

UB INTERNATIONAL

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UB INTERNATIONAL

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EXPANDING UB'S PRESENCE IN INDIA

President John B. Simpson led a UB delegation to India in February 2009 to participate in the first graduation ceremony for the School of Management Master's Degree Program in Information Technology (IT) and IT-Enabled Services (MITES), conducted at the Bangalore

more than 1,000 at latest count—India has great strategic importance for our university.”

“As a result of our visits to partner universities, and many meetings and discussions with Indian colleagues, UB has greatly increased its visibility and reputation in India.



President Simpson lights the ceremonial lamp to begin the MITES commencement ceremony at Amrita University

campus of Amrita University, one of UB's major partner institutions in that country.

In addition to President and Mrs. Katherine Simpson, the delegation to India included Provost Satish and Mrs. Kamlesh Tripathi; Dean Arjang Assad of the School of Management; Professor Stephen C. Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education; Dr. Richard V. Lee, Professor of Medicine; Professor Bharat Jayaraman, Chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering; Professor Ramesh Ramaswamy, Department of Management Science and Systems; and Joseph J. Hindrawan, Assistant Vice Provost for International Education.

“The President's trip to India was exceptionally productive in terms of advancing our institutional interests and affiliations in the country,” said Professor Dunnett.

“As the country that sends the largest number of international students to UB—

In fact, UB is now recognized as one of the most actively engaged U.S. research universities currently operating in the country. Our trip has helped position UB to expand its involvement in India and open new opportunities for our students and faculty there,” Dunnett added.

In the course of five days, the delegation visited four Amrita University campuses in three southern Indian states to explore potential new areas of cooperation in research, education and outreach. The Amrita visit culminated with the signing of a comprehensive memorandum of understanding calling for increased collaboration in a number of areas, including the health sciences, the humanities, social work, and law.

At the MITES commencement ceremony in Bangalore on February 7, President Simpson conferred degrees on 54 mid-level managers, most of whom are employed by Hewlett Packard India. The students began their programs in summer 2007 and were

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INDIA

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taught by a combination of UB and Amrita faculty at a special facility on their campus created specially for the MITES program.

"We are proud to partner with Amrita University—an international leader in training the information technology, management, and engineering professionals who contribute in vital ways to global economic and technological advancement," Simpson noted.

"Our first dual-degree program with Amrita University has quickly proven to be a very successful one, as was clear from the impressive achievements of the graduates we honored at the MITES commencement. I am confident that these two newly launched programs will be equally successful, and we look forward to celebrating the achievements of the first graduates of these programs in another year from now," Simpson said.

Since the MITES students are working professionals, class instruction for the program was conducted over weekends in the state-of-the-art Indo-U.S. center at Amrita's campus in Bangalore. Professors were drawn both from the Amrita School of Business at Coimbatore and the UB School of Management.

Dean Assad noted, "In addition to content related to IT services management, students received a solid grounding in key areas such as finance and accounting. Moreover, they developed skills in leadership and strategic thinking."

During the Amrita visit, Simpson held meetings with the senior leaders of Amrita University, including Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma), a well known spiritual and humanitarian leader who is the founder and Chan-

cellor of Amrita University. The meetings also involved Professor P. Venkat Rangan, Vice-Chancellor, who has visited UB several times; and Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya, the Pro-Chancellor of Amrita, deans and other university leaders.

The delegation began their visit to India on Monday, February 2nd, with a tour of the Amrita School of Medical Sciences (AIMS) in Kochi, Kerala. This medical facility is ranked among the best teaching hospitals and clinical care centers in South India. During the visit, Professor Lee explored opportunities for UB's School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences to exchange students and faculty with AIMS.

Lee later traveled to King George's Hospital in Lucknow, India, a leading medical facility in the north, to discuss opportunities for exchange and cooperation with that institution.

The delegation also visited the Schools of Ayurveda, Biotechnology and Engineering at the Amritapuri Campus, also in Kerala. On the following day, the delegation was in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu to participate in the national symposium – "Water for All."

The keynote speaker for the symposium was Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India. Chidambaram also joined the delegation and senior Amrita faculty for a panel discussion on building world-class universities, at which President Simpson and Provost Tripathi presented UB 2020.

"In order to become world-class, a university needs to foster the culture of research," said Professor Bharat Jayaraman, Chair of the UB Dept. of Computer Science



President Simpson and the UB delegation meeting at Banaras Hindu University with BHU Vice Chancellor Singh and colleagues

and Engineering. “UB is working with Amrita to advance a number of collaborative research initiatives of mutual interest.”

The previous day the UB delegation had taken note of the research initiatives at Amrita—development of an inexpensive insulin pump, deployment of a wireless sensor network to predict landslides, tissue engineering, and stem cell research.

“It is extraordinary what Amrita has been able to accomplish in its short history. To have developed, in the space of only 15 years, a first-class research institution with the highest accreditation rating from the national accrediting agency is truly remarkable,” said Provost Tripathi.

“I know of no other institution in India with a comparable record of achievement,” Tripathi added.

Dr. Chidambaram was also impressed by the Amrita collaboration with UB, the impetus for which was Chancellor Amma’s efforts to create partnerships with leading U.S. universities through Amrita’s Indo-U.S. University Initiative. Chidambaram said that the Amrita-UB partnership could be a role model for similar alliances by other educational institutions in the country.

During the delegation’s visit to Bangalore, it was announced that UB would be partnering with Amrita on a new Master of Science Program in Embedded Systems, conducted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering in cooperation with colleagues at Amrita’s School of Engineering. In addition, it was announced that the MITES Program would be reconfigured as a Master of Science in Information Technology Services (MITS).

From Bangalore, the delegation moved north to Varanasi, a world-famous religious and cultural center and the home of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), one of India’s leading public research universities. UB and BHU signed a comprehensive agreement in August 2007 when the Vic-Chancellor of BHU visited UB, and several UB officials, including Provost Tripathi and Vice Provost Dunnett have visited BHU previously. Tripathi is a BHU alumnus.

In the day and half spent in Varanasi, the delegation was hosted by Vice-Chancellor D.P. Singh for a meeting with senior leadership of BHU to share information and explore potential cooperation.

The delegation toured the campus and visited a variety of key research and academic units of BHU, including the faculties of engineering, science, fine arts and performing arts. There was discussion of a new UB study abroad program at BHU slated for the next winter intersession.

The delegation’s next stop was Allahabad, the city at



IIT-Allahabad offers a warm welcome to the UB delegation

the juncture of two of India’s holiest rivers, the Yamuna and the Ganges. UB established an exchange agreement with IIT in 2006.

IIT—Allahabad is one of only six high profile institutes in the country dedicated to information technology, and it attracts some of the best students from throughout India. Provost Tripathi received an honorary doctorate from IIT in 2007 for his contributions to computer science.

During the visit to IIT, President Simpson was a keynote speaker at the International Symposium on Higher Education and the Global Society, which was co-moderated by Professor Dunnett. Simpson’s paper focused on issues of student access and mobility in U.S. and Indian higher education. Among the other presenters at the symposium were vice-chancellors from a number of Indian universities.

“In an era of great change, American and Indian higher education are both confronting the challenge of trying to increase access to higher education and increase mobility across borders of all kinds—not only for students but for faculty, ideas, research, and intellectual collaboration,” Simpson said in his address.

“Both our countries are large democracies with very large systems of higher education; both are committed to opening higher education opportunity to a larger segment of their populations. And I believe our two systems have much to learn from each other.”

Prior to returning to the U.S., the delegation visited the headquarters of the U.S. Educational Foundation in India (USEFI) in New Delhi, which administers the Fulbright program in India. For many years UB has attended USEFI hosted student recruitment fairs in New Delhi and other major Indian cities. 🌐

FROM THE VICE PROVOST

The current issue of *UB International* affords me the opportunity to review a challenging and productive year in international education at UB, and to pay tribute to two colleagues whom we lost this year who were leading lights in the global effort to defend and protect human rights.

Among our accomplishments I should highlight UB's continued success in growing our international enrollment, which currently stands at nearly 4,500. For the past eight years, UB has ranked first among public research universities in terms of the percentage of enrollment that is international. We are justly proud of the many contributions our international students and scholars make to our university's research, teaching and public service missions.

Our largest sending country, India, was the destination of a senior UB delegation in February 2009, led by President John Simpson and Provost Satish Tripathi. As our cover article describes, this visit marked a major expansion of UB's activities and visibility in India.

I am pleased to report that increasing numbers of our own students are electing to study abroad, with the number of undergraduates studying abroad up 6 percent over last year, and the number of graduate and professional students studying abroad up more than 16 percent. Students have more options than ever, as UB expands its partnerships abroad, and faculty develop and lead innovative programs in previously underrepresented areas.

We also continue to make progress in the implementation of our strategic plan for campus-wide internationalization. This semester the university's Council on International Studies and Programs, chaired by David Engel, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Law, has presented an interim progress report on implementation, with many measurable achievements to date, and despite challenging fiscal circumstances, UB continues to move forward on its comprehensive internationalization efforts. It is a pleasure to note how internationally engaged our faculty and staff have been this year, as the "International Activities" section of our newsletter attests.

The past few months have seen the loss of two distinguished women whose service to the cause of international human rights made them well known around the world. Their work and that of many colleagues at UB have made the university a center of research on international human rights, and our current issue reflects this focus.

Dr. Alison Des Forges, who died February 12 in the tragic crash of Continental flight 3407, was an interna-

tionally renowned expert on the genocide in Rwanda who dedicated herself to the cause of the victims and the defenseless. She died returning from one of her many overseas trips as an expert witness at the International Tribunal in the Hague (see tribute on p. 8).

I first got to know Alison through her husband—and my faculty colleague—Professor Roger Des Forges in the Department of History, who was the first UB faculty member to spend a year in China following the normalization of relations between the U.S. and China in 1979, and who served with me on the SUNY-wide committee on exchanges with China.

I met Alison while Roger and she were in China in those early days and later knew her on campus as an adjunct faculty member teaching courses on African history.

When Alison's extraordinary work at Human Rights Watch began in the early 1990s and especially following the genocide in Rwanda when she became an indispensable witness to the rights of the victims, I have followed her

remarkable career with great admiration. During my trips overseas, I have often been asked about Alison, who was well known for her work and as a citizen of Buffalo.

Virginia Leary, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Law Emerita, also passed away suddenly this spring. Her work in international human rights law was pioneering and progressive (see p. 7). I was privileged to meet Virginia Leary in my early years at UB, and she had a formative influence on my engagement with broader global issues. She was a great mentor to me and to many other young faculty members interested in international issues.

Serving on committees with Virginia, I came to know her passionate interest in internationalizing her students' experience. She was a great proponent of students' engaging in international work and service opportunities, particularly through international agencies such as UNESCO, the WHO, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Virginia herself was very involved in UN agencies and the causes of international cooperation and human rights.

Virginia was a longstanding member of our Council on International Studies and Programs and followed closely the work of the Office of International Education. As an advocate and practitioner of institutional internationalization, Virginia was way ahead of her time. 🌐

Stephen C. Dunnett is Professor of Foreign Language Education and Vice Provost for International Education



THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT SIXTY

By Claude E. Welch

December 10, 2008, marked an important anniversary: It was 60 years since the United Nations General Assembly ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and opened a new era of international history.

Why the UDHR matters, how it came into existence, what it says, and the results it produced are the focus of this article.

Why the Universal Declaration Matters

The Universal Declaration is among the most important documents of the 20th century. It has been translated into 337 different languages. It has become a touchstone for actions by governments, individuals, and nongovernmental groups. It has been ratified by every country in the world. Practically no other international instrument can claim this honor. In short, the UDHR has acquired a moral and political significance matched by few documents.

The Universal Declaration provides both a guide to present action and an evolving set of ideas for future implementation at the national level. Increasingly, the UDHR's principles have been embodied in what states do, and it serves as the foundation for the International Bill of Rights and of several other crucial human rights agreements. And, not least, the Universal Declaration has proven a remarkably flexible foundation for a continued broadening and deepening of the very concept of human rights. How many treaties can claim such honors?

The UDHR was one response to the horrendous destruction of peoples, lands, and infrastructure during the Second World War. Almost all of Europe had been shattered by conflict. Much of Asia also had been wracked by war. Vast reconstruction was necessary so people could return to "normalcy." And with the war's end, nationalist reactions against foreign rule and demands for independence suggested that the new, postwar world would not necessarily be free from conflict. In short, a new beginning was essential. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights resulted directly from this yearning for a new global set of rules.

How the Universal Declaration Came Into Being

Every country in the world had been touched directly or indirectly by World War II. Seventy million people perished. Planning for a future international organization to succeed the League of Nations started during the war. In the spring of 1945, 50 governments and hundreds of nongovernmental organizations met in San Francisco. The states hammered out the "constitution" of a new United Nations. The resulting "charter" embodied both "official" and "unofficial" ideas.

The Preamble to the United Nations Charter includes these famous words: *We the peoples of the United Nations determined ... to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, ...*

Much thought, time, and energy went into determining the United Nations' structure. Many readers will recognize and understand the respective roles and powers of the General Assembly (where all 192 U.N. members sit) and of the Security Council (10 elected and five permanent members). Far less known, however, are parts of the United Nations devoted exclusively to human rights.

The U.N. Charter called for a commission on human rights. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, chaired it. With the help of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the new Commission on Human Rights studied how different cultures, nations, and philosophers viewed human rights. These multiple perspectives deepened the commission's understanding and improved its work.

In September 1948 the commission sent its draft to the U.N. General Assembly. Lengthy debates clarified the draft language and built increasing consensus. Discussion and approval took two full years, including 81 meetings, 168 amendments to the draft text, and nearly 1,400 votes.

The climax came on December 10, 1948. The General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration without a single dissenting vote, although eight states abstained. This was a remarkable conclusion to an extraordinary process.

What the UDHR Says

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights sets forth a number of objectives, some to be achieved immediately, others as rapidly as feasible. The UDHR also provided the foundation for a series of other international agreements, both global and regional. Finally, the UDHR inspired people around the world to claim their rights, not simply accept the diktat of others.

The UDHR provides "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations." Every "individual and every organ of society" shall promote "respect for these rights and freedoms ... by progressive measures ..." The goal was "to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance."

Underlying the entire Declaration is a basic value. "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights," Article 1 states. This assertion ran in the face of centuries of practice and widespread beliefs. The Universal Declaration could not by itself reverse or transform popular attitudes. Nonetheless, it pointed in a crucial direction.

Perhaps most important, the clarity and directness of
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UNIVERSAL DECLARATION

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its language inspired millions. An increasing number of translations and conscious efforts to spread the UDHR's message popularized its principles. Men and women everywhere recognized that they enjoyed rights that no government should take away.

Drafters of the UDHR consciously drew upon several legal and philosophical traditions. Many of its 30 articles deal with civil and political rights, which protect individuals from government and from state-condoned private abuses. Others discuss freedoms common to each individual, such as the right to free expression. Still others set forth economic, social, and cultural rights, such as access to education and the right to work.

Results of the Universal Declaration

Even more significant than the Universal Declaration's inspirational language have been its results. In international law, several major treaties, ratified by more than 100 countries, trace their origins to the UDHR. They include, in chronological order:

- The International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (1965);
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (1966);
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966);
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979);
- The Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984);
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989).

When a country ratifies an international agreement, it assumes a legal obligation. Citizens of states signing on to the UDHR and its progeny thus possess rights they may not have fully enjoyed earlier because their government has acknowledged and pledged to respect those rights. Signatories to many human rights treaties must prepare and submit regular reports on their citizens' freedoms. All these reports go to U.N. specialists who study them carefully and recommend where changes are needed.

Citizens groups increasingly provide their own reports, with additional details. Thus, one of the hopes of the drafters of the Universal Declaration has been increasingly met: People have a voice in their own destiny.

Still other international agreements have stemmed from the Universal Declaration:

- Prosecution of indicted war criminals by the International Criminal Court, functioning as of 2002;
- The "responsibility to protect," as approved by the General Assembly in 2005, which places a moral obligation on countries to help states wracked by widespread disturbances or civil wars;

- An August 2006 agreement on a draft convention on the rights of the disabled;
- Adoption of a Universal Declaration of Indigenous Rights by the United Nations in September 2007;
- Reducing or eliminating the death penalty in much of Europe and elsewhere;
- Giving more attention to how transnational corporations affect human rights where they operate.

These developments required significant discussion. Nearly 20 years passed between adoption of the Universal Declaration and the "entry into force" — in other words, full acceptance into international law — of the two international covenants described above.

Twenty-five years of discussion preceded General Assembly acceptance of the Universal Declaration of Indigenous Rights. On the other hand, agreement about establishing the International Criminal Court came within four years, and the convention on children's rights in less than a year. The picture is thus mixed.

What Steps Lie Ahead?

For six decades, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has proven its durability. Yet debates remain.

Cultural distinctiveness continues to arouse discussion about universality, the "U" in UDHR. Although the Universal Declaration's principles have been reaffirmed time after time, some assert that cultures or regions differ so much that no real global standards can exist.

A second area of controversy swirls around the rights of persons belonging to ethnic groups and national minorities. As individuals, they cannot be discriminated against because of their backgrounds. However, long-term economic or political disadvantages, deeply engrained social attitudes, and the like *against the groups to which they belong* raise profound questions.

Do groups per se have rights?

Additional uncertainty exists with respect to internally displaced persons. They are individuals who cannot live in their usual homes because of conflict, but have not crossed an international border. Internally displaced persons (known as IDPs) confront horrendous, dangerous living conditions. They also exist in a legal no-man's-land. Had they left their own countries, they would have enjoyed international legal protection. Having remained at home or near home, they continue to be liable to many problems.

A fourth area of controversy centers on how best to settle large-scale civil conflicts. Should the international community intervene for humanitarian reasons? Should peace and reconciliation committees or similar groups to establish the "truth" be set up"? Should negotiations be encouraged between opposing groups by promising amnesty to those accused of war crimes? Or would justice be served better by trying to arrest and try them in the Inter-

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VIRGINIA LEARY: DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS JURIST

Virginia Leary, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emerita at the UB Law School, passed away on April 8, 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland, where she had lived since retiring from the University at Buffalo Law School in 1995.

Professor Leary was a beloved member of the Law School and the University at Buffalo, where she taught for 19 years. She was a pioneer in teaching and scholarship in human rights law, a field in which she put UB Law on the global map.

Leary was long a leader in international law and served with distinction on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law. She was a visiting professor and frequent lecturer at several universities and conferences around the world.

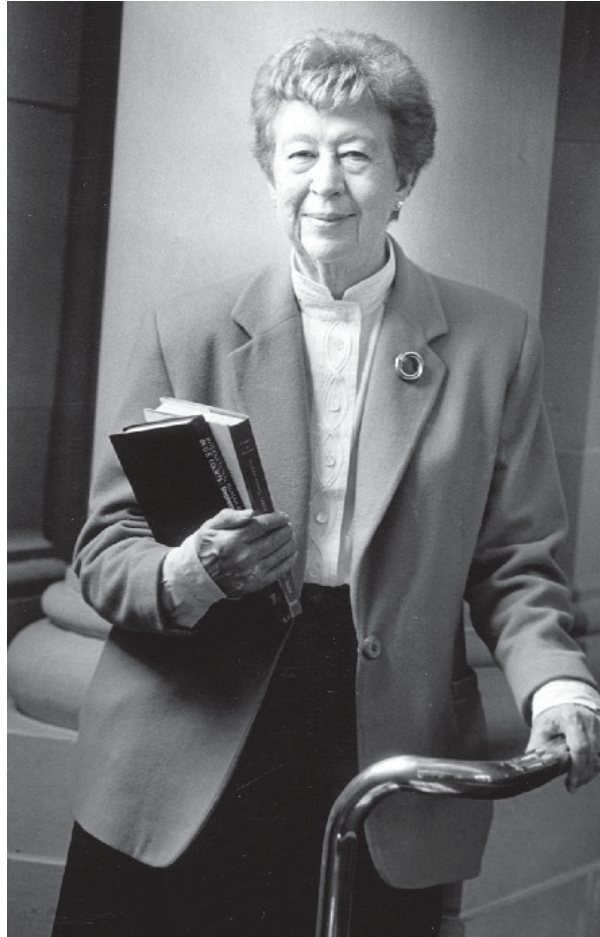
Leary, who consulted extensively for NGOs and inter-governmental organizations, including the United Nations, was one of the first women to attain universal recognition in international law. Her work as a scholar and practitioner in labor rights and economic, social and cultural rights was exemplary.

Even in retirement from UB, Leary never lost touch with the law school. She repeatedly came back to visit. She helped mentor UB Law students in human rights. Leary was the UB Law Commencement Speaker in 2004.

"For me, the loss is very personal, as I am sure it is for many of her colleagues here," said Makau Mutua, Dean of the Law School.

"When I came to UB Law in 1996 to teach international law and human rights, she offered me invaluable advice and assistance," Mutua said. "We kept in touch over the years, and her wise counsel to me was priceless. We have lost a giant in human rights and international law, but her legacy and contributions to the field and to the most vulnerable peoples on earth will live on."

A former Vice-President of the American Society of International Law, Virginia Leary earned her J.D. degree from the University of Chicago, a doctoral degree from



the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, and the diploma of the Hague Academy of International Law.

After working for an international women's organization in Geneva, the Intercultural Cooperation Association, she worked for the International Labour Organization until joining the faculty of the University at Buffalo and then the University of California-Hastings.

Having retired from full-time teaching and living in Geneva, she served on the Advisory Board of the Program for the Study of International Organizations at the University of Geneva's Graduate Institute of International Studies, where she recently directed a project on the social aspects of trade liberalization.

Virginia Leary was a founding member of the Geneva-based International Council for Human Rights Policy, whose studies and reports considered to among the most useful work produced by a human rights

organization.

She undertook human rights missions on behalf of Amnesty International, the International Commission of Jurists, and Human Rights Watch, and has been a consultant to the World Health Organization and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

She served on the Boards of several organizations, including the Centre on Housing and Evictions, Human Rights Advocates, and the International Labor Rights Forum, and previously served on the Board of Human Rights Watch Asia.

A prolific scholar, she has written books, book chapters and articles on international labor law, workers' rights, the right to health, child labor issues, and international trade and human rights. She recently co-edited the book *Social Issues, Globalization and International Institution: Labour Rights and the EU, ILO, OECD and WTO*.

Virginia Leary's contribution to human rights also included mentoring countless women and men in international human rights, both at UB Law School and around the world. 🌐

IN MEMORIAM: ALISON DES FORGES

By Shaun Irlam

February 12 will always have an important place in my life because it is my son's birthday. It is a birthday he shares with Abraham Lincoln, one of America's most revered champions of the African peoples brought here in slavery. But, on an icy night outside Buffalo this year, February 12 claimed the life of another revered champion of African peoples. That tragedy will always give this anniversary a more solemn cast hereafter.

Dr. Alison Des Forges, the Buffalo-based historian and activist who devoted her life to the pursuit of justice in the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide, was one of the 50 people who perished in the crash of Continental Flight 3407 as it prepared to land in Buffalo.

One cannot escape noticing the fact that two plane crashes have fatefully punctuated Dr. Des Forges's life: the first killed Rwanda's president in 1994 and triggered the swiftest genocide in history, but also gave voice to its "most dogged witness" as *The Economist* so aptly remarked; the second, the crash of Flight 3407, hushed that same voice, the voice of a crusader who has for 15 years passionately and tirelessly shuttled the world to fill the halls of justice in New York, Washington, London, Brussels, Paris, Kigali, Antwerp and Arusha with her testimony and defy the blood oath of Rwanda's killers to "leave none to tell the story." None labored longer to make their vow ring hollow, or to bear the torch of memory and justice into that dark cauldron of horrors.

The title of Alison's seminal and groundbreaking account of the genocide, *Leave None To Tell the Story* relies for its power on the trope of irony, an irony that manifestly mocks the ambitions of the genocide's perpetrators—to draw a cloak of silence over their unspeakable atrocities.

The events her book records will remain as a perennial reminder to Rwanda's butchers of their failure. This provocative taunt to the authors of darkness and secrecy perfectly sums up Alison's lifelong career devoted to dragging hidden horrors and atrocities into the harsh light of scrutiny.

Alison was committed to seeing justice and human rights observed in Africa and was devoted to bringing the tragic history of Rwanda home to the west, home to the USA, home to Buffalo, so that all the world might know, even if the common refrain "Never Again" rings rather hollow in a world that tolerates the slaughter in Darfur and eastern Congo.

I am writing here to express whatever comfort and condolence I possibly can to Alison's family, relatives and friends over their sudden and painful loss of Alison this year.

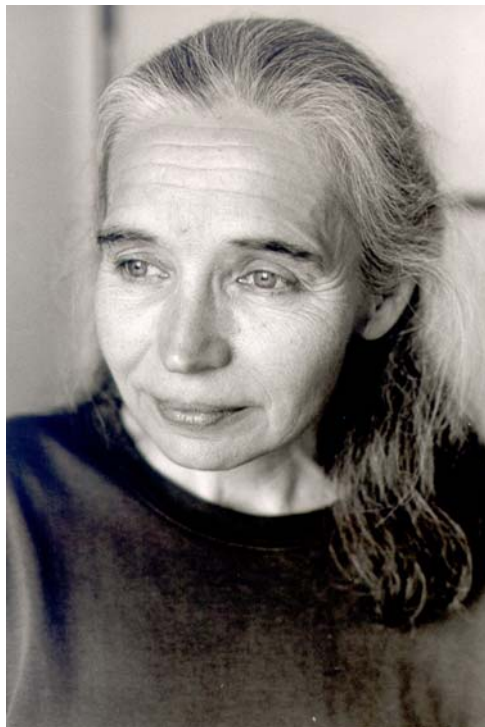
Not a day has passed since I heard the news that I haven't found myself thinking about Alison, her work, her family and her adoptive family in Rwanda and elsewhere after 1994.

By now, the sheer abundance of accolades and eulogies to Alison in the international media have confirmed what those closest to her knew all along—what a unique and remarkable human being Alison was in every way.

My own acquaintance with Alison was brief compared to many in the Buffalo and UB community who have known her for decades and shared her life more fully. We initially spoke in December 2005, on the eve of my first research trip to Rwanda; we have shared many long and intense hours of debate, discussion and analysis since then, huddled over coffee in her back parlor. And yet the brevity of our friendship seems to stand in inverse proportion to the impact she has had on my life and the sense of loss I now feel.

Words do not adequately convey how much I treasured Alison's warmth, encouragement, friendship, formidable intellect, wry humor, and unwavering integrity. I recall the many people I have met in the Great Lakes region who have also spoken of their admiration for Alison and the special place she occupies in their lives.

One of the legacies of the Rwandan genocide that Alison understood better than anyone else, and that very few still understand even today, is that the genocide in Rwanda never fully ended; instead, its toxic politics of ethnicity was exported into eastern Congo with the flight of Rwanda's desperate killers and the consequences of the genocide still continue to afflict the whole Great Lakes region of Central Africa.



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STUDYING HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN THE BALKANS

By Sarah Brancatella

Six UB Law students—Serra Aygun, Sarah Brancatella, James Farrell, Jayme Feldman, James O’Shea, and Jennifer Rizzo—began 2009 by taking an intensive study tour through an area of the world most people identify with war and conflict, the Balkans.

The trip was offered by the Law School as part of a seminar run by Professor Isabel Marcus. All students underwent a rigorous application and interview process before being admitted to the course.

With a focus on identities, nationalisms, and rule of the law, the group from UB spent an unforgettable month meeting with government officials, non-government organizations, law faculties, and individuals in Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, and Kosovo.

As part of the former Yugoslavia, all three countries are in the process of transitioning to democracy, but the specter of Milosevic’s reign and the recent wars that attempted to eradicate Bosnian Muslims still haunts the region.

While the 1995 Dayton Agreement ended Milosevic’s genocide in Bosnia, apartheid waged against Albanians in Kosovo, which resulted in 1 million displaced ethnic Albanians, was not addressed internationally until 1999.

Kosovo, a former territory of Serbia, officially declared independence February 17, 2008; however, some countries, including Serbia, have yet to recognize Kosovo’s independence.

Beginning in Bosnia, the UB Law group discussed issues of human rights, re-diversification of identities, nationalisms, and religion with different organizations, groups and individuals and talked about how the country should move forward in light of the fresh and visible scars of its recent past.

In Sarajevo, a city renowned for its beauty, practically every building bears bullet holes from being under siege for nearly 4 years and the countryside of Bosnia exemplifies the landscape of war with crumbling bombed houses standing next to others in the nascent stages of reconstruction.

Although closure and healing are intensely personal processes, the UB group saw the role science and law play in rebuilding a nation’s spirit. A visit to the International Commission for Missing Persons (ICMP) unveiled seminal legal and scientific issues as it attempts to identify the many unknown victims of the Srebrenica Massacre, the largest genocide in Europe since World War II.

Through advanced DNA matching and bone identification, the ICMP provides priceless closure to surviving family members. As visitors, the group from UB was humbled by the gravity and importance of the work be-



Law students in the Balkans program visit Prishtina, Kosovo

ing done at the ICMP as it undertakes many legal firsts necessary for Bosnia Herzegovina to move forward.

The story of the Balkans became more complicated as the next week was spent in Serbia, a country seen as an aggressor towards Bosnia and Kosovo. However, walking through the city of Belgrade offered a stark reminder that Serbia was also a victim of NATO bombings as shelled out buildings remain in the center of the otherwise cosmopolitan city.

Furthermore, conversations with officials, such as the Minister for Human Rights, and non government organizations revealed a country with an unclear future plagued with human rights abuses, like sex trafficking and oppressed minorities, and widespread corruption by officials at all levels. Nowhere were the multiple identities of Serbia more apparent than during a visit to the Special Court for War Crimes in Belgrade.

As part of the national court system charged with trying Serbian war criminals from the Bosnian war, the Special Court for War Crimes must administer rulings on Serbians that some in the government and country consider heroes.

Finally, the last leg of the trip in Pristina, Kosovo presented some of the most challenging and interesting questions about nationalism and law because of the role internationals play in the country.

In 1999 the United Nations placed Kosovo under a transitional UN administration, called the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and currently the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) oversees the establishment of a democratic government in Kosovo.

However, international efforts at national rebuilding

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UNIVERSAL DECLARATION

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national Criminal Court? How far do the obligations of the “right to protect” extend? Who should take responsibility for any coercive intervention?

Still another area of concern involves apologies and reparations for previous human rights injustices. Earlier violence against large numbers of people of other nationalities can—and does—sour relations between and among governments and their populations. Hence, this whole area is fraught with political difficulties, irrespective of its importance for human rights generally.

Truth commissions and truth and reconciliation groups provide an additional dimension, showing the evolution and growth of human rights. They investigate previous abuses. Their establishment suggests that previous “human wrongs” cannot be hidden forever.

Serious economic issues undercut how much—and indeed whether—individuals can enjoy full human rights. If human rights “begin with breakfast,” persons must have reasonable chances for employment and schooling. They must be able to break out of the trap of poverty and avoid the debilitating impact of malnutrition and endemic dis-

ease. The Universal Declaration speaks about these concerns in general terms. However, serious problems remain in light of economic inequalities within and between nations. Wasteful or corrupt practices by government officials reduce what is available for other needs.

Finally, and in many ways most significant, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights cannot be enforced by “traditional” means of coercion. The United Nations has no armed forces of its own, but must obtain parts of other states’ militaries for help. The U.N. agencies directly concerned with human rights, such as the Geneva-based Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, receive little funding.

Looking back to 1948, however, progress has been remarkable. A visionary document has become a living reality. The Universal Declaration should be celebrated for its firm foundation and flexible structure. The recent anniversary in December 2008 was a fitting occasion to recognize the permanent relevance of the UDHR. 🌐

Claude Welch is SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science. This article was originally published in e-Journal USA, November 2008: (<http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa/1108.html>)

ALISON DES FORGES

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It was for this reason that Alison continued to shine a light on the atrocities perpetrated by the Rwandan Patriotic Army, especially during their invasions of Congo in 1996 and 1998, but also by the genocidal die-hards of *Force Démocratique de Libération du Rwanda* (FDLR) and the opportunistic rebel forces of the *Rally for Congolese Democracy-Goma* (RCD-Goma), led by Laurent Nkunda.

Despite the resistance of hostile defense counsels and even the hostility of the regime currently representing the people whose cause she so selflessly championed, Alison never paused in her fight for justice and never flinched from the formidable responsibility of ensuring that the story of Rwanda get told against all odds.

She will forever remain an inspiring example to us all of just how much difference one person can make in the lives of others.

And so I want to bear witness to the memory of one who so eloquently and steadfastly and vociferously bore witness to one of the greatest tragedies of the last century. *Murakoze cyane, Alison.* 🌐

Shaun Irlam is associate professor of Comparative Literature. This summer he is conducting a UB study abroad program titled, "South Africa and Rwanda: Political History and Contemporary Culture."

STUDYING HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

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are largely stymied by the damaging aftermath of the Milosevic regime which instituted policies to completely rid all public life—education, industry, and government organization—of Albanian Kosovars, creating overwhelming poverty and an underdeveloped economy.

Additionally, issues of the right to self determination and self government linger as Kosovars attempt to navigate their countries’ future. Interviews with local and international organizations, like the American Embassy and the Operation for Security and Council in Europe, highlighted the delicate balance between actively running a country and aiding the construction of a sustainable political, social and economic infrastructure.

As part of the seminar, the students wrote a research paper on a legal topic relevant to the Balkans; however, every traveler agrees that no amount of research or books could compare to the experience of actually going to the countries, walking around the cities, eating the food and talking with the people. And although the complicated history of the region and significant challenges moving forward require more than a month to fully comprehend, every student left with a better idea of an area of the world too often misunderstood, or simply overlooked. 🌐

Sarah Brancatella is a third-year student in the UB Law School.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES NEW WORLD ORDER

By Ann Whitcher-Gentzke

The new Obama administration, along with increased European leadership on the world stage, offer “great opportunities” amid the challenges the world faces today, Pierre Vimont, French ambassador to the United States, said during a visit to UB on April 8, 2009.

Europe is more ready than in the past, he added, to “become a more true and serious partner to the U.S. in the trans-Atlantic relationship.”

Speaking before a packed audience in the Center for the Arts Drama Theatre, Vimont said he was “humbled” to be at

UB, where so many distinguished French intellectuals have held the Melodia E. Jones Chair since its endowment 80 years ago.

It also was in some sense a speech among “family,” Vimont said, alluding to the estrangement in recent years between France and the United States.

Not so long ago, giving a talk at a U.S. university on trans-Atlantic relationships could be compared to “asking Prince Dracula to chair a blood donors’ conference,” he joked.

Vimont, who spoke for about 45 minutes in impeccable English before taking questions, also poked fun at the careful and nuanced speech that is a diplomat’s stock-in-trade.

Paradoxically, Vimont said, the doubt and lack of confidence in the trans-Atlantic partnership can be traced to the heady moment in 1989 when the Berlin Wall fell and the Soviet Union began to break apart. “At the time when the Western world would have seemed to have won the war against the Communist regime, that’s precisely the moment when we started to doubt a little bit about what we had to do [in international policy],” he said.

Whether in Iraq or the Middle East, whether involving terrorist groups, issues of climate change, immigration or African poverty, “we found as each new crisis emerged that we don’t have much efficiency as we thought we had.”

Furthermore, Vimont argued, if one examines present-day realities in Afghanistan, Darfur, Zimbabwe and else-

where, “instead of the great hope that we had at the beginning of the 1990s that the trans-Atlantic partnership was definitely the winner...we find ourselves in a sort of a powerless situation that is a bit of a surprise.”

Indeed, said Vimont, these sobering realities can be partially explained by “the global world,” a term that while frequently bandied about, is often misunderstood as to its full implications for the balance of power among nations.

In fact, the very expression “global world” no

longer means one or two international leaders, but rather the full complement of leaders, including those of emerging nations. “They deserve to have their seat at some of the major international institutions and with whom we need to start a new dialogue,” he said.

Today, Vimont said, forward, efficient leadership is often called for in moments of international crisis, even if such leadership may need to veer from traditional, time-consuming diplomatic maneuvers. As an example of this time-efficient approach, he cited French President Nicolas Sarkozy’s advocacy in the Georgia crisis last year when France held the European Union presidency.

Sarkozy decided to quickly intervene, making a few phone calls to other EU leaders, but largely bypassing the usual steps before talking directly with Russian and Georgian leaders. Although a cease-fire resulted in Georgia, some European partners disagreed with Sarkozy’s approach, Vimont reported.

“But as President Sarkozy has said time and again since then, what do we want? Do we want a quick result? Or do we want to abide by the normal rules that would have certainly prevented us from getting this result?”

In the short term, Vimont urged attention to three priorities in the trans-Atlantic partnership. He defined these as trying to solve the economic crisis with the G20 general conclusions translated to actual operational goals; achieving a common strategy for Afghanistan, “one that is not exclusively a military operation”; and attention to the Middle East.



President Simpson, Ambassador Vimont, Stephen Dunnett, and Robert Wilmers at a luncheon in the Ambassador's honor (Photo: Nancy J. Parisi)

KENYAN PRIME MINISTER TO SPEAK AT LAW SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

By Charles Anzalone

Republic of Kenya Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga will deliver the University at Buffalo Law School commencement address in a ceremony that will include conferral of honorary degrees to Irene Zubaida Khan, secretary general of Amnesty International, and J. Mason Davis Jr., a practicing attorney who played a key role in the desegregation of Alabama in the 1960s.



Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga

The UB Law School commencement, its 120th, will be held at 3 p.m. on May 23 in the Center for the Arts on UB's North (Amherst) Campus.

"Hosting Prime Minister Odinga and conferring honorary degrees to Irene Khan, a leader of the international human rights movement, and

Mason Davis, a champion of civil rights in America, is a testament to the UB Law School's strong tradition of teaching and scholarship in human rights law," said Makau Mutua, dean of the UB Law School.

Prime Minister Odinga will speak on how the rule of law can create and safeguard human rights for citizens of Kenya and other developing nations in Africa.

A pro-democracy activist, Odinga is "one of Africa's celebrated human rights figures," said Mutua, a native of Kenya himself, who, like Odinga, has played a prominent role in the advancement of democracy and human rights in the East African nation.

"Prime Minister Odinga seemed a natural choice as commencement speaker given our law school's tradition in human rights, as well as his life's epic struggle to bring democracy, the rule of law and human rights to Kenya," Mutua said. "He is the most electrifying politician in Kenya and regarded as the center of gravity of that country's politics."

As the candidate of the new Orange Democratic Movement, Odinga ran for president of Kenya for the second time in 2007. Following the disputed general election, a coalition government was formed, and Odinga became Kenya's second prime minister, with the authority to coordinate and supervise government functions.

Odinga served six years, 1982-88, as a political detainee, the longest anyone in Kenya has been imprisoned because of opposition to the country's repressive government, Mutua said.

Khan is the first woman, first Asian and first Muslim to head Amnesty International, the world's largest human rights organization.

Appointed Amnesty's secretary general in August 2001, she has led the organization through challenging developments in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001.

She has confronted a post-9/11 backlash against human rights, broadening Amnesty's work in economic, social and cultural rights, and initiating a process of internal reform to enable the organization to respond rapidly to world events.

Khan has also sought to bring a strong focus to the issue of women's human rights and violence against women. She received law degrees from the University of Manchester, U.K., and Harvard Law School.

Khan visited UB in October 2007 to deliver the Law School's Mitchell Lecture. She addressed violence against women as a human-rights violation, the genocide in Darfur, and human-rights implications of the war on terror.

A 1959 graduate of the UB Law School, J. Mason Davis Jr. was the first African-American to practice as a senior partner in a major Alabama law firm, Sirote & Permutt. As the attorney for a number of students who participated in the widely publicized Huntsville lunch counter sit-ins during 1961 and 1962, Davis played a key role in the desegregation of Alabama.

He argued a series of appeals and won every matter at the Court of Appeals. As a result of those legal victories and others, the State of Alabama desegregated all public facilities, including its schools. 🌐

Charles Anzalone is a senior editor for University Communications.



Irene Zubaida Khan



J. Mason Davis, Jr.

UB STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CROSSING BORDERS CONFERENCE

By Munroe Eagles

The 14th annual meeting of “Crossing Borders” was held on March 26-27th, 2009 at Brock University and by all measures it was an extraordinary success. This multi-disciplinary meeting involves students from the northeastern US and from Ontario in a two-day conference focused on Canada, the United States, and the Canadian-American relationship.

The conference receives significant support—both financial and organizational—from the Consulate General of Canada’s office in Buffalo, and the Consulate General of the United States’ office in Toronto.

This year’s conference was organized by Associate Dean and Director of Canadian Studies Jane Koustas at Brock University. As part of a larger cooperative initiative signed in October 2007, UB and Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, agreed to alternate for a six-year period as hosts of an annual student conference called “Crossing Borders.”

More than 80 undergraduate and graduate students took part in this year’s “Crossing Borders” conference by presenting papers based on their research. While most participants came from universities in Southern Ontario and Western New York, some students came from as far away as the University of Ottawa, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Vermont. UB fielded its largest contingent of participants ever for the conference.

Four undergraduates (Jessica Edwards, Aaron Krolkowski, Andrew Royce, and Bethany Wright) and eight graduate students (Jeff Cooper, Nate Drag, Nicholle Dragone, Paul Galdenzi, Tasha Lavey, Dylan McLean, Joshua Meddaugh, and Gregory Young) from UB presented papers on a wide variety of subjects.

The conference opened on Thursday evening, March 26th, with a reception in Brock’s “Pond Inlet” room. After welcoming remarks from Brock President Jack Lightstone, Canadian Consul General Stephen Brereton, and the Consul General for the US John Nay, there was a lively plenary panel discussion chaired by Professor David Schimmelpenninck van der Oye of Brock University on the importance of the War of 1812 to the bi-national Niagara region.

Taking part in this discussion, and representing a num-

ber of diverse perspectives on this important historical event, were Professor Tom Chambers of Niagara University, Ms. Arlene White, Executive Director of the Binational Tourism Authority, Professor Renée Lafferty, Brock University, and Doug Kohler, Erie County (US) historian.

Conference sessions involving students took place all day Friday, March 27. Panels were organized on such topics as “First Nations Policy and Governance,” “Crime and Law Enforcement,” “Environment and Boundaries,”



Liette Vasseur, Vice-President Research at Brock, speaking at the Crossing Borders Conference

“Commercial Relations and Trade Policy,” “Defence and Foreign Policy,” and “Comparative Approaches to Border Regime Management.”

After lunch, the conference’s keynote speaker, Peter Annin, delivered a passionate call for bi-national cooperation in defending our shared water resources against diversion efforts.

Annin is an accomplished conflict and environmental journalist who wrote for a number of years for *Newsweek* magazine, and he currently serves as the Associate Director of the Institutes for Journalism and Natural Resources. He is the author of an award winning book *Great Lakes Water Wars* (Island Press, 2006).

The conference returns to UB for the second time in 2010. It will be held March 25-26th at the Center for Tomorrow. For more information on the “Crossing Borders” conference series and next year’s meeting, see: <http://www.crossingborders.buffalo.edu/>

D. Munroe Eagles is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Canadian Studies Academic Program.

CENTENNIAL OF BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY CELEBRATED

The year 2009 marks the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the historic Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, which created the independent International Joint Commission (IJC) to prevent and resolve boundary waters disputes between Canada and the United States.

The IJC makes decisions on applications for projects such as dams in boundary waters and regulates the operations of many of those projects. The IJC also has a permanent reference under the 1972 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement to help the two national governments restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of those waters.

The Boundary Waters Treaty is recognized as the world's first environmental treaty and serves as a model of binational governance. The Niagara region was one of only two areas specifically mentioned in the 1909 treaty, so it is appropriate that Niagara is hosting the celebrations marking the centennial of the treaty.

In honor of the centennial, the cross-border Niagara Region is celebrating the "Year of Our Shared Waters," which climaxes with Boundary Waters Week and the *Boundary Waters Treaty 100 Celebration* in June 2009, when Canadian and U.S. Government leaders will be invited take part in the Centennial Commemoration.

On June 12, UB will host the international conference "Great Lakes Connecting Channels: Science, Ecosystem Management, and Governance," organized by the UB Boundary Waters Treaty 100th Anniversary Committee: Joseph Atkinson, UB Great Lakes Program; Barry Boyer, UB Law; Helen Domske, New York State Sea Grant; Lorraine Oak, Canadian American Studies Committee; and Lynda Schneckloth, School of Architecture and Planning. It is anticipated that Michael H. Wilson, Ambassador of Canada to the United States, will speak at the Boundary Waters conference at UB.

The Boundary Waters Treaty Week punctuates a year of educational, artistic, cultural, and recreational events related to the shared waters of the Great Lakes—their abundance, their threats, and the two countries' shared responsibility to be good stewards of this irreplaceable resource.

A full list of activities for the centennial year may be found at: www.oursharedwaters.com

From the treaty's signing in 1909, the IJC has been instrumental in protecting and preserving the shared waters of the Niagara Region.


Over the past 100 years, the IJC has done much to fulfill this mission:

- Initial 1912 study on water quality conditions
- 1925 order of approval for the construction of a bridge between Buffalo and Fort Erie.
- 1953 IJC established the International Niagara Board of Control to oversee water levels regulation in the



**A century of
cooperation
protecting our
shared waters**

Chippawa-Grass Island Pool and installation of the Lake Erie-Niagara River Ice Boom.

- Various international studies have examined factors affecting the scenic beauty of Niagara Falls and the Niagara River.
- Remedial works, first suggested in 1929, were constructed in the 1950s to enhance the scenic beauty, provide for the most beneficial use of the river's waters and maintain the minimum flows over the Falls required by the 1950 Niagara Treaty.
- International Niagara Control Works, with its 18 sluice gates allow for precise changes in the flow over the Falls, controls water levels in the Chippawa-Grass Island Pool, and excavation and fill on both flanks of Horseshoe Falls.
- The Board monitors operation of the control works by the power entities, Ontario Power Generation and the New York Power Authority, under a Commission directive.
- In 1983, the IJC asked the National Research Council of the U.S. to determine if the Niagara Ice Boom created a cooling of the local climate.
- In January of 1984, the IJC adopted the recommendation of the NRC and directed that "all floating sections of the boom shall be opened by April 1, unless ice cover surveys...show there is more than 250 square miles of ice east of Long Point" and that complete removal of the boom" shall be completed within two weeks thereafter."
- In 1998, the IJC reviewed Ontario Power Generation's application to divert water to the Adam Beck power plant via the Niagara Tunnel now under construction to increase the efficient use of the Niagara River.
- The ability to change water levels near Niagara Falls by adjusting gate settings and altering plant diversions has, on numerous occasions, assisted in river rescue operations to save people from going over the Falls.
- During the August 2005 blackout, the IJC's International Niagara Control Board suspended water low flow tolerances August 14-16 and August 18-21 due to operations to maximize hydroelectric power generation at Niagara in response to the extensive regional electrical outage. 

BORDER BAROMETER ASSESSES U.S.-CANADIAN BORDER PERFORMANCE

By Rachel M. Teaman

A Border Barometer released by the University at Buffalo Regional Institute and the Border Policy Research Institute at Western Washington University reports on several key border performance indicators for major regions along the U.S.-Canadian line, including trade flows, vehicle crossings, binational governance networks, and even NEXUS enrollment.

The Border Barometer concludes that regional variation emerges as a key theme for policymakers to consider when thinking about border governance. But data also are missing from the report because they are not collected or monitored, are difficult to obtain or are not made available by the myriad layers of border management units.

Other data are not systematically monitored to allow useful comparisons among border regions. Data gaps include border wait times, processing rates and measures of border security, such as regional comparisons of arrests made at borders.

“Understanding the porosity and infrastructure of our international borders is fundamental to the collective competitiveness of the United States and Canada, and to balancing border flow with border security,” said Kathryn Bryk Friedman, institute deputy director, who presented these findings at a border conference in Washington D.C. last week. “The Border Barometer is a first step in this process, but our research efforts also reveal we have far to go.”

“The Border Barometer is the culmination of a significant research effort to assess how well the U.S.-Canadian border functions as both a separator and a seam,” said Donald K. Alper, director of the Border Policy Research Institute. “Presented in the brief are data obtained from more than two dozen border governance units and newly developed performance metrics.”

Highlights of the report, which compared the Buffalo-Niagara Falls border with Detroit-Windsor and Washington State’s Cascade Gateway, show key economic interdependencies between the two nations during a time of declined social interaction.

For instance, trade volume has steadily increased since the 2001 terrorist attacks, although growth in the Buffalo region significantly lags behind Cascade Gateway and Detroit-Windsor. All three regions are enrolling greater numbers of individuals in NEXUS, a program to facilitate low-risk border crossings. Cascade Gateway is having particular success with the program, and accounts for nearly half of all NEXUS cardholders.

A ratio developed by the institute and BPRI to compare the number of border-crossing booths to traffic flow for autos and trucks serves as a useful measure of border

infrastructure. Analysis of U.S.-bound vehicles shows significant variation within each region based on border capacity and efficiency. For instance, truck-heavy crossings have high ratios, reflecting longer clearance processes.

According to the study, export-import ratios vary, with imports dominating Buffalo-Niagara Falls’ trade during the last decade, while exports have been greater for the other regions.

The brief also examined border governance, giving Cascade Gateway high marks for its progressive Pacific Northwest Economic Region, which formed in 1991 to engage high-profile public and private partners in coordinating border activity across more than a dozen areas. Some Buffalo-Niagara Falls’ binational networks were assessed as strong, particularly urban and civilian networks, including the World Trade Center Buffalo Niagara and Binational Tourism Alliance.


“These networks, the ‘soft’ infrastructure of the border, are integral players in implementing and shaping border policy,” said David Davidson, associate director of the Border Policy Research Institute. “Across all regions, there is a need for stronger collaboration and coordination among the numerous governing units.”

Indeed, while the layers of border management are important to managing the diverse and complex issues of border activity, the maze of administrative units also presents challenges to monitoring and providing access to border performance measures.

“Significant time and resources were required to obtain the data presented in this report,” said Peter A. Lombardi, institute senior research associate and author of the Border Barometer.

“Some of the data not seen in this report are maintained at levels that are too narrow or too broad to shed light at the regional level. For instance, border arrest data are provided only at the national level, perhaps due to security concerns.”

The two institutes, as well as other members of a six-unit Northern Border University Research Consortium, propose the formation of a Border Performance Data Agenda to comprehensively identify border metrics and existing and new data sources, as well as develop print and Web tools to disseminate and monitor those indicators.

The Border Barometer was funded by the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade’s Bordernet Initiative. For more information about the UB Regional Institute, go to <http://www.regional-institute.buffalo.edu>. 

Rachel Teaman is director of regional initiatives at the UB Regional Institute.

ASIAN STUDIES FACULTY RECEIVE MAJOR BOOK AWARDS

By Patricia Donovan

Two members of the University at Buffalo faculty—one in the Department of History, one in the Graduate School of Education—affiliated with the university's Asian Studies Program have received national awards for work in their fields.

Ramya Sreenivasan, Ph.D., assistant professor of history in the UB College of Arts and Sciences, has received the 2009 Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize from the South Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies for *The Many Lives of a Rajput Queen: Heroic Past in Indian History, c. 1500-1900* (University of Washington Press 2007).

She accepted the award on March 28 at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference in Chicago. The award, which honors the author of the best English-language work in South Asian studies, is named for the pioneering historian and philosopher of Indian art.

Sreenivasan explores the story of the medieval Rajput Queen Padmini, whose legend was refashioned by early modern regional elites, caste groups, and mystical and monastic communities as they shaped their distinctive narratives of the past.

Yoshiko Nozaki, Ph.D., associate professor of educational leadership and policy in the Graduate School of Education, has received an Outstanding Book of the Year Award from the American Educational Research Association Division B (Curriculum Studies) for her recently pub-

lished *War Memory, Nationalism, and Education in Postwar Japan, 1945-2007: The Japanese History Textbook Controversy and Ienaga Saburo's Court Challenges* (Routledge 2008).

She was honored in April 2009 at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in San Diego. Nozaki's book addresses the controversy over official state-approved history textbooks in Japan, which omit or play down information regarding Japan's occupation of neighboring countries during the Asia-Pacific War (1931-1945), and have been challenged by critics who favor more critical, peace-and-justice perspectives.

This contentious issue goes to the heart of Japan's sense of itself as a nation. Nozaki sets the controversy in the context of debates about memory and education in relation to evolving politics within Japan, and in Japan's relations with its neighbors and former colonies and countries it invaded.

In addition, a third book by an Asian Studies faculty member, Thomas Burkman, Ph.D., *Japan and the League of Nations: Empire and World Order, 1915-1938* (University of Hawaii Press 2007), has been nominated for the American Historical Association's John K. Fairbank Prize and the Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies' John Whitney Hall Book Prize. 🌐

Patricia Donovan is senior editor for University Communications.

ASIAN STUDIES HOSTS TEACHER SEMINAR ON EAST ASIA

By Bruce Acker

The Asian Studies Program, in collaboration with the UB/Buffalo Public Schools Partnership and the Buffalo Teacher Resource Center, conducted an eleven-week "East Asia for Teachers" seminar in spring semester 2009.

The purpose of the seminar, which began in January and was held alternating Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings at the Buffalo Teacher Resource Center, was to provide teachers with content and resources to effectively teach about China, Japan, and Korea. The seminar, which was organized by Bruce Acker, Assistant Director of Asian Studies, was sponsored by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), with funding from the Freeman Foundation, and administered by the Five College Center for East Asian Studies.

Upon completion of the seminar, teachers received a \$500 honorarium and up to \$500 in classroom materials

and books on East Asia. In addition, Buffalo teachers will receive two professional development credits.

Class sessions were led by leading faculty on Asia from UB and other area colleges and universities, as well as several prominent area teachers who have participated in previous NCTA seminars and study tours. Sessions address the histories, religions, arts, languages, literatures, and geographies of East Asia.

On March 7, Ji-li Jiang, author of *Red Scarf Girl*, an award-winning memoir about growing up during China's Cultural Revolution, spoke in conjunction with the regular Saturday morning session of the NCTA seminar. This session with Ji-li Jiang was free and open to the public.

Ji-li Jiang's visit to Buffalo was made possible by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, with funding from the Henry Luce and Starr Foundations. Additional funding was provided by the Five College Center for East Asian Studies. 🌐

UB UNDERGRAD JOINS NANOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PROJECT IN JAPAN

by Catherine Pollina

UB engineering undergraduate Brian McSkimming represented UB in Japan as a participant in the 2008 National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network (NNIN) Research Experience for Undergraduates program. NNIN is an integrated partnership of thirteen universities and research centers across the nation that provides an open environment for nanoscience and nanotechnology research.

With funding by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the NNIN Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program provides to select undergraduates ad-

The individual student projects, although modest in scope to match the limited 11-week summer research season, are, nevertheless, representative of the cutting edge work done in the foreign labs. McSkimming joined a project to study the growth and characterization (using atomic force microscopy and photoluminescence) of self-assembled quantum dots with the objective of creating a viable source for entangled photons.


Application of entangled photon technology can bring practical improvements to optoelectronics, and the achievement of smaller and faster integrated circuits and computers. At the conclusion of his summer in Japan, McSkimming returned to Cornell University, one of the NNIN institutional partners, for a three-day conference where REU student-participants reported on their summer work.

For McSkimming, the NNIN REU experience provided a valuable educational and training opportunity.

According to McSkimming, in addition to the "benefit of doing advanced research traditionally reserved for graduate students at an early stage in my career, I had the opportunity to create international research relationships which will be vital in future interdisciplinary research.... Further, it has firmly solidified my decision to pursue advanced degrees in electrical engineering and solid

state physics through the doctoral level."

Dr. Machi Dilworth, Head of the NSF Tokyo Regional Office (<http://www.nsf-tokyo.org>), comments that, "The NNIN International REU program has combined access to a top-rate international research community with a proactive cross-cultural educational and research experience for undergraduates. The Foundation hopes that the summer visit to Japanese host laboratories will foster future productive international collaborations for these junior researchers."

Information about both domestic and international REU programs is available at the NSF Web site at <http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/> 

Catherine Pollina is an Instructional Support Technician in the Department of Biological Sciences.



Left to right: the author, Professor Christopher Loretz (UB Dept. of Biological Sciences), Brian McSkimming, and Dr. Machi Dilworth (Head, NSF Tokyo Regional Office)

vanced research opportunities in outstanding laboratories around the globe during.

In the 2008 summer research season, McSkimming and four other American university students were hosted at the National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS) in Tsukuba, Japan.

Located north of Tokyo, NIMS is a part of Tsukuba Science City, a community-sized campus of academic and independent research institutes. Another group of three NNIN REU program students traveled to a national laboratory in Germany.

Each American student-participant at NIMS was hosted in a separate research laboratory, in order to promote opportunities for intensive, cross-cultural, at-the-bench collaboration with foreign counterpart research team members.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Agropastoral Production and Sociopolitical Change in late Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Medieval Ulster, Northern Ireland is an archaeological project directed by Tina Thurston, associate professor of anthropology, and funded by the National Geographic Society.

The project considers the world of 'ordinary' people in late Bronze Age, Iron Age, and early Christian Ireland's historic Kingdom of Ulster.

While Ulster's rulers are memorialized in the mythopoetic "Ulster Cycle" epics, Thurston's project examines the strategies of farming communities, and changes in their organization and production through time.

Rulers are important, but governments are supported by political economies stemming from the productive capacity of their subjects. Many unanswered questions about Ulster hinge on understanding these processes.

Fieldwork investigates landscapes surrounding Haughey's Fort, a late Bronze Age enclosure, the Iron Age Navan Fort (Emain Macha), seat of the Ulster kings, and the early Christian center, Armagh. While these famous sites are well studied, the whereabouts of contemporary villages or farms are unknown.

Walking plowed fields seeking artifacts on the surface is still the primary archaeological prospection method. Here, the predominant pasture vegetation precludes any 'field-walking'. Even experts on Iron Age Ireland have little idea of how or even where people lived.

Archaeological soil chemical survey can resolve this dilemma. Soil phosphates are elevated up to 500 times their 'natural' levels by human activities.

Thurston's 15+ years of soil-chemical prospection in Scandinavia revealed many previously unknown, 'invisible' settlements, with later excavations revealing their



Navan Fort (Emain Macha) from the air

nature and temporal dynamics, eventually determining how and perhaps why certain economic strategies were implemented, especially in relation to the demands of rulers.

With the added expertise of collaborator paleoecologist Gill Plunkett of The Queen's University, Belfast, the Ulster project also reconstructs past farming strategies and how the development of different political regimes impacted them.

UB graduate students conducting doctoral research in connection with the project are Jennifer Foster, Benjamin Kamphaus, and Heather Menz. The project team returned to Northern Ireland in April and May 2009 to conduct test excavation at selected sites. 🌐

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING EXCHANGE WITH BRAZIL

By Tommaso Melodia

The Department of Electrical Engineering has established a program for academic and educational exchange in the area of microelectronics with three universities located in Brazil.

The UB-Brazil exchange program is an international program for academic and educational exchange that has been setup with three different universities throughout Brazil, i.e., Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (UFSC), Universidade Federal de Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), and Universidade Federal de Rio Grande do Norte (UFRGN). The exchange program has been active since the Fall of 2008.

Scholarships are available to visit one of the schools that participate in the exchange to students interested in Microelectronics at all levels (undergraduate, MS, Ph.D.). Interested students should visit the electrical engineering website, which links to the exchange program website. Interested students are encouraged to contact Prof. Melodia in the Department of Electrical Engineering, who is coordinating the exchange, and who is in the process of nominating students for the exchange.

The program has two main strategic goals for UB. First, it is aimed at giving the opportunity to top UB undergraduate and graduate students to spend a semester in a leading institution in South America, where they will be taught by first-class instructors, have the opportunity to

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LESSONS FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDIES OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

International studies show that students in some countries consistently learn and achieve more than those in others (e.g., often Japan is ranked #1–#5, while the U.S. is near the middle).

“By understanding why students learn more in specific countries or schools, we can improve children’s learning environments and better prepare them for their social, political, and economic futures,” says Ming Ming Chiu, professor of Learning and Instruction in UB’s Graduate School of Education.

More money, More learning opportunities

Funded by a Spencer Foundation grant, Chiu’s multi-level analyses of 199,097 fifteen-year-olds in 43 countries show that family, school, and country characteristics all influence student learning of mathematics, science, and reading.

“Not surprisingly,” he says, “students in richer families, in richer schools, with richer schoolmates, or in richer countries have more learning opportunities (like books and academic chats) and capitalize on them to learn more in all three subjects.”

Equality raises student learning

“But money isn’t everything,” Chiu says, “students in more equal countries or more equal schools learn more.” Specifically, he showed that students in countries with more equal distributions of household income or school resources (like Japan and Sweden) learn more than those in less equal countries (like the U.S. and Germany).

He explains, “A poor student (with few books) often learns more from an extra book than a rich student (with lots of books) would. In more equal countries or schools, poorer students have more learning opportunities and learn more from them, so students as a whole learn more.”

Family effects differ across countries

His analyses also show that family effects on student learning differ across countries. Specifically, he showed that students generally learn more if they have highly-educated mothers, have more books at home, or discuss cultural or political issues with their family; however, these family effects are much weaker in collectivistic societies that favor group interests over individual interests.

Ming notes, “In collectivistic countries (like South Korea), aunts, uncles, and other extended family members often live nearby and help out, so they dilute immediate family characteristics, which have weaker effects on student learning.

In fact, children in two-parent families learn more than those in single-parent families only in individualistic countries (like Australia), not in collectivistic countries.”

Chiu’s research also helped solve the Heyneman-Loxley puzzle: why are family effects on student learning larger in richer countries than in poorer ones? Answer: Because of stronger intangible family influences (e.g., family communication).

He argues, “In rich countries, physical resources like books are readily available (e.g., in public libraries), so complementary intangibles like family time become more important. A child can find a book to read at the library as well as at home, but she can learn a lot more by discussing it with Mom.”



Ming Ming Chiu

Low-cost strategies to improve student learning

Accordingly, he suggests that greater equality and family support are two low-cost ways to help students learn more. He says, “Equality is not only a valuable ideal, but a practical, low-cost policy tool for improving student achievement. Taiwan, South Korea, and other Asian countries have shown that equal educational opportunities, high student achievement, and economic growth can walk together in the same parade.”

He also notes that regardless of wealth or education, parents who chat with their children about academic, social, or political issues help them learn more. So, he advises parents, “chat with your children about current events—if you don’t have time, multi-task—chat while washing dishes.”

Chiu’s future international research includes examining inequality mechanisms, students’ motivation, their learning strategies, their school discipline, and their sense of belonging at school. He also studies corruption (in music, banks, and companies), analyzes conversations (in classrooms, among teachers, and in families), and invents statistics methods (statistical discourse analysis and multi-level diffusion analysis). 🌐

FRENCH AMBASSADOR

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Without progress in that part of the world, he said, "our relationship with the whole Arab world will still be fraught with many dangers, many threats and many difficulties as we go ahead. To do that...we will have to work together—the American leadership on one side, the European leadership on the other—to improve our methods."

Vimont is the second sitting French ambassador to visit UB, and was accompanied to Buffalo by Ambassador Guy Yelda, the new consul general of France to New York, and Pascal Delisle, cultural attaché and director of the French Embassy's University Partnership Fund. The visit was facilitated by Pascal Soares, Honorary Consul of France in Buffalo.

Prior to the lecture, they visited the library exhibition "Marshall, Jones and Park: French History and Culture and the University at Buffalo." Sponsored by the Libraries' Special Collections, it honors the distinguished scholars who preserve and perpetuate the study of French language and literature at UB.

The exhibit opened April 6 and runs through June in the Special Collections Research Room, 420 Capen Hall, North Campus. The Research Room is open 9 a.m. to 5

p.m. weekdays. It gives special attention to the illustrious history of the Melodia Jones Chair and the distinguished careers and work of past incumbents, among them Gérard Bucher, André Maurois, Michel Butor, Jacques Roger, Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, Michel Serres, Roland Le Huenen and Raymond Federman.

The exhibit also includes rare works about the French in early Western New York from the collections of the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. A second exhibit, "The Julian Park Collection: Rare Books Portray French History and Culture," is on display in the foyer of Lockwood Memorial Library, North Campus, from April 6 through May 30.

It presents the extraordinary collection of Julian Park, founding dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who developed and nurtured French studies at UB, facilitated the establishment of the Melodia E. Jones Chair and bequeathed his collection of French literature to the university.

Park, the son of noted physician Roswell Park, was the university's first historian and was French consul to Western New York from 1917-20. He was named an Officer of the French Legion of Honor for his contributions to strengthening the bonds of friendship between France and the United States. 🌐

Ann Whitcher-Gentzke is editor of UB Today.

BRAZIL

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understand the culture of the hosting country, travel during vacations, and enrich their educational background.

The second objective is to expose the research activities and facilities of the Department of Electrical Engineering at UB to excellent graduate students coming from Brazil.

This will give us the opportunity to recruit strong students for the UB Ph.D.

program and increase the reputation of our graduate program in South America and in Brazil in particular.

"The experience was very rewarding", says Leandro Ronchini Ximenes, Electrical Engineering student at the Federal University of Santa Catarina in Florianópolis, and the first Brazilian student to visit UB under the exchange



Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Florianópolis, Brazil

program in the Fall of 2008.

"From the classroom to the cultural events, I had a very good time. I would have loved to stay for a longer period. I got good grades and loved this experience.," Ximenes said.

"I will graduate in July this year. If another opportunity for a scholarship arises, I will seriously think about a M.S. or Ph.D. at UB."

Three Brazilian students, Diogo Cirilo do Nascimento, Jefferson Marinho do Costa

Dantas, and Fabio Vidor are currently visiting the University at Buffalo in the spring semester, and at least two other students are expected for fall 2009. 🌐

Tommaso Melodia is assistant professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Department of Architecture

A monograph on the work of **Mehrdad Hadighi**, associate professor and chair, has been published by *Sharestan* in Tehran, Iran. The Summer/Fall 2008 issue documents twenty years of architectural projects, design competition entries and built commissions, in addition to a series of articles written by pre-eminent architectural critics Dr. Shahab Katozian, Dr. Reza Daneshmir, Dr. Hamidreza Nasernasir, Dr. Iman Raeesi, and Dr. Kaveh Bazrafkan.

Hadighi's practice, Studio for Architecture, in collaboration with Tsz Yan Ng, has completed L148, a mixed use building in Shantou, China, for the fashion designer/manufacturer Lafayette 148. The 360,000 square foot building houses design, sample-making, manufacturing, packing and shipping, display and international sales, in addition to the company headquarters and short-term housing. Studio for Architecture has been engaged in the design and construction of the building for the past four years.

In June 2008, Hadighi attended final reviews at the Akademie der Bildenden Kunst (Academy of Fine Arts) in Vienna, reviewing the work of students throughout the entire program.

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Daniel B. Hess, associate professor, delivered an invited talk in October 2008 titled "Access to Transportation and Property Value: Theory and Application" as part of the lecture series in the School of Geography, Planning and Architecture at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. Also in October 2008, he presented a paper co-authored with **Jessica Kozlowski-Russell** (a graduate student in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning) titled "Access to Transportation and Health Outcomes of Older Adults in the Four Seasons Study" at the 37th Annual Scientific and Education Meeting of the Canadian Association of Gerontology in London, Ontario.

Despina Stratigakos, assistant professor, published *A Women's Berlin: Building the Modern City* (University of Minnesota Press, 2008). The Institute for German Cultural Studies at Cornell University invited Professor Stratigakos to lead a colloquium on her book on August 2008.

Henry Taylor, professor, published *Inside El Barrio: A Bottom-Up View of the Neighborhood Life in Castro's Cuba* (Kumarian Press, 2009). An outgrowth of the summer study abroad program developed by Dr. Taylor in Havana, Cuba, the book breaks new ground by using the household and neighborhood as a lens through which to view Cuban society.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of African American Studies

Peter James Hudson, assistant professor, was a Social Science and Humanities Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow in the University of Toronto's Caribbean Studies Program for the 2007-2008 academic year. While in Canada he researched the history of Canadian banking in the Caribbean, using governmental and corporate archives in Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. Meanwhile, Hudson contributed an essay to the Chimurenga Library, the digital archive of African and African diaspora little magazines produced by the Capetown, South Africa journal *Chimurenga*, on the Toronto-based journal *Black Images: A Critical Quarterly of Black Arts and Culture*. Hudson also wrote "Scotiabank Caribana: Economy's Culture," on the funding of Toronto's version of West Indian carnival that that ran over two issues Georgetown, Guyana's *Stabroek News*. Hudson gave an invited lecture at the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz al Saud Center for American Studies and Research at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, in November, 2008. It was titled "The Brazen White Sign of the Dollar: Empire, Economy, and Claude McKay's Practice of Diaspora" and was also given earlier in the year at the University of

Toronto's Munk Center for International Studies, where it was co-sponsored by the Caribbean Studies Program, the Centre for the Study of the United States, and the Center for Diaspora and Transnational Studies.

Department of Anthropology

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, associate professor, conducted archival and ethnographic research in Chile during the months of December 2008 and January 2009 for her new book *Living History through Spirits: Memory, Forgetting, and Shamanic Historical Consciousness in a Mapuche Community in Chile*. Bacigalupo has been named a 2009-10 Fellow of the National Humanities Center (NHC) in North Carolina's Research Triangle. She will be one of 33 distinguished scholars from institutions across the United States who will take leave from their normal academic duties to comprise the center's 32nd class of resident fellows. Each will work individually on a substantial research project and will have the opportunity to share ideas in seminars, lectures and conferences at the center. Her NHC project is titled "Mapuche Memory, Forgetting, Shamanic Historical Consciousness: The Making of Francisca Colipe and Her Mapuche Community in Chile," for which she also has received a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and an NEH Fellowship.

R. K. Dentan, professor emeritus, has authored texts in several recent international publications: "Recent Studies on Violence: What's In and What's Out." *Reviews in Anthropology* 37(1):1-27 (2008); "Overwhelming Terror: Love, Fear, Peace, and Violence among Semai of Malaysia," Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2008; "Learning about Orang Asli," *Off the Edge* (a Malaysian/Singaporean magazine for Malaysians), 2009; "Schooling vs. Education, Hidden vs. Overt Curricula: Ways of Thinking about Schools, Economic Development and Putting the Children of the Poor to Work," *Moussons* 12, 2009; and "How Peace Changes but Remains Peace," *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 2009.

Vasiliki Neofotistos, assistant professor, has been invited to participate in the conference "The Rhetoric of the Image: Visual Culture in Political Islam." The conference will be held at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, March 20-22, 2009. The title of the paper he will present is "Martyrs and Ordinary Albanians: Muslim Graves and the Politics of Islam in the Republic of Macedonia." Also, Neofotistos gave a presentation for International Education Week at UB on November 17, 2008. The title of his presentation was "Going Home to Pakistan: Reconstructions of the Past in the Contemporary Balkans."

Asian Studies Program

Thomas W. Burkman, Research Professor of Asian Studies, has received a fellowship for the fall semester 2009, to conduct research at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame University. He will pursue his project on reconciliation among Japan, China, and Korea.

Canadian Studies Program

D. Munroe Eagles, academic director and professor of political science, partnered with Professor Jane Koustas of Brock University in teaching the inaugural Brock - UB Seminar in Canadian Studies in fall 2008. The seminar featured five joint seminar meetings being held involving UB students, two of which were held at the Peace Bridge Authority board room in Fort Erie, Ontario, and two at Brock University, and one at UB. Eagles and Koustas look forward to making this an annual offering each fall, and to growing the joint programming over the years to come for the benefit of students at both universities. Koustas and Eagles co-presented a joint paper entitled "A Comparative Turn in Canadian Studies" at a conference on "Canadian Studies: The State of the Art," hosted by the Mount Allison University Canadian Studies Program, Sackville, NB, February 12-

14th, 2009. Eagles presented a panel discussion on the Obama Administration and Border Security at the "The Obama Presidency: From Hopes to Achievements" conference, sponsored by the Raoul-Dandurand Chair of Strategic and Diplomatic Studies, University of Quebec at Montreal, March 5th, 2009.

Department of Chemistry

Diana Aga, associate professor, was awarded a research fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and spent 7 months (January-July, 2008) conducting research at the Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, in Berlin, Germany. Her research work focused on the development of immunoaffinity sorbents for selective clean-up of pharmaceutical contaminants in the environment. This highly competitive research fellowship is awarded to young scholars, based on their independent academic achievements, in order to realize a planned research project at a host institution in Germany. While in Germany, Aga was also invited to give a seminar at the Institute of Hydrochemistry, Technical University of Munich, where she gave a talk on "Analytical Challenges in Investigating the Fate and Transport of Pharmaceuticals in the Environment." Aga was also an invited speaker at the 5th Leading Edge Technology Conference, in Zurich, Switzerland, held on June 1-4, 2008. She gave a talk on "Biotransformation of Pharmaceuticals in Engineered Bioreactors," at this conference which was sponsored by the International Water Association and was attended by scientists and engineers from around the world.

Joseph Gardella, professor, was the keynote speaker at the fourth Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry workshop for China, held in Beijing, at the China University of Mining and Technology and Tsinghua University in October/November 2008. In addition, Gardella is the conference chair for the 17th International Symposium on Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (SIMS 17) to be held in Toronto, Ontario in September 2009. He will host over 400 participants and speakers from Asia, Europe, North America, Africa and Australia at the conference. Gardella is hosting two international scholars/visiting professors in 2009. **Professor Handong Liang** is visiting from Beijing, the China University of Mining and Technology, and **Professor Won Ki Lee** is spending his sabbatical year with Professor Gardella from his post as Associate Professor at Pukyong National University in Busan.

Department of Comparative Literature

Rodolphe Gasche, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Eugenio Donato Chair, presented three seminars on Aristotle's Rhetoric, and a public lecture on "Europe, or the Forgetting of the Occident" at the University of Chile, Santiago in May 2008. In July 2008 Gasche delivered a lecture "Logos, Topos, Stoikheion" at the International Symposium on Hermeneutics, "Wort und Schrift," held at the University of Freiburg, Germany. In December 2008 he delivered a lecture "A Truth that Resembles Truth: Rhetoric and Conduct in Practical Life" at the Symposium on "Ethics, Politics, and Rhetoric: Ancients Texts, Modern Perspectives," held at Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. Gasche delivered a lecture, "The Veil, the Fold, the Image. On Gustave Flaubert's Salamambo," at the International Conference by Eikones NCCR Iconic Criticism on "Der Grund. Das Feld des Sichtbaren" in Basel, Switzerland in January 2009.

Department of History

Andreas Daum, professor of history, gave a lecture entitled "Varieties of Popular Science and the Transformations of Public Knowledge" at the University of Erfurt, Germany, in October 2008." He also presented at a conference in Dresden, Germany, in mid-February 2009 that dealt with the impact of Darwinism and evolutionary theory on children's education and juvenile literature.

Jonathan Dewald, UB Distinguished Professor, was a visiting professor in April-May 2008 at the School of Social Sciences (Maison des Sciences Humaines), at the University of Angers, in western France;

he presented two seminars there on his current research. Dewald then participated in a seminar at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, which he has regularly attended since 2005. In September 2008, Dewald participated in a conference at the International Conference Center of Cerisy-la-Salle, also in France, at which he presented a paper on the nobility of Normandy during the early modern period. Except for Dewald, all the participants were French. The papers presented are currently under review for publication by a French university press. He is currently preparing a paper that will be presented at a June 2009 conference on the European nobilities, at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, at the University of Freiburg, Germany.

Carole Emberton, assistant professor, presented a paper entitled "Natural Born Killers: Debating Violence and Southern Character during Reconstruction" at the annual meeting of the British American Studies Association at the University of Nottingham April 16-19, 2009. She was also been invited to speak at the University of Sussex in Brighton, England on "Hanging Henry Wirz: Violence and Redemption in the United States after the Civil War." That talk took place on April 20, 2009.

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the admission of women to German universities, **Patricia Mazon**, associate professor, was invited by the Center for Transdisciplinary Gender Studies at Humboldt University, Berlin, to give a talk at a conference on "The Sex of Education: Hegemony and Dissidence." Mazon's talk on November 28, 2008, was about "The First Generation of Female Students and the Admission of the 'Better Elements,' 1890-1914."

Department of Linguistics

Matthew S. Dryer, professor, is currently on sabbatical in Germany on a Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. One of his main projects in Germany is working, as co-editor, on updating the online site for the *World Atlas of Language Structures*, which originally appeared as a book published by Oxford University Press in 2005, but which now is accessible to the public online at <http://wals.info/> Later in the year, he will spending four months doing linguistic field work in Papua New Guinea, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Jean-Pierre Koenig, associate professor and director of graduate studies, was an invited professor at the University Denis Diderot, Paris, France in fall 2008. During the month of November 2008 he gave a series of lectures on his research while there. He was made co-editor of the portion of the "Grande Grammaire du Francais" devoted to the verb that is expected to come out in 2010 or 2011 and published by Bayard, France. He gave a talk at an international conference on "Verbs Concepts: Cognitive Science Perspectives on Verb Representation and Processing" in Montreal, Canada in October 2008. He was an invited speaker at an international conference on "Verb typologies revisited" in Ghent, Belgium in spring 2009.

Department of Philosophy

Kah Kyung Cho, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, gave the opening keynote speech entitled "Ego cogito and Natural Existence" at OPO III, held in Hong Kong, 15 - 19, December 2008. OPO, or The Organization of Phenomenological Organizations, consists of 170 national and regional phenomenological societies and institutes of the world and is held every three years. The first meeting was in Prague (2002), the second in Peru (2005). At OPO III, Cho also served as moderator of two sessions.

Carolyn Korsmeyer, professor, is working with publishers on three translations of her books that are in progress: *Gender and Aesthetics*, which is being translated into Polish and into Korean; and *Making Sense of Taste*, which is being translated into Greek.

Barry Smith, SUNY Distinguished Professor, has been working on

the following international publications: Barry Smith and Mathias Brochhausen, "Establishing and Harmonizing Ontologies in an Interdisciplinary Health Care and Clinical Research Environment," in: B. Blobel P. Pharow and M. Nerlich (eds.), *eHealth: Combining Health Telematics, Telemedicine, Biomedical Engineering and Bioinformatics on the Edge* (Global Expert Summit Textbook, Studies in Health, Technology and Informatics, 134), IOS Press, 2008, Amsterdam, 219-234; Barry Smith, "Informatica", in M. Ferraris (eds.), "Storia dell'Ontologia," Milan: Bompiani, 2008, 503-530; Mathias Brochhausen, Gabriele Weiler, Luis Martín, Cristian Cocos, Holger Stenzhorn, Norbert Graf, Martin Dörr, Manolis Tsiknakis, and Barry Smith, "Applications of the ACGT Master Ontology on Cancer," R. Meersman, Z. Tari, and P. Herrero (Eds.): *Proceedings of 4th International IFIP Workshop On Semantic Web & Web Semantics (OTM 2008: Workshops)*; Monterrey, Mexico, Nov 9 - 14, 2008), LNCS 5333, 2008, 1046-1055; Cecilia Arighi, Hongfang Liu, Darren Natale, Winona Barker, Harold Drabkin, Zhangzhi Hu, Judith Blake, Barry Smith and Cathy Wu, "TGF-beta Signaling Proteins and the Protein Ontology", *Proceedings of Bio-Ontologies Workshop (ISMB 2008)*, Toronto, 25-28; Robert Arp and Barry Smith, "Function Role, and Disposition in Basic Formal Ontology", *Proceedings of Bio-Ontologies Workshop (ISMB 2008)*, Toronto, 45-48; Barry Smith, "Ontology (Science)", in C. Eschenbach and M. Gruninger (eds.), *Formal Ontology in Information Systems. Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference (FOIS, Saarbrücken, 2008)*, Amsterdam: IOS Press, 21-35; Katherine Munn and Barry Smith (eds.), *Applied Ontology: An Introduction*, Frankfurt/Lancaster:ontos, 2008; Ludger Jansen and Barry Smith (eds.), *Die biomedizinische Ontologie. Philosophie – Lebenswissenschaften – Informationstechnik* (UTB Forum), Zurich: vdf, 2008.

Smith worked on the following international activities: "Bio-Ontologies: How to Make and Use Them," (a tutorial with Nigam Shah), International Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB), Toronto, Canada, July 18, 2008; Universidade Federal Fluminense, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil "An Introduction to Biomedical Ontology" (tutorial), August 14, 2008; Presentations to Center for Semiotic Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark, October 7 ("Ontology (Science) vs. Ontology (Engineering)" and "Depicting Reality"); Seminário de Pasquisa em Ontologia no Brasil, August 11-12, Department of Information Science, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil ("Ontology Science vs. Ontology Engineering: The Case of Biomedicine"); epSOS Workshop on Semantic Services, German Institute of Medical Documentation and Information, Cologne, October 1 ("Ontology-Supported Semantic Services"); Conference on Philosophy's Relevance in Information Science, Heinz Nixdorf Institute, Paderborn, Germany, October 3-4 ("The Relevance of Ontology in Information Science"); FOIS Conference (Formal Ontology in Information Systems), Saarbrücken, Germany, 2-4 November ("Ontology (Science)"); Conference of the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society, Sick Kids Hospital, Toronto, November 21 ("Ontology of Congenital Heart Disease"); Workshop on Approaches to Legal Ontologies, Department of Law, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, December 9 ("Legal Ontology: The Scientific Perspective"); Jurix 2008: 21st International Conference on Legal Knowledge and Information Systems, University of Florence, Italy, December 10 (Plenary address on: "How To Do Things With Documents"); Conference of the Volkswagen Foundation, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, January 12-13 ("Humanities and the Natural Sciences").

Barry Smith organized the following international conferences: First Open Biomedical Ontologies (OBO) Foundry Summit Meeting, European Bioinformatics Institute, Hinxton, Cambridge, UK, July 7-8, 2008; and the 2nd Interdisciplinary Ontology Conference, Tokyo, Japan, February 27-March 1, 2009.

Amanda Hicks, Ph.D. student, received an appointment as a Research Scientist at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences in Berlin, German. This appointment is from July 2008 to July 2009. The name of the project is KYOTO. It is funded by the European Union and has eleven different partners from eight different countries. She

also has one publication associated with project: Fellbaum, C., Hicks, A., Jones-Walters, L., Marchetti, A., Rigau, G., Soria, C., Vossen, P. (2008) Accumulated Knowledge. KYOTO Deliverable D6.1. KYOTO project. Hicks also has a presentation on the KYOTO project: Hicks, A. (2009), The First KYOTO Workshop, Feb. 2 -3, 2009, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Department of Political Science

Philip Arena, assistant professor, is presenting at two upcoming conferences. He will present "United We Fall: Bargaining Failure in the Face of Opposition Support" at The New Directions for International Relations Conference is to be hosted at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at IDC-Herzliya, Israel in July 2009. It covers various topics in the study of international conflict, emphasizing advances in research methods used to study conflict and conflict resolution. He also plans to present "Domestic Opposition and Strategic Under-mobilization for War" at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association will be held jointly with the annual meeting of the Brazilian International Studies Association in July 2010.

Dinissa Duvanova, assistant professor, presented a paper at the Global International Studies Conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia in July 2008. The paper's title is "Top-Down vs. Bottom-Up Institutions: Business Representation in Eastern Europe." She gave an invited talk "Business Interest Groups in the Enlarged EU: Formation of Industry and Employer Associations," at the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, University of Toronto, February 13, 2009.

Claude E. Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, authored "Defining Contemporary Forms of Slavery" for the February 2009 issue of *Human Rights Quarterly*, (Vol. 31, No. 1), pp. 70-128. The London-based NGO Anti-Slavery was founded in 1839. For almost all its history, it remained a small group, working primarily through informal links to British parliamentarians. Pressure from it made a significant though indirect impact on the 1926 League of Nations slavery convention and the 1956 United Nations supplementary convention. Anti-Slavery's focus has shifted from chattel to contemporary forms of slavery, which remain poorly defined in international law. This article examines both the evolution of Anti-Slavery and the League of Nation's and the UN's failure to establish an effective monitoring group, which Anti-Slavery has consistently pressed unsuccessfully for.

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

Galen Brokaw, associate professor, was a Fellow for the National Endowment for the Humanities Traveling Institute, "Andean Worlds," held in Peru, from June to August 2008. Brokaw was invited by The National Museum of Anthropology, Archaeology, and History in Peru to give a lecture on the khipu in the colonial period at a symposium organized in conjunction with a khipu exhibit, January 15-18, 2009.

Department of Visual Studies

Gary Nickard, clinical assistant professor, was a presenter for a one-day conference on "The Impossibility of Neutrality: Photography after the Document" at the National Portrait Gallery in London, UK on December 5, 2008. The conference explored the question "What is the photographic document today and why is its force never 'neutral'?" The conference brought together a range of speakers working on the subject of photographic documentation and the philosophies of the photographic in contemporary practice. How do the diverse fields of inquiry into the photographic document – as done by artists, historians, anthropologists, philosophers and curators – relate to the image and its subject? Which potential applications of the document exist today in a field ranging from fine art, print and performance to research? Other speakers included: **Howard Caygill** (Goldsmiths College), **Elizabeth Edwards** (London College of Communication), **Carol Mavor** (University of Manchester), **Amy**

Rosenblum-Martín (Independent Curator from New York), **Ralph Rugoff** (Director, Hayward Gallery) and **Val Williams** (Photography and the Archive Research Centre). The event has been organized by **Craig Smith** and **Wiebke Leister** with support from the Photography and the Archive Research Centre at the London College of Communication.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Department of Oral Surgery

Sebastian Ciano, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, has been invited to present a lecture on "Medications: Impact on Periodontal and Implant Therapy" at the annual meeting of the Federation Dentaire International to be held in Singapore on September 3, 2009. He is also presenting a lecture "Current Concepts in Periodontal Therapy" to the Asia Pacific Society of Periodontology in Singapore on Aug. 31, 2009. Ciano was also invited to give a lecture "Perio-chemotherapeutics: the 21st Century" to the meeting of the International Academy of Periodontology to be held in Agra India in April 2009. At that meeting he was installed as President of the International Academy of Periodontology. The International Academy of Periodontology was established in 1985 to improve knowledge and disseminate information about periodontics worldwide to those who have an interest in the prevention and treatment of diseases of the periodontium.

Othman Shibly, assistant professor; coordinator, International Advanced Dental Education; and associate director, Center for Dental Studies, was among only a few academicians from U.S. dental schools to be invited to an international symposium for the Cerebration of the Opening of the new dental hospital and school building at Chonnam National University in South Korea, November 1 to 3, 2008. The focus of the symposium was "New Wave in Dentistry." Shibly presented new protocols in preventive dentistry and tobacco counseling. The title of his presentation was "Comprehensive risk assessment and its impact on long term successful treatment outcome" His topic was well received. Korean dental students presented their work in their exchange programs with universities around the world. Among those presenters were those students who presented their experience in the School of Dental Medicine at UB. At the end of the program Shibly received several appreciation awards from the president of the university and the dean for his contribution to international education in general and to South Korean students in particular.

Shibly and his wife, **Sawsan Tabbaa**, assistant professor, Department of Orthodontics, were invited guest speakers at the 7th International Conference of Medical Sciences, 23-25nd December 2008. The conference had the theme "Contemporary Researches and Health Problems". This invitation was sponsored by the Oral and Dental Research Dept., Medical Research Division, National Research Center, Cairo, Egypt. Shibly's topic was "Creating the ideal soft tissue framework around implant and natural teeth." Tabbaa presented "Periodontally accelerated orthodontic treatment." From December 28 to January 1, 2009 Shibly and Tabbaa were hosted by King Abdulaziz University, Dental School by Dr. Ali Al-Ghamdi BDS, Cert. Periodontics, MS, FRCD. Al-Ghamdi is an alumnus of UB's Dental School with an MS in Oral Science and certificate in Periodontics. Currently, he is head of the Periodontic Division, Chairman of Oral Basic and Clinical Sciences Department, chair of the Saudi Board in Periodontics, Western Region Faculty of Dentistry at King Abdul Aziz University. Their lectures covered current research on implant dentistry. Shibly and Tabbaa established strong relation with UB alumni and collaborated on research. They have submitted joined papers with Dr. Al Ghamdi that were accepted in the *International Journal of Periodontology*. The two papers were accepted and they cover areas of bone grafting to compensate bone loss during periodontal disease. Shibly and Tabbaa were also invited to visit the National Guard Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from January 1 - 6, 2009. In one reception they met with more than thirty dental specialists, most of whom were UB alumni. In Riyadh they presented their re-

search and work at the in two Universities and two hospitals. They presented at the University of King Saud, School of Dental Medicine and the University of Riyadh Dental School, and the National Guard hospital and the King Khaled Specialty Hospital, one of the most advanced hospitals in the Middle east. Some of the UB graduates hold the highest and most respected positions in Riyadh like Dr. Abduaziz Al-Suwayed he is the director of the Royal dental clinic in Riyadh. Their alumni hold were well respected in their schools and hospital because of their advanced training they received in the UB dental school. Another alumnus whom they met was Dr. Feras Al Khayal, the director of orthodontic department at the National Guard Hospital. Shibly and Tabbaa also met Dr. Mohammed Al Ghazi, Dr. Saud Al Mujalli, Dr. Mohammed Yasser Tabbaa, Dr. Sultan Al Mubarak is the head of dental research at the Specialty Hospital.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy

Stephen L. Jacobson, professor and associate dean, was a participant in the following symposia at the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management Conference in Durban, Republic of South Africa, in September 2008: "Successful principals revisited: Five years later," "International perspectives on the preparation and development of leaders"; and "Comparative perspectives on school leadership practice and preparation." Also in 2008, Jacobson delivered a two-day workshop on leadership preparation for College Principals in Malta, sponsored by the Maltese Ministry of Education and Culture and the U.S. Embassy in Malta (June 2008); a two-day research workshop for doctoral students at the University of Oslo, Norway in May 2008; and, in March 2008, a nationally broadcast lecture on "Successful Leadership in High Poverty Schools," sponsored by the Tecnologico de Monterrey, Mexico. Jacobson delivered the Presidential Address to the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) in October 2008. The address was entitled, "UCEA's re-emerging role in a world of interdependent nations." The address will appear in an abbreviated form in the next issue of the *UCEA Review* as well as in an extended form as a chapter in a contracted book.

Jacobson also had the following works published that have an international focus: Jacobson, S. & Bezzina, C. (2008). "The effects of leadership on student academic/affection achievement," in *International handbook on the preparation and development of school leaders* (pp. 80-102), G. Crow, J. Lumby & P. Pashiardis (Eds.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications; Jacobson, S. (2008), "Leadership for success in high poverty elementary schools," *Journal of Educational Leadership, Policy and Practice*, 23(1): 3-19; Johnson, L., Møller, J., Jacobson, S. & Wong, K.C. (2008), "Cross-national comparisons in the International Successful School Principalship Project: The United States, Norway, and China," *Scandinavian Journal of Educational Research*, 52(4): 407-422. Jacobson is continuing his work on the International Successful School Principalship Project, which has grown from 8 nations in 2001— Australia, Canada, China, Denmark England, Norway, Sweden and the U.S.—to 15, with the addition of research teams in Cyprus, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Slovenia, South Africa, and Turkey. Based on the project's most recent findings, Jacobson is the lead author on an article, "Sustaining School Success: A Case for Governance Change," in a special issue of the *Journal of Educational Administration*, and is the co-editor of *Comparative Perspectives on School Leader Practice and Preparation* (2010, Springer).

Yoshiko Nozaki, associate professor and coordinator of academic programs in comparative education, has several on-going studies that have international and global perspectives. For example, her team project, "Gender Equality and Higher Education in Asia and Beyond," has been very successful in identifying gender gap trends, including "reverse gender gap," in student enrollment and their choices of major fields of study across the world. In another study, "Japanese Overseas Children in the United States: From Immigrants to Transients in the Era of Educational Globalization," Nozaki is looking into the possibilities and limits of bi-culturalism in educational

policy and practice in Japan and the U.S. in contemporary forms of globalization.

Robert Stevenson, associate professor, has edited a book of case study research on environmental learning in formal, non-formal, and informal educational settings in a wide range of international contexts, including Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. Stevenson is also a co-editor of the inaugural *International Handbook of Research on Environmental Education* to be published by the American Educational Research Association. The handbook includes over 50 contributors from six continents. The authors examine and analyze the history, status, and future directions of research in environmental education.

Department of Learning and Instruction

Ming Ming Chiu, professor, analyzes students' mathematics, science, and reading achievement in 41 countries. Chiu's findings indicate that students score higher if they have richer families or schoolmates, have higher self-concepts, or use metacognitive strategies. These effects are stronger in individualistic countries. Family involvement effects, such as time with children, are stronger in richer countries. Students score lower in countries or schools with greater inequality (e.g., family, school, bias toward richer students, separation of rich students away from poor students) via four inequality mechanisms: fewer educational resources, less social solidarity, poorer student discipline, or diminishing marginal returns.

Kazuma Hatano, Ph.D. candidate in the Foreign Language Education Program, has had an article published in the March/April 2009 issue of *Educational Studies*, *A Journal of the American Educational Studies Association*. The title of his article is "Voice in EFL Education in a Japanese Context: Makiguchi's Perspectives in the Concept of 'Voice'."

James Hoot, professor and director of the Early Childhood Research Center, and a team of doctoral students are studying problems and issues that emerge in integrating very young refugee children into public school programs. Buffalo is one of the largest refugee resettlement centers in the U.S., with four separate refugee resettlement organizations in the community. Specifically, Hoot and his research team are looking at issues such as the effects of trauma on children, strategies teachers can use to support refugee children in classrooms, barriers to academic success of refugee children, and strategies for establishing partnerships with refugee families.

Xiufeng Liu, associate professor of science education, was invited to visit Beijing Normal University, East China Normal University, and Chinese Research Institute for Science Popularization in November 2008. During his visits, he gave a number of public talks on formal and informal science education, science communication, and science education policy. He also held seminars for master's and doctoral students in science education, philology of science, and other related disciplines.

Sarah Robert, assistant professor, is doing research involving global issues concerning the relation of social equity and educational labor and/or policy. Her studies include examining globalization discourses and processes in Brazilian higher education; gender policy training in graduate programs in U.S. universities; and the intersection of gender, teachers' work, and educational reform in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Through her work, which has been published internationally, Robert is attempting to connect with a global network of scholars who are focusing on issues of social equity in educational policy and its analysis.

Deborah Moore-Russo, assistant professor, and **Thomas Schroeder**, associate professor, received funding from Higher Education for Development to establish a partnership with the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in South Africa. The "Enhancing Secondary Mathematics Teacher Education" project will recruit black

South African females who are currently teaching mathematics in grades 10–12 without adequate qualifications into an innovative mathematics teacher education program designed to meet their needs. Teachers will be able to earn credits toward a B.Sc. degree in mathematics education at UKZN, and will focus on strengthening both their mathematical knowledge and their pedagogical skills.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

Paschalis Alexandridis, UB Distinguished Professor, presented an invited lecture on "Block Copolymer-Directed Nanomaterials Synthesis and Organization" at the 7th Hellenic Polymer Conference (Ioannina, Greece) in September 2008. In the context of his trip to Greece, Alexandridis also visited and had discussions with colleagues at the School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University; the Institute of Physical Chemistry, National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos"; and the Theoretical and Physical Chemistry Institute, National Hellenic Research Foundation, all located in Athens. Alexandridis presented an invited talk on "Polymer-Directed Nanoparticle Organization and Synthesis" at the Polymer Reaction Engineering VII conference held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, in May 2009.

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Deborah Chung, National Grid Professor, presented the following lectures in Spain and Portugal in May 2008: "Multifunctional Cement-Based Materials", University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain, May 7, 2008; "The Piezoresistive Behavior of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Cement", University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain, May 8, 2008; "Durability of Cement-Based and Polymer-Based Structural Materials," Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Departamento de Engenharia Civil, Quinta da Torre, Monte da Caparica, Portugal, May 9, 2008; "Multifunctional Cement-Based Materials," University of Minho, Guimarães, Portugal, May 12, 2008.

Kemper Lewis, professor of Competitive Product and Process Design, and executive director, New York State Center for Engineering Design and Industrial Innovation, gave a seminar in March 2009 at IIT-Madras in Chennai, India entitled, "Foundations for the Design and Development of Reconfigurable Systems." Lewis also met with their Engineering Design department about research and education collaborations.

Tarunraj Singh, professor, was invited by the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid to be a speaker at the "2nd International Seminar on New Issues of Artificial Intelligence." His keynote address entitled "An Overview of Advanced Estimation Algorithms" was one of eight presentations over the five-day workshop (2-6 February, 2009) which attracted students and scientists from Spain and Brazil. He also presented his research at the University of Vigo, Spain on the 2nd of Feb. The title of his seminar was "Convex Programming in Controller Design for Flexible Structures."

LAW SCHOOL

Makau Mutua, SUNY Distinguished Professor and dean, participated in a conference in Nairobi, Kenya titled "One Kenya, One Dream: The Kenya We Want." This national conference, which was held at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre in February 2009, was aimed at helping the country recover from the wounds of the post-election violence that erupted at the end of 2007, leaving left more than 1,000 people dead and another 350,000 displaced. Successive governments have been accused of protecting perpetrators of human rights abuse and economic crimes in Kenya. In a paper titled "The Kenya We Want. Building a Sustainable Nationhood for Our Common Future," Mutua accused successive Kenyan governments of forming "protection rackets" to shield human rights abusers and suspects of economic crimes from being held accountable. Mutua said retired President Moi protected looters of the Kenyatta era, while President Kibaki has protected the Moi era thieves. The

government organized the conference to strengthen ongoing efforts in national reconciliation. Prime Minister Raila Odinga said this would lead Kenyans to achieve "Vision 2030." But the delegates at the meeting accused leaders of dividing Kenyans along tribal lines.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Biochemistry

Michael Garrick, professor, organized a symposium for the 13th TEMA meeting (Trace Elements for Man and Animals) on 9-13 November, 2008, in Pucón, Chile on "Increasing Awareness of Rare Transition Elements," where he presented the lead off paper on "Reasons for Increasing Awareness of Rare Transition Elements". **Laura Garrick**, research associate professor, was independently invited by the TEMA organizers to present a paper at the same meeting entitled "Accumulation of Trace Metals as an Assay for Transport (by DMT1)".

An international collaboration involving UB culminated recently with a publication: Salazar, J., Mena, N., Hunot, S., Prigent, A., Alvarez-Fischer, D., Arredondo, M., Duyckaerts, C., Sazdovitch, V., Zhao, L., Garrick, L.M., Nuñez, M.T., Garrick, M.D., Raisman-Vozari, R. and Hirsch, E.C. 2008 "Divalent metal transporter 1 (DMT1) contributes to neurodegeneration in animal models of Parkinson's disease," *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 105:18578-18583. Julio Salazar, M.D., became interested in Parkinson's Disease during his training at the University of Chile and continued his studies to obtain a Ph.D. from INSERM (Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale) in Paris with this paper the major part of his thesis. UB's contributors were **Michael and Laura Garrick** and **Lin Zhao** from the Department of Biochemistry where the critical experiments were done on the animal models during a postdoctoral visit by Julio Salazar. His faculty mentors at INSERM were Hirsch, a well known expert on Parkinson's Disease and Raisman-Vozari who works on neurodegeneration. Stephane Hunot, Annick Prigent, Daniel Alvarez-Fischer, Charles Duyckaerts and Veronique Sazdovitch also participated at INSERM, while Drs. Natalia Mena, Miguel Arredondo and Marco T. Nuñez contributed reagents and analyses from the Millennium Institute for Cell Dynamics and Biotechnology and Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile.

Mulchand S. Patel, SUNY and UB Distinguished Professor, participated in two conferences and a workshop in India during January 2009. On January 15, Patel participated in a Nutrition Conference entitled "Healthy Start: Maternal and Child Nutrition", organized by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat. He was involved in organization of the scientific program of this Conference. The title of his presentation was "Metabolic programming due to altered nutrition in early life: Development of obesity". From January 18-20, 2009, Patel participated in an "International Conference on Molecular Medicine-2009" in Chennai. Patel was the Chief Guest at the Inaugural Program at this Conference. He organized a Mini-symposium on "Metabolic Disorders" in this Conference. The title of his presentation was "Metabolic programming due to altered nutrition in early life: Development of metabolic syndrome and its reversal". During January 22-23, Patel participated in a "Workshop on Biochemical and Biotechnological Research" on the Education Campus Changa in Changa, Gujarat. He was also the guest of honour at this workshop. The title of his presentation was "Human pyruvate dehydrogenase complex: Evolution, regulation, and genetic defects". Patel also presented a seminar in the Department of Biochemistry, M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat during this visit.

Department of Biostatistics

Randolph L. Carter, professor and associate chair, had two recent collaborations with Japanese organizations. The most important and news worthy of the two is his collaboration with the Radiation Effects Research Foundation in Hiroshima, Japan. Carter and his student, **Austin Miller** visited the Foundation in early 2009. This collabora-

tion has been ongoing since November, 2006. The second collaboration is through Carter's involvement in the Gynecology Oncology Group (GOG) Statistics and Data Center at RPCI. One study that Carter has worked on involved the participation of GOG-Japan. Two papers have come from that study, one presenting North American (U.S. and Canada) data and the second presenting the Japanese data on using HPV virus and CA-IX biomarkers to diagnose cervical neoplasia early in a group of high risk women.

Department of Ophthalmology

Steven J. Fliesler, Meyer Richwun Professor of Ophthalmology, vice-chair and director of Research Department of Ophthalmology/Ross Eye Institute, presented invited lectures at both the XIIIth International Symposium on Retinal Degeneration (RD2008, Emeishan, China, and at the XVIII International Congress of Eye Research (ICER; Beijing, China. The first lecture, "Retinal Degeneration in the AY9944-Induced Rat Model of Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome: Biological, Biochemical, and Biophysical Correlates" was part of Symposium: Retinal Degeneration Mechanisms & Gene Therapy- I, RD2008- XIIIth International Symposium on Retinal Degeneration, Emeishan, China (Sept. 18-23, 2008). The second lecture, "Retinal Degeneration and Therapeutic Intervention in an Animal Model of a Hereditary Cholesterol Deficiency Syndrome." Symposium: Retinal Diseases- Mechanisms and Treatment; XVIII International Congress of Eye Research (ICER), Beijing, China (Sept. 24-29, 2008)

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Suzanne Aquilina, clinical instructor, went to South Africa from April 13-23, 2009 with People to People. This group includes physicians, nurse practitioners, and lactation consultants and they will explore breastfeeding in South Africa and barriers to government support. She plans to use what she learns in her teaching and breastfeeding research.

Yow-Wu Bill Wu, associate professor, will teach a 3 credit doctoral course in the Faculty of Nursing at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand from June 22 to July 10, 2009. The title of the course is "Advanced Nursing Research Design" and focuses on quantitative research methods with emphasis on the identification and reduction of threats to internal and external validity. A variety of experimental, quasi-experimental and non-experimental designs are compared and contrasted.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

William J. Jusko, SUNY Distinguished Professor, **Joseph P. Balthasar**, professor, and **Donald E. Mager**, assistant professor, presented a three-day course in Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics to 60 participants from Europe and Japan at the University Paris Descartes, Paris, France, on January 7-9, 2009.

Mager served as visiting professor at the University Paris Descartes, Paris, France, for the period of January 5-23, 2009, presenting a series of lectures and computer workshops on pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. Mager also provided a half-day workshop on target-mediated drug disposition and delivered the keynote lecture at the 3rd Roche/Novartis Modeling & Simulation Meeting in Basel, Switzerland on January 15, 2009.

ROSWELL PARK CANCER INSTITUTE

Arthur M. Michalek, professor and senior vice president for academic affairs, traveled to the National Cancer Institute of Egypt in Cairo in December 2008 with a group of American investigators from the University of Michigan, Dartmouth, and M.D. Anderson. The purpose of his visit was to review and assist Egyptian colleagues in the reform of their graduate medical education program.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Filomena Critelli, assistant professor, will be presenting her Pakistan

research, *Claiming the right to freedom from violence in Pakistan*, at The Fifth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign from May 20-23, 2009. In addition, her manuscripts "Beyond the Veil in Pakistan," and "Women's Rights=Human Rights: Pakistani Women Against Gender Violence" were accepted for publication in the Social Work journals *Affilia* and the *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, respectively. Not limited to work in Pakistan, she also has a chapter accepted for publication, "A Barrel of Oil for a Doctor: Resilient Cuba," in *Cuba in the World, The World in Cuba: Essays on History, Politics Culture* published by University of Florence Press. The book is a collection of papers and commentaries from a conference titled "Cuba: Strategic Island, New Perspectives on History, Politics and Culture," held in Florence, Italy in November 16-17 2007.

Mansoor Kazi, research associate professor, convened a Special Interest Group for "International Members of SSWR," at the Society for Social Work Research annual conference, New Orleans (January 2009). He will also be presenting a paper, "Realist Evaluation of Social Services: What Works and in What Circumstances," at the Fourth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, University of Athens, Athens, Greece, 8-11 July 2009.

Larry Shulman, professor and dean emeritus, will be at the Culture and Mental Health: Emerging Trends in Psychotherapy and Social Programs (International and Cuban Approaches) conference in Cuba sponsored by the World Psychiatric Association in February, 2009. *Social Work: International and Cuban Perspectives* ed by Lawrence Shulman and executives of the board of the Cuban Association of Social Workers. He will also do a post-conference one-day workshop on The Essential Skills of Supervision

Nancy Smyth, professor and dean, presented her paper, *Social Work & Disaster Response – Lessons Learned from Hurricane Katrina*, at the Rutgers School of Social Work in New Jersey and at a co-sponsored international conference on disaster responses which was held in Israel on January 8-9, 2009. In the summer, she will be leading a small group of Social Work faculty and administrators on a visit to Amrita University in India to explore opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

Hilary Weaver, professor, has a new recent publication, (2008). Striving for cultural competence: Moving beyond potential and transforming the helping professions. In R.H. Dana & J.R. Allen (eds). *International and Cultural Psychology: Cultural Competency Training in a Global Society*. Springer. 139-162.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

UB Libraries have been chosen to be a host site in summer 2009 for the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) "Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics" workshop. UB Libraries is partnering with the local Western New York/Ontario Chapter of ACRL on program arrangements, which will involve ACRL members on both sides of the border. UB is one of five successful applicants of forty-six submitted representing nearly 150 colleges, universities, consortium, and library networks from over thirty states, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and vice provost, was a presenter for the session "What's in an Acronym? TRUN: Facilitating Cooperation between Canadian and U.S. Research Universities" at the annual conference of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) in Atlanta, Georgia in February 2009; the presentation described the University at Buffalo's efforts in establishing the Transborder Research University Network (TRUN). At the AIEA Conference, Dunnett also presented at a session titled "Recruitment and Beyond: A U.S. Perspective." In April 2009 Dunnett was a presenter for the session "Three Case Studies: Integrating International Students into the Host University Environment" at the annual conference of the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE), held at Renmin University in Beijing, China. Dunnett will also be presenting at the annual conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in Los Angeles in May 2009. His NAFSA session is titled "Looking in the Mirror: Program Reviews and Self-Studies in International Education" and his presentation is titled "External Reviews of Offices of International Student and Scholar Services or Comprehensive Internationalization."

John J. Wood, associate vice provost, has been invited to give a presentation in June 2009 on the Transborder Research University Network (TRUN) at the annual meeting in Geneva, Switzerland of the Coimbra Group, a network of leading universities located in Europe's capital cities. The two university networks are exploring potential forms of cooperation. Following the meeting in Geneva, Mr. Wood will take part in the "Germany Today" program organized and sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). This program annually brings some 20 university administrators from the United States and Canada for a week-long, in-depth look at German higher education and ways that German institutions might cooperate with their counterparts in the United States and Canada. 🌐

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UB HOSTS "CHINA 150" STUDENTS

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the University at Buffalo was one of the host campuses in the State University of New York (SUNY) for 150 undergraduate students from Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China.

The "China 150" program was an effort by SUNY to assist university students from the region in China devastated by a major earthquake in April 2008. SUNY partnered with senior government officials of China to sponsor the students' studies in SUNY.

Twenty-two SUNY campuses hosted the China 150 students, mostly sophomores and juniors, during the past year, with the number of students per campus varying from one to nineteen. Four of the 150 students came to UB to study for an academic year.


The 150 students were chosen after a careful review of their academic performance as well as English language testing conducted by a team of eight experienced English language teachers from across China.

The participating students included 53 men and 97 women, with about about 10 percent from Chinese minorities, including the Zang (Tibet)

engineering major, also from CUT; Yang Ran, a mechanical engineering student from Southwest Jiaotong University; and Tianyuan Ruan, a biotechnology student from Sichuan University. All had a successful year at UB.

As part of the China 150 initiative, the Chinese government is providing 10 scholarships to SUNY students for a full year of study in China.

Currently, there are more than 2,316 Chinese students studying at SUNY campuses—nearly 25 percent of them at UB.

The SUNY total represents 42 percent of the overall Chinese student population in New York State (5,532). 



L to r: Ling Ai, Ellen Dussourd, Yang Ran, Stephen Dunnett, Tianyuan Ruan, Marvis Robinson, Ting Dai, and Raymond Lew

and Qiang ethnic groups.

Each Chinese student has committed to return to China upon completion of their programs in May/June 2009 and to a period of national service in Sichuan to help with the rebuilding effort.

The four students at UB were Ling Ai, a chemical engineering student from Chengdu University of Technology (CUT); Ting Dai, an industrial en-

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John J. Wood, Editor