

The Globe

Official newsletter of Hofstra's
Department of Global Studies and Geography

SPRING 2018
VOL 1. NO. 2

Chair's Welcome

On behalf of the Department, welcome to our Spring Newsletter. As can be seen, this has been another hectic semester in the Department and the faculty are all looking forward to summer, when we get a break from teaching and can focus on our various research agendas. The end of the semester is always a bitter-sweet time in the Department as we say goodbye to our graduates. While we wish them well in their future career paths, their presence, built up over four years, is always missed. It is thus great that so many of them stay in contact with us via our various social media platforms, allowing us to see their progress through academia, jobs and starting families. If any alumni are reading this and are not members of our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) Groups, please join as these provide great networking opportunities that will be useful to you going forward.

In other news, our new [BS](#) in GIS has not only started picking up majors, but also graduated our first major this Spring (more on graduates and graduation to follow in our Fall Newsletter). I am continually grateful to Assistant Professor, Craig Dalton for his tireless efforts promoting GIS on campus and mentoring our students in GIS. This Fall will be the Department's 10th anniversary, and we are hoping to be able to put together a great alumni reunion party (hint to any alumni interested in making this possible – press the [donations](#) tab on our website!). I also want to congratulate our five December Graduates, Meshack Eshun Addy (Global Studies), Connor Mayes (Global Studies, Geography and German – the latter two with Department honors), Sarah McCabe (Global Studies and Psychology), Jennifer Steinberg (Global Studies and graduate degree in Early Child Education) and Amanda Skeene (Global Studies, Geography and Dance).

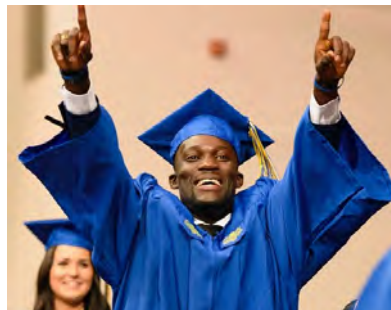
Lastly, it was wonderful to see so many alumni and current students, as well as faculty presenting at the recent American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in New Orleans. This is such a big positive change from ten years ago, when I would often be the sole Hofstra representative amongst 7,000 attendees (since grown to 11,000). I want to highlight the role of two of our past geography graduates, Adrienne Gillespie, '10 and Allison Redmond, '11 who got the ball rolling and volunteered to work at the AAG held in D.C. in 2010. They were part of a small group of geography devotees, including Alyssa Cocco, '11 whose enthusiasm and hard work contributed so much to get our Department off the ground in 2008 and 2009. Our current students and faculty owe them a great debt of gratitude for all the hard work they put into helping to build the Department into the success it is today.

This Newsletter would not have been possible without the hard work of our student aides, Christina Paccadolmi, Rachel Scarpino, and Emilie Beck, and our Department Administrator, Jackie Geis. A big thank you to all.

Dr. Grant Saff, Professor and Chair



Adrienne Gillespie, '10 and Allison Redmond, '11,
AAG Volunteers, Washington, D.C. April 2010



Meshack Eshun Addy, Graduation December '17



December Graduates, Sarah McCabe, Amanda
Skeene, and Connor Mayes

Faculty News

Dr. Craig Dalton, Assistant Professor of Geography, has been very active this spring. He published a paper in *The Canadian Geographer*, "[Counter-Mapping Data Science](#)", about counter-mapping, which is described in his article as the integration of practices for social change that "offers a productive and promising approach for grassroots data science initiatives". Dr. Dalton was interviewed alongside the History Department's Dr. Katrina Simms for Hofstra's radio station. The interview focused on gerrymandering and its effects on both political and racial groups. He and Dr. Sims also discussed the implications of a pending Supreme Court case on the legality of partisan gerrymandering, which should be decided on in June. Finally, Dr. Dalton also co-organized a workshop before the AAG national conference that brought together scholars from around the U.S. and world to talk about socially-engaged GIS and to contribute to GIS projects with a community partner, the Gulf Restoration Network. At the AAG conference itself, he presented a paper on the cultural visions and implications of geolocated, augmented reality mobile device games, such as Pokémon GO and he was a panelist for "My City Is Smarter than Yours: Deconstructing the Buzzwords" as he discussed open data and smart city initiatives.



Dr. Dalton with James Eager (Global Studies and Geography '18) at recent AAG.

Dr. Hewan Girma, Adjunct Instructor, since 2010 and an alumnus of Hofstra, successfully defended her thesis entitled "Unequal Migrations: An Intersectional Analysis of Ethiopian Return Migration" in the Department of Sociology at Stony Brook University on May 4th and is now officially, Dr. Girma! She has accepted a tenure-track position in the African-American and African Diaspora Studies Department at the University of North Carolina Greensboro starting in Fall 2018.



In February, **Dr. Zilkia Janer, Professor of Global Studies**, spoke at the presentation of the book *Keywords for Latina/o Studies*, to which she is a contributor. The book is an interdisciplinary collection of essays, each one reflecting upon the debates around a key concept in the field of Latina/o Studies. Dr. Janer wrote about food as a keyword to explore Latina/o history, politics and culture. The book presentation was organized by the publisher, NYU Press. The event allowed the book editors and many of the co-authors to have a public discussion about how the book illuminates the current state and possible future of Latina/o Studies.

Dr. Janer had another Latina/o studies related speaking engagement last October. She delivered the Latina/o Heritage Month opening address at SUNY Fredonia. The title of her talk was *Latinx Food and Culture: More than Heritage*.



Dr. Janer with the book editors and co-authors.

Dr. Nisha Korattyswaroopam, Adjunct Assistant Professor, spent the year gathering background data for an upcoming project regarding walkability in residential areas in one of the most southern states of India, Kerala. While main roads have recently been improved upon, the roads connecting residential areas have been predominantly neglected, making it difficult for people to utilize the improved infrastructure. She plans to carry out fieldwork for this project over the summer.



Dr. Veronica Lippencott, Adjunct Associate Professor, was recently named an Associate Director for the Center for "Race", Culture and Social Justice, which was established in January 2017 under the auspices of the Provost's Office. The Center was established to promote diversity and cultural awareness in faculty hiring, curriculum, and professional development. The Center works in collaboration with a Faculty & Student Advisory Board along with an executive board that incorporates other Hofstra members. They sponsor several campus events, offer research grants, and actively engage with the Hofstra community in efforts to raise the profile of their efforts on campus. The office is located in 203 Roosevelt Hall. Also, Dr. Lippencott recently presented a paper at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in New Orleans entitled, "Parking Lot Pimping: Alternative Party Spaces in Nairobi, Kenya."



Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Professor of Geography, spent the Fall 2017 semester on sabbatical in France, having been invited by the University of Lyon as a visiting scholar. He stayed with his wife and son for three months while he gave research seminars and collaborated with local scholars over city logistics issues and how planners are dealing with this challenge. Each year, after a competitive process, the University of Lyon only invites around 15 scholars from around the world based upon its research priorities. He enjoyed his time abroad but is also happy to be back! Dr. Rodrigue has also maintained an active portfolio of international conference presentations, including venues such as the World Bank, the World Economic Forum and the International Transportation Forum of the OECD.

His keynote presentation about the resilience and sustainability of multi-modal supply chains was made available [online](#).



Dr. Grant Saff, Professor and Chair, gave an invited talk in November 2017 in the Geography department at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. In April he presented a paper at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in New Orleans as part of an invited session focused around the theme of “Pragmatism in Geography: Between Objectivity and Affect Lies Social Hope.” His paper, jointly presented with Professor Antònia Casellas, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, was titled, “Pragmatic dilemmas in urban planning: the case of Plaça dels Àngels, Barcelona.” The paper is part of Dr. Saff’s ongoing collaborative research into urban redevelopment and planning in the El Raval neighborhood of Barcelona. He will be spending the summer conducting research in Barcelona.



Dr. Grant Saff, presenting at UAB, Barcelona November 2018.

Department News

Fall ‘17, Connor Mayes Defends his Geography Thesis

Triple major (Global Studies, Geography and German) and graduating senior, Connor Mayes, successfully defended his Geography Honors Thesis on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. Under the supervision of Professor Kari Jensen, Connor’s thesis, “Ruling the Bloodlands: the Relationship between Space, Resources, and Genocide” focused on the tangible, physical motivations behind genocidal events, such as natural resource extraction, territorial expansion, and a desire for slaves. In addition to a historical overview of these genocidal motivations, Connor presented a case-study of the Bosnian Genocide. Connor also successfully defended a thesis called “Traveling Texts: An Analysis of Migrant Literature and Transnational Writing in Germany” as part of his German major under the supervision Professor Neal Donahue. Visit our [website](#) to read Connor’s thesis.



Connor Mayes with his thesis committee: Professor Ruiz, Professor Jensen, and Professor Janer.

Students Achieve Academic Excellence

Seven of our majors were nominated for induction into Phi Beta Kappa this Spring: Emilie Beck (Global Studies and Geography), Larissa Bryant (Geography), James Eager (Global Studies and Geography), Connor Mayes (Global Studies and Geography), Fatimah Mozawalla (Geography), Lois Paquette (Geography) and Amanda Skeene (Global Studies and Geography). We are so proud that our Department has produced the most inductees from the Kalikow School and the second highest number in the University (behind Psychology).

Spring 2018, Global Studies and Geography Major, Alishbah Saddiqui Wins the 2018-19 Inaba Scholarship

The Global Studies and Geography Department is pleased to announce that Alishbah Saddiqui is the 2018 recipient of the Masaharu G. Inaba Endowed Memorial Scholarship.

Alishbah is a rising third year student who came to the U.S. from Pakistan with her family when she was just two years old. English is her fourth language and she speaks a total of six languages: English, Urdu, French, Punjabi, Arabic and Hindi. She initially majored in Biology with the intention of becoming a doctor, but soon realized this was not the path for her and changed to a triple major in Global Studies, Geography and Political Science, along with a minor in English. Along the way she fell in love with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and hopes to use these skills working in international relations to pursue her passion for humanitarian intervention, human rights and global justice.

Donated by the Inaba family in memory of the late Dr. George Inaba, who taught geography at Hofstra from 1959 to 1983, this scholarship award amount ranges between \$6,000 and \$7,000. It is awarded annually to Global Studies and Geography majors and is in addition to any other financial awards that a student receives. Alishbah is the sixth GS and Geography major to receive this annual award.

Visit the [Inaba Scholarship page](#) for more information and a list of previous awardees.

Well done Alishbah!



Two Student's Undergraduate Research was Featured in Hofstra Horizons of Undergraduate Research Winter '18

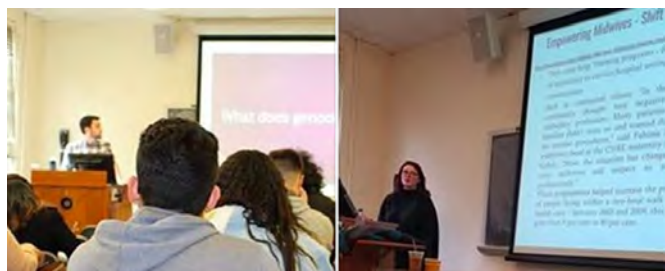
Connor Mayes Fall '17 was featured for his thesis in Geography, his thesis in German, and his GIS research on the refugee crisis in Germany. Connor started with the Burma Task Force at the UN in May.

Sarah Gerwens Spring '17 was featured for her thesis in Global Studies titled "Anglicisms- Nein Danke? Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of the Occurrence and Usage of English Loanwords in Contemporary German(y)" which received high honors and won the Undergraduate Library Research Award. Sarah is finishing her MSc at the London School of Economics.



Spring '18, Professor Kari Jensen invited two of our honors students as guest lecturers in her Human Geography Class

On April 3rd and 5th, Professor Kari Jensen had two guest lecturers in her Human Geography class. Connor Mayes, Geography and Global Studies graduate Fall '17, lectured on *The Geography of Genocide* drawing from his research for his undergraduate thesis. Emilie Beck, Geography and Global Studies major and the course's peer teacher, lectured on *Geographies of Peace and Conflict* drawing on her experience with her internship at the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders.



Connor Mayes and Emilie Beck Presenting in Dr. Jensen's Class.

Spring '18 First Year Connections Students Visit the United Nations Headquarters

On Friday, May 4, 2018, Dr. Kari Jensen and her Child Labor in the World Today First-Year Connections seminar took a trip to the **United Nations Headquarters** in New York City and went on an amazing tour that thoroughly showed the students what a day at the UN may be like. Highlights of the tour included seeing beautiful and thought-provoking pieces of art given to the UN by countries around the world and walking through the meeting rooms of three different organizations that are part of the UN, namely the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



The group learned how progress is made by the different UN organizations, and particularly how the UN tries to create and maintain peace. After the guided tour, the group decided to head over to Songkran, a Thai restaurant in Chelsea, where the students got to experience a lunch filled with the tastes of delicious Thai cuisine. Once lunch was over, the group concluded their journey by taking a walk on the High Line, a park which was made from an old railway on the west side of Manhattan. Overall, the group had a great time as they learned about the UN and dined on Thai food. Thanks to the First-Year Connections program at Hofstra for sponsoring the trip.



Students outside the UN building in NY.

Our Geography Honors Society, Mu Kappa, Receives Prestigious Honors Award for Third Year in a Row

Congratulations to the student and faculty members of Mu Kappa – the Hofstra University chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU), the international geographic honor society founded in 1928 – for earning the Honors Chapter Award for 2016/2017! This is the third consecutive year that Mu Kappa earned this award. Dr. Michael Longan, President of GTU, wrote the following in his letter to Mu Kappa: "As you know the criteria for Honors Chapter include campus service and a commitment to recognize outstanding student scholarship in geography. Just 3 of GTU's 130+ active chapters achieved

the status of Honors Chapter in 2016/17.” The Mu Kappa chapter was initiated at Hofstra University in the spring of 2012 by Professor Kari Jensen. Since then, 120 Hofstra students and faculty have been inducted into the chapter. Mu Kappa’s recent award represents just one of many ways that our Geography program has received increasing recognition from the broader geographic community the last few years.

Mu Kappa Induction Ceremony

On May 2, 2018, the Department inducted 23 students and one faculty into Mu Kappa, our geography honors society, in a ceremony held at the University Club. Keynote speaker, **Dr. Luis Alvarez León**, Assistant Professor, Urban-Economic Geography – Graduate School at Clark University, spoke about the importance of geography as a discipline for social analysis and change. He later gave a talk to students and faculty in the Department titled, *‘From Streetscapes to Navigable Landscapes: Crowdsourcing and Contesting the Spaces of Autonomous Driving.’*

Mu Kappa secretary, **Rachel Scarpino**, a senior who was inducted in 2017, shared a brief history of the organization, including an explanation of the symbolism of GTU’s badge. President, **Associate Professor Dr. Kari Jensen**, and Vice President, **Adjunct Associate Professor Dr. Veronica Lippencott** conducted the ceremony to welcome the following new inductees:

Students: Olukemi Anazodo, Emilie Beck, Rachel Billard, Larissa Bryant, Daria Burge, Paula Chirinos Paucar, Julianna Cirafesi, Ligia Clara, Zachary Cybulski, Kimberly Dossett, Adriana Galarza, Adanya Hicks, Emily Kelley, Robert Levinson, Fatimah Mozawalla, Ciera Nickel, Christina Paccadolmi, Lois Paquette, Aleena Pasha, Emma Rossetti, Alishbah Saddiqui, Amanda Skeene, Lara Van Patten. **Faculty:** Jase Bernhardt, Geology, Environment and Sustainability.



Inductees at the lunch.



Our guest speaker Dr. Luis Alvarez León, Clark University.

We want to thank the HCLAS Deans Office for providing some funding toward the cost of this lunch. Much appreciated.

Marissa Duhaney '18 makes video about Department

Fall 17: Global Studies and Television major, Marissa Duhaney produced a wonderful video about our GIS program and the Department and featuring Professor Craig Dalton and some of our other wonderful students (including Fatimah Mozzarella, Lois Paquette, Amanda Skeene, Connor Mayes, Christina Paccadolmi, Malcolm McCoy and others).



The video can be accessed [here](#): Or on the News section of our homepage.



Department of Global Studies and Geography, A Great Place for Students

Global Studies Major Abby Normandin Elected SGA President!

Spring 18: Congratulations to Global Studies major Abby Normandin for being elected President of the Student Government Association (SGA) for 2018/19!



Peer Teacher News

We want to thank the Provosts Department for continuing to run the Peer Teacher program that has been of great benefit to our students and faculty. This is a wonderful opportunity to get our best students involved in mentoring other students and in developing new skills. In the past year we have employed many wonderful Peer Teachers – thanks to all.

Here are some photos of some of the Peer Teachers and their faculty members that attended the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 Peer Teacher lunch.



Fall 2017: Students and faculty: Professor Lippencott, Professor Longmire, Professor Rizzuto, Professor Saff, Professor Dalton, Sarah McCabe, Adanya Hicks, Marissa Duhaney, Emilie Beck, Amanda Skeene, Aleena Pasha, Fatima Mozawalla, Malcolm McCoy, Rachel Scarpino, and Professor Jensen.

Spring 2018 Peer Teachers
Christina Paccadolmi and
Julianna Cirafesi



Spring 2018 Peer Teachers and Faculty: Ligia Clara, Professor Jensen, Emilie Beck, Julianna Cirafesi, Professor Lippencott, Professor Dalton, Professor Saff, Professor Korattyswaroopam, Fatimah Mozawalla, Christina Paccadolmi, and Rachel Scarpino.

European Odyssey News

Linda Longmire and Tim Smith began their travels with the ten 2018 European Odyssey students on February 23. They visited eleven different countries throughout Europe over the course of the semester, exploring the history and culture of each. Between taking classes and studying for tests, the Odyssey members visited museums, swam at beautiful beaches, passed the place where the King's Landing from Game of Thrones was filmed and learned how the citizens of Sarajevo dealt with the violence in their country during the 1990's and much more.

The students posted on the group's Instagram (@hofeuro18) showcasing their travels and the historical importance of the places they have been.



Professors Tim Smith and Linda Longmire with 2018 Odyssey Participants in Normandy, France.

Recent Department Events

Spring Open House

The Global Studies and Geography Department hosted a "Welcome to the Semester" open house, where students were able to catch up after a long winter break and chat with old friends and professors while munching on delicious snacks. Thank you to everyone who attended!



Majors Rachel Scarpino and Christina Paccadolmi



Major Tyler Stock with Professors Jensen and Girma

Undergraduate Research Day Fall 2017

On Tuesday, December 12th, the Department of Global Studies and Geography had eleven students presenting posters from their semester-long research projects for Undergraduate Research Day (making up an impressive 28% of all the Hofstra UG presentations!).

Dr. Craig Dalton, Assistant Professor of Global Studies and Geography, supervised the Intermediate and Advanced GIS projects while Dr. Kari Jensen, Associate Professor of Global Studies and Geography, supervised Connor Mayes '18 on his Geography Honors Thesis project. The full list of student presenters are Emilie Beck, Rachel Billard, Ligia Clara, Marissa Duhaney, James Eager, Adriana Galarza, Connor Mayes, Malcolm McCoy, Fatimah Mozawalla, Christina Paccadolmi, and Lois Paquette. Visit our [Flickr](#) page for photos from this event and check out the [news](#) section on our website for the full list of topics covered at Undergraduate Research Day.



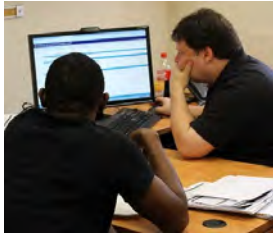
Student Presenters with their faculty advisors and the Chair, Dr. Saff.



Connor Mayes, Fall '17, with Dr. Jensen, his thesis advisor.

Open Advisement Days

On March 1st and April 5th students gathered in our department to meet with Dean Binder and Dr. Saff for our One-Stop Open Advisement Days. Scheduled immediately before and shortly after Fall Registration, students are able to review their Degree Works, plan their course schedules, and seniors can make sure they have everything they need for graduation. The day-long events do not require appointments for the one-on-one meetings and students are able to enjoy free pizza.



Dean Binder with Malcolm McCoy '18 during our Advisement day.

Students eating pizza while waiting to see Dean Binder or Dr. Saff during an advisement day.



Career Night

This semester marks the third successful department career night, featuring recent alumni who gave current students advice on everything from graduate school, résumés, and interviews. Featured alumni this semester included Sarah Gerwens (Spring 2017) who is currently attending the London School of Economics and Political Science, Tempe Staples (Fall 2016) who is working with Americorps and was recently accepted to Clark University for a Masters in Health Science, and Natasha Rappazzo (GS minor, Spring 2017) who is working with CodePink: Women for Peace. Thank you so much to all the alumni who were able to call in and thank you to our Global Studies and Geography major Emilie Beck for organizing this event!

Natasha Rappazzo giving insightful advice about careers in the non-profit sector.



Majors Emilie Beck and Caroline Bowes enjoying the presentations.



Get Global

Get Global, our student club, hosted two of our well-established **Diversity Dinners** this semester with Peruvian and Chinese themes. Between both events, over 120 students from many different schools and departments, and faculty (some with family members) attended. At the Peruvian Dinner, Connie Anderson, a sophomore film major from Peru, gave a PowerPoint presentation about her country and her experiences as a Peruvian student in United States. Afterwards, Get Global Secretary Paula Chirinos, who moved to the United States from Peru as a three-year-old, presented PowerPoints about the Geography and food culture of Peru, specifically focusing on the food items on the menu. She even taught us to count to five in Quechua! The Chinese Dinner featured Dr. Ying Qiu, the Director of Hofstra's Asian Center, who spoke about the cultural differences between China and the U.S. including academics, sports and family values. Visit our [Flickr](#) page for photos from these events.



Paula Chirinos presenting at Peruvian Diversity Dinner and students lining up to get food.



Dr. Ying Qiu presenting on Chinese culture and Emma Rossetti, Get Global President, addressing attendees.



Students and faculty lining up for food at the Chinese Diversity Dinner



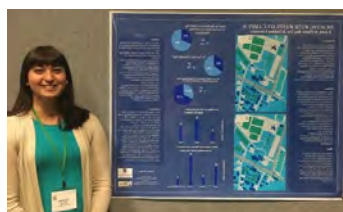
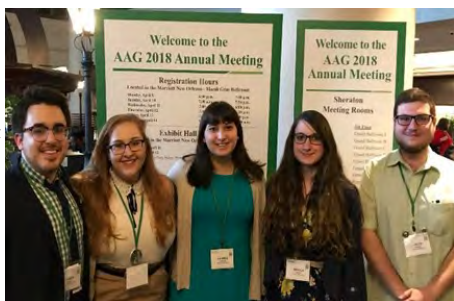
Association Events



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of GEOGRAPHERS ANNUAL MEETING

A number of students and faculty attended this year's American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting held in New Orleans, LA. It was an excellent opportunity for our students to experience a professional conference, hear from leading scholars, experts and researchers, as well as present their own research work. This year's student attendees included: James Eager, Lauren Morgan, Jacob Roday and Emma Vaccaro.

Global Studies, Geography, and Sustainability student attendees at AAG. James Eager, Emma Vaccaro, Lauren Morgan, and Jacob Roday.



Lauren Morgan, Global Studies and Geography '18, presenting at AAG.



Dr. Saff with Tom Vogel, Geography and Global Studies '16, currently completing a Masters in Geography at East Carolina State University

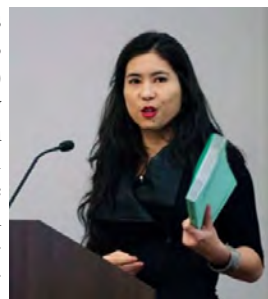
Upcoming Department Events

Geography Awareness Week November 11–17

While we are still in the planning stages for the full program of events and speakers we can confirm:

Keynote Speaker: Professor Leah Meisterlin, Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation.

Professor Meisterlin works on issues relating to applying GIS (Geographic Information Systems) to topics of social justice, especially in an urban context. "Her research engages concurrent issues of spatial justice, informational ethics, and the effects of infrastructural networks on the construction of social and political space. Her current research explores the ways in which digital technologies are restructuring urban spatial politics and altering methods, both contemporary and historical, of urban research."



See <http://www.leahmeisterlin.com/nutshell>

We want to thank the support of the Hofstra Cultural Center for making this event possible.

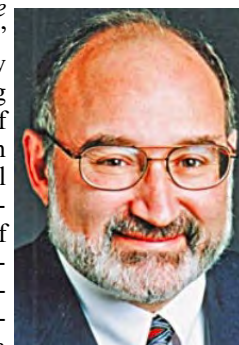
When: November 15, Common Hour

Where: Hofstra Cultural Center Theater

Dr. Thomas Maraffa, Professor Emeritus Department of Geography, Youngstown State University. November 16, time and venue to be confirmed.

Provisional title: "*Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley: Image and Reality.*"

The proposed talk will focus on how Youngstown, Ohio and the Mahoning Valley have become the archetype of the once prosperous industrial region that has declined in the post-industrial era. In the wake of the 2016 presidential election it has become a rite of passage for journalists to take pilgrimages to Youngstown to attempt to understand why a region that has traditionally voted for Democrats gave a solid majority to Donald Trump. This presentation will place the Mahoning Valley in the geographic context of U.S. cultural and economic regions; identify the cultural traditions that define the Mahoning Valley; and explore the recent economic evolution that is transforming the region. The outcome of the 2016 election was decided by places such as the Mahoning Valley; an outcome that is the product of its ongoing geographic development. Dr. Maraffa received his BA, MA, and Ph.D (1980) in Geography from Ohio State University. At Youngstown State University he was a faculty member and department chair (1992-2002) of the Geography Department and also served as the Chief of Staff to the President of the University (2002-2010). For nearly twenty years he has been involved in the Geography Alliance program sponsored by NGS and organized and led workshops for teachers to improve the teaching of geography. His professional service has included chair of the East Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers, membership on the National Council of the American Association of Geographers and membership on the Executive Committee of the Ohio Geographic Alliance.



He retired as a Full-Time Professor in 2014 but continues to teach as a part-time Professor in the Geography Department at YSU and consults for local nonprofits.

Middle States Geography Conference, October 26-27



Middle States Division
of the Association of
American Geographers

The Annual meeting of the Middle States, will be held at Montclair State University, NJ on October 26-27. We are hoping for a large number of our majors to present at the conference, which would also allow us to enter a team in the Geography Bowl held on 10/26. We will provide more information on our [Facebook](#) Group as soon as it becomes available. You can also keep an eye out on the Middle States [Website](#) which normally provides information about how to register and present papers over the summer. This is a great venue for UG students to present posters and have any research published in the Middle States Geographer.

You can also contact the President of the Middle States for more information: Pankaj Lal, lalp@montclair.edu

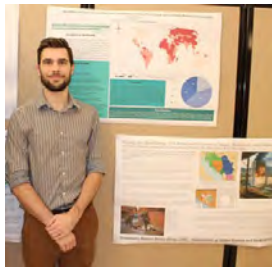
Benefits of Internships and Studying Abroad

By doing an internship or participating in study abroad programs, students are able to gain real world experience in companies and first-hand exposure to other cultures. We asked a couple of students to reflect on their experiences, to get answers that can benefit current undergraduates.

We asked Connor Mayes (Fall 2017), American Geographical Society (AGS) Intern, and Haley Schwartz (Spring 2018), who was on the Amsterdam Study Abroad Program during Fall 2017 semester, about their tips and tricks for current students.

Connor Mayes (Global Studies and Geography 2017)

Connor graduated in the Fall of 2017 and is now a Senior Organizer with the Burma Task Force at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. During his final semester he wrote and successfully defended two theses: one for his Geography major and the second for his German major. He was also active in the Student Club, Get Global throughout his time on campus with a penchant for geography trivia.



Description of internship:

I worked as a full-time intern with the American Geographical Society in Brooklyn Heights from April to September.

My main responsibilities were organizing and creating a Map of the Week, and undertaking the logistics of a mapping contest we were doing, such as surveying students and sending out entries to our affiliates.

How did you find out about this internship?

I found it on the Global Studies and Geography department website.

Why did you choose to do this internship in particular?

The AGS is a big name in geography as the oldest geographical society, and has a really good reputation among geographers. Working there is a great way of making connections, because AGS brings together many companies and innovative people associated with cartography and mapping. Also, it was a really good way of gaining exposure in the professional geography world.

What did you find most satisfying about your internship?

Fulfilling independent projects and spearheading the map making projects was the most satisfying part of interning for AGS. I had to accomplish projects without looking for a professor for guidance, and being able to pull it off well was very satisfying.

What skills were important for accomplishing your tasks there?

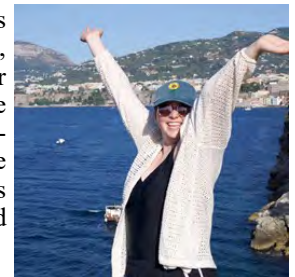
The GIS skills I gained at Hofstra were obviously really important to working as a GIS intern. Also, having a background knowledge of current events and the basic geo-political climate that I got from geography classes at Hofstra was really helpful.

What advice do you have for students currently considering an internship?

Don't be afraid to do an internship that is not exactly what you plan on doing for the rest of your life. It is still a great opportunity for networking and finding connections to jobs that are more related to what you want to do. It is also good professional experience, regardless of how relevant it is to your area of study.

Haley Schwartz (Global Studies and Geography 2018)

Haley graduated in Spring of 2018 with a thirst for travel. She participated in the School of Communications four-week SCO in Rome program during the summer of 2017, putting her GIS skills to work. After a brief return home, she spent the Fall 2017 semester studying in Amsterdam which she discusses with us here, and is planning some domestic travel over the summer before exploring options that soon will take her abroad again.



Description of program:

I was an exchange student (part of the Global Exchange program) at Amsterdam University College, also called the AUC, which is a public liberal arts college founded by the Universiteit van Amsterdam and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in 2009.

I applied to this program through the Amsterdam Scholarship Exchange at Hofstra for the semester program and had been there from August to January.

What classes did you take?

The AUC offers a lot of courses that focus primarily on humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and law. My courses last semester included: Fictions of Empires, which was a literature course focusing on colonial and postcolonial literature; Photograph as a Socio-Political Document, a sociology and anthropology course studying the history of photography as it exists within sociology, politics, and culture; Global Environmental Governance, a course on International Environmental Law history, development, scope, and role in today's society; Creative Writing which is pretty straight forward; and Climate Sciences: Past and Present, a lecture and lab based science course on climate.

What are some benefits of studying abroad?

This was my third study abroad program that I have done, as I previously went on the European Odyssey and SCO in Rome. Studying abroad is so important to me, if you can't already guess from the fact I've chosen to do three programs in my time as a student at Hofstra, and it is something that everyone should consider. It really gives you the chance to develop both academically and personally. By studying abroad and doing different types of programs whether Hofstra-based or exchange you have the opportunity to experience different styles of teaching, different modes of learning, and the chance to immerse yourself into a new region and culture. I mean there's personal growth in just attending university, but if you move yourself to a different hemisphere to study for a few months, the personal development is incomparable to any other experience. It is something I recommend for everyone, and if this is something that has never crossed your mind I would urge you to reconsider it. Plus, this is a chance to spend a good handful of months living on your own in a foreign country and that's pretty rad.

What advice do you have for students thinking about studying abroad?

To study abroad is such a wonderfully enriching experience, and not just academically. You have the opportunity to visit and live in a new country, surround yourself with new peoples, languages, and cultures. You have the chance to visit other places, experience different ways to learn, and meet different people from all over the world and this isn't something that you will always have access to. You're going to school right now to get a degree in something you want, and to hopefully pursue your dream career. It's your time to be selfish - both academically and with your own goals - and studying abroad is an experience in which you can work towards your degree, travel, and create memories that will last a lifetime. And while that sounds like something you'd read in a \$1.50 Hallmark card, it's pretty accurate. Ask any other human who has ever studied abroad or attended any type of international program, it's such an amazing thing to do (plus we're all doing this whole college thing to get jobs one day and this looks fabulous on a resume).

Thank you Hayley!

We strongly encourage our students to pursue an internship during their college career and offer resources on our website that include how to obtain credit for the internship as well as a list of companies that offer both summer and semester-length opportunities.

https://www.hofstra.edu/academics/colleges/hclas/geog/geog_internship.html

In addition to our [European Odyssey](#) program, Hofstra offers a number of Study Abroad options including full-length semester options as well as January and summer programs allowing students to choose the best option to fit their interests.

<https://www.hofstra.edu/about/administration/provost/abroad/>

Here is a sampling of the various internships and study abroad completed by our majors in the last year:

Rachel Billard (Global Studies and Geography) spent the Spring 2018 semester studying in Australia.

Daniel Littleton (Global Studies) in 2017 he participated in the *Voice of America Summer Internship* and the *AbilityOne Summer Internship*, both in Washington, D.C. In summer 2016 he participated in the *Guilin Chinese Language Institute Summer School* in China.

Connor Mayes (Global Studies and Geography, honors) in 2017 was an intern at the American Geographic Society.

Lois Paquette (Global Studies and Geography) spent the Spring 2018 semester studying in Jordan.

Emilie Beck (Global Studies and Geography) did an internship with Global Network of Women Peacebuilders in New York City.

Christina Paccadolmi (Global Studies and Geography) did an internship at Parent Child Home Program in Mineola, NY.



Lois Paquette at a café in Jordan



Lois Paquette at Al Deir Monastery in Petra, Jordan.

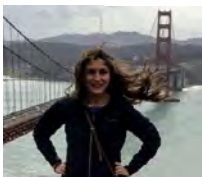
Emilie Beck (far right) with her fellow interns representing the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders at International Youth Day in United Nations Headquarters.



Career Advice from

Jacklyn Catania (Global Studies and Geography 2013)

Jaclyn Catania (Global Studies and Geography) graduated in 2013. She subsequently completed a Masters degree in Geography (GIS) at East Carolina State University and is currently employed as a GIS Technician at Apple, Inc. in San Francisco, CA. While at Hofstra she was a Peer Teacher for two semesters, became a member of Mu Kappa, the geographical honor society and interned at KLD Engineering in Islandia, NY.



What do you do (job functions, responsibilities, typical day, etc.)?

I'm currently in a Quality Assurance role at Apple in California, ensuring features behave accordingly under a variety of conditions and evaluating data collected (for completeness, why something is missing/ inaccurate, etc.). The role is relatively confidential, although at times it involves outreach to third parties.

How well did Hofstra (or the Global Studies and Geography department in particular) prepare you for your job?

The Global Studies and Geography department prepared me in non-technical ways for this role. I'm able to communicate clearly and effectively when offering advice and instruction to the parties I often have to communicate with. I credit that to the many papers and essays I had to produce for my Global Studies and Geography courses.

What advice would you give to someone interested in this field (any intern experiences, courses to take, extra-curricular activities, etc.)?

If you're interested in technology, which I never was - I sort of pivoted into it after working at Apple Maps as a GIS Technician, I'd probably suggest you diversify your Global Studies degree with as much exposure to technologies and sciences as possible. I wish I had taken more statistics courses and had more exposure to programming in the GIS classes I took at Hofstra. Oh, and I'd suggest internships. My internship as an undergrad really got me excited about emergency planning and GIS which made me want to pursue an advanced degree. I was able to develop my GIS skills and the little programming I do know while in graduate school.

What part of your job is the most satisfying or challenging or exciting?

My job changes a lot with product releases/iOS releases, so it's cool to see how Apple products and iOS/WatchOS features evolve and work behind the scenes, and it's also exciting to have duties and tests that aren't quite the same from week to week.

What skills are most important for this field?

The most important skills for my role are adaptability and being able to figure things out on my own. When something breaks I have to troubleshoot and figure out why it's broken before reporting the issue. As critical as that adaptability is, it's equally important to work in collaboration with other people on the team and keep them informed. Time management is also important. Some weeks I have very little to do and other weeks I'm swamped, so trying to get ahead and prepare for busy weeks during down time is an important skill.

What would you recommend that Hofstra GIS students do to enhance their careers that you perhaps did not do?

I have seen how important internships in GIS are and how they helped my career development. I regret not taking classes in Computer Programming which would really have helped me get ahead at Apple. I can't stress enough how important it is that GIS majors also take some classes in Computer Science if they want to build a successful GIS career. [NOTE: As part of the GIS major, our students can take multiple courses in Computer Science and Computer Programming that count toward the major. We also offer a joint minor in GIS/Computer Science. Our current students not only can, but should follow Jaclyn's advice].

Joshua Siegel (Global Studies and Geography 2011)

Joshua Siegel (Global Studies and Geography) graduated in 2011. He subsequently completed a Masters Degree in GIS at Penn State University and in September 2017 joined ESRI (the world's premier GIS software development company) as an Account Manager based in Philadelphia. He previously worked as a GIS Specialist for ALK, a Trimble Company.



What do you do (job functions, responsibilities, typical day, etc.)?

As an account manager at Esri, my job function is to help companies adopt and expand their use of GIS throughout their enterprise. These companies generally already have some level of GIS. My typical day includes A LOT of research on topics ranging from the overall state of the industry I specialize in (Manufacturing), to finding out what my accounts' pain points are so I can better help them with GIS and Geography. And after all the research and account planning, I get to present to my accounts what we (Esri) see as the best location-based solution for them.

How well did Hofstra (or the Global Studies and Geography department in particular) prepare you for your job?

I think it's safe to say the Global Studies and Geography department at Hofstra remains the foundation on which everything I've done since has been built on. My time at Hofstra helped my brain think geographically.

What advice would you give to someone interested in this field (any intern experiences, courses to take, extra-curricular activities, etc.)?

I think something that is so important to remember is, once you graduate from undergrad, is that your "learning journey" is really just beginning. Take online classes on things that interest you (tons of free options) and asks questions when you have them. My first GIS internship was unpaid but without it I'm not sure I would have been offered my first job as a GIS Technician. All experiences are valuable.

What part of your job is the most satisfying or challenging or exciting?

The best part of my job is getting to talk about GIS and maps all day with like-minded people. I get to show people how useful this amazing tool is while, at the same time, helping them solve their problems.

What skills are most important for this field?

Having good attention to detail is super important. I also think it is important to be confident and well-informed. Also being curious doesn't hurt either.

If you could do things all over again, would you choose the same path? Is there anything you would change?

Looking back at what has brought me to where I am now, it's hard to say that I would do anything different. While I may have not taken the most straightforward path, I still am where I want to be. One thing that always bummed me out is how much I took for granted my classes at Hofstra (jeez, I sound like an old man). Being in a learning environment like that is really a wonderful thing.

Alumni Updates

2017

CJ Burka (Global Studies and Geography) will be attending graduate school at George Mason University for their accredited Master of Social Work Program.

Grace Finlayson (Global Studies) is a Publishing Associate at Foreign Affairs Magazine in New York City.

La Rainne Pasion (Global Studies) began working as a Logistics Specialist at Big Blue Ocean in July 2017 in Jericho, NY and will be attending graduate school at The New School in New York City for their graduate program in International Affairs this fall.

Sarah Gerwens (Global Studies) is finishing up her MSc in Global Europe at the London School of Economics.

Connor Mayes (Global Studies and Geography) began working as a Senior Organizer with the Burma Task Force at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Its excellent that we have two alumni working at the United Nations. **Athraja de Silva '15** is a documentation officer at Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations.

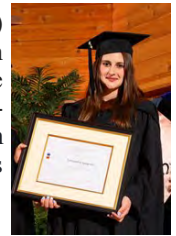
2016

Tempe Staples (Global Studies and Geography) began working at Americorps as their Regional Conservation Coordinator last August and was awarded the full Henry J. and Erna D. Leir Fellowship at Clark University, to complete a Masters Degree in the Global and Community Health program which she will begin this fall.

Kathleen Hickey (Global Studies) began working as a Production Assistant at The View television show in New York in October 2017.

2015

Sam Spagnoli (Global Studies, High Honors) has just graduated with a Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University where she also won the American Institute of Certified Planner's 2018 Outstanding Planning Student Award.



2014

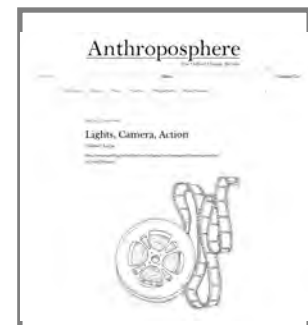
Cristina LoCurto (Global Studies) graduated from Suffolk Law School with her J.D. degree in May 2017. She also passed the Massachusetts Bar Exam, and was sworn in as an Attorney in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in November of 2017.

Brittany Scalise (Global Studies, Geography) graduated from American University with a Masters in International Development, concentrating on Global Health and Communications in May 2017. She currently lives in Washington, D.C., where she has been working as an Online Producer for The World Bank Water Global Practice for the past year.

Robert Murphy (Global Studies) completed a Masters in Urban Planning at the University of Albany and has recently been appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geography and Planning. He is teaching World Cities, a cross-listed undergraduate course with Geography, Globalization Studies, and Urban Studies and Planning. He is also introducing a new course for Fall 2018 entitled Food Systems Planning: Challenges for the 21st Century. Murphy is hoping to pursue a Ph.D in the near future.

2013

Josh Ettinger (Global Studies, Geography) is doing graduate work at Oxford University, and has been [published](#) in *Anthroposphere*, the *Oxford Climate Review*, an interdisciplinary print magazine at Oxford, on "How screenwriting principles can enhance environmental communication."



2012

Etana Jacobi (Global Studies, with High Honors and Geography) is a Manager at the Hall of Hunger Initiative in Dayton, Ohio and was named [Daytonian of the Week](#) in early January for her work to combat hunger and was interviewed this past April regarding the proposed Gem City Market, a worker and member-owned full-service grocery store to be opened in Dayton.



2011

Alyssa Coco (Global Studies, Geography): completed her Masters program in GIS at Salem State University, and is currently working as a crime analyst for the Lawrence, Massachusetts Police Department, where she is putting her geography skills to use and picking up a lot of criminal justice skills along the way. She is also getting married in June of 2018.

2010

Anna Rawlins (Global Studies, Dance) currently resides in Barnardville, North Carolina. She recently left her job of seven years as the Event Coordinator and team leader of Fitletic events based out of Miami, Florida, and is currently working as the Event Marketing Assistant at Eagles Nest Outfitters (ENO) based in Asheville, North Carolina. ENO created the first parachute hammock and is the top selling packable hammock in the world. This company strives to promote community and relaxation through hammocking, and is sold internationally. She lives with her partner of 10 years, two dogs, a cat, and nine chickens! They actively strive to leave a positive impact on the world through living in a sustainable manner by growing, foraging, hunting, and preserving most of their food. She also teaches Pilates and dance classes locally. She has been taking Spanish classes at the local community college, traveling extensively throughout the U.S., and enjoys backpacking, gardening, canoeing, and surfing in her free time. Rawlins was the first Global Studies major at Hofstra following the introduction of this course of study.

2006

Simon Burke (Geography) lives in Paris with his wife and daughter. He works as HR Director for Fat Tire Tours and loves his life. Alan Singer from the Graduate Education program at Hofstra suggested that Simon try tourism after he graduated, and he is thriving now.

2005

Bill Hambrecht (Geography) is married and lives in Northfield, NJ. In 2018 he completed his MBA at West Texas A&M University. Bill was on the Hofstra Football team (2002-04) and earned a spot on the All-Atlantic 10 Academic Football Team in 2004. He is currently employed as a Service Manager at the Scientific Games Corporation.



Our Mu Kappa Inductees giving Fatimah Mozawalla a lift at the Mu Kappa luncheon.



Former and current Mu Kappa Inductees at the Mu Kappa luncheon.

Congratulations, Dr. Girma!

We wish you great success at your new tenure-track Assistant Professor position at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

Dr. Girma was an undergraduate student at Hofstra who completed an Economics Honors thesis under the direction of Dr. Saff. She later completed a Masters in Sociology at Fordham, before completing her PhD at Stony Brook in May. For the last 8 years she worked as an Adjunct Professor in the Department; she will be missed.



Dr. Saff with Dr. Girma on her last day at work in the Global Studies and Geography Department.

In our Fall 2018 newsletter!



Some of our Spring 2018 graduates together with faculty, staff, and seniors at the Spring '18 Senior Luncheon. This will be covered in the Fall '18 newsletter, so stay tuned!

For more information about us:

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[Website](#)

[Facebook Group & Page](#)

[Twitter & LinkedIn](#)

For an overview of the Department

See our [2016-2017 Annual Review](#)

2017-2018 Review coming soon!

Photos from all our events can be found on our [Flickr Page](#)

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