

# UB INTERNATIONAL

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### UB International

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## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INCLUSION

By Charles Anzalone

**U**B must continue to foster an environment of “inclusion and engagement,” one that makes the integration of international students the responsibility of all university departments, faculty, staff and students, according to the findings of a UB task force formed to study the campus environment.

“The concepts of integration, inclusion and engagement must be infused into the entire ethos of the institution,” states the report, prepared by the Provost’s Task Force on International Student Inclusion and Engagement. “The data clearly show that UB is a truly global university and a top destination for international students.”

Given the increasing enrollment of international students and the continuing trends toward UB becoming an international university, improving the environment and services for international students must be a clear priority for the university, the report states.

And while the two-year study clearly acknowledges the positive changes that have come about since the international student population has grown so significantly, it also recommends new approaches.

“The entire UB community is challenged to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for all of our students, and particularly those who must deal with adjusting to a new language, culture and academic system,” said Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and vice provost for international education, who submitted the final report.

“Faculty, staff and students from across the university have a role in fostering the kind of campus climate in which everyone in our richly diverse community can flourish and all can benefit from one another’s distinctive contributions.”

The report was provided to Provost Charles F. Zukoski for review and consider-

ation of its recommendations.

“We are proud that so many international students choose to attend UB to take advantage of our excellent academic programs,” said Zukoski. “We are committed to fostering an inclusive and vibrant campus environment for all of our students, and we are pleased that this report will help our campus be even more welcoming and supportive for our international population.”

At the center of the report are the dramatically increasing numbers of international students attending UB. Undergraduate international students at UB increased by more than 500 percent in 18 years, from around 300 in the fall of 1996 to 1,820 in the fall of 2014, according to the report. UB’s total international enrollment exceeds 5,000, not counting students on Optional Practical Training, which students undertake following graduation.

“Providing more robust and responsive support is critical to our university’s enrollment and retention plans, particularly in light of our goal of growing overall enrollment by 2,000 students by 2020,” Dunnett said.

The task force’s 159-page report includes numerous examples of strategies and best practices from UB departments that provide a welcoming environment for international students.

“There are many programs and efforts in UB decanal units, departments and student services offices that promote the inclusion and engagement of international students,” the report states.

“If replicated in other campus units, such programs could go a long way in bringing together international and domestic students in a meaningful way.”

Among the report’s recommendations:

- University leadership should communicate that international students are valued and supported at the University

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## FROM THE VICE PROVOST

Since the election in November, many commentators in the U.S. and around the world have been trying to account for its causes and to anticipate its ramifications. There has been much handwringing about the results and many dire predictions about future outcomes.

But even as I write this in early December, too much is still unknown or unclear to make sound predictions about 2017, or even offer accurate explanations of what happened this fall.

Nevertheless, as a professor and international educator, I choose to see the election as a wakeup call to redouble our efforts to educate all of our constituents about the value of internationalization, without underestimating the impacts and costs of globalization. Clearly, many U.S. voters felt that globalization and its attendant consequences here at home is a bad thing for them, and they may harbor the comforting idea that globalization can be reversed, or its impacts attenuated.

Without minimizing the effects on U.S. jobs and wages of economic globalization, international educators should focus on the opportunities that expanding global interaction and exchange afford us in higher education.

All of our institutions are increasingly networked globally and depend upon these connections today as our lifeblood. Building barriers or restricting access is contrary to what we're about, and such efforts impede our mission to create and share knowledge, and to serve an increasingly diverse set of constituents in many impactful ways.

Anxieties about the future should not compel us to hunker down and play it safe. Moreover, we should be careful to distinguish campaign rhetoric and actual future policy.

Our universities must continue to welcome international students and scholars, and to send out our students and faculty to the four corners of the earth. This is clearly in our institutions' and our country's best interest.

We need to do a better job of including and engaging international students and scholars so that both they and their domestic counterparts may derive the maximum benefit from their presence on our campuses.

We should step up our internationalization-at-home efforts, by infusing global and cross-cultural content throughout our curricula. The University at Buffalo has taken a great stride forward in this regard through its newly

reformed and launched general education program for undergraduates, the UB Curriculum, with a robust global learning component.

As a Generation Study Abroad partner, UB is aggressively seeking to grow our study abroad participation, by doing much more to promote curricular integration and to partner with faculty in developing opportunities that align with campus-based curricula and student needs. Through these new opportunities, we are also seeking to enhance diversity among our study abroad participants by engaging a variety of underrepresented groups.

Our recently appointed Director of Global Learning Opportunities, Dr. Trevor Poag (see p. 16), is working with faculty and departments across the university on this effort to expand study abroad opportunities.

We are forming an implementation team to move forward on the recommendations of our university-wide Task Force on International Student Inclusion and Engagement to make our campus a more welcoming environment for our international students and thus better leverage their presence to enhance the cross-cultural learning of our domestic students. We want to not only reas-

sure our international students that they are welcome but also demonstrate that reality as a campus-wide priority.

All of us in international education are challenged by the current climate to strengthen our arguments for internationalization by appealing to the concrete results we have achieved on our campuses.

I take the opportunity to wish our readers a happy, healthy and successful New Year and to thank them for their continued support of international education. 🌐

*Stephen C. Dunnett is professor of foreign language education and vice provost for international education.*

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## UN AMBASSADOR

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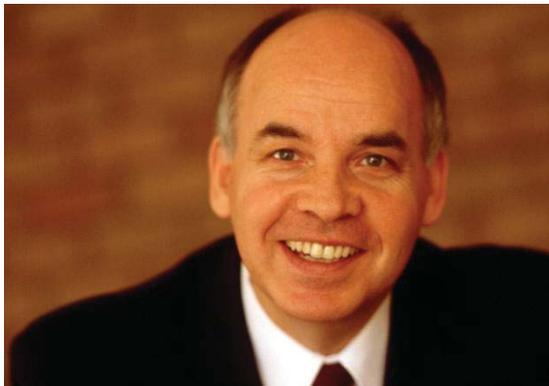
Minahil Khan, a 2016 UB alumna who emigrated to the U.S. from Pakistan with her family when she was in grade school.

Several audience members asked Power what they can do to change the anti-immigrant and anti-refugee sentiment that persists in many rural parts of the country.

The human element, Power said, is the best way to break through because many refugees have powerful, moving stories of the strife they faced in their native countries.

In short, she said, "Nobody chooses to be a refugee." 🌐

*David J. Hill is a news content manager for University Communications.*



## UN AMBASSADOR CALLS BUFFALO A MODEL CITY FOR REFUGEES

By David J. Hill

Before visiting for the first time on November 22, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations didn't know that Buffalo is known as the "City of Good Neighbors." But after meeting with members of the city's thriving refugee population and seeing how they've been supported, Samantha Power witnessed the kindness and compassion that have helped Buffalo live up to its moniker.

The more than 14,000 refugees who have resettled in Buffalo over the past 15 years have helped reverse the city's decades-long population decline, while bolstering its economy and making the community more diverse.

"What is more American than that? Our country has a lot to learn from this 'City of Good Neighbors,'" Power said during an afternoon talk in Baird Recital Hall on UB's North Campus.

The U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Power has been a member of President Barack Obama's cabinet since August 2013 when the Senate confirmed her as the nation's 28th ambassador to the U.N. She is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and former professor at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Power began looking to visit a city with a vibrant refugee community in June, when Obama announced plans to hold a U.N. summit on the refugee crisis.

Buffalo, she said, is the perfect place to examine the positive impact refugees can have on a city.

Before concluding her day with a talk and Q&A at UB, Power met with city leaders, refugee resettlement agencies and refugee families, and visited the West Side Bazaar, a bustling small business incubator whose vendors are mostly refugees and immigrants.

Power also pointed out the role UB plays as a diverse university that has a large enrollment of international students, a point President Satish K. Tripathi noted in his opening remarks. "As a world premier public research university, UB is a truly international institution in both stature and global impact," he said.

Tripathi mentioned several examples of ways in which

UB faculty, staff and students are working with refugee communities locally and abroad, from UB's Community for Global Health Equity, to the School of Social Work's Immigrant and Refugee Research Institute, to the Office of Global Health Initiatives in the School of Public Health and Health Professions.

"It is fitting that today's discussion is taking place at the University at Buffalo, a university that ranks among the top 20 U.S. educational institutions enrolling the largest number of international students," Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown said.

The timing of Power's visit was particularly poignant, given the anti-immigrant comments President-elect Donald Trump has made during his campaign and since being elected earlier this month.

In addition, the world is experiencing a refugee crisis unparalleled since the aftermath of World War II, Power said, adding that over the course of her one day in Buffalo, some 34,000 people — or roughly the number of students and employees at UB — will be displaced.

New York State is the fourth-largest recipient of refugees, and 1 out of every 3 is resettled in Buffalo, Power said.

She noted that what's happening in places like Buffalo can help dispel the myths associated with refugees — namely, that they take jobs away from American workers, live off government assistance and pose a threat to U.S. security.

Refugees face myriad challenges upon arriving to a new city, such as a lack of support networks and language barriers, that further complicate the transition.

"It is no surprise that at first refugees may lean on others for help," Power said.

"But what I saw today in Buffalo also echoes what we have seen across America for decades: Given a helping hand and some time to gain their footing, the overwhelming majority of refugees more than pay back the modest support that they receive."

Power spoke for about 20 minutes, then took part in a 45-minute question-and-answer session moderated by Nancy Smyth, dean of the School of Social Work, and

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L to r: Samantha Power, Nancy Smyth and Minahil Khan. Photo: Douglas Levere

## INCLUSION TASK FORCE

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- at Buffalo.
- All UB units should include internationalization efforts as part of their strategic plans.
- Where appropriate, departments and faculty should identify opportunities in their curricula and teaching to facilitate cross-cultural learning in the classroom.
- “Communication strategies” are needed at different levels of the university to encourage development of more meaningful relationships between domestic and international students, beginning with a joint orientation program and including the organization of extracurricular activities for diverse groups of students.

Peter F. Biehl, professor and chair of the Department of Anthropology who chaired the International Student Inclusion Task Force, said competition to enroll international students is intensifying throughout the country. The competition may never have been greater than now, Biehl said.

“The recommendations of the campus-wide task force offer a unique chance for UB to become a national leader in inclusion and engagement of international students, and to develop into a truly global campus,” said Biehl, who also is chair of the Council on International Studies and Programs, or CISP.

“This will have lifelong benefits for our domestic students, as well. It will make them more tolerant, more adaptable and more marketable on a world stage.” 🌐

## MENTORING PROGRAM CREATES LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

*By Laura Hernandez*

Vikash Mani describes Fran Fiscus as a second mother who texts him every day to see if he needs anything. And Mani is such a part of Fiscus’ family that when he calls her house “my husband often says, ‘Your other son is on the phone,’” says Fiscus, workforce data analyst for the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Mani and Fiscus were introduced four years ago through UB’s International Student Mentoring Program, an initiative in which UB staff members serve as mentors and a local support system for international students.

Although the program requires a commitment of only one semester, Mani and Fiscus have remained close for his entire undergraduate career. In fact, Fiscus and her family attended Mani’s commencement on Saturday — he received a BS in business administration.

Fiscus and Mani’s experience is just one example of the memories and lasting friendships that are made as staff members help guide international students during their time at UB.

Sponsored by the Office of International Student and Scholar Services and Counseling Services, the International Student Mentoring Program (ISMP) aims to provide social support for students who are a long way from home.

Staff members who volunteer their time — and are called cultural partners — are paired with students, with whom they meet for at least an hour every two weeks for

one semester.

Activities can be as simple as having lunch together, going for coffee or taking a walk, or as elaborate as visiting a local tourist attraction, going to a sports event or having dinner in the mentor’s home.

“It is an amazing opportunity for new friendships and memories that’ll last a lifetime,” Fiscus says.

Mani says that whenever he stops by Fiscus’ office to see her, her co-workers ask if he is there to see his Mom.

“She does everything a mom does and took care of me like I was her own son,” he says. “Whenever I feel lonely, I call her to talk.”

Mary Dahl and her student partner, Chintan Thakker, enjoy an outing at an Amish village.

Caterina Berti, senior research scientist in the Department of Neurology, joined the mentoring program after having faced similar challenges when she arrived from Italy nine years ago. Berti and her students shared their experiences and explored common interests while going on field

trips with her family and celebrating Thanksgiving together.

“We shared our thoughts and feelings, and she gave me a lot of good advice regarding academic life and future work.” says Jianqiao Han, a biomedical engineering student who graduated from UB last year.

Han and Shrutee Manoohar Patil, a graduate student in management information systems, spent the same semester with Berti.

“She, along with her family, accepted us and treated

*continued on p. 27*



*Fran Fiscus (3rd from r) and her family join Vikash Mani and his family at his graduation*

## UB RESEARCHERS ASSIST REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS

By Wooksoo Kim

UB's ongoing engagement with refugees is closely connected to the community of UB researchers convening through IRRI. The Immigrant and Refugee Research Institute (IRRI) is a research institute housed within the UB School of Social Work's Buffalo Center for Social Research.

The goal of IRRI is to develop practical knowledge that positively influence the lives of immigrants and refugees. IRRI aims to offer a meeting place for all stakeholders interested in sharing and developing practical knowledge to inform practice and policy related to immigrants and refugees.

The Institute is made up of co-directors, Wooksoo Kim and Hilary Weaver, and affiliates from a range of disciplines including English, sociology, engineering, architecture and urban planning, nursing, anthropology, law, history, education, transnational studies, as well as social work. Currently affiliates include 17 faculty and 5 graduate students and the list continues to grow.

### Community Engagement

Since it was established over two and a half years ago, IRRI has been connected with the University community, refugee related service communities, and refugee communities at various capacities. IRRI has been involved in the structural committee of the Western New York Immigrant and Refugee Roundtable Meeting, which convenes on a quarterly basis to address issues impacting newcomer communities and to disseminate helpful information. IRRI is a part of the Structural Committee of the Roundtable Meeting.

On behalf of the Roundtable Meeting, IRRI developed an extensive online repository of information related to immigrants and refugees in the WNY region. It is responding to the needs of community called for an online resource guide.

The Immigrant and Refugee Resource Guide currently features 68 local resources (and counting). This webpage contains information for refugees, immigrants, and anyone working with these communities. Entries are organized by topic, such as Advocacy and Community Involvement, Arts and Culture, Case Management, Public Benefits, Social Services, Education, Employment, Health Care, Housing, Resettlement, and Legal Services. Community members and organizations are encouraged to submit their program information to IRRI for inclusion in the online Resource Guide.

In addition, on IRRI's website, Community Event Calendar features information about non-academic activities, talks, and performances pertaining to refugee and immigrant communities in Buffalo.

One shared undertaking with CGHE is the Western New York Refugee Health Summit, an annual conference held

locally to convene Buffalo-based researchers, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders who focus on factors impacting refugee health in our community. IRRI affiliates have been involved with the planning committee and various working groups since 2013.

The Refugee Health Summit includes contents that are relevant for direct healthcare practitioners, officials and policy makers, researcher, resettlement agency staff, and leader of refugee communities themselves. The summit focuses on understanding and remedying barriers to health care, and shares strategies for providing culturally appropriate and relevant health care for refugees.

In addition, invited by the Erie County Executive Office, IRRI has been part of the newly developed initiative, Erie County New Americans Advisory Committee. This Committee was established by County Executive Mark Poloncarz to respond to the needs, and to increase capacities, of refugee and immigrant communities in Buffalo and Erie County. Through IRRI's presence at these meetings, direct exchange of information can occur along with establishing natural connections with local government officials and community leaders.

### Ongoing Collaborative Research Projects

Partnered with refugee community organizations, IRRI has been conducting multiple Community-Based Participatory Research. We are not only connected with the immigrant and refugee communities, but also inquire the community's needs when we set our research agenda. The inclusion of community leaders from the start ensures that questions and issues of genuine interest to the community will be discussed & prioritized in future study involving the communities. Some of these research projects are listed below.

The Burmese Community Behavioral Health Survey was undertaken by Dr. Isok Kim in collaboration with the Burmese Community Support Center, Burmese Community Services, Inc., and the Karen Society of Buffalo. This community-based participatory research project recruited and trained Burmese- and Karen-speaking interviewers to survey a total of 256 participants from their community. Focused on behavioral health issues impacting the communities, the preliminary findings and completed report are available on the IRRI website.

Second, seeking to understand and remedy human rights violations suffered by refugees, IRRI has undertaken a study on barriers to accessing adequate and health and mental health services in Buffalo. Drs. Wooksoo Kim and Isok Kim, with a social work doctoral student Asli Yalim, are investigating Barriers to Healthcare Use among Refugees from Burma in Buffalo. Using qualitative methods to interview Burmese community leaders, this study aims to identify barriers to effective physical and mental health care in these communities.

Third, Wooksoo Kim and Isok Kim have been supervising

*continued on p. 6*

## TRIPATHI CONVOCATION SPEAKER AT IIT KANPUR

In late June 2016, President Tripathi was honored as the Chief Guest for the 49<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, India.

This annual event, which is similar to the commencement ceremony for U.S. universities, featured a major convocation address by President Tripathi to the graduates of IIT Kanpur on June 27.

IIT Kanpur is one of the foremost technical institutes in India and the world. Admission is extremely competitive and only the very best students in India are able to enroll following a rigorous examination process.

The chief guest at the convocation is a role of high distinction and has been filled in previous years by prime ministers, presidents and other senior leaders of India. Manmohan Singh was chief guest when he was prime minister in 2010, and Pranab Mukerjee served in this role in 2013 when he was president of India.

Tripathi began by pointing out that he had grown up only 150 miles from Kanpur and knew many graduates and faculty of the institute.

His address challenged the new graduates to take maximum advantage of the extraordinary opportunities afforded them thanks to their superlative education at IIT Kanpur. “The world you are entering as a graduate today has

changed, and continues to change at an incredibly rapid pace. The 21<sup>st</sup> century landscape is very much a global world, driven by a data economy,” he said.

“At the same time, this globally networked world has led to an explosion of information—one that is expanding exponentially all the time. This comes with great challenges as well as tremendous opportunities for you as the future leaders of business, industry, and the economy.”

Tripathi noted that the increasing importance of data science and data analytics more generally put the graduates in a privileged position—one they should strive to leverage for the benefit of their country.

“We need knowledgeable experts like you—educated experts who can help business and industry understand how to translate this information into usable intelligence, and how to move from simply collecting to strategically connecting data to make valuable insights and discoveries.”

During his visit, Tripathi discussed several opportunities for institutional cooperation between IIT Kanpur and UB, including research collaboration relating to energy, environment and water, and dual-Ph.D. programs in STEM fields. 🌐

## REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS

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Anita Sharma, a UB McNair Scholar undergraduate student, and other two undergraduate students to investigate the needs of the community.

The Bhutanese-Nepali Community Needs Assessment was created in collaboration with the Bhutanese-Nepali community leaders and focuses on the health and mental health needs among members of the Bhutanese-Nepali Community.

Lastly, focusing on education issues, Drs. Wooksoo Kim and Isok Kim will supervise Sarah Stanford, a UB Honors College student, to investigate not only educational challenges but also resilience factors among female refugee young adults. This qualitative inquiry is partially supported by UB Gender Institute Undergraduate Scholarship Award.

The Immigrant and Refugee Research Institute also collaborate closely with the Community for Global Health Equity (CGHE).

Currently, there are two CGHE Seed projects, in which IRRI’s affiliates are involved: (1) “Dealing with Disparities in Food Acquisition,” a project that examines practical and policy related factors around the food acquisition practices in Burmese community in Buffalo; and (2) “The Value of Refugees and Interpreters as Standardized Patients for In-

terprofessional Education,” a project that aims to increase healthcare professional students’ readiness to work with patients who require interpreter services during clinical encounters.

### Dissemination of Research Findings

IRRI has been working on information sharing with communities. While research undertaken by IRRI and its affiliates often end up in academic journals, these journal articles mainly target academics and rarely useful for community and other stakeholders.

Thus, IRRI has institute a brief report mechanism, where preliminary findings and final reports for community-based research projects are available for non-academic stakeholders.

Through many things that IRRI provides, in close collaboration with community partners, we are able to communicate vital and timely information to refugee and immigrant communities. IRRI has become an integral part of collective and collaborative efforts in improving the lives of Buffalo’s immigrant and refugee community in Buffalo. 🌐

*Wooksoo Kim is a professor of Social Work.*

## NEW DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

By Bert Gambini

**R**obin G. Schulze, associate dean for the humanities and professor of English at the University of Delaware, was appointed dean of the University at Buffalo's College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2016.

As dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Schulze (pronounced Shul-zee) will oversee UB's largest and most diverse academic unit with 27 departments and 16 academic programs in the arts, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, as well as 23 centers and institutes, two art galleries, and major theater and music performance venues.

"Dr. Schulze emerged as the leading candidate as a result of her significant leadership experience, impressive scholarly accomplishments, creative energy, strong commitment to the liberal arts and proven ability to work with faculty to create and implement a shared vision," Zukoski said.

"As dean, I am confident that Dr. Schulze will lead our College of Arts and Sciences to build on its strengths, achieve even greater prominence in research and education, and enhance its impact in our local and global communities."

Schulze succeeds E. Bruce Pitman, who announced in October 2015 his plans to step down. Pitman has served as dean since July 2011 and will return to a full-time faculty role as a researcher and educator in UB's Department of Materials Design and Innovation.

UB President Satish K. Tripathi said Schulze "is an outstanding leader to guide our College of Arts and Sciences forward as it embarks on the second century of its distinguished history."

"As a seasoned administrator and a renowned humanities scholar, Dr. Schulze has amassed truly impressive experience in advancing scholarly collaboration and innovation across the disciplines," he said. "She brings tremendous energy and vision to this key role, and it will be exciting to see how the college continues to excel and evolve under her leadership."

"I am honored and excited to be joining such a dynamic and innovative university," said Schulze. "I look forward to collaborating with Buffalo's world-class faculty to shape the future of the College of Arts and Sciences. I have roots in the region and I'm very happy that my career has led me back to Western New York."

Schulze is an expert in modernist American poetry, textual scholarship, editorial theory, and modernist literature and culture. She is widely recognized as one of the world's leading scholars of the poet Marianne Moore and her modernist peers.

A prolific scholar, Schulze has published four books and more than 20 articles and book chapters. Throughout her work, she approaches print objects as material objects and explores how the material presentations of linguistic texts affect their interpretation and reception.

Schulze's research has been supported by numerous grants and fellowships, including prestigious grants from the National Humanities Center and the American Philosophical Society.

As associate dean at the University of Delaware, she managed six departments and five interdisciplinary programs, and works closely with the associate deans for the Natural Sciences, Arts and Social Sciences. Schulze led the humanities faculty in the development of a shared emphasis in material culture, raising more than \$1 million in foundation and university support, resulting in a cluster hire across the humanities disciplines.

Before joining the University of Delaware, Schulze served as head of the Department of English at Pennsylvania State University from 2007 to 2011. Prior to that, she served in numerous administrative roles, including associate head, director of undergraduate studies, chair of the graduate studies committee and director of the Center for American Literary Studies.

Schulze received her Ph.D. in English and her master's degrees in English and music performance from the University of Michigan. She earned her bachelor's degree in music history from Yale University and performed as a professional harpist throughout the northeast corridor from 1980 to 1985.

Her grandfather, John Stuart Allan, grew up in Buffalo and earned a bachelor's of science degree and law degree from UB in 1927 and 1930, respectively. Schulze's mother, Joan Gail. Allan, was born in Buffalo, lived in Kenmore until she was 12 and later taught school in Clarence upon her return to the region in the 1950s, when she met and married Schulze's father, Merlin Dwight Schulze. 🌐

*Bert Gambini is a news content manager for University Communications.*



## COPPENS HONORED FOR SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHEMISTRY

By Charlotte Hsu

Well-wishers from as far away as India, Denmark, Poland, France, Germany and Slovakia came to UB on October 29, 2016 to celebrate chemist Philip Coppens, who is retiring after nearly half a century at the university.

A SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry, Coppens joined UB's faculty in 1968.

He is one of the world's pre-eminent minds in the field of crystallography, the study of how atoms are arranged within crystals. It's a field that has accelerated the development of modern technologies, from new materials to drugs for disease.

Colleagues and longtime friends came together to honor Coppens at a symposium in the chemistry department on the North Campus.

"He is a giant in crystallography," said Jochen Schneider, former research director of the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY) research center, who traveled from Germany to see Coppens. "For me, I have enjoyed his friendship, the permanent stimulus of talking to him."

"It's not at all too much to say," agreed Finn Larsen, an Aarhus University scientist who came from Denmark to speak at the symposium. Decades ago, Larsen was one of the first postdoctoral researchers in Coppens' lab at UB.

Presenters regaled the audience with personal stories about Coppens and lectures linked to his research.

In 50 years as a scientist, Coppens never lost his sense of wonder for discovery. He loved the elegance of his discipline — the way that atoms within crystals were arranged in precise patterns that were carefully repeated.

Coppens' career began in his native country, the Netherlands, where he received his Ph.D. from the University of Amsterdam in 1960 after working on his degree research at the Weizmann Institute in Israel for more than three years, during which he made a number of lifelong friends.

At the time, crystallography was a rapidly emerging field, and Coppens wanted in.

He became one of the first researchers in the world to use a method called X-ray diffraction to study the bonds connecting atoms and molecules inside crystals. Later, he broke new ground again by using X-ray diffraction to investigate the effect of light on crystals and how crystals themselves emit light.

Coppens' work opened new ways of doing science. His successes earned him the recognition of peers around the world.

In 2005, he received the International Union of Crystallography's Ewald Prize for outstanding contributions to crystallography — an award that has been given just 10 times since 1986.

These accolades were among many national and international honors Coppens received over several decades, a testament to his immutable spirit of innovation. For five decades, he was a fixture of the chemistry department and a champion for science.

He raised the profile of UB and Buffalo, drawing some of the brightest minds to the region to study crystallography, said President Satish K. Tripathi, who delivered opening remarks at the symposium in honor of Coppens.

David Watson, chair of the chemistry department, says Coppens will be missed for the rigor and vigor of his research: He pursued scientific questions with an intense curiosity that inspired others to do more and do better.

"The guy is a work horse. He knows how to identify scientifically interesting problems and chase these things down — to pursue answers really tirelessly," says Jason Benedict, a UB assistant professor of chemistry who got his start as a postdoctoral researcher in Coppens' lab eight years ago.

Benedict co-organized Saturday's symposium with Yu-Sheng Chen, a beamline scientist at the University of Chicago and the Advanced Photon Source, and Milan Gembicky, an X-ray crystallographer at the University of California, San Diego.

Asked what the most rewarding part of his tenure at UB was, Coppens replied that it was the people — the colleagues and friends who made the university an exciting place to work.

"The chemistry department has been, right from the beginning in 1968, a stimulating environment for research. I much appreciated interacting with many of my colleagues, and the participation of so many superb collaborators from the U.S. and abroad was most stimulating and led to many friendships, he said. 🌐



President Tripathi congratulates Philip Coppens (Photo: Douglas Levere)

*Charlotte Hsu is a news content manager for University Communications.*

## UBCI HONORED AS CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE OF THE YEAR

The UB Confucius Institute (UBCI) was honored on December 10, 2016 with the “Confucius Institute of the Year” award by the Hanban, the agency of China’s Ministry of Education that administers the more than 500 such institutes worldwide.

Professor Stephen C. Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education and Chair of the UBCI Board of Directors, received the award at the 11th Confucius Institute Global Conference, held in Kunming, China. It was presented by Liu Yandong, Vice Premier of the State Council, China, and Chair of the Council of the Confucius Institute Headquarters. The award highlighted UBCI’s efforts to develop programs to support UB research and education relating to China.

“This honor is a tribute to the leadership of UBCI’s late director, Professor Jiyuan Yu, who tragically passed away in

November after a long bout with cancer (see p. 10). I very much regret that he did not live to see the UBCI receive the award he did so much to earn,” Dunnett said.

Dunnett also praised the contributions of the two associate directors--Lu Qiaomei (Maggie), who also attended the ceremony, and Bruce Acker.

Also attending the award ceremony were representatives from Capital Normal University (CNU), UB’s Chinese partner in establishing and administering the UBCI—President Gong Weili, Dean Liu Xiaotian, Associate Dean Han Mei. The UBCI was established in collaboration with CNU and the Hanban in 2010.

The agreements authorizing the UBCI were renewed in 2015. In addition to supporting Chinese language and culture

instruction at fifteen K-12 schools throughout Western New York, the UBCI mounts a variety of programs to support research and teaching about China at UB. 🌐



*Liu Yandong presents the award to Stephen Dunnett in Kunming*

## SEAS STUDENT RECEIVES AWARD FROM CHINESE GOVERNMENT

*By Jane Stoyle Welch*

Yumiao Zhang, a PhD student in chemical and biological engineering, received the Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Student Abroad. This prestigious international honor recognizes Zhang’s impressive scholarly achievements as a doctoral student.

The award includes a \$6,000 prize and a certificate of achievement issued by the China Scholarship Council. Zhang is the second University at Buffalo student to receive this award since it was founded in 2003. He received the award from Qiyue Zhang, the Consul General of the People’s Republic of China, at a ceremony held in New York City on April 29, 2016.

Zhang is a student in the Lovell Lab, where his research interests include nanomedicine and bio-imaging. He was the first PhD student to join Lovell’s group and will defend his thesis later this month.

Last year, Zhang received the first place prize for his poster presentation at the 41st Northeast Bioengineering Conference, held in Troy, NY. His poster, entitled “Frozen Naphthalocyanine micelles for Intestinal Imaging,” pres-

ents a new non-invasive method to image intestine function.

By engineering nanoparticles with extremely high color content, their motion could be traced non-invasively in the intestine using an imaging technique called photoacoustic tomography. Eventually, this could lead to better diagnosis of conditions like Crohn’s disease, or be used for colonoscopy screening procedures. The work was published in the journal *Nature Nanotechnology*.

Born in Harbin, China, Zhang received a BS in chemistry from Nankai University in 2010 and a BE in chemical engineering from Tianjin University in 2010. After spending a year doing research at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, he came to the University at Buffalo to earn his PhD. 🌐

*Jane Stoyle Welch is director of communications for the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.*

## JIYUAN YU, PHILOSOPHY PROFESSOR AND UBCI DIRECTOR, PASSES AWAY

Jiyuan Yu, professor of philosophy and director of UB's Confucius Institute, died Nov. 3, 2016 in Hospice Buffalo after a battle with colon cancer. He was 52.

Yu joined the UB philosophy faculty in 1997, specializing in ancient Chinese and Greek philosophy. He also served as director of UB's Confucius Institute, which promotes the study of Chinese language and culture throughout Western New York.

Stephen Dunnett, professor and vice provost for international education and chair of the Confucius Institute's Board of Advisors, called Yu an "outstanding" director of the institute.

"Under his dedicated leadership, the Institute developed a stronger academic focus, with many of its activities and resources directed toward promoting programs for UB students, faculty and the UB libraries," Dunnett says. "He was a kind, generous and highly ethical man, and a noted scholar in his field. He will not easily be replaced."

Yu was highly regarded as a philosopher, teacher, scholar and leader.

A prolific writer, his major publications in English included *The Structure of Being in Aristotle's Metaphysics*, *The Ethics of Confucius and Aristotle: Mirrors of Virtue*, *The Blackwell Dictionary of Western Philosophy* (co-authored with Oxford philosopher Nick Bunnin), *Rationality and Happiness: from the Ancients to the Early Medievals* (co-edited with UB philosopher Jorge Gracia) and *Uses and Abuses of the Classics: Western Interpretation of Greek Philosophy* (also co-edited with Gracia).

His published books in Chinese include: *Aristotle's Ethics* (Renmin University Press, 2011); *Plato's Republic* (Renmin University Press, 2008, 2011); *A Dictionary of Western*

*Philosophy: English and Chinese* (co-authored with Nick Bunnin, People's Press, 2001); *Frontiers in Western Philosophy* (co-ed with Zhiwei Zhang, Renmin University Press, 2008); *The Complete Works of Aristotle* (Chinese Translation), vol. 1 (with Miao Litian, et al., Renmin University Press, 1991); *Plato and Aristotle* (with Tian Shizhang, Book Fountain Press, 1992); and *Greek Philosophy* (with Miao Litian, Renmin University Press, 1991).

Yu served on the Editorial Boards of *History of Philosophy Quarterly* (2002-2005), *World Philosophy* (2000-present), *Frontiers in Philosophy* (2006-present), the Chinese translation of the *Complete Works of Aristotle* (1988-1998), and a book series on Chinese and Comparative Philosophy (New York: Global Publications).

He received the University at Buffalo's Exceptional Scholar (Young Investigator) Award (2002), the College of Arts and Sciences Excellence

in Teaching Award (2002) and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teacher (2010). He was appointed a 2003-04 Fellow at the National Humanities Center and a Humanities Institute Faculty Fellow in the spring of 2008.

A native of China, Yu was considered a prodigy. He was admitted to Shandong University, one of the best universities in China, at age 15 to study philosophy. After earning his bachelor's degree, he pursued his master's degree at Renmin University in Beijing and received a doctorate from the University of Guelph in Canada.

He joined the UB faculty after serving as a research fellow for three years at the University of Oxford.

A memorial service at UB for Professor Yu is planned for February 2017. 🌐



## UB LOSES EXEMPLARY UNIVERSITY CITIZEN

John Ho, a retired longtime UB faculty member and administrator who most recently served as vice provost for graduate education and dean of the Graduate School, died Sept. 22, 2016, as a result of pancreatic cancer. He was 74.

A SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Physics who served as UB's point person for graduate education for nearly a decade, Ho stepped down from that position in August 2015 to return to the faculty. He retired earlier this year after more than 40 years at UB.

Charles F. Zukoski, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, called Ho "a consummate university citizen and colleague."

"Through his leadership, John had a profound impact on our entire graduate enterprise, enhancing graduate student and postdoctoral scholar support and development, helping UB achieve strong graduate enrollments—including record enrollments in several years—and raising the overall prominence and quality of graduate education at UB, among many other accomplishments," Zukoski said.

He noted that Ho was committed throughout his career to mentoring faculty and students—in particular UB's international population—"helping them achieve excellence at UB and beyond."

Ho also brought his "student-focused perspective" to approximately 130 important campus committees, including the Middle States reaccreditation and HUB implementation teams, Zukoski said.



"It was this extraordinary commitment to our university, students and faculty—as well as his strong service to his professional societies—that earned him the richly deserved designation of SUNY Distinguished Service Professor," he said.

"UB is stronger because of John's many contributions."

Ho joined the UB faculty in 1975 as an experimental condensed matter physicist. His research interests included the use of light scattering, magneto-optics, electro-optics and electron diffraction to study phase transitions and critical phenomena in ferromagnets, liquid crystals, biomembranes and microemulsions.

A fellow of the American Physical Society, he was the author of numerous scientific publications and served on various committees and panels at the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Education, the Council of Graduate Schools and the American Physical Society. Among his academic honors were the DuPont Young Faculty Award and a Guggenheim Fellow-

ship.

Ho held other administrative positions at UB outside the Graduate School, including those of associate dean and interim dean of the former Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, chair of the Department of Statistics and associate dean for graduate education and research in the College of Arts and Sciences.

He received a BSc in physics and mathematics from the University of Hong Kong and a Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A memorial service took place on Oct. 18, 2016 in the Screening Room of the Center for the Arts on UB's North Campus. 🌐

## TEACHING IN KOREA

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reading final papers, I was repeatedly amazed by the sophisticated ways my students were able to articulate complicated arguments about literature and society by marshalling evidence from assigned readings in support of those arguments.

My students not only improved as writers but also as thinkers. One student informed me at the beginning of

the term that the experience of sharing opinions in class was unfamiliar to her; by the end of the term, she said that she could no longer imagine keeping silent about her opinions!

In the four all-too-short weeks of our summer session, we forged deep and I hope lasting friendships in the classroom and beyond. Much to my surprise, my students threw a party for me during our last class meeting. 🌐

*Walter Hakala is assistant professor of English and Asian Studies.*

## FOUR STUDENTS RECEIVE GILMAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY ABROAD

By Charles Anzalone

**F**our UB students have won Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships, a significant increase in the number of UB students receiving this undergraduate award and an indication, UB administrators say, that the university's new initiative to expand fellowship opportunities to more students is working.

The four students, who will receive from \$2,500 to \$4,000 to study abroad, are Wanly Chen, a communi-

7 and we anticipate an even larger pool of students will apply."

Stewart, who joined Colucci when UB created the new office in September, says this scholarship often proves to be the difference between students having the life-changing experience of studying abroad and not having that opportunity.

"International experiences are so transformative for students' personal, academic and career development, but some believe the financial costs will be too prohibitive," Stewart says.

"Funding like the Gilman scholarship makes time abroad realistic for a broader range of students."

The recipients of the Gilman scholarship credit the award with giving them the opportunity to pursue their academic aspirations, while extending them to another level.

Kelly Aldinger, 20, says that ever since her first Spanish class in middle school, "I fell in love with the language and its associated cultures, and promised myself that I would someday be bilingual."

She says her interest in the language stemmed partly from growing up in a rural town that lacked ethnic and racial diversity. "From a young age, I desired to experience the other perspectives of the globe and think

critically about my place in such a diverse community," she says. "By the time I finished high school, my pursuit of Spanish had diminished somewhat due to the education system's strong emphasis on STEM fields that consequently caused the humanities to more or less fall by the wayside."

But after a "chaotic and eye-opening" freshman year at UB, Aldinger says she decided to major in Spanish language and literature, with minors in linguistics and anthropology. After that,

"I realized that my nearly lifelong dream of participating in and learning from another culture could be realized through study abroad," she says.

"Studying in Peru is something I never thought I'd be able to do, primarily due to financial constraints," she notes. "Now, thanks to the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships and the Gilman scholarship program, I'll be venturing abroad for the very first time to develop my Spanish and learn from another culture. I can't wait to share everything I learn abroad with both my hometown and UB community."

Wanly Chen, 20, calls her scholarship for travel to Singapore "a gateway and first step" to enhancing her social media presence, essential for her majors in communication and media study.



L to r: Michael Pilgrom, Wanly Chen, Brandon Reilly, and Kelly Aldinger (Douglas Levere)

cation and media study major who will go to Singapore; Kelly Aldinger, a Spanish major who will study in Peru; Michael Pilgrom, a psychology major who will travel to the United Kingdom; and Brandon Reilly, an exercise science and French major who will go to France.

"The Office of Fellowships and Scholarships has begun to make considerable inroads to increase the number of undergraduate and graduate students applying for nationally and internationally competitive fellowships and scholarships," says Elizabeth Colucci, director of fellowships and scholarships.

Colucci's office has fostered a significant increase in the number of UB undergraduates chosen to receive nationally competitive scholarships, among them Goldwater, Boren and Fulbright scholarships.

Colucci says the Gilman scholarship is the "first impact" of this initiative, adding that the addition of Megan Stewart as an adviser in the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships increases the opportunity meet with departments and encourage more deserving students to apply.

"UB students who have a Pell Grant are eligible to apply for this study abroad scholarship," says Colucci. "Megan worked with over 16 students this fall to submit for spring and summer funding. Another round of funding for summer, fall and the 2017-2018 academic year is due March

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## UB STUDENTS WIN MAJOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY IN SOUTH ASIA

By Charles Anzalone

UB students are enjoying the benefits of the university's growing interest in study and educational exchange with India, ties that are paying big dividends for students looking for international education and research opportunities.

Two UB students have won international study awards to India, and another student is a finalist. The students' achievements spotlight what has become an increasing number of students pursuing their interests in the language, culture and religion of India and other countries in South Asia.

"Study, service and fellowships to and from India have been plentiful this year," says Elizabeth Colucci, coordinator of fellowships and scholarships, whose office has fostered a significant increase in UB students winning national and international awards in recent years.

"There has been an increase in interest in the study of India and the languages of India. As a result, we have more students applying for, and being awarded, prestigious and valuable scholarships to India."

The list of UB undergraduates winning international fellowships and scholarship awards to India alone is proof of the benefits of this UB-India academic connection, Colucci says.

- Kayleigh Reed has won both the Boren Scholarship, a highly competitive international award stressing language, and the Critical Language Scholarship.
- Sampurna Chakrabarti, a native of India, has won the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. Chakrabarti has led efforts on campus to recruit people for service work for Teach for India.
- Minahil Khan, a graduating senior and former UB Student Association president, is a finalist for the Clinton Fellowship for Service in India, which would provide financial support for a year of service in India.

Colucci says the growing number of students interested in the study of India, its culture and its languages is largely due to Walter N. Hakala, assistant professor in the Department of English and the Asian Studies Program.

"His Honors College seminars have inspired students to increase their proficiency in Hindi and Urdu, and to study about India and the people of India. As a result, we have students applying for these prestigious and valuable fellowships and scholarships, such as the Critical Language Scholarship and the Boren Scholarship," Colucci says.

"If there is one thing students should know about South Asian studies," Hakala says, "it is that there is a lot of funding for study of South Asian languages and relatively little competition for it."

Students interested in traveling to India can get funding through the Critical Language Boren, Gilman and Ful-

bright programs, or from other sources within UB, according to Hakala. UB's study abroad office and the Asian Studies Program both offer scholarships for traveling abroad.

"You won't win scholarships unless you apply for them," Hakala notes. "That's why I require students in my upper-level electives to prepare statements of purpose for study abroad scholarships in the hope that they will then go on to submit them and get funded to actually travel abroad."

"Last year, only seven people across the United States applied for six Fulbright English teaching assistantships in Bangladesh. By way of contrast, 49 people applied for three ETA positions in Belgium and 146 for 12 positions in Greece. The trick is to start applying early in one's undergraduate career and to continue applying throughout."

Hakala stresses that students interested in South Asian studies should learn a South Asian language.

"Hindi and Urdu are by far the most popular languages," he says. "But I love pointing out to students that according to the website Ethnologue, there are more people who consider Bengali to be their mother tongue than German or Russian."

"There are more Punjabi, Telegu, Marathi and Tamil speakers than there are people who consider French or Italian to be their mother tongue," he continues, adding that UB again will offer elementary Hindi-Urdu, starting in the fall 2016 semester, after several years of not offering the languages.

Kayleigh Reed, winner of both the Boren and Critical Language scholarships, is a perfect example of Hakala's approach. She mixes a strong appreciation of South Asian culture with a clear career goal of making a difference through her education. Students who start to learn South Asian languages become much more competitive for additional fellowships. She also is proof that starting small and building up a record of winning grants can lead to more substantial opportunities.

"I think it's important to recognize that, while India is certainly the largest and wealthiest country in South Asia, much attention should be directed at Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bhutan, as well," says Reed, who will study Urdu in India for almost a year.

Before applying for either scholarship, however, she applied for and received funding to attend the StarTalk Urdu program at the University of Pennsylvania last summer.

"Each place has a distinctive and unique cultural output, topography and socioeconomic climate — attributes that the western world has largely ignored after the British left India in 1947," she says. "One-fifth of the world's population lives in these seven countries. But how many people do you know that study Hindi? Nepali? Marathi? Urdu? Bengali?"

"The only reason I know people who study them is be-

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## GILMAN SCHOLARSHIPS

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“Being a writer and having a love for photography, I hope to utilize my phone, my GoPro and the unforgettable experiences I will have to successfully use Instagram or create a blog to share this incredible journey,” Chen says.

“Winning the Gilman scholarship proved that I wasn’t just lucky; I had successfully worked hard to earn something. I’m one of five kids; I’m the fourth child, almost the bottom of the rut and I’ve learned from a small age that everything I wanted was to be earned,” she says.

“Tacking on scholarships to my already busy schedule wasn’t easy, but I submitted my application and I hoped that it was worth the extra work, and it was. I didn’t realize that what I have just won was more than a national scholarship, but a renowned scholarship that opened doors to opportunities that I undoubtedly will seek in my near future.”

Michael Pilgrom, 26, a self-described nontraditional student living with a learning disability, says he has dreamed of studying abroad all his life, but never would have been able to afford it without the Gilman scholarship.

“My long-term goal is to study medicine, specializing in psychiatry,” Pilgrom wrote in his application essay. “I feel studying in England will further develop the skills that are required for this, as it will enable me to meet an even broader range of people. After all, one of the most important things with any psychology-related profession is communication.

“By studying abroad in the United Kingdom, I will not just be a tourist; I will be able to immerse myself into their culture. I will be able to study and see English, Scottish and Irish history, which will allow me to grow and become a more cultured person.”

Brandon Reilly, 21, a senior majoring in exercise science with aspirations to become a physical therapist, says he loves traveling and learning different cultures as much as learning how to write an exercise plan and how the body works.

“During my sophomore year I declared French as my second major,” Reilly says. “Since then, I have been looking for a way to combine both of my degrees. After a year of planning, I set up an internship where I will be working in a gym as a counselor/manager in Paris.

“I am no better than the next UB student, and winning this scholarship has made me realize that if you apply yourself to something you are passionate about, then you can surprise yourself with how much you will accomplish,” he says. “In light of recent events, I believe it is more important than ever to educate ourselves and each other about people from different walks of life, and that is exactly what I plan to do with this scholarship.” 🌐

## SOUTH ASIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

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cause I started studying one, myself. I think, however, that it is important for others to start learning these languages — for diplomacy, business prospects, environmental initiatives and NGO/aid initiatives.”

Winning the Boren Scholarship will provide her with the opportunity to become fluent in Urdu.

“With that skill, I can help others, in whatever capacity I can — whether that ends up being through governmental work, volunteering, interpreting or higher education,” says Reed, who up until now has never been outside the U.S. and Canada.

“Ultimately, I think my interests lie in serving the global community. My dream is to work for the Foreign Service, but those jobs are tough to get. Winning this scholarship, however, makes that dream more attainable.

“In short, this opened up several doors for me personally, sure,” she admits. “But more importantly, it opened up several avenues for me to help others. It starts with becoming fluent in Urdu and it could end with any number of careers that help people.

“Aside from that, I love learning about South Asian culture and I’ve connected with many of the students at Lafayette High School through discussions about Bollywood,” she says. “I’ve even used Bollywood to help kids understand their literature assignments.”

Sampurna Chakrabarti, winner of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship, graduated from UB this month with a BS in biological sciences and a BA in psychology. Chakrabarti says she fell in love with neuroscience and writes a blog to make neuroscience accessible to a broader audience.

“My research will help understand arthritis and pain pathologies that affect millions of people worldwide,” she says. “I am also passionate about educational equality and hope to work with organizations around the world, especially in developing countries, to make quality education available to all.”

Chakrabarti is intent on finding other opportunities to “help forge new relationships, find new passion and increase global competency.” She and fellow UB students Antara Majumdar and Sushmita Gelda are working to improve communication between middle school students in Kolkata, India, and Buffalo. This program includes working on a virtual film club with students in Calcutta Rescue, a nonprofit organization for underprivileged children in Kolkata.

Hakala is especially proud of the work Chakrabarti, Gelda and Majumdar have done connecting Buffalo Public School 31 with a school in Calcutta. He gave the P.S. 31 students a lesson in Hindi, which they were able to use during their frequent Skype conversations with the India students. 🌐

## UB FOOD LAB BRINGS FOOD SYSTEMS PLANNING TO WORLD STAGE

By Alexandra Judelsohn and Samina Raja

The Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab (referred to as 'The Food Lab'), a research group, led by Professor Samina Raja and housed in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning is dedicated to research that critically examines the role of planning and local government policy in facilitating sustainable food systems and healthy communities.

The Food Lab team comprises of research staff as well as undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students from a variety of disciplines. Until the past year, the bulk of the lab's work has focused on local and national projects. As a faculty co-lead for the Community for Global Health Equity, Raja is now engaging in projects in the Global South along with her lab team. Global projects in the UB Food Lab are coordinated by Alexandra Judelsohn, MUP alum, 2016.

### Training and Participation at the UN Habitat III

The UB Food Lab engaged in Habitat III, the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development in Quito, Ecuador to guide efforts of urbanization globally for the next 20 years and impact policies that will last much longer.

Organized by UN Habitat, the urban planning division of the United Nations, a key element of the Habitat III conference was the adoption of the New Urban Agenda a plan intended to provide global standards for sustainable urban development. Attendees at Habitat III included government officials, members of grassroots organizations, NGOs, researchers, and local citizen in Quito, totaling 45,000 participants.

The UB Food Lab was engaged in the NUA prior to its adoption at the Habitat III conference. While negotiating the NUA, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) convened an Expert Group, including Raja, at the UN Headquarters in New York City in May of 2016. Raja was asked to present on food systems planning, and work with other experts to review the NUA and provide language focused on food systems.

Raja and her lab team continued collaborating with FAO after the Expert Group meeting in New York City, specifically, to organize a training on food systems planning at Habitat III. In partnership with FAO, the Food Lab execut-

ed a side event, "Planning for Food Systems in Urban Settlements: Learning from urban North America." A team of five from the Food Lab, including Raja, staff, graduate students, and a volunteer facilitated the training.

The mayor of Sucre, Bolivia, which has many innovative policies pertaining to food, opened the session, along with Cecilia Marocchino from FAO headquarters. Participation exceeded the anticipated number of attendees - about 75 individuals from across the globe attended the training. The training was simultaneously translated in Spanish, as many attendees were from South America.

Raja also served as a delegate for the Associate of Collegiate Schools of Planning, and was able to attend plenaries, including the closing plenary where the New Urban Agenda was voted

on and passed. The Food Lab team attended a variety of sessions - from Urban Rural Linkages, to universities role in implementing the New Urban Agenda. The team returned with many new ideas.

### New Publication in Partnership with Resource Center for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF)

The Food Lab is collaborating with the Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF), a global network of partners working on sustainable urban agriculture and food systems headquartered in Europe, to make research on food systems planning and policy research accessible to practitioners, especially in the Global South. Most recently, RUAF partnered with the Food Lab on the publication of a special issue of the Urban Agriculture Magazine (UAM), titled "Inclusive Use of Urban Space", released at Habitat III.

The special issue, which was partially supported by UB Community of Global Health Equity, includes an editorial by Raja, and pieces by UB Food Lab team, including a case study of Buffalo by UB alum, Jennifer Whittaker, showcasing the city of Buffalo.

This issue is focused on community involvement in planning and policy to strengthen city-region food systems. Key questions explored in this issue are how communities are engaging in urban food policy making and planning and how local governments are responding to community demands for food policies and plans.



Food Lab members meet the Mayor of Sucre, Bolivia and FAO partners

## INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER TAKES ON DRUG STOCK-OUTS IN UGANDA

By Lisa Lenker

**H**ow are the mathematical modeling techniques of industrial engineers used in global health?

Not as much as they should be, if you ask UB doctoral candidate Biplab Bhattacharya.

Bhattacharya, a graduate assistant with the Community of Excellence in Global Health Equity (CGHE), spent part of his summer in Kampala, Uganda, working on the problem of drug stock-outs, or inefficiencies in the distribution of vital medicines.

Under the auspices of the internationally-renowned Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), and with the guidance of CGHE Co-Lead Li Lin, as well as other faculty in the Departments of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Operations Management and Strategy, and Pharmacy Practice, Bhattacharya aims to ameliorate the drug stock-out problem in Uganda.

“Industrial engineering is an underutilized discipline in low-resource countries. In a relatively wealthy, developed country with good infrastructure, industrial engineers are hired to do things like improving efficiency in manufacturing and supply chains – but in low-resource settings, mathematical modeling to solve problems and promote efficiency is rare because people are in survival mode.”

It’s not an overstatement to characterize drug stock-outs as a matter of life or death. Imagine your baby has a bacterial illness and your doctor says the baby needs a common anti-diarrheal medicine.

In the U.S. and other high-resource countries, there’s no story here: you head to Walgreens, Rite Aid, or the locally-owned pharmacy down the street, buy the medicine, and your baby gets better. However, in rural villages of lower-income countries, you might go to your neighborhood pharmacy and discover that there is no anti-diarrheal medicine there—or at any other pharmacy or clinic in your village. A routine, common illness can become deadly.

Essential medications for uncomplicated problems such

as diarrhea, as well as other treatable diseases and conditions, ranging from malaria to AIDS, are often unavailable at village-level clinics. Drug stock-outs routinely lead to compromised patient health, serious illnesses, and fatalities.

Research suggests that improving efficiency and decision-making at the regional drug stores that supply virtually all the drugs to health clinics in villages—the so-called “last-mile supply chain”—is the place where we can most effectively combat drug stock-outs.

Even sophisticated international aid agencies like CHAI are still in the early stages of determining how they can incorporate the mathematical modeling techniques of industrial engineering to understand and ameliorate medical drug distribution problems.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” Bhattacharya said of his trip to Uganda to work with CHAI. “I’ve had the privilege of working side-by-side with seasoned professionals at an important global partner—and I am learning how to help them in the work they do.”

He’s also realized that working with other CGHE GAs across disciplines has been rubbing off on him: during conversations with CHAI, Bhattacharya “thought of situations from a public health perspective” rather than strictly seeing problems through the lens of industrial engineering.

Fieldwork can be extremely useful to students to help them map out their post-graduation professional lives, whether it’s affirming a professional focus that the student has already decided on, or expanding or redirecting the student’s aims. Bhattacharya is now also considering working in an international health care organization after he earns his Ph.D. because he has seen the extent to which the skills he’s developed at UB might make a difference on global health care outcomes. 🌐

*Lisa Lenker is program coordinator for the Community for Global Health Equity.*

## UB FOOD LAB

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### Pilot Project in Kashmir

The Food Lab has begun work in Kashmir, a region in northern India which borders Pakistan. In partnership with faculty at the University of Kashmir (Dr. Shakil Romshoo, Professor and Head of the Department of Earth Sciences), the Food Lab team is investigating the links between land use change and food practices.

Specifically, the team is investigating how the consumption of haakh, a nutritionally rich and indigenous variety of collard greens, has been influenced by land use changes

in Kashmir. Preliminary ideas for this research will be presented by Alexandra Judelsohn on behalf of the lab team at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) in Portland, Oregon in November 2016.

### Special Issue of *Built Environment*, edited by Samina Raja and Kevin Morgan (Cardiff University) to focus on food equity

Raja and Morgan are co-editing a special issue of the international journal *Built Environment* to focus on food equity across the Global South and North. Submissions from UB faculty whose scholarship focuses on the Global South are welcome! 🌐

## NEW DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

By Charles Anzalone

As the newly appointed administrator who will steer UB's enhanced and expanding global learning opportunities, Trevor Poag can't help but get excited about the value of studying abroad.

He punctuates his words with the emphatic cadences of a confident, impassioned speaker. He leans his large, lean frame into the person he's talking to, tapping his finger gently on his desk while his voice slows down to deliver the high points of his message with an educated, dignified but unmistakable urgency.

"The mainstream narrative of studying abroad is just what you said," says Poag, director of global learning opportunities in the Office of International Education. "That one says, 'It's fun. It's exciting. It's good for your resume.' Students, of course, are thinking, 'It's kind of sexy. Go abroad. Eat some cool food. Do some dancing. Meet a girl or a guy.'"

Poag says he's not going to spend any time addressing that kind of thinking. Instead — while still maintaining that educated persona — he's going to lead with his "counter narrative." Studying abroad is not a vacation, he says. It's not an excuse to have a lighter load or relax for a semester.

"No, no, no," Poag says. "That's not the priority. Of course, students who study abroad will find fun on their own. We don't have to work on that."

Instead — and this is where Poag gets animated — he expresses his vision of UB's brand of global learning opportunities in one sentence. It may not sound as well, mischievous as that mainstream narrative at first. But it's where the real value of studying abroad lies, he says. And Poag is ready to lead a coordinated and collaborated charge with all UB departments to make this clear idea a reality for UB students.

"I think study abroad, when it's designed thoughtfully and with care, can prepare students to be collaborative problem-solvers," Poag says. "That's what I think the end is really about. It's about collaborative problem-solving."

"As we look around the world, we're facing a lot of substantive and pressing problems, and we want UB students and faculty to be involved in collaborative efforts to engage those problems with others around the world."

Study abroad—when done right—fits perfectly and powerfully with this global citizen idea, according to Poag. It prepares students to address problems of global impact and to see them through a lens broader than just the mainstream, conventional, American view. It provides students with the tools to, in short, join others in advancing the common good.

"I think study abroad represents a vehicle to begin de-

veloping those intercultural and collaborative competencies, regardless of your discipline," he says. "And most disciplines, in essence, aim to solve a problem. Whether we're talking health sciences. Whether we're talking social work. Whether we're talking engineering, the arts or business management."

And learning how to be collaborative problem-solvers fits in very well with UB's strategic vision.

"At UB, we aim to prepare students to live and lead in a global world," he says. "So in the Office of International



Education, we're working collaboratively with our colleagues across the university to align UB's study abroad portfolio with curricular needs."

"We want to prioritize learning abroad models that are relevant to UB students' academic and professional pursuits," he says, "rather than models that achieve loose curricular integration and leave students saying, 'You know, my time in Costa Rica was so cool. I saw lots of monkeys, ate weird tropical fruits ... and the people were so friendly.'"

"We have to go deeper," he says. "And the new UB Curriculum provides a means to do just this."

UB students can use study abroad to fulfill the curriculum's Global Pathways component. This presents an exciting opportunity to accompany faculty in designing new study abroad programs that achieve alignment among the UB Curriculum requirements, curricular needs within departments and student interest, Poag says.

And then there is Buffalo's identity as a border town and UB's role in shaping its international character, both past and present.

"Buffalo is an intercultural city," Poag says. "It's home to many international groups. In its own right, it's a global place and UB has played a big part in that reality."

Poag said his own experiences studying abroad "trans-

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## TEACHING IN KOREA

By Walter N. Hakala

I had the privilege of teaching eleven students as part of the 2016 Global Summer School at Kyungpook National University (KNU), UB's longstanding partner in Taegu, South Korea. Two of these students were, like me, visitors from the United States, and the remaining nine are KNU students from South Korea.

The course I taught, "Global Culture," was adapted from a survey of Asian literature and film that I regularly teach at the University at Buffalo. My students and I devoted our first week to examining a classical Sanskrit drama, *Shakuntala*, and a recent Bollywood adaptation.

The second week, we read the *Arabian Nights* and studied the techniques through which storytellers extend and place narratives in different kinds of frames—key elements of television dramas today!

The Tale of Genji, written one thousand years ago by a female author in Heian Japan and considered by many to be the world's first novel, was the topic of the third week. Our final week was devoted to the hit Korean television drama *Gyeonghwa* (2002), which is often credited for inaugurating the Korean Wave in Japan.

A deep sense of mutual respect characterized our classroom interactions. I made it clear from the very first day that I consider myself to be as much a student as those whom I had been entrusted with teaching.

My students hailed from a diverse range of disciplines:

Agricultural Economics, Astronomy, Design, Food Engineering, Geography, Geology, New Materials Engineering, and (much to my delight) even one Asian Studies major!

As a specialist of South Asian literature, I came to rely on insights from my students in interpreting the wide range of cultural production in Asia to which we were being exposed. Students with knowledge of Japanese helped explain to the rest of us the challenges of preparing English translations of Japanese literature. Korean students explained subtle cultural cues that would have otherwise remained invisible to me.

More than once, my students challenged me to reexamine the ways in which I will teach Asian culture to students in the United States. A regular topic of discussion was the validity of using literary sources as a means of gaining insights into cultures that are separated from our own by time and space.

More than anything, I found myself compelled to clarify my own imprecise ideas in order to teach students whose linguistic, academic, and personal backgrounds differ markedly from my own.

I treasure my experience as part of the Visiting Scholar Program at KNU. From our comfortable faculty quarters, I was provided with a physical and intellectual space that allowed me to pursue my teaching with few distractions.

KNU also provided me with an intellectual community: I shared with my fellow visiting scholars the thrill of residing (however briefly!) on a tranquil university campus in the midst of a bustling metropolitan center.

Our course also had some very practical outcomes. In

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## GLOBAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

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formed" the way he understood the world and "transformed" the way he saw himself in relation to the world.

Poag was in his mid-20s, working with an organization in Colombia serving displaced communities. Thousands were in makeshift settlements after fleeing violence from rebels who were fighting the Colombian government.

"I went with a kind of do-gooder spirit," Poag says. "Well-intentioned, the right heart and spirit. It was a volunteer experience. Then, a couple of weeks into my work, one of the women in my work team pulled me aside and told me, 'You know, Trevor, I've been meaning to talk to you about this.'

"I was fluent in Spanish at the time. I had lived a number of years in Latin America. And the woman told me, 'Just the fact you are a U.S. citizen and you stand out as such,'—because of my physical appearance—'you're putting us at risk as a group.'

Kidnapping, Poag explains, was a common way to finance the campaigns of these "revolutionary groups."

"So I was calling attention to our group because of my

nationality," Poag says. "The woman was Colombian and she was telling me this. That's right. I was a liability, a liability with misplaced and misinformed intentions.

"She was so kind about it. She wasn't saying 'Get out of here, you gringo.' She was saying, 'Look man, there is a layer you're not seeing here.'

"It invited me, it forced me, to think even further than I already had about economic inequality, international power dynamics and what it means to represent a country like the United States in a region like Latin America in the light of our history with that region," Poag says.

"It woke me up to the complexities of inequality and global power dynamics," he says. "And to relate this story back to our conversation about study abroad, the people in Colombia who taught me to view myself and their reality through a clearer lens are the very people with whom we must collaborate to solve critical global problems — people who reside at the periphery of influence and power. It blew me away," he says. "I stopped volunteering with that group a few days later."

And therein lies the real synergy of studying abroad, Poag notes. That's how students can engage in a reality far more complex than that "mainstream narrative." 🌐

## NEW CENTER FOR INTEGRATED GLOBAL HEALTH SCIENCES

By Marcene Robinson

**U**B has established a new international hub for addressing global health challenges through pharmacological research and drug and vaccine development.

The new Center for Integrated Global Biomedical Sciences (CIGBS), directed by Gene Morse, SUNY Distinguished Professor in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, brings together faculty from research, clinical and applied programs to tackle the world's most pressing health issues.

With UB faculty from disciplines ranging from pharmacology and medicine to engineering and chemistry, the center will use education and research to promote drug discovery, advance nanotechnology applications and develop sustainable business models for products and services for the global health market.

"Given the enormity of global health issues, especially with new and emerging diseases, UB has adopted a multi-pronged approach to address these formidable challenges," says Venu Govindaraju, vice president for research and economic development, and SUNY Distinguished Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

"This new center that builds on several UB strengths will explore ways to develop and deliver drugs to prevent and treat some of the most pressing diseases that threaten human lives, keeping in mind the added challenges in treating these diseases in developing societies."

Through its collaborations with centers and institutes within UB and around the world, the CIGBS will strengthen UB's leadership among an international community of scholars.

Partners include the SUNY Global Health Institute (GHI); the Global Virus Network; the National Institutes of Health AIDS Clinical Trials Group; the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences (CBLS); the UB Communities of Excellence; the UB Institute for Lasers, Photonics and Biophotonics; the UB Clinical and Translational Research Center; the UB Office of Science, Technology Transfer and Economic Outreach (STOR) and more.

Students within the center will gain the opportunity to travel to other nations to conduct research from the perspective of a country with limited resources and participate in learning experiences that expand their perspectives as members of the global community.

"Many health challenges are presented to the public as local versus global," says Morse, also co-director of SUNY GHI.

"Developing countries are faced with financial limitations that influence the availability of new medicine or diagnostic tests. The research approaches that we develop

in the U.S. would have the same application for patients with the same disease in other geographic regions but are often unavailable due to financial or supply chain-related hurdles."

Much of the center's current research is targeted toward viral infections and combatting HIV and Hepatitis C, says Morse, who notes that nearly 70 percent of people affected by HIV live in Africa.

The CIGBS already is engaged in a number of research projects with the University of Zimbabwe, including the UB-UZ HIV Research Training Program, which will help train future HIV pharmacology and nanotechnology researchers in the country at a time when pharmaceutical company development, therapeutic drug monitoring and precision medicine are high priority areas.

The center also is partnering with researchers, hospitals and support groups in Zimbabwe to use social media for patient psychosocial support and to promote medication adherence and nutrition awareness.

Other research projects will focus on health disparities and building biomedical research capacity in the Caribbean.

The CIGBS will partner with the University of the West Indies, the Jamaica Center for Infectious Diseases Research, SUNY GHI and the Buffalo Jamaica Innovation Enterprise to study antibiotic resistance, the Chikungunya and Zika viruses, viral hepatitis and cannabinoid drug development; produce nanomedicine from natural compounds with anticancer properties; and find treatments for diabetes and kidney, digestive and liver disease.

The research completed through these partnerships will help the CIGBS collaborate with SUNY biotechnology incubators and industry partners to foster novel drug development and improve regulatory approval requirements within both New York and developing countries.

Within the U.S., the CIGBS will collaborate with the Mount Sinai Beth Israel's Asian Services Center and the Peter Sheehan Diabetes Care Foundation to promote medication safety for New York City patients with diabetes, and with CCS Healthcare in Buffalo to encourage patient safety.

The CIGBS also will serve as the coordinating center for the Western New York Science Technology Engineering Math Hub of the Empire State STEM Learning Network, coordinating K-12 educational outreach programs that may lead to expanded career opportunities. The center will develop similar partnerships for STEM and biomedical sciences programs in other nations to build workforce pipelines. 🌐

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

## CSEE RECRUITS STUDENTS AT IITS IN INDIA

UB is known for being home to a large Indian student population and the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering (CSEE) where Indian students currently make up about 21 percent of the graduate student population is no exception.

“The great schools in India have provided CSEE with outstanding graduate students over the years,” said CSEE Professor Andrew Whittaker of the department’s longstanding history of graduating M.S. and Ph.D. Indian students.

The success of Indian students in CSEE’s graduate program inspired Whittaker to pursue a trip to India last April. Whittaker, who held the position of department chair at the time, said the purpose of the trip was to build relationships with prospective graduate students and faculty members at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT).

Kellie McBride, CSEE’s former graduate academic coordinator who now serves as assistant director of graduate education in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, accompanied Whittaker to India. Together they visited four IIT schools located in Delhi, Gandhinagar, Mumbai and Chennai.

“We chose to visit the IIT campuses because they are the top engineering schools in India,” said McBride. “The competition for admission into these schools is very high and the students are very bright. They succeed in graduate school because of the training that they received at IIT schools.”

At each campus, Whittaker and McBride delivered a presentation on graduate studies and research initiatives in the CSEE department. They also gave an overview of UB’s School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and its seven other departments.

Following the presentations, McBride answered questions related to CSEE’s graduate programs admissions process. Being able to sit down with the students face-to-face allowed for easier communication, explained McBride, and resulted in more meaningful interactions.

“The students really appreciated that we came to visit with them and speak with them,” she said. “I believe that this personal approach helps differentiate UB from other schools.”

Meeting face-to-face with prospective students not only helped potential applicants gain a clearer understanding of the admissions process and what UB is about, but it also gave McBride a better understanding of an ITT education, and the challenges and opportunities that Indian students encounter.



Andrew Whittaker (4th from l.) with students at IIT Mumbai

“This trip truly helped open my eyes to the experiences of our Indian graduate students,” she said. “I had a great deal of respect for all of our international students, but after traveling to India and seeing what these students have to overcome—the competition for admission and the rigor of programs—I

have even more respect and admiration for their success.”

In addition to connecting with potential future students, Whittaker and McBride also met with a few former students who now serve as faculty members at IIT institutions.

They visited with Dhiman Basu (PhD, 2012) and Manish Kumar (PhD, 2015), who are Assistant Professors in the Civil Engineering Department at IIT Gandhinagar, and Alok Madan (PhD, 1996), who is a Professor in the Civil Engineering Department at IIT Delhi.

Both Whittaker and McBride agree that the trip was a success in terms of building connections and promoting interest in UB’s engineering graduate programs.

“Absolutely a success. We saw an uptick in applications from India,” said Whittaker. “We developed an internship pipeline from the IITs into UB. We had a number of excellent discussions with IIT faculty.”

Four undergraduate students from IIT schools participated in internships in the CSEE department this past summer, conducting research under the direction of faculty members in the Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Lab, and the department plans to offer the internship program again for summer of 2017.

Based on the success of last spring’s visit, a second trip to India is already being planned for early 2017.

This time, Whittaker will be joined by current CSEE Chair Joseph Atkinson, and hopes to bring back McBride as a representative of SEAS Graduate Education. 🌐

## INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

### SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

#### *Department of Architecture*

**Shannon Bassett**, assistant professor, was an invited professor for the Summer 2016 International Architectural Design Workshop in Busan, Korea. This design workshop was held at Pusan National University and organized by The Committee of Busan International Architectural Culture Festival. The Design project was entitled "The Recreation of the Creative Economy and Industry for Youth Generation with the regeneration of Dongcheon in Downtown Busan." The project was charged by city officials and included reactivating an existing undercover stream by removing the concrete road, daylighting the stream, and thus enabling eco-friendly design. Both her students' work, as well as her professional work, was on display at the BUGAIK International Architecture Exhibition organized by the BUGAIK (Busan\_Ulsan\_Gyeongnam Chapter of Architectural Institute of Korea) from November 25-29, 2016.

#### *Department of Urban and Regional Planning*

**Daniel B. Hess**, associate professor, won the Best Article Award in Town Planning Review for his article "Effects of Public Perception on Urban Planning: Evolution of an Inclusive Planning System During Crises in Latvia" published in that journal (vol. 87. No 1. 2016). He shares the award with his co-author, M ra Liepa-Žemese, who was a 2013-2014 Visiting Scholar (from Latvia) in the UB Department of Urban and Regional Planning with funding from the Baltic American Freedom Foundation. He presented his research entitled, "Energy-Efficient Housing Renovation and its Relation to Regional Polarization" at the International Symposium on Energy Transitions in September 2016 at the Nanjing Institute of Geography and Limnology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In recent month, he has also been invited to give presentations in the urban planning departments at Delft University of Technology (Netherlands) and University of Lille (France). He has also been appointed to the Editorial Board of the international journal *Architecture and Urban Planning*. Hess currently serves as Visiting Scholar and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the Centre for Urban and Migration Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia.

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

#### *Department of Anthropology*

**Ana Mariella Bacigalupo**, professor, was a senior research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, Germany August 2015-August 2016, where she worked on a project titled "The Walking Undead: Spirit Victims and Heroes in Post-Pinochet Chile." Professor Bacigalupo spent the month of August, 2016 in Northern Peru doing research on a project titled "Forging the Human: Civic Engagement and the Re-sacralization of Space in Northern Peru" funded by a Civic Engagement Fellowship and the OVPRED/HI Seed Money in the Arts and Humanities fund at the University at Buffalo.

**Deborah Reed-Danahay**, professor and Jean Monnet Chair, developed a new UB seminar on contemporary Europe ("At Home in Europe") that she taught in fall 2016. She presented a paper in Brussels in May 2016 at the European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) Conference on "Teaching Europe to First-Year Students with ePortfolios." She sponsored the Inaugural Jean Monnet Distinguished Lecture delivered by Prof. Nancy Foner (Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and CUNY Graduate Center), "Fear, Anxiety, and Immigration: Barriers and Belonging in the United States and Western Europe" held at the Baldy Center in April 2016. Reed-Danahay gave two local lectures, related to the outreach activities of her Jean Monnet Chair. In March 2016, she spoke on the topic "International Migration: The View from Calais" as part of the Great Decisions Lecture Series, Foreign Policy Association (Buffalo chapter). Also in March, she spoke on "The Syrian Refugees Crisis: The View from Europe" at the Symposium on "Syrian Refugees: Buffalo Responds" (organized

by the UB School of Social Work), held at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. Reed-Danahay conducted ethnographic research in London and Paris in May and June 2016 on the project "Being French in London." Her book chapter "Confronting Community: From Rural France to the Vietnamese Diaspora," was published in the volume *Transatlantic Parallaxes: Toward Reciprocal Anthropology* published by Berghahn Books.

#### *Department of Art*

In December 2016 and January 2017 **Elizabeth Otto**, associate professor and executive director of the UB Humanities Institute, will be a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany. In collaboration with Burcu Dogramaci, Otto will put on a conference in December called "Passages of Exile," which looks at the ways in which artists, writers, filmmakers, and designers have treated the actual journey from home to exile in their work. An edited volume from this project will be published with Edition Text +Kritik next fall (2017). In fall 2016 Otto is teaching a graduate seminar at UB on "Queering Museums" in parallel with Allison Morehead of Queen's University in Ontario, Canada, and the participants in that seminar and Otto's class all met in October for a full day of museum and gallery visits.

#### *Department of Chemistry*

**Paras Prasad**, SUNY Distinguished Professor, was awarded an honorary doctorate by the National Nuclear Research University (MEPHI) in Moscow, Russia in October 2016 in recognition of his contributions to engineering physics and nano-medicine. This is the third honorary doctorate conferred on Prasad by foreign institutions, the others being KTH in Sweden in 2013, and Aix-Marseille in France.

#### *Department of Classics*

**Bradley A. Ault**, associate professor, for the sixth consecutive Winter Session since 2011, led the study-abroad program, UB Classics in the Mediterranean. In January 2016, his group of fifteen students travelled to Italy, concentrating on the study of archaeological sites and major museum collections between Rome and the Bay of Naples. In July 2016, Ault returned to the Olynthos Project in northern Greece, where he directs the ceramics processing and analysis for this large-scale, internationally collaborative archaeological undertaking, working at the ancient city destroyed by Philip II of Macedon in 348 B.C.E.

During July 2016 **Roger Woodard**, Raymond Professor of Classics and department chair, was a visitor at Wolfson College, Oxford, UK, where he conducted research for a monograph on the exchange of ideas between Anatolia and Greece in the early first millennium. While in Oxford he also took part in the international conference *Archaia Grammata. The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece: A Conference in Memory of L. H. Jeffery (1915-1986)*, presenting a paper entitled "Contextualizing the Origin of the Greek Alphabet."

#### *Department of Comparative Literature*

**Rodolphe Gasché**, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Eugenio Donato Chair, gave a seminar in May 2016 at the University of Ghent, Belgium, on "Histories and Theories on Reading," on which occasion he also gave an interview: "6 Questions to ... Rodolphe Gasché." He also spoke at the University of Tokyo, Japan in September 2016. The lecture was entitled: "The Destruction of the Inalienable, or Storytelling in the Age of Disaster: Wilhelm Schapp's Philosophy of Stories." He published two book chapters, one entitled "Critica, Biografismo Autentico e Juizo Etico," trans. B. C. Duarte, in: *Da Critica*, ed. B. C. Duarte, Lisbon, Portugal: Sistema Solar Press, 2016, pp. 187- 228, and another, "Of Mammoth Smallness : Franz Kafka's 'The Village Schoolmaster,'" in *Kafka and the Universal*, eds. S. Cools and V. Liska, Berlin : de Gruyter, 2016, pp. 157-177. Two further essays have appeared in journals abroad: "Europe and the Stranger," in *The Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology*, a special issue on "Phenomenology and

the Idea of Europe," Vol.47, no. 3, pp. 292-305; and "El absoluto sobrio: sobre Benjamin y el primer romanticismo," trans. H. Tarragona, *Revista Rigel*, n.1, July-August 2016 (Special Issue on La estetica del romanticismo), pp. 9-39, Universidad Nacional de Catamarca, Argentina.

*Department of Economics*

**Alex Anas**, professor, made a presentation titled "The cost of congestion and the benefits of congestion tolling in the greater Los Angeles region" at the 2016 annual conference of the International Transportation Economics Association (ITEA), held June 15-17, 2016 at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago de Chile, Chile. The research was supported by Anas' research award from UCOP (University of California Office of the President, award number 142934, January 1, 2010 – June 30, 2016).

**Isaac Ehrlich**, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Chair, participated in the ADBI/IMF/MOF "Tokyo Fiscal Forum" this year on June 6-7, 2016 in Tokyo, Japan. The purpose was to provide policy makers in Asia an opportunity to discuss policy challenges and share broad perspectives with leading experts from international organizations and universities. The forum was comprised of around one hundred senior officials from government ministries, fiscal policy agencies and experts from international organizations, think tanks, and academic scholars. Ehrlich was the last presenter during the forum, in which he presented his paper, co-authored with Yong Yin, assistant professor, "The role of asset management, health, and education in financial decisions by individuals at post-retirement ages."

**Yoon Sang Moon**, a Ph.D. candidate supervised by **Alex Anas**, presented his paper titled "Internal structure of consumer cities: core and subcenters" at the 2016 annual conference of the International Transportation Economics Association (ITEA), held June 15-17, 2016 at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago de Chile, Chile. The Association makes an award each year to the author of the best paper written by a junior scholar. This year Moon was found to be deserving of this honor. The research was supported in part by a CAS fellowship and, in part, by Anas' research award from UCOP (University of California Office of the President, award number 142934).

**Paul Zarembka**, professor, presented his paper "Late Marx and the Conception of 'Accumulation of Capital,'" at the Conference of the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy, Political Economy: International Trends and National Differences in Lisbon, Portugal, September 7-9, 2016. The paper is concerned with Marx being an intellectual who moved forward in his work, was anything but fixed in his concerns, and offers a path for further theoretical development of political economy in the modern context of global capitalism.

*Department of English*

**Joseph Conte**, professor, presented a lecture on "Migration, Immigration and Remigration" at the Università Degli Studi di Bergamo, Italy, July 2016. With his host, Stefano Rosso, Professor of American Literature, he discussed the possibility of establishing a week-long Summer Institute on Global Migration at Bergamo and the potential for faculty research collaboration between UB and Bergamo in American studies.

**Walter Hakala**, assistant professor, taught a survey of Asian literature called "Global Culture" as part of the Kyungpook National University Global Summer School in Daegu, South Korea in June- July 2016.

**Damien Keane**, associate professor, delivered a paper called "Between the Closed Book and the Open Source: Seán MacStiofáin's *Revolutionary in Ireland*" at the "Shared Histories: Media Connections between Britain and Ireland Conference" in Dublin, Ireland, in July 2016. While in Ireland, he conducted archival research at the National

Library of Ireland in Dublin and at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast.

**Karen Mac Cormack**, adjunct professor, gave a poetry reading in Manchester, UK (Peter Barlow's Cigarette Series) and another in York, UK for the Action Poetry Series, part of the York Festival of Ideas in June 2016.

**Carla Mazzio**, associate professor, lectured at the Villa la Pietra in Florence, Italy, in the "Shakespeare and Italy: A Journey of Mind" conference, June 2016. She then conducted research in the archives of the Venerable English College in Rome. Mazzio also accepted a three-year appointment to serve on the Fellowship Selection Committee for the Villa I Tatti, Harvard University's Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence, starting this academic year.

**Steve McCaffery**, professor and David Gray Chair of Poetry and Letters, organized and performed in "Radical Shakespeare" as part of the 400th anniversary celebration of Shakespeare at the Royal Festival Hall in London, England, June 2016. While in the UK, he also lectured on the North American Mimeo and Small Press Poetry Scene at the University of Sheffield, performed in the York Festival of Ideas, and gave a reading in Manchester.

In October 2016, **Cristanne Miller**, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chair, participated in dissertation defenses for candidates at the University of Basel, Switzerland and the Sorbonne Nouvelle, University of Paris 3, and lectured in Basel on "American Civil War Poetry." She gave a conference paper at an international conference on Emily Dickinson at the University of Paris 7/Diderot, June 2016.

**Tanya Shilina-Conte**, lecturer, participated in three international conferences: "Virtuality, Becoming and Life: Deleuze Studies Conference," University of Roma Tre, Rome, Italy, July 2016; the "Study of Culture: Transvisuality" conference in Lisbon, Portugal, June 2016; and "Coming to Terms with Film-Philosophy," TIFF Bell Lightbox, Toronto, Canada, May 2016. She was awarded "best paper" at the Lisbon Consortium Summer School for "Folds to Black and White in Minor Cinema and Art Practice." She also curated the inaugural river-run Global Film Series at the Burchfield Penney Art Center in October 2016, with a focus on Iran.

*Department of History*

**Andreas Daum**, professor, contributed to a conference on "Willy Brandt and the Americas" at the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation in Berlin, as well as to a memorial dedicated to the life and oeuvre of the German historian Gerhard A. Ritter at the Historisches Kolleg in Munich, both in June 2016. In September 2016, he presented a paper on German naturalists who travelled the Pacific c. 1750-1850 at the annual meeting of the German Studies Association in San Diego, California. Daum co-edited a special issue of the German Studies Review in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the German Studies Association (vol. 39, no. 3, October 2016.) It brings together a diverse group of scholars who represent a wide range of disciplines and universities in North America. They review the transformations and changing intellectual interests of the world's largest scholarly organization devoted to German Studies outside Germany.

*Department of Jewish Thought*

**Richard A. Cohen**, professor, gave an invited keynote address, entitled "Crisis, Splendor or Glory," on the thought of Emmanuel Levinas and Georges Bataille, at a conference on "Emmanuel Levinas: A Radical Thinker in the Time of Crisis," held at the University of Vilnius, Lithuania, October 2015. Cohen presented a paper at the annual Levinas Conference held at the University of Toulouse, in Toulouse, France, July 4-7, 2016. Professor Cohen also directed the 4th annual international Levinas Philosophy Summer Seminar, on the topic of

"Free Speech and Difficult Freedom," co-sponsored by the Richard Diner Center for Jewish Studies, of the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California, held from July 18-22, 2016.

In July 2016, **Sergey Dolgopolski**, associate professor, gave an invited talk in the symposium in Berlin, "Das andere Denken" Heideggerian and Jewish Thought, inter alia," organized by Zentrum fuer Judische Studien, Berlin Brandenburg, Humboldt University, Berlin, Heinrich Boell Fellowship and Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany. Later that month, he has also delivered a paper at the Jewish Law Association Conference in Tel-Aviv, Israel.

#### *Department of Mathematics*

**Yiqiang Li**, assistant professor, visited Tsinghua University in Beijing, China for a week during July 2016 and gave a talk entitled: "Affine flag varieties and quantum symmetric pair." He also attended the 7th International Conference on Representation Theory in Xiamen, China in July 2016 and presented his work on sigma-quotient varieties.

#### *Department of Media Study*

**Franck Bauchard**, clinical associate professor and director of the Arts Management Program, organized a Summer school in Berlin (May 2016) focused on cutting edge art practices in visual and performing arts reflecting Berlin conflicting memories. He organized a learning expedition in Montreal in partnership with Society des Arts Technologiques de Montreal on virtual environments including training in immersion, courses and demonstrations (October 2016). He was the curator of the international exhibition "Terminal P' on airports (June-August 2016), which will tour in Paris in 2017 and 'Magnetic resonances', the first European show of the Australian artists David Haines and Joyce Hinterding (October-December 2016) for the Center of Contemporary Culture of the City of Montpellier (France). Two students of the Arts Management Program were invited by the City of Montpellier to participate in the installation of the Terminal P exhibition and to curate documentary cabinets. Bauchard was invited to give a lecture at the European CCI Academy held in Belgium (September 9 2016) on 'creativity of art organizations in the digital era'. His interview "The live unpredictability in performing arts" was published in the international publication *Degres Revue de Synthese a orientation Semiologique* (n 163-164, April 2016).

#### *Department of Music*

**Cort Lippe**, associate professor of composition, lectured for two weeks at the Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, Japan, and gave a lecture on his music at the Tokyo University of the Arts. In addition, he was a member of the nominating committee for the Inamori Foundation's 2017 Kyoto Prize in Music. He served on the program committees of the International Computer Music Conference, Utrecht, The Netherlands; the New Interfaces in Music Conference, Brisbane, Australia; and the 10<sup>th</sup> Toronto Electroacoustic Symposium, as well as serving as an assessor for a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada application. His music was performed at various festivals, including the VI Festival di Musica Contemporanea di Cagliari, Italy, the Festival SEGNALI, Perugia, Italy, and the Festival SoXXI-Canals, Lisbon, Portugal. In addition, his music was performed at the Strasbourg Museum of Contemporary Art, France.

#### *Department of Physics*

**Andrea Markelz**, professor, gave an invited talk and was part of an external review committee for BioTHz at Seoul National University in April 2016. More recently professor Markelz has given a plenary talk at the Infrared Millimeter and Terahertz Wave conference in Copenhagen in September 2016 and an invited talk at the BioTHz Workshop at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden in October 2016.

**Bruce D. McCombe**, SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus, was an invited speaker at Nanjing University of Technology in Nanjing, China in late October 2016. In addition to giving a general talk, McCombe

was invited to lead a seminar on experimental physics. During his visit he was appointed as visiting professor at Nanjing Tech.

#### *Department of Political Science*

**D. Munroe Eagles**, professor and director of Canadian Studies, co-presented two papers at international meetings in the spring. They were: Nick Baxter-Moore, Munroe Eagles, Ahmed Ahmed, Liam Campbell, Graeme M. Eagles, and Heidi Madden, "Ethnic Accommodation and Assimilation in the National Identities of Americans and Canadians," presented at the Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland conference, University of Maynooth, Ireland, May 13-14, 2016; and Nick Baxter-Moore and Munroe Eagles, "'Living Apart Together': The Challenges of Urban Governance Across the Canada-US Border in the Bi-national Niagara Falls," presented at the 15th Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Hamburg, Germany and Sonderland, Denmark, May 19-21, 2016.

#### *Department of Theatre and Dance*

**Eero Laine**, visiting assistant professor, co-curated a performance and video installation at the annual Performance Studies international (PSi) Conference in Melbourne, Australia in June 2016. He continues to serve as a member of the PSi Future Advisory Board and is planning for the 2017 conference in Hamburg, Germany. In August, his co-edited volume, *Performance and Professional Wrestling* was published by Routledge. The volume brings together nearly twenty international scholars of theatre, performance, dance, and the social sciences to examine a performance form that encompasses numerous international traditions and a history of global exchange. Finally, Laine is one of the general editors of *Lateral*, which is the peer-reviewed, open-access, journal of the Cultural Studies Association. In November, *Lateral* published a special issue on "Leveraging Justice" through performance for victims of human trafficking. The issue is guest edited by Janelle Reinelt and María Estrada-Fuentes and features research from an international assembly of scholars.

#### **SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE**

##### *Department of Oral Biology*

**Stefan Ruhl**, professor, hosted Stefan Rupf, professor of operative dentistry, periodontology and preventive dentistry at Saarland University in Hamburg, Germany, in his laboratory for a week during October. Rupf presented a seminar in the Seminar Series in Oral Biology, entitled "Initial oral microbiomes of caries active and caries inactive young adults compared by using a dynamic in-vivo biofilm model" and shadowed instructors at pre-clinical and clinical courses of the Department of Restorative Dentistry at UB's School of Dental Medicine.

##### *Department of Orthodontics*

**Thikriat Al-Jewair**, research associate and program director, was invited to present at the Italian Orthodontic Society (SIDO) Patient-important outcomes in Orthodontics Conference in Florence, Italy. Her presentation focused on the upper airway dimensions in skeletal Class II patients treated with functional appliances. This is a topic that has been growing in importance over the past few years as a larger segment of the population is diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea. Her work is focusing on the adolescent population and how routine orthodontic care at a young age may minimize the development of obstructive sleep apnea in later life.

**R. Scott Conley**, associate professor and chair, was invited to present at the 2016 Chinese Orthodontic Society (COS) in Xi'an, China. The COS has grown rapidly with a membership now over 3,000. The lecture topic was Computer Aided Team Treatment Planning for Orthognathic Surgery Success highlighting many of the successful surgical orthodontic techniques here in the United States to help advance the standard of care overseas.

##### *Department of Periodontics and Endodontics*

**Othman Shibly**, clinical professor, delivered an invited presentation on July 27, 2016 on the role of religion and culture in world conflict as

part of the Pendapat Mereka Tentang International Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia. He was invited by the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the Indonesian World Sufi Organization.

### GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

*Department of Educational Leadership and Policy*

**Seong Won Han**, assistant professor, delivered an invited talk entitled, "Gender and teaching career expectations of high school students" at the OECD Symposium, held at the OECD headquarters, Paris, France, June 16-17, 2016. The OECD symposium is organized by the OECD Education and Skills Directorate in collaboration with other Directorates and projects working on inclusion and equity, particularly the OECD Inclusive Growth initiative, the OECD New Approaches to Economic Challenges initiative, and the OECD Centre for Opportunity and Equality. The purpose of the OECD symposium is to open a dialogue between researchers, different OECD initiatives and policy-makers from OECD member countries, notably participants to PISA Governing Board.

**Stephen Jacobson**, UB Distinguished Professor, visited Belize in May 2016 to continue his research on "Leadership for Social Justice and STEM." His work in Belize was supported in part by a travel grant from the Office of International Education. He will deliver a paper based on preliminary findings from the study (co-authored by UB colleague **Noemi Waight**, associate professor in LAI and ELP Ph.D. student **Lorenda Chisholm**) at the 2016 Values and Leadership Conference, University of Western Ontario, October 2016. In June 2016, he delivered an invited presentation on 'School Leadership and Student Learning,' at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. In July 2016, he travelled with a group of UB colleagues, led by **Mara Huber**, associate dean for undergraduate education, to Tanzania to consider possible future collaborations with universities, schools and other social agencies in that country. In November 2016, he will deliver a paper on 'School Leadership Practices in Early Childhood Education: Three Case Studies from New Zealand,' with co-author Ross Notman, University of Otago, New Zealand, at the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) Conference in Detroit. As the associate director for International Affairs for UCEA, Jacobson organized and will chair the 2016 UCEA International Summit, titled 'UCEA Engagement and Participation in Global Initiatives,' at the annual conference in November. Finally, in March 2017, Jacobson will give an invited keynote address on "Educational Leadership and Sustainability" at the [INTER] National Conference on Educational Leadership & Management in Kingston, Jamaica.

**Melinda Lemke**, assistant professor, is on the steering committee for an international cross-disciplinary conference, Children Displaced Across Borders: Bridging Policy, Practice, and Disciplinary Approaches to Further Human Rights, to be jointly held between Swansea University (Wales, United Kingdom) and the University of Houston, Texas in November 2016. In addition to serving on the steering committee, Melinda will travel to Wales to present a conference paper on youth displacement, trafficking policy, and the normative politics of educational prevention in the U.S.

*Department of Library and Information Studies*

The Department's Research Seminar Series brings in guest speakers from a wide range of international universities to speak on a diversity of topics. These talks are recorded and available to view on the Research Page of our website. On September 28, 2016, the department hosted Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair Anatoliy Gruzd from Ryerson University in Toronto, who spoke on "Studying Online Interactions using Social Network Analysis."

In September 2017, **Amy VanScoy**, assistant professor, presented a paper at the ISIC (Information Seeking in Context) conference in Zadar, Croatia. The paper was titled "Racial/Ethnic Matching in Information Intermediation." Heidi Julien, professor and chair, also presented a paper at the same conference, titled "Writing and Reading the

Results: The Reporting of Rigour Strategies in Information Behaviour Research as Evident in the Published Proceedings of the Biennial ISIC Conferences, 1996 – 2014."

### SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

*Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering*

**Mark T. Swihart**, UB Distinguished Professor, presented invited lectures at four institutions in China in June 2016. He lectured on "Synthesis and Potential Biomedical Applications of Plasmonic Semiconductor Nanostructures" at Shenzhen University in Shenzhen and at the PLA 301 General Hospital in Beijing. He presented his research on "Synthesis of New Nanomaterials for Diverse Energy Applications" at Shanxi Normal University, Linfen, and Ningxia Normal University in Guyuan.

*Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering*

**Cemal Basaran**, professor, will give a one-week workshop at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras on "Mechanics of Nano-Electronics Packaging". The workshop is funded under the "Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) in higher education" program launched by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, the Government of India. This program is aimed at facilitating research engagement of internationally renowned experts with the institutes of Higher Education in India. The course is 1 credit hour and open to students and practicing engineers and is scheduled from December 5-9, 2016 at the IIT Madras campus.

**Andre Filiatrault**, professor, delivered a keynote address entitled "Building Information Modeling for the Performance-based Seismic Design of Nonstructural Building Components" at the 2016 Hilti Seismic Academy in Milan, Italy in October. In November 2016, Filiatrault traveled to Beijing and Harbin, China to visit Professor Wang Duozhi from the Institute of Engineering Mechanics (IEM) – China Earthquake Administration as technical expert on her research project entitled "Seismic Failure Mechanism and Risk Assessment of Ceiling System for Large-span Space Structure" and funded by the Natural Science Foundation of China. Later that month, Filiatrault delivered in a short course (in French) to practicing engineers and architects entitled "Seismic Design and Analysis for Nonstructural Building Components." This short course is part of the continuing education program of the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, Canada.

*Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering*

**Deborah Chung**, professor, gave the keynote lecture titled "Multi-functional structural materials for the built environment" at the CREA 16 Congress on innovations in construction, held in Panama City, Panama, on July 20-21, 2016.

**Tarunraj Singh**, professor, served as an external examiner for the dissertation of Rick van der Maas in the Department of Mechanical Engineering/Control Systems Technology Group, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands, March 3, 2016. The title of the dissertation was "Advanced Geometric Calibration and Control for Medical X-ray System".

### SCHOOL OF LAW

**Isabel Marcus**, professor, is a co-founder and has continued to work closely with, and teach at, the Women's Human Rights Training Institute in Sofia, Bulgaria for the past 11 years. The Institute has trained (in 5 intensive cycles) more than 100 lawyers in Eastern Europe to bring women's rights cases in their national legal systems as well as to the European Court of Human Rights and to UN treaty monitoring committees. The sixth cycle cohort began its training on September 26 - October 5, 2016 with 30 new participants.

**Jessica Owley**, professor, successfully obtained accredited observer status for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and will bring six students to the Climate Change talks in Marrakesh, Morocco in November 2016. In December 2015, she took

6 students to participate in the negotiations in Paris and has delivered talks on that experience on campus and to community groups. In the Spring of 2016, Owley published a chapter on international land and wildlife conservation in a book assessing the most recent scientific reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, entitled *Contemporary Problems in Climate Change Law and Policy*. In April 2016, Owley was one of only a few American law professors invited to participate in the first World Congress of Environmental Law held at the Supreme Court of Brazil in Rio de Janeiro. In May 2016, she attended the Annual Meeting of the Association of Law, Property, and Society in Belfast, Northern Ireland where she presented her research, was appointed co-editor in chief of the organization's journal, and was re-elected chair of the board of the organization. In June 2016, she spoke at the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) Academy of Environmental Law in Oslo, Norway. As a member of both the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law and IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, she delivered four different presentations at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawaii in September 2016. Over 8,000 participants from around the world attended this event that is only held once every four years.

### SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

#### *Department of Accounting and Law*

**Myungsun Kim**, associate professor, presented a research paper entitled "The role of accounting comparability in mitigating culture effects on corporate credit ratings" at the 2016 Summer International Conference in Gosung, Korea, June 16-17, 2016 hosted by the Korean Accounting Association.

#### *Department of Finance*

**Veljko Fotak**, assistant professor, presented a paper at the European Meeting of the Financial Management Association in June 2016 in Helsinki, Finland. The paper, co-authored with **Hae Kwon Lee**, a doctoral student in the department, is titled "Property Rights and Foreign Lending: How Bilateral Investment Treaties and Government Expropriations Affect the Terms of Syndicated Loans." Lee subsequently presented the paper at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of European Finance Association in Oslo, Norway in August 2016.

#### *Department of Organization and Human Resources*

**Katerina Bezrukova**, associate professor, presented a paper titled "Organizational Well-being, Conflict, Faultlines, and Performance-Enhancing Drugs: The Case of Major League Baseball" at the Interdisciplinary Network for Group Research (INGRoup) conference in Helsinki, Finland, July 14-16, 2016. At the same conference, she was also an organizer of the panel on "Team Chemistry in Outer Space: Getting Along with Your Crew When You Know You Can't Quit" featuring NASA funded research on crew composition in space. Finally, as an Associate Editor of *Small Group Research*, she presented journal awards as part of the INGRoup conference in Finland.

### JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

#### *Department of Biochemistry*

**Michael Garrick**, professor of Biochemistry and Pediatrics, and Laura Garrick, research associate professor, visited their collaborator, Frank Thevenod, professor and chair of Physiology, Pathophysiology & Toxicology at Witten/Herdecke University in Witten, Germany on July 8-9, 2016. The visit provided an opportunity for them to plan continuing collaborative experiments on the presence of DMT1, a metal ion transporter, in mitochondria. On July 10, they drove to Dresden to attend BioMetals2016 where Michael Garrick presented a talk on July 14 about the functional properties of DMT1 in mitochondria.

#### *Department of Biomedical Informatics*

**Werner Ceusters**, Division Chief of Biomedical Ontology, functioned as external reviewer for the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNS-F)'s National Research Program (NRP75, 2016) on Big Data. He served also as reviewer for the Program Committee of the European Federation for Medical Informatics' (EFMI) Special Topic Conference 'Trans-

forming Healthcare with the Internet of Things' (EFMI-STC2016), Paris, France, April 17-19, 2016 and as member of the Program Committee of the ninth International Conference on Formal Ontology in Information Systems (FOIS 2016), Annecy, France, July 6-9, 2016. At this conference, he gave two presentations, one about "Representing SNOMED CT Concept Evolutions using Process Profiles" and the other one on "Ontologies of Dynamical Systems and Verifiable Ontology-based Computation: Towards a Haskell-based Implementation of Referent Tracking".

#### *Department of Medicine*

**Jeffrey M. Lackner**, professor and director of the UB Behavioral Medicine Clinic, gave an invited lecture "The Science of Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Irritable Bowel Syndrome" in Opatija, Croatia at the Annual Conference of Croatian Psychological Society in Nov. 2016 as well as an invited lecture as part of the Scientific Colloquium at the University of Rijeka.

**Supriya D. Mahajan**, associate professor, attended the International Congress of Immunology (ICI) 2016 August 21-26, 2016 held in Melbourne, Australia and presented a papers titled "Role of Complement in progression of HIV-associated neurological disorders (HAND)." that highlighted the balance between complement activation and complement regulations which contributes to HIV-1 latency and persistence and the development of HAND. Other co-authors on the paper from the Department of Medicine include Eliane Abou-Jaoude (PG3 resident), Neil U Parikh (Allergy Fellow), Ravikummar Aalinkeel, Jessica L. Reynolds, Stanley A. Schwartz, from the Division of Allergy, Immunology & Rheumatology and Alexander Jacob, Richard J. Quigg and Jessy J. Alexander from the Division of Nephrology.

#### *Department of Neurology*

**Alexander Diehl**, assistant professor, hosted Hedi Karray, associate professor of informatics, INP Toulouse-ENIT / Federal University of Toulouse, Toulouse and Tarbes, France, as a visiting scholar, as part of Diehl's research group at the NYS Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics & Life Sciences, from April to June, 2016. Diehl and Karray began collaborations on several projects in biomedical ontology and industrial ontology.

**Gil I. Wolfe**, Irvin and Rosemary Smith Professor and chair, co-chaired along with his colleague Donald Sanders, MD, of Duke University Medical Center, a 14-member task force to create the first-ever international treatment guidance for the management of myasthenia gravis, the most common disorder of neuromuscular transmission. Experts from North America, Europe and Asia composed the panel. Using a Rand-UCLA appropriateness methodology, consensus statements were developed across several disease domains including for juvenile and pregnant patients with myasthenia gravis. The statements were published in the July 26, 2016 issue of the journal *Neurology*. Task force activities were supported by a grant from the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America.

#### *Department of Ophthalmology*

**Steven J. Fliesler**, Meyer H. Riwchun Endowed Chair Professor and vice-chair, co-chaired an oral platform session (with **Sarah X. Zhang**, associate professor of ophthalmology) at the XXII Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Eye Research (ISER) in Tokyo, Japan, September 25-29, 2016. The session was entitled, "Oxidative and ER Stress in Retinal Degenerations." He also co-presented a poster at the conference, entitled "Compromised phagosome maturation underlies defective RPE clearance in an in vitro model of Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome," in collaboration with researchers at the University of Pennsylvania.

#### *Department of Pediatrics*

**Matthew J. Barth**, assistant professor, attended the 48th Congress of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology in Dublin, Ireland in October 2016 where he presented an oral paper entitled "Reduced

Burden of Therapy in Intermediate Risk Mature B-cell non-Hodgkin Lymphoma: Preliminary Results of the Reduced Burden of Oncologic Therapy (REBOOT) Trial” for which Barth was also awarded a Young Investigator award.

**Daniel Sheehan**, associate professor, presented at The 2<sup>nd</sup> Qianjiang International Forum on the Genetic Basis Birth Defect (DMD) in Hangzhou, China in May 2016. The title of his talk was “Pulmonary Interventions to Improve Survival and Quality of Life in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.”

#### *Department of Surgery*

**Carroll M. Harmon**, John E. Fisher Professor of Surgery, attended the International Pediatric Endoscopy Group Meeting (IPEG) that was held in Fukuoka, Japan, May 21-28, 2016. He served on an Expert Panel for Minimally Invasive Surgery. He also was an invited speaker in Chihuahua, Mexico at the Mexico Society of Pediatric Surgery Meeting. His topics were “Complications early and late after adolescent bariatric surgery,” “Surgery for the special forms of pediatric obesity,” “Surgery for the very young-concerns and research gaps,” and “Current used surgical procedures in Teen LABS.” These were presented September 10-14, 2016.

#### **SCHOOL OF NURSING**

In October 2016, **Yu-Ping Chang**, associate professor and associate dean for research and scholarship, and Lorelee Sessanna, clinical associate professor, travelled together to China to present keynote lectures at Beihua University School of Nursing in Jilin and at Northeast Normal University, College of Humanities and Sciences in Changchun. Chang presented “Strategies to Support Nursing Research” and provided research consultation to a group of faculty interested in prescription medication misuse and abuse in older adults. Sessanna presented “A Holistic approach to Teaching Undergraduate Nursing Students.” She also participated in a question and answer session with nursing student and faculty audience members at both universities. Additionally, Chang and Sessanna attended a holistic seminar on Chinese Medicine and promoted UB School of Nursing research and programs during their trip. Yu-Ping Chang was also an invited speaker at the Department of Nursing, Cardinal Tien Junior College of Healthcare and Management in New Taipei City, Taiwan in March 2016. Her talk was entitled, “Person-centered Care in Long-term Care Facilities and Prescription Opioid Misuse in Older Adults.”

**Margaret Moss**, assistant dean for diversity and inclusion, was the keynote speaker at the Australia College of Mental Health Nurses Conference at the Adelaide Convention Centre on October 25, 2016. Her talk was entitled, “Finding Solutions/Moving Towards Change: Cross Cultural Disparity and the Experience of American Indians.”

#### **SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

**Elizabeth Bowen**, assistant professor, presented a poster titled “Housing is health: Evidence of the impact of housing on HIV health outcomes from a harm reduction housing program” at the International AIDS Conference, Durban, South Africa. Bowen also wrote a blog post related to the conference that was titled “Housing is health: Reflections from Durban, South Africa and the International AIDS Conference” for the National Center for Excellence in Homeless Services blog.

**Filomena Critelli**, associate professor, participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> International Human Rights Education Conference, Middleburg Netherlands in December, 2015. Critelli organized and chaired Symposium on Syrian Refugee Crisis, sponsored by the UB School of Social Work and Department Asian Studies in March 2016. Critelli received grant from SUNY Center for Online International Learning (COIL) to collaborate with the Latin American Academy to develop globally networked course titled “Human Rights from U.S. and Mexican Perspectives” with the University of Tijuana CUT in April 2016. Critelli launched the course with students from University of Tijuana CUT and Universidad

LaSalle that focuses on migration, children’s rights, gender, and rights of persons with disabilities from a comparative perspective in August 2016. Critelli is completing data collection and analysis on the impact of transnational migration and family separation with partners from Moldova and Kazakhstan (funded by the International Association of Schools of Social Work). Critelli participated in a meeting with stakeholders from Haiti through SUNY Global that was titled “Collective Impact: Building a Sustainable Community in Akaye, Haiti.”

**Catherine Dulmus**, professor and associate dean for research, Eugene Maguin, data analyst, and their colleagues presented a poster titled “Children and youth in residential care: Empirically supported treatment outcomes across race” at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Associations for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions World Congress, Calgary, Canada in September, 2016. Dulmus, together with **Amy Manning**, faculty assistant, and **Tom Nochajski**, research professor, presented a paper titled “Identifying self-injurious behavior in a clinical setting: Implications for clinical practice” at the 31<sup>st</sup> International Congress of Psychology, Yokohama, Japan in July 2016.

**Isok Kim**, assistant professor, presented an invited lecture titled “From experts to partners: Achieving health-equity through community-based participatory research” at the Summer Special Research Seminar at The Research Institute of Nursing Science, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea in July, 2016.

**Wooksoo Kim**, professor, presented an invited lecture titled “Logic Model and Program Evaluation” at the Summer Special Research Seminar, the Research Institute of Nursing Science, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea in July, 2016.

**Nadine Shaanta Murshid**, assistant professor, has been conducting two research projects in Bangladesh titled “Building inclusive banking infrastructure for financially disadvantaged populations: Mobile-money and financial inclusion in Bangladesh,” (funded by a UB Civic Engagement Research Fellowship) and “Social and relational context of microfinance participation” (funded by The UB Gender Institute). Murshid and Elizabeth Bowen made a conference presentation titled “Microfinance participation and HIV literacy in Bangladesh” at the Annual Conference on South Asia, in Madison, Wisconsin. Murshid published six Op-Eds in *The Daily Star*, Bangladesh.

**Mickey Sperllich**, assistant professor, and her collaborator are working with the UK’s National Center for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) Better Start Initiative in Blackpool, UK. They are pilot testing a psychosocial intervention titled “The Survivor Mom’s Companion.” They trained clinicians in Blackpool and will be working with researchers at the University of Birmingham to evaluate and disseminate findings.

**Hilary Weaver**, professor and associate dean for academic affairs, made a conference presentation titled “Promoting the dignity and worth of Native Americans: Balancing Indigenous sovereignty and participation in the larger society” at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education, and Social Development, in Seoul, Korea, in June, 2016. Weaver made a conference presentation titled “Conducting trauma-informed research with refugee populations: Maximizing support for refugees, service providers, and researchers” at the North American Refugee Health Conference in Niagara Falls, NY. Weaver presented “Recognizing the rights of indigenous communities around the world in conflict: Transformation and peaceful communities” at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the United Nations, New York, NY.

#### **UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

**Frederick Stoss**, associate librarian, hosted and moderated a panel discussion, “The National Library of Aruba: Promoting, Enhancing and Embracing Green Education.” This presentation featured a panel of representatives from the National Library of Aruba and the Philips-

burg Jubilee Library in the Dutch St. Martin Island. During the last four years 6,000 students and teachers in secondary schools and higher education of Aruba attended the Aruba symposiums on sustainable energy, food supply, and soil practices, while the Jubilee Library has championed the implementation of solar/photovoltaic energy in the Dutch St. Martin Island.

**Cindi Tysick**, head of Educational Services in the Research, Education and Outreach Unit, has a five-year appointment to the Fulbright Specialist Roster, and will be invited to advise foreign universities on special short-term projects in her area of expertise lasting 2 to 6 weeks.

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

In October 2016, **Stephen C. Dunnett**, professor and vice provost, served as an external reviewer of the Office of Vice Provost for Global Engagement at Western University, UB's partner in London, Ontario, Canada.

**John J. Wood**, senior associate vice provost, was a presenter at the annual conference of the European Association for International Education in Liverpool, UK in September 2016. His "Ignite" session presented the global learning components of the new UB Curriculum. In October 2016, Wood was an invited plenary speaker at the Study Abroad Foundation China Annual International Education Symposium, held at the South China University of Technology in Guangzhou, China. Wood spoke about UB's internationalization strategy and implementation. Wood was a member of a roundtable on strategic partnerships for mobility at the annual Generation Study Abroad Summit in Washington, DC in October 2016. 🌐

#### DEBRA STREET AWARD

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ter program in London in 2017. The course provides students with a new understanding of how globalization has changed the ways people and societies produce, consume, and dispose of food, and why the future of food security has become such a critical area of study.

A distinctive feature of Street's study abroad programs is the participation, together, of students from both the Buffalo and Singapore campuses, further enhancing the cross-cultural learning of all. 🌐

#### MENTORING PROGRAM

*continued from page 4*

us like friends," adds Patil. "It was like getting long lost friends and family away from home."

Berti has stayed in contact with her students long past the formal mentorship.

"I guess we will keep in touch no matter what they will do and what their adventure will be," she says.

Mary Dahl, resource coordinator for the School of Management's Undergraduate Learning and Community Center, has been participating in the program for several years and says it's one of her favorite ways of interacting with students.

Dahl saw the program as an opportunity to be a mother-like figure to students and help them overcome challenges. She has worked with students from India, China and Nepal.

Chintan Thakker, one of Dahl's mentees, especially enjoyed a trip he made with Dahl to an Amish village. "I have visited many cities after coming to the U.S., but I never had a chance to visit a town and learn about its culture," he says. "I enjoyed the whole experience."

For her part, Dahl says mentoring international students "has enriched my life and career considerably. It is a mutually beneficial experience. I always learn as much as I teach."

Through the program, Dahl and others have developed an understanding and appreciation for cultural differences.

"ISMP can truly make a positive difference in a student's life, and it definitely has in mine," Dahl says. 🌐

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## COUNCIL HONORS DEBRA STREET

**D**ebra A. Street, professor and chair of the Department of Sociology, was honored December 5, 2016 with the Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB. Some thirty colleagues gathered for a luncheon to celebrate Professor Street's accomplishments in multiple areas of international education.

Established in 2004 by the Council on International Studies and Programs, this award recognizes faculty and staff who have made major, longstanding contributions to international education, research and exchange at UB. Street was nominated for the award by her Sociology colleague, Chris Mele.

Street has strongly supported the development of the undergraduate Sociology program delivered at the Singapore Institute of Management, which has attracted a strong cohort of students, some of whom have

gone on to graduate study at UB and other U.S. institutions. Street, who



*L to r: Peter Biehl, Debra Street, Chris Mele, Stephen Dunnett (Nancy Parisi)*

practitioner of study abroad, she has organized and led both semester and winter-session programs to London. The semester program in London has been offered every spring for more than a decade and offers, in addition to sociology courses taught by Street herself, valuable internship opportunities through CAPA International, a program provider based in London.

For the third consecutive January, Street is offering her Sociology of Food course as a win-

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regularly teaches in Singapore, has taken advantage of this program to internationalize her department and offer unique opportunities to her faculty and students.

Street has had a major impact in internationalizing her discipline and enhancing the global learning of her students. A leading proponent and

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John J. Wood, Editor