

UB INTERNATIONAL

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UB International

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AN IMPACTFUL CAREER

By *Chris Dobmeier*

Looking back on his long and successful career at UB as he prepares to retire in September 2019, Stephen Dunnett reflects on how much has changed since he first arrived at the uni-

versity as an international undergraduate soon after UB had joined the State University of New York in 1962. During his transitional year before retirement, he continues to direct UB's overseas sponsored programs in Singapore, Japan and Taiwan.

In 1971, after studying and teaching in France and then earning a masters at the



Stephen Dunnett with ELI and International Education colleagues (Photo: Nancy J. Parisi)

“The people in Buffalo were nice, but not worldly,” he remembers. Dunnett, who learned Italian and French in Canada, was surprised to find a lack of interest in learning languages at UB when he first arrived. “Buffalo at that time was a very different city from what it is today,” he recounted.

“It wasn’t as multicultural as it is now. The university at that time was a lot smaller, and there weren’t very many international students either, so it was a different place,” Dunnett recalled. “To see how much both the university and the community have changed in the past fifty years is extraordinary and very gratifying.”

Professor Dunnett stepped down as Vice

Provost for International Education at the end of August 2018. During his transitional year before retirement, he continues to direct UB's overseas sponsored programs in Singapore, Japan and Taiwan.

“After I taught a semester,” Dunnett recounted, “I realized UB needed a more organized and structured approach to teaching English to international students.” Dunnett formally proposed the establishment of the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI, later known as the ELI) as a year-round program that would expand the current-standing summer program

The success of the IELI proposal, Dunnett said, depended upon the help of those who would become his esteemed mentors: Professor Robert Rossberg, dean of the Graduate School of Education and later Provost at UB; Professor George Levine, the chair

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of the English Department who later became dean of the Faculty of Arts and Letters; and Professor George Lee, who was then the dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

"I was inspired by mentors who saw things in me I didn't know were there," Dunnett notes. The IELI would go on to help expand UB's global engagement and served as a vehicle to internationalize the larger institution.

"Stephen was probably not aware of the long-term success he would have with this program," says Claude Welch, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Political Science Emeritus. "He created an opportunity which meshed with the university's intention to become a truly first-rate research university."

The IELI specialized in teaching English for academic purposes and providing a comprehensive orientation to American higher education and culture. "That approach caught the attention of the US State Department," Dunnett says.

Subsequently, the IELI was awarded many contracts by both the State Department and Institute of International Education (IIE), and became a designated center for US government sponsored international students. In 1975, the IELI was awarded the prestigious US government Soviet English Teachers training contract that brought teachers from the USSR each summer for three years.

These achievements were the fruit of Dunnett's exceptional diplomacy and marketing savvy. "[Stephen] did a lot of travel for the program to get our name out there," associate director of the English Language Institute Kathy Curtis says. He was constantly reaching out to companies, agencies, and embassies in order to strategically position the IELI for success.

In addition, Dunnett served on boards and was active in NAFSA: the Association for International Educators. "My impression was that Stephen really represented not only the University at Buffalo, but all of SUNY to NAFSA," Curtis added.

In many regards, Stephen Dunnett became the face of UB's internationalization, though he emphasizes the importance of his colleagues, who have all contributed to UB's impact in international higher education. "There were many others who helped, and of course one person doesn't do everything," he says.

In 1979, Dunnett was approached by one of his mentors, Dean George Lee, about the possibility of traveling to Beijing. China was still recovering from the disastrous Cultural Revolution, and diplomatic relations between the United States and China had only just been normalized.

"No one I knew had ever been to China and George was one of the first persons from Buffalo to visit that country," Stephen says. "Of course, I jumped at the opportunity."

During their visit, Dunnett and Lee worked out an academic exchange agreement between UB and the Beijing Municipal System of Higher Education, the first such agreement since normalization of diplomatic relations. Under the agreement, an English language training center was established by the IELI on the campus of Capital Normal University in Beijing to prepare the first Chinese graduate students to study in the US.

Many graduates of the Beijing center now occupy prominent positions in the Chinese education and business sectors. For example, one civil engineering Ph.D. graduate of the Beijing center, Zhou Ji, went on to serve as the Minister of Education for China, and now serves as the president of the Chinese National Academy of Engineering. The Beijing center also provided opportunities for many young Americans to teach English in Beijing.

Almost four decades later, the impact of the initial exchange agreement can still be felt. Faculty and student exchanges continue with Capital Normal University, and the first Confucius Institute in SUNY, founded at UB in 2010, resulted from that partnership. The UB Confucius Institute benefits thousands of students in local K-12 schools who are learning the Chinese language while strengthening scholarship and studies related to China at UB itself.

After the initial Beijing agreements, UB's engagement with China continued to expand when in 1984, the UB School of Management (SOM) was awarded a contract by the US Department of Commerce to establish the first US MBA program in China. This five-year program was succeeded by subsequent Executive MBA programs in China that SOM administered with local partners.

Under Dunnett's direction, the IELI also played a major role in the \$20 million UB Cooperative Education Program with the Institut Teknologi MARA in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia that launched in 1986. Through a contract between UB and the Malaysian government, the program enabled Malaysian students to do their first two years of undergraduate courses in Malaysia before transferring to Buffalo to complete engineering degrees at UB and other US universities.

The success of this program, which ran until 1991, gave UB valuable administrative experience in running transnational programs, and made possible more ambitious programs later on, such as the undergraduate degree programs delivered at the Singapore Institute of Management, which currently enroll more than 1,500 students and mark 15 years of successful operation in 2019.

Administering these overseas programs demonstrated the need for UB to provide better and more centralized international services. In 1989, then-Provost William Greiner responded to this necessity by creating the position of vice provost for international education—a position that Greiner recruited Dunnett to fill. "I thought the senior position a great idea, until he assigned the job to me!" Dunnett jokes. In fact, there was nobody better suited for the job.

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FROM THE INTERIM VICE PROVOST

Having served under Professor Stephen C. Dunnett's leadership during his three-decade tenure as Vice Provost for International Education, I was honored to be asked to serve as Interim Vice Provost when Stephen stepped down on September 1, 2018.

I have benefited greatly, both professionally and personally, from his mentoring and friendship over the years, and it is with pride and gratitude that I take this opportunity to reflect on his contributions and legacy.

As our lead article attests, Stephen has had a most enduring and impactful career as UB's Senior International Officer (SIO) since 1989, and before that as a faculty member in the Graduate School of Education (GSE) and the founding Director of the UB English Language Institute (ELI).

For nearly 50 years Stephen has been advancing and deepening UB's internationalization, typically out in front of both the field and most other institutions—a leader and model for SIOs across the country and around the world.

One might begin the story with Stephen's early efforts to "internationalize" himself, first as an international undergraduate at UB, having come from Canada, and then through his extensive global travels, including study periods in France and Italy to acquire advanced proficiency in their languages. Long before establishing the ELI in 1971, Stephen acquired considerable firsthand experience as an international student dealing with the challenge of learning new languages and adjusting to new cultures.

Appreciating the experience of international students and their potential importance to US higher education was a key starting point for Stephen's eventual success. And the ELI was an effective launch pad for his career—having been an intrepid and successful learner of languages, Stephen became an innovative and highly regarded teacher of them as well, first as a graduate student at the University of Kansas, and later at UB through strengthening the teaching of English as a Second Language.

Thanks to his resourceful efforts to recruit students and partner with organizations that sponsored them, Stephen quickly expanded the ELI in the early 1970s, growing its annual enrollment in the Intensive English Program to more than 1,000 students in a few short years.

Many of these students needed to improve their English in order to enroll in US universities, including UB. With its innovative English for Academic Purposes curriculum, the

ELI thus became a major feeder program, growing the international enrollment in UB degree programs, particularly at the graduate level.

Stephen facilitated contracts to bring groups of sponsored students to UB for pre-academic English training, including Fulbright, LASPAU and AMIDEAST scholars. One of the landmark contracts brought English teachers to the ELI from the Soviet Union each summer over a three-year period in the late 1970s. This State Department program, like many others Stephen brokered, not only brought diverse groups of students to UB but also helped raise UB's profile with both the US and foreign governments.

As the cover story relates, collaborative programs at the ELI led to similar programs overseas, beginning with the first US English language training center in China, launched in 1981 following UB's pioneering agreements that Stephen helped negotiate with partners in Beijing.

This initiative paved the way for UB being awarded a contract to deliver the first US MBA program in Dalian, China, beginning in 1984. The ELI supported the School of Management in this program by providing pre-academic English training in Dalian. It was through my involvement as a teacher in this program that I first came to know Stephen in 1985.

Establishing these early programs in China was key to UB's internationalization longer term, and Stephen recognized the future importance of China to the university and to the US generally. China would become a strategic partner and in time send the largest number of international students to UB.

One can readily see how these early offshore programs laid the foundation for the current and longest running program of this kind—UB's programs at the Singapore Institute of Management, which first began with an Executive MBA in 1996 and now continue twenty two years later with six undergraduate degree programs enrolling 1,500 students. These programs reinforce UB's high standing in Asia and contribute large numbers to our already sizable alumni base in the region.

The growth of UB's offshore enrollment occurred in parallel with more dramatic growth at UB. One of the major initiatives of Stephen's first years as Vice Provost was



Stephen Dunnett with Interim Vice Provost Wood (Nancy J. Paris)

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The “Buffalo model” for centralized international programs and services was widely emulated by major universities throughout the United States and abroad.

In a letter to the UB community announcing Dunnett’s retirement, Provost Charles Zukoski noted, “Stephen has led UB’s internationalization efforts since 1989 and positively impacted thousands of international and domestic students, building UB’s global reputation, significantly growing our international student population, developing nationally pioneering international student and faculty support programs, building a centralized office of Study Abroad Programs, enhancing UB’s international alumni engagement, and internationalizing UB’s curriculum.”

The centralization of international programs also helped advance study abroad at UB. For example, in 1997, UB became one of the first US institutions to develop a study abroad program in Cuba, sending students on a summer program hosted by the University of Havana.

Dunnett’s work goes beyond advancing UB’s presence abroad; it has also involved programming and events on campus to internationalize UB. In 2006, for example, he had a major role in facilitating a three-day visit by His Holiness the Dalai Lama that included an interdenominational religious service, a Distinguished Speaker Series address in UB Stadium, and a conference on Buddhist law in the Law School.

These are just a few of the many milestones that might be cited from Stephen Dunnett’s career at UB—a career that has truly been a labor of love. “I do love my work,

and I feel very privileged to have been hired by UB to work with such a superb scholarly community,” Dunnett says.

Dunnett makes it clear that his success is a reflection of the success achieved by his mentors and university leaders—a success shared with his colleagues in the ELI and International Education, and among collaborators across UB. “I’ve been privileged to work with presidents and provosts, particularly President Tripathi and Provost Zukoski, who have valued UB’s internationalization and global engagement and strongly supported our work.”

When describing the metrics of internationalization of UB—the increased enrollment of international students, the increased opportunities for study abroad and global learning, UB’s increased international presence, and a myriad of other international programs, values, and attributes of the university—it is difficult to not mention the work of Stephen Dunnett.

Yet, his legacy is much more than the programs he developed or the institutional change he facilitated. His service to the University at Buffalo will be remembered by all of his colleagues whose enthusiasm for international education was fostered by Dunnett’s own; by the international students who were given the resources to remain at UB when their home countries faced turmoil; by the countless international and domestic students whom he has mentored, no matter how far along in their academic careers; and by the many leaders in international education who have been guided by Stephen Dunnett’s example. But he is quick to say, “I am a product of the university as much as I contributed to it.” 🌐

Chris Dobmeier is a masters student in Communication.

FROM THE INTERIM VICE PROVOST

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the establishment of an Office of International Enrollment Management (IEM), which was tasked with reversing a decline in international enrollment in the early 1990s through an aggressive overseas recruitment effort. An Office of International Admissions within IEM followed in 1998. This was another area in which UB was a pioneer thanks to Stephen’s vision—long before other institutions became engaged in international recruitment, often owing to the prospect of higher tuition revenue from international students.

Like our offshore programs, where UB faculty could teach in different cultural environments while internationalizing their curricula, our international students became key drivers of the university’s internationalization. Our recent and ongoing efforts to promote inclusion and engagement are helping to integrate these students into campus life and promote retention.

Stephen’s achievements in the international area have been made possible by a strategic and entrepreneurial ap-

proach as well as the abiding trust and confidence he has earned from the many UB presidents, provosts and deans he has served so well during his long tenure. These leaders have embraced and advanced Stephen’s vision of UB as a global university, most clearly articulated in UB’s strategic internationalization plan, “The Global Imperative.”

The unheralded part of Stephen’s efforts has been his ceaseless travels abroad with university leaders to advance UB’s recruitment efforts, overseas programs and partnerships, research collaborations and impactful engagement throughout the world. As UB’s emissary and chief diplomat, Stephen has been the university’s “best face” to the rest of the world, bringing both cosmopolitan sophistication and acute cross-cultural sensitivity to UB’s relations with institutions and colleagues in other countries.

In effect, Stephen has welcomed the world to UB while serving as UB’s ambassador to the world. Without his generous and discerning approach, UB would be a poorer institution now—one that is more provincial and less globally engaged. 🌐

John Wood is Interim Vice Provost for International Education.

DUAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM CELEBRATES 10-YEAR PARTNERSHIP

By Peter Murphy and Nicole Capozziello

In 2005, a group of ten students traveled over 5,000 miles from their home country of Turkey to study at UB. The cohort came with a unique goal: to participate in the Dual Diploma Program, a partnership between the University at Buffalo's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering (CSEE) and Istanbul Technical University (ITU). At the completion of the program students received a UB diploma as well as an ITU diploma.



Christine Human (5th from left in front) with DDP seniors at their orientation in fall 2018

This first cohort graduated in 2008. Ten years later, the program is stronger than ever, with over 250 graduates going on to careers and advanced degree programs in the U.S. and abroad. The program boasts an 85% graduation rate, surpassing the national undergraduate conferral rate of public research universities.

This year, students and faculty celebrated additional milestones: three students who completed the Dual Diploma Program (DDP) were accepted into a UB master's program, and one student, Ugur Eker, earned his PhD in civil engineering.

Eker, who has been in Buffalo since 2010, says this program made the prospect of studying in the U.S. realistic. The DDP's status as an official Turkish government program makes it simpler for students to transition into an education program in the United States.

"You're not actually applying to UB, you're applying to the dual diploma program," he says, "and once you're accepted, you are accepted at both schools. If this program wasn't there, I would never have applied to school in the U.S. because the process is too difficult."

Students in the DDP complete their freshman and junior years at ITU, and their sophomore and senior years at UB.

This model offers students a bicultural experience and the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to be successful engineers in the U.S., Turkey and around the globe.

The seeds of the program were planted in 2000, when the State University of New York (SUNY) entered into general discussions with the Turkish Higher Education Administration, called YÖK, to develop dual diploma programs linking universities in New York and Turkey.

"Civil engineering at UB was a really good academic match for the program because of its international reputation," says Christine Human, associate dean for accreditation and student affairs in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the DDP's academic advisor. "The department is highly ranked and has expertise in structural and earthquake engineering, as does ITU."

Over the years, SUNY and YÖK have continued to develop and add more programs to the SUNY-Turkish portfolio, with a current roster of 21 active programs between four Turkish universities and 10 SUNY campuses. UB is unique in the fact that it is the only SUNY school to offer a DDP in civil engineering.

Steven Shaw, assistant vice provost and director of international admissions, helped oversee the development of the agreement between SUNY and YÖK. Of the program today, he says, "In total, it's enrolled more than 3,100 Turkish students, including over 2,200 graduates thus far."

The students' success in the program can in part be attributed to the support they received from UB staff and faculty.

"There are orientation programs before the semester starts that inform international students about the banking system in U.S., campus life, dorms, campus restaurants, shops, U.S. laws, UB campus rules and basically things to do and not do," says Umit Oksuz, a graduate of the program. "UB staff and faculty are very helpful to international students. They know what we are going through and try to do everything to make our life easier."

After earning his bachelor degree in 2012, Oksuz completed an MS at the University of Texas at Austin and now works at Structural Engineering Associates, Inc. in San Antonio. In 2017, he earned his Professional Engineering License, or PE.

"The education students get from the DDP is exceptional

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and well beyond the industry standards,” says Oskuz. “An average engineer takes additional PE preparatory courses and studies approximately 300 hours to pass the PE exam, while I was able to do it with 2-3 weeks of self-study.”

Many graduates of the DDP have been able to leverage and build on the program’s bicultural experience. Yusa Hakan, who graduated in 2011, secured his first engineering job during a UB Career Services event.

“Aside from the academics, professional connections certainly help in landing a job. My first engineering job was with Kiewit, the fifth largest construction company in the U.S.,” he says. “They were looking for someone with strong technical knowledge and who was willing to travel. I shared my story about being abroad and studying in two universities. They hired me shortly after.”

Domestic students at UB may also take advantage of the partnership between the ITU and UB. UB student Derek Johnson spent a semester abroad at ITU, and cherishes his experience. “Once I made a few friends and was able to explore Istanbul, the experience was like no other,” said Johnson. “Through the Erasmus Student Network, I was able to explore the culture and scenery in Turkey without falling behind in my coursework.”

Both partners continuously strive to improve the experience for DDP students. “We have UB students connecting with first year ITUs through video chat,” says Professor

Human, who hopes that these efforts will lead to a mentor-mentee program between domestic students and DDP students.

Each year, Human and Éva McGovern, the undergraduate academic coordinator in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, organize a social event in mid-September to help with the transition DDP and other international students go through. “We host a bonfire and toast marshmallows and take boat rides on UB’s Lake LaSalle,” said McGovern.

Though participants in the DDP program spend only half of their undergraduate careers at UB, they demonstrate full-time UB pride and establish meaningful connections to the campus community and the region. Ceren Kucukcelcebi and her husband Mehmet Gökalp Gedik both completed the DDP. “Buffalo is very special for us,” Kucukcelcebi says. “We were in America during our honeymoon, and we reserved one of our days to visit Buffalo and Dr. Human, who is a valuable teacher, and supported us throughout our time at UB.”

UB welcomed its latest cohort of 16 DDP students in September. “In our changing world economy, collaboration between nations in STEM fields remains imperative. Many of our DDP students find employment in the U.S. or stay for graduate studies,” McGovern says. “It is a pleasure to see their success.” 🌐

Peter Murphy is outreach coordinator for CSEE, and Nicole Capozziello is a Social Work student.

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academic experience. For example, Magzhan Gabidolla, a computer science student, is taking a 300-level class in algorithms, as well as a course in psychology.

Others are engaging in research, such as electrical engineering students Nazerke Kulmukhanova and Amanat Kafizov. The two are doing an independent study on Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM), a modulation format used for Wi-Fi and 4G communications, with Josep Jornet, an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

But like all students at UB, there’s life outside the classroom as well. The students attended a Buffalo Bison baseball game, visited the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, and embarked on an architectural heritage tour of downtown Buffalo led by Biehl himself. They also took a trip to Fort Niagara and Niagara Falls—a huge hit with all the students.

“[Visiting these attractions] is an aspect that really adds to their experience,” says Wood. “They’re not just enrolled in courses. They have something more that enriches their time at UB.”

Students also went off on their own to enjoy attrac-

tions like Canalside, downtown Buffalo, and of course, the shopping malls. But just getting around was an experience for Rustam Zhumagambetov, a computer science student: “We are used to excellent public transportation in Astana (bus lines connect almost all of the city); it is unusual that in Buffalo people rely on personal cars.” Gabidolla was also surprised by the range of car models available in the U.S.

The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, and International Education hope the 38 visiting students will return to Kazakhstan and spread the word about their experience at UB to their peers, so more students will return next summer. And that perhaps, a few will enjoy their time in Buffalo so much that they apply to UB’s graduate school for the next stage of their academic journey.

“I love everything about UB,” says Iskaliyeva. “Everyone here is ready to help, which makes our stay here more comfortable. Every question has its answer; every request is taken care of rapidly. I know this is the first collaboration between NU and UB. I hope that this collaboration will continue further.” 🌐

Rebecca Rudell is a freelance writer who has contributed to various UB publications.

SUMMER PROGRAM FOR STEM STUDENTS FROM KAZAKHSTAN

by Rebecca Rudell

In late May 2018 UB welcomed 38 undergraduate STEM students from Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan to campus. They made the 36-hour trip to take a variety of classes, from engineering to sociology, through UBThisSummer during the first six-week session of the program.

Nazarbayev University was founded in 2010 and includes undergraduate schools of engineering, medicine, humanities and social sciences, mining and geosciences, science and technology, and graduate schools of business, education and public policy. As a young institution, they are eager to offer their students the opportunities available at larger international schools to ensure they get the best education possible.

The UB-NU relationship began when Provost Charles Zukoski visited the institution in September 2017. Since then, potential research opportunities between the two universities and the idea of bringing students to UB for the summer have been discussed, and this past February, four NU engineering faculty, including the Dean of Engineering, Dr. Charles Surya, visited UB. Zukoski returned to NU in June to give a talk at the 2018 Eurasian Higher Education Leaders Forum and delivered an informal report on the students' experience at UB thus far.

Heading up this summer program were John Wood, Interim Vice Provost for International Education; Peter Biehl, Associate Dean for International Education and Enrollment, Anthropology; and Christine Human, Associate Dean for Accreditation and Student Affairs, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

As soon as the students arrived, they were involved in activities, both academic and extracurricular. For example, Human and Chelsea Montrois, Student Affairs Assistant for SEAS, gave the students an academic orientation and campus tour.

Later in the week, the students met with Jim Bowmen from International Student Services; Chris Bragdon, Assistant Director for Residential Life; and engineering librarian Erin Rowley, who developed a library introduction work-

shop, so students could learn how to navigate UB's immense collection.

Aida Iskaliyeva, a mechanical engineering student, explains that since their university is only eight years old, they currently have just one two-floor library. "But at UB," she says, "We can find several libraries to study in, which are very silent and cozy."



NU students gathered at Baird Point at the beginning of their program

"It is a great university with numerous facilities for students, including libraries, gyms, and swimming pools. The interesting thing about UB is the separation of the North and South Campuses," says Azat Amiralin, a mechanical engineering

student. He enjoys taking classes at one

campus and living at another [the students are housed at Goodyear Hall on South Campus], as "It's easier to relax after a long day at university."

The diversity the students have experienced at UB was noteworthy as well. Iskaliyeva and Amiralin are taking a course in STEM communications with five other students from Kazakhstan and another 18 students from the U.S. and other international locations, so there is a lot of cultural interaction involved in the class. "The students at UB are great, very smart and open minded," says Iskaliyeva of her fellow class members. "We are all so different, with different clothes, different views of life. We have a lot to learn from each other."

The learning experience at UB varies from that of NU as well. Viktoriya Tsoy, a civil engineering student, says: "Lectures are exciting and professors explain the topics in depth." She also enjoys UB's liberal atmosphere and how the university takes a student-friendly approach to academics. Gaukhar Dauzhan, a computer science student, adds, "I love the teaching styles."

Professors make lectures interesting and interactive. The atmosphere in class is more relaxed and students do not hesitate to ask questions and comment on the material. I enjoy every single day of being here."

While many of the students are taking courses through the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, they are also taking classes in management, chemistry, biology, math and other subjects, to ensure a well-rounded

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A HOLIDAY TRADITION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

By Chris Dobmeier

This year's fifth annual Thanksgiving Without Borders event, in which local faculty, staff, and alumni open their homes to international students to celebrate Thanksgiving festivities, gave students and their hosts a chance to learn about each other's cultures and traditions.

"This year's Thanksgiving Without Borders was a huge success," said international student advisor Jim Bowman, who spearheaded the program. "We had around 130 students register to participate," he says. What's more is that Thanksgiving Without Borders has enjoyed its highest number of participating hosts this year—approximately 70, up from 46 hosts last year's.

Thanksgiving Without Borders is a team effort, Bowman explains. The event is a joint initiative by the offices of International Student Services (ISS) and the Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence. International Student Inclusion and Engagement Program Coordinator Caitlin Rioux thinks of it as more of a community initiative.

"It is amazing that so many staff and faculty are willing to open their homes to these students," she says.

In an effort to accommodate more students, hosting for Thanksgiving Without Borders was opened up to alumni, rather than just faculty and staff. "Instead of having some faculty host five or six students for Thanksgiving, host families can have a more intimate experience with one or two students," says Bowman.

"This allows these students to be integrated into the family experience a bit more." Bowman adds that, with the addition of including alumni hosts in the program, international students are able to get a better sense of the breadth of roleplayers in the UB community.

However, this cultural sharing experience is not exclusive to those who register to host. "It is common that students and faculty from our International Student Mentorship Program (ISMP) also open their homes to the international students they are paired with," says Bowman.

Mentors, or cultural exchange partners, in this program are paired with two new international students in an effort to provide each other with rich cultural conversation and experiences throughout the duration of the semester.

The diversity of hosts adds to the impact of Thanksgiving Without Borders. "International students want to experience what it is like to be in an American home," Rioux adds. "However, the beauty of Thanksgiving is that not everybody celebrates it the same."

Bowman received positive feedback from participants. One host wrote, "I just wanted to thank you for this op-

portunity and for pairing my family with some really great students. I look forward to participating in the future," while another said, "Thank you so much for sending these two students to our home this Thanksgiving. We had a blast! The students were a wonderful addition and made our dinner so much more special."

Both prospective hosts and guests for Thanksgiving Without Borders can submit an application to participate in the event. The applications are evaluated by ISS staff before they undergo a matchmaking process, where accommodations like transportation or special dietary options are made available to students who require such.



ISS staffer Darla Maffei (2nd from l) with her Thanksgiving without Borders guests

Hosts and guests are then required to participate in an instructional seminar. Here, guests are provided with a set of expectations to consider, and hosts are provided with guidelines on hosting an international student. This sort of training prepares hosts to be sensitive to different cultures, while still fostering an open-minded conversation.

"One thing we try to do is push the agenda of having meaningful engagement between hosts and the international students," Rioux says. "We want more participation because not only is it great for our students to learn about this American holiday, and the different ways in which it is celebrated, but it also illustrates the importance of engaging in cross-cultural dialogue," adds Bowman.

"It is critically important that we learn about each other's differences, and celebrate these differences, and I think that this program supports that goal."

Bowman and the ISS staff are looking for ways to build on this year's success. "Although this is a single event, it has the potential to foster relationships that go beyond one meal," notes Bowman. 🌐

FOSTERING A SUPPORTIVE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

By Michael Andrei

UB is moving to accelerate and strengthen engagement between new and returning international students and domestic students, campus life, and academic and non-academic programs.

The university is focusing on bringing international students more rapidly into classrooms and student life; developing leadership roles for domestic and international students; bridging cultural differences more effectively and breaking down stereotypes, to help students from both groups better understand each other.

The actions are among more than 50 recommendations contained in the 159-page report of a two-year-long study by a task force of faculty and administrators, delivered to Provost Charles F. Zukoski, which looked into integrating international students at UB more fully into campus and classroom life.

"This is a new approach. We are more mindful of our efforts to facilitate the inclusion and engagement of our international students to ensure their retention and long-term success at UB," says John J. Wood, interim vice provost for international education at UB.

"We are acting on recommendations contained in the task force report," says Wood. "As we move forward, to enhance UB's standing as a truly global university, improving the environment and services for international students must be a clear priority."

UB's approach is focused around key initiatives, says Katie Tudini, formerly assistant director of the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at Georgia Institute of Technology, now UB's assistant vice provost and director for International Student Services (ISS).

Tudini describes one priority as a grants-driven initiative, with available funding going to departments — academic and non-academic — for collaborative, co-sponsored, inclusive programming.

"Even if they are in the same classroom together, it is not inclusive if the two student populations don't understand each other," says Tudini, who has more than 10 years of experience in international education and was recently appointed chair of the International Student and Scholar Regulatory Practice Committee of NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

"We are trying to assist faculty members, lab directors, Student Life staff, resident advisors and others in understanding how to best prepare both groups: how to understand each other, break down stereotypes and think about implicit bias," she says.

Developing student leaders is also a key priority. "That could mean international students, or U.S. students who have a deeper context of international differences," Tudini says. "They will serve as inclusion and engagement am-

bassadors around campus.

"LGBTQ students, students of color, undocumented students — we are trying to instill an understanding about what it means to be inclusive of all," she says.

Barbara J. Ricotta, UB senior associate vice president for student life, cites an inclusive environment as important to international students' ability to make early connections with the campus community and explore new opportunities.

"Student Life understands the value of providing opportunities for new and returning international students to find different activities and people they can get to know," she says. "It is important for them to become a part of the UB community.

"International students don't have the familiarities of home and can struggle in managing the change in environment. But, we know you are going to be more academically successful — and more likely to stay and graduate — if you can get more engaged within those first six-to-eight weeks," says Ricotta.

Tudini says during the 2018 International Student Orientation, an interactive word cloud activity revealed an informal assessment of what undergraduate international students want to get out of their time at UB.

"What these students are most looking forward to about their time at UB," Tudini says, "was overwhelmingly found to be the word, 'friends.' Which tells us that the most important thing to students outside of their academics, is the connections they will make with fellow students at UB."

"For international students, meeting others throughout the larger university community, getting outside the cultural 'bubble' of your home country, is the hardest thing to do," says Peter Pranata, a graduate student in industrial and systems engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

"When I arrived as a freshman from Indonesia in 2014, there were three other students here from my country," says Pranata. "Getting involved, making connections is key, but this didn't come right away for me. After receiving an invitation as a sophomore to join the Indonesian Student Association, things progressed from there, meeting many more people, getting involved in community service.

"A lot happened after I was elected president of the association. Developing leadership among international students is important, and there are many opportunities to meet others from different backgrounds and nationalities."

Strengthening transition programs can help international students work through multiple challenges once they have arrived at their university.

"We are going to focus on helping international students come to all of those other programs — the ones that exist

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BOARD BRINGS DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TOGETHER

By Chris Dobmeier

GloBULL Leaders is a newly established group of international and domestic students at the forefront of UB's programming for diversity and inclusion. These student leaders, each unique for their cross-cultural experiences on and off campus, are dedicated to showcasing the rich diversity at UB.

The initial group of GloBULL Leaders consists of nine students—both international and domestic, undergraduate and graduate students. These leaders, handpicked for their prior service to UB's goals of diversity and inclusion, will set the precedent for a more student-inclusive approach to programming.

"Often, administration thinks of programming without student input," says Caitlin Rioux, who developed the GloBULL leaders. Rioux serves as the International Student Inclusion and Engagement Program Coordinator, and is responsible for fostering cross-cultural exchange at UB through student-focused programming.

"There was not a lot of chance for feedback," Rioux says of previous years' programming. With a student committee dedicated to generating ideas for programming, Rioux hopes that will change. "Having a versatile group covers the need for feedback."

One GloBULL Leader, Si Thu Maung, adds he finds value in "developing and contributing community as an individual and yet also, as a part of this strong, fun, and energetic team." Si Thu Maung from Myanmar, is a senior at UB, studying Operations and Supply Chain Management.

"There are lots of possibilities for the future," Rioux explains. "It would be ideal for GloBULL Leaders to contin-

ue doing an event during International Education Week (IEW), and there is room for GloBULL to work more with student organizations."

In previous years, the lack of cross-cultural programming during IEW has been noted. "Since the GloBULL team consists of both international and local students, it [will be] very helpful to close the gap and act as a bridge between those two student bodies to be more interactive," Maung says

The focus of International Education Week is now shifting away from a professional, faculty-focused agenda to a more casual, student-friendly agenda. To streamline this new orientation, GloBULL Leaders became involved in the International Week's planning.

The GloBULL Leaders organized and executed its first event on November 15, 2018 during this year's International Education Week, where the GloBULL Leaders helped turn part of the Student Union into the annual International Coffeehouse venue.

The event was supported by members of the UB Confucius Institute, who held sessions teaching coffeehouse attendees how to write Chinese characters.

In addition to the Confucius Institute Chinese workshop, the event offered an array of desserts, bubble tea, board games, music, and perhaps the main attraction, a ball pit with a cache of balls that ask questions designed to spark intercultural conversation. Despite the inclement weather, the event drew in a considerable crowd. The leaders were proud of the turnout.

GloBULL Leader Maheen Ansari, a business and psychology student originally from Pakistan, explains, "I was very

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SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

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outside of their classes — that we also want them to be a part of," says Tudini. "To impress upon them right from the beginning how important it is for them to become a part of this community. When students don't have a network, they often don't know what resources are available to them, and they don't have people to talk to."

Chris Dobmeier, a member of the UB Class of 2018 who spoke to international students during this fall's International Orientation Week, says domestic students also benefit from engaging with international students, often learning more about them through the experience.

"When I got to UB, the first group I joined was an intramural soccer team," says Dobmeier, who is from Niagara Falls. "There were players from Dubai, India, Germany, Ireland and Iraq. Until then, I had no experience with anyone from another country.

"Playing soccer, you get to know others on a team level and as individuals," he says. "I learned what a huge risk it was for many of them to leave their homes and their countries and come to the U.S. to attend UB.

"Most domestic students have no idea about that, and I would not really have understood that without getting to know them through the team. So it was about more than soccer for me."

Tudini says experiences such as Dobmeier's work to expand the worldview of domestic students.

"Not just for when they are with international students, but, also because we are trying to make sure they understand those general concepts of inclusion and why it's important when they are with students or other individuals who are different from them," she says. 🌐

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

THREE STUDENTS RECEIVE FULBRIGHT GRANTS

By Rebecca Rudell

This year, UB has produced three Fulbright winners, three alternates and six finalists, in addition to five other study abroad scholarship recipients.

Sponsored by the U.S. State Department, Fulbright Scholarships are awarded to nearly 8,000 students and scholars each year. The scholarship covers airfare to the country one is studying in and a stipend to cover housing expenses. It was proposed by Sen. J. William Fulbright in 1945 as a way to promote peace and friendship among all the nations of the world.

UB's three 2018 Fulbright winners:

Elizabeth Lessner, who studied media arts production at UB, is traveling to Brazil to conduct a creative arts project on embedded electronics. While there, she will teach workshops about physical computing and embedded electronics to university members and local communities.

"My research is focused on how sensory experiences bodily engage viewers. I make objects and installations that use sensory perception to reframe interpersonal interactions. I do this by combining traditional sculpture materials with embedded electronics to create multi-sensory experiences that are sometimes interactive. This work stands on the shoulders of Brazilian sculptor Lygia Clark's use of immersive sensorial experiences to reframe viewers' conceptions of self," Lessner wrote in her Fulbright application.

Lessner received her undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon and a MFA from UB in 2016. She is from Bethesda, Maryland.

Erika Ruhl will head to Finland where she will continue her research into the subject of children's identity and agency in pre-modern Finnish burial textiles. She says her dissertation topic examines community views of children in Finland through the burial practices at Oulu Cathedral and the churches of Haukipudas, Hailuoto and Keminmaa between the 15th and 19th centuries. Her project analyzes the burial clothes of pre-modern mummies preserved under the floors of these churches.

"Children are often ignored or forgotten in archaeological research. By analyzing naturally mummified burials at pre-

modern Finnish churches, I examine children's active role in history, exploring what 'childhood' meant and ways communities responded to losing a child. This project contributes to the wider and cross-cultural understanding of children and childhood," noted Ruhl in her application.

Ruhl is from Appleton, Wisconsin, and earned her bachelor's degree from Marquette University. She received an MA from UB in 2014 and is currently a doctoral student in anthropology, expected to graduate in 2020.

Erin Sweeney will conduct research on designing innovative policy frameworks for a resilient food system in Singapore. She explains that as an urban planner, "I believe that engaging in local projects is vital to becoming part of the host community. Through my passion for growing food, I will volunteer at the city-run community gardens to meet Singaporeans of

all ages and backgrounds to learn about local crops." Although Singapore is among the most food-secure countries in the world, it imports 90 percent of its food, making it vulnerable to external shocks," Sweeney wrote in her application.

"Through qualitative research with farmers and policymakers, my proposed project will explore the question: How can policy effectively support farmers' capacity to produce a more resilient food supply? I will produce a set of briefs that recommend policies to enhance Singapore's food-system resiliency and role as a regional leader in urban planning." Sweeney is from Geneseo, New York. She received her BA from Allegheny College and earned her master's degree in urban planning from UB this May.

UB's three Fulbright alternates are Kelly Aldinger, Aye Alexandres and Antara Majumdar. The six finalists are Harman Paul Brar, Michael Fiorica, Brentyn Mendel, Anna Porter, Stanzi Vaubel and Leslie Veloz.

Fulbright scholarships are one of the many opportunities available for students interested in studying abroad — and UB students have earned those as well.

As of fall 2018, Patrick McDevitt, associate professor of history, has taken on the role of Fulbright program adviser previously filled by Colleen Culleton, associate professor of romance languages and literatures. 🌐



Elizabeth Lessner, Erika Ruhl and Erin Sweeney (Photo: Claire Dibble)

UNIVERSITY LOSES LONGTIME ADVOCATE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Jeannette Marie Ludwig, associate professor emerita of French, died July 29, 2018 of metastatic colon cancer. She was 68. A highly engaged scholar and teacher of languages and religions, Ludwig was a critical influence on thousands of students at UB.

Ludwig was born on Sept. 29, 1949, the first child of George and Ruth (Mann) Ludwig, and was raised in Des Moines, Iowa. During high school, she spent a year in Sweden as an exchange student under the auspices of the American Field Service and became fluent in Swedish.

She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Drake University and earned a doctorate in Romance linguistics from the University of Michigan, specializing in second language acquisition. A graduate scholarship from the Rotary Foundation allowed her to study linguistics in Strasbourg, France.

Ludwig came to UB in 1977 to teach a variety of French linguistics courses in what is now the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. She was the director of the French Language Program, where she supervised graduate student teaching assistants in elementary and intermediate French.

She received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1980, and the Didaskalos Award from the Campus Ministry Association in 1992. Together with her husband, Claude Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Political Science, she received the Cardinal Newman Award for service to the university in 2015.

In the mid-1980s, Ludwig served for several years as associate dean for undergraduate studies in the then-Faculty of Arts and Letters, and in the early 1990s as associate vice provost for undergraduate studies. She was the first woman to serve in those capacities. She later chaired the Asian Studies Advisory Council.

Active in the development of a revised undergraduate curriculum in general education, she helped develop a path-breaking course entitled "American Pluralism," which took up the issues of race, gender, class, ethnicity and religion in America. She designed and taught a course on women's language, and spoke widely on the issue in civic and leadership groups.

In 1998, she earned an MA in theology from Christ the King Seminary and began teaching comparative religion, Asian religions and Buddhism in the Religious Studies and Asian Studies programs at UB. In 2006, she co-chaired the committee that organized the Interfaith Religious Service

as part of the three-day visit to UB of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

Travel was a great interest of Ludwig's, particularly as it informed her teaching and bolstered her fabric collection. She and Welch spent time in France, Africa and India, in addition to shorter trips to China, Japan and Southeast Asia. In conjunction with her sibling, Trudi, the couple led several group art and historical trips to various locations in Europe, co-lecturing on politics, linguistics, religious history and art history. Just prior to retirement, Ludwig and Welch taught for a semester in Singapore.

An active member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Ludwig was ordained as an elder and chaired several key committees. In 1997, she helped found the Zen Dharma Community, a Buddhist group in Buffalo. In 2007, she received jukai (lay ordination) in the Mountains and Rivers Order of Zen Mountain Monastery in Mt. Tremper, New York. Abbott John Daido Looi included her in the transmission of the Buddhist ancestral lineage with the name Choho, by which she was called in her Zen community.

A sought-after community speaker, Ludwig enriched the lives of many by teaching Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism at Elderhostel, the Chautauqua Institution and at many Erie County senior centers. She was an avid lifelong learner who found joy in obscure facts and connections. She had a gift for making complex information accessible to a wide range of audiences with clarity and humor.

Ludwig possessed a love for detail, particularly in human faces and rich color. Her workspaces were decorated with an ever-changing collage of powerful images and quotations. She was able to create beauty from other people's castoffs. She valued justice, humor, hard work and creativity of all kinds.

In addition to Welch, her husband of 37 years, Ludwig is survived by three step-children, Sarah Welch, Martha Dyer and Christopher Welch; seven grandchildren, Sahale and Emma Riedel; Alice, Claudia and Jack Dyer; and Gabriella and Michael Welch; and three siblings, Eric Ludwig, Lisé Ludwig and Tru Ludwig. Her step-daughter, Lisa, died in 2017 and her brother, Karl (Fritz), died in 2016.

A memorial service was held September 29, 2018 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Buffalo. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to American Field Service, the UB Foundation (Welch-Ludwig Fund), Westminster Presbyterian Church or Zen Mountain Monastery. 🌐



UB GRADS KEY PLAYERS IN ONE WORLD CAFE DESIGN

By Michael Andrei

The CannonDesign project team chosen for the global design firm's partnership with UB on the university's signature One World Café brings expertise in transformative renovation and award-winning, culinary-focused design, as well as experience working on major architectural projects across Western New York.

And as UB graduates, team members Peter McCarthy, Luke Johnson and Amir Rezaei also bring a unique understanding and appreciation for the university to the project.

The opening of One World Café (OWC), now planned for spring 2021, will meet the demand for expanded dining facilities among a growing campus population, while also bringing to UB an international eatery and community space where students, faculty, staff and visitors can enjoy a diverse selection of foods from around the world in a welcoming, multicultural environment.

OWC will mark completion of the third phase of Heart of the Campus, the UB2020 initiative to enhance the student learning experience by creating a learning landscape in the center of the academic spine.

Project manager Frank Sica, who holds a BS in architecture from the University of Virginia, is one of the most knowledgeable and technically experienced architects in Buffalo, having worked on signature projects for the city, including Buffalo Niagara International Airport, Gates Vascular Institute and academic buildings for UB, Buffalo State College, Canisius College and others.

"Beyond their skills and expertise, the team's familiarity with and passion for the campus and its community are invaluable," says Sica, whose close relationship with UB grew out of his design work on the Clinical and Translational Research Center and laboratory master plans for the South Campus.

"Quite literally, three of our team members have walked the UB campus as students and know what it means to be a UB student day in and day out," he says.

Graham Hammill, vice provost for educational affairs, dean of the graduate school and chair of the OWC steer-

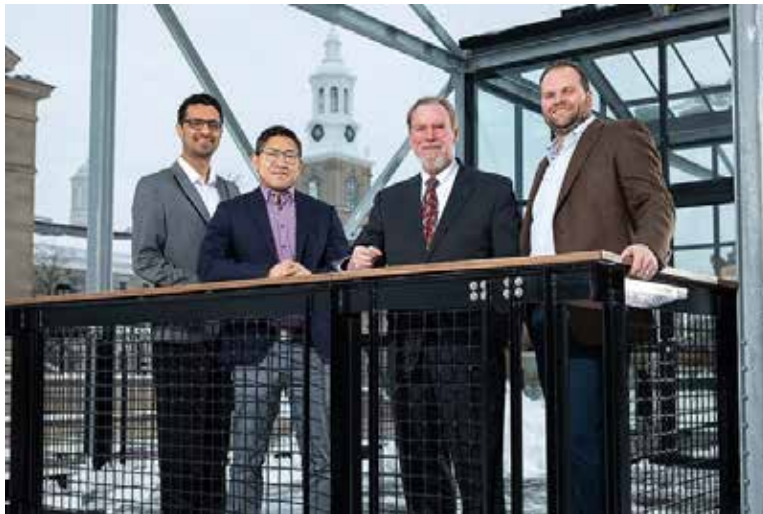
ing committee, says student interest and demand for cuisine from around the world has increased.

"At One World Café, students will find authentically prepared foods, and it is expected that different menu cycles will be offered throughout the academic year to keep the experience fresh," he says.

CannonDesign has extensive experience with campus food service facilities within the SUNY system, Hammill says, and has partnered with UB on major recent projects, including William R. Greiner Hall on the North Campus and the Clinical and Translational Research Center on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

"We are very pleased to be working with CannonDesign's world-class design team on this unique addition to the campus," he says.

The team's approach is truly customized to the bold aspirations of One World Café, says McCarthy, project architect, who holds a master's degree in architecture from the School of Architecture and Planning and brings a passion for the



L to r: Amir Rezaei, Peter McCarthy, Dean Shibley, Luke Johnson

culinary arts.

"The biggest ideas only succeed when they're built upon the smallest human-scale moments, like knowing the fastest way through the Spine, the best quiet study spot, or how to find a wider variety of menus at mealtimes," says McCarthy, who has worked on multiple award-winning, culinary-focused design projects.

"For those of us who lived and learned on the UB campus for so long, this project is a journey and experience that few designers ever embark upon."

Project designer Johnson strengthens the team with expertise in designing transformational additions to existing facilities and integrating stakeholder feedback into a project's vision and ultimate design solution.

"As a graduate of UB's School of Architecture and Planning, my education and time there has enabled me to become an advocate for the profession within our community," says Johnson, who holds a master's degree in architecture.

Committing a great deal of time to the Buffalo Architecture Foundation and local public schools, particularly in Buffalo, Johnson focuses on creating engaging educational programming that introduces students to the impor-

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ONE WORLD CAFE TEAM

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tance of the built environment.

As an engineer, Rezaei specializes in empowering design teams to think about high-performance buildings through the application of data-driven insights.

"A chief goal for me is to help the design team consider different scenarios that can reduce the energy consumption in a new or redesigned building," says Rezaei, who holds a PhD in civil and environmental engineering from the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

"We are excited about the possibilities and potential of this unique addition to the university."

"We're proud to see our graduates return to UB to bring to life this vision for One World Café, inspired by CannonDesign and the UB community, as a new center of celebration for global culture across our university," says Robert G. Shibley, dean of the School of Architecture and Planning.

"The School of Architecture and Planning has for decades benefited from the partnership of CannonDesign, a global institution deeply committed to its home community in Buffalo. This transformative initiative will now help the university prepare for an even brighter future."

The project will create a "front door" at one of the busiest crossroads of the North Campus, around and under the existing overhangs of Capen Hall and the Founders Plaza courtyard.

Hammill says One World Café will fill a student desire for a less-congested place for eating, gathering and spending time with fellow students, faculty and friends.

"In addition, One World Café will offer opportunities to integrate impactful research being conducted at the uni-

versity on issues such as sustainability, food security and food equity."

Hammill says from the onset of the project there has been a priority to include students in the process.

"And from that has come invaluable ideas and feedback that helped shape the design and plan the international cuisine choices to be offered at One World Café," he says.

Hammill notes there will be an opportunity for additional campus input on the project at an event planned during the spring 2019 semester.

"The design team is excited to see the high level of enthusiasm that has been exhibited by the UB community for this project," McCarthy says. "We are especially impressed by the many thoughtful and insightful ideas and suggestions that have come from UB students."

"For those of us on the team who are UB graduates, this is an incredible opportunity to give back to UB in a special way," Rezaei says. "It's rare to be able to so directly use the skills you developed at a college or university to then enrich it."

"We are lucky to each realize how special this opportunity is while we're in it, and not years down the line," adds Johnson. "That recognition also drives us to push the boundaries and deliver something remarkably valuable for the campus."

"This team works together fantastically," Sica notes. "It is all adding up to a remarkably rich design process and a valuable final design solution for the UB campus and the community."

"We are extremely confident this team will deliver the best possible design solution for One World Café to create a space that future students can be proud of for generations." Photo: Douglas Levere. 🌐

GLOBULL LEADERS

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surprised actually to see the turnout and the number of people that took interest at the event. It was great to see people talking to one another regardless of their cultural backgrounds."

GloBULL Leader Jackie Cole-Conroy, a domestic PhD candidate and adjunct instructor in the Counseling, School and Educational Psychology (CEP) program, is optimistic about the turnout of similar events in the future.

"While we have this problem of domestic and international students not interacting or connecting, if we give them opportunities like this, it will no longer be as big a problem." Cole-Conroy teaches a course on Diversity in Human Relationships.

Cole-Conroy notes that she met several students at the coffeehouse who initially were obligated to go for course credit. However, when they left, they expressed gratitude

for having the opportunity to connect with other students from different backgrounds.

The International Coffeehouse complemented the rest of the International Education Week event lineup, which all added to the success of the 2018 program. This success is owed to initiatives which prompted a more interdisciplinary participation among academic units.

The same GloBULL Leaders are expected to return to the committee in the spring semester. In future iterations of the GloBULL board, Rioux hopes to assign formal positions to the GloBULL board.

"It's helpful to have the board," Caitlin says. "Not only is the board conducive to international-focused programming, it helps students become leaders for inclusion across campus." Rioux says that positions on the board may enhance participating students' leadership skills. 🌐

CINEMA, CULTURE, COMMUNITY: THREE YEARS OF THE GLOBAL FILM SERIES

By Tanya Shilina-Conte

Fall 2018 marked the third year of the Global Film Series, administered by the Department of English and curated by Assistant Professor of Film Studies Tanya Shilina-Conte. This global initiative is also linked to other new supporting structures in the Department of English, such as the Center for Global Film and the Global Film Minor launched in 2017.

The aim of the Global Film Series is to create a dialogue between UB, other local institutions of higher education, and the Buffalo community through screenings of films

focus, each year the Global Film Series invites a keynote speaker. In 2018, the keynote speaker was Professor of Spanish, Latin American Studies, and Film and Media Studies Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado from Washington University in St. Louis, who delivered a lecture on “Mexico’s Contemporary Bi-national Cinema: from Migrations to Co-productions.” Ann Marie Stock, Professor of Hispanic Studies and Vice Provost for academic and faculty affairs at the College of William and Mary, was the film series speaker in 2017.

She gave a talk on “Cameras in Cuba: Reflections on Revolutionary Cinema.” In its inaugural year, the film series hosted two special guests: the Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor in Communication Hamid Naficy, Northwestern University’s prize-winning scholar of cultural studies and postcolonial cinema and media, and the father of Iranian animation, Nouredin Zarrinkelk. Professor Naficy’s keynote address was entitled “Rising from the Ashes: Iranian Art House Cinema.”

In addition to keynote speakers and other local community experts, a great number of UB faculty and staff have participated in the film series during the past three years: SUNY Distinguished Professor and Edward H. Butler Chair Cristanne Miller (who helped to found the

film series), SUNY Distinguished Professor and James Agee Chair Bruce Jackson (who participated in all three years of the series), Professor William Solomon, Dr. Ana Gruijic, Ms. Jennifer Elinge (English); Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean History, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education and the Director of the UB’s Honors College Dalia Antonia Muller (History), Assistant Professor Abigail Cooke (Geography), and Professors in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures Jorge Guitart, Elizabeth Scarlett, and Margarita Vargas.

A great number of UB students have also been instrumental in organizing the series, including but not limited to: Jake Sanders, Brent Cox, Jocelyn Marshall, Ajitpaul Mangat, Rebekah White, Daniel Perlino, Anthony Defeo, and Natalie Rosiek.

The film series has received generous financial and logistical support from the following organizations and individuals: its principal sponsor riverrun (Patrick Martin, President), the Burchfield Penney Art Center (Don Metz, Director of Public Programs), Humanities New York, the UB Department of English and its Juxtapositions lecture series, the UB Department of Romance Languages and Lit-



The Global Film Series featured a panel on migration and immigration

that provide a better understanding of our globalized networked world.

The Global Film Series moves beyond national frameworks to account for an increasingly transnational imagination of film production, reception, and distribution. Over the past three years the Global Film Series, held at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, has offered an authentic, rich cultural and cinematic experience to UB faculty and students and the Buffalo community at large.

The Global Film Series has been designed to target annually a country from a different world region: Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Australia, South America or Central America. Thus each year presents a specific chapter of world cinema history, not only allowing a reflexive look into a particular cinematic tradition but also with an emphasis on the new directions and effects of globalization on various aspects of films.

In 2016 and 2017, the Global Film Series highlighted Iran and Cuba respectively, while this year the focus was on Mexican Cinema and Culture with the theme of Borders and Immigration.

To provide contextual grounding for the country in

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GLOBAL FILM SERIES

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eratures, and the James Agee Chair in American Culture, SUNY Distinguished Professor Bruce Jackson.

In the past the Global Film Series included such sections as Restored Classics (with many films restored by the World Cinema Foundation led by Martin Scorsese), Women Filmmakers, LGBTQ Films, Environment: Nuclear Narratives, Animations and Shorts, Cuba and the AIDS Crisis, Old Cuba/New Cuba, Mexico and Minors, Buñuel in Mexico, Poetic Mode: Experimenting with the Border, etc.

As the Film Series grew, the vision has expanded to include other cultural aspects in addition to films, such as music, art, poetry, children's activities, and even food. In the present political climate of reduced funding and the general marginalization of the humanities, a special mission of the series became to stress the importance of culture in people's lives and remind ourselves of our quintessential right to enjoy and engage in things that make us all human.

These new cultural additions have included music by Wendell Rivera's Latin Jazz Ensemble and La Marimba, video installations by Alberto Ray, Professor at SUNY Fredonia, and art sculptures by Mara Odette Guerrero, a Mexican-born artist and gallerist.

This fall, more than one hundred parents and children (including many UB faculty members who brought their young children) delighted in the "Día de Muertos" arts workshop, centered on characters from Disney's *Coco* (2017), a film that depicts the crossing of borders.

Guerrero, who constructed an altar representing the religious and cultural diversity of Mexico, encouraged participants to make such arts and crafts as Masks, Skeletons, Cempazuchil Flowers, and Papel Picado banners.

The series also hosted a special book reading for children, led by UB students. Reading books such as Disney/Pixar's *"Coco"* (2017), *"Living in Mexico"* (2016) by Chloe Perkins, and *"Off We Go to Mexico"* (2008) by Laurie Krebs, the children learned more about Mexico and its cultural traditions.

The timely theme of the 2018 Global Film Series, "Mexican Cinema and Culture: Bending Borders," sought to highlight the immigration crisis on our southern border. In the present political climate of xenophobia and anti-immigration sentiment it seemed imperative to show that borders cannot and should not divide us.

The film series embraced the rich cultural history of Mexico and Mexican cinema as the perfect antidote to American anxieties about our Latino neighbors.

Films such as *Symphony of a Sad Sea* (2017), *Devil's Freedom* (2017), and *The Inheritors* (2008) provided a Mexican rather than American view of immigration crisis, helping to better understand the plight of migrants and refugees from any land.

A special section, "Animating/Documenting the Border," showcased recent short films about the US-Mexico border. It was followed by a panel of local community experts who talked about the questions of migration and immigration.

The panel, which began with the spiritual recitation of Mexican poetry by Mara Odette Guerrero and featured recent images of the border taken by Professor Richard Reitsma from Canisius College, discussed alternative scenarios and possible viable futures of cross-border communication and settlement.

In 2016, the inaugural series enjoyed close to 400 attendees, many of whom frequented all three days of events. In 2017, the series welcomed roughly 700 total attendees, and in 2018 the number was closer to 800. That included many students from UB, Buffalo State College, Canisius College, and D'Youville College. All participants who evaluated the Global Film Series events indicated that the series was an important cultural initiative for the Buffalo community.

Cinema has a global appeal as a medium, and films are produced in great numbers all around the world, from India to Nigeria to China and to Mexico. But in the US viewers, students and film scholars do not always have access to the great variety of world cinema that has not achieved exorbitant box office success.

The Global Film Series screens films of exceptional quality—both restored "classics" and the most recent, cutting-edge features, documentaries, and shorts—that cannot, and most like won't ever, be seen in Buffalo theaters or even on subscription streaming services. In the selection process for the films, an emphasis is always placed on screening rare and not readily available films (when the festival focused on Cuba, some films had to be brought in travelers' suitcases).

In recent years, preference has been given to films which are not yet in circulation and which can potentially be Western New York premiers. In the future, and with resources permitting, the Global Film Series plans to pursue its innovative approach and present an even more expansive scope of world cultures and cinemas. Exposure to these important global film gems is indeed like a light shining in a dark room. 🌍

Tanya Shilina-Conte is assistant professor of film studies in the Department of English and curator of the Global Film Series.

NURSING STUDENTS TREAT 800 IN HAITI

By Marcene Robinson

Nearly 20 years ago, Molli Warunek traveled to Haiti as a nursing student to deliver needed medical care. Moved by what she encountered, she began to take part in mission trips around the world, often on her own.

April 2018 marked Warunek's 15th mission—a trip to where it all began in Haiti. However, this time, she was not alone. Now a clinical assistant professor in the UB School of Nursing, Warunek was accompanied by 10 UB nurs-

traveled in caged trucks to the clinic each day where patients awaited their arrival.

The group cleaned and dressed wounds; treated respiratory illnesses, burns and scabies; provided antibiotics and other medication; and administered fluoride varnish to 250 children. The students also provided hygiene education sustainable in Haitian culture to help prevent future illness.

The mission was supported by a successful crowdfunding

campaign that raised more than \$5,000 from 66 donors. The funds helped purchase medical supplies, hire translators and support a small portion of student travel.

In addition to exposing students to diverse cultures, the humanitarian trip helped raise awareness to the numerous health challenges faced by people around the world.

"Thirteen years ago, I had the

amazing chance to go on a mission trip with my church to Honduras, and to say it was an eye-opening experience is an understatement," says Ashlei Brown, a nurse at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center and a School of Nursing alum who traveled with the team to Haiti.

"I left that trip with the hopes of being able to do a medical mission trip someday in the future with whatever career path I would choose."

Her passion is echoed by her sister, UB nursing student Arielle Brown.

"I chose to participate in this Haiti trip because I believe we are called to help others," Arielle Brown explains. "What a privilege it is to utilize the skills and knowledge I've learned while in nursing school to care for so many people in the beautiful nation of Haiti." 🌐

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



UB Nursing students with local collaborators in Haiti

ing students on the school's first humanitarian trip to the country.

"The significance of the journey is incredible, as the students and providers learn to always have an endless amount of compassion for their patients, whether they are rich, poor, healthy or unhealthy," says Warunek, who also serves as global initiatives coordinator for the School of Nursing.

"That is something you cannot teach in a classroom."

In partnership with the community organization Servants in Fellowship, the group of UB faculty and students, along with several Western New York physicians, pharmacists and health care professionals, served at a mobile medical clinic in Galette, Haiti, a rural settlement where access to care is difficult and poverty is commonplace.

Within one week, from April 22-29, 2018, the team treated more than 800 patients ranging in age from 19 days old to 91 years old.

Led by Warunek and Linda Paine Hughes, clinical assistant professor of nursing, the students and professionals

SUSTAINING SUSTAINABILITY: PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIA

by Lisa Vahapoglu and John Atkinson

It might seem that study abroad opportunities and international research collaborations materialize out of thin air.

In reality, they're the product of concerted effort: networking and research; exploration of leads that might – or might not! – pan out; identification of aligning institutional interests; cultivation of authentic relationships; and faculty and staff time and travel that's aimed at bringing UB to the world, and the world to UB.



Green Technicians Dhanya Shine (l) and Anju Shaiju

These tasks are central to Lisa Vahapoglu's position with the Community for Global Health Equity (CGHE). Seeking to advance previously-laid groundwork in India, Lisa planned our itinerary.

With CGHE and the Department of Civil, Structural, and Environmental Engineering sharing the costs of John Atkinson's travel, last August we scouted sustainability-related research and educational opportunities in India. Our first stop was New Delhi where we met with NGOs focused on water quality, food equity, and development of health education.

In New Delhi, we met with Suresh Rohilla of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a sustainability policy think tank and 2005 winner of the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize. CSE recently opened a School of Water & Waste (SWW) in Rajasthan, a potential study abroad site.

Rohilla, the Academic Director of SWW, accompanied us on an excursion to the campus, which was impressively green, featuring recycled building materials, onsite wastewater treatment and reuse systems, and ventilation-maximizing floorplans. Timing and logistics could be tricky (e.g., daytime temperatures are punishing from March through November, and the location is remote), but it's under consideration.

Additionally, thanks to an introduction made by CGHE friend Art Goshin, Vahapoglu had a fruitful meeting with Saraswathi Rao, CEO of Freedom from Hunger, India Trust, Inc. (FFHIT). Rao described the shift in FFHIT's service focus to a "mobile education" program for underserved areas.

CGHE faculty could be helpful to this project, Rao indicated, by providing subject-area content from epidemiology, nursing, and other fields. Details aren't finalized, but this collaboration shows promise. Further, when asked how UB students might serve FFHIT, Rao said "grant writing!" – and an internship was born. UB students accepted for this opportunity can apply for CGHE's competitively-awarded travel support.

While in New Delhi, we followed media coverage of heavy rainfall and flooding in the southern state of Kerala, our next stop. Being in India during an intense rain event—quite possibly linked to climate change—was interesting timing, given our focus on sustainability. Days later, the situation grew dire. Death tolls were added to the headlines. Soon every television station aired very disturbing, continuous flood coverage.

In Kerala, we had plans to meet with officials in Trivandrum and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Amrita University) representatives. We considered canceling this leg of our trip; it seemed inappropriate in light of the disaster.

However, our contacts insisted that we come despite the crisis. In fact, K. Vasuki, the District Collector in Trivandrum, assured us that our visit's importance was underscored because we would bear witness to the impacts of climate change and unsustainable planning practices on Kerala. Thus, we flew into the storm and continued our itinerary.

Along with wide-ranging meetings about sustainability challenges facing the region, our hosts, with understandable pride, wanted us to witness the remarkable disaster relief efforts of teenagers and young adults in Trivandrum. At an aid depot, we were moved by the thousands of volunteers assembled to help.

Pelican Foundation founder C.N. Manoj also arranged for us to see public-NGO demonstration projects in rural villages, including a door-to-door recycling program in Naniyode.

HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE FORTY-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPANESE COMPANY

By Marcene Robinson

Walk into a drugstore to purchase a toothbrush or dental floss and you're likely to come across the GUM brand, a leading group of oral health care products influenced by decades of UB research.

For nearly 40 years, the School of Dental Medicine and the Sunstar Group, which produces GUM brand products, have partnered on a fellowship training program that sends Sunstar scientists more than 6,000 miles from Japan to Buffalo to conduct research under UB faculty member Robert Genco, lauded by the *Journal of Dental Research* as the "father of oral science."

The result: dozens of papers published in prestigious academic journals and the commercialization of 10 oral health care products that range from new toothpastes to soy calcium tablets that help ward off osteoporosis.

The union, which began in 1979, has continued far longer than the typical one- or two-year pact between a university and corporation to perform clinical trials, says Genco. Through the fellowship, Sunstar scientists train under Genco for two years, completing fundamental research of mutual interest. They return to Japan with concepts to expand upon for the development of products.

"At a university, you get rewarded mainly for publication; you don't often get rewarded for application," says Genco, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Oral Biology, Periodontics and Microbiology, and former director of the UB Office of Science, Technology Transfer and Economic Outreach.

"On a spectrum of one-to-10 — one being the most fundamental and 10 being a product on the market — universities go up to three and companies take research from four-to-10.

"As health care providers and scientists," he continues, "we carry out the necessary, fundamental research to establish the basis for therapy or prevention, but we shouldn't stop there. We should then collaborate with in-

dustry to develop the products that reach patients."

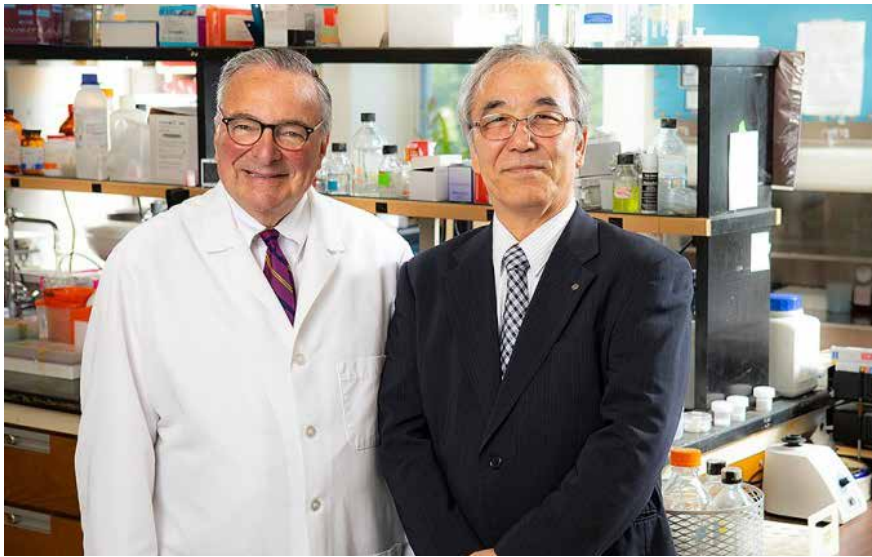
Among the products created through the partnership are Periocheck, a detection kit for periodontitis-causing bacteria, and Perioline, the world's first periodontal ointment for treating periodontitis.

The formation in 1989 of the GUM brand, a line of products aimed at fighting periodontal, or gum disease using antibacterial ingredients, was largely influenced by Sunstar's work with Genco and their joint interest in periodontal disease.

The start of a friendship

Today, the GUM brand is the top oral health care brand for toothpaste and mouthwash in Japan. Sunstar also manufactures and provides various health care products focused on oral and systemic health in more than 90 countries.

The company's interest in systemic health increased when former Sunstar CEO Hiroo Kaneda, son of the company's founder Kunio Kaneda, was diagnosed with diabetes. He believed gum disease had an



Robert Genco (l) and Yasuhiro Katsuragi

effect on overall health.

It was through a friend, a faculty member in the School of Dental Medicine, that Kaneda was introduced to Genco, an emerging researcher who shared a similar hypothesis on the effects of periodontal disease.

"Medicine and dentistry separated years ago, and that's unfortunate because the professions, as well as the population, feel that they are separate entities and there is little connection between the two. But there is a connection, and probably the best example of the connection is with diabetes," says Genco.

Genco's early research focused on the connection between diabetes and periodontal disease. His work determined that patients with diabetes had worsened periodontal disease. However, at the suggestion of Kaneda, Genco looked into the inverse relationship and made the discovery that the effects are a two-way street, as each disease has a negative impact on the other. He has since studied the effects of periodontal disease on several systemic conditions, and linked gum disease to heart disease,

continued on p. 20

SUSTAINABILITY IN INDIA

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Designed to transform both cultural and physical landscapes, the project provides sustainability education, training, and after-school jobs as “Green Technicians” to children who, with an adult supervisor, collect recyclables otherwise destined to be dumped or burned. In the program’s first three months, Green Technicians gathered ~18 tons of recyclable material from door-to-door visits to homes and businesses.

Green Technicians Anju Shaiju and Dhanya Shine expressed great enthusiasm for the project. “I feel it’s an important job—not just a way to make money,” Shaiju said. “People really appreciate the work we’re doing,” Shine added.

How to involve UB in Kerala’s many sustainability projects remains uncertain. One possibility: a study to quantify the work being done. Our partners indicated that this would

be desirable, as it could inform solid waste policy at the national level.

From Trivandrum, we traveled to three campuses of Amrita University, with which UB has a long-standing, relationship. With colleagues at these campuses, we provided feedback from UB students about their Live-In Labs opportunity, honed a Pharmacy/Ayurveda study abroad program, and discussed the possibility of collaborative sustainability research projects.

Global health and sustainability problems are complex and “wicked,” best tackled with interdisciplinary skill sets and diverse perspectives. CGHE is fortunate to be developing relationships with allies in India with whom UB students and faculty can collaborate and address some of the most pressing concerns of our time. We welcome you to join us! 🌐

SUNSTAR PARTNERSHIP

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stroke and oral, breast and pancreatic cancers.

“One key paper in Dr. Genco’s work on the correlation between diabetes and periodontal disease is like a bible for people who study periodontal and systemic interactions,” says Yasuhiro Katsuragi, executive director of Sunstar Oral Care Research and Development. The study of 1,200 participants found diabetes, smoking and low calcium in the diet are risk factors for periodontal disease.

School of Dental Medicine Dean Joseph J. Zambon adds that one thing that Genco doesn’t get enough credit for is his role in identifying “the true prevalence of periodontitis in the United States.”

“Prior to the 2009-12 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, only about half of the teeth in the thousands of people participating in the survey were evaluated for periodontal disease,” Zambon says. “Dr. Genco and his colleagues were instrumental in changing the 2009-12 and subsequent surveys to examine all teeth. As a result, they found that about twice as many people have periodontal disease as previously thought.”

The new forefront: Your gut

Due to the impact of Genco’s research and their shared interests, Kaneda decided to invest in training for his scientists at UB.

Under the fellowship, Sunstar periodically sends one scientist to Buffalo for two years to train under Genco and other UB scientists, and perform fundamental research on periodontal disease. In fact, Katsuragi was the fourth fellow of the program. To date, 13 fellows have travelled to UB, including two scientists who began fellowships in July. The new additions mark the first time in the program’s history that multiple scientists are training at the university.

“Sunstar has the long-term view,” Genco explains. “They’re not hurrying the process and they have the patience to support fundamental research that might result in a product down the line. That is a part of why the partnership has lasted so long.”

New fellows train at the UB Microbiome Center, where Genco serves as director. The microbiome, says Genco, who is also chair of Sunstar America’s Scientific Advisory Panel, is the new forefront of microbiology. Rather than grow plates of bacteria for study, scientists can now use genetic sequencing, allowing researchers to perform large studies that were once not feasible. “The data from one sample run generates six gigabytes of data. If you were to make that into a textbook and lay it flat, it would span 60 yards. And we run two to three runs a week,” says Genco. “In the last three years, we’ve uncovered details about many groups of bacteria that were not appreciated before.”

UB and Sunstar scientists are currently examining the effect of periodontal disease on the gut microbiome. Preliminary results have found that when gum disease is present, inflammation-causing microbes begin to appear in the stomach. Their hunch: They reach the gut through the nearly two liters of saliva swallowed each day.

A vaccine for periodontal disease is another area of interest, says Katsuragi. However, developing a vaccination for bacteria is far more difficult than doing so for a virus and could ultimately strengthen the infection, Genco notes.

To continue the work, Sunstar recently extended a five-year, \$4.5 million grant for their scientists to complete research at the Microbiome Center.

“Why Buffalo?” Katsuragi asks. “Dr. Genco’s personality, humanity and hospitality. That’s the reason why we follow and trust him. That’s the reason why an almost 40-year relationship should be kept between Sunstar and UB.” 🌐

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

School of Architecture and Planning*Department of Architecture*

Edward Steinfeld, SUNY Distinguished professor, Director of the Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access (IDeA Center), was a keynote presenter at the Universal Design and Higher Education in Transformation Conference in Dublin, Ireland, October 30 – Nov. 4, 2108. He was also a co-presenter for a research paper on continuing education needs of Irish architects and led a workshop on a building certification program on universal design developed by the IDeA Center.

College of Arts and Sciences*Department of Anthropology*

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, professor, received an OVPRED/Hi Seed Money award in the Arts and Humanities grant, to conduct ethnographic research in Northern Peru for her project “The Subversive Politics of Sentient Places: Climate change, Collective Ethics, and Environmental Justice in Peru.” Bacigalupo presented this research at the American Anthropological Association executive session “Subversive Agencies: Sacred Landscapes and Climate Change in the Anthropocene,” and at workshops at Harvard University, the University of Notre Dame, American University, and the University of Toronto, where she is currently a visiting scholar in the Latin American Studies Program. This research was published in two edited volumes: *Climate Politics and the Power of Religion*, edited by Evan Berry. Indiana University Press and *Cambo Climático y el Poder de la Religión*. Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya (UARM), Lima, Perú. Bacigalupo also won a Research Grant from the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy to conduct ethnographic research in Chile for her project “Shamanic Justice and International Human Rights in Chile: Judge Karen Atala’s Transformative Vision and her LGBT Rights Child Custody Case.”

Department of Art

During Fall 2017 and Spring and Summer of 2018, **Millie Chen**, professor, with her collaborator, **Arzu Ozkal** (MFA 2005, UB Dept. of Art; associate professor, School of Art & Design, San Diego State University), conducted the first round of research trips for the interdisciplinary art project Silk Road Songbook. SRS integrates songs with landscapes, re-tracing one of the major arteries of the ancient trade route that spanned Eurasia between Istanbul (Constantinople, western terminus from the 4th century on), West and Central Asia, and Xi’an (Chang’an, eastern terminus and China’s imperial capital). The project is intended to facilitate the creation of grassroots songs, giving voice to participating individuals who are part of the communities that now live along the route. The songs will be generated in collaboration with area participants in communities that are largely under the radar in terms of global attention. For each location, the voices will be the dynamic driving force, but the land will be the visual anchoring device. Chen and Ozkal met with musicians, artists, ethnomusicologists, composers, cultural theorists, art historians and archaeologists in China, Uzbekistan and Turkey. They will travel to Iran in late 2018. The initial research trips were funded by a visual arts grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

Elizabeth Otto, associate professor and executive director of the Humanities Institute, co-authored *Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective*, which will be published in English and German in January, 2019. Additionally, she co-edited two books: “Art and Resistance in Germany” (Oct. 2018) and “Bauhaus Bodies: Gender, Sexuality, and Body Culture in Modernism’s Legendary Art School” (Jan. 2019). In the summer of 2018, along with her collaborator, Patrick Rössler, professor, she convened a two day scholarly workshop in the German city of Erfurt on “Vier Bauhausmädels: von die Lehre ins Leben” (“Four Bauhaus Gals: From Learning into Life”) in preparation for their upcoming exhibition on the work of the Bauhaus designers Gertrud Arndt (photography), Marianne Brandt (metal), Margarete Heymann (ceramics), and Margaretha Reichardt (weaving) that opens in Erfurt’s Angermuseum in March of 2019 to celebrate the centenary of the Bauhaus’s founding. Otto also served as a primary interview subject for German documentary that will air on television in February, “Bauhausfrauen: Vergessene Visionarinnen” (Bauhaus Women: Forgotten

Visionaries), directed by Susanne Radelhof.

Katja Praznik, assistant professor, was invited to speak at the roundtable “Immaterial and ‘Wasteful’ Artistic Labor,” organized in the framework of UK-based Media Communication & Cultural Studies Association annual conference at London South Bank University in January. In March, she gave a paper “Exceptionality, Entrepreneurship and Exploitation: Postsocialist Transformation of Art Workers” at the 36th International Labor Process Conference at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. In spring 2018, she was invited to contribute an article based on her latest book *The Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor: Artistic Autonomy, the Avant-Garde and Cultural Policy in the Transition to Post-Socialism* (Sophia, 2016) for the 2018 issue of the journal *Readymade*, published by the Academy of Fine Arts and the Cultural and Creative Industry Cluster in Zagreb, Croatia. In summer 2018, her paper “Artistic Labor During Self-Managed Socialism: From the Avant-Garde to the Alternative,” presented at the 53rd International Conference of Labor and Social History (in Linz, Austria) in 2017, was translated into Hungarian and published as *Művészeti munkavégzés és a művészet autonómiája a jugoszláv „önigazgatásos” szocializmusban. Volt-e alternatív termelési modell Jugoszláviában?* in the Hungarian quarterly journal for social critique and culture *Eszmelet*, no. 118 (2018). In October 2018 she chaired a round table “Negotiating Political Alternatives and Contradictions of Arts in Socialist Yugoslavia” at the University Arts Association of Canada Conference held at the Fine Arts Department, University of Waterloo in Canada.

Livingston Watrous, professor, led a team of 30 members to Gournia, Crete, to prepare the final publication of their recent excavations in Gournia.

Asian Studies Program

Amanda Kennell, clinical assistant professor, joined UB from England’s Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, where she served as a Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow. During her time in England, she researched the adaptation and circulation of Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland novels and assisted with an exhibit of Japanese manga at the British Museum that will be on display in spring, 2019.

Department of Chemistry

Troy Wood, associate professor, traveled to South Korea, where he gave a keynote lecture, “The Hunt for Autism Biomarkers” at the Korean Society for Mass Spectrometry meeting in Changwon. He also gave talks at Dankook University in Cheonan and Kyungpook National University in Daegu.

Department of Comparative Literature

Rodolphe Gasché, SUNY distinguished professor and Eugenio Donato Professor of Comparative Literature, was invited to accept membership in the prestigious Academia Europaea, founded in 1988 on the initiative of the UK’s Royal Society and other National Academies in Europe. In July 2018, Gasché was an invited guest scholar at the Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung in Berlin, Germany. In May 2018, he participated in an International Symposium at Söttertörn University, Sweden, on “Filling in the Gaps: Lacunae, Reintegration and Value,” where he gave the keynote address on “The World Absolutely: On Jean-Luc Nancy and Karl Marx.” He published „Figura czy forma? Punkt widzenia zofadka,” translated by P. P. Poniatowska, in *Prace Kulturoznawcze*, and “Patocka on Europe in the Aftermath of Europe” in the *European Journal of Social Theory*. In July 2018, he was also interviewed by Frédéric Braun for l’autre hebdomadaire Luxembourg, which appeared in “Im Gegensatz zu allem Bekannten.”

Department of Economics

Alex Anas, professor of economics, participated at the Poverty and Applied Micro Seminar, at the World Bank, Washington D.C., where on June 6, 2018, he presented the paper titled “The optimal mix of pricing and infrastructure expansions to alleviate traffic congestion in Grand Casablanca,” co-authored with **Sayan DeSarkar**, Ph.D. candidate in the department, and Govinda Timilsina of the World Bank Group. Anas was an invited keynote speaker at the “Conference on

Modeling Complex Urban Environments," June 21-22, 2018, held at the Waterloo Institute for Complexity and Innovation of the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. The keynote speech given on June 22 was titled "Urban logistics: how delivery services, transportation network companies and autonomous vehicles add complexity to urban modeling." From June 23-30, 2018, Anas was a guest of the Urban Transport Systems Laboratory at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, in Lausanne, Switzerland, where on June 27, he presented to graduate students and faculty the paper titled "How and how much do public transportation megaprojects induce agglomeration economies?: The case of the Grand Paris project," co-authored with Huibin Chang, an alumnus of UB's Department of Economics and currently on the faculty of the University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China.

Isaac Ehrlich, SUNY and UB distinguished professor, presented the lead paper titled "Has Higher Education been a Major Channel through which the US Became an Economic Superpower in the 20th Century?" in the Asian Development Bank Institute and Asian Growth Research Institute workshop on "Public and Private Investment in Human Capital and Intergenerational Transfers in Asia," held at Hotel Harmonie Cinq, Kitakyushu City, Japan, November 14-15, 2017. He also was invited by the CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo, Japan to stay at the ADBI as a Visiting Fellow for a few weeks in April 2018 to participate in a project on financial asset allocation by Aging Populations worldwide. The project will involve meetings with leading researchers at Tokyo University, Japanese senior government officials, and major Pension companies in Japan; it will also involve core faculty at the UB Center for Human Capital.

Paul Zarembka, professor, presented a lecture in September 2018 at the 9th Conference of the International Initiative for the Promotion of Political Economy, Pula, Croatia, on the topic of "Is there a Falling Tendency of the Profit Rate, Theoretically or Empirically?" Within Marxist political economy and in classical political economy, a number of scholars argue in the affirmative at the national level, but this presentation questions the claim on both theoretical and empirical grounds, not least because of stagnant wages as productivity is rising. The subject is part of his broader work tentatively entitled "Limitations of Marx's Revolution in Political Economy."

Department of English

Walter Hakala, associate professor, was appointed director of the UB Asian Studies Program in August 2018. He carried out research on Urdu epigraphy in Maharashtra and Gujarat, India, in July 2018. This work, which took Hakala to twenty towns and cities (Mumbai, Pune, Manchar, Ahmadnagar, Beed, Ambad, Jalna, Dewalgaon Raja, Aurangabad, Khuldabad, Daulatabad, Surat, Bodhan, Vadodara, Khambhat, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Ahmedabad, and Gandhinagar), was supported by a Baldy Center Research Grant. He visited UB partner institution the M.S. University of Baroda and presented a paper entitled "Etched in Stone: Early Urdu Epigraphy in Gujarat and the Deccan" at the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar. He organized a symposium on "Urdu Keywords" at the Annual Conference on South Asia at University of Wisconsin-Madison on October 11, 2018 and presented a paper on "Imla" (orthography). He serves as the faculty coordinator for the Annual Rustgi Undergraduate Conference on South Asia, which was held in the UB Honors College on November 3, 2018. The conference featured a keynote lecture by Sujatha Gidla, acclaimed author of *Ants Among Elephants: An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017). UB hosted undergraduate scholars from institutions located throughout the country who shared their current research on South Asia. Undergraduate scholars based in South Asia participated via Skype.

Carine Mardorossian, professor, joined the advisory board of the "Sexual Violence, Medicine and Psychiatry Project" conducted by Joanne Bourke, professor of History, at Birkbeck, University of London, UK. In December, 2018, Mardorossian was invited to the University of London, UK, to give a masterclass on "#metoo" and the cultural responses to sexual violence.

Tanya Shilina-Conte, assistant professor, gave a paper, "'This Video Does Not Exist': A Remix of Blank Screens in Cinema" at the Media History from the Margins symposium, sponsored by the Centro Congressi Stefano Franscini and held in Lugano, Switzerland, on August 12-19, 2018. In July 2018, she gave a paper, "Cinematic Remix as a Speculative Genre," at the Film-Philosophy Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden. She also curated the riverrun Global Film Series at the Burchfield Penney Art Center on October 10-12, 2018, with a focus on Mexican Cinema, Culture, Borders, and Immigration (see pp. 15-16).

Department of Geography

In September, **Abigail Cooke**, assistant professor, was invited to be a guest lecturer in the international Ph.D. course on Economic Geography, held at Utrecht University in the Netherlands and co-organized by Utrecht University, Stavanger University, and NORSI (the Norwegian Research School in Innovation). The course draws Ph.D. students from around Europe. Cooke lectured on Immigration and Spatial Inequality.

Chris S. Renschler, associate professor, was honored with two guest professorships at highly ranked international universities in 2018. Earlier this year, he taught a course and continued his research on soil erosion and redistribution at the Institute of Hydraulics and Rural Water Management (IHLW), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, Austria. Over the summer months, he was the guest professor at the Laboratory of Soil Physics and Soil Hydrology at the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering, Graduate School of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo, Japan. His research and teaching there focused on integrated methods for agricultural modeling and sustainable management of regional natural resources working on soil redistribution and radioactive sediments in the managed landscapes contaminated by the 2011 Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Disaster. During his guest professorship, he was also invited to present his internationally recognized research, teaching and outreach activities at the Faculty of Agriculture and Life Science at Hirosaki University in Aomori, Japan; at the International Institute for Resilient Society Saitama University, Japan; and the federal Center for Forest Restoration and Radioecology, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI), Tsukuba, Japan. A successful application to the non-profit organization Mount Fuji Research Station enabled him to meet with researchers there and stay a full day and night on the summit at 12,389.2 ft (3,776 m).

Department of Global Gender and Sexuality Studies

The department, in collaboration with the World Center for Women's Studies, organized and co-sponsored an international conference titled "Gender Equality Unlocks the Power of Nations." The conference was held in New York City on November 1-3, 2018.

Department of History

David Herzberg, associate professor, and Nils Kessel from the Université de Strasbourg co-organized an international symposium titled "Addiction as a chronic illness? Promises and perils of a new drug policy paradigm," sponsored by the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and the History Department.

In November 2017, **Georg Iggers**, SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus and a longtime member of the department, passed away. His successor **Andreas Daum**, professor, has now featured Iggers's life as a transatlantic migrant and his international activities and promotion for civil rights as part of Iggers's identity as a global citizen in a memorial essay published in *Central European History* 51, no. 3 (September 2018), pp. 335-353.

In September 2018, **Kristin Stapleton**, professor, took part in a workshop on "State-Building through Political Disunity in Republican China," hosted by the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris, presenting on the rise of municipal governments in early 20th-century China. In October, she gave a public talk on the history and culture of China's Sichuan province at Ohio State University as

part of the 12th annual China Town Hall event sponsored by the National Committee on US-China Relations. In fall 2018, she completed five years of service as executive secretary of the New York Conference on Asian Studies; UB History PhD alumnus **Phillip Guingona**, assistant professor of History at Wells College, succeeds her in that role.

Department of Jewish Thought

In October, the department, along with UC Berkeley Program in Jewish Studies, co-organized and co-sponsored an international conference, "Devotion and Relativity, Text and Context: New Frontiers of Jewish Literacy," on relationships between academic and traditional religious study of Jewish classical texts. The conference was held in the New York City Center for Jewish History, and at the Yeshivat Maharat, Riverdale, NY.

Over the summer, **Sergey Dolgopolski**, associate professor and chair, presented at two international conferences in Europe: "Theo-Earth and Geo-Midrash: A Jew, A Goy, and the Earth as a Task of International Law," with the Jewish Law Association in Nuremberg and Furth, Germany; and "Is Talmud Theory? Reading Slowly or the Fate of Rabbinic Citation," at the 11th European Association of Jewish Studies (EAJS) Congress in Krakow, Poland. He also gave two invited talks at European universities in Poland and Latvia.

Department of Music

Cort Lippe, associate professor of composition, was invited to give a week of lectures and present a concert of five of his compositions in June at the Ionian University Sonic Arts Summer Academy and Festival in Corfu, Greece. In July, he lectured for two weeks at the Kunitachi College of Music's Sonology Department in Tokyo. In August, he attended the International Computer Music Conference in Daegu, Korea, where he taught a workshop on interactive music, served on the International Computer Music Association's Music Awards Jury, and his piece "Tourbilloner, danser une danse sonore..." for tárogató and live electronics was premiered. In September, he was an invited guest composer at the Simpósio Internacional de Música in Curitiba, Brazil where he taught a masterclass, took part in a panel discussion, and presented three of his compositions in concert, including the premiere of Cerevo written for the Simpósio. His music was also performed at festivals in Cologne, Germany and Shanghai, China, and he served on the Program Committee of the 15th Sound and Music Computing Conference in Limassol, Cyprus.

Department of Philosophy

In September 2017, **James Beebe**, professor, presented "Divergent Perspectives on Expert Disagreement: Evidence from Astrophysicists, Climate Scientists, Climate Policy Experts, and Non-Experts" at Trust, Expert Opinion and Policy: A Multidisciplinary Conference Investigating Questions of Trust in and the Trustworthiness of Expert Opinion at University College Dublin, Ireland. On November 16, 2017, Beebe delivered a keynote lecture about the relation between moral considerations and Theory of Mind judgments in Osnabrück, Germany, at the "2nd Workshop of the Experimental Philosophy Group Germany." In February 2018, Beebe lectured at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada about the ancient Chinese philosopher Zhuangzi's attempts to instill greater intellectual humility in his pupils. In June 2018, Beebe delivered a lecture at the 2018 Meeting of the Experimental Philosophy Group UK at the University College London, England on individuals' judgments about the semantic properties of proper names.

Department of Political Science

Donald "Munroe" Eagles, professor, was an invited speaker, for the "Presidential vs. Parliamentary Government" workshop, co-sponsored by the Dr. Fazıl Küçük Foundation and Eastern Mediterranean University, Girne (Kyrenia), held in the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus in May 2018. He is the president-elect for the International Council for Canadian Studies (ICCS), and will serve his presidential term from June 2019 to June 2021.

Antoine Yoshinaka, associate professor, gave a lecture on President Trump's relationship with Congress at the Université de Montréal's Centre d'études et de recherches internationales (CÉRIUM) on June 26. This is the second time that the CÉRIUM invited him to give a lecture in its summer school courses on U.S. politics.

Department of Psychology

From April to July 2018, **Peter Pfordresher**, professor and chair, was a scholar in residence at the Centre for Brain, Language and Music, at McGill University, Quebec, Canada. Pfordresher was supported by a Fulbright fellowship, and donned the title, "Canada Fulbright Research Chair of Brain, Language and Music."

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

In January 2018, **Sharonah Fredrick**, clinical assistant professor, published an article in the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) literary journal, *Cadernos de Lingua e Literatura Hebraica* (Journal of Hebrew Literature and Culture). The article, written in Spanish, "Filo-hebraismo y antisemitismo: las dos cabezas de Jano del barroco quevediano" ("Filo-Semitism and Antisemitism: The Two Janus Heads of the Quevedian Baroque"), explored the twin undercurrents of hatred for, and appreciation of, Sephardic Jewish culture in Hispanic literature following Spain's 1492 expulsion of its Jewish community. Later that month, Fredrick presented her research on marginalized social and religious groups in Caribbean and Pacific 17th Century piracy, at an NEH-sponsored event at the University of Florida's George Smathers' Libraries. Fredrick's studies on New World piracy had been supported by a 2017-2018 grant from the University of Florida, and included studies in library archives in the USA, Jamaica, and Trinidad.

Department of Sociology

In July 2018, **Jordan Fox Besek**, assistant professor and a core faculty member of RENEW, and **Irus Braverman**, professor and William J. Magavern Faculty scholar at the School of Law, organized the symposium "Wet Ecologies: Politics, Science, and Water in the Anthropocene" for the Society for Human Ecology Annual Conference in Lisbon, Portugal. Besek also presented his paper "Flying Fish and Mechanistic Explanation: Bringing Social Science and Biology Together on Shared Ground" at the conference while Braverman presented "Living on Coral Time: Debating Conservation in the Anthropocene."

Department of Theatre and Dance

In August 2018, **Tom Ralabate**, professor of Dance and National Chair for Education Strategy for Dance Masters of America, traveled to New York City to be interviewed along with 25 other international and national dance educators, scholars, choreographers, and performers for the feature-length documentary TRANSMISSION – Roots to Branches, which aims to study Jazz Dance and its challenges in depth. The documentary was inspired by the book, "Jazz Dance: A History of Roots and Branches," edited by UB alumna and Salve Regina University associate professor **Lindsay Guarino**, and Providence College professor of Dance **Wendy Oliver**. Ralabate served as both consultant and contributor to the book.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Department of Oral Biology

Two students, **Lisa Vorleitner** and **Theresa Weindler**, visiting from the Dental School of the University of Regensburg in Germany, spent the month of August at the UB School of Dental Medicine to shadow clinical faculty from several departments who were delivering patient care. The students were mainly supervised by Joseph Rumfola and Sebastiano Andreana. Stefan Ruhl served as their host.

Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences

Richard Ohrbach, professor, attended two invitational workshops: "DC/TMD for children and adolescents" (July 23); and "Workshop to revise the DC/TMD for non-specialist care" (July 24), sponsored by INFORM and IADR and held in London, England. Ohrbach also presented some of his research at the general IADR meeting: "Burden of chronic pain comorbidity: OPPERA-2 prospective cohort." Ohrbach presented some of his research, "Effects of Comorbid Idiopathic Pain Conditions on Condition-specific Measures of Temporomandibular Disorders" at the biannual World Congress on Pain, sponsored by the International Association for the Study of Pain, Boston, MA, in September 2018. Ohrbach was the guest speaker for the full-day conference, 4th International Congress of the Chilean Society of Temporomandibular Disorders and Orofacial Pain, sponsored by the Sociedad de TTM y Dolor Orofacial, and held in Santiago, Chile on October 5. His lecture:

"Temporomandibular Disorders: Development, evaluation, etiology, and treatment."

Sonia Sharma, clinical instructor, presented part of her research at the July 2018 International Association for Dental Research conference in London, UK and won first prize for the International Network for Orofacial Related Disorders Methodology (INFORM) Investigator Awards by Quintessence Publishing and Journal of Oral & Facial Pain and Headache. Sharma is currently pursuing a post-doctoral fellowship at the Faculty of Odontology, Malmö University, Sweden. She is working on a multidisciplinary collaborative project that utilizes a combination of local and national databases on the health of three linked generations from the population in the Skane region, Malmö.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy

Seong Won Han, assistant professor, published a paper titled "What motivates high school students to want to be teachers? The role of salary, working conditions, and societal evaluations about occupations in a comparative perspective" in the American Educational Research Journal. This research was supported by a Thomas J. Alexander Fellowship, awarded to Han by the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Han published a chapter, "Who aspires to a career in teaching?" in the OECD thematic report, *Effective Teacher Policies* (OECD, 2018). Han presented the paper titled, "Why don't more boys want to become teachers? The effect of a gendered profession on students' career expectations" in the Research Committee (RC) 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility, International Sociological Association, held in Seoul, Korea, May 25-27, 2018. He was invited to present the paper titled "What attracts boys and high-quality students in math and science to the teaching profession?" in the XXVII Meeting of the Economics of Education Association, held in Barcelona, Spain, June 28-29, 2018.

In October 2018, **Stephen L. Jacobson**, UB distinguished professor, gave two invited lectures at the University of Huddersfield, England, where he was appointed the honorary role of Visiting Professor the previous year. The lectures: "School justice leadership for academic, organizational and community sustainability in high need schools: Research evidence from three countries," and "Managing the school organization" are part of Huddersfield's None-in-Three (Ni3) project, which is aimed at the prevention of violence against women and girls, one in three of whom experience some form of physical abuse in their lifetime. Ni3 hopes to increase access to justice for victims of violence through wide-scale public engagement and attitude change. During the spring semester of 2019, Jacobson will be a visiting Fulbright Scholar at Aleksander Moisiu University in Durres, Albania. Among other Fulbright sponsored activities while in Albania, he will teach 'Assessment in Education,' a graduate level course at Moisiu University.

Department of Learning and Instruction

Maureen Boyd, associate professor, gave an invited lecture, "Exploring a dialogic teaching and learning repertoire across time: A focus on research methods" at the National Centre for Reading Education and Reading Research, University of Stavanger, Norway, June 20, 2018. Boyd also presented a research paper "Dialogic teaching and whole class instruction of a literacy event" (with non-presenting GSE doctoral student co-authors Valentyna Mykula and Youngae Choi) as part of an international symposium on dialogic pedagogy at the joint meeting of the EARLI SIG 20 (Inquiry learning) and SIG 26 (Argumentation, dialogue and reasoning) conference in Jerusalem, Israel, October 10, 2018.

X. Christine Wang, associate professor and director of the Fisher-Price Endowed Early Childhood Research Center, conducted three invited presentations in China in July 2018. The first presentation, entitled "Qualitative research in early childhood education," was given at the Workshop on Qualitative Methodology and Early Childhood Education, sponsored by Journal of Studies in Early Childhood Education, in Changsha. The second presentation, entitled "Exploring the relationship between kindergarteners' buddy reading and individual comprehension of multimodal digital texts," was given at the International Workshop on Cyber-Physical Technologies for Early Childhood Education, sponsored by the IEEE Technical Committee on Cyber-Physical Systems, in Jinan. Finally, Wang presented "Studying, working and

living in the U.S.: Personal experience and reflection" at Shandong Yingcai University, Jinan.

In 2017, **Ji-Won Son**, associate professor, published a book titled *What Matters? Research Trends in International Comparative Studies in Mathematics Education*. In 2018, Son published the translation of a book from English to Korean, titled "Making Number Talks Matter."

Department of Library and Information Studies

The department is adding a special topics master's course to its summer 2019 course offerings. The course is titled "International Librarianship" and will include an optional study abroad component.

Dan Albertson, associate professor, presented a short paper and visual presentation at the annual conference of the Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) in Vancouver, Canada, November 10-14, 2018, titled "Users' perceptions of topical learning for aiding exploratory video search."

Heidi Julien, professor and chair, presented a paper at the ISIC conference, titled "The 'user turn' in practice: information behaviour researchers' constructions of information users." Julien participated on three panels at the conference, focused on education for the information professions, and institutional responses to online harassment of academics. She also presented a workshop on research ethics in the online environment, and led a doctoral symposium.

Valerie Nessel, associate professor, presented a workshop at the International Conference on Knowledge Management (ICKM) in Vancouver, Canada, November 9-10, titled "The Faculty IT Liaison Program: Using participatory design to build possibilities with technology." **Jianqiang Wang**, associate professor, also presented a paper at ICKM, titled "Document expansion for short text conversation."

In fall 2018, **Dagobert Soergel**, professor, presented two papers titled "Towards integrated systems for KOS management, mapping, and access. Coli-conc and its collaborative computer-assisted KOS mapping tool Cocoda" and "Computer-assisted checking of conceptual relationships in a large thesaurus" at the 15th International Conference on Knowledge Management in Porto, Portugal, July 9-11, 2018. He also presented a paper titled "Innovative education enabled by knowledge organization and IT: Goal-directed, flexible, individualized, collaborative" at the Future of Education conference in Florence, Italy, June 28-29, 2018. He presented a paper titled "Turning documents into active knowledge: A universal document model with rich component indexing" at the III Seminário MHTX - Escola de Ciência da Informação in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, June 7-8, 2018.

Ying Sun, associate professor, presented a poster at the ISIC conference, titled "Visibility of disciplines in academic web space."

Amy VanScoy, associate professor, presented a paper at the Information Seeking in Context (ISIC) Conference in Krakow, Poland, October 9-11, 2018, titled "What motivates Twitter users to engage with libraries?" VanScoy also presented a panel paper at the conference, titled "Contexts, critiques, and consequences: A discussion about educational data mining and learning analytics."

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering

Deborah Chung, professor, served as a proposal reviewer for the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation in January, 2017. In November, 2017, Chung served as a proposal reviewer for the National Centre of Science and Technology, Kazakhstan. In the same month, Chung visited the Dreszer Fracture Mechanics Laboratory, School of Mechanical Engineering, Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv, Israel. Chung served as the external examiner in a Ph.D. final oral examination in the School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on March 5, 2018. In April, 2018, she served as a proposal reviewer for the Postdoctoral Research Award Program, Qatar National Research Fund.

Kemper Lewis, professor and chair, gave a keynote address in June, 2018, entitled "On Industry 4.0 and Design Automation," at the Inter-

national Symposium on Platformization for Decision Support in Digital Manufacturing in Beijing, China. He also gave an invited seminar at the Beijing Institute of Technology, entitled “Frontier Issues in Strategic Product Design in a Digital Age.”

Tarunraj Singh, professor, was awarded the Theodore von Kármán Fellowship by RWTH Aachen, Germany. He was hosted by the Board of Helmholtz Institute for Biomedical Engineering, where he presented a lecture, “Control in an Uncertain World: Artificial Pancreas-A Case Study” (May 2018). Singh also presented the paper “A Noninvasive Glucose Estimation based on Near Infrared Spectroscopy and Pulse-Echo Ultrasound” at the ICBEM & RGC 2018 conference in Aachen, Germany (May 2018).

Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

Michel Bruneau, professor, gave a keynote lecture at the 2nd “International Workshop on Resilience” (November, 2018), and an invited lecture to the Research Institute of Structural Engineering and Disaster Reduction at Tongji University, China. The workshop presentation was titled “Christchurch: Rebuilding a Resilient City?” while the subsequent presentation was “Resilience Challenges and Pragmatic Strategies for Resilient Structures.”

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

Paschalis Alexandridis, UB Distinguished Professor, traveled to Beijing, China in June, 2018, where he presented seminars on “Dissolving the Insoluble” at the Department of Chemical Engineering at Tsinghua University (hosted by Qiang Zhang), on “Amphiphilic Block Copolymer-based Formulations: Structure and Function through Self-Assembly” at the College of Materials Science and Engineering, Beijing University of Chemical Technology (hosted by Riwei Xu), and on “Amphiphilic Polymers: Structure in Aqueous Solution and on Surfaces/Interfaces” at the Shiseido China Innovation Center Co., Ltd. In October, 2018, Alexandridis delivered a plenary lecture on “Dissolving the Insoluble: Selection of Solvent and Processing Conditions for Cellulose Pretreatment and Dissolution” at the 12th Hellenic Polymer Society International Conference, held in Ioannina, Greece; and seminars on the same subject at the School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens in Greece (hosted by Athanasios G. Papatheanasiou); and at the Division of Physical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Lund University in Sweden (hosted by Ulf Olsson).

Department of Electrical Engineering

Kwang W. Oh, attended the US-KOREA Conference on Science, Technology and Entrepreneurship (UKC 2018), hosted by St. John’s University in Queens, New York, where he served as a symposium co-chair on the Digital Technologies/Artificial Intelligence Symposia: Electrical, Electronics and Communications (EEC) session. The UKC is an annual 4-day conference that facilitates US-Korea cooperation on recent developments in science, engineering, technology, industry, and entrepreneurship. The theme of UKC 2018 was “Leading Discoveries in the Era of the 4th Industrial Revolution.” The program included symposia, forums and workshops to cover broad areas of science and technology, including but not limited to basic science, applied science, engineering, technology, entrepreneurship, and science policy, focusing on the three pillars: digital technologies/artificial intelligence; biomedicine; and robotics/autonomous systems.

SCHOOL OF LAW

Caroline S. Holley, adjunct professor, is teaching a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) module in her International Law course together with Graciela Ramirez, professor, at the Universidad del Caribe in Cancún, Mexico. COIL partners professors to co-teach a course or module with a class composed of students based in two different countries. Participation in COIL, a SUNY-wide program, is available to faculty through UB’s Experiential Learning Network.

Jessica Owley Lippmann, professor, attended the annual meeting for the Association for Law, Property, and Society at Maastricht University in the Netherlands at the end of May 2018. In August, she traveled to England to study private land conservation and the National

Trust. She has given presentations comparing British and American land conservation in the Netherlands and Vermont. In December, she is taking ten students to Katowice, Poland to participate in the annual climate change treaty negotiations. While in Poland, Lippmann is presenting her research and meeting with faculty at Jagiellonian University in Krakow. In spring 2019, she will be teaching a short course on environmental law at the Universidad Pontificia–Comillas (ICADE) in Madrid, Spain. She is a member of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights (PLPR), the International Ecological Law and Governance Association, and on the board of the Association of Law, Property, and Society (and co-editor of the organization’s international peer-reviewed journal). She is member of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, World Commission on Protected Areas, and Species Survival Commission.

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Department of Marketing

Debabrata (Debu) Talukdar, professor, associate dean for research, is currently involved in several international research projects which deal with issues at the intersection of business strategy and public policy in the context of developing countries. Last summer, he was invited by the World Bank to serve as a research consultant to one of its research projects for the Africa division. The project is investigating the living and economic conditions faced by the residents in 15 major cities in Kenya and how relevant policies—including public-private sector partnerships—can help with sustainable development goals in Kenya as it faces rapid urbanization. Based on works on this area, Talukdar recently sole-authored and co-authored two research articles that were published in the September 2018 issue of *World Development*, a leading academic research journal in the disciplinary domain of development economics.

Department of Organizations and Human Resources

In summer 2018, **Prasad Balkundi**, associate professor and chair, gave two talks at business schools in India. The first was at the Institute of Management Technology, Hyderabad, on “How to Use network science in your research.” The second was a faculty development workshop at Lovely Professional University, Jalandhar, which spanned an entire day, covering a range of topics such as publishing and social networks research.

Jesse Miller, clinical assistant professor and an Experiential Learning Network Faculty Fellow, has created a new globally-networked learning module for the course “Communication Literacy for Business.” Through a partnership with Claudia Prado and Cintli Cardena from the University of Colima, Mexico, this project will bring together students from the University at Buffalo and the University of Colima to collaboratively address an international agribusiness problem. Students will work on a real-world business case—an avocado producer based in Colima, Mexico, interested in expanding exports to the United States. In the process of helping this business expansion, students will be developing their intercultural communication and collaboration skills.

JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Biomedical Informatics

Peter Elkin, professor and chair, will be presenting at Medical Informatics Europe 2019 on the “Biomedical Informatics Investigator,” a new program to use electronic health record data to perform retrospective clinical-genomic research in Zagreb, Croatia in October. Elkin will serve as a track chair for MedInfo 2019, a premier Biomedical Informatics International Conference.

New visiting faculty member **Hongning Zhang** is a pharmaceutical scientist from Capital Medical University in Beijing, China, who will work with the department on drug discovery.

Department of Medicine

Anne Curtis, SUNY distinguished professor, the Charles and Mary Bauer Professor and chair of the Department of Medicine, was invited to present at the 73rd Brazilian Congress of Cardiology, Brasilia, Brazil in September, 2018. While in Brasilia, Curtis spoke on “Improvement

in Quality of Care for Atrial Fibrillation in Get With The Guidelines – Atrial Fibrillation (GWTG-AFIB)."

Paresh Dandona, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chief of Endocrinology, is on the move during the latter half of 2018, traveling to multiple locations, giving a variety of presentations. From July 19-24 he attended the International Diabetes Update in Chennai, India, where he presented on "Hypogonadism in Type 2 Diabetes and Obesity Novel insights," and received the Viswanathan Gold Medal Award. In September, Dandona traveled to Berlin, Germany to present a poster on "Are SGLT2 inhibitors effective and safe in type 1 diabetes?" In November, Dandona will be traveling to Bhubaneswar, India from November 15-18 to attend the 48th Annual European Association for the Study of Diabetes, and from November 22-25 he will be in Gujarat, India.

Jeffrey Lackner, professor, vice chair of research, and chief of the newly formed Behavioral and Preventive Medicine Division within the Department of Medicine, attended the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Federation of Neurogastroenterology and Motility, which was held in Amsterdam, Netherlands in August, 2018. Lackner discussed "Therapeutic Advances in Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders with a Focus on Novel Behavioral Treatments" developed at the University at Buffalo and funded through a landmark NIH grant.

Supriya Mahajan will serve as the U.S. mentor for an award from CRDF Global to recipient Hariom Singh of the National AIDS Research Institute in Pune, India.

Philip McCarthy, professor, traveled to Busan, Korea in June 2018 to the International Congress of BMT 2018, 23rd Annual Congress of KSBMT, where he gave a lecture on Options for Induction and Maintenance for the Newly Diagnosed Transplant-Eligible Multiple Myeloma Patient. McCarthy also presented a lecture on Upfront Treatment of Myeloma in 2018 at the Canadian Hematology Conference in Toronto, Canada.

Igor Puzanov, professor, traveled to Naples, Italy from November 28 – November 29, 2018, as the keynote speaker at both the Immunotherapy Bridge and the Melanoma Bridge meetings. Puzanov is the co-president of the Immunotherapy Bridge and the president of the Melanoma Bridge.

Department of Neurology

In May and June 2018, **Robert Zivadinov**, professor and chair, traveled to Zhengzhou, Henan Province, China, for the 8th Scientific Conference of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease (ISNVD), where he presented a talk on the "Role of cardiovascular comorbidities in the pathogenesis of neurological disorders" and received the Gold Medal Award for "Extraordinary Research and Educational Contributions in the Field of Neurovascular Disease. In June 2018, the Zivadinov research team presented two posters at the 26th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), Paris, France, which included "Age- and sex-related spatial patterns of variation in normal brain magnetic susceptibility (QSM) revealed by Blind Source Separation (BSS) and Supervised Machine Learning," and "Assessment of the Total Iron Mass using Quantitative Susceptibility Mapping (QSM): Deep gray matter iron depletion in multiple sclerosis?" In September 2018, Zivadinov traveled to Ekaterinburg, Russia, for the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Russian Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis (RUCTRIMS), where he presented a talk on "Advances in Imaging in Patients with MS," as part of a program on Differential Diagnosis of Demyelinating Diseases. In October 2018, Zivadinov presented abstracts for three posters at the 34th Congress of the European Committee for Treatment of Research in Multiple Sclerosis (ECTRIMS) in Berlin, Germany: "Open-label, single-blinded, observational, prospective, 24-month, longitudinal, controlled study to assess the efficacy of fingolimod on development of thalamus pathology and cognitive impairment in patients with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis"; "Serum neurofilament light chain levels and cortical pathology in multiple sclerosis: 5-year longitudinal study"; and "Serum neurofilament light chain

levels and cross-sectional and longitudinal deep gray matter changes: 5-year longitudinal MRI study."

Gil Wolfe, Irvin and Rosemary Smith Professor and chair of the Department of Neurology, delivered three invited lectures at the Nerve-Con III meeting held in Hyderabad, India, in August 2018. The conference, held every 4 years, assembles neuromuscular neurology experts from across India and includes several international speakers. Wolfe delivered updates on the management of neuropathic pain and myasthenia gravis, and also presented a lecture on the most recent pathogenic players implicated in myasthenia gravis.

Department of Ophthalmology

Steven Fliesler, SUNY Distinguished Professor, Meyer H. Riwchun Endowed Chair Professor, vice-chair and director of research, attended the Antonio Champalimaud Foundation Vision Award ceremony in Lisbon, Portugal, in September 2018, representing the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) as its president. He also presented an invited research lecture, "SLOS, Oxysterols, and Retinal Homeostasis," at the 2018 European Vision and Eye Research (EVER) Conference in Nice, France, in October 2018. In addition, Fliesler was the plenary speaker at the Sociedad Argentina de Investigación en Neurociencias (SAN) XXXIII Annual Congress, held October 23-26, 2018, in Cordoba, Argentina, where his lecture was entitled, "Retinal Degenerations: The Isoprenoid Connection."

Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences

Yongho Bae, assistant professor, traveled to South Korea for two weeks during Summer 2018. During this time, he presented research seminars entitled "Mechanotransduction in vascular smooth muscle" at the following institutions: Department of Dental Medicine and Life Sciences, Seoul National University; School of Dentistry, Pusan National University; Gachon University College of Medicine, Lee Gil Ya Cancer and Diabetes Institute; and School of Life Sciences, Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology.

Department of Physiology and Biophysics

Joan Baizer is continuing a productive collaboration with S. F. Witelson, McMaster University, in Hamilton, Ontario. This collaboration has given her access to the Witelson Normal Brain Collection, resulting in several studies of how the organization of human brainstem compares to that in other mammals.

Department of Structural Biology

In September 2018, **Andrew Gulick**, associate professor gave a presentation on "Iron Acquisition in Bacterial Pathogens: Structural and Functional Studies of Siderophore Biosynthesis" to the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada. Here, Gulick spoke about his recent studies in the structural biology of bacterial natural product biosynthesis.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Laina Bay-Cheng, associate professor, is collaborating with a group of Dutch researchers on analyzing data that was collected in the Netherlands and in their paper titled "Do I score points if I say 'no'? Negotiating sexual boundaries in a changing normative landscape," which was published in the Journal of Gender-based Violence.

Elizabeth Bowen, assistant professor, served as a Member of Fulbright Interview Committee for the UB Office of Fellowships and Scholarships, and serves as as a Mentor and Planning Committee Member of the University at Buffalo-University of Zimbabwe NIH D43 Fogarty HIV Research Training Program.

Filomena Critelli, associate professor, and her team were awarded a grant from SUNY to participate in the development of a Sustainable Village Learning Community in Akaye, Haiti that is also being funded through a grant from the Kellogg Foundation. For the social division, a needs assessment is being conducted with a range of stakeholders in Haiti. A Community-Based Participatory Research Project with Youth is also being launched as part of the project as well as work with local women's self-help groups. Critelli is also a member of the Advisory Board with the Faculté de Travail Social et Justice Sociale/Fakilté nan Travay Sosyal ak Jistis Sosyal, a social work education program affiliated with Episcopal University in Haiti.

Gokul Mandayam, clinical associate professor, presented a paper titled “Cutting edge social work practice: Should organizational development be integrated into social work education?” at the Annual Academic Conference on Organization Development, Change and Leadership; the Centre for Social and Organizational Leadership (CSOL); and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India. Mandayam was also invited to make a presentation titled “Introduction to Social Innovation in Mental Health” at Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Chennai, India.

Nadine (Shaanta) Murshid, assistant professor, together with colleagues presented a paper titled “Labor and delivery outcomes in African refugee women: A comparative study of reproductive health outcomes” at the Nursing Research & Scholarly Activities Conference of the Professional Nurses Association of Western New York, American Nurses Association-New York, and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in Buffalo, NY. Murshid writes Op-Eds for the Daily Star, a Bangladeshi periodical. Her recent pieces have been titled: “Teen protest movement demanding safe roads: Their allies, adversaries, and others,” and “The violent men around us.” Murshid studies mobile-money in Bangladesh with a community partner in the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

Murshid’s recent published work includes: “Associations of intimate partner violence with screening for mental health disorders among women in urban Bangladesh published in the *International Journal of Public Health*; Participation in income-generating activities and help-seeking social networks of women experiencing IPV in Bangladesh,” published in the *Journal of Social Service Research*; “Women’s neoliberal experiences with microfinance in urban Bangladesh: Results from a qualitative study,” published in the *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*; “Examining women’s physical mobility and microfinance participation in Bangladesh: Results from a nationally representative sample of women,” published with Anna Ball, assistant professor, in *Women’s Studies International Forum*; “Microfinance participation and contraceptive use and intention in Bangladesh,” published with **Gretchen Ely**, associate professor in *International Social Work*; and “Microfinance participation and women’s decision-making power in the household in Bangladesh,” published in the *Journal of Social Service Research*.

Melanie Sage, assistant professor, serves as a board member for the Human Services Information Technology Applications (husITa), an international group focused on the ethical use of technology.

Larry Shulman, professor emeritus, presented a workshop titled “Engaging and working with the hard-to-reach client for Mission Empowerment” in Stratford, Ontario, Canada; and at McGill University Hospital, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on the same topic.

Mickey Sperlich, assistant professor, presented a poster titled “Survivor Mums; Companion: The implementation of a pilot intervention for pregnant women in a socioeconomically disadvantaged community in the UK at the International Marcé Society Biennial Scientific Meeting” in Bangalore, India. She also presented a paper titled “Trauma-informed care for maternity care providers: Breaking cycles of abuse and vulnerability,” and a paper titled “Normalizing and responding to the needs of the 1-in-5 survivors,” at the 2018 International Normal Labour and Birth Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Sperlich together with **Susan Green**, clinical professor, **Travis Hales** (Ph.D., 2018), **Tom Nochajski**, research professor, and other colleagues presented a poster titled “Psychoeducational trauma support groups for women with opioid use disorders in a residential setting” at the Trauma Talks 2018 conference, “Bridging Brain and Body with Trauma-informed Care,” in Toronto, Canada.

Hilary Weaver, professor and associate dean for academic affairs, was invited to present “Good health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples: Challenges and Contributions” at the 17th annual Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, United Nations, New York, New York. Several faculty members made presentations at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development in Dublin, Ireland.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Christopher Hollister, Interim Head of Scholarly Communication, attended the European Conference on Information Literacy in Oulu, Finland to co-present the paper, “The Algorithmic Intersection of Scholarly Communication, [Un]informed Citizenship, and Information Literacy: The Preprint as a Case Study.” While there, he interviewed conference attendees from two dozen countries to inform the development of a new course on international librarianship that he will be teaching for the Department of Library and Information Studies in the summer of 2019. Hollister was also member of the Office of International Education’s 2018 Study Abroad Incubator, which explored a variety of experiential learning opportunities for University at Buffalo students in Costa Rica.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

John J. Wood, interim vice provost, is a presenter with two Canadian colleagues on a panel session titled, “Moving the needle on student mobility: quantity AND quality,” at the annual conference of the Association of International Education Administrators in San Francisco in January 2019. ☺

DIRECTORY

Office of the Vice Provost for International Education
(716) 645-2368, 645-2528 (Fax)
Email: vpinted@buffalo.edu
Web: buffalo.edu/internationaleducation
John J. Wood, Interim Vice Provost
Stephen C. Dunnnett, Executive Director,
Overseas Sponsored Programs
Patricia Shyhalla
Associate Vice Provost and Director
Resource Management
Trevor Poag, Director of Global Learning
Opportunities
Marvis Robinson
Financial Resource Officer
Phoung Van, Staff Assistant for Resource
Management

International Enrollment
Management
(716) 645-2368, 645-2528 (Fax)
intiem@buffalo.edu
Joseph J. Hindrawan
Associate Vice Provost and Director
Raymond Lew, Associate Director
Laurel Root, International Recruiter

International Admissions
(716) 645-2368, 645-2528 (Fax)
intadmit@buffalo.edu
Steven L. Shaw
Assistant Vice Provost and Director
Jessica M. Kane, Assistant Director for
Marketing and Communications
Amy Matikosh, Assistant Director for
Outreach
Joshua Harrington, Admissions Advisor
Kaileigh Hubbard, Admissions Advisor
Namita Thomas, Admissions Advisor
Zachary Demaio, Admissions Assistant
Katherine Szymaszek, Admissions Assistant

International Student and Scholar
Services
(716) 645-2258, 645-6197 (Fax)
intlservices@buffalo.edu
Kathryn Tudini
Assistant Vice Provost and Director
Jessica Ereiz, Assistant Director
Amy Burk, SEVIS Coordinator
James Bowman
International Student Advisor
Jenna Lenz
International Student Advisor
Dara Maffei
International Student Advisor
Amanda Vakeva
International Student Advisor
Caitlin Rioux, Inclusion and Engagement
Coordinator

Immigration Services
(716) 645-2355, (716) 645-6197 (Fax)
Oscar E. Budde, Esq.
Associate Vice Provost and Director
Cinthya Alvarez,
Immigration Law Specialist
Alissa Bailey, Paralegal

Study Abroad Programs
(716) 645-3912, 645-6197 (Fax)
studyabroad@buffalo.edu
Mary Odrzywolski, Director
Olga Crombie, Assistant Director
Krista Pazkowsky, Study Abroad Advisor

Council on International Studies
and Programs
(716) 645-2368, 645-2528 (Fax)
Peter F. Biehl, Chair

UB INTERNATIONAL

Office of International Education
University at Buffalo
The State University of New York
411 Capen Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260-1604
U.S.A.

HUMAN AND POON HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Christine Human, associate dean for accreditation and student affairs in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), and Jessie Poon, professor of Geography in the College of Arts and Sciences, were honored November 27th with the 2018 Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB.

The award, which was established in 2004 by the UB Council on International Studies and Programs, recognizes exceptional, long-term contributions to international education through international research, support for international students, teaching in international programs, and related activities. Human and Poon received the awards during the annual award luncheon hosted by the Council and attended by colleagues and friends.

Human, who was nominated by

Joseph Atkinson, professor and chair of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, was honored for her role in facilitating and supporting inter-

recognized for extensive international research endeavors, her mentoring of international students, and her coordination of the department's International Trade degree program in Singapore. She was nominated by Sean Bennett, professor and chair of Geography.

Presenting the awards were Provost Charles Zukoski, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Robert Granfield, and Peter Biehl, chair of the Council and associate dean for international enrollment and education in the College of Arts and Sciences. 🌐



Jessie Poon (l), Provost Zukoski and Christine Human

national programs in SEAS, including the Dual Diploma Program with Istanbul Technical University (p. 5) and the summer program for STEM students from Kazakhstan (p. 7) as well as promoting the successful inclusion and retention of international students in the School.

Poon, whose research and teaching focuses on international trade, was

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John J. Wood, Editor