

UB INTERNATIONAL

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UB International

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TRIPATHI AT SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

President Satish K. Tripathi spoke at the Summit of the Americas in Panama City on April 10, 2015 as part of a panel examining the role of universities in sustainable economic development — one of three major themes addressed at the forum.

Tripathi was one of two U.S. university presidents invited to speak at the Forum panel.

The seventh Summit of the Americas drew worldwide attention due to the meeting between President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro — the first sit-down talks between the top leaders of the U.S. and Cuba in more than 50 years.

Tripathi was invited to speak by UB alumnus Oscar Ramirez, president of the Technological University of Panama, the host institution of the summit's inaugural Forum of Rectors of the Americas, titled "Prosperity and Education: The Challenge of Cooperation in the Americas – the Role of Universities."

"It was a privilege to represent UB and Western New York at this international meeting and to share our experience of the vital role of research universities in advancing the economic development agenda of our region," Tripathi said. "It is my hope that the experience of Western New York is helpful for my colleagues at universities throughout the Americas."

Tripathi spoke about UB's major initiatives that support local economic development, the collaboration with government and private-sector partners, and his role as co-chair of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council.



President Tripathi speaking at the Forum

Several presidents of leading U.S. universities were in attendance at the forum, as well as the leaders of 35 nations. Tripathi was joined at the summit by Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and vice provost for international education.

Tripathi and other university presidents drafted recommendations on the role of higher education that were submitted to the heads of state attending the summit, including Obama.

After the forum, Tripathi visited the campus of the Technological University of Panama (TUP), where he met with university leaders, including President Ramirez, and signed an institutional agreement to promote scholarly exchange and collaboration between UB and TUP.

Sponsored by the Organization of American States, the Summits of the Americas are institutionalized gatherings of the heads of state and government of the Western Hemisphere where leaders discuss common policy issues, affirm shared values and commit to concerted actions at the national and regional level to address continuing and new challenges faced in the Americas. 🌐

ASK YOUR PRESIDENT: A QUESTION FROM A UB UNDERGRADUATE

“What do you think are the advantages of having a multicultural perspective?”

Just a few weeks ago, that question came up when I spoke to the graduating class of the National Institute of Technology, Karnataka in India. I told them exactly what I tell our own UB students—that a multicultural perspective isn’t just nice to have but necessary in a global age.

Speaking personally, having a multifaceted cultural background is a huge part of who I am and how I think about the world. The fact that I’m an Indian immigrant is just one dimension of that.

Like you, Doris, I love to travel. And I’m lucky to have been able to learn from many different cultures—from my education in India, Canada and the U.S. to my time as a visiting scholar in Germany, Italy and France.

So I can definitely relate to our large population of international students. I know from personal experience how terrifying, but at the same time incredibly exhilarating, it can be to study half a world away from one’s home country. Keeping up with your studies is challenging for any student, but it’s all the more so when you’re also trying to keep pace with a new world where the language, food, customs and landscape are unfamiliar as well.

The trick is to learn to embrace that feeling of unfamiliarity. That’s when the world really opens up to you. The ideas and insights I’ve gained from friends, classmates and mentors from all different cultures and walks of life have become a permanent part of how I think and act. And I hope in some small way I’ve been able to return the favor.

Whether you study abroad—as you and I have both done—or whether you spend your entire student career here in Buffalo, this is exactly the kind of multicultural experience you can have at UB. Our students come from all 50 states and about 110 countries, which makes for an incredibly vibrant mix of cultures, backgrounds and perspectives. Having that geographic, cultural and ideological diversity in the classroom and in our campus community creates an amazing living and learning environment.

Cultural fluency and global awareness aren’t just important for people who travel a lot. They’re simply essential tools for living in today’s world. When you graduate, you and your fellow alums will be competing in an international market for jobs—whether you stay here in Buffalo or move overseas. I think you’ll find that what you’ve learned at UB will prepare you very well.

But in the end, having a global perspective doesn’t really have anything to do with where you come from, or where you’ve traveled. It’s about taking every possible opportunity to broaden your horizons, test your own

ideas and exchange viewpoints with people who see and experience the world in a completely different way—whether they’re from your own hometown or the other side of the globe.

Doris, my guess is that you’ve already had hundreds of opportunities like this at UB, and I want to thank you for sharing these opportunities with other students through the

mentoring you do. I know many more exciting experiences lie ahead for you—in dental school and beyond! 🌐



About our student, Doris Baclija

Baclija, a senior psychology major from Westchester County, N.Y., who will enter the UB dental school in the fall, has been globally minded from the start. A native of Hungary, she studied for a semester at the University of Roehampton in London during her junior year and has mentored two UB international students, one from India, the other from China. Tripathi thanked her for guiding fellow students in a new land, pointing to the individual and collective benefits of cultural exchange. “People who are diverse, when put together as a team, have a much better perspective than they would otherwise.”

Reprinted with permission from *AtBuffalo*, spring 2015, p. 5 (Photo: Douglas Levere)

FROM THE VICE PROVOST

The university takes fitting pride in the large and diverse community of international students that UB attracts from around the world. A magnet for students from more than 110 countries, UB is recognized globally for the quality of its faculty and programs, and the exceptional value of the educational experience students enjoy here.

Our highly successful international recruitment and admissions team has nearly quadrupled our international enrollment since 1995. The substantial growth of our international enrollment over the past two decades has helped advance the internationalization of UB, and afforded our local students and faculty countless opportunities for cross-cultural engagement and enrichment.

Indeed, international students contribute in many vital ways to the university. Beyond the financial benefit from the much higher tuition they pay, UB depends upon their invaluable contributions to our core missions of research, teaching and service. Like other major research universities experiencing large growth in international enrollment, UB contends with the challenges involved in welcoming, supporting and effectively including and integrating these students into our university community.

While UB boasts one of the best International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) offices in the country, the challenge of service, support and inclusion is one for the university as a whole, not for one particular office alone.

The importance of meeting this challenge has been recognized by senior leadership, which has provided additional resources to enhance ISSS programming.

Moreover, in fall 2014, Provost Charles Zukoski directed UB's Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP) to convene a high-level Task Force on International Student Inclusion and Engagement, chaired by CISP member Peter Biehl, professor and chair of the Department of Anthropology.



The task force comprises representatives from all of the schools as well as many of the major service units on campus. As this goes to press, the task force is finalizing its preliminary report with recommendations for ways the university community can best serve and support our international students and create a more welcoming environment for all.

The current issue of UB International features several recent initiatives that the

Office of International Education has undertaken to meet the challenge.

One is the restructuring of UB's comprehensive orientation program for incoming international students, prompted by the growth in the size of the incoming cohort and based on the recommendations of a task force led by Ellen Dussourd, assistant vice provost and director of ISSS (pp. 4,6).

The second initiative, featured on pp. 5-6, focuses specifically on the inclusion and engagement of international students through a variety of programming involving partnerships across campus that bring together international and domestic students for sustained and mutually rewarding engagement.

These efforts and those resulting from the current task force recommendations are part of an ongoing culture shift at UB, as the university seeks to fully embrace its international identity and leverage its global engagements in service of its overall mission. 🌐

UB OFFERS PASSPORT SERVICE

The University at Buffalo Law Library is an authorized Passport Acceptance Facility. The certified passport agents in the law library distribute forms, accept completed paperwork, review required documentation, and forward applications to the U.S. regional passport agency appropriately. The staff is well versed in the required forms for missing or damaged passports, name changes, and other issues exclusive to replacing passports. For an adult, (age sixteen or older) the cost is \$110 for a passport

book. The passport card is \$30 but can only be used for travel by car or by boat. Checks or money orders are the acceptable payment (no cash, no cards). The passport will be mailed to the address indicated on the application within four to six weeks. The law Library passport services are located in O'Brian Hall, Room 211, phone (716) 645-2204. Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday – Friday, and by appointment. 🌐

INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION RESTRUCTURED

By Eric Comins

Each fall semester, the University at Buffalo welcomes a large group of incoming international students. In fact, the number of new students has steadily increased each year. In fall 1999, 650 new international students joined UB.

By fall 2013 that number had nearly tripled—to 1,816. Because of these burgeoning numbers, the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) reorganized its orientation program last fall to ensure that each student would realize the goals and benefits of International Student Orientation.

Since the ratio of undergraduate to graduate students had steadily increased, ISSS shelved its previous weeklong, combined orientation program in favor of separate—and shorter—programs for graduate and undergraduate students.

"We had noticed significant differences in our students' needs based upon their educational level," explained ISSS Director Ellen Dussourd. "Graduate students tend to be more focused on completing their educational programs as quickly as possible, whereas undergraduate students tend to seek a higher level of connectedness to the university as a whole."

During the spring 2015 semester, a Re-Imagining International Student Orientation Task Force comprised of an array of campus stakeholders was established to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the orientation program and to suggest modifications.

The task force primarily focused on the international undergraduate students' orientation experience, concluding that there should be more emphasis on empowering newly arrived undergraduates to meet the challenges of their UB experience, getting them excited about the many opportunities available to them, and fostering more and better interactions with U.S. students.

To encourage new undergraduates' empowerment, an entire day of concurrent sessions was added to the undergraduate orientation program. The concurrent sessions were divided into four categories: Academic

Success Sessions, Daily Life Sessions, Getting Involved at UB Sessions and Academic Opportunities Sessions.

Eric Comins, ISSS Coordinator for Student Programs explained, "Our principal goal was to provide opportunities for new undergraduate students to tailor their orientation experience. We wanted to start empowering them to take

ownership over their UB experience."

The re-imagined undergraduate program also took a more deliberate approach to the interactions between UB's international students and U.S. students. A new and expanded Student Club Fair offered new students the chance to find ways to connect with U.S. students on campus.

The orientation shopping trip involved not only six busloads of new international students, but U.S. student guides whose role was to interact with the new students and help them find what they needed in the stores.

U.S. students also led the new students on a UB scavenger hunt titled "Campus Quest", which was both a team-building experience and opportunity for new students to become familiar with the UB campus.

A new session titled "Connecting With U.S. Students: A Panel Discussion" was also offered. U.S. undergraduate students who could be described as dynamic, involved on campus, and interested in helping international students, were recruited to discuss how to get involved at UB and to explain some cultural differences.

The new students asked many questions, such as how to approach making friends with U.S. students. The panelists advised them to not be afraid to take first the step and to search for some common ground, such as the weather or a homework assignment.

Chris Bragdon, ISSS Student Engagement Coordinator, pointed out, "It is in the students' and university's best interest to embrace a learning community that encourages its members to make meaningful connections with one another.

This session was one simple way to welcome new international students into our diverse community and



Check-in at the International Undergraduate Orientation, Fall 2014

HELPING STUDENTS TRANSCEND BORDERS AT UB

By Chris Bragdon

I want to build bonds with people from all over the world," declared a UB undergraduate during a recent teambuilding exercise at an indoor rock climbing gym. Another student added, "I hope to connect with other cultures and gain a global perspective."

Similar sentiments were expressed by other students when asked to reflect upon their reasons for participating in the BRIDGES program. Short for Building Relationships Involving Diverse Groups of Engaged Students, BRIDGES is currently in its second year at UB and is one of a number of new programs being offered to help international and U.S. students develop meaningful connections with one another.

Recognizing that, (a) students, like most people, tend to socialize within groups that share common traits, and (b) UB strives to foster a learning community in which all students embrace a global perspective, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) launched an initiative called Transcending Borders UB (TBUB) in spring 2013 as a way to address these two, often opposing, realities. Students from varying backgrounds informally interact with one another every day, whether in class, in residence halls or during extracurricular activities.

The challenge, however, is that many of these relationships are fleeting and lack depth with regard to cross-cultural understanding. TBUB is attempting to engage, include and better integrate members of UB's increasingly diverse student population through initiatives that are intentional, collaborative and fun. Coordinated by Student Engagement Coordinator Chris Bragdon, TBUB has both introduced new campus-wide programs as well as complemented already existing activities.

A program quickly emerging as a cornerstone of Transcending Borders UB is BRIDGES. Instead of offering a one-time activity during which participants may make connections with each other only to part ways a few hours later, BRIDGES offers a series of six interconnected activities

offered throughout the spring term.

Students accepted into BRIDGES form a cohort that participates in the program in its entirety, fostering trust and nurturing meaningful relationships through shared experiences as the semester progresses.

The spring 2015 cohort consists of 18 U.S. and 19 international students. Care is taken to develop a series of activities that support a diverse array of backgrounds, as well as challenge students to actively engage with one another, problem solve and shape their own unique



Participants in a BRIDGES teambuilding exercise

community.

Activities range from cross-cultural simulation activities and community service to an international film screening and high ropes course. The high ropes course includes teambuilding exercises that challenge students to acknowledge each other's goals and barriers, while also making statements of personal accountability.

One student proclaimed, "I am going to push myself to do things outside of my comfort zone." Other comments included a promise to, "embrace different cultural beliefs" and "be patient and try to understand if there is a language barrier."

Another program being launched, in partnership with Campus Living, is a new living learning community called Global 360. As UB's international student numbers continue to climb, the idea of creating a designated living community for those who wish to embrace a multicultural lifestyle has also grown. Currently accepting applications for fall 2015, Global 360 will attract students with a shared interest in global experiences, celebrate UB's diverse campus community, and tie academic and social development to globally-themed topics. The residents of Global 360 will engage in community meals, informal discussions with faculty, coffee hours, film screenings and community outings.

A new Redefining Home retreat was also developed

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ORIENTATION

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foster opportunities for cross-cultural exchange that we hope will last well beyond orientation."

Since undergraduate students tend to be less prepared socially and emotionally, another change to the orientation program was to focus upon the undergraduate student experience in order to prepare the new undergraduates for the challenges they would need to surmount.

In a new session titled "What It's Like to Be an International Student", a mix of outgoing and shy students were chosen so that almost any new student could identify with one of them, minimally. This knowledgeable panel of international students who were eager to share their experiences openly talked about their experiences adapting to their new lives in Buffalo so the new students would have a better idea what to expect and how easy or difficult it would be.

To get undergraduates excited about UB, a new program called the Twilight Fun Fest was also incorporated in the orientation program. It featured food, carnival-type snacks, games and activities, such as a dunk tank. Students and staff enjoyed some light moments together, partaking in all of the activities.

Overall, the new initiatives were very successful and popular with the new international students. Since there is always room for improvement, however, preparations are underway to implement more changes in August 2015 and January 2016.

"We are always looking for ways to improve our services so we can better prepare our students for the challenges and realities they will face as international students in the U.S." said Dussourd. 🌐

TRANSCEND BORDERS

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with the Study Abroad office, Counseling Services and the International Institute of Buffalo as a way to connect recently returned study abroad participants with newly arrived international students.

One of the guiding principles behind the initiative was that both populations often struggle to (re)define UB as "home" and can mutually benefit from one another's experiences. On a snowy January evening, a group of diverse students discussed their personal challenges with cultural adjustment, both in the U.S. and abroad, drew parallels between their experiences, and developed coping strategies for themselves and their peers.

Other new collaborative initiatives include InFocus, a monthly conversation on today's hot topics; Global Sports Day, in which sport serves as a bridging agent between cultures; and Inclusive Thanksgiving, which paired international students with UB host families for the holiday meal.

Other tried and true programs such as the International Student Mentor Program and Global CINEMAspectives

Film & Discussion Series also continue to positively impact the community and encourage rich cross-cultural exchanges between students, faculty and staff.

As UB continues to evolve as a culturally dynamic community, our efforts to create an environment in which all students gain cross-cultural competencies and global perspectives must also evolve. Transcending Borders UB is just one of many

emerging tools crucial to our ability to achieve these outcomes and foster engaged, included, and competent global citizens. 🌐



Students participating in the high ropes course

GEORGE LEE HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO UB'S ENGAGEMENT IN CHINA

By Bruce Acker

When George C. Lee, PhD, traveled to China in spring 1980 as the new dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, he encountered a community of students and professors eager to engage in academic exchange with Americans. On that first trip, Professor Lee gave six 3-hour talks on the American educational system over three days to large and enthusiastic university audiences in Beijing.

Lee represented UB in China at the request of President Robert L. Ketter soon after Premier Deng Xiaoping announced China's "opening up" policy in 1978. On that first visit, Lee signed a historic exchange agreement with Beijing Polytechnic University, making UB the first U.S. university to establish formal ties in China following the normalization of U.S.-China relations in 1979.

On May 5, the UB Confucius Institute organized a symposium honoring George Lee's pioneering work in developing the UB-China relationship and presented him with the prestigious Confucius Educator Award. The symposium, which was co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for International Education, was held in the Honors College Seminar Room in Capen Hall and continued with a reception in the Kaveeshwar Gallery in the President's Suite.

In his welcoming remarks, UB Confucius Institute Director and Professor of Philosophy Jiyuan Yu, PhD, said the symposium would be the first in a series to honor UB faculty who have played central roles in developing UB's strong and fruitful relationships with China. The Confucius Institute is planning these events to celebrate the vision and accomplishments of these prominent individuals, encourage like-minded UB community members to continue in their footsteps, and contribute to UB's further internationalization.

Lee recalled in his lecture the enthusiastic audiences for those first presentations at Beijing Polytechnic University (now Beijing University of Science and Technology).

Many students wanted to study in the U.S., and soon UB, followed by other U.S. universities, was able to admit some of China's most promising scholars into PhD programs in engineering and the natural sciences.

After that ground-breaking trip, Lee encouraged Stephen C. Dunnett, PhD, who as a young assistant professor had recently founded UB's English Language Institute, to set up an English language center in Beijing. Dunnett heeded Lee's call, and in 1981 UB established the first American-run English language center in China on the campus of the Beijing Normal College of Foreign Languages. UB's training center prepared the first wave of more than 100 Chinese scholars for graduate study and training in Buffalo.

At the symposium, Dunnett described Lee as a "visionary" who saw "the extraordinary potential that China represented, not only for itself but also for UB." Dunnett spoke about the critical role of Lee's in-depth understanding of Chinese culture and politics in facilitating UB's successful entry into China.

Shortly after the establishment of UB's English Language Training Center in Beijing, the UB School of Management was invited by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Chinese government to launch the first U.S. MBA program in China, which opened in 1984 at Dalian University of Technology. John M. Thomas, PhD, dean emeritus of the UB School of Management and director of the HSBC Center for Global Leadership, was the central figure in the establishing the MBA program in Dalian.

Thomas was followed in the symposium by Andrew Whittaker, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Civil, Structural, and Environmental Engineering. Whittaker reviewed Lee's major accomplishments during his fifty-year career at UB, many of which continue to involve scholars from China and other countries of Asia. The impact of Lee's work on UB's international profile is nothing short of momentous. UB enrolls nearly 2,000 students from China and maintains academic and scholarly exchange agreements with 5 Chinese universities. 🌐



Bruce Acker, Jiyuan Yu, Stephen Dunnett, George Lee, Maggie Lu

ARJANG ASSAD TO BECOME DEAN OF BUSINESS AT PITT

By Jacqueline Molik Ghosen

After nearly seven years as dean of the UB School of Management, Arjang Assad is stepping down at the end of the academic year to become dean of the University of Pittsburgh's Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration.

His appointment at Pittsburgh is effective July 1. An interim dean will be appointed later this spring while UB conducts a national search for the next dean of the School of Management.



Arjang Assad (r) being recognized for his service to the UB-SIM programs; honoring him on behalf of SIM are Lim Kuan Meng (m) and Hay Lee Keng (l)

Assad came to UB in 2008 from the Smith College of Business at the University of Maryland.

During his tenure, the School of Management's national reputation burgeoned, making significant gains in the rankings of the best business schools by Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes and other major news media.

Under Assad's leadership, the school focused on three strategic areas — leadership, entrepreneurship and health care management — and devoted considerable resources to growth in these areas. He increased the size of the school's research faculty, led a revision of the MBA curriculum and secured funding to construct an Undergraduate Learning and Community Center that is slated to open in 2015 in UB's Jacobs Management Center.

Assad also established the Arjang A. Assad Teaching Award through a personal endowment in 2013 to recognize, biennially, the contributions of outstanding faculty members in the School of Management.

"Arjang has left his mark on the School of Management and our university in so many ways," said UB President

Satish K. Tripathi. "He elevated the school's reputation worldwide, reinvigorated the undergraduate and graduate curriculum, built faculty strength in strategic areas of research, enhanced the school's business partnerships and expanded its impact on entrepreneurship across our region.

"He has left the School of Management very strongly positioned to continue its steady upward trajectory as a nationally ranked and globally prominent center for excellence in management education, scholarship and entrepreneurial leadership.


"Speaking personally, I'm very grateful for Arjang's contributions, perspective and always valuable counsel over the years," Tripathi said. "He will be greatly missed, but I know I speak for his colleagues across the university in saying that we wish him every happiness and much continued success as he takes up this new leadership opportunity."

UB Provost Charles F. Zukoski said Assad has been "an exemplary dean whose strong and positive leadership has advanced the missions of the School of Management and our university. He also has been an outstanding institutional citizen, reflected in his willingness and effectiveness in leading important university wide initiatives and committees."

Under Assad, the School of Management's Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership grew and expanded its focus on supporting the development of entrepreneurship in the region. He partnered the school with UB's undergraduate Entrepreneurship Academy to help students develop their own business ideas or compete in UB's Henry A. Panasci Jr. Technology Entrepreneurship competition, which has become the region's premier student entrepreneurship event.

Assad was a consistently strong supporter of the school's collaborative education programs abroad, and regularly visited the Executive MBA and undergraduate programs at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM).

The school also launched the Center for Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness in 2013 to advance research, teaching and outreach in the area of leadership and its impact on organizational effectiveness.

He promoted excellence in research while recognizing and valuing outstanding teaching, and created the Dean's Research Fellowship to recognize faculty who excel in research and the Dean's Distinguished Teaching Fellowship to recognize exceptional teaching. He launched a Master of Science program in accounting and significantly enhanced the Master of Science programs in finance and information systems. 

PUTTING JOURNALISM SKILLS TO THE TEST IN BERLIN

By Jody Kleinberg Biehl

On the first day of “Foreign Reporting in Berlin,” a winter study abroad program, I dragged my 12 groggy students into the misty Berlin morning for an all-day bike tour. The idea was to give them a sense of the city, spark their imagination for upcoming projects, and ignite their interest in the 20th century history that this mythic city encapsulates.

I wanted them to see Berlin’s beauty and its scars.

Most of them wanted to see the nearest coffee shop.

But their jet lag didn’t last long. As we rode past buildings erected by Communist East Germans, stately boulevards used by S.S. troops for Nazi parades, and Gestapo interrogation cells and learned from our guide the stories behind the places, I could see their curiosity flare.

They wanted to know more. They wanted to photograph everything. They wanted to absorb as much information as they could.

We went to Babelplatz, where the Nazis burned 20,000 books in 1933 and we went to the Monument of the Murdered Jews of Europe. We touched the Berlin Wall and stood at Checkpoint Charlie, the Reichstag, Germany’s new Parliament building and the Brandenburg Gate.

We rode through Old Jewish neighborhoods and new Turkish and African immigrant enclaves. We saw the place Hitler died and the places where young Berlin artists live. We rode through decades of decimation and renewal, literally biking through history.

By the end of the day, the students brimmed with questions and curiosity. They had felt the sizzle of connectivity. They had stood on historic and hallowed ground. They had also begun to realize how much they didn’t know.

They were at the point where great journalism (and teaching) begins.

This, to me, is the magnificence of the study abroad experience. It displaces students and confronts them with themselves, with the bigness of the world and the smallness of their single perspective.

It makes them want to grow.

My students spent three whirlwind weeks in Berlin and each produced two journalism pieces. We spent the first week getting to know the city and understanding its history. During the first week, we had class every day and we



Jody Biehl (front left) with UB Journalism students at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin

discussed Brian Ladd’s *The Ghosts of Berlin*.

During the second week, we toured and talked to correspondents from four media companies, including the Wall Street Journal and der Spiegel, visited two think tanks, attended a lecture on cyber-security with Stanford University, Berlin students and had two freelance journalists visit us to discuss their work. During the third week, we had classes in the morning and students worked on their assignments in the afternoon.

In addition to the assignments, students took two tests. We also held regular current events roundtables.

Most of the finished articles appeared in the student newspaper, *The Spectrum*, in February. The only parameters I set was that one of the articles had to be journalistic – a comprehensive look at an issue, a trend, a news event and had to have at least one expert source and contain significant historical/statistical data. The other could be personal, a memoir that would speak to a broad public.

To write their pieces, my students had to engage with the city and with its people. They had to find experts and interview strangers. They had to navigate the city alone and decide which story angles to pursue.

They also had to wrestle with their own pasts, their upbringing and insecurities. I, of course, guided them, as did many of the close to a dozen professional journalists and academics we met during the trip. But each of their stories was uniquely their own.

One student wrote about an anti-immigrant party that was staging weekly protests across the country. Another wrote about the rise of tourism in Berlin and the life of

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PHARMACY STUDENTS DO MEDICAL OUTREACH IN LATIN AMERICA

By Gina M. Prescott and Alfred T. Reiman

The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences participated in two medical mission trips during the winter session in January 2015. Gina Prescott led a group of professional students to the Dominican Republic for the second year, and Alfred Reiman oversaw the student group going to Honduras.

Dominican Republic

Four students and Dr. Prescott joined a Buffalo-based interdisciplinary team of approximately forty people through Score International and traveled to Juan Dolio, Dominican Republic to provide pharmaceutical care.

The pharmacy team had the opportunity to participate in medical care in villages during this seven-day experience and travel to a local hospital to assist the surgeons with surgical procedures.

In the villages, the students participated in dispensing, compounding and counseling patients (with the assistance of a Dominican or Haitian translator) on their medications.

Since many of the patients have larger families with small children, share medications within the community, have an unknown medical history, no refrigerators in homes, or may be unable to read the medication labels, the importance of medication safety was stressed to the patients.

We provided high risk medications with child safety caps, worked with providers to minimize unnecessary medications, dispensed one-time medications in the clinic, and explicitly labeled and segregated each family member's medications.

The students also assisted the medical providers at their patient stations to have an opportunity to see diseases that are no longer prevalent in the US.

While at the medical stations, students were able to assist the providers with drug information, medication selection and dosing from the formulary, along with education on preventative methods to keep them free from disease. Over the course of the clinic days, students assisted in providing care to approximately 500 patients.

In the hospital, the students were able to work with

the providers and view poorly controlled diseases. The pharmacy students worked closely with the nurse anesthetist to reconstitute antibiotics, prepare anesthesia medications, and learned dosing and different methods for providing non-general anesthesia to patients. The students also monitored patients for post-operative pain and nausea and dispensed medications accordingly.

In addition to the clinical work in the villages, students were exposed to culture in the Dominican Republic through touring of the capital city, eating at an authentic Dominican restaurant, purchasing items through the barter system in the straw market, eating sugar cane from the stalks,

and relaxing with a day at a local resort.

Honduras

Nine students and Professor Reiman joined a local medical group in Intibucá, Honduras through the NGO Shoulder to Shoulder to provide pharmaceutical care and education on preventative medicine. During this ten-day experience, students provided multiple medication and disease related educational sessions in rural Honduras.

On one day, students hiked miles up a mountain side to educate eight patients in a home in a remote village on hypertension and diabetes; all patients were on the same anti-hypertensive medication due to a government initiative in this area.

The students provided important medication and diet counseling points to the patients, particularly due to their high salt and coffee intake. Over the course of this trip, students also participated in hypertension and diabetes clubs at the medical clinic, with counseling approximately 20 patients in this area.

Students continued to travel to many remote homes to see pregnant patients and counseled them on the importance of prenatal vitamins, fluids, and general pregnancy care. During these visits the students were able to assist the provider with patients who needed refills.

On multiple days, similar to the diabetes and hypertension clubs, they hosted almost 50 patients in

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Alfred Reiman (2nd from r) with UB Pharmacy students and local staff in Honduras

ECONOMIC LAW IN CONTEXT: NEW ZEALAND

By Meredith Kolsky Lewis

This January, when temperatures were in the teens and twenties in Buffalo, eleven law students joined me for two weeks of Southern hemisphere summer in Wellington, New Zealand for the course New Zealand: International Economic Law in Context.

I began my academic career at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School, where I still maintain an

international economic law.

Second, I wanted to expose the students to ways in which the New Zealand legal system differs from that of the United States. Among other differences, New Zealand has no written constitution; has a notably different system of tort law; and has a unique legal architecture relating to its indigenous people, the Maori.

On the cultural side, I wanted to expose the students to elements of Maori culture; New Zealand's unique ecosystem; and to a taste of what life is like in this small but vibrant city on the other side of the world.

We began with an introduction to Maori history and culture, first hearing about the legal framework governing Maori-Crown relations from a Maori colleague of mine on the law faculty, and then spending the afternoon at



Meredith Lewis (4th from l) and Justice Glazebrook (6th from r) with the UB Law students at the Supreme Court

appointment. We were therefore able to base ourselves at the law school, and many of my New Zealand faculty colleagues were kind enough to share insights with our group.

The students stayed in university-managed apartments a five-minute walk from the law school.

Although Wellington is the capital of New Zealand and the country's second-largest city with a metro area population of approximately 400,000, the city center is compact with most of our destinations located within walking distance of the law school and the students' housing, and the beautiful harbor was never far from view.

Because the city is so walkable, we were able to have multiple meetings per day and still have time left over for the students to explore on their own. In addition, the two weeks were separated by a holiday weekend, during which the class was free to travel outside of Wellington.

I tried to design the course so that the students would have meaningful cultural as well as academic experiences. On the academic side, the course had two main themes. The first was international economic law, focusing on international trade and investment-related issues. New Zealand's economy is heavily dependent on international trade and thus provides a useful context for learning

a Maori marae (meeting house) where an extended family shared Maori legends and traditions, and showed us wonderful hospitality. It is a Maori tradition to have a welcoming ceremony or powhiri for visitors.

Part of that ceremony entails the visitors singing a song to the hosts, so the students had to quickly determine a song everyone knew so they could sing during the powhiri—I told them their performance would impact their participation grade for the course!

In the classroom, we had a dozen or more presenters who expanded our knowledge about New Zealand's system of parliamentary sovereignty and its unwritten constitution; New Zealand's accident and compensation scheme; the Treaty of Waitangi entered into by the Maori and the British Crown; intellectual property in New Zealand; international arbitration and business issues; New Zealand-Australia trade and immigration issues; and international maritime trade. We also had the opportunity to attend a session of a colleague's summer course, Pacific Legal Issues, during which we heard about the enduring practice of banishment in Samoa.

We also spent plenty of time away from the law school. One of the highlights of the course was our visit to the New Zealand Supreme Court.

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BERLIN

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a tourist guide. Another wrote about the dangers graffiti artists face. Another focused on the most popular Turkish kebab stand, while one wrote about two women trying to revive Jewish life in Berlin.

The personal pieces, too, varied widely. One Jewish student wrote about her feelings during our trip to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. One student wrote about reconnecting with an unknown German cousin during the trip. Several wrote about overcoming shyness, taking risks and becoming more independent.

The exciting part was that by the second day, my students no longer needed caffeine to jolt them – or at least not as much. They had felt the energy of a new place and they had opened themselves to the city and to the experiences we had together.

Toward the end of the trip, I took my students to Berlin's blind restaurant. Called Nocti Vagus; the restaurant is completely dark and is staffed by blind waiters. Students don't know what they are eating and have to figure out how to pour water, pass plates and spear food in utter blackness. To me, this was the capstone of our study abroad experience. For a few hours, students were forced to shift perspective, shake off what they knew and adapt. The other option was to go hungry. 🌐

A professional journalist, Jody Kleinberg Biehl directs the Journalism Certificate Program in the UB Department of English, and is the faculty advisor for The Spectrum.

PHARMACY

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pregnancy clubs at the medical clinic, where they were able to counsel patients on medication needs (including folic acid) and those needed to be avoided during pregnancy. Students were also able to attend evening clinics with the physician. Our students noted an 80% decline in number of medications in their pharmacy/medical clinic compared to those in the United States.

Culturally the students (apart from rural house visits in Honduras), spent time at a well-known hot spring, learned the slang-term "Buenas" while interacting with the locals, hiked a mountain for a sunrise viewing, and ate local foods while breaking a piñata during a festive celebration with the local clinic staff! 🌐

Gina Prescott and Alfred Reiman are clinical assistant professors in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

ECONOMIC LAW

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The Court, conveniently located across the street from the law school, was not in session; however, one of its five justices, Justice Susan Glazebrook, graciously arranged a private tour of the building for us and sat with us for over an hour, answering the students' questions.

We were also able to meet with senior officials from



Victoria University of Wellington Law School

the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, who discussed international trade dispute settlement issues and the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations with us; to learn about the steps New Zealand takes to protect against biosecurity concerns at the Ministry for Primary Industries; and to spend part of a morning at New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, learning how this business development agency helps New Zealand businesses expand into international markets.

Our cultural experiences included our visit to the marae; day and nighttime tours of a wildlife sanctuary where we saw tuatara by day and kiwi birds at night; a day trip outside of Wellington to a winery in the Wairarapa region; and countless lattes at Wellington's world-class cafés.

The students embraced the experience: "the best month of my life"; "the overall New Zealand experience was amazing"; "great educational experience"; "the guest speakers and lectures were extremely interesting and relevant"; integrating important areas of New Zealand culture was essential to learning about the law"; my favorite part was having the opportunity to sit and talk with a New Zealand Supreme Court Justice!"

I am looking forward to running the course again in the near future! 🌐

COMMUNITY PARTNERS ARE KEY TO IMPROVING REFUGEE HEALTH

By Jessica Scates

On April 9, 2015, as a part of National Public Health Week, over 150 people gathered at UB's Educational Opportunity Center in downtown Buffalo for the 2nd Annual Western New York Refugee Health Summit: Community conversations to build pathways toward culturally engaged health care in Buffalo.



Pavani Ram and Jessica Scates presenting at the 2015 Western New York Refugee Health Summit

The 2015 Summit was sponsored by the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions' Office of Global Health Initiatives and organized through a unique and dynamic UB-Community partnership between faculty in numerous UB Schools and stakeholders from various community organizations serving refugees.

The City of Buffalo is one of the top resettlement sites for refugees in the United States, resettling about 1,500 refugees annually. Refugees with diverse cultures, traditions and languages arrive in the United States with little to no knowledge of its systems and regulations.

They often come from conflict or war, having lived through very traumatic events and sometimes torture. Their unique backgrounds coupled with a health care infrastructure that is inadequately equipped to provide culturally engaged care can lead to life threatening situations. Barriers can include miscommunication due to poor interpretation across language divides, stigma related to mental health care, and differing perspectives of health and well-being.

To identify solutions to the many barriers to care for refugees, a Refugee Health Strategic Advisory Group has been formed with members of community groups serving refugees and university faculty and staff with core interests in the refugee population.

Formed in July 2014, the Refugee Health Strategic Advisory Group has identified several goals: 1) the development of an online resource portal, 2) investigation of training models for community health workers, and 3) an improved mental health care network for refugees, one that is especially relevant to trauma and torture.

The 2nd Annual WNY Refugee Health Summit highlighted the work being undertaken by the Advisory Group over the past year:


1) The *Buffalo Refugee Health Portal* (www.sites.google.com/site/buffalorefugeehealth) was launched at the 2015 Summit. The portal includes health education materials in various languages, cultural backgrounders about populations arriving in Buffalo, and a directory of health care service providers who regularly serve refugee patients in a culturally-engaged manner.

2) The *Community Health Worker Network of Buffalo* currently offers trainings to equip community members with the skills to facilitate education

and referrals to improve community health. The Advisory Group aims to work with existing training methodologies to build capacity among refugee community leaders.

3) Mental health care, especially for patients who have experienced trauma and torture is limited in Buffalo. Little is known about the real mental health needs in the community. The Advisory Group aims to partner with UB faculty to analyze the mental health needs among refugee communities and begin to build a framework toward improved mental health care.

To encourage collaborations and focus on solution-oriented work, participants broke into five groups to brainstorm one- and five-year goals focused around five barriers identified by the Advisory Group. Breakout groups focused on: increasing cultural and linguistic competency education and training, creating a community health worker network for refugees, streamlining provider recruitment and referral processes, and improving preventive care and mental health care. The Advisory Group will establish ongoing working groups with the aim to expand UB/Community partnerships to improve culturally engaged health care for refugees.

For more information about this initiative or the Office of Global Health Initiatives, visit the website at www.buffalo.edu/global-health 

FOSTER SERVES ON JURY FOR CANADIAN LITERARY PRIZE

By Patricia Donovan

Award-winning writer and journalist, and UB faculty member Cecil Foster has been selected as one of five jurors who will choose the winner of the 2015 Scotiabank Giller Prize, frequently referred to as “Canada’s Pulitzer.”

The Giller, now in its 22nd year, is one of that country’s most prestigious and closely watched literary awards. Many of its past jurors, among them Alice Munro, Margaret Atwood, Mordecai Richler, Colm Toibin and Gary Shteyngart, are celebrated, even iconic figures in English literature.

Foster, professor and interim chair of the Department of Transnational Studies, is a native of Barbados and citizen of Canada.

He has authored 12 books, including five critically acclaimed novels, the latest of which, “Independence,” is a coming-of-age story set in 1966, the year of Barbados’ independence from Britain.

He is the author of prize-winning nonfiction as well, including the interdisciplinary analysis “Blackness and Modernity,” which challenges the somatic, cultural, status differential and idealistic categories that help define races, and last year’s “Genuine Multiculturalism: Tragedy and Comedy of Diversity,” which addresses multiculturalism in the U.S., Canada and Europe.

This year’s Giller Prize winner will be awarded \$100,000; each of four runners-up will receive \$10,000. Contenders must be first-edition, full-length novels or short story collections by a citizen or permanent resident of Canada.

No one knows exactly how many books will be in contention because the last submission deadline is in mid-August, but the prospect of selection is daunting.

“Last year, 161 books were vetted by three jurors,” Foster explains, “and the numbers are running pretty much the same, although books will continue to be nominated until mid-August so we will not have a firm total until then. In any case, this year, for the first time, there are five jurors, which I think will make consensus more difficult.”

“Based on last year’s numbers, each of us will read and assess an average of 23 books a month between now and

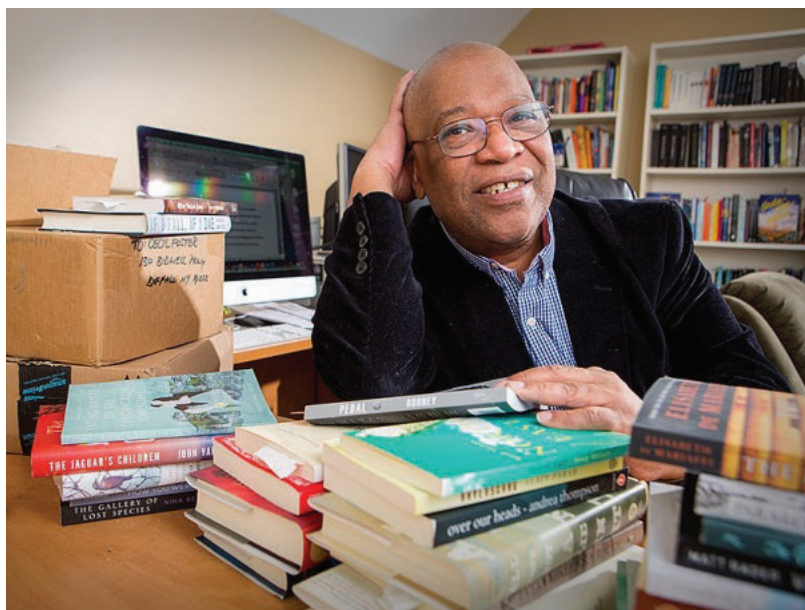
September, so I hope this is a year of short books.”

The jurors will produce a “long list” of nominees in September, and a short list will be announced on Oct. 5, Foster says.

“Discussion will continue until we select a winner on the morning of Nov. 10,” he says. “The winner will be

announced that evening at the annual Toronto gala in honor of the Giller finalists, which will be broadcast live on the CBC, and will, as usual, enjoy international press coverage.”

As a 2015 Giller Prize juror, Foster is in distinguished literary company. His fellow jurors include Dublin native John Boyne, award-winning author of



nine novels for adults and four for young readers, notably “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas,” and Alexander McLeod, whose first collection of short stories, “Light Lifting,” has won many important awards and was named Book of the Year by the American Library Association.

They are joined by Helen Oyeyemi, author of five novels, including the magical and heartbreaking love story “Mr. Fox” (2012). In 2011, she was named by Granta one of the Best Young British Novelists and her 2014 novel “Boy, Snow, Bird” has been praised for its “dazzling inventiveness.”

“Being invited to jury the Giller this year is an honor,” Foster says, “and it offers me a way to give something back to the Canadian literary community, which helped me develop my writing, as well as gain respectability and notice.”

He has experience judging Canadian literature, having served on other juries, including that for the Governor General’s Literary Award, another prestigious Canadian prize. He also has juried provincial literary competitions.

Foster joined the UB faculty in 2013 and remains on leave from his longtime position as professor of sociology and anthropology at the University of Guelph, Ontario. 🌐

Patricia Donovan is a senior editor with University Communications.

RARE GREEK AND ROMAN COINS “REDISCOVERED” IN UB LIBRARIES

By Marcene Robinson

Finding a \$20 bill could make your day. Find priceless, 2,500-year-old gold and silver Greek and Roman coins, and you’ve made the discovery of a lifetime.

That’s what happened to University at Buffalo faculty member Philip Kiernan, who heard a rumor from a UB alumnus in 2010 that the UB Libraries housed the rare coins.

Three years later, Kiernan, an assistant professor of classics, channeled his inner Indiana Jones and journeyed to the depths of the UB archives to find them.

The collection, he was shocked to learn, was real: 40 silver Greek coins, three gold Greek coins and a dozen gold Roman coins — one from each era of the first 12 Roman emperors, from Julius Caesar to Domitian.

They range in date from the fifth century B.C. to the late first century A.D.

Not your usual find.

“I must have been the first person to touch them in almost 40 years,” says Kiernan, who brought in two experts to verify the coins’ authenticity last semester and is now developing a graduate course to examine the items’ history.

It’s the first time the coins will be extensively studied, and Kiernan and his class will publish their findings.

Within the collection is a “remarkably rare” coin of Roman emperor Otho, who reigned for a mere three months.

The Greek coins were struck by some of the most powerful city-states and rulers of the ancient world, such as Athens, Corinth and Alexander the Great.

The coins were donated in 1935 to the UB Libraries Special Collections by Thomas B. Lockwood as part of a larger collection of rare books. However, it wasn’t until Kiernan examined them out of curiosity that the currency’s

rarity and value were realized.

Kiernan focuses much of his research on ancient currency and antiquities, and the experts he brought in to examine the coins were numismatists — people who collect or study currency.

The coins are one of the many treasures stored in the UB Libraries, which also hold original works by James Joyce, Dylan Thomas and William Shakespeare.

“Libraries are becoming museums,” says Michael Basinski, curator of the UB Libraries Special Collections. “Everything is going digital, but we remain tied to the



Philip Kiernan and Michael Basinski holding the Greek and Roman coins (Photo: Douglas Levere)

physical objects.”

Lockwood’s collection includes more than 3,000 books, medallions and additional coins from early America and England. Other notable items include a medallion of Napoleon Bonaparte and 36 British gold coins, including one of Queen Elizabeth I.

Lockwood, an avid reader and collector of rare and special books, purchased the items to supplement his personal collection.

Accruing relics and art was common practice among affluent men in the early 20th century.

“For book collectors, owning such extraordinary objects connects them to the history that’s recorded in their books,” says Kiernan. “They could read about the Emperor Augustus and then examine a coin with his image.”

Most of the coins are in excellent condition, despite remaining in their original 80-plus-year-old casing. A few of the silver coins require conservation treatment. The collection’s casing also will be improved.

The UB Libraries will open the collection of coins to members of the campus and local communities pursuing relevant research. 🌐

MALAYSIAN ALUMNUS WINS PULITZER PRIZE

By Cory Nealon

Marcus Yam came to UB to study engineering. He left besotted by photojournalism.

Now, he can claim a Pulitzer Prize, widely considered the highest honor in the United States for journalism, for his role in The Seattle Times' coverage of a horrific mudslide that killed 43 people in rural Washington.

The honor, awarded under the breaking news category, was one of 14 journalism Pulitzers announced last month. (The Buffalo News was a finalist for the same award for its coverage of last November's historic snowstorm.)

"It has been a very humbling experience," says Yam, a native of Malaysia who earned a BS in aerospace engineering from UB in 2007. "You don't expect to win anything like that in your lifetime."

Yam was the only Times photographer on duty when reports of the mudslide surfaced on the morning of March 22, 2014. He rushed to the scene and encountered chaos. The mudslide engulfed an entire neighborhood.

He soon was hanging out of a helicopter, taking pictures that would be distributed worldwide showing the mudslide's devastating effects. He spent days at the site, capturing images of residents, rescue workers and the landscape.

The award, Yam says, is bittersweet because so many people died. However, he is proud of the work he and his co-workers did.

Yam, who eventually earned a photography degree, says his engineering background plays a role in how he approaches his job.

"It really informs my work," he explains. "I take a very analytical and technical approach to everything that I shoot."

His success illustrates the idea, presented in a recent National Science Foundation report, that "degree is not destiny." The report found that STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) graduates in the U.S., compared to other countries, are less constrained by their field of degree in pursuing career options.

Yam credits his experience at UB for introducing him to photojournalism, having signed up to shoot photographs for UB's student newspaper, The Spectrum, to fulfill requirements to graduate. Yam's photos also were published in the UB Reporter.

His work at The Spectrum caught the attention of John Davis, then design director at The Buffalo News, who offered him an internship. After a few weeks in the newsroom, Yam knew he found his calling.

"I had so much fun there. It was one of those rare moments in life when everything seemed to come together. Things were just clicking. That's when I realized that this is what I wanted to do," he says. 🌐

SIM HOSTS FIRST PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTION

Eight outstanding students in UB's undergraduate programs at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society during a ceremony at SIM on April 29, 2015.

Presiding at the ceremony as delegates for Phi Beta Kappa were UB Professors Claude E. Welch and Jeannette Ludwig, who have been teaching at SIM during the spring semester.

Also attending the ceremony were Kevin McKelvey, Resident Director of the UB-SIM Programs, and Christopher Kohler, Assistant Resident Director.



The Phi Beta Kappa induction at SIM: Kevin McKelvey (l), Claude Welch (2nd from l) and Jeannette Ludwig (r)

Founded at the College of William and Mary in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious academic honor society in the U.S. 🌐

STANDOUT FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR HEADS TO PANAMA

By Charles Anzalone

Abigail LaPlaca—award-winning Latin American dance team choreographer, lover of languages, worldwide adventure-traveler, UB Presidential Scholar and 2015 Fulbright scholar—saw her vision of the transforming power of education come to life in an 8-year-old Dominican Republic girl named Tainalis.

While volunteering to teach English through UB's Honors College during spring break her sophomore year, LaPlaca first saw Tainalis as she ran into the makeshift classroom in the small city of Monte Cristi. Tainalis was one of about 100 young students who had come to learn English in a program that teaches what LaPlaca called "the local, eager children."

Once again, LaPlaca found a lasting connection revolving around education, cultural diversity and a shared sense of humanity.

"She scampered into the classroom, headed straight for the books and darted over to me with one firmly in hand," LaPlaca recalled. "It was none other than 'Oh, the Places You'll Go!' by Dr. Seuss.

"We sat down in a corner together and began reading," LaPlaca wrote in the personal statement that obviously spoke to the Fulbright judges. "I would say a word and she would repeat it. Soon, I realized that we were reading simultaneously.

"As my voice faded away, hers continued on alone, halting, yet clear: 'Oh, the places you'll go! You're off to great places! Today is your day. Your mountain is waiting. So get on your way!'"

LaPlaca, who turned 22 in March, willingly recounts this story with the zeal and expression of someone who savors language and who admits she doesn't dodge the limelight.

She tells it with all its conflicting joy and heartbreak. The rustic classroom with the concrete floor was surrounded by a typical Dominican environment: "brilliantly hued flora disguising and distracting from the crumbling, barbed-wire fenced dwellings that lined the hard, mud-packed streets of Monte Cristi," the small, poor Dominican fishing village bordering on the Gulf of Mexico where LaPlaca spent her week as a teacher volunteer.

The experience with Tainalis illustrates how Abigail LaPlaca views education: Schools and classes that reach students can merge imagination and opportunity.

Education can transform lives.

But all of LaPlaca's infectious enthusiasm and passion include a more grim reality.

"My vision blurred as the thought occurred to me that her future would likely never be so bright," LaPlaca wrote. "Still, I desperately wanted the picture Dr. Seuss had painted to become her reality. As she continued reading, I finally grasped that, with quality education, Tainalis would in fact have the opportunity to fight the imprisonment of her social class, and even travel to great places!

"I do not know if she comprehended what she was reading, but my own understanding was crystal clear: Education is the true leveler."

"This means that with education, anyone can achieve anything, but more importantly, our eyes are open to the shared humanity of us all — the humanity where class, societal and racial boundaries cease to exist."

This is vintage Abby LaPlaca. It's an ardent message that hits home

to her core value that education can overcome poverty and oppression. It's about blending cultures and using languages — another LaPlaca passion — to connect, not separate. It's about her overarching ambition to teach English as a second language in disadvantaged areas — which she hopes to do after graduation and her eight-month Fulbright — in an inner-city school in her hometown of Buffalo.

"Abby LaPlaca epitomizes a Fulbrighter," says Elizabeth Colucci, coordinator of fellowships and scholarships for UB. "She has had numerous international experiences where she has taught English. Here at UB, she has taught in the Honors College as a colloquium TA and in schools in the Buffalo Public Schools. She has a heart for service, teaching and international humanitarian work."

LaPlaca will spend her Fulbright time in Panama, working at a university to be named later with teachers who teach young children. Her grant also will include some firsthand experience teaching children in their neighborhood schools.

LaPlaca recently won the competition to be UB's student speaker during this year's University Commencement ceremony. Her love of languages includes Arabic, and she admits her enthusiasm is as much about the food as the language. 🌐

Charles Anzalone is a news content manager with University Communications.



Photo: Douglas Levere

FULBRIGHT RECIPIENT SEEKS TO EMPOWER WOMEN

By Charles Anzalone

When UB Fulbright winner Samah A. Asfour was a junior studying in the Aix-en-Provence of France, she didn't fully understand discrimination toward the Arab community until she met her host mother.

"Oh, look," the woman said to her grandson after first meeting Asfour. "Last semester we had someone with blond hair and blue eyes. And now we have someone who is all brown."

This story of Asfour's initial encounter — the first of numerous "unconsciously prejudiced comments," as Asfour remembers, by the woman whose house she



Photo: Douglas Levere

would live in for four months — has a happier ending. Both are now close after Asfour became a kind of unofficial cultural ambassador to her host, a French woman born in Algeria.

"I made a promise to myself: I was determined to change her attitude and preconceived notions," says Asfour. "I wanted to show her that the stereotypes were not true. I wanted to show her as an Arab and Muslim woman, I am free. I'm not oppressed, contrary to her beliefs and what the media portrays. I am an educated, free-spirited Arab woman who has a family that supports my ambitions, dreams and goals."

For Samah Asfour, cultivating that ability to empower women is what her Fulbright award is all about. It's UB's third Fulbright Award this year and fourth national scholarship honor, including the prestigious Boren Scholarship. And Asfour is just the latest outstanding UB student to translate a passion into a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and a universally acknowledged elite academic honor.

"When I first met Samah, you could tell she was passionate about working to empower women, especially issues of women in developing nations and in the Middle East," says Elizabeth Colucci, coordinator of fellowships and scholarships for UB.

"As a woman with ties to the Middle East, Samah could bring her considerable skills, passions and

interests to teaching English to the Fulbright English teaching assistantship. She breaks down the barriers and stereotypes of who is an American and will be an outstanding ambassador of American culture to Jordan." She is passionate about her work."

After working with Asfour on her Truman Scholarship

application last year, Colucci suggested she apply for a Fulbright English teaching assistantship to Jordan.

"The culmination of her studies, study abroad, language study and work with refugee communities in Buffalo are being rewarded and recognized by

her Fulbright," says Colucci.

A graduate of Kenmore East High School, Asfour's family lives in Tonawanda. She was born in the U.S., the second-oldest among six children, but her parents raised her with a keen awareness and pride in her Palestinian heritage. Her parents, Fayzeh and Anwar Asfour — growing up "with the occupation worsening in their homeland," she says — never had the opportunity to finish their education. There were not enough schools to go around, and her parents were not among the more fortunate: Only those with special permits could move enough to attend these schools.

"Occupation does terrible things to a society," Asfour says. "It doesn't allow women to go to school because there isn't enough money or the women need to stay at home and help with the family."

"My parents made it their goal to move to the United States to guarantee an education for their children."

Since moving to America, Asfour's parents have made two values paramount: the liberating and transforming power of education, and an appreciation and determination to connect their children with their Palestinian heritage.

"My parents' determination to expose us to our Middle Eastern heritage and higher education has instilled me with a multifaceted identity," she says.

Asfour's Fulbright, which runs from this August to the

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UB RECEIVES SECOND BOREN SCHOLARSHIP

Casey Rothberg has been awarded a David L. Boren Scholarship to study in China during the 2015-2016 academic year. Casey is currently an undergraduate student in economics at UB.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, she will study Chinese language and culture at Capital Normal University, UB's longstanding partner institution in Beijing, China.

David L. Boren Scholarships and Fellowships are sponsored by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), a major federal initiative designed to build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills.

Boren Awards provide U.S. undergraduate and graduate students with resources and encouragement to acquire language skills and experience in countries critical to the future security and stability of our nation.

In exchange for funding, Boren award recipients agree to work in the federal government for a period of at least one year. "The National Security Education Program," according to Dr. Michael A. Nugent, NSEP Director, "is helping change the U.S. higher education system and the way Americans approach the study of foreign languages and cultures."

This year, the Institute of International Education, which administers the awards on behalf of NSEP, receive 750 applications from undergraduate students for the Boren Scholarship and 171 were awarded; 385 graduate students applied for the Boren Fellowship and 101 were awarded.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

continued from page 18

following July, is an ETA, or English teaching assistantship. She will teach English in Jordan for 20 hours a week at a place to be determined.

All the while, she will be gathering expertise and experience on reaching women still living oppressed and second-class lives in the 21st century. Her ambition is to work with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

"The Fulbright will give me the opportunity to live in

Boren Scholars and Fellows will live in 40 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. They will study 37 different languages. The most popular languages

include Arabic, Mandarin, Russian, Portuguese, and Swahili. "

To continue to play a leadership role in the world, it is vital that America's future leaders have a deep understanding of the rest of the world," says University of Oklahoma President David Boren, who as a U.S. Senator was the principal author of the legislation that created the National Security

Education Program and the scholarships and fellowships that bear his name. "As we seek to lead through partnerships, understanding of other cultures and languages is absolutely essential."



Since 1994, over 5,400 students have received Boren Awards. Boren Scholars and Fellows represent a vital pool of highly motivated individuals who wish to work in the federal national security arena, and program alumni are contributing to the critical missions of agencies throughout the federal government. An independent not-for-profit founded in 1919, IIE is among the world's largest and most experienced international education and exchange organizations. Undergraduate and graduate students interested in applying for the Boren Awards should contact IIE at boren@iie.org or visit www.borenawards.org. 



Photo: Douglas Levere

another country and understand some of the struggles women face, but also, it will allow me to break down the stereotypes Americans have of the Middle East," Asfour explains. "With this, I can help empower women in the areas that they need.

Asfour graduated from UB this May with a dual major in political science and global gender studies. After her Fulbright, Asfour has plans to attend Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, where she will enroll in a master's degree in contemporary Arab studies with a focus on women and gender. 

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Department of Architecture

The design research of **Shannon Bassett**, assistant professor, titled "Speculative Surfaces for the Chinese Eco-City," which was exhibited at the Hong Kong and Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism and Architecture in 2012, was featured in an ensuing book publication, *Learning from Tri-ciprocal Cities: The time, the Place, the People*, curated and edited by Gene Kwang-Yu King and Anderson Lee which was published in 2014. Bassett continues to serve as an elected Board in her second term for the International Association of China Planning (IACP). She participated in the 8th Annual IACP conference held this past June 2014, themed "Urban Regeneration: New Model and New Practice" held in Guangzhou, China. She delivered a paper entitled, "Recovering China's Agricultural and Water Landscapes- Reconfiguring Rural to Urban Built Typologies" as part of the Urban Design session for which she was also Chair. Following the conference, she was part of an invited delegation of urban design and planning experts, which visited Tenchong, Yunan province, and presented their findings and recommendations to the mayor and city government there with respect to sustainable tourism and development proposals for the region. She served as the co-editor with ChengHe Guan for the IACP annual newsletter, which was published this past December 2014.

During the winter 2015 session, Bassett led a group of architecture and planning students to China where they were based in Shanghai, in addition to visiting Suzhou and Hangzhou along the Yangtze River Delta and Beijing. She led an urban design workshop and charrette, "Shanghai Water Urbanisms," which was held in collaboration with the Smart Sustainable Living Lab at the Tongji University Sino-Finnish Center in Shanghai. This charrette examined the stitching back of a significant (re) development site in Shanghai's Xuhui District to the Huangpu River. Students presented their schemes and urban strategies to the government officials at the Xuhui District (Shanghai) Urban Planning Bureau.

Brian Carter, professor, is a contributor to the recently published book entitled *Stirling + Wilford American Buildings* published in London, England by Artifice Press.

Miguel Guitart, visiting associate professor, published three articles in peer-review journals as well as one book: his research text "The Failed Utopia of a Modern Vernacular: Hassan Fathy in New Gournia" was published in the *Journal of Architectural Education* JAE 68:2, entitled Building Modern Africa, with David Rifkin (Florida International University) and Itohan Osayimwese (Brown University) as Theme Editors. The article "Reshaping Robert Adams' Landscape" was published in *ZARCH Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Architecture and Urbanism* Vol.2 (Rethinking, Remaking). The peer-reviewed journal is the official publication of the Department of Architecture at the University of Zaragoza. Guitart's article explores Adams' vision of the transforming landscape of the American West in the 1960's due to the disurbanization of American cities during the Cold War years. Guitart published another article on the third issue of *Rita*, the peer-review journal of Red Fundamentos, which represents the largest association of Schools of Architecture in Spain and Latin America. With the title of "Searching for Light in the Earth: Under the Vaults of the Royal Bath at the Palacio de Comares", Guitart continues his doctoral exploration of the space qualified by filtered light, in this case, inside the characteristic space at the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. Finally, Guitart has published the book *La piel profunda* with Spanish editor Asimetricas. The book is an introduction to Guitart's doctoral research on light and filters, whose full publication is under preparation. The book is being translated to English and will be published in the late Spring 2015 under the title *The Deep Skin*, also by Ediciones Asimetricas.

Annette W. LeCuyer, professor, is the editor of the book *Shim Sutchliffe – The Passage of Time*, which was published by Dalhousie

Architectural Press, Canada.

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

In October 2014, **Sam Cole**, professor, was a keynote speaker at the International Executive Forum on "Leading Sustainable Tourism in Latina America and the Caribbean." The forum was hosted by AMISTAD (The Aruba Management Institute for Sustainable Tourism and Development) a new research center of the University of Aruba. The forum was introduced by the Prime Minister Mike Eman who confirmed that the 2004 Tourism Plan of Sam and Victoria Razak had become a "bible" for the Island. In his talk, "Sustainability, Innovation, and Competitiveness in Caribbean Destinations," Cole explained that in the present global milieu the challenge for "innovation policy" in small island destinations is to sustain competitiveness, by guiding and coordinating efforts to address the complex challenges of positioning, congestion, and volatility.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Anthropology

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, associate professor, will be conducting ethnographic research with Mapuche in Southern Chile in June 2015 who will comment on her new book "Thunder Shaman: Making History with Spirits in Chile and Patagonia." This project was funded by the UB Gender Institute Research Fund. In July 2015 Bacigalupo will be conducting collaborative ethnographic research on the cultural meanings of medicinal plants and their use by healers and primary health care practitioners in Trujillo, Northern Peru. This project was funded a UB Faculty Internationalization Fund grant.

Jaume Franquesa, assistant professor, delivered an invited talk at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada on January 13, 2015, with the title "Dignity and Power: Energy transitions and environmental struggles in rural Spain."

Department of Art

Harvey Breverman, SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus, received a major award at the "International Exhibition for Kosciuszko Exlibris Prints," at the National Museum of Wroclaw, Poland, September through December, 2014. Kosciuszko-related imagery is coupled with Breverman's depiction of renowned, late Buffalo artist Walter Prochownik and, in the second print, Visiting UB Professor Felix Szysko. This distinguished artist's 1998 stint at UB was funded by the Kosciuszko Foundation through the efforts of Peter Gessner, late professor of Pharmacology at UB. Additional exhibits of Breverman's work include "34th Print Internacional de Cadaqués," in Spain, June 28- September 30, 2014; "X International Graphic Exhibition for Exlibris," Miejska Bibliotek Publiczna, in Gliwice, Poland, in October 2014; "3rd Guangzhou Int'l Exlibris Print Biennial," Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, China, November 2014; and "4th Bangkok International Print and Drawing Triennale," in Thailand, December 2014-February 2015. Breverman's large, mixed-media drawing "Peten Codex—Carlos Fuentes," links the late Mexican writer/diplomat (drawn from life) with an idiosyncratic amalgam of Peten's archaeological site's codices and inscriptions.

Arts Management Program

Katja Praznik, assistant professor, gave a talk titled, "Artists as Workers: Autonomy, Precarity and the Politics of Unpaid Labor" for the Practices and Artistic Intervention Speaker Series organized by Zurich University of the Arts in Switzerland on September 22, 2014; and presented a paper "(Neo)liberalization of Cultural Policies for Artistic Labor: The Continuity of Market Measures from Socialism to the Post Socialist Era" on the 8th International Conference on Cultural Policy Research at University of Hildesheim, Germany on September 10, 2014. She also published internationally: her contribution "Ideological Subversion vs. Cultural Policy of Late Socialism: The Case of the Scipion Nasice Sisters Theatre (SNST)" is featured in the book *NSK from Kapital*

to *Capital Neue Slowenische Kunst – The Event of the Final Decade of Yugoslavia*, published to accompany an eponymous exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art in Ljubljana, Slovenia from May to August 2015. The book features the work of the Neue Slowenische Kunst (NSK) art collective throughout the decade of the 1980s. Expanding and deepening the scholarship of art and culture of the time, the editors commissioned several new articles, which contextualize the primary documents and texts by early critics and commentators. The book will be distributed internationally by MIT Press. Earlier in May 2014, Praznik organized a Study Abroad program “Mainstreaming Emigrants or Tourists? Towards a new relationship between cultural and integration policies” in Vienna, Austria in partnership with the Vienna based cultural-policy research institute EDUCULT.

Department of Biological Sciences

Michael C. Yu, associate professor and director of graduate studies, received a Fulbright Senior Scholar award to study the role of protein arginine methylation in the control of pre-mRNA splicing at the Institute of Molecular Biology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan. The duration of the project was from July to Dec. 2014. While in Taiwan, he orally presented his current research at the 2014 Taiwan Yeast Meeting held in Academia Sinica, an event attended by faculty and students in Taiwan. He also presented his current research as a part of the seminar series at the Institute of Molecular Biology, as well as giving a workshop for Fulbright Taiwan at which he shared his thoughts on applying to graduate schools in the United States to a group of Fulbright Taiwan award finalists.

Department of Classics

In mid-November 2014, **Stephen L. Dyson**, Park Professor and UB Distinguished Professor, was invited by the British School in Rome, Italy to attend a workshop in Rome to launch an interdisciplinary study of the late 19th-early 20th-century collector and antiquities dealer John Marshall. Marshall and his long term partner E. P. Warren were leading antiquities dealers in Rome as the time when the market was at its height. Their main customers were in America, both museums and private collectors. Marshall and Warren were also pioneers in their openly gay life style, and have become a subject of considerable interest in the part of scholars working in Gay History. The British School in Rome has acquired Marshall's extensive photographic archives including images of items he sold on the market. His papers, along with those of Warren are mainly in Oxford. The British School plans to use both archives to produce a comprehensive study, not only of Marshall, but also of the antiquities market at the turn of the century. The workshop involved scholars from the United States, the UK, Italy, Greece, and Scandinavia. Dyson's assignment is to produce the general introductory essay, placing Marshall in the wider context of collection and archaeological studies during his lifetime.

Roger Woodard, Andrew V. Raymond Professor of the Classics and chair, was invited to visit universities in the Czech Republic in November 2015. At the Masaryk University in Brno he presented lectures on the psychology of the warrior overwhelmed by combat, as portrayed by Homer in the Iliad, and on early Greek language concepts and their evolution from more primitive notions of the proper use of language in religious ritual. At the Silesian University of Opava he took part in a conference on phonological developments in the early Indo-European languages, presenting his research on palatalization of consonants in Mycenaean Greek and its significance for identifying Mycenaean precursors to Homeric notions of the xenos ('guest-friend') and the ethos of personal warrior alliance.

Department of Comparative Literature

Rodolphe Gasché, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Eugenio Donato Chair, gave a weeklong seminar at the Collegium Phenomenologicum in Citta di Castello, Italy on “Derrida on Force, Violence, and Power.” He gave the following invited lectures abroad: “The Wind of Thought: On Hannah Arendt's Theory of Judgment” at the Goethe Universität at Frankfurt/ Main, Germany; “En a-t-on

fini avec le jugement ?,” at an international conference on “Héritages et Survivances de Jacques Derrida” at the Maison des Sciences Humaines in Paris (France). He delivered three keynote addresses, one on “The Force of Deconstruction” at the inaugural meeting of the “Association for Deconstruction” at the Waseda University of Tokyo, Japan; another on “The Wind of Thought” at the University of Tokyo; and a third at the University of Niigata (Japan) on “Watching Over What Is Still To Come.” Gasché's book *Europe as an Infinite Task*, was published in an Italian translation under the title *Europa, il compito infinito. Studio di un cocetto filosofico*, trans. R. Frauenfelder & F. Vitale, Roma: Lithos Editrice, 2014. Two of his essays were published as books chapters: “The Eve of Philosophy. On ‘Tropic’ Movements and Syntactic Resistance in Derrida's White Mythology,” in *International Yearbook for Hermeneutics*, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2014, Vol. 13, pp. 1-21; and “A véspera da Filosofia – dos movimentos ‘tropic’ e resistência sintática em A mitologia branca, de Derrida,” trans. Lucas Lyra, in *Pensamento intruso: Jean-Luc Nancy & Jacques Derrida*, ed. P. Eyben: Vinhedo, Brazil; Editora Horizonte, 2014, pp. 91-106. He also published the following articles in foreign journals: “The Exercise of Deconstruction,” in *The Oxford Literary Review*, 36.2 (2014), pp. 209-211; “Force de déconstruction,” in *Rue Descartes*, 2014/3, n.82, pp. 61-64; and, “Datsukouchiku no Chikara,” trans. K. Shimizu, *Gendai Shiso* (Special issue on Derrida's Legacy After a Decade), vol. 43-2 (February 2015), Tokyo: Seidosha, pp. 59-75. In 2014 he became a member of the Scientific Committee of the book series *Macula: Phenomenology-Hermeneutics-Deconstruction*, Milano: Editions Mimesis. As a member of the International Advisory Board of the Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung in Berlin, Germany, he attended in May 2014 a meeting of the board in Berlin, and over the summer served as a member of the international search committee for the appointment of Full Professor at the Humboldt University Berlin and for a new Director at the Zentrum of Literaturwissenschaft in Berlin.

Department of Economics

Isaac Ehrlich, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chair, has been appointed by the National Academy of Sciences to its Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration. The panel will examine—among many other relevant issues—the implications of immigration on long-term economic growth, as well as the role of human capital in strengthening productivity, fostering structural change and encouraging economic growth and development. The panel is comprised of top economists, demographers and fiscal experts from leading academic and research institutions in the U.S. The goal of the project is to lay the basis for a more informed and fact-based discussion of the issues surrounding current immigration into the U.S. among a wide range of audiences from policymakers to the general public.

Department of English

Walter Hakala, assistant professor, was recently awarded seed money from the UB Office of the Vice President for Research & Economic Development and Humanities Institute to support the transcription of approximately sixteen nineteenth-century lithograph nisabs, or multilingual vocabularies in verse, written in Arabic, Hindi-Urdu, and Persian. He spoke about these works at a symposium on Persian Manuscripts held at the British Library in October 2014. An essay on a Hindi-Persian medical vocabulary prepared by the physician to the first Mughal emperor, Babur, “On Equal Terms: The Equivocal Origins of an Early Mughal Indo-Persian Vocabulary,” has been published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (Third Series) (vol. 25, no. 2). Another, “The Authorial Problem in the Khaliq Bari of ‘Khusrau,’” explores the debates surrounding the authorship of what may be the earliest Indo-Persian example of the genre. It appears in the *Indian Economic & Social History Review* (vol. 51, no. 4). Hakala was elected an At-Large Trustee of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies and continues to serve as the UB trustee to the American Institute of Indian Studies.

Karen MacCormack, adjunct instructor, had the following

international activities between May and December 2014: a poetry reading at CB2 Café, Cambridge, UK on May 30; a talk and poetry reading at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, Canada on October 6; Capilano Review poetry reading, The Apartment Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada on October 7; a poetry reading at Birkbeck College, University of London, UK on November 12; Nov. 26 poetry reading, The Centre for Poetry & Poetics, Theatre Workshop, University of Sheffield, UK on November 26; a poetry reading, The Other Room Series, The Castle Hotel, Manchester, UK on November 27; a poetry reading, Storm and Golden Sky Series, The Caledonia, Liverpool, UK on November 28; and a poetry reading, Double Change et Université Paris-Diderot, Amphithéâtre Buffon, Paris, France on December 4.

Irving Massey, professor emeritus, held a Visiting Fellowship at Cambridge University this past winter (2014-2015).

Steve McCaffery, professor, Poetics Program Director, David Gray Chair of Poetry and Letters, has published *Tatterdemalion: A Sketch-Book for Syntax*. London U.K.: Veer editions, 2014. An interview with McCaffery and Enzo Minarelli was translated into Portuguese and published in *As Razões da Voz. Entrevistas com Protagonistas de Poesia Sonora No Seculo XX* Brazil: Aduel Universidade Estadual de Londrina, 2014. His poem "The Monk's Tale" was published in *The Capilano Review* 3.23. [Canada] (Spring) 2014, and sections from "Carnival" were published in *Typewriter Art: A Modern Anthology*, ed. Barrie Tullett, London: Lawrence King Publishing, 2014.

McCaffery gave a host of poetry readings and talks across Canada, England, and France: May 30, poetry reading, King's College Cambridge University Cambridge, UK; June 3, talk, Bath Spa University (Corsham Court Campus), Corsham, UK; Oct. 6, talk/poetry reading, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, Canada; Oct. 7, Capilano Review poetry reading, The Apartment Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada; Nov. 12, poetry reading and book launch Birkbeck College, University of London, London, UK; Nov. 26, poetry reading, The Centre for Poetry & Poetics, Theatre Workshop, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK; Nov. 27, poetry reading, The Other Room Series, The Castle Hotel, Manchester, UK; Nov. 28, poetry reading, Storm and Golden Sky Series, The Caledonia, Liverpool, UK; Dec. 4, "Notating the Voice from Hamlet to the Ultraettristes and beyond: a contribution to the genealogy of sonopoetic notation," keynote address, "Scores poésie performance partition," International Conference, Université Paris-Diderot, Paris, France; Dec. 4, poetry reading, Double Change et Université Paris-Diderot, Amphithéâtre Buffon, Paris, France; Dec. 10/11, "Between Bataille and Olson: Projective Expenditure and the Sound Poem," Usages de la voix dans les arts poétiques Conference, École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon & Université Grenoble Stendhal 3, Lyon/Grenoble, France; Dec. 10, poetry reading, performance, École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon.

Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor, gave a paper March 12-13, 2015 in *Whitman/Dickinson: A Colloquy*, at the Université Paris-Est Créteil in Paris; this is a conference she co-organized. In April 2015, she gave a lecture at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada and served as the outside reader for a PhD candidate there.

Nnedi Okorafor, associate professor, was a presenter at the Arabic Language Symposium Writing; Teaching and Learning in Muscat, Oman 2015. She was the guest of honor at the The SpecFic Colloquium, Toronto, Canada 2015, and a speaker at the Igbo Conference, University of London, London, England in 2015.

Howard Wolf, professor emeritus, will have a collection of his one-act plays: *Home at the End of the Day* (Three Related One-Act American Plays) published in the late fall 2014, by Prestige Books International (New Delhi). Another Indian journal—*Literary Miscellany*—will publish a memoir, "Portrait of a Fallen Star," that will serve as the Preface to the three plays. *Commonwealth Review* (New Delhi) will publish an essay: "Henry James Use of Gardens in the Gilded Age"; a one-act play of his, "Exiles by Starlight at the Ritz Tropicque," will be published in *Literary*

Miscellany: An International Journal of Literary Studies (India).

Department of Geography

Marion Werner, assistant professor, was one of five featured speakers at the week-long bi-annual Summer Institute in Economic Geography in Frankfurt, Germany in July 2014. Werner presented her work on export restructuring in the Caribbean in the garment and agro-food sectors.

Department of History

Andreas Daum, professor, received a 2014-15 research fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to work on his project on "Alexander von Humboldt and the Emergence of the Global World." He also published an article, analyzing recent international scholarship, on "Kennedy and Berlin" in *A Companion to John F. Kennedy*, edited by Marc J. Selverstone (Wiley Blackwell, 2014).

Department of Linguistics

Matthew Dryer, professor, was a guest researcher from December 14, 2014 to January 22, 2015 at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, where he also gave two talks. Dryer will be an invited speaker on March 4, 2015 at the annual meeting of the German Linguistics Society in Leipzig, Germany.

Department of Mathematics

Gino Biondini, professor and adjunct professor of physics, co-organized a workshop on "Dispersive hydrodynamics: The mathematics and applications of dispersive shock waves", held at the Banff International Research Station in Alberta, Canada on May 18-22, 2015. He also organized a symposium on "New perspectives on the inverse scattering transform" as part of the conference on "Nonlinear evolution equations and dynamical systems," held in Sardinia, Italy, on May 24-31, 2015, and he co-organized the workshop "Nonlinear waves in Malta," to be held in La Valletta, Malta, on June 18-22, 2015.

Department of Media Study

Tony Conrad, professor, had an exhibition of his work, "Two Degrees of Separation," at the Vienna Kunsthalle in Austria from December 2014 to March 2015. The work includes installations and video and focuses on notions of power and transparency.

In January 2015 **Mark Shepard**, associate professor of architecture and media study, gave the Keynote talk @ Connecting Cities Prototyping Lab at Supermarket, Berlin as part of transmediale and took part in a Panel Presentation and Discussion @ Haus der Kultur der Welt, Berlin as part of transmediale. In February 2015 he took part in a Panel Presentation and Discussion, the Bias of Big Data, After Empirical Urbanism symposium, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto.

Shepard will premiere "False Positive" as part of the Connecting Cities exhibition in Fall 2015. "False Positive" comments on data gathering technologies by generating speculative, statistically possible but disturbing, data-portraits of people. Connecting Cities Network is an EU-funded project initiated by Public Art Lab (Berlin) in cooperation with Ars Electronica Futurelab Linz, BIS (Body Process Arts Association) Istanbul, FACT Liverpool, iMAL Brussels, m-cult Helsinki, Medialab Prado Madrid, Media Architecture Institute Vienna, Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb, Riga 2014 and Videospread Marseille. FALSE POSITIVE was initially funded by the Techne Institute for Arts and Emerging Technologies at UB.

Department of Music

Harold Rosenbaum, professor, led a choir tour to Costa Rica last June, and is currently working with the Costa Rican government and Encore Tours to establish an annual music festival there.

Department of Philosophy

Barry Smith, SUNY Distinguished Professor, recently delivered

tutorials at the International Conference in Biomedical Ontology (Montreal), the European Conference on Computational Biology (Basel) and the Formal Ontology in Information Systems Conference in Rio de Janeiro. He gave invited talks at the School of Advanced Studies (Rijeka, Croatia), the University of Durham (England), the University of Trento (Italy), Saarland University (Saarbrücken, Germany), and the University of Cagliari, Sardinia (Italy). He gave keynote addresses at the Rostock Symposium on Systems Biology and Bioinformatics in Aging Research (on the Ontology of Aging and Death) at the Opening Seminar of the Humanomics Research Centre in Copenhagen (on The Philosophome), and at the Inaugural Conference of the World Interdisciplinary Network for Institutional Research (WINIR) in the Old Royal Naval College, (Greenwich, London). He also gave invited talks to the Philosophy of Medicine Seminar Series, King's College, London, the conference on The Consequences of Realism (Rome, Italy) and to the conference on The Ends of Life: Deepening Reflections on Bioethical Issues, organized by the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Tel Aviv University (Israel).

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

Elizabeth Scarlett, professor, presented the paper "Clara Sánchez y la ficción feminista del siglo XXI," at the 24th Annual Conference of the International Association of Hispanic Feminine Literature and Culture (AILCFH) and Bicentennial of Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda, Instituto de Literatura y Lingüística, Havana, Cuba, on 10 November 2014.

Department of Sociology

In August 2014 **Sampson Lee Blair**, associate professor, presented a research paper, "Racial/Ethnic Variations in Adolescent Aspirations: The Relative Influence of Parental Involvement" at the 2014 International Sociological Association World Congress in Yokohama, Japan. His co-author for this paper was Patricia Neff Claster, from Edinboro University, an alumna of UB. Their study utilized a national sample of high school students from the U.S., and examined the various manners by which parental characteristics affect the development of both occupational and educational aspirations among adolescents. In summer 2015, Blair will be a visiting professor at East China Normal University, in Shanghai, China. While there, he will be teaching sociology courses to Chinese students, and will also be conducting a survey project on dating and mate selection among young adults in China.

Department of Theatre and Dance

Sarah Bay-Cheng, professor of theatre, has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to spend the fall 2015 term at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. As part of her Senior Professorship in American Studies (Theatre), Bay-Cheng will lead a graduate seminar in the department of Media and Culture Studies at the university and continue her research on digital history and experimental performance. This award continues an on-going affiliation with Utrecht University, where she currently serves as a member of doctoral committees and a collaborator on multiple research projects. In April 2015, Bay-Cheng presented her work on digital history as part of the International Society for Intermediality Studies conference also at Utrecht University. Elsewhere, she continues as a member of the board of directors for Performance Studies International and participated in one of a series of linked global conferences ("Fluid States") in Copenhagen, Denmark (June 2015).

Department of Transnational Studies

Cecil Foster, professor and interim chair, was named a jury member for the 2015 Scotiabank Giller Prize, one of the most prestigious literary prizes in Canada (see p. 14). Foster is the author of 12 books including five critically acclaimed novels. Foster's latest book, *Independence*, was published in 2014.

Toni Pressley-Sanon, assistant professor, delivered the keynote address, "Raoul Peck's Cinema from Below" in September 2014 at the annual Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival hosted by the University of

West Indies in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Myron A. Thompson III, associate provost and executive director, received the 2015 Award for Distinguished Service from NAGAP, the Association for Graduate Enrollment Management, at the organization's annual conference in New Orleans in April 2015. This is NAGAP's highest award and recognizes Thompson's longstanding service to the organization. Thompson has been a frequent presenter at NAGAP conferences, often addressing issues around the recruitment and admission of international graduate students. In spring 2015 semester he represented UB in graduate recruitment events in China, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Taiwan.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

English Language Institute

Kathleen L. Curtis, associate director, received the 2015 Dean's Apple Award for her longstanding service and many contributions to the Graduate School of Education. The award was presented by Dean Jaek Lee during the GSE Awards Luncheon on May 6, 2015.

Colleen Maloney-Berman, Program Director of the Intensive English Program, was recently appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Buffalo, a longtime partner of the English Language Institute.

Kirsten Reitan and **Aimee McCrady**, adjunct instructors, co-presented at the 2015 TESOL Convention in March 2015 in Toronto, Canada; their session was titled, "Problem-solving Using Action Research for Francophone African Teacher Trainers."

Department of Learning and Instruction

Sarah A. Robert, assistant professor, will be the editor for a Special Issue of the UK-based, Taylor and Francis-published journal, *Gender and Education*. The topic is Neoliberalism and Education Work. Her co-editors were formerly mentees who both defended in December, one is former ELP doctoral candidate, Ana Luisa Muñoz García, a Fulbright-BIOS Scholar from Chile. The other is Heidi Pitzer (a former Syracuse University doctoral candidate). The new book by **Margaret Sallee**, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, will be reviewed in the Special Issue too. Publication is set for 2016. The special issue explores intersections of gender and education work in a global neoliberal reform context. The aim is to elaborate on what Seddon, Ozga, & Levin (2013) refer to as "boundary work" that education workers perform. They called for an acknowledgement of the ways those who labor to educate "encounter and renegotiate ideas and practices that travel globally" (p. 4). Such boundary work has implications for national educational projects, as well as professional projects. The editors assert such boundary work has significance to feminist projects as well. Contributions examine how gendered and neoliberal logics intertwine to shape the boundary work of educators (K-12, higher education, and informal settings). Contributions also highlight the ways in which educators negotiate these two forces in and through their work.

Department of Library and Information Studies

Dagobert Soergel, professor, presented an invited plenary paper titled "Knowledge Organization for Learning" at the Thirteenth International Society for Knowledge Organization Conference in Krakow, Poland, May 19-22, 2014. He also presented a submitted paper with co-authors, titled "Mapping between ARTstor Terms and the Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus." From August 5-16, 2014 Soergel visited the Escola de Ciência da Informação, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, where he taught an intensive course titled "Semantic Web, Ontologies, and Linked Data" and conducted a seminar on "User-oriented Development of Knowledge Organization Systems." From September 15-23, Dr. Soergel visited the Department of Information Management at Peking University and presented a talk on "Ontology Mapping: A Concept Hub for Storing Mapping Data and Linguistic Methods for

producing Mappings.” On September 20-21, he presented an invited paper at the 2014 National Doctoral Symposium on Library Science in Suzhou, China, titled “Knowledge Organization for Learning: Conjectures and Methods of Study.” From October 28-November 2, Soergel introduced a one-day seminar of Brazilian Information Science Research groups with a lecture titled “The Landscape of Information Science Research: Research Questions and Methods” at the Brazilian Information Science Conference.

From 2013-15, the department hosted three visiting scholars from China, including **Shuqing Li**, from Nanjing University of Finance & Economics; **Xiaoying Huang**, Department of Information Management, School of Tian Mu, Zhejiang A & F University; and **Bo Yang**, School of Information Science & Technology, Nanjing Agricultural University. These visitors collaborated with several faculty members in the department during their stays in Buffalo.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

Paschalis Alexandridis, UB Distinguished Professor and director of Graduate Studies, was an invited speaker at the 10th Hellenic Polymer Society Conference, held in Patras, Greece, in December 2014, where he presented on the topic of “Amphiphilic Polymers in Solvents: Nanostructure Evolution Kinetics.” Alexandridis also gave seminars on “Self-Assembled Block Copolymers: Structure Enables Function” at the University of Athens Department of Chemistry, and on “Nanostructured Polymers: Opportunities in Health, Environment, and Energy Applications” at the Environmental Engineering Department of the Technical University of Crete in Chania.

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Shambhu Upadhyaya, professor, presented two papers at the 6th International Conference on Secure Knowledge Management in the Big Data Era, Dubai, UAE in December 2014. His paper coauthored with graduate student Ruchika Mehresh, entitled “A Framework for Surviving Advanced Persistent Threats in a Distributed Environment” received the best paper award for the conference. Upadhyaya also visited Qatar University’s cyber security lab at Doha, Qatar and gave a talk entitled “Cybersecurity at UB” to the faculty and students working in the area of cybersecurity.

Jaroslaw Zola, assistant professor, was a member of a working group that identified challenges, risks and rewards summarized in a recently published report on big data in the life sciences. The report, “National and Transnational Security Implications of Big Data in the Life Sciences,” is the result of a yearlong study organized jointly by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the FBI and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute. The group aimed to identify the current state of “big data” and analytics, the benefits and risks of big data in the life sciences to national security, and solutions for addressing exploitation of system vulnerabilities or intentional use for harmful or criminal purposes. The report is geared toward policy makers. The working group included experts in computer science, data science, life sciences, biological security, data security, cyber security, law enforcement and homeland security from U.S. government agencies, intergovernmental organizations, academia, private industry and the amateur science community. Zola’s research focuses on development of novel parallel, high-performance and scalable algorithms and techniques to address challenges in data-driven science and engineering. In particular, he is interested in applications in computational biology and life sciences. In addition to serving on the joint big data working group, Zola is a founding co-chair of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Workshop on Big Data in Life Sciences.

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Deborah L. Chung, Niagara Mohawk Professor, gave a lecture on “The needs and trends of materials research” in Institute of Laser Engineering, Beijing University of Technology, Beijing, China, on Dec. 25, 2014. She gave a lecture on “Dielectric and conduction behavior

of electrochemical electrodes containing carbon” in Liaoning Key Lab for Energy Materials & Chemical Engineering, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China, on Dec. 29, 2014. Yasuhiro Yamada (formerly Yasuhiro Aoyagi), who received his Ph.D. degree under the supervision of Deborah Chung and is currently on the faculty of Chiba University, Japan, received in December 2014 an award from the Japanese Carbon Society for his fundamental research on the defective structure of carbon materials in relation to catalysis. Chung became the Editor-in-Chief of the Composite Materials section of SpringerMaterials, starting on Jan. 1, 2015.

Tarunaj Singh, professor, served as the external examiner for a Ph.D. defense of Katrin Lunze at RWTH Aachen, Germany. Katrin Lunze defended her dissertation entitled “Blood Glucose control in diabetic Gottingen minipigs” on the 30th of October, 2014.

SCHOOL OF LAW

David M. Engel, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, was the co-organizer of an international conference, “Injury As Cultural Practice,” featuring interdisciplinary scholars from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America, who gathered at Loyola University Law School in Los Angeles to discuss cultural interpretations and practices concerning injuries (September 5-6, 2014). Publication of the papers in an edited volume is now underway. Engel was also the co-organizer and wrap-up speaker at the international conference, “Researching State and Personhood: Law and Society in Southeast Asia,” National University of Singapore (NUS), Centre for Asian Legal Studies (December 15-16, 2014). The conference was designed to create a network of interdisciplinary scholars throughout the Southeast Asia region. This project will continue into the foreseeable future under the sponsorship of NUS. Engel delivered the keynote address, entitled “Socio-Legal Research in Mainland Southeast Asia,” at an international conference, “Searching for the Real Law in Society,” sponsored by Chiang Mai University School of Law in Thailand (January 11, 2015). He is continuing service as an Editor-in-Chief of the new *Asian Journal of Law and Society* (Cambridge University Press), with executive offices at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.

James A. Gardner, interim dean and Bridget and Thomas Black SUNY Distinguished Professor of Law, was selected as Federalism Scholar in Residence by the European Academy’s Institute for Studies in Federalism and Regionalism. His scholar-in-residence appointment—for which he was selected after a competitive process—entailed spending a week at the Academy in early February 2015 in Bolzano. Gardner presented a paper on federalism, addressing an audience of scholars and government officials. While there, he continued field research on a comparative federalism project, funded by the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, on the subject of “intergovernmental contestation.” During January 2015, Gardner also traveled on the grant to Switzerland and Austria, interviewing scholars and government officials in Fribourg, Bern, and Innsbruck. Planned for the summer of 2015 are field research trips to Germany, Belgium, and Argentina. The project is expected to issue in a book-length treatment of how subnational units in federal states exert influence on national policy-making.

Stuart Lazar, professor and specialist in tax law, introduced a short winter session course taught in Paris, France in January 2015 to explore readings, lectures, and visits to discuss corporate law and other legal issues with government officials and practitioners. In addition, students visited Brussels and Luxembourg. The Paris course built on a joint Franco-American Comparative Tax Law Seminar that brought 17 French law students to SUNY Buffalo Law School in spring 2014 to study, with their American counterparts, issues in tax law.

Meredith Kolsky Lewis, associate professor and director of the Law School’s Cross-Border Legal Studies Center, taught International Economic Law to SUNY Buffalo Law students in Wellington, New Zealand, at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School. The

course covered trade, investment, business and intellectual property issues, as well as points of difference between the New Zealand and U.S. legal systems. Students attended lectures and met with government officials, industry representatives and lawyers in private practice, as well as members of the local Maori and Pacific Islander communities. This comparative law course took advantage of the fact that New Zealand does not have a written constitution; has a system of parliamentary sovereignty; and has a very different tort law regime from the United States, as well as a unique approach to intellectual property.

Lynn Mather, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, participated in two international conferences in July 2014. At the biennial meeting on Comparative Studies of the Legal Profession, held in Frauenchiemsee, Germany, she presented a paper "A New Look at Lawyers' Ethics in the U.S." and also chaired a session on "Ethics, Deontology: Work Climate." A few days later, she participated in the International Legal Ethics Conference ("ILECS") VI at City University Law School London and presented a paper on "Litigation Ethics." Following the London meeting, she was invited to join the organizing committee for the 2016 International Legal Ethics Conference, which will be held in New York City with SUNY Buffalo Law School as one of the co-sponsors. She is continuing to work with **Stephen Halpern**, professor of political science, and **Joseph Schneider**, director of post-professional and international education at the Law School, to plan the next visit of Latin American judges to UB—tentatively, June 1-5, 2015—after another successful visit with them here in September 2014.

Jessica Owley, associate professor, spoke about private land conservation and water issues at the IUCN's (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) World Park Congress in Sydney, Australia in November 2014. At the end of November 2014, she was appointed to the World Commission on Environmental Law. She also published an essay evaluating the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that was published in the *Environmental Law Reporter* and she is working on a book chapter in a collection suggestion ways to improve international efforts to adapt and mitigate to climate change.

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Department of Management Science and Systems

Raghav Rao, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, gave a talk and discussed research at the Indian Institute of Management in Udaipur during a visit there January 19- 21 2015, at the invitation of their dean.

Department of Operations Management and Strategy

John M. Thomas, professor and director of the HSBC Center for Global Business Leadership, was awarded the 2014 Alumni Achievement Award for Alumni Engagement by the School of Management at its annual alumni awards banquet on October 28, 2014. In part, Thomas was recognized for his longstanding contributions to international management education and outreach to international alumni in his role as associate dean for international programs (1988-1997) and later as dean (2002-2008). Having served as a faculty member in the pioneering Dalian MBA Program in China, Thomas went on to establish the Executive MBA programs at the Singapore Institute of Management and Renmin University in Beijing, China. He was also instrumental in developing externally funded management education programs in Latvia and Hungary. Every year Thomas leads a group of MBA students on a study tour of China and Hong Kong.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Biochemistry

Mulchand S. Patel, SUNY Distinguished Professor, participated in three events in Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at the M. S. University of Baroda, India: (i) participated in the Department of Biochemistry Alumni meeting/reflections on December 28, 2014, (ii) presented an invited talk on 'Evolution and regulation of the human pyruvate

dehydrogenase complex' in a National Symposium on "Emerging Trends in Biochemical Sciences", December 29-30, 2014, and (iii) presented a talk on 'Cellular mal-programming during development for obesity and diabetes' in a Satellite Meeting on "Advances in Stem Cell Research", December 31, 2014. Additionally, he stayed for 5 days on the campus to interact with students and faculty members to discuss on-going research projects and also to deliver 4 lectures on regulation of metabolism to students in the Department of Biochemistry. UB has an on-going exchange program with the M. S. University of Baroda. Patel was an invited speaker at the H3C Health Sciences Innovation Conference, hosted by The Ohio State University and The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Mumbai, January 15-17, 2015. The title of his presentation was "Nutrition: Past, Present and Future". He also served as a co-chair of a session in the conference.

Department of Ophthalmology

Steven J. Fliesler, UB Distinguished Professor and Meyer H. Riwchun Endowed Chair professor, presided over the XX1st Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Eye Research, which took place on July 20-24, 2014, in San Francisco, CA. He also co-chaired a platform session entitled, "Unfolded Protein Response in Oxidative Stress and Retinal Degenerations" at that meeting. In June 2015, he served as an external examiner on a doctoral thesis defense committee at the University of Oslo, Norway.

Department of Pediatrics

In November 2014, **Lorna Fitzpatrick**, associate professor and director of pediatric residency; **Candice Barra**, chief resident; and **Karishma Kalwani**, 3rd-year resident, traveled to Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) in Georgetown, Guyana as part of an ongoing collaboration with that hospital and its residents. During their visit, they rounded with the pediatric residents every morning on the inpatient floor and in the intensive care unit, followed up with previously diagnosed cancer patients in clinic, and gave daily lectures to the residents. The collaboration began in 2013 when Narendra Singh, founder of both the charity organization Guyana Help the Kids and the pediatric residency program at GPHC, recognized the lack of oncologic services available at the hospital and reached out to Fitzpatrick. Now the primary hematologist/oncologist, Fitzpatrick is continuously reviewing cases of children with new cancer and hematologic diagnoses, directing their management and chemotherapy treatment, and following up with patients in remission during her visits to Guyana. Patients whom she first diagnosed with leukemia on her first visit in 2013 are thriving and are in their final months of treatment. Fitzpatrick, along with Barra and Kalwani, are working on a proposal for residents to return to Guyana during a Global Health Elective to teach/collaborate with the residents there. Additionally, one of the senior residents from the Guyana pediatrics program, **Sherelyn Nelson**, spent a month in Buffalo in summer 2014 while she shadowed various hematologists and oncologists at Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo.

Lucy Holmes, clinical associate professor, and **Amanda Persuad**, clinical assistant professor, traveled to Fontaine Haiti where they, along with medical and pharmacy students and residents, ran a mobile clinic which served a secondary school in a village in Haiti's Grand Plateau. The 7-day trip took place December 2014–January 2015. They provided care to people, many of whom have never been seen by a physician.

Vasanth Kumar, clinical associate professor, delivered two invited presentations at the National Neonatology Forum (Mumbai, India) on September 20 and 21, 2014. The titles were "Current Concepts in the Management of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia" and "Emerging Trends in the Prevention and Management of ROP."

Georgirene Vladutiu, professor, participated an international consensus panel in 2014 sponsored by the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS) to develop a consensus document on statin intolerance

entitled, "Statin-Associated Muscle Symptoms: Impact on Statin Therapy. European Atherosclerosis Society Consensus Panel Statement on Assessment, Aetiology and Management." The objectives of the 25-member panel of experts, representing 12 countries, was to critically evaluate the current evidence base relating to statin-induced adverse events, in order to fully characterize the true prevalence of statin intolerance. A structured and critical analysis of published evidence relating to statin-induced adverse effects was evaluated by the panel over the course of 6 months during 3 meetings in Europe for discussions with a view to defining the profile and prevalence of statin intolerance. Vladutiu's primary role was to provide published evidence for the genetic basis of severe statin-induced myopathy and to develop guidelines for genetic testing in the highest risk groups. The resultant consensus paper will be published this Spring in the European Heart Journal.

Department of Structural Biology

The Center for Biology with X-ray Lasers (BioXFEL) sponsored its second international conference in Ponce, Puerto Rico on January 13-16, 2015. There were about 155 attendees at the meeting, many from outside the United States. In addition, about 25 students from the University of Puerto Rico, along with several faculty members and university officials, also attended. The co-chairs of the meeting were **Eaton Lattman**, professor, and **Abbas Ourmazd**, professor of physics at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. BioXFEL is a Science and Technology Center funded by the National Science Foundation, which was awarded to UB and the Hauptman-Woodward Institute on behalf of a consortium of eight research institutions around the US. BioXFEL seeks to harness an X-ray laser built at Stanford University, the linac coherent light source or LCLS, to provide snapshots of unprecedented clarity depicting the building blocks of life. The motions and arrangements of these building blocks underlie all biological function. The unique characteristics of the LCLS are incredibly short and powerful x-ray pulses, only a few femtoseconds long, that can freeze molecular motions like a flash bulb. Important elements of conference program were discussions of femtosecond crystallography on nanocrystals, time-resolved imaging and spectroscopy, imaging of single particles, and instrumentation and algorithm development. The proceedings of the meeting are being compiled and published in the journal *Structural Dynamics*.

The meeting had many special sessions including a presentation to the University of Puerto Rico students, and grant writing and career development workshops for graduate students. The LCLS is the world's first x-ray laser, and has important uses in a wide variety of disciplines in addition to biology. Additional x-ray laser facilities are under construction in several countries around the world, and an upgrade for the LCLS is on the horizon.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Yu-Ping Chang, associate professor, presented a poster with a fellow researcher (H. W. Tseng) at the 17th East Asian Forum of Nursing Scholars in Manila, Philippines in February 2014. The poster was titled, "The Effect of Role-Play Simulation on Students' Communication Skills and Professional Competence in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing."

Adrian Juarez, assistant professor, along with **Davina Porock**, professor, and **Kafuli Agbemenu**, assistant professor, worked on a research project in collaboration with City of El Paso Department of Public Health, El Paso, Texas; International AIDS Empowerment, Las Cruces, New Mexico; and Proyecto Compañeros, Juarez City, Chihuahua, Mexico. The project is titled, "Trans-Latina Communication, Sexual and Peer-to-Peer Networks on the Texas Mexico Border" and runs from April 2015 to April 2016.

Davina Porock, professor and associate dean for research and scholarship, was invited to deliver the keynote address at The New Zealand Aged Care Association's (NZACA) Annual Conference in Wellington, New Zealand in October 2014. The address was entitled: "It's not just about being nice: getting to grips with how person-

centered care works." She gave a further presentation at that same conference entitled "Trial of a multi-media approach motivating staff to embrace person-centeredness."

Joann Sands, clinical assistant professor, was accompanied by 12 nursing and pre-nursing students on a trip to the Cayo District of Belize from January 10-18, 2015 as a component of the course NUR 340: Community Engagement Across Populations. The group provided medical care in the More Tomorrow and Franks Eddy villages, performing home visits and setting up temporary medical clinics to assess patients. Additionally, they educated patients on their medications, infection control and safety issues. The group also visited the archeological site Xunantunich, went cave tubing and ziplining in Belmopan, and explored Caye Caulker. This is the second year Sands has coordinated the course and taken students to Belize.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Filomena Critelli, associate professor, and **Laura Lewis**, director of field education, co-direct the new UBSSW Institute on Sustainable Global Engagement. Critelli and Lewis received a COIL Latin American Academy Grant, "Understanding Disability through the Perspective of Social Work and Law," which was a collaboration between UBSSW and the Law School of Universidad La Salle, Mexico. Critelli and Lewis also received a research grant from the International Association of Schools of Social Work to conduct a project titled, "The Experience of Transnational Migration: The Effects of Separation on Individuals and Families." Critelli received grant funding to conduct a project titled "An examination of NGO strategies and interventions to address gender-based violence in Pakistan: Impacts, successes and challenges." Critelli led a study abroad course "Globalization, Migration and Social Welfare: The Changing Mosaic of Italy" during the Winter Session 2015. Critelli and 10 students attended meetings and lectures at the University of Rome and the University of Florence and took side trips to Venice and Pisa. Lewis coordinated a winter session study abroad in 2014 titled Global Perspectives in Social Work: From the US to the Post-Soviet Republic of Moldova. In addition, Lewis taught Relationship-based Practice in partnership with Middlesex University in the UK.

Catherine Dulmus, professor and associate dean for research, and colleagues made four presentations at international conferences: Dulmus, C.N., Patterson, D., Maguin, E., Keesler, J., & Panza, D., "Use of youth restraint in psychiatric care and the employee's work-place environment," a poster presented at the International Psychiatric Conference, Warsaw, Poland; Greyber, L., Dulmus, C., & Cristalli, M. "Eye movement desensitization reprocessing, posttraumatic stress disorder, and trauma: A review of randomized controlled trials with children and adolescents," a poster presented at the 13th International Forum on Mood and Anxiety Disorders, Monte Carlo, Monaco; Dulmus, C.N., Patterson, D.A., Cristalli, M., & Maguin, E., "Mental health workers who implement best practices: Influences on morale," a poster presented at the World Psychiatric Association Conference, Vienna, Austria; and Patterson, D.A., Dulmus, C.N., Nisbet, B., & Maguin, E. Evidence based practices in mental health: A profile of possible adopters," a poster presented at the World Psychiatric Association Conference, Vienna, Austria.

Rob Keefe, associate professor, and colleagues made two presentations at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development in Melbourne, Australia: Keefe, R., Jurkowski, E., Kelley, M., & Sable, M., "Health report in the U.S. under 'Obamacare': A social work perspective on advancing prevention and health equity;" and Jurkowski, E., Keefe, R., Kelley, M., & Sable, M. "Promoting social and economic equality: responses from social work and social development interventions research." Keefe and a colleague made a presentation at the International Symposium on Evidence in Global Mental Health in Cochin, Kerala, India: Brownstein-Evans, C. & Keefe, R.H. "Global and cultural perspectives on promoting resiliency in mothers with postpartum depression."

Kate Kost, associate professor, made a presentation at the International Social Conference, Global Contest: Local Solutions in Minneapolis: Kost, K. A., Nyaronga, D., & Huber, M. B. "International collaboration: Creating interventions that are culturally relevant." Kost arranged for, accompanied and was the faculty liaison for a field placement for two advanced year MSW students at the Jipe Moyo Children's Center in Musoma, Tanzania. Kost met with faculty and staff from the Institute for Social Work in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania to discuss the development of a COIL (Collaborative Online Interactive Learning) course. Two MSW students are placed in a semester-long Vietnam Study Abroad Program providing community service and learning about language and culture. One MSW student is completing her internship in India and another is completing hers in South Korea.

Shaanta Murshid, assistant professor, attended the International Studies Association Global South Caucus in Singapore.

Larry Shulman, professor and dean emeritus, presented a workshop for social work supervisors at child welfare agencies for the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Society in Canada.

Hilary Weaver, professor and associate dean for academic affairs, made presentations at three international conferences: Weaver, H. "Equality and Difference: The Delicate Balance of Indigenous Nations within Settler Societies," Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education, and Social Development. Melbourne, Australia; Weaver, H. "Developing a culturally appropriate assessment tool: Lessons learned from the Tamil community," North American Refugee Health Conference. Rochester, NY; and Weaver, H. "Self Determination and Indigenous Peoples: When it is Promoted and Where it is Thwarted," 13th annual Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, United Nations, New York, NY. Weaver has convened the UBSSW International Interest group which includes a newcomer student support group, Social Issues: Local to Global lunchtime speaker series and contributed to both an international film festival and to UB's International Education Week.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Amanda Poppe, international student recruiter, was a presenter at the national conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in Boston in May 2015. Poppe presented at a session titled, "Applying Student Development Theory in an International Student Services Context."

Steven L. Shaw, assistant vice provost and director of international admissions, was a presenter at the national conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators

in Boston in May 2015. He presented at a session titled, "Promoting Community College Education to International Students Through EducationUSA and 2+2 Programs." In April 2015 Shaw was a presenter at the annual conference of NAGAP (National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals) in New Orleans.

Patricia Shyhalla, associate vice provost for resource management, is a recipient of the 2015 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. Shyhalla and her fellow awardees were honored during the annual awards luncheon hosted by the Professional Staff Senate on May 20, 2015. 🌐

HO HONORED

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Thompson added.

"Not only has John been a most effective advocate and recruiter of international student talent, he has consistently followed up on that success by personally mentoring, throughout his years at UB, myriad undergraduate and graduate students from a range of different countries, many of whom have gone on to extremely successful careers in locations across the globe."

Ho helped codify standards for English language proficiency for international students admitted to UB and pushed for the establishment of a testing and training program for international teaching assistants so they could be more successful in the classroom. Ho served on many university, decanal and departmental committees concerned with international student and research issues.

Among the more recent have been the International Strategy Task Group convened in 2007 to develop a strategic internationalization plan for UB, the Council's committee developing recommendations on the "significant international experience" requirement in the UB curriculum, and a current task force developing recommendations for the enhanced inclusion and engagement of international students at UB. 🌐

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JOHN HO RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL AWARD

John T. Ho, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Physics and Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, was honored May 14th with the 2015 Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB.

The award was established by the Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP) to honor UB faculty and staff who have made extensive and longstanding contributions to the international area.

During an awards luncheon hosted by the Council, Ho was recognized for his extensive contributions across many areas during his long career at UB. An international student himself when he came from Hong Kong to do his Ph.D. at the Massachusetts



Stephen Dunnett, John Ho, Mick Thompson, David Engel (Photo: Nancy J. Parisi)

Institute of Technology, Ho has been keenly interested in issues affecting international students and scholars at UB.

As Ho's nominator for the award, Myron A. Thompson III, associate provost and executive director of the Graduate School, introduced him at the award presentation.

"John has a sustained record of outstanding and extraordinarily effective service to international education throughout [the past]

four decades," Thompson said. "John's efforts have left an indelible influence on a wide range of institutional policies, procedures and activities in the international education arena that have brought distinction to UB and have greatly enhanced our pursuit of excellence,"

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John J. Wood, Editor