 25 institutions hosting international students. UB is ranked No. 23 by the Institute of International Education (IIE) in the institute’s 2019 Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange, released November 18, 2019 in Washington, D.C.

The census of international students at UB in fall 2018 totaled 7,121, according to the Open Doors report. The number includes 2,362 students who go on to postgraduate Optional Practical Training. UB’s total state-funded enrollment for fall 2018 was 29,543 students.

The ranking places UB fourth in New York State, behind only New York University, Columbia and Cornell, and ahead of all other SUNY institutions.

UB’s international students hail from 95 different countries. In the Open Doors report, the leading countries sending students to UB are India, China, South Korea,

Canada, Iran, Taiwan and Turkey.

“UB has an excellent reputation overseas, and is highly regarded for strong academics, exceptional research and experiential learning opportunities, and a welcoming, supportive campus community,” says John J. Wood, interim vice provost for international education.

“It is true that the international environment remains challenging,” Wood says. “The fact that UB has retained its ranking in this highly competitive space reflects the extraordinary efforts of our International Enrollment Management team led by Joseph Hindrawan and enrollment managers across the university supporting UB’s international recruitment efforts.”

Wood says institutional choices made by international students still depend very much on the recommendations of fellow students. “The implementation of our comprehensive inclusion and engagement strategy is centered on ensuring their retention and long-term success at UB.”

UB’s research opportunities are one of the things that

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IRISH AMBASSADOR VISITS UB'S FAMED JOYCE COLLECTION

By Marcene Robinson

Daniel Mulhall dreamed of visiting Buffalo for nearly 20 years. Ireland's ambassador to the U.S. and a longtime diplomat, Mulhall has been posted to the United Kingdom, Germany and across the Indian Ocean to Malaysia.

But Western New York has captured his attention for decades due to UB's James Joyce Collection, a literary treasure housed in the University Libraries.



James Maynard shows the Mulhalls a piece from the Joyce Collection (Forrest Kulwicki)

Mulhall's dream became reality on July 11, 2019 when he and his wife Greta visited UB Special Collections to tour the largest collection of materials on the famed Irish author in the world.

"Today is the culmination of that aspiration I've had. I saw things in there that I've never seen before anywhere, and I've seen a lot of Joyce material around the world over the years," said Mulhall, who was named the 18th Ambassador of Ireland to the United States in 2017.

"A big part of the Irish story is told through our literature. I think it's one of the greatest treasures of Ireland that we happen to have this extraordinary literary heritage. And I'm so delighted to see that heritage being treasured here in Buffalo."

UB is home to more than 10,000 pages of Joyce's working papers, notebooks and manuscripts, as well as photographs, portraits, memorabilia and private library, providing unmatched glimpses into the author's writing process and literary relationships.

"Given Ambassador Mulhall's renowned love of Joyce,

it was a great pleasure to welcome him and Mrs. Mulhall here for a private tour of the UB James Joyce Collection," said James Maynard, curator of the UB Poetry Collection.

"As the ambassador himself commented, the story of Joyce is in many ways the story of modern Ireland, and so it was a true honor to show these manuscripts and other materials to someone who has spent decades promoting the story of Ireland around the world and who is also such an enthusiastic reader of *Ulysses*."

Born in Dublin, Joyce is regarded as one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, and is among the most highly researched literary figures of all time. He is best known for his landmark works *Ulysses*—which is widely considered one of the most important works of modernist literature—as well as *Finnegans Wake*, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and *Dubliners*.

The materials were donated and purchased in installments from 1950-68 by book collectors, publishers and arts patrons. Mulhall learned of the collection during a chance meeting with a UB scholar in Dublin nearly 20 years ago.

Among the materials are Joyce's canes, passports, glasses and family portraits; copies of books from his personal library signed by literary peers such as T. S. Eliot, Ernest Hemingway and W.B. Yeats; a copy of the essay "A Portrait of the Artist," which would later be expanded into Joyce's similarly

titled first novel; and all 66 known notebooks behind the complex work *Finnegans Wake*.

Due to copyright issues, much of the collection cannot be digitized and shared online. Traveling to Buffalo and visiting UB is the only way students, scholars and Joyce enthusiasts can interact with the materials. The exclusivity of the materials to Buffalo has made the UB James Joyce Collection—part of the University Libraries Poetry Collection, the library of record for 20th- and 21st-century Anglophone poetry—a destination for scholars around the world.

After receiving the Mulhalls at his office, President Tripathi was host with his wife Kamlesh for a luncheon at their home, which included UB faculty with expertise on Ireland and prominent members of the local Irish-American community. 🌐

Marcene Robinson is associate director of community relations for University Communications.

MAYOR OF KABUL, A UB GRAD, RETURNS AS JAMMAL VISITING FELLOW

Ahmad Zaki Sarferaz, mayor of Kabul, Afghanistan, returned to his alma mater in October as the 2019 Ibrahim and Viviane Jammal Visiting Fellow in International Planning.

During a public talk in Hayes Hall on October 9, Zaki discussed the role of urban planning as the capital city of Afghanistan navigates rapid urbanization and rising citizen demands for services amidst ongoing conflict.

A 2014 graduate of UB's Master of Urban Planning program, Zaki also reflected on the influence of his time in Buffalo. His visit also included meetings with UB President Satish Tripathi and Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown.



Ahmad Zaki at UB when he was a student of Urban Planning (Douglas Levere)

Ahmad Zaki Sarferaz earned his bachelor degree in Architecture Engineering from Kabul University and was appointed as an assistant/associate professor. He earned his Master of Urban Planning from the University at Buffalo through a Fulbright scholarship.

From 2015 to 2019, Ahmad Zaki worked as technical and urban planning advisor at the Ministry of Urban Development Affairs (MUDH) and as Senior Adviser to the President on Urban Development Affairs for the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. He has more than 10 years of experience with national and international organizations. 🌐

UB-SIM ANNIVERSARY

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executive director who negotiated the agreement with UB 17 years ago.

- Former School of Management Dean John Thomas, who initiated UB's MBA partnership with SIM.
- Franklin Lavin, the former U.S. ambassador to Singapore who strongly encouraged UB to collaborate with SIM and hosted the first signing ceremony.

Tripathi also recognized outgoing UB SIM chapter president Andrew Tan, and welcomed incoming president Sean Loke.

Debra Street, professor of sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences and coordinator of UB's sociology program at SIM, represented Dean Robin Schulze at the commencement. Ann Bisantz, dean of undergraduate education, also attended the commencement. This was her first visit to the program and she had meetings at SIM with administrators, faculty and students.

UB and the Singapore Institute of Management offer a variety of degree programs, and their partnership goes back to 1996, when the School of Management established the first U.S.-accredited Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) program in Singapore.

The extension of SIM's collaboration with UB in offering undergraduate programs in several other disciplines enables more than 1,500 students from Singapore and the surrounding region to benefit from the U.S.-style curriculum.

The program also offers opportunities for UB students to study at SIM.

"Serving the talented and diligent Singapore students, as well as the American students who have come to study in Singapore, has been a great privilege and I am so very proud of their academic success and of the successful careers they have made as UB alumni," Dunnett said.

UB had been offering six undergraduate programs at SIM: business administration, communication, psychology, sociology, economics and international trade. This fall, UB introduced a seventh program, in geographic information science (GIS).

"It is so exciting to see our program continue to grow and evolve," Tripathi said. "We look forward to many more years of continued cooperation and success in Singapore."

Over the past 15 years, 6,474 students have enrolled in UB's undergraduate programs in Singapore, with 64% of the program's graduates receiving Latin honors. In addition, some 500 UB students have participated in study abroad at the Singapore Institute of Management.

"Our graduates are guided by the principle of informed, engaged citizenship. As a result, they are taking their place in the world as globally minded, ethically grounded leaders," Tripathi said. "It is so gratifying to see our students contributing to the development of Singapore and, more broadly, to society at large." 🌐

David J. Hill is director of news content for University Communications.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY LAUNCHED

By Charlotte Hsu

The Earth is warming. Rising seas are eroding coastlines. Air pollution is rife in many cities. Household chemicals and medicines are finding their way into water and soil. Many animals have gone extinct due to human activity, while many others are endangered.

To address these and other pressing global challenges, the College of Arts and Sciences has launched a Department of Environment and Sustainability.

The new unit brings together faculty from disciplines spanning the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. These experts will conduct research and prepare students to address some of the most important problems facing humanity in the 21st century.

"The environment and sustainability are areas of study that are—and should be—the focus for many students," says Howard Lasker, chair of the Department of Environment and Sustainability, and a coral reef researcher. "The daily headlines underscore the urgency of these issues. We're living in a time of rapid human population growth, and humans are modifying the environment in myriad ways. Understanding these effects and deciding what level of impact we find acceptable are important goals."

The department's interdisciplinary nature is vital to its success, says Robin Schulze, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Researchers in the department possess expertise in fields ranging from geology and ecology to history and media study. Many hold joint appointments in other departments.

"Science is critical in understanding how humans are altering the environment," Schulze says, "but science alone cannot begin to tell us what to do about the problems we are creating. Any question of how to address a problem is a question of value that demands that we employ expertise from every discipline. Businesses, governments, universities and nonprofits all recognize that meeting the challenge of sustainability will be increasingly central to their success, and no single discipline can provide all the tools and insights they'll need. This new interdisciplinary department will be a home for innovative teaching and research about one of the pressing issues of our time."

Starting in 2020, the department will offer a master's degree in sustainability leadership. This program, an MA, will prepare its graduates to lead organizations in adopting sustainable practices and creating plans to minimize environmental impact.

Students pursuing the degree will consider sustainability through multiple lenses, from the perspective of environment and ecology, social sciences and cultural studies, and economics and business. Graduates will have a diverse skill set in business, policy and sustainable development that will equip them to manage sustainability efforts in corporate, governmental and nonprofit organizations.

The degree's interdisciplinary nature reflects its roots: While it will be fully administered by the new department,



Howard Lasker and Ph.D. student Angela Martinez Quintana, who studies coral reefs in Lasker's lab (Douglas Levere)

the program was developed by a committee that included representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, School of Architecture and Planning, and School of Management.

In addition to the new MA program, the Department of Environment and Sustainability offers an advanced certificate in sustainability and houses several existing degree programs at UB that previously did not have a departmental home. These include a BA/BS in environmental studies, a BS in environmental geosciences and an MS and PhD in evolution, ecology and behavior. About 250 students are already enrolled in these three programs.

The new department—which will grow in coming years through additional faculty hires—underscores the College of Arts and Sciences' commitment to sustainability.

Researchers in the college have long been engaged in environmental research, education and outreach, investigating topics that range from the history of environmental activism to the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, both on land and at sea.

In addition to the new department, major interdisciplin-

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ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

A UB student's doctoral thesis on climate adaptation strategies for 45 coastal regions across the developing world reveals a complex policy landscape challenged by socio-economic sensitivity, insufficient infrastructure and limited adaptive capacity.

The research paper by Tu Dam Ngoc Le, who graduated in 2019 from UB's PhD program in urban planning, was published in the September 2019 issue of *Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change*.

With sea levels already rising and weather conditions growing more extreme, low-lying coastal communities in the developing world are working aggressively to mount a response. Ngoc Le's assessment of some of the most at-risk regions around the world—45 coastal cities spanning South America, Africa, South Asia, and Oceania - revealed more than 1,500 adaptive strategies that could inform climate responses around the world.

The study unpacks state-of-the-art municipal adaptation planning in developing countries, exploring both the types of vulnerabilities addressed by the plans and the adaptive strategies put in place. Spanning responses to Cyclone Sidr in Khulna, Bangladesh, and analyses of rising sea levels in coastal West African cities like Dakar and Accra, Ngoc Le examined 1,565 specific initiatives.

The results of Ngoc Le's analysis show the complexity of vulnerabilities faced by communities in the cross-hairs of climate change. Indeed, those most at risk are also the most ill-equipped to handle the extreme events of climate change due to poverty and insufficient infrastructure.

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ary efforts in the college include the Strategic Initiative in Sustainable Urban Environments, which engages the Buffalo Niagara region as a living laboratory to create the sustainable city of the future.

"The Strategic Initiative in Sustainable Urban Environments will closely collaborate with the new department on developing new sustainability curriculum, aiding with new faculty hires, and continually supporting its students and faculty," says Susan Clark, director of the initiative.

"For example, the initiative will offer students experiential learning opportunities in sustainability, and facilitate collaborative and interdisciplinary research opportunities for faculty." 🌐

Charlotte Hsu is a news content manager for University Communications.

Correspondingly, adaptive responses focus primarily on current vulnerabilities rather than predicted climate change impacts. Ngoc Le concludes that local climate change adaptation in developing countries must be assessed in relation to socio-economic development and capacity enhancement.

Among her recommendations is that municipal leaders consider implementing a coordination mechanism (either through coordinated policy or a coordination office) to integrate climate change responses with social and economic development priorities.

Recently appointed as a faculty member of Mien Trung University of Civil Engineering in Vietnam, Tu Dam Ngoc Le's work aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice of climate adaptation planning. In addition to her PhD, she holds a bachelor's and master's degree in architecture from the University of Architecture of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. 🌐

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drew Fengrong Yang, a third-year PhD student from Shandong Province, China, to UB.

"The most important thing for me was to find a research university for my postgraduate studies in educational psychology," Yang says. "I received my master's degree here in the same department, so I have been at UB for five years. UB has great faculty members in my department, and I am able to complete my degrees without it being quite as competitive as other top-tier universities.

"UB is also very welcoming to international students," she says. "Buffalo and UB are pretty diverse. I have always felt a part of the university community here, along with other students from China. I have been able to merge with the university community pretty well."

Yang says she's always been interested in a teaching career. "I studied for my undergraduate degree in English language and literature at Zhejiang University. I am hoping to find a position as a postdoc or faculty member, to allow me to stay in the U.S."

NAFSA: Association of International Educators estimates the economic impact of UB's international students and their families to be in excess of \$201 million per year, supporting 2,375 local jobs. 🌐

Michael Andrei is public affairs and internal communications specialist for University Communications.

NIAGARA RIVER CORRIDOR RECEIVES GLOBAL DESIGNATION

Six years of work by students in UB School of Law's Environmental Advocacy Clinic—more than 1,450 pro bono hours invested by our student attorneys. And a total of 33 students who helped build the legal and informational foundation—all to celebrate the global significance of Western New York's mighty Niagara River.

That multi-year effort came to fruition in early October 2019 when the river and its corridor were named a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty to protect wetland systems worldwide.



At the designation ceremony (l to r): Kerry Mitchell, Robert Shibley, Lynda Schneekloth, Jajean Rose-Burney, Kim Diana Connolly, Gregory Stevens, and Jocelyn Baker

A designation ceremony held earlier this month on Goat Island in Niagara Falls, N.Y., made it official: The river is now the 40th Ramsar site in the United States, on par with Everglades National Park and the San Francisco Bay.

Professor and Vice Dean Kim Connolly, who teaches the Environmental Advocacy Clinic, says the clinic served as legal counsel to a bi-national Niagara River Ramsar steering committee made up of expert representatives from organizations in both the US and Canada.

"The students, under the supervision of Professor Connolly, were really the lawyers here," says Ryan McPherson '02, UB's chief sustainability officer. "They were the ones who prepped it, did all the research, really did the grunt work."

Much of that effort involved the clinic students working with the steering committee to create a comprehensive Ramsar Information Sheet, which showed how the site meets the criteria set forth in the Ramsar convention.

The document, which ran to nearly 100 pages, detailed the diverse ecosystem of the Niagara River Corridor: its abundance of noteworthy flora and fauna, its diverse eco-

logical features, and its social and cultural values.

The Niagara River, the information sheet noted, "supports at least 338 species of birds, 100 species of fish, 31 species of mammals, 11 species of reptiles, 13 species of amphibians, 12 species of mussels and 231 species of plants."

In addition, students helped to secure written endorsements for the Ramsar designation from every landowner in the designation area, as well as local, state and federal government endorsements. They also gave multiple presentations over the years in the community, at academic

conferences, and at governmental offices.

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified this as the most complex (Ramsar) submission that the United States has ever had," Connolly says.

"As someone who has visited many Ramsar sites, participated in international conferences, and researched and

published about Ramsar, I can confirm that the Niagara River Corridor is an outstanding site," says Connolly. "It is a superb example of importance and excellence."

"This designation is a win-win-win—for the ecosystem itself, for the people and communities who rely on it, and for the non-humans who depend on its preservation. The nomination could not have happened without the excellent work of our student attorneys."

The designation is expected to spark interest in ecotourism for the area, beyond the 8 million visitors annually who come to see the iconic waterfall.

U.S. Rep. Brian Higgins was among the officials at the designation ceremony. "Anyone who has spent time around the Niagara River Corridor understands it is arguably one of the most incredible places in the world," Higgins says.

"This Ramsar designation formally solidifies, and highlights for the world, the Niagara River Corridor's standing as a site of international significance. I commend the local stewards who sought out and secured this designation." 🌐

STAKEHOLDERS SEEK TO DEVELOP LOWER GREAT LAKES RESEARCH NETWORK

By Charlotte Hsu

As the world warms, communities around Lake Erie and Lake Ontario may become a refuge for people seeking relief from drought, sea-level rise and other climate-related extreme events in different parts of the U.S. and the world.

How can the Lower Great Lakes region develop sustainably in the future? And how can researchers, communities and governments work together to address sustainability and resilience challenges that may arise?

About 75 stakeholders from U.S.-based watersheds around Lake Erie and Lake Ontario met in Buffalo in August 2019 to discuss these questions at a three-day UB-led workshop aimed at developing a region-wide collaborative research network to tackle these questions.

Information gathered during the event is being included in a proposal that asks the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund the network, which will focus on the Lower Great Lakes area.

Attendees from around Lake Erie and Lake Ontario included researchers or sustainability and resilience officers from eight universities—UB, the University of Michigan, the University of Toledo, Cleveland State University, Penn State Behrend, SUNY ESF, SUNY Oswego and Clarkson University—as well as representatives of the indigenous tribes; local, state and federal agencies; and such community organizations as Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, GObike Buffalo, the local chapter of the Sierra Club, and the African Heritage Food Cooperative. International observers also attended.

“We are in a changing environment that sends ripple effects throughout the natural, social, infrastructure and organizational systems that support the urban and rural communities in the Lower Great Lakes,” says Chris Renschler, the workshop’s lead organizer and associate professor of geography in the UB College of Arts and Sciences.

“We are experiencing weather event pattern changes in our seasons in the region, and at the same time, this region may be a desirable destination for people looking to escape from areas that are facing severe threats from climate change.

“We need to think about how resilient our urban and rural systems are to changes: How can we adapt? How quickly can we respond? What services do we need? We need to think about these questions now, rather than waiting until it is even harder to respond or we’re too late,” Renschler says. “And we need to think about these questions not just in terms of the environment, but also in terms of our economy, our physical infrastructure and our culture and society.”

The workshop—the OUTSTEP Lower Great Lakes workshop (Organizing Urban Transects for a Sustainable Trans-

formation of Economic Partnerships across the Lower Great Lakes)—took place at the Hotel Henry Urban Resort and Conference Center.

Renschler, an expert in natural resources management, extreme events and community resilience, is heading a team that received a \$50,000 NSF grant to host the event.

Other UB investigators on the project include Susan Clark,

director of the Sustainable Urban Environments Initiative in the College of Arts and Sciences; JiYoung Park, associate professor of urban and regional planning in the School of Architecture and Planning; Michael Shelly, environmental/ecological economist in the RENEW (Research in eNergy, Environment and Water) Institute, and Ryan McPherson, UB chief sustainability officer.

The community and government participants who attended the workshop helped scientists identify research topics, providing perspective on important challenges facing the Lower Great Lakes.

The event had two major goals: laying the foundation for a region-wide research network, and developing ideas for integrated research projects — with and for community stakeholders — that an NSF-supported network could carry out.

If funded, the research network could more effectively engage with community partners and influence policy-making through collaborative projects to improve the region’s sustainability and resilience. 🌐



Workshop attendees participate in a mapping activity to show the regional impacts of proposed research ideas (Douglas Levere)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND AFRICA: IMPACTS AND RESPONSES

By Shaun Irlam

The year 2019 marks the 10th anniversary since the world lost a fearless advocate for human rights of truly global stature: Alison Des Forges, who made her life here in Buffalo, devoted her career to understanding the history of the Great Lakes region of Africa, and became a tireless champion for human rights and justice following the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.



Sunset at Etosha National Park in Namibia (Shaun Irlam)

Alison Des Forges was taken far too soon; however, what she entrusted to us was her extraordinary and indelible legacy. Those she left behind – family, friends, colleagues – came together to launch the Alison Des Forges Memorial Committee devoted to fostering Alison’s legacy as a Buffalo Public School volunteer, a historian of Africa, a winner of a MacArthur Foundation Award, and a fierce human rights activist.

One of the most important ways that the Committee has done this each spring since 2010 is to convene an international symposium at UB around topics of great urgency and significant implication for human rights and international justice. This year’s Symposium was dedicated to the effects of climate change in Africa.

Humankind, *Homo sapiens*, evolved in Africa during a period of dramatic climate change about 300,000 years ago. However, during the past 200 years, this rapacious ape has pursued unprecedented and unsustainable levels of profligacy through the exploitation of fossil fuels and industrialization.

Excessive consumption has contributed to climate change, habitat loss and environmental degradation that

risk making the globe uninhabitable for our species and many others. It is a cruel irony that those least responsible for climate change are among the first to feel its harsh effects.

Our April 2019 symposium examined manifestations of global warming in Africa, its impacts on African populations, and the successes and failures of African and international institutions as they attempt to mitigate global warming, develop sustainable economies, and ensure social resilience.

The Symposium drew together seven speakers from the USA, Nigeria, Kenya and Chile who addressed the impact of extractive industries in the Niger delta and in Lake Kivu, initiatives towards reforestation and environmental restoration in the Sahel, the human rights implications of under-regulated development on Kenya’s coastal communities, as well as the linkages, both real and imagined, between climate change and recent African emigration.

Leif Brottem began by outlining links among precipitation decline and accelerated environmental degradation and the corollary rise in political instability, “rural banditism” and terrorist attacks in Sahelian West Africa as growing populations scramble for diminishing resources.

Cajetan Iheka followed with analysis of the traumatic legacy of environmental damage inflicted by foreign oil companies in the Niger Delta. Iheka reminded us that, while fossil fuels drive climate change, their initial extraction is also degrading fragile eco-systems; environments pay at both ends of the process. Iheka’s discussion was complemented by Kristin Doughty’s exploration of the social costs of methane extraction in Rwanda’s Lake Kivu. In both instances, local communities pay a heavy environmental price for the extractive industries fueling climate change.

Kenyan activist, Otsieno Namwaya taught a similar lesson: the transformation of Kenya’s Lamu port facilities by Chinese developers promising a net boost to national prosperity at enormous expense to the local ecology and the people dependent upon it.

The Niger Delta, Lake Kivu and the Kenyan coastline thus offered us three haunting tales of environmental violence done to local communities by national governments and their international accomplices.

Geographer Jesse Ribot directed us next to Senegal with a sobering corrective. He argued that western media subtly appeal to European xenophobia to support climate change initiatives by imputing African migration to climate change while ignoring more immediate causes of

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BHUTAN MUSEUM ENGAGES CULTURE AND LEARNING AROUND CLIMATE

Sameer Honwad, assistant professor in the GSE Department of Learning and Instruction, is working with partners from the Royal Thimpu College (RTC) in Bhutan to start a museum that focuses on highlighting socio-scientific issues such as environmental sustainability and climate change.

This idea was derived from a collaborative project titled “Weaving Strands of Knowledge: Connecting Culture and Science to Climate Change” funded by the American Association of Museums. As part of this project, students from RTC and the University of New Hampshire (UNH) travelled to each other’s communities in the summer of 2017. During this time, they collected audio stories from locals who work with the land in New England and Bhutan.

The youth from the United States and Bhutan gathered, listened and edited narratives that represented how the changing climate is impacting local and global landscapes, wildlife, hydrology, farming and food sources in both regions. After sharing these stories, students, along with the museum staff and other project members, created an exhibit on climate change, which was displayed in the Montshire Museum of Science in Vermont and the Folk Heritage Museum in Bhutan.

Each student in the program connected the narratives that they heard to their own lives in different ways. Along with the students, the faculty at UNH and RTC also had an opportunity to collaborate and understand how people living in different cultures merge formal, informal, traditional and Eurocentric knowledge systems to make decisions about environmental issues faced by the communities.

“Research has shown that successful environmental decision-making in communities across the world involves combining both traditional and Eurocentric science knowledge,” says Honwad. “This project was an opportunity for us to collect further evidence about how people situated in different cultures merge knowledge from several sources while making decisions about environmental

issues faced by their communities.”

This project sparked interest in starting a museum in Bhutan. The goal of this new museum is to engage communities around issues that intersect environmental science and anthropology. The museum will use tools such as oral history, storytelling and other participatory design methods to highlight socio-scientific issues in Bhutan.

“We are trying to figure out how the future generation can best learn about environment problem solving in their communities and we are doing that through tools such as storytelling,” says Honwad.

Before he was a professor conducting research, Honwad worked in the New York Hall of Science. He shared his experience about visitors’ engagement with museum exhibits and their designs. In one such case, he observed how visitors interacted with the Mars rover exhibit next to his work desk. The Mars rover is a motor vehicle that travels across the surface of planet Mars.

“Ideally, the exhibit was made to show the kids how to move the rover around, take photos, examine the photos and then discuss the photos,” says Honwad. “However, 99% of the kids that engaged with the rover exhibit would go up to it, press a bunch of buttons, move the handle around, take random photos and hardly ever bothered to have a conversation about the photos.”

Drawing on such observations, Honwad wants the museum that is being designed with local partners in Bhutan to have exhibits that will engage youth and make them want to learn and connect science to their everyday lives. He also has a master’s degree in ecology and is very interested in connecting environmental science to people’s everyday lives.

“When I started working in the field of ecology, I was really interested in how we get other people to understand ecosystems and think about environmental conservation,” says Honwad. “That’s what brought me to the learning sciences and personally, I am interested in how people learn about issues concerning environmental science and conservation.” 🌐

CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA

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migration, which keeps them from being addressed and rectified. Casting Africans as climate refugees occludes multiple other forces such as poverty and repression that force them to emigrate.

The Symposium approached conclusion with Winterbottom’s heartening presentation on “regreening.” He introduced local initiatives adopted to reverse environmental damage and cushion the increasing threat of climate change in the Sahel and Ethiopia.

Marcus Orellana of Human Rights Watch drew proceedings to a close with reflections on the convergences between climate change, growing competition for diminishing natural resources and political conflict.

Our Spring 2020 Symposium, scheduled for April, is titled, “Human Rights at Risk: Popular Uprisings and Regime Change.” A distinguished group of speakers will examine recent political events in Sudan, Venezuela, Iran, Puerto Rico and Algeria, among others. 🌐

Shaun Irlam is associate professor of Comparative Literature and chair of Transnational Studies.

UB SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK: TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE IN RWANDA

By Laura Lewis

A team from the School of Social Work's Institute on Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care (ITTIC) shared its expertise in Rwanda this past June.

Laura Lewis, clinical associate professor, field education director and assistant dean for global partnerships at the School of Social Work, and Kristin Rivera, a consultant at ITTIC, spent just under two weeks in Rwanda. Lewis and Rivera met with academics from social work and psychology, attended lectures, visited genocide memorials, and met with representatives from twenty-three community-based organizations.



Laura Lewis and Kristin Rivera (4th and 5th from left) with Social Work colleagues at the University of Rwanda

The pair learned how the country is coping twenty-five years after over a million people were killed in the Rwandan genocide. High rates of trauma and depression among the general population are at the level of a public health crisis, according to Dr. Vincent Sezibera of the University of Rwanda Center for Mental Health.

With 26% of the population reportedly suffering from post-traumatic stress, and 35% from depression, the numbers are staggering. Sezibera states that the numbers are "statistical artifacts" that have the potential to mask the real suffering of Rwandans. The impact of intergenerational trauma was also on the minds of Rwandan colleagues.

They described being largely unprepared for the high rates of trauma and depression being seen now among

the next generation of Rwandans, a generation too young to have witnessed the genocide firsthand.

Great strides in treating trauma and grief have been made in Rwanda, despite psychology and social work being relatively young professions. Behavioral health care, for example, has been well integrated into primary health-care settings.

In addition, some of the main issues (trauma, identity and reconciliation) are being addressed with a trauma-informed approach. There remains a need, however, to extend services to other settings and into regions of the country that are more remote. Large-scale community education and awareness campaigns about the signs and symptoms of trauma and the importance of seeking help are also needed.

Rivera and Lewis were surprised that Rwandan colleagues were using the same language around trauma-informed care as in the United States. As in the United States, there is a need to equip staff in schools, correctional facilities, and other organizations in adopting trauma-informed approaches.

Trauma-informed practices are those that honor principles of safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment for consumers. Rivera has provided this training in the Western New York region and across New York State in all of these settings.

Rivera notes that there is a significant degree of resilience present in Rwandan communities as a whole and in individuals. This resilience shows up in their affect, mannerisms and interaction styles.

The Rwandan people do not want to be seen as victims. They want to be seen as strong survivors that are intent on moving forward.

As they continue to "punch upwards", the way in which they view their future emulates the five values/principles of trauma informed care. They are thoughtful about the role of trust, establishing emotional safety, value the choices available to them, and carefully consider collaboration opportunities available.

In terms of ITTIC's involvement, Rivera notes that respecting the fact that Rwandans are the experts on their own experiences is key. The ability to demonstrate empathy without representing yourself as someone who knows what it is like to go through those circumstances is very important when establishing relationships that are trauma-informed.

The team returned with good prospects for building

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UB HOSTS NIH INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

By Marcene Robinson

Health sciences researchers from around the globe gathered in Buffalo for the 18th Annual Conference for Administrators of Awards from the Fogarty International Center hosted by UB's Center for Integrated Global Biomedical Sciences (CIGBS).

The Fogarty International Center at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is dedicated to supporting and facilitating global health research by building partnerships be-



tween health research institutions in the U.S. and abroad while training the next generation of scientists to address global health needs.

The conference took place Sept. 12-13, 2019 at UB's New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences. The meeting was conceived nearly two decades ago to bring together Fogarty award administrators and program coordinators to share their collective experiences in building research programs around the world.

The conference has grown in significance as one of the primary mechanisms for creating efficient capacity building in the area of research administration with a focus on recruitment, fiscal management, core facility building and international travel.

"Being selected to host this conference, and the participation of Fogarty's deputy director, Dr. Peter Kilmarx, highlights the NIH's recognition of CIGBS's commitment to build integrated global biomedical sciences capacity for health research in low-middle income countries," said Gene Morse, CIGBS director and SUNY Distinguished Professor in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. "Our synergistic Buffalo-based collaborations with NIH-supported programs like the UB Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center help us achieve our sustainable development goals."

The conference was preceded by "Emerging Issues in Global Health," a mini-symposium highlighted by a keynote from Peter Kilmarx.

An expert in infectious diseases and HIV and AIDS prevention, Kilmarx shared the nation's current priorities in global health research. After the symposium, he met with UB leaders to discuss the university's capacity-building partnerships with the University of Zimbabwe, University of the West Indies and more.

Kilmarx began his international career as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where he helped develop fisheries that are still productive today. He has since held numerous positions within the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that include country director in Zimbabwe; Ebola response team leader in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and the Democratic Republic of Congo; and chief of the CDC's sexual transmission research section in Thailand.

A rear admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service, he has also served as principal investigator on a number of clinical trials, including studies related to preventive microbicides in Thailand, tuberculosis and HIV in Botswana, and HIV in Zimbabwe. Kilmarx has published more than 100 book chapters and articles in academic journals, and serves on the editorial board of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, the world's longest running international journal on sexual health.

He earned a doctorate in medicine from the Dartmouth College and Brown University combined medicine program, and a bachelor's degree in biology from Dartmouth College. 🌐

TRAUMA CARE IN RWANDA

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collaborative relationships with universities, agencies and communities in the African country. Ongoing conversations are continuing via What's App and Zoom with faculty colleagues, and human service practitioners. An early effort will entail collaboration around translating ITTIC's Organizational Change Manual.

Our long range vision is to bring UB SSW students to work with University of Rwanda social work students, perhaps using a 'train-the-trainer' model so that new generations of social workers can go into our respective communities to help them better address trauma.

In keeping with a trauma-informed perspective, it will be important to collaborate in a way that makes sense to community members. A train-the-trainer model will allow Rwandans, rather than outside sources, to lead efforts in the wider community. 🌐

Laura Lewis is assistant dean for global partnerships and director of field education for the School of Social Work.

BAUHAUS WOMEN: RECOVERING HISTORY

By Bert Gambini

This year marks the centenary of The Bauhaus School of Design, the flashpoint for the most influential art education movement in the world.

Although more than one-third of the 1,250 artists to emerge from the Bauhaus were women, an odd and inaccurately slim history has failed to include their presence, according to Elizabeth Otto, an associate professor of art history and visual studies at the University at Buffalo.

Now, the influences and contributions of these groundbreaking artists receive their long overdue recognition in an exhibition co-curated by Otto, and a new book she has co-authored with Patrick Rössler titled *Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective*, featuring profiles of 45 female designers, artists and architects who carried the Bauhaus message to a global audience.

"The Bauhaus changed art pedagogy and design around the world, yet the public and even many specialists only know a small sliver of its true history," says Otto. "When we put the women back in to the picture, Bauhaus history becomes much richer."

The Bauhaus School of Design opened in 1919, shortly after the end of the First World War. Based initially in Weimer, Germany, and later in Dessau, the Bauhaus innovatively combined fine arts and master crafts with philosophy, spirituality, movement and design.

Over time, the Bauhaus united art and technology to become a vortex for creating good designs for the masses.

The school closed in 1933, following the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany, but in just 14 years, the Bauhaus generated a churning creative and intellectual momentum. Its departing artists created a diaspora that became the genetic origin for an educational approach found in nearly all of the world's art schools today. The students and teachers of the Bauhaus landed in places like Black Mountain College, Harvard University and the New Bauhaus in Chicago.

Although a narrow historical interpretation of the Bauhaus has focused on men, Otto's work provides a critical reorientation of the movement placing women such as Friedl Dicker and Marianne Brandt alongside notables like Wassily Kandinsky and Mies van der Rohe.

"Every art school in the world owes a debt to the Bauhaus, and much of the debt is realized in the work of the

school's women," says Otto. "The Bauhaus changed the nature of art schools from the academy model where students copied the work of masters to instead building thinkers and teaching people to unlock their creativity through multiple disciplines."

Some of the women might be familiar to anyone interested in the Bauhaus, according to Otto. Lucia Moholy, for instance, is known as the Bauhaus photographer, though she was never officially on staff. Her historically prominent work provides a chronicle showcasing landmark buildings and priceless designs. Others, such as Friedl Dicker, a multitalented artist, have existed in history's margins, despite her remarkable story of creating work in inconceivable places.

"Dicker was deported to Terezin, a combination concentration camp and ghetto, where she taught 500 children Bauhaus methods," explains Otto. "We would never think of a concentration camp as a follow-up institution to the Bauhaus, but Dicker introduced children to the message, where it served as a proto-art therapy."

Brandt was head of the Bauhaus metal workshop. She helped introduce sleek design concepts into many household objects, from lamps to tea sets. A Brandt-designed tea infuser holds the record for the highest price ever paid at auction for a Bauhaus object.

"People recognize Brandt's work as Bauhaus objects, but they aren't necessarily associated with her legacy, since her name rarely appears in survey textbooks," says Otto.

Brandt is among the four Bauhaus artists profiled, by a curatorial team of Otto, Rössler, and Miriam Krautwurst and Kai-Uwe-Schierz, in the exhibition "4 Bauhausmädels: Gertrud Arndt, Marianne Brandt, Margarete Heymann, Magaretha Reichardt," in Erfurt, Germany.

That the Bauhaus drew roughly 400 women to its program is a direct result of it promoting a modern education, regardless of age or gender.

Otto has also co-edited, again with Rössler, *Bauhaus Bodies: Gender, Sexuality, and Body Culture in Modernism's Legendary Art School* that puts the body and experimental



Weavers on the Bauhaus staircase, 1927. Photo by T. Lux Feininger, Collection of the Bauhaus-Archiv Berlin

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EUROPEAN TOUR PART OF GLOBAL STUDIOS IN SUMMER 2019

This summer, dozens of students from across UB fanned across three continents as part of the School of Architecture and Planning's annual study abroad program.

Featuring in situ studios and intensive engagement with diverse landscapes, this year's offerings took students to Japan; the Costa Rican rain forest; 12 cities across Spain; and 31 cities as part of a Grand Tour of Europe.

Offering more Study Abroad programs than any other unit at the University at Buffalo, the School of Architecture and Planning is committed to providing students with on-the-ground learning experiences that engage the culture, landscape and people of communities around the world.

Thirty-one students, one alumnus and two faculty spent 35 days exploring—and sketching—some of the world's greatest architectural monuments as part of a European

global studio directed by UB architecture faculty members Greg Delaney and Chris Romano.

Traversing Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden and Finland, the program served as a modern reimagining of the "Grand Tour" of architectural

antiquities throughout Europe. The tour's packed itinerary featured dozens of the greatest examples of modern and contemporary architecture and urban landscapes spanning the 21st century.

Following the tour, several students extended their studies through a four-week studio based in Buffalo. Also directed by Delaney, "Form Follows Fantasy" invited

students to develop design proposals, represented as fabricated environments, that would complete the unfinished interiors of King Ludwig II of Bavaria's palace at Herrenchiemsee (1868-1886). 🌐



Greg Delaney (center) with European architectural tour group at the Reichstag in Berlin (Duane Warren)

CONFERENCE ON HUMAN CAPITAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA

Isaac Ehrlich, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Economics and founding editor of the *Journal of Human Capital*, delivered the keynote address as part of a two-day international conference, "Human Capital and Economic Development in China," Oct. 5-6, 2019 in 509 O'Brien Hall. Ehrlich, an expert on human capital and social institutions in the economy, delivered his remarks on Oct. 5.

The conference was co-sponsored by the UB Center of Excellence on Human Capital, Technology Transfer, and Economic Growth and Development; the Department of Economics; and the UB Confucius Institute.

Presenters examined interactions between migration and education decisions, gender and income inequalities, the higher education system, and the role of social and family environments in human capital production.

Numerous factors have contributed to China's econom-

ic growth over three decades, including the key drivers of physical capital and the adoption of existing technology, but continued increases will depend on innovation, a factor turning on the quality of its labor force, according to Zhiqiang Liu, professor in the Department of Economics and director of the Confucius Institute.

That's the human capital component, a term used to determine workers' economic value through measures that include education, training and skill.

"Scholars from the United States and China who have conducted significant research in the area of human capital will discuss economic and social issues in China that have important policy implication," says Liu. "This conference is particularly timely in light of the recent growth slowdown in China." 🌐

MEDIATION, VIENNA STYLE: A TRANSFORMATIVE COMPETITION

By Rachel Vicario and Darian Wilkom

After six months of waiting, three months of preparing, two months of planning, and one week of hyperventilating, we found ourselves in Toronto, boarding our flight and finally bound for Vienna.

The fifth annual Consensual Dispute Resolution Centre's (CDRC) Mediation and Negotiation Competition opened on July 5, 2019 and came to a close on July 11, 2019. The competition, held at the University of Vienna in Austria, is co-sponsored by the International Bar Association and the Vienna International Arbitral Centre.

We are rising third year law students at the University at Buffalo School of Law. We had the honor of representing our university, along with our distinguished coaches, adjunct mediation law professor Steven Sugarman of Pusatier, Sherman, Abbot & Sugarman, and Judith Gerber of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, at this year's competition.

Not only did we have the opportunity to sharpen our negotiation skills, hone our advocacy skills, and expand our mediation skills, we also found ourselves immersed in a once in a lifetime experience, meeting students, mediators, and attorneys from all over the world.

Before the competition even began, we were inducted into the Vienna CDRC "family." When we arrived at the Vienna airport, Tom Valenti, an expert assessor from Chicago and distinguished professional in the ADR community, recognized us as competitors and immediately greeted us with warm embrace.

The following morning, along with 85 other law students from around the globe, we were formally welcomed by the program director, Claudia Winkler, and her incredible staff. Despite all of our preparation, conversations with past participants, and advice from our coaches, we did not truly appreciate what an enriching and educational experience this would be until we arrived in Vienna.

On the first day of the competition, we attended workshops ranging from topics on cultural diversity to improved advocacy and negotiation skills. We learned not only how to be aware of and sensitive to different cultures,

but how to advocate in a variety of situations.

We participated in a workshop focused on overcoming cross-cultural diversity, taught by Mauricio Chaves, a mediator from Colombia. He taught us how to overcome language barriers and to strive in every negotiation to be aware of and disregard all biases. He gave an example of someone shaking their head from right to left. Often this

movement is considered a sign of disagreement.

However, in India, it may convey agreement or simply that the individual is acknowledging and listening to what you are saying. As this was our first international competition, this workshop and this example illustrated the importance of asking clarifying questions to ensure everyone was being understood correctly.

The workshops concluded and we were quickly approaching round one of the negotiations. As we prepared, our nerves set in. It was an intimidating experience to walk into a room for the first time to negotiate with people from a country we had never been exposed to.

In hindsight, our fear that the other teams' version of mediation would be substantially different from the one we learned at UB never

materialized. To our surprise, our negotiating styles and understanding of the mediation process were virtually identical.

The CDRC competition focuses on mediation as a facilitative, client-centered process, primarily concerned with drawing out the parties' interests, allowing them to come to a mutually beneficial agreement. Long before we stepped foot in Vienna, we mastered the details of the competition problem: a ten-million-dollar commercial dispute involving the international sale of frozen horse semen.

In an effort to engage in more realistic negotiations, we spent a great deal of time researching the many facets of equestrian sport. The hour before each round was spent learning and preparing to negotiate based upon a set of additional, confidential facts. We completed four 90 minute preliminary rounds against students from all over the



L to r: Judith Gerber, Rachel Vicario, Darian Wilkom and Steven Sugarman

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DIVERSE TEAM OF UNDERGRADUATES WINS PwC CHALLENGE

By Matthew Biddle

A diverse team of UB School of Management undergraduates—representing three majors and four countries—took first place in the 16th annual PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) Challenge, which tests students' critical-thinking, teamwork and presentation skills.

The winning team, named "GOAT," was made up of accounting students Connie Cui of New York City and Rohit Khemlani of Sapporo, Japan; business administration student Sooseok Kim of Seongnam-si, South Korea; and Archana Mohan of Kerala, India, who is double majoring in business administration and mathematics. Each team member collected a \$200 prize.

PwC sponsors the Challenge at about 100 campuses nationwide. Locally, 41 students entered the competition, which was held Nov. 15, 2019 on UB's North Campus.



Sooseok Kim, Connie Cui, Rohit Khemlani, Archana Mohan

This year, students examined a consumer product brand that's considering expanding its portfolio of household appliances into multifunctional, smart technologies by leveraging the "internet of things." Each team analyzed the company, the global appliance marketplace and consumer trends to develop strategic recommendations for the company's expansion.

Teams then presented their analyses and fielded questions from a panel of PwC judges: Keith Belote, BS/MBA '93, assurance partner and managing partner for PwC's Buffalo office; Brian Sabedra, tax partner; and Samantha Kuberka, assurance manager.

"Through the PwC Challenge, we learned how to work properly as a team, trust each other and com-

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MEDIATION, VIENNA STYLE

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world. We were thrilled to advance to the quarter final round, where we competed against an outstanding team from Australia, who advanced to the final round.

At this point, we can say with confidence that those who say the most effective way to learn is by doing are correct. Over the four days of competing, we learned what worked, what didn't, how to be better negotiators, and how to more effectively advocate for our client.

However, what was most valuable was the extensive feedback we received from the expert assessors. After each round, we received thirty minutes of "scheduled feedback."

At times the assessors were critical, but their feedback was honest, constructive, and much appreciated. We will carry their advice through our future mediations, careers as litigators, and everyday negotiations.

The CDRC competition was particularly unique in that in addition to the educational component, the organizers fostered a social environment. It quickly became clear that although this program is a competition, it is first and foremost an experience to learn and grow as students, advocates, and mediators.

Many law students routinely participate in competi-

tions where we prepare with our coaches, complete our rounds, hear feedback, and never speak to the assessors again. Vienna was substantially different. After each round concluded, and into the evening, the participants, coaches, organizers, and assessors socialized in unique Viennese venues.

Thus, we had the opportunity to network and quite frankly, have fun with everyone involved. It was during these events when we had the pleasure of meeting UB Law School alumnus and expert assessor Judith Ittig from Washington, D.C., an avid supporter of UB's mediation competition travel program. Some of our favorite memories from the competition are those of us dancing well into the night with all of the CDRC Vienna Family.

Overall, this was an absolutely amazing experience. We are honored to have had the opportunity to represent our school and our country in this event. We will remain forever grateful to the law school's Advocacy Institute, our alumni, and our coaches who made this event possible for us. We have grown as negotiators, advocates, professionals, and individuals.

We will never forget the memories we made, the skills we acquired, and the people we met, not to mention the beautiful sights, incredible food, and plethora of LinkedIn connections. We look forward to returning to the CDRC competition in the future as volunteers and perhaps someday, as coaches. 🌐

EXPLORING THE LIBRARIES OF COSTA RICA

By Christopher Hollister

In July of 2019, I had the privilege of leading a group of students from the Graduate School of Education's Department of Information Science on an experiential learning trip to Costa Rica; this was in association with my newly developed course, LIS 503: International Librarianship.

The purpose of the trip was to expand on the course

Development Studies (ICADS) to organize a learning experience for students that included behind-the-scenes visits to a wide variety of libraries.

Featured tours included Biblioteca Nacional Miguel Obregón Lizano, Archivo Nacional de Costa Rica, Biblioteca Asamblea Legislativa de la República de Costa Rica, and Biblioteca W.K. Kellogg de la EARTH.

Our group also met with faculty from the Universidad de Costa Rica's impressive library and information science program, and we enjoyed a variety of inspiring visits to select academic, school, and community libraries in the country's Central Valley region.

To provide greater context and depth to the overall experience, my students also attended lectures on Costa Rican history and culture, and they were given an interpretive walking tour of the capital city, San José.

Our ambitious week of activities also included complementary day trips to Café Los Volcanes—a fair-trade, organic coffee farm—and to the spectacular La Paz Waterfall Gardens.

Special thanks are extended to Trevor Poag, UB Director of Global Learning, and to Javier Arguedas, Co-Director of ICADS, for their invaluable contributions to an informative, rewarding, and memorable week in Costa Rica.

Moving forward, I am consulting with colleagues from UB and elsewhere about the potential for future

experiential learning trips abroad associated with the LIS 503: International Librarianship course. 🌐

Christopher Hollister is a librarian and interim head of scholarly communications for University Libraries.



Christopher Hollister (far left, rear) with study abroad group in Costa Rica

by exploring the libraries and the field of librarianship in Costa Rica in a culturally immersive manner. As the course instructor, I worked with UB's Office of International Education (OIE) and with the Institute for Central American

BAUHAUS WOMEN

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culture back into an institution so often seen as strict, purist architecture and design.

"The idea of the Bauhaus as a hyper-rational movement focused on clean lines and modern aesthetics is a misunderstanding," says Otto. "The 14 essays in this book demonstrate the experimental nature of the movement."

Otto has also written a forthcoming book, *Haunted Bauhaus: Occult Spirituality, Gender Fluidity, Queer Identi-*

ties, and Radical Politics, available this fall, that uncovers a movement vastly more diverse and paradoxical than previously assumed. 🌐

Bert Gambini is a news content manager for University Communications.

ENHANCING DIGITAL LITERACY IN CANADIAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Heidi Julien, a professor in the UB Department of Information Science, and colleagues from universities in Canada have been awarded a Partnership Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The grant will help fund a project exploring public library approaches to digital literacy.

The goal of this project is to identify how public libraries in Canada can best deliver and evaluate the digital literacy initiatives they provide to the communities they serve.



“Being digitally literate leads to more positive health outcomes because people are more capable of accessing high quality health information online, better access to government services, participative governance, improved job performance and bridging the digital divide,” says Julien.

Julien and her colleagues will focus on (1) organizational factors that foster or challenge digital literacy initiatives led by public libraries; (2) user considerations concerning public library-led digital literacy initiatives; and (3) performance measures that effectively evaluate digital literacy initiatives led by public libraries.

The research team intends to gain insight on these three areas through a national survey of Canadian public libraries about their digital literacy initiatives, and a series of in-depth case studies of Canadian public libraries that have developed digital literacy initiatives for their community members.

The Canadian Urban Libraries Council and the Canadian Federation of Library Associations are partner organizations in the research project and will administer the national survey and identify/recruit potential case study sites.

Hamilton Public Library, a Canadian leader in the delivery of digital literacy initiatives and a partner organization in the study, will serve as one of the case studies.

McMaster University’s Office of Community Engagement, also a partner organization, will provide insight and background on Hamilton Public Library’s social lab approach to addressing digital literacy in the community.

Once results from the nationwide survey and case studies are finalized, the findings will be used to produce a public library digital literacy initiative evaluation toolkit. This toolkit will incorporate performance measures to assess organizational factors and user considerations

important to the successful delivery of public library-led digital literacy initiatives.

“With digital literacy programs emerging as an essential component of public library service, the development of effective outcome-based performance measures is important for programming,” says Julien.

“This research project will help library partner organizations learn how to best design and deliver public library based digital literacy programs, and how to best measure and report on the success of these programs.” 🌐

PwC CHALLENGE

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municate clearly,” says Khemlani, a junior on the winning team. “Especially since three of out four of us were international students, we as a team particularly valued communication skills, which allowed us to build an effective presentation and succeed.”

Each team benefited from the experience and insights of their faculty and PwC mentors. Michael Dambra, assistant professor of accounting and law in the UB School of Management, and Marco Gangarossa, BS ’18, MS ’19, assur-

ance associate at PwC, served as the winning team’s mentors. Before the winners were announced at a ceremony in UB’s Center for the Arts, PwC hosted a series of activities to reinforce what students learned during the Challenge.

School of Management volunteers—who helped run the event and offered teams preliminary feedback on their presentations—including Keith Stolzenburg, executive in residence for accounting; Mary Ann Rogers, clinical associate professor of organization and human resources; and students Carly Gugino, Nathan Marino and Anita Lin. 🌐

Matthew Biddle is assistant director of communications for the School of Management.

COMMUNITY FOR GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY EXPANDS ITS IMPACT

By Lisa Vahapoglu

In order to expand the impact of its activities, the Community for Global Health Equity (CGHE) has enhanced engagement, collaboration, and outreach with partners in the Global South this past year. To this end, a key element of CGHE's strategy has been development of outreach materials, using print and digital channels, to share information about our work.

Additionally, CGHE has increased in-person outreach with international research institutes, NGOs, and educational and governmental entities. These efforts have led to new or deepened research partnerships for UB faculty, enabled faculty to pursue new avenues of external grant support, and have resulted in exciting new educational opportunities for UB students.

We have developed a rich array of tools to share CGHE's research and educational initiatives. With content developed by CGHE Founding Co-Director Korydon (Kory) Smith, CGHE Administrative Coordinator Jessica Scates, Master's student Nicole Little, and SAP alumna Sadichcha Dhakhwa, the CGHE website has attracted 21,713 new visitors since 2015, and our monthly newsletter is distributed to over 800 subscribers.

We're also actively translating our community's scholarship for lay audiences: in September 2019 – partly in response to a suggestion made to us by a legislative aid of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand – we launched our ongoing policy brief series, Global Health Equity Research in Translation.

Of course, engaging with the world and making an impact also require relationship-building efforts. For example, thanks to the efforts of CGHE Co-Director Dr. Samina Raja, UB has a strong, collaborative partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – the only university with which the FAO has such a relationship.

Professor Venu Govindaraju, Vice President for Research and Economic Development notes that "[t]he FAO-UB partnership accelerates our faculty's ability to translate their research in the domain of community food systems into policy and action."

Case in point, with colleague Amani Ishemo, Associate Professor in the Faculty of the Built Environment at the University of Technology, Jamaica, Raja presented at the FAO's roll-out of their new food systems agenda in Washington D.C. Research generated through this partnership is making its way back to local governments, civil society actors, and food systems stakeholders via reports, webinars, and a searchable database that contains examples of local government policies impacting food systems.

Other CGHE-affiliated faculty have been cultivating similarly high-impact relationships with international organi-

zations. CGHE researcher, Henry M. Woodburn Chair and Professor, Department of Chemistry, Diana Aga has met with World Health Organization (WHO) officials in Geneva, Switzerland to discuss the threat posed by environmental antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Subsequently, Aga was asked and has agreed to continue serving as a WHO consultant on global AMR issues. The WHO has also tapped Emmanuel Frimpong Boamah,



Emmanuel Boamah (l) conducting fieldwork in Ghana

Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning and CGHE, to serve as an expert consultant.

For his part, Frimpong Boamah is advising the WHO on the country-level implementation of its Housing and Health Guidelines. The ongoing nature of these relationships with the FAO and the WHO have paved the way for future engagement opportunities with these influential organizations.

In India, CGHE relationship development with faculty and administrators at Amrita University has led to creation of a 6-week rotation for UB Pharmacy students, including a freestanding four-week unit on Ayurvedic medicine that is open to all UB students, faculty, and staff (launch: summer 2020). CGHE-affiliated faculty member Gina Prescott (Clinical Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy), has spearheaded this effort along with CGHE staff.

"We are excited to offer our students an opportunity to learn about the healthcare system of India, traditional Ayurvedic medicine, and the practice of pharmacy in India," Prescott notes, adding that "immersive exposure to Indian culture will also be to our students' benefit."

Reflecting CGHE's efforts to promote equity in its collaborative relationships, as well as her own tendency to strive

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ENHANCING CGHE IMPACT

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for institutional reciprocity, Prescott indicates that she and her colleagues at UB's School of Pharmacy "look forward to working towards bidirectional exchange," including the hosting of Amrita University Pharmacy students and faculty for rotations at UB, as well as joint research projects pursued by UB and Amrita faculty.

Closer to home, Smith was selected by the American Association of Medical Colleges to present a workshop session on building transformative, interdisciplinary collaborations for advancing global health. Using UB and CGHE as a case study, Smith aims to demonstrate how to cultivate innovation through broadening the manner in which researchers and academic administrators approach problem scoping, problem solving, and bringing solutions to scale. It is an important opportunity for the community to disseminate "lessons learned," to provide a toolkit to other institutions, and to position UB as a Global Health leader at the national level.

Finally, in Buffalo, CGHE's Refugee Health team continues to deepen our university-community links through working with the refugee community and the public and non-profit agencies that serve them. Since 2016, CGHE has collaborated with SPHHP to organize the Western New York Refugee Health Summit.

An event that brings together researchers, front-line medical, health, and allied service professionals, and New Americans themselves, the Summit is truly an exercise in inclusivity. To ensure that each year's Summit has lasting impact, organizers issue a report that summarizes the event and provides recommendations to providers and policy-makers.

Going forward, CGHE will continue to bring UB to the world and the world to UB. On an ongoing basis, we will keep presenting global health engagement, educational, and professional opportunities to UB faculty and students in formal and informal settings, including class sessions, brown bag seminars, research fairs, departmental meetings, and special programs.

Faculty, staff, students, and community partners are welcome to contact me (lisalenk@buffalo.edu) if you would like to be added to our listserv, or if you would like to request a talk or presentation. 🌐

Lisa Vahapoglu is program coordinator for the Community for Global Health Equity.

GLOBAL AND LOCAL RESEARCH

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disabilities in overcoming access barriers through involvement in decision-making, and assessing interventions to train care providers for people with disabilities

Addressing global disparities in child and adolescent health, the Global Child team focuses on the design, testing, and delivery of interventions for pregnant women and



children, as well as scaling up promising interventions.

Members of this team work with partner universities, international organizations like UNICEF, and collaborators in Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Projects range from testing affordable and portable devices that accurately measure the brain function of neonates, to improved service delivery, to tracking the impact of aflatoxin exposure in pregnancy on child health outcomes.

CGHE aims to cultivate inclusivity and collegiality in its research and program activities. "We welcome local partners and, via Zoom, global partners to join the UB community at CGHE events. As for the Big Ideas teams, they are open to new faculty members who are interested in promoting global health equity through their scholarship or teaching activities," notes CGHE Co-Director Dr. Katarzyna (Kasia) Kordas.

Commenting on this fall's Communities of Excellence Symposium, Kordas remarks that "it is exciting to see the breadth of research excellence being pursued by CGHE-affiliated faculty, and we look forward to continued growth, and increasing impact, in the years to come." 🌐

GLOBAL AND LOCAL RESEARCH: CGHE PROMOTES BIG IDEAS

By Lisa Vahapoglu

The Community of Excellence in Global Health Equity (CGHE) at UB was founded with a mandate to address global health inequities through educational initiatives, development of collaborative global partnerships, and research excellence.

To focus research efforts and deepen impact, over the past few years CGHE-affiliated faculty have strengthened professional ties across decanal units, their work coalescing around six thematic areas that we call our “Big Ideas” teams: Early Life Exposome; Refugee Health and Wellbeing; Food Equity; Antimicrobial Resistance; Inclusive Envi-



Samina Raja (l) with Food Equity research team doing fieldwork in Kerala, India

ronments; and Global Child.

The Early Life Exposome team’s goal is to generate evidence about the impact of early life environments on subsequent health and wellbeing. Activities of this team span Bangladesh, China, Uruguay, and Zimbabwe, as well as several countries across South America.

The team is analyzing biomarkers of exposure to metals and air pollution across the sites and evaluating other environmental exposure metrics; assessing the impact of air pollution on pregnancy outcomes and child development in China; investigating the determinants of clean fuel transition in Latin America; and examining health and environmental impacts of e-waste recycling in Bangladesh.

Closer to home, the Refugee Health and Wellbeing team aims to understand and dismantle barriers to health equity in Buffalo’s refugee communities. The team’s “standardized patient project” has provided coaching and roleplay experiences to prepare medical practitioners to offer culturally-competent, sensitive care to patients who require interpreters. Other projects have assessed disparities in

food access, studied the delivery of reproductive health services to refugees, and evaluated refugee-related educational policies.

The CGHE Food Equity team promotes food equity in LMICs, particularly among smallholder growers who, despite being crucial to the world’s food security, are themselves are vulnerable to food insecurity. Specific projects—in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, India, Jamaica, and Thailand—range from methods development to policy and planning research.

For example, one group of researchers on the team has demonstrated that machine learning can be used with Google street view to recognize crops grown in home gardens in rural Thailand. Others have addressed the role of trade policy on food and health equity, and have documented the role of local government policies on food systems in LMICs, in large part based on a CGHE-funded, multi-site initiative titled Planning for Regenerative Equitable Food Systems in Urbanizing Global Environments (PlanREFUGE).

With expertise in medical geography, analytical chemistry, engineering, infectious disease and pediatrics, the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) team focuses on understanding the extent, predictors and health consequences of antimicrobial resistant bacteria (ARB).

The AMR team has received seed funding to study ARB emergence and spread from hospital effluents and municipal water sources in Bangladesh. This past summer, the team published an editorial in *Tropical Medicine and International Health* about the global threat posed by antimicrobial resistance. At present, in partnership with colleagues at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr), the AMR team is writing up findings from mass spectrometry analyses of water samples from Dhaka and Matlab.

The Inclusive Environments team was formed to understand predictors of—and test solutions for—disparities in access to education, employment, and social services. In collaboration with UNICEF, the team has addressed access to drinking water, handwashing, and sanitation (WaSH), particularly for persons with disabilities in LMICs.

This work led to the development of a tool for the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene, and a number of publications. Other high-profile output includes CGHE Founding Co-Director Korydon Smith’s book on community-based improvement of informal settlements in Kigali, Rwanda, which received the Great Places award from the Environmental Design Research Association.

Ongoing projects aim to explore the role of people with

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INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

The scholarly engagement of **Daniel B. Hess**, professor and chair, with urban planning in Central and Eastern Europe continues with the publication of his book *Housing Estates in the Baltic Countries: The Legacy of Central Planning in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania* [published by Springer (2019) and edited by D. B. Hess and T. Tammaru].

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Anthropology

Phillips Stevens, Jr., associate professor emeritus, has conducted research into what he calls “genital power,” the belief, widespread around the world, that the human genitals emit potentially dangerous power. Such power is at least ritually polluting; at worst, physically harmful to others. The belief is ancient. It is manifested in various charms and apotropaic devices like the Nin-imma of ancient Mesopotamia; the Irish *sheela-na-gig*, and variations across early Europe; the Hindu *Lajja Gauri*; the Italian *manu fica*; Greek *anasyrma*; the *dilukai* of the Caroline Islands in Micronesia and variations in Papua-New Guinea; and many other ethnographic instances. Stevens published articles on genital power in 2006 (in *Transcultural Psychiatry* 43:4, 592-599) and 2015 (*International Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality*, Wiley-Blackwell, 469-471). A Dutch sculptor, Elisabet Stienstra is famous in the Netherlands for her exploration of the female form. She learned of Steven’s research, communicated with him in 2017-2018, and credited his 2006 article in the catalogue to a recent exhibition of her work, “The Female Presence,” spring and summer 2019 in Groningen. In August 2019 Stevens conducted a Skype interview on “Zombies” with a producer of Moscow’s REN TV for a documentary film on little-known phenomena in history and world cultures, projected for release (in Russian) in October 2019. His commentary was based on an article he wrote for *The Encyclopedia of the Paranormal* (Prometheus Books, 1996, 845-851).

Department of Art

On her sabbatical leave, associate professor and director of graduate studies, **Stephanie Rothenberg**, participated in several residencies, exhibitions and conferences focused on the intersection of art and the anthropocene. Internationally, she participated in the juried TOKAS Tokyo Art and Space residency in Tokyo, Japan this winter that included a research trip to Fukushima examining the aftermath of the nuclear disaster. She presented her creative research at the juried conference “Art and the Anthropocene” in July at Trinity College in Dublin, and was invited to be in the current exhibition “Re:working Labor” at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago that ran until November 27, 2019, with an artwork that explores the relationships between energy use and the blockchain. Rothenberg is concluding her sabbatical in Berlin in fall 2019 at the residency ZK/U Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik. While in Germany, she was invited to give a lecture to the School of Art and Design at the Bauhaus-University Weimar on November 4, 2019 and was invited to exhibit three artworks in the group exhibition “Goodbye Cruel World, It’s Over” at the Weltkunstzimmer in Düsseldorf, Germany that opens November 28, 2019.

Arts Management Program

Katja Praznik, assistant professor, was invited to give a lecture at the Center for Women Studies in Zagreb, Croatia on June 2019. Her talk “The Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor: Exploited or Exceptional Labor of Art” was part of the semester long educational program *Creative Critical Laboratory: Why Feminism?* In June 2019, she also participated in a round table “Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav Cultural Spheres: Connections, Debates Policies” organized in the framework of Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies’ Summer Convention in Zagreb. In October 2019, Praznik gave a talk on her work and its connection to the feminist legacy at the 25th International Contemporary Art Festival City of Women in Ljubljana, Slovenia in an event titled “Bite the Hand that ‘Feeds’ You: Social Works of Resistance in the City of Women’s Past, Present and Future.” Praznik contributed a critical essay “1% of Artistic Labor or the Pygmalion-like Effects of the Institution of Art” for a bilingual, Slovene and English edited volume *Jaka Babnik Pygmalion*, published in the framework of Babnik’s photo exhibition in the Jakopi Gallery that opened on Oct 22, 2019 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. In December, Praznik will give a talk “Wages for

Art Workers—Confronting the Paradox of Unpaid Labor in the Arts” in the framework of Innovative Leadership Lecture Series organized by a contemporary dance and performing arts center Dansehallerne Copenhagen, Denmark.

Asian Studies Program

Thomas Burkman, research professor emeritus, presented a paper on regional impulses in Japan’s diplomacy surrounding the formation of the League of Nations, at a conference commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, held at the American University of Paris. Burkman also taught in UB’s undergraduate program at the Singapore Institute of Management in fall 2019.

Walter Hakala, associate professor of English and director of the Asian Studies Program, continued his survey of Urdu epigraphy in Karnataka, India, in July 2019. This work, which took Hakala to nine towns and cities, was supported by Seed Money in the Arts and Humanities from the UB Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development/Humanities Institute. He visited UB partner institution Amrita University and presented a paper there entitled “Two New Kinds of Fire: Syphilis, Capsicum, and the Columbian Exchange.” On July 1, 2019, Hakala delivered a lecture entitled “Signs in the Spoken Tongue: Early Public Writing in Urdu” at the Institute of Indian Studies at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea. He organized a symposium on “Urdu Insiders, Outsiders, and In-Betweeners” at the Annual Conference on South Asia at University of Wisconsin-Madison on October 17, 2019. In January 2019, Hakala led a two-week study tour of Maharashtra and Karnataka. The members of the team included five UB undergraduates and an instructor in the Asian Studies Program. The group benefitted from the expertise of architectural historian Pushkar Sohoni of the Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research in Pune and geographer V. Govindankutty of Government College, Chittur. Both scholars attended the fourth annual Asian Studies Symposium on “Water in Asia,” which was held in the UB Honors College on March 6, 2019. The half-day event included five presentations representing a variety of disciplinary approaches to issues surrounding the availability and quality of water in Asian societies. The second Annual Rustgi Undergraduate Conference on South Asia, for which Hakala serves as the faculty coordinator, was held in the UB Honors College on November 2, 2019. The conference featured a keynote lecture by Suraj Yengde, author of best-seller *Caste Matters* and postdoctoral fellow at the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. UB hosted 12 undergraduate scholars from institutions in the United States and United Kingdom who shared their current research on South Asia. Undergraduate scholars based in South Asia participated via Skype.

Amanda Kennell, clinical assistant professor of Japanese Studies, consulted on the British Museum’s Manga exhibit, which ran from May to August of 2019. She is currently guest editing an upcoming issue of the University of East Anglia-based *Journal of Adaptation in Film and Performance*. This issue will focus on adaptation in Japan, and stems from a symposium she organized during her post-doctoral fellowship at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures in England.

Department of Chemistry

Luis A. Colón, A. Conger Goodyear Chair Professor and associate dean of the Graduate School, travelled to Kyoto, Japan in early December 2019 to deliver an invited keynote lecture on his current research about newly developed materials for chemical separations at the 49th International Symposium on Hight Performance Liquid Phase Separations and Related Techniques (HPLC2019 Kyoto).

Department of Classics

On June 2, 2019 **Roger Woodard**, the Andrew v. V. Raymond Professor of the Classics, addressed the Classical Society of Japan at its meeting at Gakushuin University in Tokyo, presenting a lecture entitled “Coriolanus and Fortuna Muliebris.” While in Japan he also presented talks at the University of Kyoto (“Speech, Song, and Gaze: The Warrior as Wolf and Society’s Response”), the University of Tokyo (“A Comparative Perspective on Oracular Utterance and Cognitive Engagement in

Ancient Greece”), and the International Christian University in Tokyo (“The Creation of the Greek Alphabet: A Socio-Evolutionary Model”).

Department of Comparative Literature

Rodolphe Gasché, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Eugenio Donato Professor of Comparative Literature, published *De l'Éclat du Monde. La « valeur » chez Marx et Nancy*, Paris : Editions Hermann, 2019. He also contributed an essay, “My Situationist Times,” to a volume entitled *These are Situationist Times*, ed. by Ellef Prestsaeter, which came out in Oslo, Norway (Torpedo Press, 2019, pp. 58–61). In the summer Gasché participated in a workshop in Mexico City at the Centro Horizontal, on “La Violencia/Violence,” where he presented the lecture: “Violence, Brutality, Cruelty: On Differentiation (and its Refusal).” He has agreed to serve on the Scientific Advisory Committee of *Cadernos Derridianos*, to be published in Brazil.

Department of Economics

In May 2019, **Paul Zarembka**, professor, lectured in the seminar series, “Marx in the 21st Century” at the University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, and made a presentation at a workshop “Early Marxism in Europe: Nikolay Ivanovich Sieber (1870s-1880s),” ESS-CA- School of Management, Paris Campus. In both cases, his talk addressed “Engels’ Failure to Incorporate Marx’s Instructions from Capital, French edition, into 3rd and 4th German: Dismissal of Marx’s Work on Russia.” In July 2019 in Lille, France, he repeated this topic at the conference of the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (IIPPE) “Envisioning the Economy of the Future, and the Future of Political Economy.” Later in July 2019, Zarembka gave a series of seven lectures at the “2019 Summer School of Marxist Political Economics,” School of Economics, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China, July 15-19, 2019. These lectures were before young scholars from around China and were in part based upon a book in preparation with a tentative titling, *Marx’s Revolution in Political Economy: Evolving Struggle: Then and Now*. Afterwards, he gave a lecture on Marxist political economy at the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, Shanghai, China.

Department of Geography

On May 18, 2019, **Yingjie Hu**, assistant professor, gave a public lecture on Geographic Information Science at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM). This lecture was part of the UB-SIM 15th year anniversary celebration. It also served as an introduction to a newly launched Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science (GIS) at SIM. The title of Hu’s lecture was “Progress and Trends in Geographic Information Systems and Science.” He discussed the major progress and applications of geographic information systems in a wide range of domains, including location-based services, natural resource management, urban planning, disaster response, public health, and many others. He then presented the latest advancements and trends of GIS in the context of Big Data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and smart cities. He then presented the latest advancements and trends of GIS in the context of Big Data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and smart cities. This lecture attracted many students who are interested in the new BS in GIScience program. Specialists from some local geospatial and urban planning companies, such as LuxCarta and Surbana Jurong, also attended this lecture.

Department of History

David Herzberg, associate professor, was the Musto Senior Fellow in Residence, David F. Musto Center for Drug Policy Studies, Shanghai, China, June 4-20, 2019. In October 2019, Herzberg is the co-organizer with Nils Kessel (Université de Strasbourg) and Joseph Gabriel (FSU Medical School) of an international symposium “Governing uncertainty in drugs and medicines: Narratives of progress, risk, and decline” in Strasbourg, France. With Marie Jauffret-Roustide (Inserm, Paris, France), Herzberg is the recipient of Thomas Jefferson Fund grant from FACE (Franco-American Cultural Exchange) Foundation for “Crisis or not? Comparing opioids, addiction/overdose, and treatment in U.S. and France,” linked to Jauffret-Roustide’s stay in spring 2020 as Senior Baldy Center Visiting Fellow. Herzberg will be the keynote lecturer at Université de Strasbourg IDEX research project conference “Consensus,” February 6-7, 2020.

Ndubueze L. Mbah, assistant professor, was awarded the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Centennial Fellowship in the Dynamics of Place, to facilitate archival and ethnographic research for his

expansive second book project titled, *Rebellious Migrants: Forging Cosmopolitan Identities and Postcolonial Spaces in West Africa, 1840-1960*. ACLS is the preeminent representative of American scholarship in the humanities and social sciences, and ACLS fellows are engaged in creating new knowledge that benefits our understanding of the world. As an ACLS fellow during the 2020 calendar year, Mbah will carry out research in Sierra Leone, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom. His new research examines how the dissident mobilities and informal economies of formerly enslaved “Liberated Africans” and African indentured labor traffickers generated contradictory practices of abolitionism, new regimes of dependency and forced labor, contested meanings of freedom, and new diaspora borderland communities in Freetown (Sierra Leone), Calabar (Nigeria), Fernando Po (Equatorial Guinea), and Gabon during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

In July 2019, **Erik Seeman**, professor and chair, taught “Colonial America to 1763” at Capital Normal University, UB’s partner institution in Beijing, China. Sixty-seven students from CNU and several other Chinese universities enrolled in the course. Seeman’s lectures were paired with presentations by five Changjiang Distinguished Professors, from Peking University (2), Shanghai University, Nankai University, and Northeast Normal University.

Department of Jewish Thought

Sergey Dolgopolski, professor and chair, gave three invited talks in Europe in 2019: “Ground without Place? Basic Legislative Topoi in the Palestinian Talmud Today,” a conference on Basic Concepts in Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and St. Petersburg University, St. Petersburg, Russia in May 2019; “Displaced and Redone: Are the Rabbis in the Palestinian Talmud Marranos?” for The Marrano Phenomenon: Jewish ‘Hidden Tradition’ and Modernity, an international conference at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in September 2019; and a contribution to the Workshop for Talmud and Contemporary Thought, Venice Ghetto, Venice, Italy in November 2019. He is also presenting a paper and chairing a session in December 2019 at the International Conference of the Association of Jewish Studies in Los Angeles. Dolgopolski will be spending his sabbatical semester in spring 2020 as a Visiting Professor at the University of Potsdam, Germany.

Department of Mathematics

Lewis Coburn, professor, gave an invited “workshop” of six lectures on “Fock space” at Chongqing University in China on May 22, 24, 25, 2019. He also gave an invited hour talk on “Boundedness of Toeplitz operators” at a Fudan University in Shanghai, China at a conference on “Operator theory and operator algebras” on June 4, 2019. Coburn also gave five invited lectures on “Toeplitz operators on Fock space” at a Shantou University conference and short course on “Function spaces and operator theory” on June 10, 12, 13, 2019.

Department of Political Science

Antoine Yoshinaka, associate professor, gave a lecture on President Trump’s relationship with Congress at the Université de Montréal’s Centre d’études et de recherches internationales (CÉRIUM) in Montreal, Canada on June 11, 2019. This is the third time that the CÉRIUM invited him to give a lecture in its summer school courses on U.S. politics.

Department of Psychology

Christina Perazio, Ph. D. student in the Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior Program under the advisement of **Eduardo Mercado III**, associate professor, traveled to the Gulf of Tribugá on the Pacific coast of Colombia for her seventh and final year of data collection towards her dissertation on humpback whale singing behavior. She works in collaboration with UB, the University of New England (where she is a faculty member in the Psychology Department teaching coursework for the Animal Behavior major), and Macuáticos Colombia Foundation (a non-profit organization studying several marine mammal species that inhabit the bio diverse Colombian Pacific Ocean). She also co-founded PhYSiC: Ports, Humpbacks, y Sound in Colombia, an organization dedicated to mapping the soundscape in the Gulf and working with local non-profits on a variety of conservation initiatives. Most importantly, Perazio and her colleagues at PhYSiC have been involved in a research initiative regarding the proposed construction of a new marine port in the area that will contribute significant sources of an-

thropogenic noise to the current acoustically pristine marine habitat.

Michael Poulin, associate professor, was invited to speak in October 2019 at the Inaugural Big Questions Conference at Singapore Management University in Singapore. The topic for the year was "Happiness and Suffering."

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

In April 2019 **Margarita Vargas**, associate professor, hosted the Mexican playwright and director Bárbara Colio, who gave a presentation about the making of her play *Julieta tiene la culpa* (It's Juliet's Fault). On April 26, Raíces Theatre Company of Buffalo performed a reading of the play in Spanish at the Union Theatre. Performers included the professional actress Ms. Victoria Pérez and two RLL graduate students (**Eva Santos García** and **Valentina Marulanda**) under the direction of Ms. Sheila López. The play has been translated into English by undergraduate student **Justin Downey** under the supervision of Vargas.

Department of Sociology

Jordan Fox Besek, assistant professor, gave a talk in early July 2019 titled, "The Connected Nature of Landscape Transformation: A Political Ecology of Asian Carp" at the International Association of Landscape Ecology World Congress in Milan, Italy.

Kevin T. Smiley, assistant professor, was a visiting scholar at the Copenhagen Center for Disaster Research at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark in Summer 2019. Smiley was invited to give a talk entitled "Shifting Landscapes of Risk" at the center. He also presented at the Twelfth Global Studies Conference in Kraków, Poland.

Department of Theatre and Dance

Melanie Aceto, associate professor and director of the undergraduate program in dance, was invited to Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia for a two-week residency in May 2019. She created a 50-minute choreographic work involving 42 theater and dance students.

Eero Laine, assistant professor and director of graduate studies, joined other members of the Performance Studies international conference committee in Rijeka, Croatia in June 2019. The committee developed and planned the 2020 conference, which will also be held in Rijeka, Croatia in July and in participation with the European Cultures of Capital Program, the National Theatre of Croatia in Rijeka, and the University of Rijeka. Also in June, Laine led a research workshop on performance, masculinity, and homosociality at King's College London with Broderick Chow. The workshop was funded by Global Lives Research Centre Project Grant from Brunel University, London. In July, Laine co-curated a performance installation that featured practice as research projects from an international cohort of scholars and artists at the 2019 Performance Studies international conference in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. He continues to serve as Secretary and Executive Board member for Performance Studies international.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Department of Oral Biology

Frank A. Scannapieco, professor and chair, has received the 2019 Research in Oral Biology Award from the International Association for Dental Research (IADR). The Research in Oral Biology Award, which recognizes outstanding research in the field of oral biology, is one of 17 IADR Distinguished Scientist Awards and is one of the highest honors bestowed by the organization. Scannapieco received the award June 19, 2019 at the 97th General Session & Exhibition of the IADR in Vancouver, British Columbia. Scannapieco, also associate dean for faculty and professional development, leads a department that was the first oral biology department established in the U.S. He has served as a faculty member in the School of Dental Medicine for more than 30 years. An internationally recognized scholar in the field of oral biology, Scannapieco's research focuses on the mechanisms of dental plaque formation and their implications on health and disease, the interactions between saliva and bacteria, and the relationships between oral and systematic disease.

Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences

Michael Glick, professor, was an invited speaker at three international

meetings: FDI/World Dental Federation, World Dental Congress, Buenos Aires, Argentina in Sept. 2018; the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin, Ireland in Oct. 2018; and the Mexican Dental Association, Mexico City, Mexico in Jan. 2019. Glick recently received the Edward Leo Sheridan Medal from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin, Ireland in Oct. 2018 and the "Outstanding Contribution to the Dental Profession" recognition from Sibar Institute in India in Sept. 2019. Glick served as a representative of FDI/World Dental Federation to the 3rd United Nations N High-level Meeting on NCDs in New York City on Sept. 27, 2018.

Richard Ohrbach, professor, presented the topic "Psychosocial conditions and transition models" in the symposium, "Transition from acute to chronic painful temporomandibular disorders: Exploratory paths", sponsored by the National Center for Oral Health Research, Canada, held in Vancouver, BC, June 18, 2019. Ohrbach presented his research, "Headache co-morbidity with TMD: Characteristics of primary vs secondary headaches", at the annual meeting of the International Association for Dental Research, Vancouver, BC, June 19-22, 2019. Ohrbach collaborated with colleagues at the University of Naples Federico II, Italy, Oct 12-14, 2019, regarding a study of pain and behavior. This was followed by collaboration with colleagues at Malmö University, Sweden, Oct 16-21, regarding multiple projects: development of a brief assessment version of the internationally recognized Diagnostic Criteria for Temporomandibular Disorders (DC/TMD; of which Ohrbach was one of the two lead authors), development of "DC/TMD for children and adolescents", and a systematic review regarding injury and TMD. In addition, Ohrbach engaged in committee work (Translations and Protocols, part of the International Network for Orofacial Pain and Related Disorders Methodology, INFORM) regarding standards, methods, and documentation of translations of "Diagnostic Criteria for Temporomandibular Disorders: Assessment Instruments" (editor: Ohrbach R). Currently, 14 languages have been completed resulting in this protocol being used throughout the world, and 6 more translations are at the end-stage of completion.

Department of Restorative Dentistry

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, assistant professor and assistant dean of digital technologies, gave a presentation, "Chairside CAD/CAM Technology for Rehabilitation of Worn Dentition" at the International College of Prosthodontics (ICP) and European Prosthodontics Association (EPA) Joint Meeting 2019 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands in September 2019.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy

In May 2019, **Stephen L. Jacobson**, UB Distinguished Professor, was a visiting Fulbright Scholar at Aleksander Moisiu University in Durrës, Albania where he gave a series of invited lectures on American public education. He will return to Albania from April-June 2020 to continue his Fulbright work at Aleksander Moisiu University. In June 2019, Jacobson traveled to Mumbai, India where he gave a lecture on "Preventing violence against children: The role of education, educational professionals, and educational institutions," at the Indian School of Design and Innovation. His work in India is part of his on-going involvement with the None-in-Three (Ni3) project, a multinational initiative (England, India, Jamaica and Uganda) aimed at reducing violence against women and girls. Jacobson had the following internationally focused research publications in 2019: Jacobson, S. (2019), Social justice school leadership for academic, organizational and community sustainability, In *Cultures of Social Justice Leadership: An Intercultural Context of Schools* (pp. 21-42), P. Angelle & D. Torrance (Eds.) London: Palgrave Publishers; Notman, R. & Jacobson, S. (2019), School leadership practices in early childhood education: Three case studies from New Zealand, In *Leadership, Culture and School Success in High-Need Schools*, (pp. 169-184) E. Murakami, D. Gurr & R. Notman (Eds.) Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing; and Chisolm, L., Waight, N. & Jacobson, S. (2019), School leadership for social justice and STEM: Findings from a high need secondary school in Belize, In *Leadership, Culture and School Success in High-Need Schools*, (pp. 65-83) E. Murakami, D. Gurr & R. Notman (Eds.) Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

Department of Information Science

Heidi Julien, professor, participated on two panels at the annual conference of the Association for Library and Information Science Ed-

education, held in Knoxville, Tennessee September 23-26, 2019; one panel focused on preparing pre-service librarians for roles as information literacy instructors, and the other panel focused on educational trends in information science. She also presented an invited plenary talk on October 19, 2019 for the SIGUSE Symposium, held at the annual conference of the Association for Information Science and Technology, in Melbourne, Australia. The talk was titled "Future Impact of Information Behavior Research." In addition, at the same conference, she presented a poster on collaborative research on digital literacy with colleagues in Canada, and participated in a panel on education for information science. She also presented an invited plenary talk at the RAILS (Research Applications in Information and Library Studies) Conference in Canberra, Australia, on October 28, titled "Education for Information Science and the Role of ALISE."

Department of Learning and Instruction

Maureen Boyd, associate professor, gave the plenary lecture, "Seeing with poet's eyes": Dialogic valuing of the local, the everyday and the personal at the CEDiR conference "Updates on current research on dialogic education." Cambridge Educational Dialogue Research group (CEDiR), Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, UK. June 11, 2019. Boyd also presented a research paper "Enacting dialogic learning values: Repertoires of instructional purposes and instructional practices in a poetry instructional unit" (with GSE graduate student co-author **Emma Janicki-Gechoff**) in an invited Session on Dialogic Teaching, Learning & Assessment, at the International Association for Research in L1 Education (ARLE) Annual conference, Lisbon, Portugal, June 26-28, 2019.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Electrical Engineering

Vasili Perebeinos, professor, gave a keynote talk "Plasmons and excitons for optoelectronics with 2D materials" at MetaNano2019 conference in Saint Petersburg, Russia on July 15, 2019.

Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

Jun Zhuang, professor, co-chaired the Second Conference on Risk Analysis, Decision Analysis and Security in Niagara Falls, NY in late July 2019. This international conference drew scholars from seven countries and was co-chaired by Chen Wang, a faculty member at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, the site of the first conference. Zhuang delivered a presentation on "Tracking and Managing Misinformation on Social Media during Disasters." Also presenting from ISE was **Sayanti Mukherjee**, assistant professor, who gave a talk titled "Risk Assessment Framework to Evaluate Urban vs. Rural Crime Rates Leveraging Data-driven Predictive Analytics."

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Deborah Chung, professor, spoke at the 2019 World Conference on Carbon in Lexington, Kentucky, July 14-19, 2019. Her talks included a plenary lecture on "Women in Carbon Science".

John Hall, professor, and **Kemper Lewis**, professor and chair, gave invited presentations at the International Symposium on Cloud-Based Decision Support for Complex Engineered Systems held at the Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, China in July 2019. Hall's presentations were "Socio-Technical Model to Support Sustainable Microgrid Design in Rural Development," and "Real-Time Control of Adaptive Aero Structures" while Lewis' presentations were "A Digital Support Tool for Additive Manufacturing Feasibility Assessment," and "Towards Open Innovation Networks: Predicting Design Performance of Crowdsourced Teams."

SCHOOL OF LAW

Christine P. Bartholomew, associate professor, gave two presentations at the 41st Annual Law Conference held at the Universidad Externado De Colombia in Bogota, Colombia on August 14-16, 2019. Her first presentation was on private antitrust enforcement; the second presentation was on the crime fraud exception.

Associate Professor **Michael Boucai's** 2017 article, "Is Assisted Procreation an LGBT Right?," was translated into Italian and appeared in the Spring/Summer 2019 "Famiglie Queer" issue of *Ácoma*, a journal of American Studies.

In April 2019, **David M. Engel**, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor

Emeritus, and Professor Lynette Chua of Yale-NUS College in Singapore obtained a Henry Luce Foundation grant to conduct a series of six workshops over a three-year period hosted by the National University of Singapore's Centre for Asian Legal Studies. The workshop series, titled TRIALS (Training Initiative for Asian Law and Society Scholars), will offer young scholars of Asia an overview of law and society literature and methods, and will provide ongoing mentorship for their own scholarly work and career development. Engel also delivered a lecture "Plight of the Relational Self: Injury, Law, and Modernity in Thailand and the United States," at the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives held at the University of Victoria, Canada on April 11, 2019.

James A. Gardner, SUNY Distinguished Professor, chaired and presented "Conceptions of Politics in Comparative Perspective" at a panel titled Comparative Election Law: Constructing Democratic Regimes at the annual meeting of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S) in Santiago, Chile on July 1-3, 2019. He also provided comments on "Asymmetric Federalism" at the panel titled Constitutional Asymmetry in Multinational Federations. On October 25-26, Gardner attended the Second Annual European Constitutional Law "Schmooze," at the University of Milan. The topic of the conference was "Constitutional Principle or Political Process? The Future of Federalism in Comparative Perspective." Gardner presented a paper on "The Concept of 'Equilibrium' in Federal Constitutions," and was accompanied by Jaekle Fellow **Megan Connelly** (J.D./Ph.D, Pol. Sci.) who is currently working on a project concerning federalism in Iraq.

Martha T. McCluskey, professor emeritus, co-organized Law and Money: From Past and Future, an international Summer Academy for graduate students at the University of Manchester, UK. At the event, held in July 2019, she presented "Toward a Political Economy & Law for Public Value." McCluskey also presented a paper "Critical Legal Theory for 21st Century Change" at a law school symposium on the book *Poverty Law and Legal Activism: Lives that Slide Out of View* by Adam Gearey, held at Uppsala University in Sweden in August 2019.

Makau W. Mutua, SUNY Distinguished Professor, was a guest on April 1, 2019 on the podcast "Africa Rights Talk" produced by the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. On March 25, 2019, Mutua gave the keynote at "Colonial Repercussions: Reflecting on the Genocide of the Ovaherero and Nama Peoples 115 Years Later," organized by the Goethe Institute, the Berlin Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, the Berlin Center for Arts, and the government of Namibia. The weeklong program was held in Windhoek, Namibia.

Stephen Paskey, lecturer in law, legal analysis, writing and research, presented "Reframing Law's Domain: Narrative, Rhetoric, Logic, and the Forms of Legal Rules" at the 2019 Summer Institute for Narrative Study, a weeklong PhD-level course run by Aarhus University in Sønderborg, Denmark.

David A. Westbrook, professor, delivered the keynote address at the 11th Slovenian Social Science Conference, "Observing Social Transformations: National and Transnational Perspectives" in Ljubljana, Slovenia on May 29, 2019.

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Department of Finance

Isaac Ehrlich, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Melvin H. Baker Professor of American Enterprise, was awarded a Research Fellowship by the Hong Kong Institute of Economic and Financial Research of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority to work on the project "Financial challenges facing individuals and households at old age: an international comparison using comparable longitudinal panel data" over the period July 15 to August 10, 2019 in Hong Kong. Ehrlich has subsequently presented a public lecture on "The Role of Asset Management, Education, and Health in the Financial Decisions of Older Adults—Evidence from Europe" in a seminar organized by the Hong Kong Institute of Monetary and Financial Research (HKIMFR) on July 26, 2019 in Hong Kong. Ehrlich was invited by the President of the Asian Development Bank, Takehiko Nakao, to visit ADB and deliver a lecture at ADB's prestigious Distinguished Speakers Program in Manila, the Philippines, on August 1 and 2, 2019. The visit also included a series of meetings with the ADB's president, ADB's Board of Directors, and ADB's Chief Economist and Director General of Economic Research and Regional Co-

operation Department, Yasuyuki Sawada. We are now in the process of formalizing a joint project of ADB and the Center of Excellence on Human Capital, Technology Transfer, and Economic Growth and Development. Ehrlich's lecture, titled "Human Capital and Economic Development—The Far Reaching Role of Human Capital in the Economy" was placed by ADB on YouTube. A subsequent interview organized by ADB, titled "FAST TALK program of the Asia Development Bank chats with Prof. Isaac Ehrlich," features a short conversation about the role that human capital plays in explaining transitions from stagnant states of development, issues surrounding spillover effects of immigration around the world, and the effect of artificial intelligence in advancing human capital was placed on Facebook.

JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Biochemistry

Mulchand S. Patel, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Biomedical Education, was invited to participate in the International Conference on Molecular Medicine (MOLMED-2019), organized by Charotar University of Science and Technology, Changa, India and co-sponsored by University at Buffalo, during September 25-27, 2019. The title of his talk was "Human pyruvate dehydrogenase complex: Structure-function relationship and regulation." He was the Guest of Honor at the Prof. L. J. Parekh Memorial Lecture Series (inauguration) hosted by the Department of Biochemistry, The M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, India during September 27-28, 2019. The title of his talk was "Developmental Programming for obesity and diabetes: Role of epigenetics." Additionally, he delivered three lectures on Metabolic Regulation to graduate students in the department. He also delivered a seminar at the Institute of Science, Nirma University in Ahmedabad, India.

Department of Medicine

Anne B. Curtis, SUNY Distinguished Professor, Charles and Mary Bauer Professor, and chair, spoke at the annual scientific sessions of the European Society of Cardiology in Paris, France in September 2019 on "Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy: Patient Selection." In October 2019, Curtis chaired two sessions at Venice Arrhythmias in Venice, Italy: "Controversies in Arrhythmia Therapy: What Are the Knowledge Gaps?" and "Current Status of Recently Introduced Therapies for Cardiac Arrhythmias Management."

Vijay Iyer, associate professor and chief of cardiovascular medicine, was an invited faculty at India Valves 2019, held in Chennai, India on September 6-9. The meeting which is the National Trans catheter Valve course for India was attended by over 400 interventional cardiologists and Cardiac surgeons. Iyer delivered talks on TAVR in Bicuspid Valves, Assessment and Management of Conduction Disturbances after TAVR and Mitral Valve in Implantation. Iyer was one of 9 invited international faculty to this annual event."

Department of Nephrology

Jessy Alexander, research professor, along with Marcela Pekna from Sweden chaired a session on "Complement: sculpting the developing and diseased brain" at the International Society of Neurochemistry/American Society of Neurochemistry, Montreal, Canada from August 4-8, 2019. During the session, Jessy gave a talk on "Complement and blood-brain barrier integrity." Alexander will travel to Chengdu, China to deliver the talk entitled, "Understanding the role of complement in CNS lupus towards personalized medicine and drug development" at the 5th Chengdu International Forum on Precision Medicine, September 20-21, 2019. Alexander will travel to Christian Medical College, Vellore, India, October 20, 2019 on her 2019-20 Fulbright scholarship to study Lupus and the microbiome connection.

Department of Neurology

Gil I Wolfe, Irvin and Rosemary Smith Professor and department chair, presented a series of lectures on myasthenia gravis and other neuromuscular diseases in China and Israel in May 2019. He spoke at the Neurology Time Conference in Beijing hosted by Peking Union Medical College and at the Weizmann Institute and Tel Aviv University in Israel.

Department of Ophthalmology

Steven J. Fliesler, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Meyer H. Richman Endowed Chair Professor of Ophthalmology, gave a research

seminar entitled "Retinal Degenerations: The Isoprenoid Connection" in the Departments of Ophthalmology at three medical schools in China, from April 7-10, 2019: Fudan University School of Medicine (Shanghai), Wenzhou Medical University (Wenzhou), and the Eye Institute of Xiamen University (Xiamen). [The latter was part of the Nanqiang Memorial Lecture Series—considered the highest academic honor for a visiting professor at Xiamen University. He also gave the plenary lecture, "Publishing Ethics and Tips for Success for Getting Published" in a session on publishing and publishing ethics at the 11th Chinese Congress of Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (CCRVO) in Xiamen, China, on April 11, 2019. He also delivered the lecture "Retinal Degenerations: The Isoprenoid Connection" subsequently in the Dean's Lecture Series at the University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Edmonton, Alberta (Canada) on June 11, 2019, and also in the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine, Calgary, Alberta (Canada) on June 12, 2019.

Department of Surgery

Steven D. Schwartzberg, professor and chair, was awarded honorary membership in the Association of Polish Surgeons in August 2019 in recognition of collaborative educational programs performed in the past.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Laina Bay-Cheng, professor, and **Hannah Ginn**, Ph.D. student, attended and presented papers at the 24th World Congress for Sexual Health in Mexico City, Mexico.

Clara Bradizza, professor, and Paul Stasiewicz, professor and Janet B. Wattles Endowed Chair, shared their recent research at Emotions 2019, an international conference on emotions, well-being, and health held in Tilburg, Netherlands.

Filomena Critelli, associate professor and co-director of the Institute for Sustainable Global Engagement, received the 2019 Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP) Outstanding Contributions to International Education Award (see p. 28). CISP is consultative body advising the provost on international studies and program and includes ex-officio members from the Office of International Education and 30 faculty from a wide range of disciplines who are involved in international activities at UB. Critelli was honored at a luncheon in November 2019 as part of UB's International Education Week.

Wooksoo Kim, associate professor and director of the UBSSW's Immigrant and Refugee Research Institute, **Isok Kim**, associate professor, and **Katie McClain-Meeder**, clinical assistant professor of Field Education, each presented on their respective projects and studies at the International Congress on Law and Mental Health in Rome, Italy.

Denise Krause, clinical professor, and **Sue Green**, clinical professor and co-director of the UBSSW's Institute on Trauma and Trauma-informed Care, conducted a workshop on trauma-informed solution-focused therapy at the annual conference of the Solution Focused Brief Therapy Association in Montreal, Canada.

Laura Lewis, clinical associate professor of field education, assistant dean for global partnerships, and co-director of the Institute for Sustainable Global Engagement, presented a keynote session in August 2019, "The Importance of Field Placements in Social Work Education and Future Job Planning," as part of the first annual conference of Faculté de Travail Social et Justice Sociale/ Fakilte Travay Sosyal ak Jistis Sosyal (FTSJS). The conference, Le travail social: son importance dans le développement social, durable en Haïti/Social Work: Its Importance in the Sustainable Social Development of Haiti, brought together more than 100 people, practitioners and some prospective students, from the Bon Repos community in Haiti. Lewis also travelled to Kigali, Rwanda in June, along with Kristin Rivera, a consultant at the UBSSW's Institute on Trauma and Trauma-informed Care (see pp. 11-12). The trip was a first step toward establishing collaborations with universities, agencies and communities groups with a shared interest in trauma-informed approaches to promoting recovery.

Sarah Richards-Desai, Ph.D. candidate, presented multiple projects at the 2019 North American Refugee Health Conference in Toronto, Canada.

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NEW HIGH FOR STUDENT FULBRIGHT APPLICANTS

By Charles Anzalone

UB took another step toward its goal of becoming a top producing university for Fulbright grantees by submitting its largest number ever of applications for student Fulbright awards.

Twenty-nine UB students applied for what is considered one of the most prestigious academic awards in the world. The applicants' proposals for the 2020-21 come from 18 women and 11 men in 22 different department or programs, ranging from anthropology and legal studies to theater and performance. They hope to study in 21 different countries. The list includes nine Honors Scholars.

"The goal of our office is to increase the impact of these opportunities for students who are seeking international opportunities to teach, study and do research abroad," says Elizabeth A. Colucci, director of UB's Office of Fellowships and Scholarships, whose office has taken on the mission of making UB a top producer of these internationally prestigious fellowships, which she says can elevate students' academic orbits into a national and international scope.

"We want to be a top-producing school," says Colucci. "And our impact and our reach is increasing."

Colucci says the record number of applicants was largely due to the efforts of Patrick McDevitt, Fulbright program adviser, associate professor in the Department of History and a 1993 Fulbright grantee to New Zealand, and Megan Stewart, assistant director in the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships.

"For almost three-quarters of a century, the Fulbright Program helped hundreds of thousands of students to live, study, research and teach in foreign countries," says McDevitt.

"Each year, nearly 1,600 U.S. students go abroad as part of the program, and I would guess that the experience is literally life-changing for all of them.

"We're proud to have built on last year's record number of applications to set a new benchmark this year. We hope to continue to grow our applicant pool in the coming years by reaching out to students in every school and college in the university."

McDevitt reiterates the common goal: eventually making UB among the top producers of Fulbright grantees in the nation.

"It's never too early to start thinking about applying," McDevitt says. "And I encourage anyone who might be interested in applying in the future to reach out to me at mcdevitt@buffalo.edu."

"The pool is strong and includes more graduate students than before," Colucci says. "And there is a wide number of departments. We will hear outcomes for finalists in January 2020 and selections over the course of the spring."

Sponsored by the U.S. State Department, Fulbright Scholarships are awarded to nearly 8,000 students and scholars each year. 🌐

Charles Anzalone is a senior editor for University Communications.

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Christopher Hollister, librarian, led a group of students from the Graduate School of Education's Department of Information Science on an experiential learning tour of libraries in San Jose, Costa Rica in summer 2019 (see p. 17). Hollister also received the 2019 Harold Lancour Foreign Research Fellowship, which funded his research on comparative librarianship at the 2019 International Federation of Library Associations World Congress, in Athens, Greece.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

John J. Wood, interim vice provost, chaired a session titled, "Giving Students a Voice: Threshold Concepts in Internationalisation," at the annual conference of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) in Helsinki, Finland in September 2019. In December 2019, Wood was a moderator for the session "Development of Chinese Language Education and Internationalization of Higher Education Institutions" at the 2019 International Chinese Language Education Conference in Changsha, China. 🌐

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CRITELLI AND STAPLETON HONORED

The 2019 Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB was presented to Filomena Critelli, associate professor of social work, and Kristin Stapleton, professor of history, during an awards luncheon on November 21.

The award, established in 2004 by the UB Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP), recognizes exceptional, long-term contributions to international education through international research, support for international students, teaching in international programs, and related activities.

Professor Walter Hakala, who nominated both awardees, introduced



Scott Weber, Kristin Stapleton, Filomena Critelli, Peter Biehl, Robert Granfield

each in term during the luncheon. Professor Critelli was honored for her work on gender-based violence and women's empowerment in South Asia, leadership of study abroad programs in Italy and Brazil, virtual exchange courses with Mexican universities, and participation in the SUNY-wide initiative in Haiti.

Professor Stapleton was honored for her successful leadership of the UB Asian Studies Program for six years,

the founding and leadership of the UB Confucius Institute, major grants from NEH, Department of Education and Korea Foundation, and distinguished scholarship on Chinese history and urbanism.

Presenting the awards were Scott Weber, Interim Provost; Robert Granfield, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; and Peter Biehl, Associate Dean of the College and Chair of CISP. John Wood, Interim Vice Pro-

vost, served as MC for the event. 🌐

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John J. Wood, Editor