Chair’s Welcome

Welcome to our Fall 2018 Newsletter. It has now been ten years since we first became a stand-alone Department and we have grown tremendously during that time. Since 2008, 202 students have graduated with a major in Global Studies (19 with honors) and 87 students have graduated with a major in Geography (17 with honors). We have also added a BA specialization in GIS, and a BS major in GIS (the first major, Amit Nath, graduated in Fall 2018). To run three majors, a study abroad program, student club, honors society, social media sites, and much else, while conducting your own academic research, all with just 6 full-time faculty is a remarkable achievement and testament to our strong work ethic and dedication to our students. I want to thank all our full-time and part-time faculty, office staff, and student aides for the hard work they have put in over the last ten years.

As can be seen in this Newsletter, we have experienced another productive and busy summer and fall semester. Unfortunately, the summer ended with the passing of Dr. Timothy Smith, Adjunct Professor of Global Studies and Professor Emeritus in the School of Education. Tim had been co-teaching the European Odyssey Program with his wife, Dr. Linda Longmire, Professor of Global Studies. Tim was an inspirational role model for generations of students at Hofstra and a wonderful ambassador for our Department. On behalf of all, I want to once again provide my sincere condolences to Linda and his family. He is truly missed.

With Tim’s passing, we have placed our European Odyssey Program on hold for spring 2019. We are hoping to have a new redesigned Odyssey running again by no later than spring 2021. In the interim, in conjunction with the Hofstra Study Abroad office, we continue to encourage our students to partake in the many study abroad programs that are offered by Hofstra and other institutions.

I want to congratulate all the remarkable achievements of the members of the Global Studies and Geography community. Our students and alumni continue to amaze. There is no better advertisement for the Department than the continued success of our alumni! I encourage all our alumni and students to stay connected with the Department on our various social media platforms. If you are not already a member, please join our Facebook Group, LinkedIn Group and follow us on Twitter. It is always great to follow your achievements and these sites offer an opportunity to network with other Hofstra alumni and also for current students to connect with you. So please join!

I also want to thank all the alumni who responded to the call for donations to the Department sent by Hofstra Development and Alumni Affairs. We use these funds solely for student related activities, such as subsidizing the cost for the Mu Kappa and graduation luncheons, helping with transportation costs to access internships and various other events. Your support is much appreciated. If you have not done so already, there is still time, just press the donate button on our homepage.

Dr. Grant Saff, Professor and Chair

Dr. Janer, Dr. Saff, Dr. Rodrigue and Dean Bert Binder, Center for University Advisement at the lunch for seniors, Spring 2018

Dr. Grant Saff presents Lauren Morgan ’18 with her copy of Dr. Seuss’ ‘Oh, the Places You’ll Go’ at the Spring 2018 Senior Luncheon
Dr. Craig Dalton, Assistant Professor of Geography, was active on multiple scholarly fronts last summer and this semester. He was published as the author for the entry on Google in the new SAGE Encyclopedia of the Internet and with his collaborators in a new book collection of maps, This Is Not an Atlas – This Is a Counter-Cartographies Convergence. He also orchestrated a special one-day critical GIS workshop at the recent national meeting of the American Association of Geographers in New Orleans. At that event, geographers from four continents met to talk about the social potentials of GIS and worked with a local community nonprofit, the Gulf Restoration Network, on a GIS project for the afternoon. Dr. Dalton also presented on the visual economy of Pokémon Go, in a paper co-authored with Clancy Wilmott and Emma Frasier of the University of Manchester and Jim Thatcher of the University of Washington-Tacoma. In addition to this, he participated in a panel titled “My city is smarter than yours: Deconstructing the buzzwords.” Over the summer, he continued work on these and other writing projects.

Dr. Zilkia Janer, Professor of Global Studies and Geography took a leave of absence in the fall to work on the manuscript of her book on how globalization and coloniality shaped modern gastronomy.

Dr. Kari Jensen, Associate Professor of Geography had a nice time in Norway where she visited family and gave two guest lectures at the University of Oslo’s International Summer School in the Master’s level course titled “International Development Studies”. This course comprised of 22 students from around the world, and they eagerly participated in class discussions. Dr. Jensen’s lecture on July 10, 2018 was titled “Social constructions of childhood, exemplified by an ethnographic study of child domestic workers in Dhaka, Bangladesh,” and the second lecture on July 11, 2018 was called “Child slavery and the fish processing industry in Bangladesh.”

Digitalization & Disruption

Jean-Paul Rodrigue
Hofstra University

For more information visit tcevents-americas.com

Advertising flyer for Dr. Rodrigue’s November talk in Panama

Dr. Linda Longmire, Professor of Global Studies will be serving as the Director of Community Partnerships and Active Citizenship, for the Center for Civic Engagement, beginning in Spring 2019. Dr. Longmire was also selected to present the 54th Distinguished Faculty Lecture in the Spring semester. Her talk is titled, ‘The Pedagogy of Peripatetic Learning: The Odyssey Model of Study Abroad.

Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Professor of Global Studies and Geography, has had very busy and productive summer and fall semester. From May to August 2018 he took part in nine international seminars and conference presentations on logistics and shipping, including invited talks in Canada, Denmark, Panama, France, and Sweden. These included a talk titled, “The Freight Landscape of City Logistics” at the MIT Center for Transportation & Logistics, the keynote presentation at the Caribbean Shipping Association held in Panama and a meeting organized by the Chief Economist of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and the Director of the Federal Highway Administration concerning the strategic orientation of federal funding about infrastructure and research.

A project that took a fair amount of his time is the development of a web site containing educational material about city logistics. This will take the form of a textbook to be published in 2020. He is also working on the fifth edition of his highly popular textbook "The Geography of Transport Systems" to be published in 2019 (Routledge). Over the last year, he completed the migration of the web version of his textbook to a new domain name. In conjunction with two maritime economist colleagues, he was able to secure a book contract for the textbook "Port Economics, Management and Policy" from Routledge. In between all the above he managed to take his family on holiday to Serbia over the summer!
Dr. Grant Saff, Professor of Geography (and Chair) had a busy summer that included teaching summer classes and conducting research on planning and the use of public space in Barcelona. He also traveled to Lithuania, South Africa, the Netherlands, and Germany. While in Barcelona, Dr. Saff was an external examiner for a Master’s Thesis in Environmental, Economic, and Social Sustainability at the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona (UAB). He also presided over two annual PhD Committee Reviews in the Geography Department at UAB. In July, he attended a very interesting symposium at the Centre de Culture Contemporania de Barcelona titled “Europe from Hope to Disaffection: A Mediterranean View.” Additionally, he was the external examiner for a PhD thesis in Sociology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. On 20 November he presented an invited talk to students and faculty titled, “Local Economic Development and Urban Planning: "for the people" or "with the people" and why it matters: The case of Plaça dels Angels, Barcelona” in the Geography Department at UAB.


Remembering Dr. Timothy Smith, Professor Emeritus of Education and Adjunct Professor of Global Studies

The Department was deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Timothy Smith, Professor Emeritus of Education and Adjunct Professor of Global Studies on August 4, 2018, just one day after his 84th birthday.

Tim was an integral part of the Department’s European Odyssey program, along with his wife, Dr. Linda Longmire, Professor of Global Studies and Geography, which was begun in 1992. He taught two of the program’s courses: Globalization & Human Rights and Field Studies in Geography. Alumni of the program remembered him for his kindness and generosity. Sisters Gina and Kelly Gallo who participated in the European Odyssey in 2013 and 2016 respectively, said: “Tim had the kindest soul and the most magnetic energy. He instilled in us a longing for adventure and a never-ending desire to understand, empathize and learn from other people with different backgrounds and beliefs. Learning from Tim was the ultimate gift which we are eternally grateful for.” The Chair of the Department, Professor Grant Saff, noted that “Tim was a wonderful colleague. His optimism, enthusiasm and collegiality will be greatly missed.”

In addition to Linda, Tim is survived by two daughters, one son and four grandchildren. An informal tribute was held Monday, August 6th at the Hofstra Labyrinth and a formal memorial on Friday, September 21st.

Read the full article on our Department's website.

Faculty Research Day, Fall 2018

Dr. Kari Jensen participated in the Fall 2018 Faculty Research Day, where she presented her research poster titled “Female Child Domestic Workers in Dhaka, Bangladesh”. Her continuous studies on domestic workers explore both advantages and disadvantages of this type of employment.

Over the course of the fall semester, the department sponsored and co-sponsored and faculty members participated in a number of events on campus:

Ada Lovelace Day

In honor of Ada Lovelace Day, the Global Studies and Geography Department, Department of Computer Science, and the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science co-sponsored a lecture on October 10th with SUNY Buffalo Assistant Professor Dr. Monica Stephens giving a presentation to the Hofstra community about the importance of understanding our internet use in a lecture titled “The Internet Needs You: How Your Data Can Change the World”. Her discussion highlighted the importance of human contributions to the internet’s data through platforms that seek consumer feedback. Dr. Stephens also touched on the
titular historical figure, Ada Lovelace, who was a 19th century mathematician who published the first algorithm to be used by the world’s original ‘computing machine’ and is credited as a pioneer in computational science.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event and read the article on our website.

**Gerrymandering—Hofstra Votes**

On October 11th, the Hofstra Cultural Center hosted a panel event which included Dr. Craig Dalton, Professor of Geography along with Dr. Johanna Franklin from the Math Department, and Dr. Katrina Sims from the History Department, where they all discussed the historical and current impacts that gerrymandering has on the political process.

**Human Rights Symposium - October 18**

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Dr. Linda Longmire, Professor of Global Studies, helped organize a symposium sponsored by the Hofstra Cultural Center, the Institute for Peace Studies, and the Center for Civic Engagement. Dr. Linda Longmire, who introduced the event, called the Declaration of Human Rights “the framework to make peace a reality”.

Panels included focuses on human trafficking, women activists in the peace movement, and a keynote speech from Blanche Wiesen Cook. Dr. Kari Jensen, Associate Professor of Global Studies and Geography, moderated the “UDHR & Human Trafficking Today” panel, in which clinician and Professor Makini Chisholm-Straker and social worker Crystal DeBoise discussed their extensive experience helping victims of human trafficking through promoting policy initiatives and highlighting the importance of being willing to listen and learn.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event and read the article on our website.

**Geography Awareness Week**

Held during the third week of November, Geography Awareness Week was started over 25 years ago to encourage U.S. citizens to learn about the significance of place and consider how we impact on and are impacted by it. As part of this year’s celebration, we hosted two very well attended talks by Dr. Thomas Maraffa, Professor Emeritus of Geography, Youngstown State University, and Professor Leah Meisterlin, Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University.

On Wednesday, November 14th, Dr. Maraffa gave a talk titled “Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley: Image and Reality” which focused 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.

His presentation placed the Mahoning Valley in the geographic context of U.S. cultural and economic regions; identified the cultural traditions that define the Mahoning Valley; and explored the recent economic evolution that is transforming the region.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event and read the article on our website.
Dr. Maraffa’s talk was co-sponsored by the Departments of Political Science, Sociology, and Economics.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event and read the article on our website.

On Thursday, November 15th, Professor Leah Meisterlin gave a talk titled “Digital Cartographies of Everyday Life” which concentrated on the importance of thinking critically about the data presented on a map instead of taking what you see at face value.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event and read the article on our website.

We want to thank the presenters, all those from the Hofstra community who attended the talks and the support of the Hofstra Cultural Center for providing the resources to make these events possible.

Middle States Division of the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting

This year, the annual meeting of the Middle States Division of the American Association of Geographers was held October 26th and 27th at Montclair State University in New Jersey. This event brings together geography students and professionals from colleges and universities in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Kari Jensen and Dr. Craig Dalton took multiple Global Studies and Geography majors to attend and present posters at the meeting. Our students and faculty participated in the paper presentations, lightning talks, a poster competition, and geography bowl. Geography major Fatimah Mozawalla received the Rob Mason People’s Choice Poster Award for her project titled, “Separate but Equal? Analyzing School District Funding in Relation to Race on Long Island.” This research project was supervised by Professor Craig Dalton.

Congratulations to Fatimah on this well-deserved honor!
Peer Teacher News

We want to thank the Provost’s Office 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 developing new skills. In Fall 2018 we employed many wonderful Peer Teachers—thanks to all.

One Stop Advisement

Our Fall 2018 open advisement days took place on October 2nd and November 1st, both of which were huge successes. Students with majors and minors were able to speak to Dean Bert Binder, Associate Dean in the Center for University Advisement, and the Chair of the Department, Grant Saff, about any problems or questions regarding their courses and schedules. Students were able to square away final questions or add another major/minor while enjoying a slice of pizza.

Student Achievements and Activities

Academic Excellence Award

Professor Kari Jensen and Department Chair Grant Saff attended the first HCLAS Academic Excellence Awards Celebration. This honored students who have excelled in each of the programs in HCLAS. Our two nominees were Julianna Cirafesi for Global Studies and Fatimah Mozawalla for Geography. Some of our double majors won the award in other departments/programs, so on behalf of the department, congratulations to Haritsa Halepas for Economics (who could not attend the event as she was studying abroad in Amsterdam), Lois Paquette in History, and Abby Normandin in Public Service and Public Policy. Congratulations and we are proud to have all of you in our department!

Undergraduate Research Day, Spring 2018

On Thursday, May 10th, 13 Global Studies and Geography majors presented the results of their semester-long research projects which included senior, Emilie Beck’s Geography Honors Thesis, supervised by Dr. Kari Jensen, Dr. Craig Dalton supervised the Advanced GIS and Cartographic Communication projects. The full list of student presenters from our Department was: Emilie Beck, Larissa Bryant, Ligia Clara, James Eager, Deanna Hsu, Lauren Morgan, Malcolm McCoy, Amit Nath, Christina Paccadolmi, Sally Roscoe, Alishbah Saddiqui, Carys Swan and Liliana Velasquez.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event.
Julianna Cirafesi Defends Her Global Studies Honors Thesis, Fall 2018

Senior Global Studies major, Julianna Cirafesi, successfully defended her Global Studies Honors Thesis on Monday, December 3rd, receiving high honors. Julianna’s thesis, “Globalization and Health: A qualitative study of immigrant women’s health and the Hispanic paradox” focused on the Hispanic Paradox, a phenomenon which describes how the Hispanic population in the US has better health outcomes than the overall US population despite having a lower socioeconomic status. However, the Hispanic population’s health declines the longer they stay in the US. Julianna’s thesis specifically focused on understanding which health behaviors from these immigrants’ original cultures could be contributing to their better health and how their health behaviors have changed after moving to the US. Dr. Kari Jensen served as her advisor and Dr. Veronica Lippencott and Dr. Martine Hackett as readers.

Emilie Beck Defends Her Geography Honors Thesis, Spring 2018

Graduating senior, Emilie Beck, successfully defended her Geography thesis “Re-contextualizing the War on Terror” on Thursday, May 3rd, achieving high honors. She analyzed the ways in which the Bush administration attempted to legitimize war with Afghanistan and Iraq through a series of manipulations of space and examined the dominant discourses used to justify and normalize a state of perpetual warfare for profit. Dr. Kari Jensen was her advisor, with Dr. Zilkia Janer and Dr. Stefanie Nanes, Professor of Political Science rounding out her committee.

Visit our Flickr page for photos from this event and check out the article on our website for the full list of topics covered by our students.

Fall 2018

On Tuesday, December 11th, the Department of Global Studies and Geography had nine students presenting posters from their semester-long research projects.

Dr. Craig Dalton, supervised the Intermediate and Advanced GIS projects while Dr. Kari Jensen, supervised Julianna Cirafesi on her Global Studies Honors Thesis project. The full list of student presenters from our Department was: Rachel Billard, Julianna Cirafesi, Adriana Galarza, Tianyue Gao, Ryan Leighton, Christina Paccadolmi, Sally Roscoe, Emma Rossetti, and Alishbah Saddiqui.

Visit our Flickr page for photos from this event and check out the article on our website for the full list of topics covered by our students.

Departmental Honors

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Visit our Flickr page for photos from this event and check out the article on our website for the full list of topics covered by our students.
Victoria Crowley was one of five students in HCLAS to receive the inaugural Hofstra College of Liberal Arts and Science’s Transformative Learning Grant. HCLAS Dean Ben Rifkin shares that the grant will be awarded every semester to students who have committed to an experiential learning program the following semester or during an intercession. Victoria will be studying abroad at the University of Limerick in Ireland in spring 2019.

Mu Kappa

Mu Kappa is the Hofstra University chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) the international geographical honor society founded in 1928.

Mu Kappa Receives Honors Award from GTU for 2018/2019

Congratulations to the student and faculty members of Mu Kappa for earning the Honors Chapter Award for 2018/2019! This is the fourth consecutive year that Mu Kappa earned this award. Only 8 of GTU’s 130+ active chapters achieved the status of Honors Chapter in 2017/18.

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. Together with Get Global’s diversity dinners, Mu Kappa’s ceremonies and events have contributed to expanding student worldviews and increasing the recognition and enhancement of diversity on our campus. 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.

Several of our students have presented papers and posters at both the regional and national annual meetings of the American Association of Geographers, including students representing our region at the World Geobowl competition held in conjunction with the National Annual Meeting (with an international attendance of around 10,000 people).

Additionally, Mu Kappa’s founder and President, Dr. Kari Jensen was selected to be interviewed for the October 2018 newsletter of GTU due to Mu Kappa being such an active and successful chapter of GTU.

Mu Kappa wins GTU initiation photo competition

The photo we submitted of our Spring 2018 inductees for Mu Kappa won the annual GTU Initiation Ceremony Photo Contest. As a prize our chapter received a 36" inflatable beach ball globe courtesy of the Geographic Educators of Nebraska. Dr. Randy Bertolas, International Outreach Coordinator for GTU, wrote, “Congratulations to the wild and crazy folks at Hofstra University who are this year’s winner of the annual GTU Initiation Ceremony Photo Contest” For more about the initiation ceremony see our Spring Newsletter.

Election of New Office Holders

In the Fall Mu Kappa held elections for office holders for both the Fall and Spring Semesters. The office holders in the Fall were: Rachel Scarpino, President, Christina Paccadolmi, Vice President, Dr. Craig Dalton, Director of Events (Fall and Spring), Julianna Cirafesi, Secretary, Lois Paquette, Historian (Fall and Spring), and Alisbah Saddiqui, Treasurer (Fall and Spring). For the Spring: Christina Paccadolmi, became President, with Julianna Cirafesi, elected as Vice President and Ligia Clara, elected as Secretary. Well done to all!

First Mu Kappa meeting of the semester, pictured with giant globe won from photo competition
Mu Kappa “Books for Africa” Drive

After a very successful Spring 2018 collection (seven full boxes were sent!), the Mu Kappa “Books for Africa” Drive continued this Fall with even more books received—twenty-one boxes and counting—thank you to all the students and faculty from other schools and departments at Hofstra University who have contributed!

To offset the cost of shipping the boxes (as well as other events, including the induction luncheon held every spring), the students held a fundraiser over several days this past fall selling fair trade chocolate and maps. Keep an eye out for additional fund-raising efforts in the spring.

Get Global is a student club based in the Global Studies and Geography Department with the focus of guiding and educating Hofstra students on global issues. The Club is open to all students at Hofstra irrespective of your major and we hold social and academic events throughout the year. We also hold fundraisers to benefit various global charities. Meetings are held every Monday at 6:00 pm in Roosevelt Hall, Room 209.

In Spring 2019 the Office holders are, Nicholas Tabarus (President), Alyson Sann (Vice-President) and Michael Allen (Treasurer). Dr. Kari Jensen is the Faculty Advisor. We want to thank the outgoing President Tylor Stock, VP Kemi Anazodo and board member, Paula Chirinos for all the hard work that they put into organizing events during the Fall semester. Among other activities, Get Global, hosted two very well attended diversity dinners, during the Fall semester.

The French Diversity Dinner on October 22nd was a great success with two excellent speakers, Vice Provost and Professor Dr. Neil Donahue, and Isnell Tjamag, a student from France who is majoring in Global Studies. We also listened to Paula Chirinos, another of our majors, perform a French song written by Edith Piaf on the violin.
Senior Luncheon, Spring 2018

On Wednesday, May 9th, we celebrated our seniors with a luncheon at the University Club. Students enjoyed a buffet lunch followed by the presentation of copies of “Oh the Places You’ll Go!” by Dr. Seuss which is a department tradition for all our graduating majors.

The second diversity dinner, which took place on December 3rd, included an excellent presentation by Get Global President, and Nigerian-born, Kemi Anazodo, on the food and culture of Nigeria.

Thank you to Get Global for organizing these great events and to the HCLAS Deans Office for providing additional funding to make the events possible. Thank you for the support!

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event.
End of Semester Party, Spring 2018

On May 3rd, students, faculty and staff celebrated the end of the semester with a joint party co-hosted by Get Global which included a Chinese Diversity Dinner. See Flickr for more photos of this fun event and read the article on our website.

Congratulations to our Spring 2018 Graduates!

Connor Adams (Global Studies)
Mithzy Arciniega (Global Studies)
Laura Avendano Perez (Global Studies & Geography)
Emilie Beck (Global Studies & Geography) Summa Cum Laude, Geography High Honors
Faith Bless (Global Studies) Magna Cum Laude, Honors College Candidate
Larissa Bryant (Global Studies) Summa Cum Laude
Kimberly Dossett (Global Studies) Cum Laude
James Eager (Global Studies & Geography) Cum Laude, Honors College Candidate w/ Distinction
Ian Joaquin-Arthur (Global Studies)
Robert Levinson (Global Studies) Cum Laude, Honors College Candidate w/ Distinction
Daniel Littleton (Global Studies)
Malcom McCoy (Global Studies & Geography) Cum Laude
Claudia Modica (Geography)
Lauren Morgan (Global Studies & Geography)
Amit Nath (Geography)
Aleena Pasha (Global Studies & Geography) Magna Cum Laude
Thomas Scally (Global Studies)
Haley Schwartz (Global Studies & Geography)
Carys Swan (Global Studies & Geography) Cum Laude
Jeffery Werner (Global Studies)
Yuntung Zhai (Global Studies)

Some of our Spring Graduates, from left to right: Tom Scally, Mithzy Arciniega, Laura Avendano Perez, Lauren Morgan, James Eager, Larissa Bryant, Aleena Pasha

Fall Open House

On Thursday, September 13th, we welcomed students back to campus with an Open House party for new and returning students. It was great to catch up with old friends and meet new faces!

Get Global President Tyler Stock at the Fall Open House

Dr. Saff with Global Studies majors, Yuntung Zhai and Jeffery Werner

Global Studies and Geography double major, Haley Schwartz and family.

Dr. Saff with Global Studies majors, Yuntung Zhai and Jeffery Werner

Visit our Flickr page to view additional photos from the Senior Lunch and from Spring Graduation.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event.
End of Semester Party and Celebration of Graduates, Fall 2018

On December 6th, we celebrated the end of the Fall semester and our mid-year graduates with a party attended by students, faculty and staff who enjoyed an evening of good food and conversation.

Visit our Flickr page to view photos from this event.

Congratulations to our Fall 2018 Graduates!

Mid-year Commencement saw a number of our majors complete their studies at Hofstra – congratulations to all of you and best of luck in your future careers!

Kelsie Brostek (Global Studies & Geography)
Benjamin Cope (Global Studies) Cum Laude
Marissa Duhaney (Global Studies & Geography)
Thomas Ferb (Global Studies)
Adanya Hicks (Global Studies & Geography) Cum Laude, Honors College Associate
Jessica Parks (Global Studies)
Sarah Puckett (Global Studies)
Rachel Scarpino (Global Studies & Geography) Cum Laude, Honors College Candidate
Christopher Thorsen (Global Studies & Geography)
Lara Van Patten (Global Studies)
Hafeez Yussuf (Global Studies & Geography)

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 Julianna Cirafesi, who interned with AstraZeneca in Johannesburg, South Africa (Summer 2018), and Lois Paquette, who studied abroad in Amman, Jordan (Spring 2018) to reflect on their experiences, and to give advice to current students.
**Where was your internship?**

I interned at AstraZeneca (a pharmaceutical company) for one of their corporate social responsibility programs in Johannesburg, South Africa. This program, called Phakamisa (which means “to uplift” in Zulu), assists with increasing education and access for breast and prostate cancer patients, as well as increasing the capacity of the public healthcare system to handle the growing number of cancer patients. I met with a variety of officials, cancer experts, and healthcare professionals in order to understand what the needs of the community are. In addition, I helped to negotiate contracts with AstraZeneca and non-profit organizations, assisted in the redesign of their website, and coordinated the day-to-day process of running the program.

**How did you find out about it?**

The professor who I worked with for my research assistantship heard about it from the dean of the business school, so she recommended me for the position and I was eventually offered an interview. The opportunity was funded by one of the donors to the Hofstra Zarb School of Business.

**Why did you choose to do this internship in particular?**

I chose this internship because it combined a variety of my interests. Specifically, it had a strong focus in public health which is one of my passions. In addition, it involved working for a global company which is the kind of organization I hope to work for in the future. I knew I would learn valuable information about the healthcare system in another country and learn about how business is conducted on a global scale. Both of these areas will be helpful for the type of career I want to have.

**What skills were important for accomplishing your tasks?**

I needed to be able to think on my feet, learn new processes and information quickly, have strong people skills, and be able to communicate effectively. It was also important for me to have an understanding of public health and business management.

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

You’ve probably heard this a million times, but networking is so important to getting opportunities like internships and jobs. I would never have known about the internship if I didn’t have a close relationship with the professor I work for. In addition, don’t be afraid to take risks. I almost didn’t apply for the internship because I was so nervous that I wouldn’t get it! I would also definitely recommend applying for a bunch of different options because you never know which one you’ll get hired for or which one might be perfect for you.

**What program did you attend?**

The CIEE Amman study abroad program is based in Amman, Jordan, and lasts for around 3.5 months. There are no language prerequisites, but even though the program requires that you take 9 credits of Arabic while there—6 credits of Modern Standard Arabic, and 3 credits of Colloquial Jordanian Arabic —there is also the chance to take 2/3 area studies courses taught in English. I took Political Science of the Middle East and Environment, Sustainability and Activism in the Middle East. The program has weekly activities for students, such as calligraphy, dance, or mosaic creation. Additionally, the program takes students on several trips—one usually to Petra, Aqaba, Wadi Rum, and then a couple of day trips such as biblical Jordan, and a bike trip.

**How did you find out about it?**

I learned about it from my sister, who studied abroad through CIEE in France. It’s a very reputable study abroad company, so I began to research it myself to see if the organization had locations in the Middle East and talked to the study abroad office at Hofstra to see the feasibility.

**Why did you choose to do this program in particular?**

This particular program was interesting to me, because I have had an interest in the Middle East and Arabic for a long time. I’ve always known that I wanted to study abroad, but I felt that the best way to push myself in my Arabic and learn more about things I was truly passionate about was to study in a country in the Middle East. As most Arabic study abroad programs in the Middle East are located in either Jordan or Morocco, I had to choose between these two countries. Eventually I chose Jordan because I thought the Arabic dialect there would be more useful for my future.

**What skills were important for this program?**

The most important skill I used in Jordan was adaptability. Everything was different, and I had to be willing to be uncomfortable in situations.

**What advice do you have for students considering studying abroad?**

My biggest advice for someone considering studying abroad is to not be intimidated by the process, because it is worth it. If you’re considering going someplace really outside of your comfort zone, go for it, because you can do it.
Here is a partial list of the various **internships** and **study abroad programs** completed by our majors since summer 2018:

**Rachel Billard** (Global Studies and Geography) interned at the **American Geographic Society** in the Fall 2018.  
**Kelsie Brostek** (Global Studies and Geography) interned for the **MTA Long Island Rail Road** in the summer 2018.  
**Lois Paquette** (Geography) did an internship with **World Relief**, a refugee resettlement agency in Seattle, summer 2018.  
**Julianna Cirafesi** (Global Studies) did an internship at **AstraZeneca** in Johannesburg, South Africa, summer 2018.  
**Adriana Galarza** (Global Studies and Geography-GIS) interned with **Global Trek and Adventures** as a GIS & Sustainability Research Intern in Reykjavik, Iceland during the summer 2018.  
**Adanya Hicks** (Global Studies & Geography) did an internship at **BRIC Arts Media**, a non-profit arts center in Brooklyn and [blogged](#) about her experience, during the Fall 2018.  
**Xiling (Coco) Ye**, photo below, (Global Studies and Geography), studied at the **Nuova di Accademia Belle Arti** (NABA) Milan, Italy, Fall 2018.  

In Spring 2019, majors, **Fatimah Mozawalla** will be studying abroad at Oxford University, UK, **Emma Rossetti** will be in Singapore and **Victoria Crowley** will be in Limerick, Ireland. We look forward to hearing about your experiences!  

**Annie Styles ’12**, who majored in Global Studies and Geography (with Honors in Global Studies) is currently an Events and Travel Coordinator with Appfire in Burlington, Massachusetts.  

**What is your current job?**  
Title: Travel and Events Coordinator at Appfire Technologies. Reality: I run all event and travel planning for project management (including the core of project management), working in Korea, developing a remote career, or running all vendor events for the company time, equity, product and profit to local nonprofits.  

**What do you do?**  
In short, making teamwork magic with Atlassian software. One point of pride is having made the inventory and control systems for hundreds of thousands of parts for Advanced LIGO. That major update increased the sensitivity of previous LIGO interferometers, enabling the discovery of gravitational waves that netted its three founders (Barry Barish and Kip Thorne of Caltech and Rainer Weiss of MIT) the Nobel Prize in Physics. I also love how Appfire is all-in on Pledge 1% ([https://pledge1percent.org](https://pledge1percent.org)), leveraging at least 1% of company time, equity, product and profit to local nonprofits.  

**How did you get to where you are?**  
It's been a roundabout route! I’d worked in events since Hofstra, occasionally having to skip classes to pay the bills and eat (but I’m still very sorry, y'all). I spent 2 years in South Korea, working 9-5 and studying 6-9 at a Seoul National University night program and doing free TV appearances or volunteering at events and national festivals on the weekends. After moving home, I did a bit of work on the content team at Trip Advisor before winning a fellowship at the Middlebury Language Schools for Korean. I got hired at Appfire soon after based on this nebulous but applicable set of experiences.  

**What are you up to?**  
I just came back from a trip to prep for taking half the company to Vegas for an Atlassian Summit in the spring: touring properties, testing restaurants, and trying out activities to form the strategy for the all-remote team's internal culture curation. 

At the same time, I'm working on my PMP- a certification for project management- and a body of content on remote work to be refined as I travel the length of California in December.  

If anyone is interested in getting their PMP (join my study group!), working in Korea, developing a remote career, or learning how to apply event best practices to the work they do, I'd love to help anyone benefit from what I've learned.  

**What are your tips and tricks for post grad life?**  
1. Save money for retirement somewhere untouchable, like a Roth IRA, but don't give in to feeling down (and the short-term sad-feels-spending that follows) if you can't at the moment. We all grow and go at our own pace!  
2. Relocate to a new city if you have the resources -- or even if you don't! Graduating into the recession, I had 4 jobs after Hofstra and still couldn't cover bills-plus-loans, so I applied for the EPIK program in South Korea and paid for the plane ticket and the first month's expenses on a trusted credit card. Walking such a fine line financially was terrifying; I’ll always recommend having money (who wouldn’t?), but that's not always possible. When all else fails, it can be thrilling to embrace calculated risks; take the opportunity to grow through your own efforts.  
3. You’re young, take advantage of it! Most “working holiday” government programs, scholarships / grants, or even socially-conscious corporate sponsorships are only available to early-twentysomethings. Furthermore, believe you are worthy of it; thinking otherwise wastes precious time. Like Dr. Saff always told me, “If you don’t go for it, you’re saying no for them. Let them decide!”
Blaine Volpe '16, who majored in Global Studies and Geography (with Honors in Global Studies) recently joined 50 State in Washington, D.C. as an Executive Assistant after working for over two years at the National Governors Association.

What is your job title and what do you do?
I work at a consulting firm here in D.C., called 50 State. We specialize in governors/state government. I work mainly for the Democratic team as an executive assistant/associate, but I do work with the GOP side a bit. I do a little bit of everything with my job; I am a scheduler, client coordinator, operations manager, researcher and so on. This is only my second job in D.C. and I really love working for a Democratic team now and having more responsibilities. Considering the fact that there could be up to 36 new governors, my work now more than ever is pretty exciting/busy.

What is your favorite part of your job?
My favorite part is learning political skill. My boss was the former executive director at Democratic Governors Association (DGA), was (and still is) a close adviser to Martin O’Malley (recent Governor of Maryland) and has worked on the Good Friday Peace Agreement. There’s a lot to learn from him and watching him work with other politicians or clients has been amazing.

How do you think you’re changing the world?
I’m not sure I’m changing the world just yet but I do think I’m working with a few great organizations like Autism Speaks, Measures for Justice (data collection for reform of criminal justice system) and a few others. Advancing the agenda of those that are actually great activist organizations. But I am trying to get more involved in my community in D.C. and have started going to more political meetings.

Alumni Updates

2018

Emilie Beck (Global Studies and Geography, with High Honors) is a Program Coordinator with Brooklyn for Peace in Brooklyn, NY.

Kelsie Brostek (Global Studies and Geography-GIS) has accepted a position with ALK Technologies in Princeton, NJ as a GIS Technician.

Marissa Duhaney (Global Studies and Geography) is a Digital Video Intern at NBC News.

Lauren Morgan (Global Studies and Geography) is a GIS Intern with the Town of Milford, NH.

Jessica Parks (Global Studies) is a Port Washington Times and Nassau County Reporter with Blank Slate Media in Williston Park, NY.

Rachel Scarpino (Global Studies and Geography) has joined John Snow International in Boston, Massachusetts as a spring 2019 Intern in their International Division.

Haley Schwartz (Global Studies and Geography) is currently working as an au pair in New Zealand and will be starting an MSc program in GIS with a focus in Human Paleoeconomy/Archaeology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland in September 2019.

Upcoming Department Events

Mark your Calendars for Spring 2019!

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

March 12 (Tuesday): Hungarian Concert at 6:30pm in Monroe (with Flora Tandi and Robert Sinha, musicians visiting from Hungary) followed by a Hungarian Diversity Dinner sponsored by Get Global at 8pm.

March 26 (Tuesday): Globalization Day (organized by Prof. Linda Longmire on behalf of the Center for Civic Engagement)

April 3 – 7: American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. Our faculty, students and alumni will be presenting research and participating on panels at the AAG’s annual meeting.

April 10 (Wednesday): Dr. Linda Longmire will be presenting the 54th Distinguished Faculty Lecture during Common Hour (11:15am - 12:40pm). Her talk is titled, "The Pedagogy of Peripatetic Learning: The Odyssey Model of Study Abroad."

April 15 (Monday): Professor Mona Domosh, Geographer from Dartmouth and Past President of American Association of Geographers will give a lecture “Practicing Development in the Jim Crow South” at 12:50pm – 2:10pm open to the public. Prior to the talk she will be the keynote speaker at the Mu Kappa induction ceremony luncheon at 11:15am.
Recent Department Events

2017

Jasmina Dzurlic (Global Studies), has been doing graduate studies in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology at Columbia University, and in July-August did field work for MillionTreesNYC.

Grace Finlayson (Global Studies) is now Marketing Operations Coordinator at Foreign Affairs Magazine in New York City.

Sarah Linder (Global Studies) is a Bankruptcy Intern at Neighborhood Legal Services Association and a J.D. candidate at Duquesne Law in Pittsburgh, PA.

2016

Hayley Kinn (Global Studies) is a Rapid Response Unit Manager at Esurance in Greenville, SC.

2015

Carissa Brown (Global Studies and Geography) is an Impact Projects Director at the Boys & Girls Club of Southern Maine.

Zoë Hoffman (Global Studies and Geography) is a Senior Associate (Account Supervisor) at BCW Global in New York City.

David Zhukovsky (Global Studies) is completing dental school at Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine-Illinois and plans to enter private practice upon graduation.

2014

Charlotte Granison (Global Studies) is an Academic Advisor at Washington State University in St. Louis School of Law in Missouri.

Captain Ross Nikides (Global Studies) is currently stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany working as a Plans Officer in the 24th MI Battalion. Before his recent move, CPT Nikides graduated the Captain’s Career Course and was an International Officer Sponsor for an Egyptian Army Officer who attended the course. “It is all about building partnerships and learning about foreign cultures. The more we train together, the stronger our bond,” says Nikides. He will be stationed in Germany for the next three years.

Briana Pattinson (Global Studies) is a Creative and Communications Specialist at Tandigm Health in Philadelphia, PA.

Victoria Rametta (Global Studies) is an Advertising and Communications Specialist at Red Edge, LLC in Washington, DC.

William Schenkel (Global Studies) is a Senior Vice President at Crier Media Group in Washington, DC.

Ben Suazo (Global Studies, with High Honors) is a Business Analyst at Bloomsbury Academic Publishing in New York City.

2013

Jenny Hart (Global Studies) is a Social Media Specialist, Urban Adventures at Intrepid Travel in New York City.

Kaylee Platt (Global Studies and Geography) is an HR Services Delivery Consultant at Alight in Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida.

2012

Etana Jacobi (Global Studies, with High Honors) received a humanitarian award from the National Conference for Community and Justice of Greater Dayton. She is a Manager at the Hall Hunger Initiative in Dayton, Ohio. She also serves on the Dean’s External Advisory Board for the Kalikow School.

2010

Anthony Sacco (Geography) is an AVP/Manager – Customer Experience & Service Delivery at Flushing Bank in East Meadow, NY.

2001

Chris Karampahtsis (Geography, Honors) is a medical doctor, working as a Psychiatry Clerkship Director and Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Stony Brook Medicine in Mineola, NY.

1979

Ethan Ezner (Geography) recently retired from a 37-year career in Government, all of it spent in the field of immigration. At the time of his retirement he was Section Chief at the Department of Homeland Security in Connecticut. He notes that this would not have been possible without his studies in Urban Geography and Demography/Migration. In 1979 he was one of only two students with a declared Geography major and he is heartened to see the growth of our Geography program since that time.
For more information about us:

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For an overview of the Department
See our 2016-2017 Annual Review

Photos from all our events can be found on our Flickr Page