PRESIDENT LEADS DELEGATION TO CHINA

By Ann Whitcher-Gentzke

President Satish K. Tripathi's trip to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong in late March and early April 2012.

“Pride among Chinese alumni was much in evidence during President Satish K. Tripathi’s trip to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong in late March and early April 2012.

Tripathi and members of a campus delegation visited academic exchange partners in Beijing, hosted receptions for Chinese alumni from several eras in both Beijing and Hong Kong, and talked about UB’s new buildings and other key campus developments during a range of formal and informal forums throughout the tour.

The trip overall, Tripathi noted, was “remarkably successful and thoroughly enjoyable.”

“Our university’s longstanding friendship with our academic partners in China, and the historic agreement that made this friendship possible, are a model of the opportunities for global collaboration that are created by such educational partnerships,” he said.

The trip also brought a new agreement for a comprehensive educational program with Renmin University in Beijing. “This is a university that our School of Management collaborated with a decade ago,” explained Stephen C. Dunnett, vice provost for international education and a delegation member.

The exchange program, in effect next year, will allow UB students to study at Renmin University and vice versa, obtaining two MBAs, one from each school, if they choose a two-semester exchange option. Also available is a one-semester exchange that does not grant the two degrees.

“This new agreement broadens the portfolio of exchange possibilities for UB students in China,” Dunnett said. “It allows our students to have internships in China at companies if they would like to. That’s very attractive to our students because it helps enhance their employability if they have that kind of experience.”

Renewing the agreement with Renmin University “allows us to celebrate a glorious historical association and take our partnership into the 21st century,” added Arjang Assad, dean of the School of Management, continued on page 2
DELEGAION TO CHINA
continued from page 1

who was also part of the delegation traveling to China. “We’ll be able to embark on new initiatives and offer students exchange opportunities with one of China’s top business schools.”

In Beijing, Tripathi and the delegation visited all three of UB’s longstanding exchange partners: Capital Normal University, Beijing University of Technology and Capital Medical University. The largest group of UB alumni in China holds degrees in management or engineering, so the presence of both Assad and Rajan Batta, interim dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), helped strengthen ties with new and continuing academic partners, as did Tripathi’s introduction, Dunnett explained.

Beijing also was the site of a March 26 reception for alumni based in the region. David A. Draper, special assistant to the president for development, said the decision was made to merge Tripathi’s first international trip as president with the UB 2020 Presidential Alumni Tour. Tripathi is traveling to 20 cities over a 20-month period, and Beijing and Hong Kong were added as tour stops befitting UB’s international reach. More than 150 people attended the Beijing reception.

“The alumni we met are looking to stay engaged with the university,” said Draper, who was making his first trip abroad. “They were very encouraged to hear that of our 5,000 international students now enrolled in graduate and undergraduate programs, the largest percentage—nearly 1,100 UB students—are from China.”

Indeed, pride in their UB degrees was a continuous theme in conversations Dunnett and Draper had with alumni at both the Beijing and Hong Kong receptions. “I was struck by how pleased and excited the alumni were,” Dunnett said, noting that alumni in attendance ranged from participants in UB’s first exchanges with China more than 30 years ago to those who returned to China only recently. “There were both senior people and young people who were quite thrilled to meet older UB graduates, many of whom are extremely successful.

“They are eager to tell stories about their experiences at UB and what for them was a very wonderful period in their lives,” he said. “And so many of them are now sending their children, even their grandchildren to UB—this represents ‘the ultimate trust,’ as President Tripathi pointed out in his remarks that evening.”

Tripathi called the connections made with these alumni “a tremendous source of strength and pride” for UB. “I was deeply impressed by the achievements, contributions and commitment of the alumni we met in Beijing and Hong Kong—and above all, by their deep connection to their alma mater,” he said.

“The alumni I spoke with were all highly knowledgeable—and very passionate—about the latest progress taking place at UB and in Buffalo. It’s clear that they maintain a strong and active interest in the momentum building here, and want to be a part of it.

“I came back from these events tremendously inspired and energized by the UB pride that is alive and well among our alumni overseas.”

The delegation moved on to Shanghai, where members visited Fudan University and its state-of-the-art hospital. Also part of the delegation was Richard V. Lee, professor of medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, who has long been involved in international medical exchanges and is well-known and respected among his Chinese counterparts, Dunnett said. The university is exploring the possibility of sending UB medical students to Fudan University.

Another valuable member of the delegation was Joseph Hindrawan, associate vice provost for international education. Fluent in Mandarin and an expert on Chinese culture, Hindrawan played a key role during all the
continued on page 4
Seong-Kon Kim (Ph.D. 1984, M.A. 1981) and Robin Yanhong Li (M.S. 1994) are recipients of the 2012 Distinguished International Alumni Award. Kim received the award at the annual Alumni Association Awards ceremony at UB in April 2012. Li received the award during President Tripathi’s visit to Beijing, China, also in April 2012 (see page 1).

Kim is currently professor of English at Seoul National University, a prize-winning literary critic, and editor-in-chief of 21st Century Literature. He is also a celebrated columnist of The Korea Herald (for 10 years) and a research member of the (Republic of Korea) Presidential Committee on National Cohesion. In February, 2012, Kim was appointed by the Korean government as director of the Korea Literature Translation Institute, which is equivalent to Deputy Minister of Culture.

Robin Li is co-founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Baidu Inc., China’s most popular Internet search engine, and oversees the company’s overall strategy and business operations. Since founding Baidu in January 2000, Li has turned the company into China’s largest search engine, with more than 80 percent market share.

Baidu also ranks as the second-largest independent search engine in the world. In August 2005, Baidu listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange, and in December 2007 became the first Chinese company to be included in the NASDAQ-100 Index.

Kim came to UB on a Fulbright Scholarship in 1978 and received his Ph.D. in English in 1984 under the direction of Leslie A. Fiedler. Meanwhile, he also studied at Columbia under the guidance of Edward W. Said and completed the Ph.D. coursework in comparative literature. He taught at both UB and Columbia for three years as a teaching assistant. In 1984, Kim joined the faculty of Seoul National University in South Korea. Since then, he has sent more than 30 of his Korean graduate students to the UB English Department to earn their Ph.D. degrees. All of them are now faculty members at various Korean universities, forming a strong UB alumni connection in Korea.

At Seoul National University, Kim was Dean of the Language School, Director of Seoul National University Press and Director of the American Studies Institute. Kim was the founding president of the Korean Association of Literature and Film, and president of the International Association of Comparative Korean Studies, the Korean Society of Modern English Fiction, and the American Studies Association of Korea.

Kim has taught at Pennsylvania State University, Brigham Young University, and University of California, Berkeley as a Visiting Professor, and has conducted research at Oxford and Harvard as a Visiting Scholar. Kim was also Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary World Literature and Literature and Thought. The author of twenty books, Kim’s publications include Interviews with Postmodern American Writers (Today’s Book Award), Literature in the Globalizing World (KWT Prize) and Literature in the Age of Hybrid Cultures (Best Book of 2010 by the National Academy of Sciences).

Kim has also received numerous prizes and awards such as Fulbright Distinguished Alumnus Award, CNU Distinguished Alumnus Award, SNU Distinguished Research Award, SNU Best Institute Director Award, Fulbright Asian Scholar-in-Residence Award, British Council Grant and Canadian Faculty Enrichment Grant. He has lectured at continued on page 4
DELEGATION TO CHINA

continued from page 2

events, serving as the interpreter for Tripathi and other members of the delegation, Dunnett said.

In Shanghai, Dunnett met with Michael Tunkey, a UB graduate (BPS ’00), who has overall responsibility for Cannon Design’s activities in China; and his wife, Elaine Chow, also a UB graduate (BPS ‘98), while Batta visited the LED factory of alumnus Richard Chang. Batta called this visit “a key highlight,” adding, “The trip to China was a wonderful opportunity to link with prominent SEAS alumni and also for SEAS to work toward establishing new educational relationships with two key academic partners: Capital Normal University and Beijing University of Technology.”

In Hong Kong on April 2, the UB group hosted a reception at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, where participants were treated to a dinner at a student-run restaurant at the university’s world-renowned School of Hotel and Tourism Management. While in Hong Kong, the UB delegation discussed the possibility of an eventual exchange with Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Dunnett added that Kamlesh Tripathi, the president’s wife, was “the consummate hostess” and “a real hit,” who made the trip even more successful. “So many of the alumni asked, ‘Can I write to her?’ We were all tired, but it never showed in her face. She stood there and chatted with them as long as they wished.”

Ann Whitcher-Gentzke is editor of UB Today.

ALUMNI AWARDS

continued from page 3

universities around the world, including Cornell, Stanford, Tokyo, Peking, Paris XIII and Saarbrucken.

Prior to founding Baidu, Robin Li was already regarded as one of the world’s top search engine experts. His patent for hyperlink analysis, for which he applied in 1996, is among the inventions that shaped today’s search technology. Today Baidu employs 4,000 world-class search engine product and technology engineers, and was the first Chinese Internet company to create a postdoctoral research center. With Baidu’s success, China stands proudly with the United States, Russia and South Korea as one of the four countries in the world to possess its own core search engine technology.

Li has substantially advanced the theoretical framework of China’s Internet sciences, and has become a driving force behind the overall technology development of the entire Chinese IT industry. While satisfying Chinese-language search needs at home, Li has also proactively sought to internationalize Baidu, and is preparing for entrance into the broader international market.

As a pioneer and leader of China’s Internet industry, Li has received many honors, including CCTV Key Figure in China’s Economy, The Top 30 Figures in China’s 30 Years of Reform and China’s Most Imaginative Entrepreneur. In 2006 he received the George W. Thorn Award from the UB Alumni Association, for graduates under 40 in recognition of their outstanding national or international contributions to their career field or academic area.

On several occasions, U.S.-based magazines such as Businessweek and Fortune have designated Robin Li as Best Business Leader in the World and China’s Most Influential Business Leader. Li was also named by Time Magazine as one of the World’s Most Influential People in 2010.

Barbara Byers is associate director, communications, for Alumni Relations.
CARIBBEAN STUDIES STUDENTS RETURN TO CUBA

By Jose F. Buscaglia

The four members of UB’s Masters in Caribbean Studies, Class of 2013, and two Mexican peers from the Autonomous University of Yucatan (UADY) traveled to Havana, Cuba, from May 1-12, 2012. This was the first visit to Cuba by UB students since 2007.

The study tour was part of the Caribbean Geography seminar that these students take in UADY during the second semester of their program of studies. The course focuses on urban geographies in the Caribbean, paying particular attention to issues of human rights and racism, as well as to economic development with a special emphasis on the tourism sector.

The group was hosted by the Nunez Jimenez Foundation, a research group that focuses on the interconnections between culture and the environment. The first five days of the program were spent walking the streets of Havana for close to ten hours per day.

The itinerary followed gave students a comprehensive understanding of the history of the city and of the development of its civic institutions and public sphere, from the 16th Century to the present.

According to Professor Buscaglia, the director of the program who led the seminar and study tour, “given Havana’s constant expansion westward the city is an exceptional laboratory for urban historical studies.”

Moreover, he adds, “measured against the backdrop of the ruinous state of its buildings and infrastructure, as well as of its civil society, the vibrant life of the city offers students a unique opportunity for critical reflection.”

During the second part of the trip students were asked to meet and mingle with habanaeros of three different generations: those who had lived in pre-1959 capitalist Cuba, those who had been born and raised during the first stages of the socialist revolution led by the Castro brothers (1959-1991), and those who were born after the collapse of the Soviet Block during what is officially known in Cuba as the “Special Period.” They were then asked to compare the outlooks and opinions of these groups concerning the present state of the city and the country as well as their perspectives for the future. Their findings showed a profound sense of disillusion across all sectors. Moreover, there seems to be a deep mistrust between the older and the younger generations.

The older folk expressed much anxiety over what they saw as the lack of moral fiber among the young, mostly evidenced by a perceived aversion to work and a lack of social responsibility.

For their part, the great majority of young people interviewed by the students seemed to have only one major concern in mind: leaving Cuba for the United States as soon as possible and, in many cases, by any means necessary.

This trip marks the first time in five years that UB has sent students to Cuba. From 1997 to 2007 UB had a regular summer study abroad program in Cuba that was one of the very few among US universities.

From 2002 to 2007 UB also ran the only joint degree granting program between a Cuban and a US university: the UB-Universidad de La Habana masters program in Caribbean Cultural Studies.

Both programs were suspended in response to the significant rise in crime in Havana and the political controls that the Cuban authorities attempted to exercise over the academic content. Given the very successful trip this year, Cuba will once again be a possible destination for UB’s Caribbean Studies students. Plans are to alternate between Havana and other Caribbean cities as sites of the two-week study tour that our students take every spring semester while studying at the UADY.

Jose F. Buscaglia is associate professor and director of Caribbean Studies.
TEACHING IN UB’S PROGRAM IN SINGAPORE

By Thomas W. Burkman

I looked forward to my retirement from UB in August 2011 as an opportunity to continue doing the things I enjoy and can do well, to do them in interesting places, and do them by my own choice.

The first round of this post-retirement career took place this fall as I contracted to teach World Civilizations in the UB’s undergraduate program at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM).

Singapore is one of the most industrious, civilized, and naturally decorated cities on the earth. People are kind, English is the main language, and there are numerous cultural opportunities within the island itself. I had an intense teaching schedule of three classes, each meeting twice a week, with a total of 150 students. They all handed in four essay assignments and took a midterm and a final exam. They displayed progress, especially over the course of the four essays. The students are intelligent and, generally, worked hard. Happily, a dozen of them will be studying abroad in Buffalo this spring, and I will see them there.

Typically, World Civ since 1500 is taught as a chronological survey. I deviated from the norm and taught it topically, covering in some depth twelve issues of historical significance and interest to me. The final topic was reconciliation, dovetailing with my segway into peace history. The students, who seemed to appreciate the topical approach, also got disproportionate doses of China, Tibet, Japan, and waterways of the world.

My wife Lani was with me for the first week in Singapore, then she went back to Buffalo to continue developing her science company. One of our favorites in Singapore was the Botanical Garden.

My social calendar remained full after her departure, with guests from the U.S., new friendships with my colleagues in the UB program, and participation in a local church. My two youngest children Heather and Wesley came in a trip that included Vietnam and Indonesia. I also had guests from Hawaii, Rhode Island and Maryland.

The very nice lodgings provided by the UB program made living and hosting in Singapore a delightful experience. Four friends and I spent a week in Malaysia – at Langkawi and Penang islands – when the semester ended. I am looking forward to being home for Christmas. I will teach one course – Japanese history – at UB beginning in January.

Research doors opened for me in Singapore. I made contact with professors at the National University of Singapore and gave a paper on my reconciliation research at the peace institute at Payap University in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The several battlefield memorials and museums in Singapore provide perspectives on how war is remembered. As in Okinawa, I was able to interview battle survivors and inquire of their attitudes toward Japan. I found people at Trinity Theological College and at church who are engaged in questions of forgiveness.

On the way to Singapore, I spent three weeks in Japan doing research and visiting longtime friends. The research took me to Okinawa for the first time. I visited battle sites of 1945 and interviewed people on issues of how Okinawa and its people remember the war and how that memory affects their attitudes toward Japan.

My study, which will eventuate in a book Forgiving Japan, will focus on Japanese postwar relationships with Korea and China, but will include comparative case studies of Okinawa, Singapore, Thailand, and Taiwan.

Lani joined me in visits to several wonderful friends stretching from Kobe to Tokyo. The time was so short, we could talk with some friends only by telephone. We enjoyed some of the best Japanese food we have ever had, and laughed about old times in Japan. Lani took steps to establish a tie with an Osaka physician for the transmission of data to her laboratory in Buffalo.

continued on page 14
Peter Biehl, associate professor and chair of the Department of Anthropology, and director of the Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology, College of Arts and Sciences, has received a 2012-13 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Internationalization to fund a project that will bring students from disparate regions together to study their common ancestry.

Mitch Leventhal, SUNY vice chancellor for global affairs, described Biehl’s project, “The Podgori Archaeological Field School in Albania,” as one of five outstanding proposals selected for the award from a SUNY-wide pool of 17 strong applications Biehl is the UB first recipient of this award since 2003, when the university received funding for projects in Brazil, Haiti and Turkey.

The Chancellor’s Award for Internationalization was re-established for the 2011-12 academic year to support SUNY faculty providing students with new opportunities for academic experiences in less commonly visited countries and to explore underrepresented academic disciplines in study abroad. Each recipient of the Chancellor’s Award will receive $4,000 in funding to support the program and make the cost more affordable to students.

In this instance, UB will partner with Albania’s University of Tirana in piloting an archaeological field school near the western Albanian town of Podgori, which will begin in June, 2013. If it receives further funding, the school will continue through 2015, followed by a two-year, post-excavation analysis and subsequent publication of the research results.

Biehl expects 15 UB undergraduates to take part in the program, along with 15 undergraduate and graduate students from Albania and the surrounding countries of Macedonia, Greece, Kosovo and Serbia/Montenegro.

Biehl’s research and extensive publications focus on Neolithic and Copper Age Europe and the Near East, archaeological method and theory, cognitive archaeology, cult and religion, climate change in the past, multimedia in archaeology, heritage and museum studies.

As we still don’t know exactly when, how and why the Anatolian farmers spread to Europe, this project will unlock some of the key questions surrounding the fascinating beginning of European culture, Biehl says. “This project also will include interdisciplinary research on climate change and the so-called 8.2 cal BP Climatic Event, which seems to be at least one of the reasons for the migration of Anatolian farmers.

“But the project also has an impact on the present,” he explains, “as it shows that in the past, the Balkans can be seen as a stable and uniform group of people with a common ancestry and identity.

“It was only after the expansion, decline and eventual collapse of the Ottoman Empire, between 1451 and 1908, that these units became increasingly hostile to one another, provoking war upon war. The fact of their original common roots in Anatolia was all but lost to them until...
UB HOSTS THEORETICAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP CONFERENCE

The Theoretical Archaeology Group — TAG — has been debating archaeological theory since 1979, first at universities throughout the United Kingdom and Scandinavia and, since 2008, at American institutions like Columbia, Stanford, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Chicago and the University at Buffalo, where it held its 2012 annual meeting, May 17-20.

The conference, “Bridges to New Worlds,” brought scores of international scholars and feature panels and academic sessions across the UB campus on topics like “The Earth Divine,” “Archaeology of Contemporary Protest” and “Theories of European Prehistory.”

The opening panel for the conference, “The Future of Theory in Archaeology,” featured representatives from the major societies and institutes of archaeology: Jeffrey Altschul, president-elect of the Society for American Archaeology; Friedrich Luth, president of the European Association of Archaeologists; Timothy Harrison, president of the American Schools of Oriental Research; and Andrew Moore, board member of the Archaelogical Institute of America.

In conjunction with the TAG conference, the UB Art Gallery presented “Excavating Art,” an archaeological performance piece by artist Charles Clough, co-founder of Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center in Buffalo.

Clough performed an archaeological “dig” of an artifact from the exhilarating early days of the legendary artist-run alternative art space—a yellowed and dried-up roll of 4-foot-wide sign painters’ bond paper that once covered a plywood tabletop. The papers were scribbled on and otherwise used by Clough and his fellow artists from Hallwalls’ founding in 1974 until 1978 when Clough moved to New York City, taking the roll with him.

What’s in there? No one remembers much, but on May 17, the public was able to witness Clough dig into his personal past at the special event at the UB Art Gallery.

“Charles Clough: The Way to Cluffalo,” an exhibition of the artist’s representative work over the past 40 years was the subject of an exhibition at the UB Art Gallery through May 19.

CHANCELLOR’S AWARD
continued from page 7

uncovered by archaeologists,” he says.

“In this excavation, at one of the very earliest farming sites in Europe, we will look for evidence of their common ancestry in the remains of early Neolithic settlement structures, artifacts like bone and stone tools, jewelry, figurines and pottery, as well as paleo-environmental data to explain culture and climate change. All of this helps us understand what caused the migration of early farmers thousands of years ago.”

Albania is a fascinating country at the crossroads between the Near East and Europe, with a fondness for the United States, Biehl says, and the Albanian partners will provide the project with transportation and a “dig house,” a former school with living facilities and labs necessary for field research that is only 10 minutes away from the field excavation site.

In excursions, lectures and social events, the UB students also will learn about the life, culture and people of this country.

Patricia Donovan is a senior editor with University Communications.
CANADIAN WATER ACTIVIST WARNS ABOUT THREATS TO GREAT LAKES

By David J. Hill

For those who live in the Great Lakes region, water is seen—quite literally—as an abundant resource. A massive body of water is but a short walk or drive. We turn on the tap and water flows from the faucet. The lake churns under severe winter weather. Surely, we need not worry about this vast resource in our own backyard, right? Wrong, says a prominent Canadian activist who brought her message to UB in December 2011 as part of “Fluid Culture,” a free, year-long lecture, arts and media series presented by the Humanities Institute.

“That basic message is that we have a world in crisis, that we have a world running out of clean water, which is something we were all taught as children was not possible,” Maude Barlow said during a press briefing held in conjunction with her talk at UB.

“We have polluted and mismanaged and, most importantly, extracted and displaced water around the world to an alarming extent,” she said.

Also attending the briefing were Joseph Atkinson, professor in UB’s Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering and director of the university’s Great Lakes Program; Helen Domske, associate director of the Great Lakes Program and senior education specialist for New York Sea Grant (Cornell University); and Colleen Culleton, assistant professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, who organized the Fluid Culture series with departmental colleague Justin Read.

Barlow is the national chairperson of the Council of Canadians—Canada’s largest citizens organization—and is the author of the bestseller Blue Covenant: The Global Water Crisis and the Coming Battle for the Right to Water. She gave a lecture further pleading the case for the creation of the Great Lakes Basin Commons, a proposal to make the Great Lakes a public trust.

Barlow said the world’s water woes make it imperative for the more than 40 million U.S. and Canadian citizens who live in the Great Lakes region to fiercely protect these bodies of water from pollution and over-extraction, especially in an age of increasing demand for water. In fact, Barlow said, by 2030, demand for water will outstrip supply by 40 percent.

While the urgency of the message resonates in thousands of places across the globe, and even in parts of the country such as Texas, Arizona and California, where fresh water sources are drying up, it’s a challenging task to inform people who live near the Great Lakes to understand the severity of the situation, Barlow said.

“This notion that this water crisis is only touching poor people in other countries is absolutely untrue,” she said.

“I do think that it is a case of, ‘As long as it’s OK in my backyard, it’s OK.’ And that’s the work that we have ahead of us, is to say that the world is running out of clean water.

“We live on this body of water and we don’t see all that because we think there’s all this water,” Barlow added.

“We don’t know that we’re extracting it and polluting it and that we’re also harming our body of water. For people who have the privilege to live around the Great Lakes, it’s very important for us to know what’s happening out in the world (and) to know what’s happening in the rest of North America.”

Take, for example, estimates that the Ogallala Aquifer, one of the world’s largest underground fresh water sources, will dry up within the next quarter century. The aquifer, which stretches from South Dakota to Texas, supports food production across a vast portion of the Great Plains, but is being depleted as water is pumped out for farming and for drinking water by places that lack it.

“It’s like having a bath tub and a bunch of people around the bath tub and they have straws and they have blinders on and they’re drinking that water up as fast as they can…and there’s lots and lots and lots of water until one day there’s not a drop left and there’s no warning because it’s exponential overuse of the bath tub. That’s what’s happening,” said Barlow.

The Great Lakes Common would protect these bodies of water from a similar fate, with strict laws against hydraulic fracturing, pollution and overextraction, Barlow

continued on page 10
GLOBAL CINEMASPECTIVES FILM AND DISCUSSION SERIES

By Ellen Dussourd

When UB offices close on Fridays during the semester, not everyone heads home. A growing group of students, faculty, staff and community members gather for a vicarious cultural experience. They travel to China, Afghanistan, Iran, Spain, India, Belgium and other countries through film.

The Undergraduate Academies and Office of International Student and Scholar Services teamed up two years ago to present the Global CINEMAspectives Film & Discussion Series. Their goal was to expose students who had not ventured far from home to the lifestyles, living environments, customs, relationships, thoughts and interactions of people with whom they had little in common.

“The Global CINEMAspectives series gets students thinking and talking about transnational issues that are directly relevant to their lives,” says Professor David Fertig, Academic Director of the Global Perspectives Undergraduate Academy.

As students’ comments on post-film feedback forms reveal, the series is having an impact. One student wrote: “It gave me a good perspective on how many different kinds of people and cultures are out there.” Another echoed, “I learned the views and the perspectives that people from other countries have about America.”

Each film is introduced by a faculty member or international student who then provides commentary and leads a discussion afterwards. “Bringing in faculty, staff, and fellow students with expertise on the issues raised encourages the audience to reflect intellectually and critically on what they’ve seen,” states Fertig.

At a recent screening of “Last Train Home,” Kristin Stapleton, associate professor of history and director of Asian Studies, provided insights into Chinese rural and urban life. Chinese students and visiting scholars then shared their thoughts about Chinese migrant workers’ lifestyles and modern China.

One student reflected, “I learned about the impact of China’s economic system on familial relationships, as well as the tension between Chinese migrants and their children, the importance of education and being able to get out of the cycle.”

Some films focus on the experiences of cultural sojourners as they adapt to new cultures. “Pieces D’Identites” portrayed young Congolese adrift in Belgium and facing challenges to their identities, which prompted recent immigrants to the U.S. from Africa to reflect on their own adaptation to U.S. culture.

As Fertig says, “The most meaningful part of the evening is when the students share their own experiences. Our international students, in particular, have so many remarkable stories to tell. Watching the masterfully constructed story unfold on the screen encourages all of us to tell our stories, and to listen closely to each other’s.”

Ellen Dussourd is assistant vice provost and director, International Student and Scholar Services.

Canadian Activist

continued from page 9

said. With much of the nation’s attention focused on the economy, Barlow said it’s unconscionable that recent U.S. presidential debates and elections have lacked discussion of the looming water crisis in many states.

She said she’s not in favor of stifling economic growth, but that there’s a responsible way to grow the United States and Canadian economies.

“What we have to collectively understand is that if we destroy our environment, there is neither an environment nor an economy. ...You can’t have one without the other.”

David J. Hill is a community relations associate for University Communications.
FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO THREE UB STUDENTS

By Charles Anzalone

Three UB students have received prestigious Fulbright Fellowships, the most recent class in what has become a UB tradition of multiple winners in the highly competitive, nationally-recognized scholarly competition. The three winners, two seniors graduating this month and a graduate student, are:

Thawab Shibly, a vocal and eloquent spokesperson for the plight of Palestinian refugees, graduates with a double major in political science and English, and a minor in art. She was recently chosen for the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence.

Shibly is president of the campus Community Action Corps, has led a bi-weekly discussion group for the Muslim Student Association, is a volunteer mentor at the Priscilla Project and is co-founder of UB Students for Justice in Palestine.

Born in Damascus and raised in Buffalo, Shibly is the recipient of the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to sponsor her for 20 hours a week of teaching in Jordan. She will also continue her oral history research of refugees living in Jordan.

A University Advanced Honors College scholar, she has been on the dean’s list for five semesters. Shibly is also the recipient of the J. Scott Fleming Scholarship for Leadership and Excellence, and has volunteered in the New Orleans recovery effort.

Karl Barber, an Albany native, is a senior majoring in chemical engineering and French. Barber is a Presidential Scholar at UB and chairman for the Society for Biological Engineers for UB’s chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE).

Barber has performed research in protein engineering since 2010 and is currently investigating the development of temperature sensitivity in a split mini intein, a segment of a protein molecule. Last summer he pursued an internship in neurobiology at University Laval in Quebec City, making use of a light-sensitive protein to study interneurons in the hippocampus of mice.

In 2011 Barber received the AIChE Outstanding Junior Award for the Western New York chapter. He also enjoys studying French Canadian linguistics and culture.

Barber will use the Fulbright grant to study the molecular basis of the death of mutant photoreceptors in neurons at McGill University in Montreal. This will have important implications in the study of inherited diseases related to retinal degeneration. Barber also plans to volunteer at a mental hospital, to emphasize the human aspect of neuroscience.

Barber is a member of the Honors College at UB. He will study for his doctorate in molecular biology at Yale University after his Fulbright award in the fall of 2013.

Grace Mukupa, a graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in global gender studies, will use the Fulbright award to explore the effect of food incentives as strategy for attracting and retaining young students in educational institutions of the Khatlon Province in Tajikistan. The project will target 81 elementary schools and 17 high schools. This region endured brutalities of civil war and presently has high levels of disparity between boys’ and girls’ education.

Mukupa currently serves as president of UB’s Graduate Student Association as well as advising three undergraduate organizations — the African Student Association, Pi Delta Psi fraternity and the UB Gospel Choir.

continued on page 12
TWO LAW FACULTY AWARDED FULBRIGHT GRANTS

UB Law Professor Rebecca R. French is spending the first half of 2012 in New Delhi, India, as a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Researcher, furthering her landmark research on Buddhist legal traditions.

French’s Law School colleague, SUNY Distinguished Professor James A. Gardner has also been awarded a 2012-2013 Fulbright U.S. Scholar grant, allowing him to live in Montreal, Canada during the fall of 2012, where he will hold the Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in the Theory and Practice of Constitutionalism and Federalism, at McGill University. The title of his project is “Intergovernmental Contestation in Federal Systems.”

Supported by the Fulbright Scholar Program and hosted by Jawaharlal Nehru University, in New Delhi, French is continuing her work on a project titled “The Buddha’s Theory of Secular Law.”

An expert in Tibetan law, French has spearheaded the development of the new discipline of law and Buddhism, and organized the first international conferences and working groups in this area. She previously has spent time in India, conducting research on Buddhism and the law in the Tibetan community there.

French said her project counters the view that Buddhism presents only a religious philosophy. “My research has shown that the Buddha and his tradition had a very significant influence on secular law,” she said before leaving for India, adding that she plans to spend her time there talking with scholars, conducting archival research and collecting local materials.

Continued on page 14

STUDENT FULBRIGHT AWARDS

continued from page 11

She is a native of Zambia who grew up in Tokyo. Mukupa integrates discussion on gender and disparities in Southern Africa into her teaching of the undergraduate course, “Gender in Africa and Gender and Traditional Laws in Africa.”

Since 2010, Mukupa has been serving as representative to the United Nations to the Economic and Social Council through Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. She is also a member of American Association of University Women, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), and Society for AIDS in Africa and Affirmative Action on Gender Equality (AGEN).

In December she received a scholarship to present at the 16th International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The three Fulbright Scholarships, among the most prestigious academic awards in the country, are major accomplishments for the students, both in personal stature and the opportunity it gives them to continue their scholarly work, according to Kenneth Shockley, UB’s Fulbright Program Adviser and associate professor of philosophy.

“The steady stream of Fulbright awards — UB is now accustomed to having multiple winners each year — also is a statement about the quality of the university,” he said.

“UB should be very proud of these grantees, as we should be of all those students awarded fellowships of such prestige, and subject to such competition,” Shockley says. “They demonstrate the caliber of our student body and the capacity of UB students to compete successfully against the best and the brightest of the most elite universities in the U.S.”

Students interested in the Fulbright program are encouraged to contact Prof. Shockley, and read about the program at www.fulbright.buffalo.edu.

Charles Anzalone is a senior editor with University Communications.
FULBRIGHT TO THE PHILIPPINES IS VERY PRODUCTIVE

By Diana Aga

When I left my country in 1990 to earn my Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Kansas, I was adamant about returning someday to serve my country, and make a difference in helping to shape science, education, and competitiveness in the Philippines.

While I have been able to do short visits and present seminars at the major universities over the years, I did not really feel like I had done my duty of giving back to my motherland, where I spent the first 23 years of my life, and where most members of my family still live.

Finally, in March 2011, the opportunity of a lifetime came to me: I was awarded a Fulbright Research and Teaching Scholarship at the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU), Philippines, from June to December 2012.

As a Fulbright grantee, I had two overarching goals for my visit:
♦ To initiate collaborative research with the faculty of the Department of Environmental Science at ADMU, that will lead to long-term collaborations to evaluate the occurrence and levels of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in human blood samples, in dust particles in the air, and in fish that are commonly consumed by humans; and
♦ To establish a strong network with the faculty and administrators of the major universities in the Philippines in order to help their faculty and researchers increase their scientific publications in international peer-reviewed journals.

I have been able to accomplish both objectives through performing research with students from the ADMU with the help of my students from UB, and by giving seminars, lectures, and workshops on scientific writing in several universities. In addition, I have given research seminars at various universities in the Philippines, as well as in two institutions in Australia.

In terms of research, I investigated a class of environmental contaminants called polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), which is of great concern because of its adverse health effects, including disruption of the endocrine system, neurodevelopmental delays, and carcinogenic effects.

The PBDEs are mixed into polymers for use as flame-retardants in products such as electronic circuit boards and cases, cables, textiles, vehicles, synthetic building materials, and carpeting. PBDEs are easily released into the environment.

Human exposure to these compounds is mainly through inhalation of PBDE-containing dust particles, as well as ingestion of contaminated food products. PBDEs are released into Asian environments at unprecedented amounts due to improper disposal of electronics waste, hence, assessment of the levels of PBDEs in the Philippine human population, environment, and food sources is warranted.

We obtained fish samples from the local grocery stores and from the Farmer’s Market in Quezon City. Students from ADMU and UB collaborated on extracting and analyzing these fish samples using methods that have been developed from my lab at UB.

The fish were extracted by students from ADMU, and the samples were analyzed by my students at UB using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry that is available in my laboratory at UB. We found detectable amounts of PBDEs in all 4 fish samples analyzed, confirming our hypothesis that Filipinos are constantly exposed to these chemicals because fish is in their daily diet.

While these levels may not be harmful to adults, such concentrations may have neurological effects on young children when they are exposed through consumption of breastmilk from mothers who have accumulated the chemicals through long-term consumption of fish.

I also collected air samples from Metro Manila and Cagayan de Oro to determine the PBDE concentration in dust particles, called PM\textsubscript{10}. The PM\textsubscript{10} particles are less than 10 microns in diameter, or one-fifth of the diameter of human hair, which are easily inhaled and can be read-

continued on page 16
“The result of this project will be a book that will provide a more nuanced understanding of legal ideas during the Buddha’s life, his approach to monastic and secular legal problems, the central texts that present his legal theories and the legal policies of the first Buddhist empire in India,” she explained. “This will set a foundation for a new subdiscipline and add Buddhism to the world’s major legal traditions.”

French joined the UB Law School in 2001 after serving on the faculty of the University of Colorado School of Law, where she conducted the research for her groundbreaking book *The Golden Yoke: The Legal Cosmology of Buddhist Tibet*. The book was an outgrowth of her interest in Asian legal systems and her experience at Yale University, where she earned both a master of laws degree and a doctorate in anthropology.

A philosophy major as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, she earned her JD from the University of Washington Law School. She served for three years as a public defender and four years in general practice in the Pacific Northwest.

French was instrumental in bringing the Dalai Lama, the exiled religious leader of the Tibetan Buddhist community, to the UB Law School in September 2006 for the first discussion and conference with the Dalai Lama on Law, Buddhism and Social Change.

Among her most recent work is *The Cambridge Companion to Law and Buddhism*, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, the first comprehensive volume on the topic. French served as editor of the publication.

Gardner describes his Fulbright project: “The project, which builds on my prior work in federalism and subnational constitutionalism, has two components. The first examines the tools and methods of intergovernmental contestation, and will involve field research into the ways in which Canadian provinces attempt to influence policy making by the national government and to protect their interests when they disagree with national policy.

“The second component focuses on the conditions for effective contestation of national power by subnational units (such as states and provinces). This portion of the project will examine the influence of national political parties in setting the political agenda of subnational units; my hypothesis is that national parties tend to induce a convergence in the agendas and substantive positions of national and subnational units, thereby undermining the kind of subnational autonomy that most theories of federalism seem to demand.”

The Joseph W. Belluck and Laura L. Aswad Professor of Civil Justice, Gardner conducts research in the theoretical foundations of the constitutional structure of politics, the institutionalization through law of principles of democracy, constitutional structures of federalism, and subnational constitutional law. He is a frequent commentator in both state and national media on constitutionalism and elections law.

A graduate of Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School, and a former Department of Justice civil attorney, Gardner joined the UB Law School in 2001 and currently serves as vice dean for academic affairs.

His most recent books include *What Are Campaigns For? The Role of Persuasion in Electoral Law Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2009) and, with a co-author, *New Frontiers of State Constitutional Law: Dual Enforcement of Norms* (Oxford University Press, 2010). He also is the Director of the Law School’s Edwin F. Jaeckle Center for State and Local Democracy.

Conversations at Kwansei Gakuin University near Kobe led to my accepting an invitation to teach there from April through July, 2012. This is the institution where I began my college teaching in 1965. Kwansei Gakuin is dear to my heart, and I am thrilled to know it will form bookends to my education career.

Lani and I also spent a week in Bali before my classes in Singapore began. We were on the north shore away from the heavy tourist areas of the island. We enjoyed snorkeling, horseback riding, and visiting waterfalls and inland lakes. The vistas of terraced rice paddies lived up to expectation.

The Singapore teaching stint was made memorable by the students, helpful administrators of the UB program, my fellow teachers, my guests, and the several new friendships I was able to establish in the city-state. Retirement can’t get much better than this. I would welcome an opportunity to return.

*Thomas W. Burkman is research professor emeritus of history and former director of the Asian Studies Program.*
**EXPANDING TIES TO THE CENTRAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, BEIJING**

By Millie Chen

In 2010, the Dept. of Visual Studies at UB embarked on a very exciting academic and cultural exchange with the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing. It has now grown into a full collaborative effort between the two institutions, resulting in the opportunity for Visual Studies MFA graduate students to work closely with their Chinese counterparts at CAFA in realizing intensive, productive residencies and high caliber art exhibitions in both countries and, to be published soon, an ambitious project publication.

CAFA is one of the top two premier art academies in China, and one of the most venerable, established and influential (in 2008, it was identified as “China’s top art school” by The New York Times). It excels in both traditional training and cutting edge experimentation in wide-ranging fields from art history and theory to interactive digital design for public space.

It boasts an illustrious roster of alumni now successfully circulating in the international art milieu, including Xu Bing, Zhang Huan, and Xing Danwen (the guest critic during the Beijing final critiques). Importantly, CAFA is located in the dynamic, culturally bustling, international hub city of Beijing.

During spring of 2010, the pilot exchange between Visual Studies and CAFA took place: three senior CAFA faculty members, Professors Wang Huaxiang, Li Xiaolin and Gao Rongsheng, came to UB for a one-week residency in the Dept. of Visual Studies; subsequently, three VS faculty members, Profs. Stephanie Rothenberg, Joan Linder and myself, traveled to Beijing with the first group of UB Study Abroad students.

Rothenberg and Linder used CAFA as a base from which to teach graduate and upper level undergraduate students of both UB and CAFA, and explore the cultural environment of Beijing. This first residency culminated in a dynamic UB/CAFA student exhibition at CAFA and, later, at UB.

In March 2011, eleven Visual Studies MFA students traveled with me, along with two other VS faculty members, Professors Reinhard Reitzenstein and Ben Van Dyke, to CAFA to participate in the second exchange, starting an intensified academic exchange and the generation of research/creative collaborations between Visual Studies MFA graduate students and advanced undergraduate CAFA students.

This year’s exchange was developed by Prof. Li Fan, CAFA, and myself, to support the production of new student artwork generated by cross-institutional and cross-cultural collaborations, and to result in a student exhibition of professional caliber for presentation in Fall 2011 at the UB Art Galleries and at the Today Art Museum in Beijing in Spring 2012.

Two weeks prior to the opening of the resulting exhibition Buffalo Beijing: Translation at UB Art Gallery (Sept.16-Oct.22, 2011), Prof. Li Fan and his seven students arrived in Buffalo; the students continued working with their Visual Studies partners in finishing their projects.

The Buffalo chapter of the exhibition was organized as part of the New York Conference on Asian Studies 2011. The 2011 two-part exchange between the Dept. of Visual Studies at UB and CAFA in Beijing, including the Buffalo Beijing: Translation exhibition at UB Art Gallery, was co-sponsored by The Confucius Institute at the University at Buffalo, as well as the Dept. of Visual Studies (UB), Central Academy of Fine Arts (Beijing), and the UB Art Galleries. UB Visual Studies faculty Reinhard Reitzenstein, Ben Van Dyke and Stephanie Rothenberg made valuable pedagogical contributions to this year’s exchange.

Collaborative art making is complex in and of itself. Despite the fact that cultural divides and language barriers were added to this mix, all participating artists rose to the challenge, even surpassing it in many cases. The result is profound cultural exchange, the blossoming of lasting friendships, and a professional exhibition of high caliber. Quoting one of the participating Visual Studies MFA students, Chris Fox, “These relationships have been LIFE ALTERING engagements…You should see it as a profound... continued on page 18
FULBRIGHT TO THE PHILIPPINES
continued from page 13

ily absorbed into the lungs. As a result, PM \(_{10}\) can cause significant health effects, particularly for the elderly and infants, people with asthma and other respiratory diseases. PBDEs tend to accumulate in PM \(_{10}\) in the air.

In addition to the respiratory effects of PM \(_{10}\), they may cause harmful effects from PBDE introduction into the body. I have brought these samples back to UB for PBDE analysis by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry, which is available in my laboratory. However, we have analyzed archived samples from year 2006 and 2007 that were collected from the Manila observatory and Nueva Ecija. The results showed that high concentration of PBDEs, ranging from 2000 ng/g of PBDE 47 in sample collected in 2006, to 5000 ng/g of PBDE 47 in sample collected in 2007, can be detected in the dust samples from Manila and Nueva Ecija. The findings suggest that despite the relatively low dust pollution in the Philippines, people are also exposed to PBDEs through ingestion of dust particles in the form of PM \(_{10}\). This is due to long-range transport of PBDEs and their persistence in the environment.

We have a pending protocol to conduct a study that will involve human subjects, for approval by the the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), which is the primary focal point for health research activities in the Philippines. The protocol was developed in collaboration with Dr. Nemencio Nicodemos, an endocrinologist at the University of the Philippines, at Manila (UP-Manila), who is affiliated at the Philippine General Hospital. Once approved, we will collect preliminary data to determine the typical levels of PBDEs in the blood samples from women suffering from thyroid system disfunction.

The data we will obtain will be used to develop a proposal to the National Institutes of Heath in order to allow us to extend our sample size to a number that will give us insights as to whether the PBDE levels in the blood samples from a certain population can be correlated to the occurrence of abnormal levels of thyroid hormones. In addition to my research, I taught classes at the undergraduate and graduate level courses at ADMU during the fall semester, including Organic Chemistry for non-Chemists (undergraduate), Instrumental Analysis (undergraduate), and Environmental Management (graduate).

I also gave a research seminar at the Chemistry department on the “Fate, Effects, and Treatment of Emerging Contaminants and Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals in the Environment.” I gave the same seminar at the following Institutions:

1. Centro Escolar University, Manila, the Philippines
2. Ateneo de Naga University, Camarines Sur, the Philippines
3. University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, the Philippines
4. Advance Water Management Center, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
5. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia

I was also invited to give the plenary lecture, at the 40th Annual Convention of the Kapisangan Kimika ng Pilipinas-Southern Tagalog, UPLB, Laguna, where I gave two talks. I gave a research talk on “Fate, Effects, and Treatment of Emerging Contaminants and Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals in the Environment” and on “Tips on Publishing in Peer-reviewed International Journals”.

Finally, at the request of the University of the Philippines Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Gisella Conception), I organized and conducted a 2-day workshop: “Scientific Writing Workshop: Publishing in Peer-Reviewed International Journals”. Fifteen participants were selected from among 35 faculty applicants. Lectures, discussions and writing exercises were used to teach knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in manuscript writing.

My goal was that at the end of the workshop, participants would be better able to:

- Identify opportunities for submission
- Plan, organize and outline a written manuscript
- Construct and write a 250-word abstract
- Critique a research publication
- Manage ethical issues (authorship, plagiarism) on scientific publication

My Fulbright fellowship grant in the Philippines was highly productive and very fulfilling. While my principal host was Dr. Doris B. Montecastro from ADMU, I was able to interact with many faculty members from the ADMU, University of the Philippines- Diliman, University of the Philippines- Los Baños, University of the Philippines-Manila, Ateneo de Naga, Xavier University (Ateneo de Cagayan de Oro), Centro Escolar University, and the De La Salle University in Manila.

I think that my long-term goals to establish research collaborations with Philippine scientists and to foster student exchange between major universities in the Philippines will come to fruition, as I have been able to establish a good network with scientists and administrators during my stay in the Philippines.

In fact, I have already submitted a pre-proposal to the National Science Foundation Partnership for International Research and Education program to conduct research with Philippine scientists in the future. On a personal level, my daughter and I benefited immensely from the experience of living in the Philippines. 🌏

Diana Aga is professor of chemistry at UB.
MCEER SETS FOUNDATION FOR REBUILDING HAITI, ONE ENGINEER AT A TIME

By Tara Ellis

A new building on the Quisqueya University (UniQ) campus in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, provides some of the most powerful evidence yet that Haiti's engineering community, with international assistance from UB and MCEER, is undergoing a dramatic transformation.

The building is the first on the campus to be built according to seismic design principles, a direct result of the building's architect and engineer attending earthquake engineering seminars held by UB and UniQ that began shortly after a devastating earthquake struck the island on Jan. 12, 2010. They are among the more than 500 engineers—estimated to be half of all working engineers in the Haitian capital—who are the first in their profession to have received this training.

"The new building is more than symbolic," says Andre Filiatrault, curriculum coordinator for the UniQ-UB/MCEER seminars, former director of UB's MCEER (Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research) and a leader in international post-earthquake damage assessment and the education of Haitian engineers.

"It was directly inspired by one of the detailed examples presented in one of our seminar programs. For example, the type, positioning and geometry of the seismic force-resisting elements are the same as those discussed in class, and both the architect and engineer were trained in these seminars," Filiatrault says.

Prior to the completion of the building, classes had been held in a large tent, where temperatures often exceeded 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

The building reflects the dawn of a new reality in Haiti, where there had been no building codes and no legal requirements to prepare plans and submit them for approval by a government-run building department.

That began to change just eight days after the 2010 quake, when Filiatrault and MCEER assembled and deployed the first team of French-speaking structural engineers to Haiti to conduct building-safety inspections at the request of the United Nations. MCEER and UniQ then began reaching out to Haitian engineers, with the first seminar held in May 2010, followed by three more, including the most recent in August. All seminars and materials were in French, a key part of their success.

"It was clear from the beginning that much work needed to be done," Filiatrault recalls. "Haitian universities didn’t teach earthquake engineering and there are no government-enforced building codes or professional licensing requirements for practicing engineers in Haiti, so we established an educational program to teach Haitian engineers about seismic mitigation in design and construction."

Filiatrault currently is helping Haitian engineers write a model charter for Haiti’s new Earthquake Engineering Association. A master’s degree program in earthquake engineering for all the francophone nations in the Caribbean also is being developed by UniQ and MCEER.

The goal of the MCEER-UniQ partnership and seminars is to help Haiti establish its own community of earthquake engineers. With an estimated 1,000 practicing engineers in Port-au-Prince, MCEER has trained 560 participants, more than 50 percent of that city’s engineering population, in methods of earthquake-resistant design, Filiatrault says. In addition, 58 engineers from Haiti’s Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications have participated in the seminars; their presence will help ensure informed government oversight of the rebuilding process ahead.

Two UB students—both Haitians—have advanced their education and that of seminar attendees through their participation in the project. Doctoral candidate Pierre Fouche, who initially came to UB to study earthquake engineering with the hope of helping his country avert such a disaster, has served as a seminar instructor since the program’s start and now is helping the island to rebuild.

Gael Lamothe, an undergraduate civil engineering student, used UB’s Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Laboratory to study typical Haitian construction materials—cinder blocks, mortar, steel rebar—to compare their strength to that of the same materials used in the U.S. His study found that the Haitian materials did not meet U.S. standards, information that has been incorporated into UniQ-UB/MCEER seminars.

Two more seminars are expected to take place in 2012, followed by the proposed launch of Haiti’s first earthquake engineering master’s degree program at UniQ, which is being developed by MCEER and UB’s Office of International Education in collaboration with UniQ.

Andre Filiatrault (in blue shirt) and Pierre Fouche (squatting in front) with Haitian engineers and students at the new UniQ building.
accomplishment…young thinkers cracking their brains open and making RELEVANT, PERSONAL, VISCERAL, engaging experiences.”

In early 2012, the Buffalo Beijing: Translation exhibition was shipped to Beijing for display at the Today Art Museum/Today Print Arts Center (Mar.18-Apr.1, 2012). I accompanied three of the participating Visual Studies MFA students who returned to Beijing to assist in installing the works and attend the exhibition opening on March 18th. During this short residency, Prof. Li Fan and I continued our discussion concerning future plans for our ongoing exchange.

The last element in the current exchange project is now underway and slated to be completed this summer: a 400-page publication that charts the challenging and complex process of cross-cultural collaboration, and documents the impressive artworks.

The participating faculty and chairs, with nods from their deans, at both UB and CAFA intend to continue this fruitful cross-institutional, cross-cultural academic and artistic collaboration.

After a successful pilot exchange in 2009-10 and an exhilaratingly productive and rewarding full-year exchange in 2011-12, what is planned for future development of this exchange program is the continuation of artistic collaboration at the graduate level, resulting professional caliber exhibitions in both cities, and potential faculty exchange. (Photos by Shasti O’Leary Soudant, Bradley Phillips, Reinhard Reitzenstein, Ben Van Dyke, Millie Chen.)

Millie Chen is professor and chair of Visual Studies.

“NEW CONFUCIANISM” CONFERENCE

By Patricia Donovan

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tated scholars in philosophy, history and theology from across Asia, Europe and North America gathered at UB in April 2012 for “Beyond New Confucianism: Confucian Thought for Twenty-first Century China,” a conference that examined the current revival of Confucianism and the roles this ancient philosophical tradition plays in contemporary Chinese culture.

The revival of Confucian thought, commonly known as “New Confucianism” (Xin Rujia), has been an important part of Chinese cultural life since the 1980s. The conference was the brainchild of Tze-ki Hon, professor of history at Geneseo State College, and Kristin Stapleton, associate professor of history at UB, and director of the university’s Asian Studies Program.

“New Confucianism is a multifaceted movement that arose as scholars and others reflected on the value of the Confucian philosophical and political traditions in the context of China’s integration into the neo-liberal global economy,” says Hon. “Participants in this movement include philosophers and scholars in several fields, as well as teachers, social activists and media personalities in mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and in Chinese communities around the world.”

The conference goal, Stapleton says, was to broaden the scope of the study of New Confucianism by focusing on its political, social and cultural agendas. Grounded in a multidisciplinary approach and a global perspective, the event aimed to shed new light on the current revival as it becomes part of the social and cultural fabric of 21st century China and the world.

The conference was sponsored by the UB Confucius Institute with support from Geneseo State College, the UB Humanities Institute, the UB Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, the UB Department of Philosophy, and the UB Asian Studies Program.
MEDICAL MISSION TO HAITI

By David Holmes

In late June-early July 2011 I was part of a 16-person UB-based medical team that visited Haiti, 18 months after the catastrophic earthquake of January 2010 left hundreds of thousands dead and more than 1.5 million homeless.

Located in the central Caribbean, Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. It shares an island with the Dominican Republic and is just east of Cuba and Jamaica. Average life expectancy is 55 years (compared with 78 years in the U.S.).

Two people on our team who had been in Haiti three weeks after the earthquake couldn’t believe how much progress has been made since that time. Almost all the rubble on the streets has been cleaned up and many of the collapsed buildings have been rebuilt. The street markets and businesses seem to be thriving with activity and commerce. There’s a new president in Haiti now, who is actively trying to reduce corruption and seems to be well liked by those we talked to.

I had heard so many negative stories about Haiti in the news that I expected it to be a very bleak and depressing place. Instead, I observed that Haiti has a lot of hard working people who are trying to rebuild and seem hopeful about the future. We were greatly encouraged by this.

There is still plenty of poverty and suffering and there’s still a lot of rebuilding that needs to be done. However, the effort of the Haitian people and the aid from many different countries is making a positive difference.

Dan Uttley, from SCORE International, assisted us with the logistics of getting to Haiti. He knows Haiti and the local language, so he was a big help to our team. Once there, John Fitts and staff from the Chadasha Foundation provided us with housing, meals, ground transportation and interpreters. They also made the necessary arrangements for our team to provide medical and dental care to different communities in need.

The Chadasha Foundation was begun by a group of doctors and business people deeply impacted by the dire situations of poverty, illness and hopelessness they found in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Chadasha is the Hebrew word meaning “new” or “fresh.”

The Chadasha staff desire to bring new life and new hope to people who have endured much suffering. Chadasha’s philosophy is to assist the Haitian people in helping themselves. As a result they assist several different organizations and people who desire to make a difference in the lives of those in need.

One organization they assist is a medical clinic which is an outreach project of a local church led by Rev. Jude. We assisted by working in the clinic for a couple days. In addition to seeing medical patients, we gave out reading glasses to those who needed them and provided dental care and massage therapy which are services the clinic doesn’t normally provide.

In the waiting area, the high school boys on our team entertained the children by blowing bubbles and making animal balloons for them.

Rev. Jude is from Haiti, but had lived in the U.S. for over 30 years. He returned to Haiti with his wife several years ago because of his strong desire to help the people there. He’s 69 years old and could be enjoying a comfortable retirement in the U.S. Instead he’s working tirelessly without a salary, living off his U.S. social security. His church has grown a lot since the earthquake and now has about 850 people attending each Sunday.

The clinic is sustaining itself and is helping a lot of people. Unfortunately, success in Haiti puts one at risk of crime. The clinic and the church were both broken into a few months ago and valuable things were stolen.

We set up a one-day medical and dental clinic in Canaan, the name of a large tent city. It was sad to see the level of poverty that these people faced. The dentist and a massage therapist saw patients in a small cement building with a dirt floor. We set up the pharmacy in the back of a transportation vehicle (basically a covered pick-up truck with benches in the back).

continued on page 20
Meanwhile, in the large tent, UB medical students Bridget Buyea, Tiffany Leung, and Nara Lee provided primary care along with David Parsons, PA and David Holmes, MD. Not being able to help everyone was frustrating. Compared to the need, it seemed like what we were doing was a drop in a very large bucket. We had to remind ourselves that we could help some people and because of that our efforts were not in vain.

A couple years ago an American couple, Corrigan and Shelley Clay, wanted to help the orphan crisis in Haiti. They moved to Port-au-Prince and began the “Apparent Project.” This is an artisan’s guild that uses discarded materials such as cereal and cracker boxes, oil drums, and trash paper to create beautiful “upcycled” pieces of jewelry and home decor.

One of the clinics we set up was in a guest house located upstairs from the Apparent Project. Some of the artisans are far sighted and have a difficult time seeing the jewelry and crafts that they create. The reading glasses we gave them will greatly help them with their work and livelihood.

A woman with a big heart, named Gurlin, with the help of her husband, founded a small orphanage several years ago. After the earthquake damaged the building they were in, they had to move the children to four tents located in “City Soleil,” a tent city slum where hundreds of thousands of people live. It’s considered one of the poorest and most dangerous places in the entire western hemisphere. After dark, all the humanitarian groups leave because of the gangs and high crime rate.

A few months ago, several physicians, serving with the Chadasha Foundation, came across these children living in deplorable and unsafe conditions and made plans to find a proper building in a safer place for the children to live in. In April 2011, before a new building was found, a big storm hit the area. It collapsed two of the tents and made a big muddy mess.

The Chadasha Foundation moved all 56 kids to their guest house for three days till they found a house to rent. It’s a large house with three bedrooms, four bathrooms. Gurlin and her husband sleep in one of the bedrooms. The children sleep on thin mattresses in the other two bedrooms, the halls, the dining room – wherever they can find space.

A group of volunteers recently built four bunk beds in one of the bedrooms. However, with 56 children and 17 more coming soon, the orphanage needs a lot more bunk beds. A generous financial gift from the ECMC medical and dental staff will be used to purchase the lumber to make more bunk beds. Their gift will also be used to purchase cups and plates for each child. Currently they share cups, which isn’t very sanitary, and many of them have to use Frisbees for plates.

Sarah, an American who just joined Chadasha full time, is now working with Gurlin and her three staff members to help improve the living conditions and quality of care that the children receive. Sarah asked our team to examine all the children and begin a medical chart for each child.

Of the 56 children, only 4 of them were “well” without some type of illness or complaint. Many of them were coughing, had skin infections, dysuria, or various other ailments. When we arrived at the orphanage, many of the children rushed to greet us with hugs and just wanted to be held. Only a few of them, however, smiled. Even when playing or being tickled, most maintained a somber face. It’s hard to imagine the depth of their emotional scars sustained from past experiences.

The mid 90 degree heat and high humidity was one of the most challenging aspects of the trip. The team gradually got used to living in sweat. Cold showers, at the end of the day, never felt so good! We didn’t keep track of the number of patients we saw. However, a rough estimate is that Dr. Jeanne Yang and her assistants from the UB School of Dental Medicine saw about 90 dental patients, the medical crew saw about 360 people and roughly another 75 people received massage therapy or reading glasses. So all together we saw about 525 patients.

The team appreciated the opportunity to witness life, hope, resilience and rebuilding in Haiti. We learned about the challenges of practicing medicine and dentistry in a developing country and about the need for creativity when working with limited resources. In addition, character building traits such as patience, perseverance, teamwork, sacrifice, flexibility and faith were tested and strengthened.

We were inspired by people like Rev. Jude and his wife, the Clays, Gurlin, and the Chadasha Foundation staff, especially John and Sarah. We were touched by the plight of the orphans, the tent dwellers and others. We have a lot to learn from the Haitians and we have much to be thankful for as Americans.

The members of the Haiti team were Brian Bowman, UB PharmD student; Bridget Buyea, UB fourth-year medical student; David Holmes, MD, family physician (UB clinical associate professor at ECMC’s Cleve-Hill Family Health Center); Joshua Holmes, 9th grader; Nathan Holmes, 12th grader; David Ireland, massage therapist; Tanner Jourdian, 12th grader; Nara Lee, UB second-year medical student; Tiffany Leung, UB fourth-year medical student; Ron Schumacher, retired Williamsville East physics teacher; Rebecca Schumacher, RN, retired nurse; David Parsons, PA, physician assistant; Ivy Ricks, physician assistant student; Dan Uttley, SCORE staff; Ben Uttley, 9th grader; Jeanne Yang, DDS, dentist and UB School of Dental Medicine alumna. ©
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of Anthropology
Deborah Reed-Danahay, professor and director, Center for European Studies (CEUS), published the coauthored book Civic Engagements: The Citizenship Practices of Indian and Vietnamese Immigrants (Stanford University Press) in 2012. Most of her recent activities are related to her work on transnational comparisons of immigration in Europe and the United States. She delivered a keynote lecture at the Swiss Ethnological Society meetings at the University of Zurich in November 2011. She was also invited by the also invited by the Center for Social Research (CERES) at the Haute Ecole de Travail Social (HETS) to lecture in Geneva and Lausanne. Earlier in fall 2011, she participated in an invited workshop funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) at Concordia University in Montreal on “Reconceptualizing Sociality.” Reed-Danahay also attended the American Anthropological Association meetings, held jointly with the Canadian Association for Social Anthropology, in Montreal in November 2011. There she led a roundtable discussion on the future of anthropological studies in Europe. In March 2012, she participated in the annual conference of the Council for European Studies in Boston, where she served as discussant for two panels on immigration in France. In April 2012, she delivered a paper at the VSAO conference “Victorian Thresholds: Between Culture and Anthropology” at York University (Ontario). In early May 2012, she participated in an International Research Seminar on “Education, Citizenship and the ‘New’ Migrants” sponsored jointly by the Dept of Education at Aarhus University and the Dept of Anthropology at the University of Copenhagen. She also delivered a lecture at Aarhus University’s Copenhagen campus. As Director of CEUS, she organized a series of First Tuesday Sherry Talks at UB during the 2011-12 academic year, with lectures by UB faculty who do research in Europe. Professor Reed-Danahay is currently also serving as President of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe (2010-12).

Arts Management Program
Sponsored by the University at Buffalo’s Faculty Internationalization Fund Grant, Miriam Paeslack, associate professor, participated in the newly founded post-graduate program’s seminar Cultures of the Curatorial Studies Program at the Academy of Visual Arts, Leipzig, Germany to exchange thoughts about core issues in arts management, and to established a research collaboration between this program and UB’s Arts Management program “Cultures of the Curatorial” is a postgraduate part-time program, founded in 2009, which combines application-oriented research practice with theoretical reflection. It is conceived for people with different disciplinary and professional backgrounds – the arts, cultural mediation, human, social and natural sciences – who are interested in an engaged work within the cultural field as well as in a concentrated, well-founded theoretical and practical additional qualification for a professional practice in the curatorial field. The different work modules of this course can be studied alongside work. The theory courses usually take place in four to five blocks per semester. This offers the opportunity to continue an occupational activity and follow one’s own projects parallel to the study program. Furthermore, Paeslack participated in Berlin Humboldt-University’s conference Kontrolle des urbanen Raumes: Akteure. Strategien. Topographien, Institut für Europäische Ethnologie, Humboldt-Universität Berlin, Germany (Control of urban space: protagonists, strategies, topographies. Institute for European Ethnology, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany) with the paper Kontrolle durch Mediatierung: Die Deutungsmacht künstlerischer und dokumentarischer Fotografie im urbanen Raum am Beispiel von Buffalo, NY (Control by metatization: The power of interpretation through artistic and documentary photography in urban space in Buffalo, NY). This contribution was also submitted to the conference proceedings and is awaiting approval.

Department of Biological Sciences
Matthew Xu-Friedman, assistant professor, hosted a visiting scholar from the University of Kaiserslautern in Germany. The student, Alexander Fischer, is a Ph.D. candidate working with Prof. Dr. Eckhard Friauf, studying the effects of the modulatory neurotransmitter GABA in the auditory brainstem. He came to Xu-Friedman’s laboratory to learn calcium imaging techniques. His six-month visit was funded by an Exchange Grant in Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience, funded by the European Commission’s Erasmus Mundus Program.

Michael C. Yu, assistant professor, is hosting Yong Hu as a part of the Scholarly Exchange Program between UB and Capital Normal University (CNU) in Beijing, China. At CNU Professor Hu works on elucidating the mechanism of chloroplast division in plants, using Arabidopsis thaliana as a model organism. He is interested in learning about protein arginine methylation and how this post-translational modification affects gene expression in Yu’s laboratory at UB. During his stay, Hu aims to acquire additional skills in molecular biology and biochemistry using the budding yeast as a model organism.

Department of Classics
Neil Coffee, associate professor and chair, delivered an invited lecture entitled “The Meaning of Gifts at Rome” to the Department of Philosophy of Renmin University in Beijing, China, on December 14, 2011. The lecture described the high reliance of ancient Romans on gift exchanges to conduct political and economic transactions and the problems that resulted. Coffee was also elected to become a Fellow (Sodalis Ordinarus) of the Academy for the Advancement of Latin (Academia Latinae Lovaniensis) in November 2011. The ALF is an international association of scholars based in Brussels and Rome that promotes a deep knowledge of the cultures that used Latin through continuing active use of the Latin language in speaking and writing. Coffee will confirm his Fellowship with a lecture on his research given in Latin at the ALF meeting in Europe in fall 2013.

Department of Comparative Literature
Alex Reid, associate professor, had an article “Composing games: An Object-Oriented Approach,” published in the Korean journal 21st Century Literature.

Mark Shechner, professor emeritus, took part in an international conference in Venice, Italy on Philip Roth in February 2012 titled “Philip Roth between past and future: Literature, history and ethics.”


Department of Geography
Marion Werner, assistant professor, conducted research in June 2011 in Caracas, Venezuela, where she interviewed government officials and social movement actors about the Venezuelan-led trade initiative called ALBA. In addition to research, Werner participated in two international meetings in June and July 2011. Werner gave a paper at the Caribbean Studies Association meetings in Curacao on trade and labor in the Dominican Republic, and she delivered an invited talk on critical geography at the geography department at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.

Department of History
David A. Gerber, UB Distinguished Professor, has been asked to take part as a presenter and panelist at a workshop entitled “A Century of Transnationalism,” sponsored by the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, in Paris, France, May 22-26, 2012. The invitation is the result of his efforts to conceptualize immigrant personal correspondences with international and transnational political and societal frameworks. Gerber is also involved in a variety of projects sponsored and coordinated by the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota to discuss and plan for the digitizing of many thousands of historical immigrant letters, presently located in physical form in dozens of countries, that will create the largest web-based archive of the writings of ordinary people in existence. The project currently includes historians and those from a number of other disciplines from the USA, Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

Department of Music
Beginning in 2012, Eric Huebner, assistant professor, assumed the role of principal pianist with the New York Philharmonic. In February, the orchestra travelled to Europe to perform concerts in Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Cologne, Luxembourg, Paris, Amsterdam and London. Huebner was featured in several works with substantial orchestral pianist parts, including Igor Stravinsky’s Symphony in Three Movements, Magnus Lindberg’s Feria and Thomas Adès’s Polaris. In June 2012, Huebner will be a featured soloist with the orchestra in a new double concerto for piano and percussion by American composer Elliott Carter.

Cort Lippe, associate professor of composition, received an invitation and travel grant to give the keynote presentation and present three compositions in concert at the International Workshop on Computer Music and Audio Technology, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan in December of 2011. This fall he also had a composition premiered in The Hague, Netherlands, two performances in Athens, Greece, and performances in Brazil, France, Mexico, and Japan. In addition, he served as a member of the music composition review panel for Fulbright Scholar Peer Review, as a member of the paper selection committee for the Electroacoustic Music Studies Network Conference 2012 at the Royal College of Music, Stockholm, Sweden, and as a reviewer for the 2012 IRCAM Musical Research Residency Program, Paris, France.

Department of Philosophy
James Beebe, associate professor, gave the following international presentations in fall 2011: “The Experimental Study of Epistemic Intuitions,” Workshop on Intuitions in Philosophy, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Dec. 5-7; and “The Centrality of Belief and Reflection in Knobe Effect Cases: A Unified Account of the Data,” European Workshop on Experimental Philosophy, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands, October 7.

Department of Political Science
The November 2011 issue of Human Rights Quarterly carried a lengthy article on Maura Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, and a UB law student. Entitled “Extending Enforcement: The Coalition for the International Criminal Court,” the analysis showed how a network of over 1000 NGOs cooperated with a group of like-minded states to adopt the Rome Statute; this, in turn, resulted in the creation of the International Criminal Court. The ICC itself has been functioning for nearly a decade, indicting and trying individuals accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
On November 2, 2011 Margarita Vargas, associate professor, delivered a paper entitled “Violencia velada en dos obras de Bárbara Colío” at the Coloquio Internacional de Teatro Latinoamericano in Mexico City, Mexico. The topic of the conference was the Represenation of Violence in Contemporary Latin American Theatre and it was hosted by the Universidad Iberoamericana.

Department of Transnational Studies
José F. Buscaglia, associate professor and director of the Caribbean Studies Program, once again directed the summer study abroad program in Salamanca, Spain in July 2011, an annual program jointly organized by UB and Buffalo State College. In September 2011, Buscaglia published in Madrid a new book, Carlos de Sigüenza y Góngora, Infortunios de Alonso Ramirez: Edición crítica de José F. Buscaglia (Misfortunes of Alonso Ramirez: A Critical Edition by José F. Buscaglia). José F. Buscaglia Salgado, ed., intro. (Madrid: Polílemo/ Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, 2011). The book brings together a decade of research on the first American to have circumnavigated the globe. It contains 32 full page color illustrations, ten maps, an extensive introduction and over 600 footnotes. In fall 2011, Buscaglia taught in Spain, supervising four second-year students in the Masters in Caribbean Studies Program in Madrid and Seville. The students conducted archival research and the National Archive in Madrid and in the Archive of the Indies in Seville. He also published an article in the Journal of the Caribbean Observatory in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia: “El Caribe al final de la Era Usoniana: Hacia un nuevo modelo de confederación” (The Caribbean at the End of the Usonian Age: Towards a New Model of Confederation), Aguaita, Colombia, 23 (December 2011). In spring 2012, Buscaglia was in Merida, Mexico teaching four first year masters students. In April, Buscaglia took this group to Havana, Cuba for a ten-day study tour (see pages ). This visit marked the resumption of UB study abroad programs in Cuba after a three year hiatus.

Department of Theatre and Dance
Tom Ralbate, professor and chair, presented master classes, three graded levels of jazz dance certification, and adjudicated choreographic works for INTERDANZA, Mexico in Toluca, Mexico, in March 2012. In August 2012, he will gather with international dance educators and choreographers making his first appearance for the 2012 International Dance Teacher Web Conference and Expo held this year in Las Vegas, Nevada. Certified in Gyrokinesis, Ralbate will discuss and present a blend of contemporary jazz dance with gyrokinesic movement pathways. In January 2012, Ralbate was appointed his fifth term as Chair for Education Strategy for Dance Masters of America, Inc., an international dance organization for educators and their students.

Department of Visual Studies
Harvey Breverman, SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus, was one of several artists who received an Award of Excellence at the 1st International Exhibis Print Biennale in Guangzhou, China, November 2011 – February 2012. Breverman was one of two American exhibitors from 42 countries represented, and has been invited, once more, to participate in the 2012-2013 biennale. The award-winning work was a color etching depicting the Nobelist and UB honorary degree recipient J.M. Coetzee. Breverman was also invited to exhibit in IMPRINT 2011-2012: METROPOLIS, the 2nd Kuliszewicz International Graphic Art Triennial at National Art Galeries Arcades, Royal Castle in Warsaw, Poland, October 2011 – March 2012. With government and corporate sponsorship, a 240-page, full-color catalog was published for the exhibition. Among six artists representing the U.S. was internationally prominent Sarajevan-born Endi Poskovic, a 1993 UB MFA alumnus and professor at the University of Michigan School of Art. Poskovic is a recent Rockefeller Foundation-Bellagio Fellow and 2011-2012 Guggenheim recipient. With several major watercolors in their collection, Breverman was an invited guest on January 12, 2012 at “A Rock & an Ocean,” an exhibition celebrating 24 years of the Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art. The silver jubilee was under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor Sir Richard Gorney and the Premier, the Honorable Paula Cox. Breverman is also exhibiting in the 32nd Print International at Cadaqués, Spain from June – September 2012. The exhibit travels to Galerie Etang d’Art in Bages, France.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
Department of Oral Biology
Frank Scannapieco, professor and chair, visited China in October 2011 to give talks and meet students and faculty in the following institutions: “The Oral Cavity as a Reservoir for Respiratory Infection”; “Amylase binding to oral streptococci: molecular mechanisms and functional consequences”; and “Essentials of scientific writing” at the School of Stomatology, China Medical University in Shenyang, Liaoning, China October 8, 2011; “The Oral Cavity as a Reservoir for Respiratory Infection” and “Amylase binding to oral streptococci: molecular mechanisms and functional consequences” at the Ninth People’s Hospital in Shanghai jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai Key Laboratory of Stomatology, Shanghai, China, October 9, 2011; and “The Oral Cavity as a Reservoir for Respiratory
Infection” and “Amylase binding to oral streptococci: molecular mechanisms and functional consequences” at the Peking University School of Stomatology in Beijing, China, October 12, 2011. Scan-napieco has arranged for a visiting professor from Beijing to work in his lab next year.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Department of Learning and Instruction
Ming Ming Chiu, professor, showed in his research that students reported higher classroom discipline in countries that were poorer, more equal, or had more rigid gender roles (Classroom discipline across 41 countries: School, economic, and cultural differences, published in Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology).

James Hoot, professor, recently met with Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak, Malaysia, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Alfred Jabu Numpang, regarding the establishment of a community-based specialized program for indigenous Iban preschoolers living in longhouses.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering
In January 2012, Mark T. Swihart, professor, visited Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST), a newly established Korean university that opened its doors in 2009 and has already grown to over 100 faculty and about 1400 students. It is a science and technology institute with all courses in English, similar to the University of Buffalo. Swihart gave an invited lecture entitled “Synthesis and Surface Modification of Nanocrystals of Silicon and other Earth-Abundant Semiconductors for Photovoltaics” at the KIER-UNIST Advanced Center for Energy, a joint initiative between UNIST and the Korean Institute for Energy Research (KIER). KIER is currently funding a research project in Swihart’s lab.

Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering
Andre Filiatrault, professor and deputy director of MCEER, taught a short course at the Politecnico di Torino in Turin, Italy on Supplemental Damping and Seismic Isolation for Resilient Structures in November 2011. The course was taught jointly by Professor Gian Paolo Cimellaro, a UB Ph.D. who is now a faculty at the Politecnico. It was attended by 52 engineers from all over Italy. The main objective of the 25-hour course was to familiarize structural engineers with the various innovative systems that have demonstrated considerable potential through analytical studies, experimental testing and actual structural implementation. The discussion will focus on passive energy dissipation systems and base isolation systems.

Jerome S. O’Connor, manager of the Bridge Engineering Program, delivered a keynote address at the opening ceremonies of a conference on Advanced Composites in Construction, held September 2011 at the University of Warwick, UK. O’Connor described a multi-year, collaborative initiative in his presentation Strategic Development and Deployment of a Composite Bridge Deck. The purpose of the conference is to promote the use of corrosion-resistant fiber composites in civil engineering infrastructure applications. The conference paper was co-authored by Amjad Aref, professor; Sreenivas Alampalli, New York State Department of Transportation; and Lou Triandafillou, Federal Highway Administration. It summarizes a decade long effort to bring a cost effective, light-weight deck to market for specialized applications such as decks on moveable and historic bridges. O’Connor heads BridgeComposites, LLC which is a UB Technology Incubator company.

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Alan L. Selman, professor, presented an invited ten-hour, short-course on probabilistic complexity classes at the International Fall School on Formal Languages and Applications, Tarragona, Spain, October 31–November 4, 2011.

Sargur N. Srihari, SUNY Distinguished Professor and director of the Center of Excellence in Document Analysis and Recognition, received the 2011 International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR) Outstanding Achievements Award for contributions to research and education in handwriting recognition and document analysis, and for community service. Srihari accepted the award in Beijing, China and delivered a keynote speech on “Probabilistic Graphical Models in Machine Learning.”

Department of Electrical Engineering
After completing an independent study in distributed energy systems, PhD. student Robert Finton went to China to contribute to research on a Global Renewable Energy Grid, under the supervision of Mohammed Saifuddin, research professor emeritus. Finton carried out a feasibility study, illustrating China’s electrical industry structure, and characterizing the Chinese power transmission system. He participated in the project as a fulfillment of the EAS496 Co-op Program. Previously, students of Saifuddin had studied wind energy patterns in five regions of the world. Finton’s assessment of wind energy patterns in China filled in a missing component to the data. He incorporated the data on China with the average global wind power figures in the Global Renewable Energy Grid project’s database. The research seeks to identify the ebbs and peaks of wind energy globally, for the prospect of harnessing wind and solar energy 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with transmission across nations, to minimize energy storage requirements and power flow fluctuations.

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Thenkurussi Kesavadas, professor and director of the Virtual Reality Laboratory, is hosting Raul Wirz, a scientist from Madrid, on a one-year fellowship from European Union. This is the culmination of Kesavadas’ collaboration with Manuel Ferrer, Profesor Titular de Universidad, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain over the last four years.

Tarunraj Singh, professor, gave four invited seminars overseas in October and November 2011: “Tumor Motion Prediction for Radiation Therapy,” University of Glasgow, Scotland on November 17; “Data Assimilation for Forecasting Plume Dispersion,” Institute for Geoinformatics, University of Muenster, Germany on November 8; “What can Kalman do for you,” Section for Automatic Control, Department of Electronic Systems, Faculty of Engineering and Science at Aalborg University, Denmark on November 31; and “Taming Vibrations,” Faculty of Engineering of the University of Udine, Italy on October 14.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
Myron A. Thompson III, associate provost and executive director, has been appointed to a new term through February 25, 2014 as a member of the Board of Governors of the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden. Thompson attended the most recent Board meeting in Malmo in May 2012.

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
Department of Marketing
Arun Jain, Samuel P. Capen Professor of Marketing Research, was one of the primary organizers and a co-chair of the International Conference on Marketing, held in January 2012 at the Indian Institute of Management/Lucknow (IIML) in Noida, India. The conference was co-sponsored by the UB School of Management. Guided by the theme, “Shaping the Future of Research in Marketing in Emerging Economies: Looking Ahead,” the conference focused on the emerging market economies (EMEs) of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The aim of the conference was to bring together a distinguished panel of academicians, marketing experts and thought leaders from across the world to debate and discuss the research issues of marketing in EMEs. More than 900 authors sub-
mitted papers for the conference, with 174 papers from 21 countries accepted for presentation and 18 accepted for poster presentation. The three-day conference featured 14 tracks and nine inclusive sessions. Proceedings of the conference were published in January by Prentice Hall, with Jain serving as co-editor. In addition, nine journals are slated to publish elected papers from the conference.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
Department of Biochemistry
Michael Garrick, professor, served as co-organizer with Marco T. Núñez of Chile for the Fourth International Workshop on Iron and Copper Homeostasis held in Pucón, Chile, November 30 – December 3, 2011. The meeting schedule had an unplanned revision to December 1 – December 3, 2011 when a volcano in Southern Argentina blocked flights for the participants who planned to arrive on November 30 forcing a long bus ride. At the meeting Garrick also presented a paper entitled “Isoform Specific Regulation of Divalent Metal (Ion) Transporter (DMT1) by Proteasomal Degradation with its coauthors being Lin Zhao, senior research support specialist; Jerome A. Roth, professor; Houbo Jiang, research scientist; Jian Feng, professor (all from UB); Natalie J. Foot, Hazel Dalton, Sharad Kumar (all from the Centre for Cancer Biology in Adelaide, Australia) and Laura M. Garrick, clinical assistant professor. The proceedings of the meeting are to be published as a special issue of the journal BioMetals with Garrick and Núñez serving as editors.

Mulchand Patel, SUNY Distinguished Professor, was a co-organizing secretary of, and a presenter at, the International Conference on Molecular Medicine-2012 (MOLMED-2012) at Vellore, India, February 19-22, 2012. The title of his talk was “Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Complex Deficiency and Brain Development.” On this trip he also delivered presentations at four different universities in Gujarat State in India: M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara; Sumandeep Vidyapeeth University, Piparia/Vadodara; Gujarat University, Ahmedabad; and Charotar University of Science & Technology, Changa. His talks covered two topics: (i) Evolution of the multienzyme complex family and (ii) Metabolic programming and adult-onset obesity.

Department of Family Medicine
Andrea Manyon, vice chair for resident education and associate dean for student affairs, serves as a visiting faculty member for the University of Crete School of Medicine M.Sc. program for practicing Generalist Physicians in Greece. This two-year program serves to advance the clinical research skills and use of point-of-care information technology in rural medical practices. The Master’s students must complete a thesis. One master’s graduate, Dimitroula Prokopiadou, is currently a Ph.D. candidate. Manyon serves on the dissertation committee; the project title is: “Dementia and family medicine: assessment of knowledge and skills-designing of an educational intervention.” This project involves the translation and validation of the Alzheimer’s disease Knowledge Scale, its application for generalist physicians, defining the need for education and creating an effective intervention to advance the skills of practicing generalist physicians.

Department of Medicine
John K. Crane, associate professor, Division of Infectious Disease, plans to once again join the Buffalo-Honduras Medical Mission for its trip to Honduras in 2012. This year, the mission will incorporate research into the program objectives instead of simply providing clinical care to needy Hondurans. The mission will collaborate with Annabelle Ferrera of the Microbiology Department, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UANH), in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The UB group is hoping to work alongside some of Ferrera’s students in doing surveys of water supplies for enteric and diarrheal pathogens. Now in its 14th year, the Buffalo-Honduras Medical Mission has involved more than 150 individual volunteers over the years of its operation. Some of the “graduates” and veterans of the Buffalo-Honduras Medical Mission have gone on to careers in medicine, nursing, and public health around the country. Crane’s daughter Rachel is project coordinator for Global Scientific Solutions for Health, based in Baltimore, Maryland, with participating international sites around the world. Rachel Crane believes she would not have been hired for that job without her experience in international medical outreach work through the Honduras project. A few veterans of the project have even come back to work in Buffalo, including Jennifer Brooks Cohen, MPH, who now works at the Buffalo VA Medical Center. Leroy McCune is the medical director of the Buffalo-Honduras Medical Mission, and Crane is the associate director.

Department of Neurology
Gill I. Wolfe, Irvin and Rosemary Smith Professor and chair, played a major role in the 12th International Conference on Myasthenia Gravis and Related Disorders, May 20 – 23, 2012 in New York City. Wolfe, a leading authority on a range of neuromuscular disorders, is one of four organizers of the conference, which takes place every five years. The meeting, which features 50 speakers and more than 100 poster sessions as well as a “hot topics” session, gathers the world’s most prominent researchers on myasthenia gravis and related neuromuscular junction disorders, both acquired and hereditary. Myasthenia gravis is the most common disease of neuromuscular transmission and results from an immune-mediated disruption of communication between nerve and muscle A–the neuromuscular junction. Symptoms include a droopy eyelid, blurred or double vision, difficulty breathing and muscle weakness.

SCHOOL OF NURSING
Davina Porock, professor and associate dean for research and scholarship, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the National Malaysian Nursing Research Conference from February 9-10, 2012. The title of her address was “Making TRIP Happen: Translating Research Into Practice.” She also gave a workshop on “Practical techniques for analyzing data in mixed method studies. While in Malaysia she was asked by the School of Nursing at the University of Malaysia to be an external examiner for graduate programs and consult with their faculty on research and give a research presentation to faculty on “Recognizing Dying: The Care of Elders in Hospital (Grand Rounds).”

Thomas Radel, adjunct assistant professor, and Crystal Kladke and Christopher Resentaris, nurse anesthesia students, traveled to the Philippines the end of January 2012 for 10 days to provide anesthesia care along with a medical mission group from the Diocese of Joliette in Illinois.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange (CIRRIE)
John Stone, director, made a presentation on Disability and Natural Disasters at the Brazilian Launch of the World Report on Disability in February in Sao Paulo. In March he participated in a Ph.D. dissertation defense committee at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. Following the defense he traveled to the city of Diamantina where he presented a symposium on the World Report on Disability at the Federal University dos Vales do Jequitinhonha e Mucuri.

Department of Biostatistics

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Laina Bay-Cheng, associate professor, delivered the keynote address at a graduate student research conference hosted by the University of Toronto: Youth and the Determinants of Sexual Health, 2012 Youth Research Symposium (March 2012); the title of the key-
note was “Thwarted Agency: The Sexual Experiences of Adolescent Girls in the U.S. Child Welfare System.” In March 2012 Bay-Cheng organized and presented at the symposium “Putting Adolescent Sexuality in Context: The Impact of Norms, Resources, and Trauma at the biennial meeting of the Society of Research on Adolescence in Vancouver, Canada. She gave a seminar presentation titled “Adult Responsibilities to Youth Sexuality: The Prevention of Harm and the Promotion of Thriving,” co-hosted by the Centre for Human Geography and Centre for Youth Work Studies at Brunel University, Uxbridge, UK in June 2012. Also at Brunel, Bay-Cheng gave a keynote, “Using the Personal to Expose the Political: What Girls’ Sexual Histories Reveal about Social Inequalities” at the conference Knowing Young People: Researching Young People’s Sexuality hosted by Brunel’s Centre for Youth Work Studies. She gave a conference paper “Ethical Parenting of Sexual Youth” a the International Conference on Moral Education in Nanjing, China in October 2011.

**Catherine Dulmus**, associate professor and associate dean for research, presented a paper “A university-community partnership to advance research in practice settings: The HUB Research Model” at the International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation in Madrid, Spain in November 2011.

**UB/Amrita Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Institute**

The Second Annual International Conference on Society, Technology and Sustainable Development offered by the University at Buffalo/Amrita Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Institute (UBARI) will have a focus on health and be held October 12-14, 2012 at Amrita University, Amritapuri campus, India.

**OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

**Stephen C. Dunnett**, professor and vice provost, was appointed in February 2012 as a member of the Scientific Committee of the newly established Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation at the Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy. The centre promotes and conducts research, training and policy analysis to strengthen the international dimensions of higher education. The centre is directed by Professor **Hans de Wit** of the University of Amsterdam, and the scientific committee is chaired by Professor **John Hudzik** of Michigan State University. Dunnett was a panelist for two sessions “International Education Policy and Advocacy Practices in the USA” and “Developing and Sustaining Institutional Partnerships” at the 2012 APAIE Conference at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, April 4-6, 2012. Dunnett was a panelist for several sessions at the 2012 conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in Houston, Texas in May 2012: “Global Changes and Challenges: Is the United States Doing Enough to Stay Competitive as a Study Destination?” and “Models of Cross-Border Collaborations: Implications for Recognition of Academic Work.”

Dunnett was honored with the Timothy J. Rutenber Award from the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) during the association’s 30th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in February 2012. The award, which honors AIEA members who have rendered long-term and outstanding service to the Association, is named for the late Timothy J. Rutenber, who served as associate vice provost for international education at UB and as director of the Secretariat and Treasurer of AIEA until his death in 2004. An associate member of AIEA since 1992, Rutenber was an outstanding manager of the day-to-day affairs of AIEA and a wise steward of the Association’s resources. Rutenber’s work on behalf of AIEA epitomizes the ideal of service excellence.

It is particularly fitting for Dunnett to receive the award, as Tim Rutenber was Dunnett’s deputy at UB for many years and collaborated with him on AIEA activities. In fact, Dunnett stepped in temporarily to assume the directorship of the AIEA Secretariat when Rutenber passed away. Working with the AIEA Board, Dunnett facilitated the transition of the secretariat to Duke University, its current host institution. Later, as president of AIEA, Dunnett launched the association’s first strategic planning process, culminating in a five-year plan that led to a doubling in size of AIEA’s membership.


**International Enrollment Management**

**Joseph J. Hindrawan**, associate vice provost and director, was a presenter at a symposium on February 10, 2012 hosted by Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan titled, “Global Trends in Student Mobility and Quality Assurance: Systems and Strategies at American Universities.” His presentation was titled “International Student Recruitment, Admissions and Enrollment Management—A Case Study of SUNY-Buffalo.” Hindrawan also participated in a roundtable discussion on “Strengthening Educational Ties between Japan and the United States.” The symposium was occasioned by the opening of the Meiji University Research Institute of International Education. Hindrawan was a presenter for the session “Opening Pathways through (Web) Traffic: Using Data-driven Strategies to Reach More Students” at the 2012 APAIE Conference at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, April 4-6, 2012.

**Raymond Lew**, assistant director, will be a presenter at the EducationUSA Forum 2012 held June 27-29, 2012 in Washington, DC. This is an event for educational advisors and international recruitment professionals. The title of Lew’s presentation is: “Off The Beaten Path: Recruiting where Others Aren’t.”

**International Student and Scholar Services**

**Chris Bragdon**, International Student Advisor and manager of ISSS walk-in services, chaired a session titled “Doubts, Quick Questions and What Ifs: Providing Effective Walk-in Services” at the 2011 NAFSA Regional X Conference in Bolton Landing, NY. Co-presented with international student advisors from Cornell and NYU, the session attracted over 60 conference participants and provided information on the various strategies employed by international students when navigating university offices. Presenters also shared advising best practices and discussed ways in which offices can best meet the needs of a diverse student population.

**Ellen Dussourd**, assistant vice provost and director, chaired a NAFSA Region X session titled “Enhancing Your Cultural Awareness: Insights from International Students” at the 2011 NAFSA Regional X Conference in Bolton Landing, New York. The session focused on international students’ expectations of academic culture, focusing in particular on areas where the United States and the student’s home country academic culture differ. Participants learned about the nuances of academic culture in China, India and Japan, and gained useful techniques to bridge the cultural gap between their advising, socializing and customer service style, and the students’ expectations.

**Emily Quackenbush**, SEVIS Coordinator, served as the NAFSA Region X Conference Planner for the regional conference which took place in Bolton Landing, NY from November 6-8, 2011. There were several pre-conference workshops offered as well as over 40 conference sessions aimed at professional development in the areas of education abroad, international student and scholar services, international recruiting and admissions, teaching learning and service, and international leadership. The conference, which had the theme of Global Reflections, Local Connections, had over 300 attendees. It successfully brought together international education colleagues from New York State and New Jersey through workshops, sessions, exhibiting and special networking events.
NEW PROVOST
continued from page 28

that will strengthen UB as a great global institution where students come to learn from the world’s most eminent scholars, and enhance the university’s role as a catalyst to the revitalization of Buffalo and Western New York. Working with UB faculty, staff and students presents a fabulous opportunity to engage in solving the problems of our time. Together, we can deliver solutions that benefit the region, state and nation and which are recognized around the world for their innovation and impact.”

Tripathi noted that Zukoski’s extensive expertise in global research and education enterprises are also highly relevant to UB, which is among the top 20 U.S. campuses with the largest enrollment of international students, and has a wide array of international education, academic exchange and study abroad programs.

As chair of the Science and Engineering Council (SERC) of A*STAR from 2006-12, Zukoski oversaw planning and direction for seven research institutes, which collectively have a total budget of $500 million per year and play a significant role in the implementation of Singapore’s development strategies. Among his accomplishments, Zukoski helped to develop and implement a major strategic plan for fostering technology-sensitive industries in Singapore through the creation of integrated, multidisciplinary research partnerships.

As vice chancellor for research at Illinois from 2002-08, Zukoski led major changes in technology commercialization and economic engagement activities. He oversaw the establishment of the Office of International Research, which built strong partnerships between the university and institutions in Singapore, India and Cyprus. Zukoski also established three multidisciplinary research institutes: the Institute of Genomic Biology, the Institute of Advanced Computing and Technology and the Institute of Natural Resources Sustainability (now the Prairie Research Institute).

He played leadership roles in the establishment and funding of the Illinois Center for Computing in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences and in the building of the Energy Biosciences Institute, a $500 million, 10-year collaboration between the University of Illinois, the University of California-Berkeley, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and energy company BP.

As former head of the department of chemical engineering at Illinois from 1994 to 2002, he spearheaded its renaming as the department of chemical and biomolecular engineering — an effort that spurred a global-scale renaming process that has succeeded in establishing biomolecular engineering as a core component of the chemical engineering discipline.

As department head, his accomplishments include the creation of a joint master’s program with the National University of Singapore, the establishment of a branch of the National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers, and the funding of a number of faculty and post-doctoral endowments.

Zukoski has been named one of the Hundred Chemical Engineers of the Modern Era by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. His research, which investigates suspension mechanics, protein crystallization and nanoparticle self-assembly, has been continually funded since 1985.

Zukoski holds a bachelor’s degree in physics from Reed College and a PhD in chemical engineering from Princeton University.

John DellaContrada is assistant vice president for media relations at University Communications.
NEW PROVOST APPOINTED

By John DellaContrada

Charles F. Zukoski has been named provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at UB, following an international search launched in September 2011. A member of the National Academy of Engineering, Zukoski is an internationally recognized scholar in chemical engineering.

Zukoski comes to UB from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was the Elio Eliakim Tarika Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. During his 17-year administrative career at Illinois he served in several key leadership positions — including a six-year tenure as vice chancellor for research. In addition he served from 2006-12 as chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council of the Agency for Science, Technology, and Research (A*STAR) in Singapore, and he continues to serve as a senior fellow of the agency.

“Charles Zukoski is a stellar addition to our senior leadership team and to our academic community as a whole,” said President Tripathi. “A first-rate provost needs to shine as an administrator, as a scholar, as a community leader, as a colleague and as an intellectual visionary. Charles excels in all these facets. He has a tremendous creative energy, a richly informed worldview and a genuine passion for public higher education.

As provost and the university’s second ranking officer, Zukoski will be a key partner with Tripathi in building on progress already under way to transform UB into one of the nation’s premier public research universities. As the university’s chief academic and budget officer, Zukoski will be responsible for leading the development and implementation of the university’s academic vision and providing leadership across the university through the articulation and support of UB’s academic priorities.

These priorities include advancing the university’s excellence in undergraduate, graduate and professional education; supporting faculty endeavors in teaching, research and public service; enhancing intellectual, geographic and cultural diversity of faculty and students; fostering trans-disciplinary innovation in research, scholarship and creative activities; and strengthening UB’s global leadership in research and education.

“I am tremendously excited to be joining UB and the Buffalo community,” Zukoski said. “President Tripathi and the university community have created an innovative strategic vision..."