



The International Symposium celebrates Beloit College as an international college. In this seventh annual event, 45 student presenters and 31 faculty sponsors and moderators will directly participate as Beloit students share their international studies with the community.

The Symposium is organized by George Lisensky, Chemistry Department, with special thanks to Doreen Dalman.

Grant Opportunities for Study Abroad

http://www.beloit.edu/oie

Venture Grants

To support first year students in stimulating and rewarding projects undertaken the summer before or during the sophomore year. Successful Venture Grants consist of entrepreneurial, self-testing, or intellectually challenging activities in which the winner(s) attempt something (academic or non-academic) that benefits others, either directly or through an organization. There are no geographical limits and many awardees present their experiences during this Symposium. Grants from \$500 - \$1500. The application process starts in January. See http://www.beloit.edu/syi/venture_grants

International Education Grants

To support students who have made strong commitments to international education by providing them with scholarships to undertake projects, such as research and internships, during the summer. Grants up to \$2,000. Application Deadline: March 1. (Applications received after March 1 will be reviewed on a rolling basis, should funding remain available.)

Study Abroad Enhancement Grants

To support critical engagement with local environments leading to a better understanding of the lived realities of the host culture(s), through projects and internships. Grants from \$100 - \$300. Application Deadlines: August 15 & October 15 for fall; January 15 & March 15 for spring.

Asian Studies Student Summer Grants

To support summer activities, such as research and internships, to acquire hands-on experience related to Asian Studies. Grants up to \$2,000. Application Deadline: March 1.

Weissberg Student Research Grants in International Human Rights

To connect academic studies with real world experiences in the field of human rights so that Beloit College students can incorporate human rights awareness and action into their studies and career plans. To defray costs of research and internships over winter and summer breaks, and for conferences. Grants up to \$2,000. Application Deadlines: November 1 for winter grants & March 15 for summer grants.

See your department & the Office of Academic Affairs for additional opportunities.

http://www.beloit.edu/academics/grantopportunities

	SESSION I: LOGAN ROOM, WRIGHT ART CENTER			
Modera	Moderator: Sonja Darlington, Department of Education and Youth Studies			
9:00	Sonja Darlington	Opening remarks		
9:05	Julie Stutzbach & Anna Decker	Giant Tortoise <i>(Geochelone elephantopus)</i> Conservation in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador		
9:30	Zack Beresin	Farmer Perspectives on the Social and Environmental Impacts of Sun and Shade Coffee Production in Santa Clara, Chiriqui, Panama		
9:55	Anna Decker & Katie Scott	Lobos Marinos (Sea Lions) in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador		
10:20	Break			

Moderator: Joy Beckman, Department of Art and Art History		
10:35	Joy Beckman	Opening remarks
10:40	Erin Gurak	One Man's Trash: The Failure of Environmental Reform in Buenos Aires
11:05	Hannah Kamsky	Freak Models: A Short Documentary Film
11:30	Emily Carver	"It is the Struggle of the Poor, and it is Legitimate": the MST in Ceará Brazil, a Look at Social Revolution and Generational Distance
11:55	Break	

Modera	Moderator: Steven Huss-Lederman, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science		
12:30	Steven Huss-Lederman	Opening remarks	
12:35	Rachel McTavish	Camarones, Chile: An Archaeology Student's Disneyland	
1:00	Eric Koenig	Fishing with Cultural Diffusion: Ancient Chilean Mariner Sites and the Continuity of Pre-Colombian Andean Cultures	
1:25	David Simpson	Mummies of Northern Chile	
1:50	Mallory Prouty	Showing One's Faith in Hispanic Festivals: Walk, Crawl, or Carry Ten Tons	
2:15	Break		

Modera	Moderator: Donna Oliver, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures		
2:30	Donna Oliver	Opening remarks	
2:35	Parker Gassett	Conservation Volunteering in Costa Rica	
3:00	Rachael Wogsland	My Experiences in a Mexican Orphanage	
3:25	Diana Spear	Solidaridad: A Study of the "Grassroots and Social Change" Movement within Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico	
3:50	Julia Mulligan & Rhiannon Dixon	<i>¡Sí se puede!</i> The International HIV/AIDS Conference, an Adventure in Mexico, and the Beauty of Being Where You Should	
4:15	Break		

	SESSION II: RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM, MORSE-INGERSOLL HALL		
Modera	Moderator: Robin Zebrowski, Cognitive Science		
8:35	Robin Zebrowski	Opening remarks	
8:40	Clare Holdinghaus	Methods of Anarchist Organization at the Anarchist Bookfair in Montreal, Canada	
9:05	Drew Clark & Elizabeth Makarewicz	Slowing Down Food: From Oregon to Germany	
9:30	Kyle Lipinski	Before Globalization We Were Poor, But We Had Our Dignity	
9:55	Sophie Perry	Exploring New Zealand and the Concept of Escapism	
10:20	Break		

Moderator: Paul Stanley, Department of Physics and Astronomy		
10:35	Paul Stanley	Opening remarks
10:40	Joshua Davendonis	Staying Healthy in "Eternal Spring": Exploring Traditional Chinese Medicine and Minority Culture in Yunnan Province, China
11:05	Ge (Melissa) Mu	The History and Present Times of the Silk Road in Western China
11:30	Zan McGreevey	Allah's Noodle Stand: Chinese Family in Transition
11:55	Break	

Modera	Moderator: John Rapp, Department of Political Science		
12:30	John Rapp	Opening remarks	
12:35	Elinor Lee	The Oddity of My Presence in India	
1:00	Ashley Rawls	Portraits of Progress: How Social Entrepreneurship Can Fill in the Development Gaps in India	
1:25	Hillary Mellinger	Globalization in Kolkata, India: Empowering the Poor or Entrapping Them?	
1:50	Christopher Ruder	In Praise of Mortality: Postcolonialism, Imperfection, and Engaging the Other	
2:15	Break		

Modera	Moderator: Jennifer Esperanza, Department of Anthropology		
2:30	Jennifer Esperanza	Opening remarks	
2:35	Alex Willett	Evolving Feelings: Genji Monogatari and the Japanese Poem	
3:00	Ted Gault	Two Tour Guides in Burma: What a Tourist Can Learn From an Oppressed Country	
3:25	Kira Harvey	So Much More than Trash: Alternative Education in an Urban Slum in Thailand	
3:50	Huong Pham	Vietnam's Development Path: Social Coordination Problems and the Roles of External Actors	
4:15	Break		

Symposium participants, sponsors, and guests are invited to a reception at 4:30 in Moore Lounge, Pearsons Hall.

	SESSION III: SCIENCE CENTER 150			
Modera	tor: Laura Parmentier, D	epartment of Chemistry		
9:00	Laura Parmentier	Opening remarks		
9:05	Molly Wasgatt	Learning Like a Child: Educational Ideologies in America and Denmark and How They Differ		
9:30	Jenna Theis	Making the Connection: Creating Overseas Connections between the Vining Historical Center and Norwegian Emigration Centers		
9:55	Christopher Ruder	The Great Turning as Compass and Lens: Camphill Community Farm in England		
10:20	Break			

Modera	Moderator: George Duerst-Lahti, Department of Political Science		
10:35	George Duerst-Lahti	Opening remarks	
10:40	Alice Starr Dworkin	Water of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Turkey	
11:05	Jasmine Nears	Kurdish Human Rights: The EU and Turkey	
11:30	John M. Tryneski	The Bulwarks of the West: Soviet Policy in Poland and Hungary and Its Effect on Their Transitions	
11:55	Break		

Modera	Moderator: Heath Massey, Department of Philosophy and Religion		
12:30	Heath Massey	Opening remarks	
12:35	Lizzie Starr	The Talibés of Dakar: Qur'anic Education and Child Trafficking in Senegal	
1:00	Margaret Caneff	Washerwomen of Dakar, Senegal	
1:25	Liliana Iniguez	Gender Equality in Senegal	
1:50	Louie Ackelsberg	"Liberation first, education later": Youth Leadership Under Oppression and in Post-apartheid South Africa	
2:15	Break		

Modera	Moderator: Greg Buchanan, Department of Psychology		
2:30	Greg Buchanan	Opening remarks	
2:35	Nana Akosua Ode Agyare	Increasing Literacy Levels in Ghana, One Book at a Time!	
3:00	Anna Wolf	Sustainable Development Efforts in the Volta Region of Ghana	
3:25	Jacqueline Francoeur	Remittances within the Southern Sudanese Community in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya	
3:50	Crystal Alburger & Christina Czuhajewski	Communicating a Cause: A Rehabilitation Center for Disabled Children in Lira, Uganda, Struggles to Market Itself and Secure Funding	
4:15	Break		

Symposium participants, sponsors, and guests are invited to a reception at 4:30 in Moore Lounge, Pearsons Hall.

Louie Ackelsberg '09

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Major: Political Science Sponsor: Rachel Ellett

"Liberation first, education later": Youth Leadership Under Oppression and in Post-Apartheid South Africa

During the apartheid regime in South Africa, youth activists were an important factor in the destabilization of apartheid while simultaneously challenging the status quo of the liberation struggle. From the 1940s through the 1980s, youth were organizing and radicalizing the movement with slogans such as "liberation first, education later." This paper argues that youth activism during apartheid has created a culture of organizing among young black South Africans who are currently addressing the "education later" aspect of the struggle. Current youth groups, such as the KwaZulu Natal Youth Empowerment Project (KZN YEP), can be significant in the challenges facing South African youth and the overall development of a democratic South Africa. Through an in-depth case study of KZN YEP, this paper reveals the changing character and significance in leadership of black youth, their effect on current youth activists, and the social and political consequences of their policy "liberation first, education later."

Nana Akosua Ode Agyare '11

Tema, Ghana

Major: undeclared Economics Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Increasing Literacy Levels in Ghana, One Book at a Time!

Believe me when I say nothing feels better than a bunch of happy second graders screaming your name!

The provision of basic education in Ghana, my home country, has risen steadily over the years and continues to do so. But despite the availability of these learning facilities, literacy is still a major problem especially in the rural areas. Many schools lack the resources such as books and other teaching aids needed to empower future leaders of the world. Knowing change happens in stages, I took one step.

For a good part of my summer this year, I taught a group of about 35 children, who had never owned books of their own, how to read. Since the ability to read is one of the main elements of a good education, I believe it is the

first point that should be addressed and a positive reading habit must be developed at a young age.

My venture grant gave me the means to purchase a collection of books under a Guided Reading Program which I undertook for four weeks with the help of the teachers in the Aburi Methodist Primary School, a semi-public/semi-private elementary school in Ghana about an hour from the main capital, Accra.

For my symposium, I will be discussing my experience of giving back to society, the challenges of teaching from my amateur perspective, and the joy of helping others. By carrying out this project, I have not only learned more about the social needs in my country, but also about the strong points in the education system there.

It was definitely one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. I would like to share this experience with you.

Crystal Alburger '09 (with Christina Czuhajewski)

San Rafael, California

Major: Creative Writing; Rhetoric & Discourse Minor: Anthropology; African Studies

Sponsor: Marion Fass

Communicating a Cause: A Rehabilitation Center for Disabled Children in Lira, Uganda, Struggles to Market Itself and Secure Funding

The Freidis Rehabilitation and Disabled Center (FRDC) was established in Lira, Uganda, a little over a year and a half ago to provide physical therapy and psychosocial support for children with disabilities in the war-torn north. Unfortunately, the new non-profit organization has been without funding for eight months.

Over the course of our four week participatory action research at FRDC, we identified two substantial barriers to the organization's success. First, the organization has a limited understanding of international aid channels and doesn't know which institutions it should appeal to for help. Second, the organization has had little experience with marketing and grant writing, and has had difficulty communicating the value of its services to potential donors.

Working as both researchers and fundraisers, we explored FRDC's social and financial networks, assessed the problem areas in the organization's approach to public relations, and made a series of recommendations that we hoped would help the organization set a course for sustainable development.

Zack Beresin '09

Acton, Massachusetts

Major: Environmental Studies Sponsor: Yaffa Grossman

Farmer Perspectives on the Social and Environmental Impacts of Sun and Shade Coffee Production in Santa Clara, Chiriqui, Panama

The United States is one of the largest consumers of coffee in the world and many people don't even know where coffee comes from or who produces it. Organic and environmentally friendly coffee is becoming increasingly popular. What makes one coffee "better" than another? What does it matter what coffee you buy and how are you helping when you buy certified environmentally friendly coffee?

Throughout history coffee has played a major role in Latin America. Today coffee is a major export for many Latin American countries. Coffee is traditionally grown under tree cover in high altitude mountainous regions. Over time, many traditional coffee practices have been replaced by modern ones where coffee is cultivated under full sun.

While in Panama, I conducted a research project on coffee production in Santa Clara, a small town close to the border with Costa Rica. In my research, I looked at farmer perspectives, through interviews, on these two types of coffee production. Many of the farmers in the area were switching from sun farms to shade. My presentation will explore coffee production in Panama and the findings of my research.

The farmers I interviewed described sun coffee farms as needing much more chemical fertilizers and pesticides, increasing maintenance costs. The use of pesticides greatly reduces animal populations within the farms and can contaminate drinking water sources for the community. Sun farms, while supporting more coffee plants, decrease in yields over time and have much more weed cover and soil erosion. The shade farms need less fertilizers and pesticides overall, and house many more animal species. In these farms, the coffee beans are healthier and larger, erosion is reduced and working conditions improve. Overall shade coffee farms are better for the environment, the farmers and the consumers buying and drinking the coffee.

Margaret Caneff '10

Madison, Wisconsin

Major: Modern Languages: French and Russian

Sponsor: Scott Lyngaas

Washerwomen of Dakar, Senegal

I will show a clip of a documentary video project created for Cities in Transition, a course offered as part of the Dakar, Senegal (West Africa) study abroad program. The course was held in cooperation with the Center for the Study of the Sciences and Media Techniques, a department of the University of Dakar. The main purpose of the course was to create a project with focus on a particular aspect of the city of Dakar. My Senegalese partner and I wished to examine the rural exodus - the results of which are very evident in the city of Dakar. However, in the interest of narrowing our topic, we chose to document the stories of washerwomen -- women hired to wash laundry -- working on the streets of Dakar. Oftentimes the women leave their homes in the rural villages of Senegal to come to the city in order to better themselves and their families. Though we were most interested in how they adapted to urban life, the film ended up documenting mostly their experiences as washerwomen rather than as new members of an urban community. I will describe the steps we took in filming our documentary, as well as address the acute cultural difficulties that arose throughout the film-making process. The film is in the local language of Wolof, with French and English subtitles.

Emily Carver '09

East Montpelier, Vermont

Major: International Relations Minor: Legal Studies Sponsor: Pablo Toral

"It is the Struggle of the Poor, and it is Legitimate": the MST in Ceará Brazil, a Look at Social Revolution and Generational Distance

The Movimientos Trabalhadores Sem Terra, the Landless Workers Movement or, MST, one of the world's largest grassroots movements, is also South America's loudest. Intrigued by their tactics of land occupation and revolutionary education, I went to Brazil to see it for myself and spent one month in the largest and oldest settlement in Ceará. In the semi-arid interior, I learned what it meant to be a revolutionary through Dona Maria Lima, the dynamic matriarch of Paus Branco, and also what it meant to struggle with apathy in the face of oppression. The

settlement I lived in is now 19 years old and full of cultural anomalies. It has been the birthplace of an entire generation of children now growing within the movement while also having been largely founded by one woman, aging and still fighting for equality. The power dynamics, between young and old, men and women, fervent and apathetic, Dona Maria Lima and everyone else, became my main focus. By looking at one small community within a much larger settlement, I will examine the dynamics of change and social revolution through the personage of Dona Maria Lima and her family, three generations of revolutionaries with three different levels of awareness and emphasis. My case study shows how revolution moves away from the original energy of action into the more stable realm of the mainstream.

Drew Clark '11 (with Elizabeth Makarewicz)

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Major: Physics Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Slowing Down Food: From Oregon to Germany

Today, food on average travels an approximate 1500 miles until it enters the grocery store. Locally grown food on the other hand is produced, on average just over 50 miles from its final destination. This past summer Elizabeth and Drew took separate (Beloit Venture Grant sponsored) trips to discover what these local food markets looks like. Elizabeth worked closely for two weeks with Slow Food USA and Ark of Taste, in Portland, Oregon, interviewing farmers in the area about their heirloom crops. She also actively sought out and found a flourishing alternative food culture in the area with many coops and impressive farmer's markets. Drew's internship was a 3.5 month stint on an organic farm just south of Hanover in Germany. There he learned techniques of sustainable farming, learned a bit of German and took a 1000 km bike trip south to the Mediterranean. After returning to Beloit they started a Slow Food Convivium and are hoping to make food an important topic of discussion and action here on campus.

Christina Czuhajewski '09 (with Crystal Alburger)

Major: Sociology; Health & Society

Minor: African Studies Sponsor: Marion Fass

Communicating a Cause: A Rehabilitation Center for Disabled Children in Lira, Uganda, Struggles to Market Itself and Secure Funding

The Freidis Rehabilitation and Disabled Center (FRDC) was established in Lira, Uganda, a little over a year and a half ago to provide physical therapy and psychosocial support for children with disabilities in the war-torn north. Unfortunately, the new non-profit organization has been without funding for eight months.

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Joshua Davendonis '10

Highland, Illinois

Portage, Michigan

Major: Ecology, Evolution and Behavioral Biology Sponsor: Yaffa Grossman

Staying Healthy in "Eternal Spring": Exploring Traditional Chinese Medicine and Minority Culture in Yunnan Province, China

This summer I participated in the SIT program, Community Health and Traditional Chinese Medicine in southwest China. I joined 20 other American college students to study alternative medicinal techniques at the Yunnan Provincial Traditional Chinese Medicine Hospital in Kunming. Throughout the course we were introduced to the religious Taoist roots of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and its major forms of treatment: acupuncture, Tuina massage, cupping, and herbal medicines.

When it comes to illness, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) approaches the body holistically. For many westerners, health management is a precise methodology that exhibits a cause and effect relationship. TCM theory, however, does not identify any single cause for disease. Moreover, each treatment is unique to the individual. Two patients may both exhibit symptoms of the common cold yet at the end of their visit walk away from the hospital with entirely different diagnoses. A TCM doctor considers a patient's home life, the weather, the foods eaten, and a number of other factors when prescribing a treatment.

The TCM doctor has three primary roles: friend, counselor, and physician. Unrest within the body along with external influences are believed to cause imbalances that invite disease, so the stronger the relationship between doctor and patient, the better the treatment the doctor can prescribe.

Before this summer, I believed that alternative treatments could not offer any real help for sick people. In today's world of prescription drugs and common knowledge of microbes and cancers, herbal treatments seemed only to treat superstitions rather than actual ailments. TCM is in fact a highly detailed and harmonious methodology for treating illness and has been so for thousands of years. Using my experiences in Yunnan, I hope to reveal another way that a very large group of people maintain their health.

Anna Decker '09 (with Katie Scott)

St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Major: Mathematical Biology Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

Lobos Marinos (Sea Lions) in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

During our semester abroad in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador, we assisted with a weekly sea lion (Zalophus wollebaeki) census being conducted by the Galápagos National Park (GNP). The census was conducted on the island of San Cristóbal, the only island where sea lions live in contact with humans. With flashlights in hand, we trekked across several beaches and collected population data on the sea lion colonies gathered on land for the night. In the midst of being chased by angry bull sea lions and wading through groups of over 500 individuals, we managed to learn a great deal about these iconic pinnipeds and their unique environment. This presentation will focus on the

ecology of the Galápagos archipelago, our work with the GNP and how we were influenced by the experience

Anna Decker '09 (with Julie Stutzbach)

St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Major: Mathematical Biology Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

Giant Tortoise Conservation in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

of Giant tortoises, **Populations** Geochelone elephantopus, the iconic evolutionary figure of the Galápagos Islands, have been severely depleted by human interference. After years of exploitation by sailors, whalers and buccaneers, tortoises face additional pressures because of competing introduced species such as goats. The invasive goats lack any predators on the islands so their populations have expanded to out compete tortoises for food and devastate the landscape. A tortoise species on Floreana Island has completely gone extinct while Lonesome George, the last of the Pinta tortoises and therefore the rarest animal on Earth, resides in captivity. This presentation will discuss Project Isabela, the most extensive exotic species eradication effort in the world, which aimed to remove all goats from the largest island in the archipelago. We will also consider the history of the giant tortoise of the Galápagos and ongoing conservation efforts undertaken by Ecuador to maintain this vital species of the unique Galápagos Islands.

Rhiannon Dixon '11

Royal Oak, Michigan

(with Julia Mulligan)

Major: undeclared Sponsor: Marion Fass

¡Sí se puede! The International HIV/AIDS Conference, an Adventure in Mexico, and the Beauty of Being Where You Should

For the first time ever, the International HIV/AIDS conference was held in a developing country, in Mexico, August 3-8, 2008. After studying and educating about HIV/AIDS for years, we decided we needed to go.

At the conference in Mexico City, we were among some of the most influential, powerful, and most marginalized people in the world. With 22,000 people from almost every corner of the earth, it may have been the largest international gathering in which we will ever participate. We navigated our way through the world's 5th

largest the city without taxis, and met people we only thought we would read about.

Through conversations and informational sessions, my prior education about HIV/AIDS solidified and began to form a whole. I learned from experts that there are not many prospects for a cure in the next 30 years. Doubling the amount of people currently taking drugs will not be enough. The disease is a wake up call to the world that the issues that keep it perpetuating such as poverty, stigma, and lack of accountability must be addressed.

After the conference and feeling overwhelmed, we took a bus to Acapulco where we stayed in a hostel. It was there that I met a woman named Esther from Nairobi, Kenya. She had attended the conference as well, and happened to choose the same location to travel to next. During a few amazing conversations, we talked and connected about life, the conference and the disease. Meeting her caused the things I had learned and wondered to all come together—and left me with a sense of what to do next.

Alice Starr Dworkin '09 East Montpelier, Vermont

Major: Environmental Studies Sponsor: Yaffa Grossman

Water of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Turkey

On the border with Iraq and Syria in southeastern Turkey, there are twenty-five thousand square miles of land that just two generations ago were dry desert landscape. Today they are green agricultural fields growing rich harvests of wheat, sesame, tobacco, and cotton. It has been an astounding change in physical landscape with rolling economic and social waves resulting; local developments that now are reaching internationally. I traveled to this region knowing nothing of the details, yet eventually learned the most important questions to ask: How did this agricultural transformation happen? How do the people of the region live with the monumental changes in their physical landscape and livelihoods? How can the local ecosystems sustain their vitality after years of forceful manipulation?

These questions guided my year abroad in Turkey as I studied water resources management. I learned that water is *transdisciplinary*—by its nature beyond any simple reduction to traditional academic perspectives. Land and water rights are inseparable from religious and cultural traditions, from technological advancements, from values

commodification and international relations. The Turkish-built irrigation systems take water from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and transform infertile sand to rich farming soil. Archeological expeditions and family resettlement programs negotiate with developers of hydroelectric dams, while the whole region lives under military alert. It is a \$32 billion development project—one of the largest regional development projects in the world and one of the least well known.

For citizens of Turkey and its neighboring countries the project is hugely controversial, with possibly devastating environmental, social, economic, and political consequences. For me, the idea of sustainable development and its balancing powers of unification and division gained infinite meaning and depth.

Jacqueline Francoeur '09 Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Major: International Relations Minor: African Studies Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Remittances within the Southern Sudanese Community in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya

Remittances have become a significant source of foreign exchange that is thus far a potentially underutilized resource for grassroots development. Most studies focus on labor migrants; however, refugees constitute a more complex demographic when it comes to harnessing the effects of remittances within their communities. This is due in part to their varying reasons for migrating, levels of education, and informal means used to transfer money remitted. Sub-Saharan Africa is host to over two million refugees. Understanding this source of foreign investment, which surpasses foreign aid given annually to developing countries, could prove to be a useful tool in the region's development. In order to shed light on this problem, this study provides an in-depth examination and analysis of the source and use of remittances in a distinct and small community. Kakuma Refugee Camp in Turkana District, Kenya is host to many Sudanese refugees, many of whom receive remittances from "Lost Boys/Girls" resettled in the United States, Australia, and Canada. This in-depth, quantitative study offers a micro-level look at remittances within this community. It also identifies significant differences in the distribution of remittances between genders as well as along ethnic and regional ties. The Southern Sudanese example is significant because no other populations have been as studied in-depth. If differences in the allocation of money received are understood within this population, these findings could be applied to other cases and be used to implement local-level and national policies as well as microcredit schemes that would have far-reaching benefits for other refugee populations around the world, as well as in their host-communities and countries of origin.

Parker Gassett '11

Camden, Maine

Major: undeclared Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Conservation Volunteering in Costa Rica

The Talamanca rainforest mountain range in Costa Rica is one of the most beautiful and biologically diverse regions in the world. Despite Costa Rica's outstanding national effort to conserve this environmental Eden, and others like it, the natural beauties of Costa Rica are threatened by deforestation. Agricultural and logging industries are consuming forests at an alarming rate, effecting the delicate animal and plant ecosystems that exist all over the country. These environmental concerns have impacts that extend as far as the global community, and it is extremely important that conservation initiatives take place to preserve the rainforests of Costa Rica.

I experienced these conservation efforts on a grassroots level this past summer working with the indigenous Bribri people of Costa Rica as a part of my Venture Grant. For two weeks I worked with them to rebuild old growth forests previously abused by plantation agriculture. This is a part of an ongoing project by the Bribri to restore their native lands and also create opportunities for rainforest research focusing on tree frogs and bird migration. The project, like many conservation efforts in Costa Rica, is almost entirely supported by the help of volunteers. Experiencing conservation work on this level, and seeing the progress made over this short time has given me new perspective on what can be done as an individual and as an environmental community.

The purpose of this presentation is to share my experience as a volunteer and to give my insights on conservation opportunities around the world.

Ted Gault '09

Buffalo Grove, Illinois

Major: Political Science Minor: Anthropology Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Two Tour Guides in Burma: What a Tourist Can Learn From an Oppressed Country

"The government has its own powerful astrologers," Ko Tun told me one day as we walked down a street in Kalaw, an old British resort town. "They told the government to move their city north or something terrible would happen to them." I was talking to Ko Tun several days after Cyclone Nargis had torn through Southern Burma, killing over 100,000 people and destroying the livelihoods of at least a million more. Directly in the cyclone's path was Yangon, the former capital city. When the cyclone hit, the new capital, Naypyidaw, located approximately 320 kilometers north of Yangon, was well away from the destruction.

When I first entered Burma in April 2008, a country that has been ruled by a military junta since 1962, I was prepared for a strong military presence. What I found was a slightly more subtle government blanket that took its form in police stations protected with sandbags, bands playing concerts surrounded by barbed wire, and a constant fear of being watched. I was unprepared for the superstitious feelings that people like Ko Tun, one of my tour guides, held. I was even more unprepared for his complicated optimism.

In this presentation I will relate the stories of two tour guides that guided me through the maze of what it means to be "Burman" in a country torn by ethnic strife and civil war, and will also try to explain the historical and cultural hold the ruling junta has on the Burmese people.

Erin Gurak '09

Circle Pines, Minnesota

Major: International Relations Minor: Latin American Studies Sponsor: Pablo Toral

One Man's Trash: The Failure of Environmental Reform in Buenos Aires

The 2001 economic crisis amplified the unemployment level in Buenos Aires. Thousands of the low-educated, unemployed turned to the streets, sifting through garbage bags looking for recyclable materials, including paper, glass and plastic, to sell to vendors for profit. They work at night, sometimes alone or with their families. They live far

away from the glamorous neighborhoods where they collect. They are called the *cartoneros*.

The work of the *cartoneros* was prohibited following the privatization of trash collection in Buenos Aires. Their increased presence after the 2001 crisis prompted the city to legalize their work in 2002 with Law 992. The law's objectives were to incorporate the *cartoneros* (or *recuperadores urbanos*, officially) into the city trash collection and include their information in a citywide register. The law also financed several cooperatives for the *cartoneros* to collect their recyclables together and split the profits evenly. The city created other laws and programs, including Basura Cero and Centro Verde, in the subsequent years to promote recycling and eliminate waste.

These attempts to clean the streets of garbage — and cartoneros — failed in both the eyes of the government and the public. This presentation will argue that the ineffectiveness of these laws was due to miscommunication between the cartoneros and the government and the lack of public environmental education. I will explain why the environmental laws and programs did not achieve their goals and how they could have been better executed. Through interviews with government employees and sociologists, I concluded that the environmental reforms in Buenos Aires suffered from a lack of initiative but have the potential to change the city environment and dignify the work of the cartoneros.

Kira Harvey '09

Potomac, Maryland

Major: Health and Society Minor: Anthropology Sponsor: Marion Fass

So Much More than Trash: Alternative Education in an Urban Slum in Thailand

The Deputy Director of Nong Wang School, an elementary school in a slum next to the railroad tracks in Khon Kaen, Thailand, says that "the teachers must remember not to be too authoritarian with their students because they should be learning along with them." During the final three weeks of our semester in Khon Kaen, a city in northeastern Thailand, we learned with the teachers as we worked together to begin the process of integrating the curriculum at the school. We use the term "integrated curriculum" to refer to a system of learning that is both interdisciplinary and connected to a theme that is relevant to the students. The overall purpose of an integrated

curriculum at Nong Wang is to improve the connection between the school and the community, making school more relevant to the students' daily lives.

During our three weeks in the community, we implemented three projects to further the goal of an integrated curriculum at Nong Wang School. First, we worked with the teachers to conduct a survey of student and parent needs. Next, we worked with the teachers to design and implement a day-long model of an integrated curriculum around the theme of trash. Finally, with help from the school custodian and the students, we built a colorful house in which to contain and separate trash. Throughout the process, we learned a good deal about the complex power relationships that come into play when foreign students attempt to form partnerships with teachers, administrators, and community members. Although Nong Wang does not yet have an integrated curriculum, our work with the teachers, students, and community members helped to build a foundation for curricular reform.

Clare Holdinghaus '11

Saint Louis, Missouri

Major: Philosophy Minor: Political Science Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Methods of Anarchist Organization at the Anarchist Bookfair in Montreal, Canada

Organized anarchy. It sounds like the punch line to a joke, but can it actually happen? In my symposium I will discuss methods of anarchist organization as witnessed at the 9th annual Anarchist Bookfair in Montreal, Quebec. In my experience anarchists can, in fact, organize. For nine years one anarchist collective has organized a successful two-day book fair using the principles of anarchist organization

In an ideology whose premise is based on a rejection of hierarchy and government, what kind of organization can exist? How can individuals interact and organize without creating a hierarchy? How can the freedom of the individual be preserved against the "tyranny of structurelessness?" What *is* the "tyranny of structurelessness?" I will address all these questions both in terms of anarchist theory and practical application.

However organization within an anarchist collective is not always easy. Members of the collective that organized the book fair shared with me some of their experiences in anarchist organizing. In their group extreme mindfulness must be continuously practiced by the collective's members lest one member become dominant. Decisions are often made by consensus, but this takes time. Resources and labor are shared equally, but determining what "equal" means can be tricky.

In spite of these difficulties, anarchist collectives such as those in Montreal continue to function, and anarchists continue to believe that these challenges should not displace the ideal. Learning about organization from an anarchist perspective challenges some of the deeply held prejudices and misconceptions our society has about what anarchy means.

Liliana Iniguez '09

Santa Barbara, California

Major: International Relations Minor: Peace and Justice Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Gender Equality in Senegal

Gender equality is an issue that is on the governmental agenda of developing and developed countries; different practices and methods have been created to obtain gender "equality", such as quotas, policy making, and gender mainstreaming. In most societies past colonial domination and religion can influence their gender development. The presentation will be focusing on the country of Senegal, who was colonized by the French and whose dominant religion is Islam. In order to analyze the different effects on Senegalese citizens, I conducted research on the progression, changes, and methods used to obtain gender equality. I also studied ancient history maintained by the *griots* (oral history). The research includes analyses from biographies of women in precolonial Senegal, the gender inequality towards female victims of antipersonnel mines in places in the Casamance, the development of women in politics, as well as a comparison of Islam's influence in politics and culture.

Hannah Kamsky '09

Portland, Oregon

Major: Spanish; Cross-Cultural Studies

Sponsor: Silvia Lopez

Freak Models: A Short Documentary Film

This symposium focuses on the ideas and processes that go into making a short documentary film abroad. While in Buenos Aires, Argentina I took a class in which I learned techniques and a style used in producing a documentary. A collaborative effort, this documentary focuses on the notion of "freaks" and models as defined by an agency

called Freak Models. I discuss in general terms both how to put together a documentary as well as what it means to be a model and a "freak" within Argentine culture. By viewing the film, audience members have the opportunity to see for themselves similarities and differences between Argentines and themselves.

Eric Koenig '11

Boulder, Colorado

Major: Anthropology Sponsor: Dan Shea

Fishing with Cultural Diffusion: Ancient Chilean Mariner Sites and the Continuity of **Pre-Colombian Andean Cultures**

Pre-Columbian costal villages in Chile were, and are, sites of continuity and cultural diffusion in the Andean region. This presentation seeks to examine ancient Chilean costal sites and their culture through the features, ecofacts, and artifacts found at shell mounds and burial sites along the Chilean coast from Camarones to Tal Tal.

A plethora of artifacts from potsherds and camelid textiles, quartz knives and harpoons to beads and fish net weights (even paintings) exhibit the cultural practices and subsistence methods of the continuity of costal fishing sites. These various occupations span from pre-agrarian fishing tribes (including Chinchorro) to Incan villages. The ecofacts present at the sites exhibit the diversity of marine and non-marine plants and animals that were consumed and used by the costal occupants from algae to totorra reeds (used for wrapping mummies). A large part of the occupants' diet was revealed by mounds of shells from shellfish (i.e. - limpets, locos, etc.) to fish bones and scales and sea lion bones in addition to those of small mammals, birds, whales and the shells of turtles.

Agricultural staples such as maize and cotton seeds and religious practices diffused from Tiwanaku culture to eventually reach the outlying costal sites where such customs as ritual narcotic use were adopted! See what ancient Chilean marine sites are all about in this fascinating exploration of the surveyed and excavated areas along the Chilean coast and their ties to Pre-Columbian Andean civilizations. Also enjoy some gratifying pictures of Chilean archaeological endeavors from this past summer's field school.

Elinor Lee '11

Fort Lee, New Jersey

Major: undeclared Sponsor: Ann Davies

The Oddity of My Presence in India

"Cello! Cello!" means "Let's go!" in Hindi, and it summarizes my impulsiveness and the abandon that went into my deciding to go to Chennai, India for a journalism internship this past summer. I learned much more than I ever expected in a country that challenged the identity I had constructed for myself every day. In physical appearance, I appear to most as a young, light-skinned Asian, even though I thought of myself as a strong and independent American woman. Even as I recognized the negative connotations associated with being American, it was still a central part of me. In India, however, being American mostly meant being white. I was not prepared for how many times I would be the subject of racism and sexism in India. Being culturally or physically isolated during my two and a half month stay, I spent much time reflecting upon both the Indian culture and the perception of women and Americans and took pictures of inspiring sites as well as ordinary people. Because of my experiences and observations in India, I had unknowingly started on a course toward developing a stronger and clearer sense of self and becoming a more globally conscious person.

Kyle Lipinski '09

Western Springs, Illinois

Major: Health and Society Minor: Women and Gender Studies

Sponsor: Marion Fass

Before Gobalization We Were Poor, But We Had Our Dignity

After spending time crossing the globe, studying in 11 countries, across five continents - my perspective has been dramatically altered. In my symposium, I will be offering five of the most important lessons I learned from studying the public health and medical systems in Hong Kong, India, China, Switzerland and South Africa, as well as the on the reservation of the Red Cliff tribe of the Lake Superior Chippewa in the USA. I will be offering perspectives on the following topics: globalization, economics, development, colonization, intellectual property laws and cross cultural communication. These lessons will be expressed through sound bites, photos, and stories taken from people who impacted my life forever.

Elizabeth Makarewicz '11

Sedalia, Missouri

(with Drew Clark)

Major: Spanish & Creative Writing Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Slowing Down Food: From Oregon to Germany

Today, food on average travels an approximate 1500 miles until it enters the grocery store. Locally grown food on the other hand is produced, on average just over 50 miles from its final destination. This past summer Elizabeth and Drew took separate (Beloit Venture Grant sponsored) trips to discover what these local food markets looks like. Elizabeth worked closely for two weeks with Slow Food USA and Ark of Taste, in Portland, Oregon, interviewing farmers in the area about their heirloom crops. She also actively sought out and found a flourishing alternative food culture in the area with many coops and impressive farmer's markets. Drew's internship was a 3.5 month stint on an organic farm just south of Hanover in Germany. There he learned techniques of sustainable farming, learned a bit of German and took a 1000 km bike trip south to the Mediterranean. After returning to Beloit they started a Slow Food Convivium and are hoping to make food an important topic of discussion and action here on campus.

Zan McGreevey '10

Dayton, Ohio

Major: East Asian Studies Minor: European Studies Sponsor: Andras Boros-Kazai

Allah's Noodle Stand: Chinese Family in Transition

Most westerners view China as a teaming sea of over one billion dark-eyed, black-haired people who — come on, admit it, you have thought it at least once — all look the same. Most people in the West have probably never imagined that the government of the People's Republic of China recognizes fifty-five ethnic minorities distinct from the Han ("ethnic Chinese") and from each other. I knew when I chose to study in Kaifeng, a small city in the central Chinese province of Henan, in the fall of 2007, that it was home to large numbers of one such minority, the Hui.

Informally called Chinese Muslims, the Hui display no racial or linguistic differences from Han Chinese. Instead they set themselves apart not only through their Islamic faith, but even more through their traditional customs, especially the keeping of Muslim dietary laws, or *halal*.

The many changes brought by China's reforms of the past thirty years that have granted the Hui and others more religious freedom have also ushered in an "age of migration." Chinese peasants now have more freedom of mobility than ever before, and are moving across the country in vast numbers every year, seeking to reap the benefits of the new economy.

I was fortunate enough to find the embodiment of these two phenomena, unknown to most Western observers, in one family. The Wang family, the subject of my Cities in Transition term paper, were Hui migrants from the rural province of Qinghai. The story of their journey to Kaifeng and the rapid success of their hole-in-the-wall noodle shop encapsulate both the growing phenomenon of mobility among China's working class, and the unique experience of a people, both Muslim and Chinese.

Rachel McTavish '10

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Major: Anthropology; Dance Minor: Ancient Mediterranean Studies

Sponsor: Dan Shea

Camarones, Chile: An Archaeology Student's Disneyland

Camarones Chile is where we spent the main portion of our field time in Chile which is a remote fishing village. It was described to me as we dug as the "student's Disneyland", because every picture you take from any angle contains some type of archaeological site and all aspects of the environment combine to create some of the best preservation in the world!

The Atacama Desert, although hot and sometimes unforgiving, was at the time of the Chinchurros, Incas, and still today, able to provide rich sustenance for a simple life. Everything from its remote location, to the seasonal fog, and the welcoming people makes for an amazing archaeological experience, especially as there are multiple layers of civilizations stacked on top of each other in order to create a well preserved and almost complete stratigraphical time frame for the sites in Camarones.

I will be focusing on the environmental factors which are uniquely combined on the Pacific side of the Atacama Desert, specifically Camarones, in order to demonstrate how this "Disneyland" was created and is maintained through both natural and human environmental factors.

Hillary Mellinger '10

Haynesville, Louisiana

Major: International Relations; Modern Languages Minor: Asian Studies; Latin American and Caribbean Studies Sponsors: Sylvia Lopez, Pablo Toral

Globalization in Kolkata, India: Empowering the Poor or Entrapping Them?

My presentation focuses upon the effects of globalization and the 1991 privatization in India. I will study the social impacts of these reforms. Using a humanist perspective, I will discuss my experience working with Shishu Bhavan, a Mother Theresa's home for orphaned children and my impressions of how economic changes manifested themselves around me.

I provide a quick overview of India's economic history to discuss the country's uneven economic growth. Dependency Theory explains that although every country benefits from globalization, in relative terms the gap between developed and developing countries actually grows. This theory would explain how India's economy grows while the large majority of India's population remains poor.

At the heart of this presentation will be the question, "Does globalization, and the expansion of the Indian economy, empower the poor or entrap them?" If new infrastructures introduced by multinational corporations and the prevalence of new job opportunities causes workers' wages to increase while new jobs are available on the job market, then globalization is playing a positive role in liberating India's impoverished population. However, if globalization destroys domestic jobs and increases prices of basic necessities while providing more opportunities for the higher socioeconomic classes of India's population, then globalization may be viewed as entrapping India's poor population rather than empowering them to climb up the socioeconomic ladder.

Ge (Melissa) Mu '11

Urumgi, Xinjiang, China

Major: Economics and Management

Minor: Music & Math Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

The History and Present Times of the Silk Road in Western China

The famous Silk Road prospered from second century B.C. to late sixteenth century A.D., and was the primary business trade route that propagated Chinese civilization to central and western Asia as well as to Europe, while

bringing western culture to China. Such a long enduring, large scale of communication contributed to the progress of human civilization around the world. Xinjiang, my hometown in northwest China, has the largest land area in Chinese territory. It is also the intersection of western and eastern civilization and lies in the central section of the Silk Road. To study and understand the history of the Silk Road, it is essential to learn about Xinjiang.

This summer, I went back to my hometown and took a trip along the Silk Road. I traveled mainly in Kashgar, which was the hub of the Silk Road. I went across the Desert Highway; rode a camel in the Taklamakan Desert; saw people of modern times still receiving and engaging trade from all the over the world. In my presentation, I will talk about the history and development of the Silk Road; what the route means in modern times and how business works along the road now. My presentation will incorporate the ethnicity and vibrancy of the region's aesthetic beauty by use of images captured through the lens of my camera.

Julia Mulligan '11 (with Rhiannon Dixon)

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Major: Health and Society; Sociology Minor: Biology and Society

Sponsor: Marion Fass

¡Sí se puede! The International HIV/AIDS Conference, an Adventure in Mexico, and the Beauty of Being Where You Should

For the first time ever, the International HIV/AIDS conference was held in a developing country, in Mexico, August 3-8, 2008. After studying and educating about HIV/AIDS for years, we decided we needed to go.

At the conference in Mexico City, we were among some of the most influential, powerful, and most marginalized people in the world. With 22,000 people from almost every corner of the earth, it may have been the largest international gathering in which we will ever participate. We navigated our way through the world's 5th largest the city without taxis, and met people we only thought we would read about.

Through conversations and informational sessions, my prior education about HIV/AIDS solidified and began to form a whole. I learned from experts that there are not many prospects for a cure in the next 30 years. Doubling the amount of people currently taking drugs will not be enough. The disease is a wake up call to the world that the

issues that keep it perpetuating such as poverty, stigma, and lack of accountability must be addressed.

After the conference and feeling overwhelmed, we took a bus to Acapulco where we stayed in a hostel. It was there that I met a woman named Esther from Nairobi, Kenya. She had attended the conference as well, and happened to choose the same location to travel to next. During a few amazing conversations, we talked and connected about life, the conference and the disease. Meeting her caused the things I had learned and wondered about to all come together—and left me with a sense of what to do next.

Jasmine Nears '09

Vallejo, California

Major: International Relations Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Kurdish Human Rights: The EU and Turkey

International Relation theory, international institutions have been traditionally thought of as vehicles of peace, stability, and human rights. Social movements, especially when produced in countries with repressive laws of freedom of expression, have commonly taken advantage of international institutions to champion their cause. The Kurdish human rights movement in Turkey represents a complex case of a domestic movement that became transnational and was only successful after the European Union mandated that Turkey improve its human rights record before granting Turkey European Union candidacy. In order to understand the full impact of the European Union in Turkey with respect to Kurdish human rights, the following questions will be examined: What were the limitations of the Kurdish human rights movement in Turkey? Why did the European Union decide to advocate the Kurdish human rights cause in Turkey as a prerequisite to Turkey's candidacy? What limitations are there to the reforms in Turkey? Understanding the answers to these questions will provide additional insight into the role of international institutions in domestic human rights.

Sophie Perry '09

Monroe, Wisconsin

Major: Literary Studies Sponsor: Tom McBride

Exploring New Zealand and the Concept of Escapism

Before ever setting foot in New Zealand, I was well aware of its beauty. On the other side of the world, New

Zealand seemed to embody a sort of escapism; a faraway place where people returned to their roots and became one with the land.

Although I found these things to be true in a sense, the reality of New Zealand was far more complex. A country dominated by its natural beauty and international claim as an "escape", leaves little room for its true inhabitants to represent. I found myself wondering where "New Zealanders" escaped to. I began to question what the "real" New Zealand was like beneath the colorful commercialism of the "Kiwi Experience", or the fame that films such as "The Lord of the Rings" had generated.

I found that my personal discoveries were similar to several of the themes in a New Zealand film, "Heavenly Creatures". The film, done by Peter Jackson, is based on a strange murder case in 1954 involving two teenage girls and one of their respective mothers. It took place in my city of stay, Christchurch, in both reality and the film.

After returning from New Zealand and seeing the film, I was able to draw parallels between an unsaid class and culture conflict related to a classic English authority, an emerging American influence and a small, young country on the other side of the world. My questions of a more inherent New Zealand beneath the trademark image were confirmed. In addition to these discoveries, I will discuss the world created in "Heavenly Creatures" and compare it with present day New Zealand.

Huong Pham '09

Saigon, Vietnam

Major: Economics and Management, International Relations Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Vietnam's Development Path: Social Coordination Problems and the Roles of External Actors

The peaceful transition from central-planning to market economy and the recent access to the WTO have obviously played key roles in integrating Vietnam with the global community. What is less obvious is its challenging path towards sustainable development, within which social coordination remains a sticky institutional problem. The strong family ethos and kinship-based institutions embedded in Vietnamese society may explain the root of this problem; of why entrepreneurs do not often reach beyond their immediate family and friend circles for business cooperation and/or financial support, why streets filled with generic businesses persist in urban areas for petty competitions, and why big corporations with

exponential growth rarely emerge from such developing society.

Last summer, while working with International Data Group Ventures Vietnam (IDGVV) and VietAbroader at home, I had the opportunity to examine these phenomena and was amazed at how rapidly they were transformed into tangible progress by various external forces. IDGVV is an American technology venture capital fund that empowers local start-ups and VietAbroader has been one of the largest non-profit networks of Vietnamese students studying abroad in the U.S.A. since it was founded in 2004. The recent strategic partnership between these two organizations demonstrates the joint efforts to nourish long-term relationships between students and business leaders in Vietnam; as well as their contributions in solving the lack of social coordination and fostering progressive civil society in this peculiar, dualist economy.

Understanding the significance of these external actors—the foreign investors and the NGOs—in bridging the extensive orders in such a society that has isolated itself for far too long, is important to accurately comprehend the feedback mechanism between Vietnam's state and society on its path towards sustainable development.

Mallory Prouty '09

Bolingbrook, Illinois

Major: Spanish; Anthropology Sponsor: Sylvia Lopez

Showing One's Faith in Hispanic Festivals: Walk, Crawl, or Carry Ten Tons

During my studies abroad in the past years gracias a Beloit College, I have had the fortunate opportunities to experience two entirely different Hispanic festivals: La fiesta de La Tirana and Semana Santa. La Tirana is a festival on behalf of the Lady Virgin Mary and is held every July 16th in the small town of La Tirana in the northern region of the Atacama Desert in Chile. Semana Santa, also known as Holy Week, is the last week before Easter and commemorates the last earthly week of Jesus Christ. Semana Santa is celebrated in many major cities within Spain, and I was able to participate in one held in Malagá in the south. Each festival, being rooted in the same Christian backgrounds, had their own unique form of processions and I could not help but compare the two. In this presentation I will be discussing experiences I had in the real world of Hispanic culture when given the opportunity to leave the archaeological field in Chile and

classroom setting in Salamanca, Spain. I could have learned about these festivals in a lecture hall, but it was far more interesting and rewarding to have experienced them first hand.

Ashley Rawls '09

Winfield, Illinois

Major: International Relations Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Portraits of Progress: How Social Entrepreneurship Can Fill in the Development Gaps in India

In the Fall 2007 term I studied in North India on SIT's Culture and Development program based out of Jaipur, Rajasthan, studying development in India's second poorest state. Part of my time was spent as an intern with the Ashoka Organization (www.ashoka.org) learning about the part 'social entrepreneurship' can have in the economic and social development of a region.

Common issues such as human trafficking, education for those with mental disabilities, proper waste disposal and clothing distribution are often badly addressed by the Indian government and most will agree that something more is needed. Drawing from interviews and internships with various 'social entrepreneurs' in New Delhi and Jaipur, I will be discussing the role bottom-up development can play in solving problems that are often over-looked by the government. The Ashoka organization believes that social entrepreneurs can fill the gap that NGOs and government initiatives leave behind. They find cost-effective ways to solve issues and are personally invested and willing to take responsibility when it comes to finding the best solutions. By electing 'fellows' through a strenuous voting process, Ashoka has, since 1981, illustrated the power of these individuals and has introduced their efforts to the world. By awarding them a stipend and giving them tools to expand their work while documenting their progress, Ashoka is proving that million-dollar aid packages may not be the best approach to development. In the context of North India, these decentralized but efficient modes of social change are doing a better job at addressing issues than most give them credit for and ought to be further emphasized when it comes to development theory.

Christopher Ruder '09

Baraboo, Wisconsin

Major: Environmental Studies Sponsor: Pablo Toral

The Great Turning as Compass and Lens: Camphill Community Farm in England

"We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise."—The Earth Charter (2000)

We need role models in the world when it comes to community building around the greatest challenge of our time: to create an attractive sustainable society that works for present and future generations ecologically, economically, morally, culturally, and politically. This potential transition has been called "The Great Turning" by authors such as Joanna Macy and David Korten, and can be used as both compass and lens in understanding what it means to be alive at a moment of global crisis and possibility. I recently spent over six months as a community member and Biodynamic garden apprentice at Oaklands Park Camphill in England, in an attempt to study and participate in a community already engaged with the Great Turning.

Oaklands Park is a land-based intentional community aiming to provide a meaningful home and work environment for its 90 members, half of whom have special needs. In the past, Camphill Oaklands Park has been a community proud of its economic and agricultural selfsufficiency (including a CSA), old-fashioned work values, and a spiritual/cultural emphasis on daily routines and decisions. In 1960 they received £600 a year in government funding, while today they take in over £1.7 million per year. How they are choosing to deal with the increase of government funding and the accompanying pressure to professionalize and modernize leads into a focused, provocative conversation about the role of government, technology, and cultural values in The Great Turning. During my symposium, we will enter into this conversation through the voices of younger and older generations in clips from interviews I recorded.

Christopher Ruder '09

Baraboo, Wisconsin

Major: Environmental Studies Sponsor: Natalie Gummer

> In Praise of Mortality: Postcolonialism, Imperfection, and Engaging the Other

"At the bottom is the only courage that is demanded of us: to have courage for the most strange, the most singular and the most inexplicable that we may encounter. That mankind has in this sense been cowardly has done life endless harm."—Rainer Maria Rilke

Through my search for an ethical and sustainable way to live and a society to live in, I found Auroville: an ecovillage in south-India "created to realize human unity." I knew that the experience would influence my outlook about the world and my self, but I did not expect that my personal identity and dreams would be fundamentally shaken. I entered India romantically expecting to find a community in which I might immerse myself, learning the language and culture through service learning and community participation. Instead, I found myself inhabiting a position of neocolonialism resulting from my own inescapable and irreducible privilege.

I grew increasingly sensitive to how the "Western" perspective approaches, imagines, reflects and conditions the "other," and became afraid that I was in fact reinforcing colonial power structures despite my desire to study from a nonrepressive and nonmanipulative perspective. Edward Saïd, a founding postcolonialist author, calls this form of study the "unlearning of the inherent dominative mode," but throws his hands up and laments that to succeed in such a task "one would have to rethink the whole complex problem of knowledge and power." In my symposium I will problematize my study abroad experience with a postcolonial critique, and then attempt to explore different models for moving forward and ethically engaging with the "other". I will examine how owning and integrating the world's and my own imperfections and pain is a complex process that changes my relationship to it. With this recognition comes a sense of interconnectedness that empowers creative, active response.

Katie Scott '09

Countryside, Illinois

(with Anna Decker)

Major: Ecology, Evolution and Behavioral Biology

Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

Lobos Marinos (Sea Lions) in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

During our semester abroad in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador, we assisted with a weekly sea lion (Zalophus wollebaeki) census being conducted by the Galápagos National Park (GNP). The census was conducted on the island of San Cristóbal, the only island where sea lions live in contact with humans. With flashlights in hand, we trekked across several beaches and collected population data on the sea lion colonies gathered on land for the night. In the midst of being chased by angry bull sea lions and wading through groups of over 500 individuals, we managed to learn a great deal about these iconic pinnipeds and their unique environment. This presentation will focus on the ecology of the Galápagos archipelago, our work with the GNP and how we were influenced by the experience.

David Simpson '10

Downers Grove, Illinois

Major: Anthropology Sponsor: Dan Shea

Mummies of Northern Chile

The goal of the 2008 Atacama Desert field school led by Dan Shea was to study the pre-Incan culture known as the Chinchorros who inhabited Peru and Northern Chile as early as 5000 BC. Our trip began and ended in Lima, Peru with field work accomplished in Chile at Camerones and Tal Tal. This culture had a few intriguing practices including skull binding and mummification. They are the earliest known people to practice mummification with some mummies predating the more widely known Egyptian remains by more than 2000 years. A preference for seafood, particularly shell fish, resulted in massive shell midden mounds with numerous stratified layers correlating to different periods of residence. Our main focus was to excavate a shell mound near the village of Camerones that had seen 6000 years of continuous habitation. After that, further south, we conducted gps surveying of burial caves near the town of Tal Tal. This presentation will consist of descriptions and pictures from both sites and museums.

Diana Spear '09

Austin, Texas

Major: International Relations

Minor: Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Solidaridad: A Study of the "Grassroots and Social Change" Movement within Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico

During my time in Chiapas and Oaxaca, Mexico, I had the opportunity to understand the dilemmas that many Mexicans are facing in order to survive and to obtain their legal rights from the government.

By observing and interviewing staff and beneficiaries of different non-governmental organizations as well as the Zapatistas, I found out that many citizens are unsettled by international agreements such as NAFTA and Plan Puebla Panama. They have also been adversely affected by such national upheavals as the Asamblea Popular de los Pueblos de Oaxaca and the teachers union uprising against governor Ulises Ruiz Ortiz. The years between 1994 (the signing of NAFTA) and 2006 (teachers' protests) are ones that are ingrained in the minds of many Mexicans.

The situation is not much different today in terms of Mexicans' inability to obtain their legal and social rights. Specifically, children who are not receiving the rights to health, education, and nutrition under the "Convention on the Rights of a Child" provided by United Nations International Children's Fund and the State Congress of Oaxaca under the "Law to Protect Rights of Girls, Boys, and Adolescents in the State of Oaxaca."

During my independent study, I wanted to find out how children were being affected by all that is going on and how their rights were being protected or violated. In my field work with an NGO called Colonias Unidas de Oaxaca, I learned not only why it is important to have laws that protect children, but also having strategies to teach those rights to them so they are not defenseless in the face of government oppression.

Lizzie Starr '09

Medfield, Massachusetts

Major: French

Minor: African Studies; Philosophy Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

The Talibés of Dakar: Qur'anic Education and Child Trafficking in Senegal

Qur'anic education, an important tradition in Senegal, takes many forms throughout the country. During my seven-month stay in the capital city of Dakar, I interned at an organization that works with children who have been trafficked across the border with Guinea-Bissau, south of Senegal, presumably to study the Qur'an. In reality, they are forced into lives of begging and beatings at the hands of corrupt religious leaders. They live in abandoned buildings around the city, sometimes with hundreds of other boys, and are not fed or given the chance to bathe or change clothes.

Through my conversations with these children, I learned about the history of a system that once educated young children about their religion but, thanks to extreme poverty, anti-begging laws in West Africa, and the desperation of rural families, has morphed into a system of child abuse, degradation, and near slavery.

In this symposium, I will present my findings and experiences with these so-called Qur'anic school children, who range in age from five to fifteen and generally come from Guinea-Bissau. I will discuss not only the experiences of the children themselves, but also the viewpoints of residents of Dakar, and the political climate surrounding the problem.

Julie Stutzbach '10

Pitman, New Jersey

(with Anna Decker)

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

Giant Tortoise Conservation in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

Populations of Giant tortoises, *Geochelone elephantopus*, the iconic evolutionary figure of the Galápagos Islands, have been severely depleted by human interference. After years of exploitation by sailors, whalers and buccaneers, tortoises face additional pressures because of competing introduced species such as goats. The invasive goats lack any predators on the islands so their populations have expanded to out compete tortoises for food and devastate the landscape. A tortoise species

on Floreana Island has completely gone extinct while Lonesome George, the last of the Pinta tortoises and therefore the rarest animal on Earth, resides in captivity. This presentation will discuss Project Isabela, the most extensive exotic species eradication effort in the world, which aimed to remove all goats from the largest island in the archipelago. We will also consider the history of the giant tortoise of the Galápagos and ongoing conservation efforts undertaken by Ecuador to maintain this vital species of the unique Galápagos Islands.

Jenna Theis '09

Ramsey, Minnesota

Major: Art History Minor: Museum Studies Sponsor: Bill Green

Making the Connection: Creating Overseas Connections between the Vining Historical Center and Norwegian Emigration Centers

To residents of Vining, Minnesota being Norwegian is more than label - it is a lifestyle. To preserve and share the community's heritage, the residents of Nidaros township have opened a historical center. The Vining Historical Center is devoted to preserving the community members' histories through recording oral histories. Oral histories are valuable historical resources that can be used to trace the adoption and transformation of cultural traditions and values. These oral histories are testimonies of the steadfastness of Norwegian culture in America.

Interest in cultural adaptation of Norwegians in America is also expressed in Norway through Norwegian Emigration Centers, which preserve the buildings and documents of Norwegian emigrants. Oral histories of community members from these source areas enhances the significance and relevance of transported structures.

This symposium will discuss the importance of establishing connections between the Vining Historical Center and Norwegian Emigration Centers, based on my personal involvement in conducting oral histories and my subsequent visit to the Norwegian Emigrant Centers located in Hamar and Sletta, Norway.

John M. Tryneski '09

Homewood, Illinois

Major: History, Education and Youth Studies

Sponsor: Edward Mathieu

The Bulwarks of the West: Soviet Policy in Poland and Hungary and Its Effect on Their Transitions

William Faulkner once remarked that, "The past isn't dead. It isn't even past," and nowhere is that statement more true than in Central Europe, where memories are long and poets and leaders of bygone centuries still arouse great passion in ordinary citizens. During my time studying in Krakow and traveling throughout the region, I was always aware how the memories and trials of the past constantly color people's everyday lives. Although memories are long in this part of Europe, often stretching back over 1000 years, no era has had more impact on people and the region than the years of Communism from 1944 to 1989. As Putin consolidated power in Russia and began saber-rattling over Kosovo and Abkhazia, I would talk to Poles and Hungarians who were painfully aware of their position between western Europe and the Russian bear and would often base their views on their own or their parents' memories of the Cold War.

Given what I felt was a personal lack of background on the region's history with Russia, I decided to focus my independent study project on looking at just that. Ultimately I chose to research Poland and Hungary as two nations with related but not identical relationships with Russia both during the Cold War and before. I looked at the different ways that the Soviet Union had tried to institute and maintain control in these countries and how Poles and Hungarians responded.

I found that Soviet rule was never monolithic. Both Hungary and Poland found their own way to push against outside domination and maintain autonomy in supposedly totalitarian societies. These differences both illustrate and continue to shape the unique psyches of these nations as they seek to integrate and navigate with Europe, Russia and the world at large.

Molly Wasgatt '09

Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Major: Psychology Sponsor: Suzanne Cox

Learning Like a Child: Educational Ideologies in America and Denmark and How They Differ

While I was working at an afterschool program in Denmark, I challenged my preconceived notions, shaped by American pedagogy, of the process of learning. Since I was studying, working, and learning in a foreign country, I was forced to change my personal approaches to learning. This method of change was unique because while I was altering my own views, I was interacting with the children for whom this pedagogical experience was the norm.

While I was expected to communicate with and interact with these children, I was unable to speak their native language. I resorted to modes of communication that were non-verbal in nature. The children with whom I worked were comfortable with these kinds of communication since it was standard for them to communicate in these ways. Throughout my time at the program, I polished my ability to use alternate forms of communication and in turn, built a close relationship with the children.

The inherent differences between the Danish and American educational systems helped me re-examine the process of learning. The Danish educational ideology of "child-centered learning" creates the perfect condition for experiential learning. I not only observed the school system during my practical experience, but also found myself taking on the role of a learner. I related to Danish children as I explored their process of learning in addition to my own.

During this symposium, I will discuss my experience as a learner, and subsequently my redefinition of the process of learning. I will discuss the differences between the educational theories of Denmark and America and the importance of experiential learning throughout childhood.

Alex Willett '08

Delavan, Wisconsin

Major: Creative Writing; Literary Studies Sponsor: Scott Lineberger

Evolving Feelings: Genji Monogatari and the Japanese Poem

"The Tale of Genji", written by Murasaki Shikibu around the year 1000, is considered by some to be the world's first "novel." It depicts the life of Hikaru Genji (the

Shining Prince) and his numerous affairs with women, both of the court and outside. The "tale" not only gives readers an inside peek into the world of the Court, but also portrays a strong sense of beauty, mostly shared through the multitude of poems written by the author.

The poems began as the main focus of the "tale" but as time passed, footnotes appeared, which explained the feelings or situations for which these poems were written, and it eventually evolved from a collection of situational poems into the "tale" we have today.

Each time period "Genji" passed through gave the "tale" new life and new importance, depending on who was interested at the time. From its appearance in the Heian Period to present day, "Genji" is still as popular and studied in Japan as well as other countries.

This presentation will look at how "Genji" came about, for what the poems were originally used, how they changed, and how we view them today.

Rachael Wogsland '11

Missoula, Montana

Major: undeclared Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

My Experiences in a Mexican Orphanage

I volunteered for a month this spring at Casa Ayuda, an orphanage in San Miguel de Allende, central Mexico. My project began as an assignment to write a Venture Grant proposal for Chuck Lewis's WRIT 100 class, "Writer as Traveler." Looking for ideas, I referred to Beloit College's Web site to see what past Venture Grant recipients had done.

To my excitement, I found that Lauren Birge '07 had worked at a Mexican orphanage. I found her on Facebook and asked if I could volunteer there as well. I submitted my proposal and received \$600 from the Venture Grant board, enough for my plane ticket and a \$200 donation to the Casa.

Volunteering at the orphanage was a contrast to my previous experience in Mexico. As an exchange student in high school, I lived in a coastal resort town among some of Mexico's most privileged. At Casa Ayuda, I had the opportunity to see life through the eyes of children who came from some of Mexico's most unstable and underprivileged homes.

While at Casa Ayuda, I became a big sister to the children and gave them individual daily English lessons. I soon realized that these sessions were more importantly a

vehicle through which the children could receive my undivided attention and love.

Sometimes it was difficult to maintain sanity at Casa Ayuda, with four dogs tearing around the house and 11 children chasing after them. But I grew to find the daily chaos amusing, discovered a strong love in my heart for the children, and learned to look at everything unpleasant or unexpected as more to write home about. And I promised myself I would spread the word about the children at Casa Ayuda, who are waiting for more teachers, more big sisters and brothers, and more love from Beloit.

Anna Wolf '11

Silver Springs, Maryland

Major: International Relations; Spanish Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

Sustainable Development Efforts in the Volta Region of Ghana

For my venture grant project during the summer of 2008, I worked for two months in the Volta region of Ghana with the BRIDGE Civil Society Volunteer Program, which is a non-profit grassroots organization that strives to build the capacities of local groups to initiate and run sustainable development activities. This NGO placed me in a rural farming community called Tokokoe Abudi, where I assisted village leaders in organizational capacity building and designing income-generating projects through grant proposal writing workshops, computer training sessions and conducting needs assessments.

The specific goals of the village leaders were to reduce poverty and enhance the overall livelihood and welfare of the community, as well as to create employment and educational opportunities through development efforts in order to empower individuals, specifically youth and women. However, there are several challenges that village leaders face in successfully achieving their goals, such as a lack of funds and governmental support for such projects. Through conducting research and interviews in various parts of the Volta region, I tried to discover how Ghanaian culture and the modes of production play into development processes in rural communities, what steps local leaders have taken to industrialize, and how such steps have made an impact on their communities. I will be discussing my conclusions concerning these issues, as well as what specific obstacles community leaders face in terms of gaining funds for income-generating projects and how such challenges could be overcome in the future.