

2002



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Beloit College November 13, 2002

Symposium organized by George Lisensky, Chemistry Department,
with special thanks to Dianna Kile and David Heeson.

Cover design by Shelby Laubhan,
Student Graphic Artist, Office of Public Affairs.

SESSION I: LOGAN ROOM, WRIGHT ART CENTER

Moderator: Susan Swanson, Geology Department

9:00	Susan Swanson	Opening remarks
9:05	Justin Dodd	More Than Lions, Elephants, and Zebras: Complex Cultural Interactions in Tanzania
9:30	Risa Lenore Anderson Dye	A Walk on the Shores of Dakar, Senegal
9:55	Bethany Weisberger	Research Adventure in the Serengeti (Tanzania)
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Sadique Isahaku, Education Department

10:35	Sadique Isahaku	Opening remarks
10:40	Molly Firkaly	Senegal Thinking Ahead: A Country's Early Fight Against AIDS
11:05	Jaclyn Burger	Malawi, The Warm Heart of Africa
11:30	Natasha Jarvis	The Healing Power of African Dance (Ghana)
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Rama Viswanathan, Chemistry Department

1:30	Rama Viswanathan	Opening remarks
1:35	Linda Collins, Molly Firkaly, Kim Frankwick, Sara Kile	The Potential for Language Acquisition and Cultural Understanding through Study Abroad (Ecuador, Senegal, Russia, China)
2:25	Break	

Symposium participants, sponsors, moderators and guests are invited by the Office of the President and the Office of the Dean of the College to attend a reception in their honor, 3:00-4:00, Week's Lounge, Pearsons Hall.

SESSION II: WOOD ROOM, MAYER HALL		
Moderator: Paul Stanley, Physics Department		
9:00	Paul Stanley	Opening remarks
9:05	Chantel White	Land Use in Pre-Roman Iron Age Settlements: The Deforestation of Britain (Scotland)
9:30	Burcu Kadriye Islam	Humanity in Action: The Linguistic Integration of Turkish Children in Germany
9:55	Katelyn Kimmons	Auschwitz: Polish and Jewish Claims of Symbolic Ownership (Poland)
10:20	Break	

Moderator: David Vessey, Philosophy and Religious Studies Department		
10:35	David Vessey	Opening remarks
10:40	Clarissa Schumacher	International Education: Lessons for Learning Abroad (Ireland)
11:05	Alenka Kalabic	Trafficking in Eastern European Women (Bosnia)
11:30	Kim Frankwick	The Impact of Sexual Education in Russia: Successes and Setbacks
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Ann Davies, Political Science Department		
1:30	Ann Davies	Opening remarks
1:35	Awad Qumseya	Getting to Ramalaha (Palestine)
2:00	Mehmet Emre Furtun, Deniz Ozcakil, Sedat Kesik, Burcu Islam	Turkish Elections: Change vs. Status Quo
2:50	Break	

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SESSION III: NORTH LOUNGE, WORLD AFFAIRS CENTER

Moderator: Kosta Hadavas, Classics Department

9:00	Kosta Hadavas	Opening remarks
9:05	Sara Kile	In Pursuit of Progress: Scholarly Research in China
9:30	Emily Martis	Okonomiyaki and Incompressibility: Nuclear Physics Research in Japan
9:55	Emily Shadowens	Reflections on Racial Inequality in Aboriginal Australia
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Natalie Gummer, Philosophy and Religious Studies Department

10:35	Natalie Gummer	Opening remarks
10:40	Mary Pelak	La Ciudad de Los Poetas: Women and Poetry in San Ramón, Costa Rica
11:05	Philip Mangis	The Impact of Tourism on Economic Development and Environmental Sustainability in Peru
11:30	Tamara Rushing	The Festival of "Mama Negra" (Ecuador)
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Lee Fishman, English Department

1:30	Lee Fishman	Opening remarks
1.35	Nana Sarkoah Fenny, Maylene Corpuz	Outreach in the Colonias
2:00	Emily Hildebrant, Jon Mieling	Beloit College Atacama Field School, Chile
2:25	Emily Grman, Greg Fluchel	A Taste of Biological Diversity in Ecuador: Two Ecological Research Projects
2:50	Break	

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**Jaclyn Burger '04 Johannesburg,
Gauteng, South Africa**

Majors: International Relations, Political Science
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Malawi, The Warm Heart of Africa

My international experience occurred during the summer of 2002 at Kondanani Orphanage, situated in Malawi, Southern Africa.

Malawi is a landlocked country, slightly smaller in size than Pennsylvania, hugging the picturesque Lake Malawi, the third largest lake in Africa. Malawi has an approximate population of 10.5 million, and its human history can be traced back 2 million years.

I will discuss the current situation in Malawi. The history of the territory in terms of its political character, social structure, environment and ethnic make-up will be presented to provide a contextual framework for the discussion. Malawi is now an emerging democracy desperately trying to cling to democratic virtues.

Furthermore, current health issues such as the AIDS crisis and the impending famine will be examined. Approximately 20% of the Malawian population is currently living with HIV/AIDS. This crisis has had a profound effect on the social structure of communities and has created a vast number of orphans. The impending famine is threatening close to 12 million people in the Southern Africa region. Malawi's dire economic situation makes it one of the poorest countries in the world, largely dependent on aid.

I will also endeavor to share my personal experiences, discussing the work done at Kondanani, and the important role of NGOs in countries such as Malawi. During my time spent there, I realized that Malawi truly is the warm heart of Africa!

Linda Collins '04 see PANEL, page 11

**Maylene Corpuz '04 Honolulu, Hawaii
(with Nana Fenny)**

Major: Biochemistry
Sponsor: Marion Fass

Outreach in the Colonias

The colonias are neighborhoods that are located near the US-Mexican border with a population of 500,000 people. A majority of the residents are of Hispanic background that immigrated or migrated to Texas from Mexico, Guatemala and other South American countries. There are high rates of poverty in these neighborhoods. A typical family makes an average of only \$7,000 a year for a family of 5-6 people. About 65% of these residents have no health insurance. Their limited understanding of assistance programs and their limited ability to read and write English also plays a factor in their poor living standards. Due to this, their communities are isolated from proper health care, employment, sanitary water, roads, decent housing, and other services.

Texas A & M's Colonias Program aims to lessen the isolation in the colonias by bringing these services to the communities. This summer we worked with the promotoras who are female community members of the colonias. They literally go door to door in the neighborhoods and use their bilingual skills and knowledge of Hispanic culture to broach issues that would have been extremely difficult for an outsider to do thereby forming valuable bridges between the colonias community and external resources. By working side by side with these women, we were able to explore and implement the variety of ways in which the community is able to utilize its resources to improve the community's overall standard of living.

Majors: Geology, Anthropology
Sponsor: Nancy McDowell

More than Lions, Elephants, and Zebras: Complex Cultural Interactions in Tanzania

Tanzania is a land known for its great diversity of plant and animal species and vast expanses of high grasslands. Encounters with Tanzania's exotic animals or glimpses of breathtaking views of the Serengeti Plain from atop Mount Kilimanjaro are heart-stopping experiences. Yet, the diverseness of this east African nation goes much deeper than its biological and geographical wonders. Presently, the peoples who live within the political borders of the country constitute more than 120 different tribal and traditional groups, and many of these groups have distinct linguistic, cultural, and religious traditions.

Tanzania is bordered by the Indian Ocean on the East, and the coast of Tanzania has long been a center of cultural and material exchanges and interactions. In fact, the national language of Tanzania, Swahili, originated as the language used by one of the earliest African mercantile civilizations whose trade networks covered the Indian Ocean. In many ways, modern Tanzania is the result of thousands of years of complex cultural interactions, and the nation has a diverse cultural history. As global communications and travels are becoming faster and more accessible, the peoples of Tanzania continue to adjust and change, resulting in interesting, and often very complex, interactions between outside influences and traditional practices. Tanzania therefore offers a unique opportunity to observe the interactions of peoples and cultures from vastly different cultural backgrounds.

Major: Anthropology
Sponsor: Nancy McDowell

A Walk on the Shores of Dakar, Senegal

This presentation chronicles the events of an extraordinary day in Dakar, Senegal. It outlines many microcosms of Dakarian culture that I witnessed on a guided hike through the streets and on the beach.

In this talk, I give a detailed account of the sights and sounds along the shoreline. My description features wood carving studios, artist emporiums, fish markets, Muslim cemeteries, traditional wrestling and more. This vivid journey reveals the complex and intricately woven nature of a West African city's daily culture.

Nana Sarkoah Fenny '04 Accra, Ghana
(with Maylene Corpuz)

Major: Biochemistry
Sponsor: Marion Fass

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Molly Firkaly '04 Charlottesville, Virginia
see also PANEL, page 11

Major: International Relations
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Senegal Thinking Ahead: A Country's Early Fight Against AIDS

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 70% of the total number of HIV/AIDS infection cases out of over 25 million infected worldwide, and in eight African countries, over 15% of the adult population is living with HIV. The continent has been terribly affected by the virus since its discovery, but the actions taken by individual governments have determined to what extent the epidemic will spread. The West African country of Senegal responded almost immediately after its first internal cases were discovered in 1986. A national AIDS program was established that same year, all blood used for transfusions began being screened in 1987, and politicians, the media and religious leaders were encouraged to learn about the virus, how to prevent it and how it was spread.

During the Fall of 2001, I spent my semester abroad in Dakar, Senegal and saw the evidence of the country's proactive stance on the fight against HIV/AIDS. Billboards stating, "Stop SIDA" sat along the major roads, and public announcements and commercials promoting condom use frequented the television. The honest delivery of information concerning sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS in particular, surprised me, and I decided to return to Senegal and undertake an internship at Africa Consultants International (ACI), a non-profit organization working with AIDS education in the region.

Through the work done at ACI and personal research, four themes have emerged that explain why Senegal has one of the lowest

HIV/AIDS rates in Sub-Saharan Africa. These include: late sexual activity and limited extra-marital sexual activity, an effective STD control program integrated into the health system, increased condom use, and religious support. I will discuss these themes with the help of a short video clip created by Diarra Diakhate, a Senegalese intern at ACI.

Greg Fluchel '03 Chesterfield, Missouri
(with Emily Grman)

Major: Economics and Management
Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

A Taste of Biological Diversity in Ecuador: Two Ecological Research Projects

Ecuador is a small country consisting of four major ecological zones: the Galapagos Islands, the Pacific coast, the Andes Mountains, and the Amazon Rainforest. Within these regions, we observed a variety of different ecosystems including high altitude grassland (páramo), tropical dry forest, mangrove forest, mid-elevation cloud forest, and tropical lowland rainforest.

On the Beloit College Biology Seminar in 2000, with Professor Ken Yasukawa, we studied at the Jatun Sacha Foundation, an Ecuadorian non-profit conservation organization located in the Amazon Rainforest at the foot of the Andes Mountains. During our three-week stay we were able to observe in detail the plants and animals of the region.

Emily conducted a research project to identify the physiological causes and possible adaptive significance of leaf movement in sensitive plants (*Mimosa pudica*). She tested the hypotheses that leaves close to prevent excessive water loss from transpiration when temperatures are high, to protect from insect herbivory, and to facilitate water drainage. Results indicated that heat and movement of large insects induced leaf closure, whereas rainwater did not drain more easily from closed leaves.

Greg investigated the effects of deforestation on mammal populations by examining abundance and behavior of mammals. With the help of a partner, he collected data from a blind and a 3 m raised platform at one station, and while walking trails. Many small mammals

(e.g. saddle-backed tamarinds [*Saguinus fuscicollis*], black agoutis [*Dasyprocta fuliginosa*], Amazon bamboo rats [*Dactylomys dactylinus*]) but few larger animals were seen, probably for two reasons. Small mammals generally have higher population densities than large mammals, and the habitat may have been sufficiently fragmented by the construction of roads that it was unable to support large mammal populations.

Kim Frankwick '03 Brighton, Michigan
see also PANEL, page 11

Major: Russian
Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

**The Impact of Sexual Education in
Russia: Successes and Setbacks**

Russia now has the highest HIV infection rate in the world. The speculated number of those infected ranges between 400,000 and 750,000. One study revealed that only 26.3% of Muscovite youth had been taught about HIV/AIDS in school (Chalmers). HIV/AIDS is not the sole problem plaguing Russia; also high rates of STDs and abortions, coupled with low rates of contraceptive use. By the end of 1996 only 13% of 15-44 year old women in three major cities used condoms (Chalmers). On average, women have between four and five abortions in their lifetime (Kon).

Sexual education is not and has never been offered in public schools. Most initiatives to introduce sexual education have been shot down by the government or the Orthodox Church. This leaves only private, mainly Western, non-governmental organizations to handle the overwhelming need for sources of educated information. How much of an effect have these programs had on pregnancy and disease prevention, attitudes towards contraception, and Russian society in general? Why is such vital information so controversial? This talk will discuss the history of the sexual education movement in Russia, its current status and possibilities for the future.

Mehmet Emre Furtun '03 see PANEL, page 12

Emily Grman '03 Janesville, Wisconsin
(with Greg Fluchel)

Major: Ecology, Evolution, and Behavioral Biology
Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

**A Taste of Biological Diversity
in Ecuador: Two Ecological
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Emily Hildebrant '04 Longmont, Colorado
(with Jon Mieling)

Majors: Anthropology, History
Sponsor: Dan Shea

**Beloit College Atacama
Field School, Chile**

The Beloit College Atacama Field School is a field school organized by Professors Dan Shea and Mario Rivera to give undergraduates a chance to learn field methods for archaeology and an opportunity to participate in scholarly research.

The primary goal for this year's field school in Quebrada Guatacondo was to use a weather balloon to map the agricultural fields and ancient watercourses around the Ramaditas complex to help explain how people could survive in such a dry environment.

Some archaeological excavation was done at a prospective copper furnace and in natural and artificial waterways at Ramaditas, as well as cataloging artifacts from the previous summer's excavation at Pisagua, a site on the Pacific coast in Chile.

Traveling through Lima, Arica, Iquique, Pica, Pisagua, and La Tirana offered us unique opportunities to explore the character of northern Chile and Peru.

Early in our trip we visited Iquique and Pica. In Iquique, we had hands-on experience with mummies through the Iquique Museum. Pica, home of the pica lemons used in pisco sours, also has natural springs and is an oasis town in the middle of the driest desert in the world.

After we were finished in Guatacondo, we traveled to Pisagua and La Tirana. Pisagua is a coastal town that was extremely different from the conditions in Quebrada Guatacondo. We were able to see where the artifacts we had been cataloging were from and another type of settlement pattern in Chile.

La Tirana is an annual religious festival that runs for a week and is a synthesis of Inca and modern religious beliefs. It draws people from all over South America. We went at the height of the festival and saw many different dancing groups.

Burcu K. Islam '02 Denizli, Turkey
see also PANEL, page 12

Major: International Relations
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

**Humanity in Action:
The Linguistic Integration of
Turkish Children in Germany**

Germany has a large number of immigrants and labor migrants. Turkish people form the majority of this group; most of the Turks came to Germany during the late 1960s in order to fill the demand for unskilled labor. German expectations that immigrants would go back to their countries after a couple of years have proven false. Currently, Germany has around 7.3 million immigrants, around 2 million of which are Turkish. Because of the lack of action in favor of integration both from the German and Turkish sides, the integration of Turkish immigrants into German society is becoming more problematic.

This presentation will share my experiences from the four-week long "Humanity in Action" seminar that took place in Berlin, Germany in Summer 2002. I will present results of the research project that I conducted on one of the most important aspects of integration: the linguistic integration of Turkish immigrants in Germany. While analyzing the information that I have gathered from interviews with Turkish and German experts, I will briefly explain the causes of the slow linguistic integration of Turkish children in kindergartens and elementary schools. Finally, I will conclude with the proposals of the interviewees for the solution to the problem.

Natasha Jarvis '05 Bronx, New York

Majors: Psychology, Drama
Sponsor: Sadique Isahaku

The Healing Power of African Dance

In this presentation I will be discussing the significance of traditional dance in African society, with specific references from Ghana.

African dances are as varied and changing as the communities that create them. Although many types of African dance incorporate spirited, vigorous movements, there are also others

that are more reserved or stylized. African dances vary widely by region and ethnic community. There are numerous dances within a given community. African communities traditionally use dance for a variety of social purposes. African dance is also used for healing. It plays a role in spiritual rituals; they mark rites of passage, including initiations to adulthood and weddings; they form a part of communal ceremonies, including harvest celebrations, funerals, and coronations; and they offer entertainment and recreation in the forms of masquerades, acrobatic dances, and social club dances.

While in Ghana this summer, I had the unique opportunity to see and participate in several dances. In this short presentation, I will demonstrate one of the dances that I learned. This dance is called "jera." It is used when hunters are preparing to go hunting. I have chosen to demonstrate this dance because I brought the costume and the music for the dance.

During the period of slavery, African captives while on slave ships to the new world were sometimes forced to exercise their bodies, they used songs and dance as their form of exercise. Upon their arrival to the new world, and while working on the plantations they used dance as a form of recreation. I will also show some pictures of the slave forts where captives were kept waiting for the arrival of the slave ships.

My goal during this presentation is to convey my personal experiences and feelings about my encounter with African dance in the Ghanaian context to the audience.

I intend to do more research on the influence of traditional African dance on contemporary music and dance. I am currently instructing African dance in the Beloit community and anyone who is interested in learning African dance can join us.

Alenka Kalabic '03

**Zenica,
Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Majors: International Relations, Modern Languages
Sponsor: David Goldberg

Trafficking in Eastern European Women

Trafficking of women for the purpose of sexual exploitation is symptomatic of the change in global relationships and of the large-scale political and economic transitions within the developing world. Trafficking in women is an international crime that generates enormous profits at low risk for traffickers who violate women's basic economic and human rights. Trafficking means "the moving, buying or selling of persons within and outside borders for different forms of labor with or without consent of the person subjected to trafficking."

I have approached the study of trafficking in women as an interdisciplinary project within the context of International Relations, my major field of study. Given that the trafficking phenomenon encompasses all spheres of life, I have also consulted feminist theory, economics, history, health studies, and international law.

In May 2002 I conducted a field research in Bosnia. While there, I gained a better understanding of issues surrounding the sex trade—the extent to which it has infiltrated all spheres of local, but also global socio-economic milieu. In addition, I developed a deeper understanding of the motives for and impacts of participation in the sex trade at the individual, state and international level. Furthermore, I studied possible alternatives to the sex trade for participants who involuntarily engage in the activity.

The study of trafficking in women through Bosnia is indicative of experience of Eastern European countries undergoing economic transition. On the other hand, the Bosnian experience is unique because it reflects the most extreme of these experiences in comparison with other Eastern European countries.

Sedat Kesik '06

see PANEL, page 12

Sara Kile '03**Rockton, Illinois**
see also PANEL, page 11Major: East Asian Languages and Culture
Sponsor: Sylvia Lopez**In Pursuit of Progress: Scholarly
Research in China**

When I arrived in Shanghai, I stepped off the plane with many preconceived notions about what I would find there. I had studied Chinese history and was familiar with the tragedy of the Cultural Revolution, but my concept of China since Mao Zedong's death in 1976 was based almost entirely on the China Exchange Program Handbook, distributed by the World Affairs Center. The Handbook warned that China was a "closed" society and that the classes at Fudan University would consist solely of rote memorization.

The extraordinary pace at which China has been developing since its "opening up" to the West in 1989 makes it nearly impossible to delineate the changes that have occurred. I spent the fall semester studying the Chinese language and attempting to make sense of the seeming contradictions of the world around me. Instead of the entirely closed society I had expected, I found a developing society, consisting of many rules, few absolutes, and abundant loopholes.

In the spring semester, I had the opportunity to do research in China. Having completed the Chinese language program, I enrolled in history and political science courses with Chinese students that went beyond rote memorization and encouraged us to analyze, albeit within limits, that which we read. I then began to experience first-hand the complex system that determined and limited the information available, but also allowed access to that which I assumed would be regarded as inappropriate.

As I slowly developed an awareness of the intricacies of the sources available to me, I also was confronted with an entirely different view of the nature of scholarly pursuit than that to which I had become accustomed. The Chinese asked and sought to answer questions that I had never considered and dismissed as trivial that which I valued. Through my interactions with them, I was able to develop a working idea of how Chinese scholarly research functions.

Katelyn Kimmons '03**Charleston,
West Virginia**Major: Religious Studies, Education
Sponsor: Debra Mubashshir**Auschwitz: Polish and Jewish
Claims to Symbolic Ownership**

Claims to the symbolic ownership of the memorial site of Auschwitz are a result of the deeply rooted historical, ethnic and religious identities of both the global Jewish population and the Polish people. Because of the strong connections these two groups have to the site, I argue that the site should not be claimed as a symbol of either religious tradition but instead should be dedicated to education about the events that took place there. Based on my research and fieldwork in Poland, I will discuss the historical background of the two groups in relation to the site and why their claims to the symbolic ownership of Auschwitz are valid. I will then conclude with a discussion of why there should be no religious representation on the site itself.

Philip Mangis '05**Salem, Oregon**Major: Political Science
Sponsor: David Goldberg**The Impact of Tourism on Economic
Development, and Environmental
Sustainability in the Case of Peru**

As globalization begins to affect more and more of the world, countries are forced to assess its impact. For Peru, globalization has helped its otherwise slumping economy and bolstered the tourism industry. New problems have arisen, however, that will require tough solutions in the coming decade. The economies of many of the cities have become reliant upon tourists and tourism. Sites such as Machu Picchu and the Inca Trail have been exploited and neglected in attempts to make quick profit. By capitalizing upon the tourism industry and not focusing on the preservation of historical sites, the effects of mass-tourism and commercialization are now becoming visible.

In Peru, I conducted qualitative research through interviews with professional tour

guides, by walking the deteriorating Inca Trail, exploring Machu Picchu, and visiting the Nazca Lines. I approached my research from a multidisciplinary perspective. I incorporated economical, political, archeological, and historical evidence to discover the impact of tourism on economic development, and environmental sustainability. I witnessed first hand the degradation that results from relying too heavily on tourism for economic progress. Unfortunately, Peru does not currently have the resources to save the very things that have promoted its economic development. Peru serves as a prime example of what all countries must face when attempting to maximize the economic potential of resources while still preserving pieces of history for future generations.

Emily Lauren Martis '04 Exeter, Maine

Majors: Physics, Literary Studies
Sponsor: George Lisensky

**Okonomiyaki and Incompressibility:
Nuclear Physics Research in Japan**

During the summer of 2002, I participated in a physics research opportunity at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana.

For my research, I assisted Dr. Umesh Garg and Dr. Basanta Nayak in the search for the value of incompressibility of infinite nuclear matter. Nuclear incompressibility is the measure of how much you can "squeeze" a nucleus. The experiment to help determine this quantity was done in collaboration with the Research Center for Nuclear Physics in Osaka, Japan during two weeks in July.

My presentation will focus on my experiences in Japan as a scientist, albeit an inexperienced and undereducated one. Basic information about my research and $E188: {}^{208}\text{Pb} (\alpha-\alpha')$ will also be presented, including pictures of the largest magnets you will ever see.

**Jon Mieling '05 Lake Forest, Illinois
(with Emily Hildebrant)**

Major: Undeclared
Sponsor: Dan Shea

**Beloit College Atacama Field
School, Chile**

The Beloit College Atacama Field School is a field school organized by Professors Dan Shea and Mario Rivera to give undergraduates a chance to learn field methods for archaeology and an opportunity to participate in scholarly research.

The primary goal for this year's field school in Quebrada Guatacondo was to use a weather balloon to map the agricultural fields and ancient watercourses around the Ramaditas complex to help explain how people could survive in such a dry environment.

Some archaeological excavation was done at a prospective copper furnace and in natural and artificial waterways at Ramaditas, as well as cataloging artifacts from the previous summer's excavation at Pisagua, a site on the Pacific coast in Chile.

Traveling through Lima, Arica, Iquique, Pica, Pisagua, and La Tirana offered us unique opportunities to explore the character of northern Chile and Peru.

Early in our trip we visited Iquique and Pica. In Iquique, we had hands-on experience with mummies through the Iquique Museum. Pica, home of the pica lemons used in pisco sours, also has natural springs and is an oasis town in the middle of the driest desert in the world.

After we were finished in Guatacondo, we traveled to Pisagua and La Tirana. Pisagua is a coastal town that was extremely different from the conditions in Quebrada Guatacondo. We were able to see where the artifacts we had been cataloging were from and another type of settlement pattern in Chile.

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Mary Pelak '03 Kingston, Pennsylvania

Major: Literary Studies

Sponsor: Sylvia Lopez

**La Ciudad de Los Poetas:
Women and Poetry in San Ramon,
Costa Rica**

The community of San Ramon, Costa Rica, possesses a longstanding literary tradition. San Ramon was the birthplace of several nationally renowned poets and two anthologies of local poetry have been published since 1990. Two museums and a regional branch of the Universidad de Costa Rica located in the town contribute to the vibrant cultural atmosphere that helps to sustain the literary life of its inhabitants.

During March and April of 2002, I lived in San Ramon and studied the poetry of seven local women. Through interviews and attendance at the meetings of the Literary Group of San Ramon, I compiled a brief anthology of each woman's work. The objective of the study was a comparative analysis of the thematic content and a determination of the social and ideological causes that motivated them to write. I found three dominant themes in the selected poetry: love, artistic creation as a form of personal expression, and the search for individual identity. The differences in the treatment of these themes and the preference for a particular thematic content originate from differences in age, vocation, and personal activities of the authors.

Awad Qumseya '05 Bethlehem, Palestine

Major: International Relations

Sponsor: Roc Ordman

Getting to Ramalaha

When I went home to Palestine this summer, I had to live under curfew. Every Palestinian is a prisoner in his/her house; he/she cannot go out, and he/she cannot open windows or doors. Otherwise, he/she will be shot at by the Israeli soldiers. Almost once a week, the Israelis will remove the curfew for several hours so that people can go out to buy food and to do other things. This is the typical type of life that the Palestinians have been living since April, living like animals in a zoo, waiting for food, and dreaming about freedom.

One day, I decided to go to Ramalaha, which is 25 kilometers away from Bethlehem where I live. I wanted to visit my sister who lives in Ramalaha. Under normal circumstances the drive should take 30 minutes from my house to my sister's house. But that is not the case anymore. To get from Bethlehem to Ramalaha I had to go through seven check points. I had to wait more than an hour at each checkpoint where the Israeli soldiers do their best to harass the Palestinians and humiliate them.

When I reached Ramalaha's borders, the Israelis told me that Ramalaha was under curfew. I could not get in and had to wait for the curfew to be lifted. I slept in the street that night with hundreds of Palestinians, old sick people, children and women. On that night a woman gave birth at the checkpoint since the Israeli soldiers would not let her pass to the hospital which was located in Ramalaha. After 24 hours I was able to get to my sister's house which I ought to have reached in half an hour.

This and many other things that I experienced back home make me sure that peace is the way and nothing except peace will provide a better life for both sides.

Tamara Rushing '03 Chicago, Illinois

Major: Spanish
Sponsor: Sylvia Lopez

The Festival of the "Mama Negra"

The Festival of the "Mama Negra," is a reflection of Ecuadorian identity. The festival includes a series of characters that represent the ancestors of Ecuadorian culture. Officially, this festival is known as the fiesta of "la Virgen de Nuestra de las Mercedes." The festival is a commemoration of the woman who helped to free the African slave, when they were brought over to the Americas on slave ships.

The festival is an example of an intercultural experience, because it is not only a way to reflect on the history of black culture in Ecuador, but it is also a reflection indigenous culture and Spanish origins. The purpose of this fiesta is also to explain race relationships and the role of Ecuadorians in those times.

Clarissa Schumacher '03 Belvidere, Illinois

Majors: Biochemistry, Economics
Sponsor: Laura Parmentier

**International Education:
Lessons for Learning Abroad**

Education systems vary significantly amongst countries. Variations include degree of class participation, cultural barriers like language and accent, historical events that influence subject topics, and the quality of education and educational methods. International education provides significant opportunities for any student. When studying abroad, the student is exposed to an environment in which they will have to adopt the norms and cultures of a country. Subsequently, the student will gain a new perspective and appreciation for religion, political history, social behaviors, and economic conditions. The student is continually stretched as new ideas are conceived and tested.

Preparing oneself for the new conditions will increase one's ability to extrapolate opportunity from new environments. The purpose of this discussion is to reveal important differences in educational techniques used in the United

States and Ireland. Additionally, information will be provided on opportunities available once abroad. Lastly, the process of preparing semesters at Beloit College to allow one to study abroad and graduate on time will be discussed.

Specifically, I will compare my experiences in taking economic and science classes at Beloit College with the National University of Ireland in Galway. This comparison will include class size, influence of historical events on class discussions, assessment methods, and professor-student relations. Additionally, I will discuss my preparation and planning for studying abroad as a double major in Biochemistry and Economics.

Emily K. Shadowens '03 Enon, Ohio

Major: Anthropology
Sponsor: Nicolette Meister

**Reflections on Racial Inequality
in Aboriginal Australia**

In 1788 European settlers declared Australia Terra Nullis, meaning the land contained only flora and fauna. The Aboriginal Australians, who had inhabited the land for thousands of years, were not considered human and as such, were categorized as fauna. Their situation worsened when the Protection Act of 1837-1940 forced the adoption of the English language and banned native language and traditional subsistence strategies. The Assimilation Act of 1940-1972 allowed the Australian government to physically remove Aboriginal children from their homes and forced them to learn English and accept Christianity. The notion of Terra Nullis was not dismissed until 1992 when Eddie Mabo took the Queensland government to court for land rights. This was a giant step for the Aboriginal people, but communities still struggle to survive in a white dominated country where racism is abundant and Aboriginal rights are limited.

The goal of this slide presentation is to reflect on what I experienced in Australia while studying the history of Aboriginal Australians at Adelaide University and the time I spent with the Ngarrindjeri community of the Lower Murray River in South Australia. I will discuss how the Ngarrindjeri and other communities depend on their own means of employment,

such as cultural centers, as well as their attempts to break stereotypes and end the cycle of racism by educating non-Aboriginal people about their culture.

Bethany Weisberger '03 Winthrop, Maine

Major: Geology

Sponsor: Carol Mankiewicz

**Research Adventure
in the Serengeti**

Field work is challenging anywhere, but it becomes an adventure when you add in limited transportation, close encounters with death, and digestive problems. These, and many more, were factors I faced while researching the Kilimafedha Greenstone Belt, in the Serengeti National Park, Tanzania.

Each day, joined by my armed guard, I ventured into the Serengeti wilderness in search of rocks. Walking stream beds, climbing hills, and driving through the plains, the search proved to be more difficult than expected. Come and listen as I discuss the difficulties (and humorous situations) I faced while conducting research in a foreign country.

Chantel White '03 McHenry, Illinois

Major: Anthropology

Sponsor: Laura Parmentier

**Land Use in Pre-Roman
Iron Age Settlements:
The Deforestation of Britain**

While studying abroad in Scotland at the University of Glasgow in 2000, I developed a fascination with environmental archaeology. Two courses I particularly enjoyed, Environmental Studies and the Archaeology of Scotland, culminated in a research project analyzing ancient humans and their relationship with the surrounding environment.

The first Celtic people arrived in the United Kingdom from mainland Europe as early as the seventh century B.C., developing new technology, burial practices, and settlement patterns. These Iron Age communities also introduced extensive agriculture, forever affecting the topography of Britain through their economic

practices.

These practices led to major deforestation across the landscape, providing space for more farm fields and cattle grazing. The food surpluses that followed allowed an even larger population to reside in Britain, and thus the cycle continued. Furthermore, the climate continued to deteriorate, forcing many settlements into the lowlands of Scotland and England. Arable land was a precious commodity in the face of such an inhospitable climate change, and the people of this time period often deforested large areas to sustain their communities.

Through extensive woodland clearance and the coinciding use of this land for arable agriculture and pastoral practices, Iron Age settlements destroyed the naturally forested environment of Great Britain in numerous regions, the results of which are still apparent today.

PANEL

Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

Linda Collins '04 Whitewater, Wisconsin

Major: Modern Languages

Molly Firkaly '04 Charlottesville, Virginia

Major: International Relations

Kim Frankwick '03 Brighton, Michigan

Major: Russian Language

Sarah Kile '03 Rockton, Illinois

Major: East Asian Languages and Culture

**The Potential for Language
Acquisition and Cultural
Understanding through
Study Abroad**

We have studied languages and culture both on campus and abroad. While studying abroad, the nature of language and cultural studies changes. Study abroad experience offers a wide range of language-learning opportunities as well as opportunities to observe and participate in the local community. Finding ways to take advantage of such opportunities as a complement to classroom learning lets us more quickly acquire language proficiency and understanding of the culture of the host country.

In this panel discussion, students who studied in China, Ecuador, Russia, and Senegal will talk about what and how they learned while abroad. We will discuss how language helped

us understand culture, how our learning differed from our experience at Beloit College, and how it shaped our understanding of the society in which we found ourselves participating. Finally, we will offer strategies for other students thinking about studying abroad that will help them maximize their learning experience.

PANEL

Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Mehmet Emre Furtun '03 Istanbul, Turkey

Majors: International Relations, Political Science

Deniz Ozcakir Istanbul, Turkey

Exchange student

Sedat Kesik '06 Istanbul, Turkey

Major: Economics and Management

Burcu Islam '02 Denizli, Turkey

Major: International Relations

We aim to pinpoint four basic aspects of the elections in a panel discussion which includes four Turkish students. Deniz Ozcakir will explain the results of elections and possible coalition scenarios. Sedat Kesik is going to examine the effects of elections on the economic crisis. Burcu Islam will talk about the possible developments in Turkish-E.U. relations. M. Emre Furtun will explore the impacts of elections on the Turkish-American alliance.

Turkish Elections: Change vs. Status Quo

Turkey is a vital partner for the U.S. and the European Union, especially after September 11. Being both Muslim and secular, Turkish society represents a unique alternative for most of the Middle Eastern countries, with fewer conflicts between fundamentalist Islam and democratization. However, Islamic parties are gaining popularity after recent economic turmoil and political uncertainty in Turkey.

Around 30 million Turks went to the polls on November 3, 2002 to elect new members to the 550-seat National Assembly. It was widely expected that the Justice and Development Party and its charismatic leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan would win the elections. This party has Islamic orientations and is alleged to be the continuation of the Welfare Party, which was banned by the Supreme Court three years ago. This can have serious political repercussions in Turkey.

The United States and E.U. are concerned about the possible outcomes of a JDP victory. Even if the JDP wins the elections, they need a partner to form a coalition. Therefore, it is believed that JDP's actions are going to be checked by the other partner, or partners, in the coalition. Besides, the Turkish military, which has a tendency to interfere with the civilian politics, is a big obstacle for JDP to implement their radical policies.