



Tenth Annual



International Symposium

Beloit College • November 16, 2011



The International Symposium celebrates Beloit College as an international college. In this tenth annual event, 54 student presenters and 46 faculty sponsors and moderators will directly participate as Beloit students share their international studies with the community.

Grant Opportunities for Student Research, Internships, Volunteering, and other Projects

<http://www.beloit.edu/oie>

Venture Grants (*for sophomores*)

Grants of up to \$2000 for self-designed projects undertaken following the sophomore year that engage with "local" communities. International projects may also be funded, especially when the project includes a meaningful connection to the local. The application process starts in January. <http://www.beloit.edu/initiativesprogram/venture/>

Study Abroad Enhancement Grants (*for projects undertaken during study abroad*)

To support critical engagement with the local environment to better understand realities of the host culture(s), through projects and other experiential learning activities. Average award \$250. Application Deadlines: mid-August, mid-January, and the Monday after midterm break of the preceding semester.

Asian Studies Student Grants

International Education Grants

Weissberg International Human Rights Grants

These grant programs support projects related to the program theme and your studies, and can include international travel for periods of less than a semester. Deadlines: Monday after midterm break of the preceding semester. Average award: \$1,500.

Travel Scholarships for Study Abroad

The Ivan and Janice Stone, Schroeder, Class of 2008, and John and Sally Burris scholarships provide funding to make study abroad possible for students who could not otherwise afford to do so. Students approved to study abroad are automatically screened for these scholarships; no application is required.

Many of the students presenting in this International Symposium received funding for their projects and studies from one of these programs. Many thanks are due to the donors who make these opportunities possible.

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

WOOD ROOM, MAYER HALL

Moderator: Ted Gries, Department of Chemistry

8:15	Ted Gries	Opening remarks
8:20	Elizabeth Ceperley	Rifles and Lutfisk: Science in Svalbard, Norway
8:45	Aurora Peck	Exploring the Dying Earth: Organic Farming and Natural Medicine in France
9:10	Julianne Angeli	<i>La Voix Créative</i> : Using Creative Writing to Improve Cultural Understanding and Language Skills in France
9:35	Janice Geis	Waffles, Fries, and Beer: An Anarchist's Country (Belgium)
10:00	Hana Laurencot	The Birth and Development of Hip-Hop Culture in Moscow, Russia
10:25	Break	

Moderator: Natalie Gummer, Department of Philosophy & Religion

10:35	Natalie Gummer	Opening remarks
10:40	Kara Condon	Enduring Emotions of Political Turmoil: Experiences and Observations Living in Londonderry, Northern Ireland
11:05	Camilla Jackson	Post-Conflict Peace-Building and Transitional Justice in the Balkans: Bosnia and Herzegovina
11:30	Madeline Kramer	Athens: The City Behind the Headlines
11:55	Tim Lawrence	Malta and Heart of Darkness: Colonization and Humanity in the Mediterranean
12:20	Break	

Moderator: Greg Buchanan, Department of Psychology

12:30	Greg Buchanan	Opening remark
12:35	Ian Hedges	<i>¡Que Ordinario!</i> The Health Disparities of Sex Workers in Valparaíso, Chile
1:00	Adam James Carlson	Chilean Archaeology Field School
1:25	David Feldman	Chilean Mining: From Nitrate to Silver to Vampires
1:50	Angeline Peterson	Originals, Fakes, and Replicas: Challenging Western Notions of Authenticity
2:15	Break	

Moderator: Britt Scharringhausen, Department of Physics & Astronomy

2:25	Britt Scharringhausen	Opening remarks
2:30	Jessica Rardin	Agricultural Cooperatives in Theory and Practice: <i>Cooperativa de Productores Agropecuarios de Diriamba</i> , Nicaragua
2:55	Hannah Brusewitz	<i>Jopará</i> : Bilingualism in Paraguayan Schools and Society
3:20	Zoila Guachichulca	Analysis of Brazil's Anti-poverty programs: <i>Bolsa Família</i> and <i>O Plano Nacional de Assistência Estudantil</i>
3:45	Jessica Slattery	The Artisan and the Commercialization of Cultural Heritage in Northern Argentina
4:10	Break	

RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM, MORSE-INGERSOLL HALL

Moderator: Ben Newton, Department of Mathematics & Computer Science

8:40	Ben Newton	Opening remarks
8:45	Clara Baker	Farm Stories: How Experiential Education Transforms Narratives and Behaviors
9:10	Ted Liu	Neglected and Confused: Unaccompanied Immigrant Children in Chicago, Illinois
9:35	Bryant Conkling	Combating HIV at African Universities: A Comparative Study of South Africa and Botswana
10:00	Chelsea Steck	Improving Student Access to Higher Education in South Africa: Lessons from an <i>Umlungu</i>
10:25	Break	

Moderator: Jo Ortel, Department of Art & Art History

10:35	Jo Ortel	Opening remarks
10:40	Lexi Hernandez	Lions and Rhinos and Elephants, Oh My! Wildlife Conservation, Tourism, and Farming in Tanzania
11:05	Miranda Cole	Becoming black American in Dar es Salaam: Reflections on My Time in Tanzania
11:30	Kate Parsons	Education in Tanzania: Through the Eyes of Three Tanzanian Women
11:55	Allie Maxwell	Under The Mango Tree: 4 Months, 30 Interviews, and 1 Researcher in Uganda
12:20	Break	

Moderator: John Kaufmann, Department of Theatre, Dance & Media Studies

12:30	John Kaufmann	Opening remarks
12:35	Ariana Anderson	Realities and Perceptions of the Senegalese <i>Goor-Jigeeen</i>
1:00	Aurora Cauthers-Knox	Gender Based Displays of Power within Muslim Families in Dakar, Senegal
1:25	Ashley Pettit	The Influence of <i>Pasteef</i> on Grassroots Health Interventions in Senegal
1:50	Regina Willensky	The Decline of Elephants In Ghana: Economic Incentives, Human Habitat Encroachment, and Failed Institutions
2:15	Break	

Moderator: Akiko Ogino, Department of Modern Languages & Literatures

2:25	Akiko Ogino	Opening remarks
2:30	Ozgun Kilic	Being International in Your Own Country in Your Own Field in Turkey
2:55	Bebe Santa-Wood	Beyond the Harem: Changing Perceptions of the Modern Turkish Woman
3:20	Devon Armstrong	Dissension in the Sands: One Student's Tale of the Egyptian Revolution
3:45	Tessa Wood	Polygyny in Salalah, Oman
4:10	Break	

ROOM 150, SCIENCE CENTER		
Moderator: Ken Yasukawa, Department of Biology		
8:40	Ken Yasukawa	Opening remarks
8:45	Leigh Wasson	TEDxUbud: Things I've Learned in Bali
9:10	Caitlin McDonough	Reproductive Biology and Conservation in Tasmania
9:35	Megan Mason	New Zealand Earthquake Shakes Up Study Abroad Experience
10:00	Greg Bongey	Sitting Around the Kava Bowl: Cultural Encounters in the Fiji Islands
10:25	Break	
Moderator: Carla Davis, Department of Sociology		
10:35	Carla Davis	Opening remarks
10:40	Susan Smela	Manga Outside the Frame(work): An Analysis of Copyright Law and Fan Creation in Japan's Independent Comic Industry
11:05	Caitlin Karvonen	You'll Never Walk Alone: Crisis, Hysteria and Recovery from the 2011 Tōhoku Earthquake in Japan
11:30	Amani Edwards	Christianity in Taiwanese Social Welfare: A Case Study of the Garden of Hope Foundation (Taipei, Taiwan)
11:55	Krista Robbins	Crazy Sticky Ball: An Alternative Education in Taiwan
12:20	Break	
Moderator: Charles Lewis, Department of English		
12:30	Charles Lewis	Opening remarks
12:35	Jennifer Brinkmeier	Cold, Homesick, and Tired of Mutton: What to Do When You Hate Being Abroad (Mongolia)
1:00	Ellery Hamann	American Chinese Studies Students and Romanticizing Authenticity
1:25	Dingxi (Safari) Fang and Kun (Cleo) Zhang	Difficulties Faced by an NGO in China: Summer Internships at Dongjen Center for Human Rights Education and Action
1:50	Constance Siu	Exploring Values of Contemporary Chinese Youth: Angry Youth of the Post-80s Generation
2:15	Break	
Moderator: Nancy Krusko, Department of Anthropology		
2:25	Nancy Krusko	Opening remarks
2:30	Yoon Joo Joanne Cho	Where Will the Korean 'Comfort Women' Get Their Comfort?
2:55	Sofia Noorani	The Role We Play in the Lives of Thai Villagers
3:20	Ariana Anderson, David Dunder, Janice Geis, Natalie Moore, Jennifer Olson, Danica Slavish, Susan Smela, Ronit Weinmann,	Reflection and Integration: Study Abroad Experiences
4:10	Break	

Ariana Anderson '12See page 21

Ariana Anderson '12

Wilson, Wisconsin

Majors: Comparative Literature; Women's and Gender Studies

Sponsor: Nataša Bašić

Realities and Perceptions of the Senegalese *Goor-Jigeeen*

Sexuality and gender are inextricable concepts in Senegalese culture, as exemplified in the term *goor-jigeeen*, meaning boy-girl or man-woman in Wolof, which encompasses all 'queer' identities and could be considered separate from the gender binary as a 'third sex.' It is the only word in the Wolof language with this meaning, but the word can be considered offensive. The French word *homosexuel* is less derogatory, but reinforces the link to Western culture.

Despite a long history of *goor-jigeeens* being accepted (though marked) by society, in recent times a resurgence of conservatism and fear of loss of traditional values to Western culture have blamed contemporary Western influence for the 'rise' in homosexuality in Senegal, which has resulted in an intensely homophobic atmosphere.

In my symposium I will analyze the events of recent years regarding the imprisonment of those suspected of committing homosexual acts, the homophobic hysteria in the media, and how many HIV/AIDS non-profit organizations and support structures have been affected by the widespread public campaign against homosexuality.

Julianne Angeli '12

Glendale, Wisconsin

Majors: Literary Studies; Creative Writing; French

Sponsor: Scott Lyngaas

***La Voix Créative*: Using Creative Writing to Improve Cultural Understanding and Language Skills in France**

Second language acquisition is often firmly rooted in pure academia: Literature. Grammar. Discourse. Essays. Dictations. The traditional inductive theory places these characteristics in the context of the first language; rather than teaching an essay format used in the academic culture of the language, essays follow the form and structure of the first. Culture is taught as a distinct feature through literary history, social movements, and political structures.

Isn't there more to language mastery than inserting the second language into the existing framework of the

primary language?

I spent a year in France taking courses exclusively in French, including a creative writing class. It was that course, surprisingly, where I gained the most dexterity with language, the most realistic cultural lessons, and picked up differences in the French culture of language.

This symposium is an effort to transition my personal experience with this creative writing course into a proposed framework for introducing creative writing to the theory of second language acquisition. I will also discuss the importance of teaching academic writing in the context of the language culture and the necessity of a broad canon of literature to enhance creative writing as a cultural exploration, rather than a simple translation.

Devon Armstrong '12

Delavan, Wisconsin

Majors: Anthropology; Classical Civilizations

Minor: Museum Studies

Sponsor: Gene Miller

Dissension in the Sands: One Student's Tale of the Egyptian Revolution

Arriving in Egypt on the 21st of January, I was ready to experience all that this ancient nation had to offer. Unfortunately modern politics got in the way, and I found myself on an evacuation flight to Istanbul just ten days later. Those ten days would define my experience, and indeed the entirety of what later became called the "Arab Spring."

This symposium will begin by outlining the previous sixty years of Egyptian politics, from the presidency of Nassar, to the assassination of Anwar Sadat, to the tyranny of Hosni Mubarek. In order to provide context for the revolution, I will elucidate the policies instituted by Hosni Mubarek that eventually led to the January uprising. Drawing on the social constructions of Arab society, I will also explain why the revolution only transpired after the events that occurred in Tunisia.

Only after the historical context has been laid out, will I endeavor to explain the actual events of the revolution itself. I plan to draw on clips from al-Jazeera to show how the state police attempted to block the network's broadcast. I will also map where the riots were located in relation to myself and the university campuses (both the one in New Cairo and the downtown campus). I will then describe my first four days of orientation and six days of lockdown before I finally discuss the last part of my experience: my evacuation to Turkey.

Clara Baker '13

Portland, Oregon

Major: Environmental Studies

Sponsor: Carol Wickersham

Farm Stories: How Experiential Education Transforms Narratives and Behaviors

Does weeding rows of melons, stacking hay bales or milking goats change our relationship to the food we eat? This is what my research explores.

With less than 2% of the American population living on farms, American stories about farms are largely uninformed by experience. My research focuses on whether and how experience on farms changes narratives about farms or changes behavior related to food.

My summer research builds on a year of participant observation at Angelic Organics Learning Center in Caledonia, IL, a non-profit that focuses on farm-based education. I compare primary narratives in studies of perceptions about farms with information from qualitative interviews with AOLC program participants.

Greg Bongey '12

Duluth, Minnesota

Major: Geology

Sponsor: Carl Mendelson

Sitting Around the *Kava* Bowl: Cultural Encounters in the Fiji Islands

The Fiji Islands offer a rich array of traditions due to the variety of influences that have shaped them ever since they were first settled by the Lapita people about 3500 years ago. Later interactions with other Pacific island peoples produced a unique Fijian culture. In more recent times, major cultural changes occurred due to the conversion of Fijians to Christianity in the mid-1800s and the arrival of thousands of indentured Indian laborers at the turn of the 20th century. In addition, the adoption of English as the island nation's official language has helped fuel the modernization of Fiji. As a result, the Fiji of today features many unique customs.

In this presentation I will share some of the major customs and traditions that I experienced in Fiji while studying at the University of the South Pacific, the largest school of the Pacific island nations. Although I lived in a flat with other students from the U.S., I experienced a great variety of traditions through my personal and academic travels, which took me from Fiji's capital, Suva, to traditional villages, Indian farmlands, and touristy

islands. In these different places, I learned about the cultural habits of both Fijians and Indo-Fijians.

Formal and informal *kava* ceremonies, *roti* wraps and cheap curry sold on the street, open-air buses that blast modern music, Bollywood dancing, trying to keep a *sulu* wrapped around my waist in a village, and long conversations with strangers are all things that come to mind when I think about Fiji. By sharing cultural anecdotes from my study abroad experience, I hope to provide a feel of what it is like to be in the Fiji Islands.

Jennifer Brinkmeier '12

Mount Carroll, Illinois

Major: Anthropology

Sponsor: Jennifer Esperanza

Cold, Homesick, and Tired of Mutton: What to Do When You Hate Being Abroad (Mongolia)

The reality of a study abroad experience can be very different from the original expectation: plans change, research is altered, and chances are that homesickness will set in at some point. However, the good news is that our liberal arts education is preparing us for such realities: Beloit College intends to teach us resourcefulness and effective decision making when the initial plans change and new obstacles arise.

During the Spring 2011 semester, I took a vacation term and went by myself to Mongolia. The intended plan was to spend three months doing volunteer work with ProjectsAbroad, staying in the countryside with a Mongolian nomad family and conducting research on the relationship between the nomads and their horses. After three days of culture shock in a *ger*, I decided to change my plans. I spent four weeks volunteering at an infant sanatorium in the center of UlaanBaatar, the capital of Mongolia. I loved the work but hated everything else about being overseas and I came back home to the United States with a bruised ego after only 5 weeks abroad.

This presentation will discuss the mental challenges I encountered abroad, specifically those negative emotions I did not expect. I will discuss how my Beloit College education helped me to make the most of my experience and the positive lessons—about life and myself—that I eventually learned. Beloit College is preparing you for the unexpected, and being prepared is your best defense against a wasted experience abroad.

Hannah Brusewitz '14

Racine, Wisconsin

Majors: History; Education and Youth Studies

Sponsor: Kathy Greene

**Jopará: Bilingualism in
Paraguayan Schools and Society**

Paraguay, a landlocked country between Brazil, Argentina, and Bolivia, was the first Latin American country to make an indigenous language (Guaraní) an official language alongside a European language. Paraguay is also linguistically unique among Latin American nations in that the vast majority of its population is functionally bilingual in both Spanish and Guaraní.

In most of the country, *jopará* is the principal means of communication. *Jopará* is a Guaraní word meaning mixture that is generally used to name the blend of Spanish and Guaraní in everyday speech. Despite being officially equal, the two languages are rarely regarded as such. Each language serves separate functions in Paraguayan society, and especially in the classroom.

With generous funding from the OIE, I was able to visit several Paraguayan schools over the summer to see their practices regarding language use and bilingualism in the classroom. I visited schools serving both urban and rural populations, fully private schools, partially-subsidized schools, and public schools, ranging from preschool to post-secondary.

Despite the Ministry of Education and Culture having defined guidelines of how to implement both languages in the curriculum, I observed a very different reality. I reviewed printed materials, interviewed teachers and principals, and observed students both in class and in informal situations to try to get a picture of the state of bilingualism in Paraguayan schools and society, and how the two occasionally contrast each other.

My presentation will include background information on bilingualism in Paraguay, my observations and stories, and both the conclusions and the questions I have after my research.

Adam James Carlson '11

Lake Villa, Illinois

Major: Health and Society

Sponsor: Dan Shea

Chilean Archaeology Field School

The Chilean archaeology field school consisted of five Beloit College students during the month of June. Students were joined by professional anthropologists and

archeologists as they explored the deserts in region I of Chile, the area closest to Peru and Bolivia. The majority of the trip was spent in the town of Iquique and students traveled to various locations in the desert. The use of local guides and experts provided much guidance and background at the various sites. *Glyphs*, abandoned mining operations and Incan ruins were explored on this trip.

Aurora Cauthers-Knox '12

Bainbridge Island,

Major: Anthropology

Washington

Minor: Biology

Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy

**Gender Based Displays of Power within
Muslim Families in Dakar, Senegal**

This study uses anthropological and feminist theory to explore how men and women perceive and display power within an urban Senegalese family operating under Muslim precepts. Interactions between spouses within households inform many parts of life in every culture. In Dakar, Senegal, the family is an integral social structure. Unlike rural households, urban ones are more nuclear, usually housing only the father, mother/mothers, grandparents, and children. Within the structure of the family, men and women have specifically designated household spheres. In creating a symbiotic relationship between men and women within a household, the family becomes a functional unit, which relies on each individual.

The extremely high rate of unemployment in Dakar has challenged the legitimacy of separating spheres occupied by men and women so utterly. Financial necessity has, in many households, demanded increased representation of women outside of the house. This leaves little time for women to fulfill their traditional roles, thus forcing urban women to hire rural women as maids or *bonnes*.

These *bonnes* add a somewhat anomalous component to the traditional gender relationship by fulfilling the duties of the wife while the wife helps the husband fulfill his duties. This system can only be a temporary solution to the greater gender-based social conflict present in Dakar. In order to examine gender-based power relationships within urban families in Senegal, one must consider not only the wife and husband but other adult men and women, such as grown children who have not yet achieved independence and the *bonne*, whose role in the family is still in flux.

Elizabeth Ceperley '12

Champaign, Illinois

Major: Geology

Sponsor: Sue Swanson

**Rifles and Lutefisk:
Science in Svalbard, Norway**

Ny-Ålesund, the world's northernmost permanent settlement, is located above the Arctic Circle in the Norwegian island archipelago of Svalbard (79°N, 12°E). During the summer months of permanent sunshine, it becomes a bustling scientific research station. About 150 scientists come from all over the world to research the geology, microbiology, ecology, chemistry, and atmospheric science characteristic of Svalbard, and more generally, of the Arctic.

As part of a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) sponsored by the National Science Foundation, I had the opportunity to spend five weeks in this remote and beautiful place. Hosted by the Norwegian Polar Institute, I was part of a group of six undergraduates and two professors. We were exposed to all the requirements for living and conducting fieldwork in the Arctic, such as driving a Kodiak boat and carrying a rifle at all times to defend against polar bears. Each undergraduate created and conducted fieldwork for an independent research project. We collected each student's data together, in areas such as bathymetric mapping, oceanography, iceberg calving, sedimentology, and clay mineralogy. My project focuses on sediment distribution and clay mineralogy.

Living in such a small community was ideal for collaboration with each other and forming relationships with other scientists from at least ten different countries. We ate with, hiked with and spent time with remarkable scientists and explorers who are continually drawn to Svalbard each summer. The importance of doing research abroad and collaboration among scientists has never been more apparent.

Yoon Joo Joanne Cho '14

Seoul, Korea

Majors: International Relations; History

Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

**Where Will the Korean 'Comfort Women'
Get Their Comfort?**

During the Japanese occupation of Korea, an estimated 200,000 women were forced to work at brothels; known as "comfort women," these women were

very often kidnapped to "comfort" the young and lonely Japanese soldiers who were away from home. However, even after the Japanese left Korea in 1945, none of the comfort women spoke of their horrific experiences. The ideal that women must be pure, modest, humble, and self-contained has left the Korean victims of the Japanese occupation silent for decades, fearful of the stigma. Therefore, only 60 years later did the former comfort women start to reveal their stories and their sufferings. On one hand, the revelation of the comfort women's stories became a social issue as Koreans started to view receiving a Japanese apology as a matter of pride and retaining the "face" of Korea. On the other hand, despite the general public's opinion on having to take action and seek an apology, the Korean government has been reluctant to proceed with any actions or even discussion on the matter of comfort woman --especially after Korea was stuck hard during the 1997 Asian financial crisis. Based on my internship at The Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery, this symposium conveys the emotional and physical hardships faced by the former comfort women as they struggle for a Japanese apology and for the support of the Korean government.

Miranda Cole '13

Buffalo, Minnesota

Majors: Anthropology; Education

Sponsor: Jingjing Lou

**Becoming Black American in Dar es
Salaam: Reflections on My Time in
Tanzania**

From June through September 2011, I lived, taught and conducted research in Dar es Salaam, the social capital of Tanzania, a country on the eastern coast of Africa. Though however far away Tanzania may be, when I returned to the United States from my four month stay there, I did not feel as though I was behind on any American pop-culture. I knew all of the celebrity gossip, and every new song being played on the radio as well. In fact, I would even go as far as to say that I may have been more informed about popular American culture while living in Dar es Salaam than I am while living in the United States.

The research that I conducted in Tanzania is about the influence that western media has on the urban youth of Dar es Salaam. Based on my observations and interviews, the extent of the knowledge of American

culture that the students I worked with at ESACS Secondary Academy have was clearly defined by the clothes, music, and language that the students displayed in their day to day lives. During the time I spent doing research with the students of ESACS and musicians in the Dar es Salaam area as well, both groups shared with me their collective desires to be seen as black Americans.

In my symposium I will share specific examples of American media that Dar es Salaam youth are being exposed to daily. Subsequently, such pervasive influence of American media and culture has also shaped the ways in which Dar es Salaam youth perceive their own lives, especially their desires of becoming black American.

I will closely examine the media content that urban Dar es Salaam youth are frequently viewing, which specifically includes American hip hop music as well as Swahili hip hop music that has been modified to closely resemble that of America. My attempt is to show how Dar es Salaam youth's collective goals and values have increasingly changed to resemble an American mind set due to the influence of these medias.

Kara Condon '12

Janesville, Wisconsin

Majors: History; Education

Sponsor: Beatrice McKenzie

**Enduring Emotions of Political Turmoil:
Experiences and Observations Living in
Londonderry, Northern Ireland**

On January 30th, 1972, the British Army opened fire on a civil rights demonstration in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. Twenty-six unarmed protesters were shot and thirteen of them died. The British Government claimed that they opened fire into the crowd in self-defense and after an investigation they were exonerated from any wrongdoing. This event became known as Bloody Sunday and it escalated the sectarian violence during an era in Northern Ireland referred to as The Troubles, which started in the mid-1960s and lasted until 1998 with the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. Bloody Sunday is one of many protests and violent events that happened in Londonderry during The Troubles that are embedded in the city's history and culture.

It has been 39 years since Bloody Sunday and 13 years since the Good Friday Agreement has transpired, and while studying in Londonderry, it was apparent that many perspectives on The Troubles have lingered into the present day. However, there has also been a push in

Londonderry to celebrate its culture and to overcome past sectarian violence. In my presentation I will talk about my experiences living in a post-conflict society. In addition to that, I will address my observations of Irish reactions to the last Bloody Sunday March, Queen Elizabeth's visit to Ireland, and recent violence that has erupted Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland.

Bryant Conkling '12

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Major: Political Science

Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

**Combating HIV at African Universities:
A Comparative Study of South Africa and
Botswana**

South Africa and Botswana have been heavily impacted by the HIV/AIDS pandemic with infection prevalence reaching 10% and 25% respectively. Both countries have well developed university systems that consistently rank as the best on the African continent. With high university matriculation rates compared to other African countries, universities in the two countries have had to deal with how to best prevent the spread of HIV amongst students and how to help students who are already infected.

This symposium is the culmination of a research project that compared the responses of Stellenbosch University in Stellenbosch, South Africa and the University of Botswana in Gaborone, Botswana. While studying abroad at Stellenbosch University and then traveling to the University of Botswana I interviewed staff, faculty, and students and analyzed studies conducted by the universities to evaluate the effectiveness of their respective approaches.

In my research I sought to answer four questions surrounding the setting of HIV policy by public research universities in Africa and elsewhere: How is university HIV/AIDS policy set? How do university health departments interact with government? What specific steps are taken to inform and protect students and are they effective? Do university health offices engage with the wider community? The presentation will explain how a combination of political, economic and cultural factors contributes to different policies for combating HIV in a college setting along with implications for African universities as well as Western institutions like Beloit.

David Dunder '12

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Amani Edwards '12

Atlanta, Georgia

Major: Modern Languages

Minor: Political Science

Sponsor: Daniel Youd

**Christianity in Taiwanese Social Welfare:
A Case Study of the Garden of Hope
Foundation (Taipei, Taiwan)**

Though a developed nation, Taiwan's social welfare system is one of the youngest aspects of the nation; but despite this factor, throughout time, religious organizations have provided services for Taiwan and its people. Though a majority Buddhist nation, Christianity permeates throughout Taiwanese society, in particularly social welfare - sharing the task of providing for Taiwan's citizens through the creation of hospitals, NGO's, bus shuttles, and other amenities. Specifically focusing on the Garden of Hope Foundation, a non-profit NGO in Taipei, I will examine how Christian social welfare organizations continue their legacy of providing care and services - influenced by the will of God and the general need of the people. Looking at the history of Christianity in Taiwan and the formation of the social welfare system, I will examine how influential religious organizations (specifically Christianity) are in distributing services to the citizens of Taiwan.

**Dingxi (Safari) Fang '14
(with Kun (Cleo) Zhang)**

Chongqing, China

Major: Environmental Biology

Sponsors: Yaffa Grossman and Daniel Youd

**Difficulties Faced by an NGO in China:
Summer Internships at Dongjen Center for
Human Rights Education and Action**

This previous summer, we spent one and a half months interning at the Dongjen Center for Human Rights Education and Action. Dongjen is an NGO in Beijing that aims to protect the rights of marginalized groups in Chinese society, especially people living with HIV.

After helping carry out several projects there, we realized that there are many difficulties that prevent Chinese NGOs from accomplishing their missions. One challenge is posed by the Chinese government, which keeps a close eye on the work of NGOs and often refuses to approve NGO requests to host public events. Other pressures result from the public's lack of information and misunderstanding of the issues.

In our presentation, we will share our own stories about the tasks we performed working for Dongjen under government and public pressures. Cleo will share her experience of working with the 5th Beijing Queer Film Festival, which drew the intervention of the Public Security Bureau, the Cultural Affairs Bureau, as well as the Industrial and Commercial Bureau. Safari will share what happened to one of her projects, Dongjen-IHRLI (International Human Rights Law Institute) Student Program, which had to adjust its plan and schedule several times so that it could fit government regulations. We'll also talk about some HIV-related social problems in modern Chinese society and a conference on HIV Blood Transmission Compensation, which took place in Beijing this July.

David Feldman '12

Morris, Illinois

Major: Anthropology

Minor: Philosophy and Religious Studies

Sponsor: Dan Shea

**Chilean Mining:
From Nitrate to Silver to Vampires**

Looking at the street signs in Chile led to my wondering, like a typical baffled American student abroad, "Where do you get a name like 'Bernardo O'Higgins?'" This led me to look into what sorts of people were coming to Chile early in its history as a nation. It soon became clear that nitrate and silver mining are an integral part of the Chilean economy, one of the strongest contributors since the early days of modern Chile, drawing in many people from different parts of the world.

During the month I spent there as part of an archaeological field school, nitrate fields and silver mines were among several of the major sites my group visited. This presentation will outline the history of mining in Chile from pre-Colonial days to the modern era, and how it shaped the country's economy and increased the international presence through miners arriving in search of wealth, as well as what sort of strange, elusive night creatures are rumored to inhabit the now exhausted mine tunnels.

Janice Geis '12

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Janice Geis '12 Mendota Heights, Minnesota
Majors: Theatre Arts: Design; Theatre Arts: Stage Management
Minor: Political Science
Sponsor: Dave Knutson

Waffles, Fries, and Beer: An Anarchist's Country (Belgium)

Magritte's famous painting, "This pipe is not a pipe" aptly captures the spirit of the country of Belgium. Holding the world's longest record for country without an official government, Belgium stands as a rather unique country. The average person only knows of Belgium as the boring land full of tasty treats such as waffles, chocolate, mussels, and fries. But there is so much more to discover about this little country. How it operates in a global and national way are baffling to most. How can a country run without a government? Why does the country celebrate its anarchist nature? And finally, what's the deal with the petit boy taking a whiz? Taking an in depth introspective look at the world of Belgium, I hope to explore all these questions and more.

Zoila Guachichulca '12 Minneapolis, Minnesota
Majors: International Relations; Spanish
Sponsor: Pablo Toral

Analysis of Brazil's Anti-poverty Programs: *Bolsa Família* and *O Plano Nacional de Assistência Estudantil*

The Brazilian government launched an aggressive program in the 1990s to reduce poverty called *Fome Zero* (Zero Hunger). Two of the pillars of this program are *Bolsa Família* and *O Plano Nacional de Assistência Estudantil* (PNES). *Bolsa Família* (Family Grant) is a program of conditional cash handouts for poor families, who receive a monthly stipend if they keep their children at school and if they comply with required health checkups and vaccinations. PNES (National Assistance to Undergraduate Students of Federal Institutions of Higher Education) provides funds for low-income students to help them enter, remain in and graduate from the Brazilian federal university system. These programs helped reduce the Brazilian poverty rate by half since their inception. My presentation is based on testimonials from beneficiaries of these two programs that I collected while I studied in the city of Juiz de Fora (Minas Gerais) in the spring 2011. I will illustrate my analysis with a digital

film story that includes pictures and the voices of some of my interviewees.

Ellery Hamann '12 Madison, Wisconsin
Major: Chinese Language & Culture
Sponsor: Rob LaFleur

American Chinese Studies Students and Romanticizing Authenticity

Many American Chinese studies students want to see and experience an authentic, "real" China. Students talk about the "real China," – the parts of Chinese society and culture, the places, foods or ideas that they see as untouched by Western culture. We call it "real" and then pursue the experience of it and advocate on behalf of its consumption and existence.

During my ethnographic study in Ji'nan, China, this past fall, I learned that not everyone shares the same notion of the "real China." We think this notion is shared with everyone when in fact many Chinese themselves, for example, have an opposite rendering of the "real China." Is there an authenticity that can actually be pinned down? Why are we so inclined to romanticize and pursue authenticity? This symposium will explore such questions and other issues surrounding how, and more importantly, *why* people create and pursue their imagining of the "real China."

Ian Hedges '12 Charleston, West Virginia
Major: International Relations
Minors: Health & Society; English
Sponsor: Marion Fass

***¡Que Ordinario!* The Health Disparities of Sex Workers in Valparaíso, Chile**

In 2002, Chile's National Congress passed a bill that reformed the health care system in Chile. Included in the bill was the "Regime of Explicit Guarantees in Health Law," which incorporated universal health care coverage and 56 illnesses with their treatments that would be paid for by the government. This new system would increase the access of care for low to middle income citizens, but did not prioritize sexual health into its implementation plan.

Simultaneously, Chile's free market policies have caused women to leave rural areas of Chile and seek work in big urban areas like Valparaíso. Many women who cannot find a sustainable job have engaged in sex work because it provides one of the best incomes in their neighborhood. Prostitution is legal in Chile, and many

local governments recognize that sex work involves public health risks. Several local governments provide incentives for sex workers to go to community health clinics or *consultorios*, but has this helped sex workers move towards optimum health?

Several other questions to be considered: Is there systematic discrimination against sex workers in Valparaíso, Chile? If so, does this create a health disparity between sex workers and other Chilean citizens? Does universal health care alleviate the barriers for sex workers to access health care services? Could Chile's health policy work to help sex workers in other countries?

Lexi Hernandez '12

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Major: Anthropology

Minor: Peace and Justice Studies

Sponsor: Nancy McDowell

Lions and Rhinos and Elephants, Oh My! Wildlife Conservation, Tourism, and Farming in Tanzania

During my time spent studying wildlife management and environmental policy in Kenya and Tanzania, I gained knowledge about the conservation efforts and human-wildlife conflicts that plague these countries. Wildlife conservation has been an issue of concern among governments, tourism sectors, and local communities alike. The benefits of wildlife conservation are seen by governments, but the negative effects of wildlife disrupt local farms and agriculture. My symposium will briefly cover the current conservation issues within these two countries as well as look at how culture plays an important role in understanding current conservation efforts and strategies. I will then discuss my main research project, which looked at the ways in which local communities can benefit from tourism, specifically studying how farmers benefit indirectly from tourism by measuring the produce bought from local farms by tourism lodges.

My main research looked at the Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem within Tanzania, an area with a growing tourism sector that supports the livelihood of many people in the community. Agriculture is a main facet of the economy in the area with a large population of farmers. The purpose of my research was to assess the level of involvement the farmer had in tourism and to analyze the benefits the farmers may reap from a tourism economy. This was analyzed by determining how much produce

resort lodges buy from local farmers as well as the level of understanding these individuals had on the topic of conservation. By arranging this data into graphs, charts, and other modes of analytical analysis, I found that the more a job was related to tourism, the more knowledge the individual had on the topic of conservation. When lodges buy produce from local farms, farmers are able to indirectly benefit from tourism and conservation.

Camilla Jackson '14

Newton, Massachusetts

Majors: Political Science; History

Sponsor: Rachel Ellett

Post-Conflict Peace-Building and Transitional Justice in the Balkans: Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Balkans ethnic conflict of the 1990s still resonates with, and greatly affects the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). However, after sixteen years it is evident that the people are trying to move-on. This summer I traveled to BiH to study how a post-conflict society approaches rebuilding its institutions, infrastructure, economy and trust between neighbors. The peace process is a crucial component of rebuilding society and to fully comprehend the reconciliation progress that BiH has made, I looked at the role of the individual, the community, national and international levels of support. Although war-time perceptions of the different ethnic groups still exist, BiH is recovering and trying to stop the labeling of one group as victims, and the other as aggressor. To highlight the complexities and difficulties of rebuilding a unified, multi-ethnic state, I will provide the perspective of each of the different levels and what they believe BiH must do to transition from a post-conflict society to a peaceful, legitimate state.

Caitlin Karvonen '12

Livonia, Michigan

Major: Japanese Language and Culture

Sponsor: Rob LaFleur

You'll Never Walk Alone: Crisis, Hysteria and Recovery from the 2011 Tōhoku Earthquake in Japan

A historic 9.0 magnitude earthquake, the catastrophic tsunamis that followed, and the ensuing nuclear crisis that sparked a worldwide debate: March 11, 2011 is a day that changed Japan. More than 16,000 lives were lost; many more suffered traumatic and irreversible losses of

family, community, property and livelihood, and an entire country was left with an indelible scar that will surely impact Japan's future for many years to come.

March 11 also coincided with my semester abroad at Beloit's program in Osaka, Japan. Although I was safe, living almost 400 miles away from the most devastated areas, I could not help but be profoundly affected by the disaster. As I tried to understand what was happening around me through both Japanese and English language reports, I was deeply troubled by what I saw. While the Western media was absolutely hysterical about the Fukushima nuclear accidents, it seemed to downplay (or at times, ignore) the humanitarian crisis that was occurring in the Tōhoku region. On the other hand, however, the Japanese media was very concerned about victims of the disasters but dubiously portrayed the government as efficient in handling the nuclear situation, a characterization that led to a noticeable increase in Japanese mistrust of the government.

Every day since the disaster the survivors have faced challenges and uncertainty. In this symposium I hope to explain what actually happened on that fateful day and what the future looks like for victims in Tōhoku. I will also examine the problems that manifested in both the Japanese and Western media reports of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis.

Ozgun Kilic '13

Izmir, Turkey

Major: Biological Chemistry

Sponsor: George Lisensky

Being International in Your Own Country in Your Own Field in Turkey

I am an international student at Beloit College since I am from Turkey. I came to the United States because I knew people cared about science more and there are more research opportunities. I thought the reason why there was less significant research was that we don't have money for research. This past summer I realized sometimes it is a lot more complicated than that.

This summer I was part of the organizing committee for a 'Nanotechnology Applications in Medicine' symposium held in the biggest 'state university' of my city. There were four distinguished scientists from the United States and one distinguished scientist from Brazil as the guest speakers in addition to eleven Turkish speakers who were researchers or famous doctors or owners of pharmaceutical companies. The audience was

undergraduates majoring in natural sciences, doctors, professors, industrial companies and more. All of these people gathered to increase valuable research done in Turkey and determine what was going on in the field. Sometimes people had conflicting thoughts about the situation and sometimes everyone agreed at points where improvement is mandatory.

By itself, the symposium was good enough to compare research conditions abroad and in Turkey but being in the organizing committee and seeing what struggles people need to go through to organize such a necessary symposium was incredible.

This exposure to other scientists, graduate students and chemists allows me to compare both countries in the science field. In my symposium I will talk about these interesting experiences I had.

Madeline Kramer '12

Portland, Oregon

Major: Comparative Literature

Minors: Philosophy; Environmental Studies

Sponsor: Kosta Hadavas

Athens: The City Behind the Headlines

If you don't have internet access, read any publications, watch television, listen to the radio, or converse with other human beings, you might be oblivious to the collapse of the Greek economy and how it catalyzed an international socioeconomic crisis. But for the rest of the world, the media has painted the whole of Greece with broad strokes, caricaturing the country as chaotic, dismal, and violent. So then, what does daily life actually look like behind this post-apocalyptic projection?

Disconcertingly normal.

During my spring semester in the Athenian metropolis, I went about my routine much as I would in Beloit. Of course there were the anecdotal mishaps like mistaking condensed olive oil for butter or getting horribly lost in an unsavory part of town, but most things in Greece, like much of Europe, are idiot proof. There were more serious daily interruptions like strikes or riots, but overall the rhythms of the city persisted.

While the people of Athens persevere, the physical structure of the city more accurately reflects the depth of the crisis. Modern and ancient Athens coexist in a disjointed harmony, where among the few things they share are neglect and utility. The celebrated monuments of antiquity, like their abandoned industrial counterparts, stand as crumbling reminders of a bygone prosperity. In a

crisis a country's cultural heritage is seemingly one of the first casualties, even if it means sacrificing a collective identity. Athens provides a rare opportunity to submerge oneself into an historic and mythological estuary while confronting all the problems of a modern state. But if Greece self-annihilates we stand to lose more than just the material wealth tied to it, for there is a larger tragedy at stake here: that of a shared human tradition, our own.

Hana Laurencot '12

Brookline, Massachusetts

Major: Modern Languages

Sponsor: Donna Oliver

The Birth and Development of Hip-Hop Culture in Moscow, Russia

In 1985 graffiti and b-boy entered the Russian cultural sphere. It was Mikhail Gorbachev's first year as General Secretary, the end of the stagnation period known as *Zastoi*, and the country was headed for change. A year later, Timur "Kamikaze" was born in Pyatigorsk, located in the south of Russia near the Caucasus. Twenty-five years later, in answer to the question, "Do you think there is a big, small, or negligible difference between American and Russian hip-hop?" Timur, an accomplished b-boy of excellent manners and strong charisma, who has traveled all over the world to compete, wrote:

"We started to nourish ourselves with this culture from the USA, but initially we only saw videos on TV that we had to hurry to record onto cassettes in order to learn everything in detail later. Before, there wasn't the kind of person around who could've explained everything to us, but with time we understood that an aspiration to studying what was new was actually our first 'hip-hop'."

People like Timur and others with whom I have corresponded keep the spirit of hip-hop thriving. In Russia, I have met young men and women who boldly uphold the true hip-hop lifestyle of self-respect and self-expression. I anticipate a vibrant and successful future for Russian hip-hop, and I have my fingers crossed that people like Timur will sway the general perception of hip-hop back towards its positive roots before the hold of industry takes over media coverage and public opinion. My presentation is focused on a collection of quotes, images, lyrics, and video footage that will, I hope, open up a connection between these grass-root movements in the two distinct cultures of modern America and modern Russia.

Tim Lawrence '12

Glenview, Illinois

Major: History

Minors: Ancient Mediterranean Studies; Philosophy

Sponsor: Rob LaFleur

Malta and Heart of Darkness: Colonization and Humanity in the Mediterranean

Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* is the novel of the character Marlowe recounting his journey into the depths of the Congo (the basis for the movie *Apocalypse Now*). In it, Conrad explores the timelessness of colonization of groups of people, and the endless struggle between civility and savagery in individuals.

Malta is a small island nation centrally located in the Mediterranean with a long history of colonization. Independent in the last half of the century, it struggles for its new place in the EU and the wider Western World.

While studying abroad in Malta, I took a course featuring Joseph Conrad's novel. Each informed and enhanced the perception, the conception, of the other.

Marlowe journeys through the Congo, bringing the torch of civilization. He forgets that although fire brings light, it also brings destruction. Malta's history is filled with visiting Marlowes, hoping to take advantage of the island and its people. Although self-deception is a constant theme in Conrad's work, I am sure that I was not a bringer of destruction with my torch.

Ted Liu '13

Sichuan, China

Majors: Anthropology; Economics & Management

Sponsor: Beatrice McKenzie

Neglected and Confused: Unaccompanied Immigrant Children in Chicago, Illinois

A special group of immigrants exists in the United States. They are under 18 years old and have come to the U.S. without their parents or any legal guardians; some of them do not even possess legal documents justifying their entry. These are unaccompanied immigrant minors, probably one of the most vulnerable groups of people in the U.S.

This past summer, I conducted an internship with the National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) in Chicago. NIJC is dedicated to ensuring low-income immigrants' access to legal consultation and representation. While I was there, I mainly worked on the Unaccompanied Immigrant Children's Protection Project, where I assisted attorneys

with providing *pro bono* (volunteer) services for children from countries including India and China.

In this presentation, I hope to discuss in detail my internship experience with an emphasis on the detention of immigrant children and legal proceedings. I will start by introducing general information regarding the processes of minors' immigration, apprehension, detention, and court proceedings. After that I will reflect upon my visits to a detention center, and how they contributed to my understanding of immigrant children's difficult position in the current legal and societal climates. I will supplement my reflection by describing a few previous studies on this topic and the cases of a few minors whom I directly worked with. Instead of trying to present a meta-narrative of immigration and globalization, I hope to offer a micro-perspective of children's immigration into the U.S. by summarizing and interpreting what I encountered. Eventually I hope this presentation will provoke some thoughts on finding solutions, whether political, legal, or societal, that can better help these unaccompanied immigrant minors.

Megan Mason '12

Cannon Falls, Minnesota

Major: Geology

Sponsor: Sue Swanson

New Zealand Earthquake Shakes Up Study Abroad Experience

A day and a half into classes at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand, my studies were interrupted by violent left to right shaking. Suddenly, classmates dropped from my line of sight. I followed suit by scrambling under my desk and rode out the 6.3 Richter magnitude earthquake. 12:51pm on February 22nd, 2011 is a moment that changed my study abroad experience and the lives of thousands that dwell in Christchurch. The Central Business District was the most affected area, which is 3 km away from the University. Brick buildings collapsed, roads were covered in thick wet sands, power went out, and sewage pipes were broken. Even the most iconic building in the central plaza, the cathedral, was damaged as the spire toppled into a pile of broken stones and twisted metal.

Due to these circumstances I was relocated to Wellington, NZ and enrolled in a new university to ensure that I would be able to continue a full semester of classes, as the University of Canterbury was closed for over 3 weeks. This transition was difficult because at the time I

would have rather maintained residency in Christchurch and actively been a part of the clean up process.

Living through the earthquake, knowing graduate students and professors left in Christchurch, and being a curious geology student, I have a personal connection to the earthquake and therefore wish to paint a larger picture of this natural disaster for the Beloit community. I wish to emphasize that this tragic news headline is more than a 30 second event. Aftershock damage continues to disrupt the clean up efforts and limits the ability of Christchurch to repair the city and return to its secure standard of living.

Allie Maxwell '12

East Hampton, New York

Major: International Relations

Minor: African Studies

Sponsor: Rachel Ellett

Under The Mango Tree: 4 Months, 30 Interviews, and 1 Researcher in Uganda

Conducting fieldwork is difficult in any country, but especially difficult in sub-Saharan Africa. In the spring of 2011, I spent four months in Uganda. During my research I met with political figures and NGO workers and leaders. Further complicating my research, during these busy four months, Uganda conducted a controversial presidential election. In light of the election results, there were mass protests against high commodity prices and what the opposition considered ballot tampering. My research project focused on the disparities between constitutional definitions of democracy and the lived reality of democracy in northern Uganda. My main findings were that people understand what democracy should look like, they can explain why the current Museveni regime is not a true democracy, and many people argued that democracy is not sensitive to Ugandan culture. In addition to presenting my findings from this research, this presentation will focus on the process of conducting research. I will delineate how I made contacts, how and where I conducted interviews, the many challenges I faced, and what I learned to help inform my future research endeavors.

Caitlin McDonough '12 Brooklyn, New York
Major: Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Biology
Minors: Chemistry; Anthropology
Sponsor: Kathryn Johnson

Reproductive Biology and Conservation in Tasmania

Australia is home to a vast number of rare and fascinating species. Covered in native animals that bounce and have pouches, lactate and lay eggs, as well as amphibians, insects and birds that can be seen nowhere else in the world. However, global warming, habitat loss, and invasive species are resulting in the loss of Australia's amazing biodiversity. One of the last strongholds of several iconic species and home to even more unique ones is an island off of southern Australia. Tasmania is best known for being the home of the Tasmanian Devil, but it is also contains quolls, blue tongued lizards, wedge-tailed eagles, echidnas and platypus. Australia is devoted to conserving these and many other unique species.

Reproductive biology is an approach often used in conservation projects to increase and save populations. Tasmania is an ideal place for this kind of research because species display a variety of reproductive mechanisms, and there are seriously endangered species, such as the Tasmanian devil, that need help. As a conservation volunteer and in a class on reproductive biology and endocrinology for conservation at the university of Tasmania, I explored the use of reproductive biology research and techniques for conservation in Tasmania.

Nattie Moore '12 See page 21

Sofia Noorani '12 Schaumburg, Illinois
Major: Economics & Management
Sponsor: Diep Phan

The Role We Play in the Lives of Thai Villagers

Ever wonder where the sugar in your M&M's comes from, or where the eucalyptus in your lotion is grown? I and 19 other American students found this out during our semester in Isaan, Thailand with the CIEE Development and Globalization program. Throughout the semester we stayed in several different villages exploring the issues of human rights, development and globalization by interviewing grassroots organizers, corporate workers, government officials, and every day people. During my

presentation I will share some of the lessons we learned and the questions with which we struggled.

Jennifer Olson '12 See page 21

Kate Parsons '13 Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts
Major: Education and Youth Studies
Sponsor: Jingjing Lou

Education in Tanzania: Through the Eyes of Three Tanzanian Women

During my 4-month field term stay in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, a country located on the coast of east Africa, I was fortunate to meet several women striving to institute educational change in Tanzania. Since the period of decolonization in the 1960's, Tanzania has been challenged to implement an effective educational system due to, for example, lack of capital to support the Millennium Development Goals for universal primary education. Despite the challenges that the country now faces in terms of education, the women that I met emphasized the importance of establishing a strong educational system for the nation and have committed to improve it.

Each one of these women have been shaped and fueled by Julius Nyerere, the first President of Tanzania from 1962 - 1985, who was also known as *mwaliimu*, the Kiswahili word for "teacher". Mwalimu Nyerere was considered to be an educationalist, a socialist, a philosopher, a politician, and a teacher. These women were born and raised during the time that Mwalimu Nyerere was in power, which had a great impact on them, their life paths, and visions for education.

In this symposium, I will demonstrate how some of these women, Dr. Ruth Meena, Dr. Mary Rusimbi, and Dr. Loyce Lema are living out the educational legacy of Mwalimu Nyerere. Each one of these women are engaged in the rapidly growing feminist movement in Tanzania as well as their own projects which include founding a school, a grant fund for women entrepreneurs, and an environmental awareness organization respectively.

You will learn how these women's visions are linked to their past and upbringing under Mwalimu Nyerere. You will also learn how their diverse endeavors are important to the future of Tanzania, especially pertaining to the advancement of education. In fact, the future success of the educational system may balance on the shoulders of these determined and passionate leaders.

Aurora Peck '14

Kansas City, Missouri

Major: Anthropology
Minor: Museum Studies
Sponsor: Rob LaFleur

Exploring the Dying Earth: Organic Farming and Natural Medicine in France

Organic farming and natural medicine show how feelings of nostalgia have been transformed by people's passion into two huge movements in today's society.

Last semester I performed ethnographic research at Bushel and Peck's. As a cafe and specialty grocery for organic, locally grown foods, I wanted to observe its impact on people in the community. I decided to take that experience abroad this summer for a cross-cultural perspective while at the same time exploring my personal interest in natural medicine.

I worked on organic farms in France, a country famous for its good food and whose people are drawn to alternative remedies despite having access to one of the best public healthcare systems in the world. My stay encompassed three different hosts, two of which specialized in natural medicine, over the course of ten weeks.

In my symposium, I will: discuss how the French and American can agree on at least these two movements, show a glimpse of what real life is like for the people dedicated to them, and explain why all three of my hosts described the earth as dying. *Bienvenue!*

Angeline Peterson '13

Moscow, Idaho

Majors: Anthropology; French
Sponsor: Shannon Fie

Originals, Fakes, and Replicas: Challenging Western Notions of Authenticity

A museum is defined as a building or place where works of art, scientific specimens, or other objects of *permanent value* are kept and displayed. Yet, in a world where places, languages, and cultures are constantly evolving, can there really be such thing as *permanent value*? How then do we place value on objects in a museum?

The Field Museum of Natural History holds over 21 million objects illustrating art, archaeology, science, and history. This summer I worked in the Anthropology Department under Gary Feinman, curator of the

Mesoamerican and Central American collection. One of my projects was to do provenance research on the collection of Zapotec funerary urns, or effigy vessels. Provenance research is the first step in evaluating the authenticity of an object. I analyzed information in the accession files that might indicate if some of the Zapotec urns were fakes.

Most collections as large as that of the Field Museum are bound to hold a considerable percentage of fakes. What happens to an object that is found to be inauthentic? Is it completely devalued? Fakes can be harmful to our knowledge production of past cultures, but they can also tell us a great deal about the values of our own culture. Though it is counterintuitive, fakes are created in response to Western culture's demand for the authentic. My presentation explores authenticity as a cultural construct, and the commodification of culture in today's society.

Ashley Pettit '13

North Liberty, Iowa

Major: Health and Society
Sponsor: Marion Fass

The Influence of *Pasteef* on Grassroots Health Interventions in Senegal

The Wolof word *pasteef* is defined in French as *volonté* and *engagement*, translating to "will" and "commitment" in English. This word was best defined to me through the actions of AID PASTEEF, a small nongovernmental community organization in Guédiawaye, Dakar, Senegal, during my three-month internship. AID PASTEEF's mission is to help to promote sustainable development using culturally sensitive and appropriate interventions at the local level, primarily addressing health issues.

As a recipient of funds from umbrella organizations such as UNICEF, AID PASTEEF has been able to develop several programs for nongovernmental organizations even smaller than itself, creating an extensive grassroots level of intervention. I had the privilege of traveling to the rural town of Sokone, where I met Gnagna, a recipient of AID PASTEEF's funds. There, I was able to see Gnagna's interventions that were made possible by AID PASTEEF and nongovernmental organizations.

From my experiences, I observed and appreciated the potential of community interventions that are motivated by the willpower of the locals to better a society. With interventions that are carried by this motivation, sustainable progress is possible.

Jessica Rardin '13

Normal, Illinois

Majors: Spanish; Youth and Society

Sponsor: Amy Tibbitts

Agricultural Cooperatives in Theory and Practice: *Cooperativa de Productores Agropecuarios de Diriamba, Nicaragua*

Agricultural cooperatives around the world aim to empower farmers, families, and their communities to take control of their economic standing and environmental impact. However, research shows that in order for people to join cooperatives, they have to find benefits from participation. These benefits include community structures, stability, increased profit and educational programming. In many countries cooperatives have been successful, but there are also negative factors to cooperative life. Do the positives of a cooperative outweigh the unintended consequences? What, in general, contributes to keeping citizens engaged in cooperative lives? Why have Nicaraguan cooperatives been successful?

I will elaborate upon the general functionality of agricultural cooperatives and their benefits based on my experience volunteering in Diriamba, Nicaragua, with the *Cooperativa de Productores Agropecuarios de Diriamba* (COOPAD). Nicaragua has a long history with agricultural cooperatives and during the Sandinista government, support for cooperatives grew. But with the decline of socialism, there was a push for the breakup of the lands, but the system of agricultural cooperatives remains popular among communities. Why have Nicaraguan cooperatives been successful? COOPAD is one of many organizations and NGOs in Nicaragua and around the world that aim to develop communities through cooperatives and educational programming. How does the COOPAD model fit within the context of agricultural collectives?

Krista Robbins '14

Gilberts, Illinois

Major: Psychology

Sponsor: Debra Majeed

**Crazy Sticky Ball:
An Alternative Education in Taiwan**

Imagine enthusiastically jumping onto a stage on a hot Monday morning and pretending to be an elephant while about 200 Taiwanese students stare blankly at your animated display. Welcome to my weekly routine this past summer as I attempted to teach English in Taiwan.

I traveled to Taiwan with an organization called World Passport to teach at English summer camps. The goal of World Passport was to ignite student's enthusiasm about learning English and provide them with a break from their regular routine of learning English in a dry classroom. For one week, students could experience and interact with the language in an innovative way by playing games with young, native English speakers.

Throughout my experience in Taiwan, I taught almost 3,000 students. However, the students were not the only people learning in the classroom. World Passport encouraged students to educate the teachers in culture differences as part of a largely social and cultural exchange.

In this presentation I will discuss the challenges I found while teaching in a foreign country. I will also highlight how the philosophy of World Passport benefits Taiwanese students who are learning the English language.

Bebe Santa-Wood '12 Colorado Springs, Colorado

Major: Political Science

Minors: European Studies; Women's and Gender Studies

Sponsor: John Rapp

**Beyond the Harem: Changing Perceptions
of the Modern Turkish Woman**

As a feminist and political science student moving to Turkey to study for a year abroad at Yeditepe University, I came with a lot of imbedded presuppositions about the status of women in Turkey. Turkey is a complicated country, a secular democracy with a Muslim majority and a long history of military and authoritarian underpinnings, as well as the influence of the former Ottoman empire. I was curious as to how and where women fit into the history of this still young country. The reality of feminism and the status of women in Turkey was something completely different than I had expected.

Although my class work and reading were enlightening in classes on Women and Civil Rights in Turkey; it was my interactions with teachers, students, and young Turkish feminists that gave me a real understanding of the complicated and changing role of women's rights in Turkey today. Whether it was participating in a march against domestic violence, learning the history and status of feminism in the country, or even my interactions in the conservative neighborhood

around my school, I found myself increasingly fascinated with women's rights in the country.

Issues such as allowing or banning the veil in universities, feminist changes to the penal code, and the status of Kurdish women, are all at the forefront of debates in Turkey today, illustrating the importance gender has on a country that is fast becoming a leader in the Middle East, while maintaining and expanding its ties with the West.

In my presentation I would like to share my experiences as a young American feminist in Turkey, and discuss the different status and experiences of Turkish women that I encountered and the directions in which feminism and women's rights in Turkey may be going.

Constance Siu '13

Chicago, Illinois

Major: Biochemistry

Minor: Philosophy

Sponsor: Jingjing Lou

Exploring Values of Contemporary Chinese Youth: Angry Youth of the Post-80s Generation

Angry youth, in today's Chinese society, is a term that denotes a group of radical but often misguided Chinese youth with nationalistic tendencies. Most publically complain about the United States and Japan while ignoring social problems at home. They often belong to the "after 1980's" generation (*balinghou*). Also called the "coddled generation", they stray in many ways from the traditional ways of the older generations of China.

Being in China for the first time this summer, I was thrown into a society I thought I knew. My interactions were with those of the *balinghou* generation and to my surprise, few shared the traditional values that I was raised with like hard work, humility, and appreciation.

It was not the conservative China that I had heard of. The society seemed to be very materialistic, worshipping name-brands (*mingpai*), especially foreign name-brands. Such materialism can partly be attributed to the Chinese economic miracle in recent decades and the resulting increase of material abundance. I could not help but wonder about the implications this may have, especially the contradiction that appears between the hate towards foreign societies yet a worship of their things, a key characteristic of the angry youth.

My trip to China allowed me to reflect on my values. Upon my return to the United States, I did research on the

development of the Angry Youth culture in China. I tried to trace the changes in the society that has over time caused the disappearance of traditional values in the youth and the development of new values, including materialism. In my symposium, I will share my observations of the Chinese people. I will also discuss possible implications of their actions for Chinese society. Lastly, I aim to present possible steps that can be taken to prevent the complete disappearance of these values.

Jessica Slattery '12

St. Louis, Missouri

Major: Anthropology

Minor: Spanish

Sponsor: Jennifer Esperanza

The Artisan and the Commercialization of Cultural Heritage in Northern Argentina

In northern Argentina, the artisan is in danger of extinction. In 2003, the Quebrada de Humahuaca (Jujuy, Argentina) was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. This distinction encouraged preservation of natural and cultural heritage of the region and protection for way of life of indigenous peoples, exhibiting potential to have a positive environmental and social impact. Paradoxically, the designation of the Quebrada de Humahuaca as a World Heritage Site has created a series of adverse effects on the indigenous peoples of the region in context of globalization. The Gorge has become a tourist destination and opened the area to foreign influence and fringe capitalists from other provinces that endanger of the way of life, cultural practices and specifically relevant to this project, craft production.

This investigation attempts to explore the elements that are responsible for the degradation of craft production, such as tourism, the commodification of culture, the introduction of the intermediary, the industrial production of pseudo-artesanas, the degradation of the zone in the face of the growing quantity of tourists, and the failure to implement policies that serve to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of the *humahuaqueños*.

This investigation also examines the impact and success of actions and projects of the state, provincial and municipal governments to capacitate the artisan with a focus on the progress of the *Identidades Productivas* (Productive Identities), a program created by the Ministry of Culture of the nation that works for economic empowerment the artisan and artisan community through

the marketing of crafts to a broader market and the promotion of local culture.

This project was developed with a combination of academic sources, personal observations, and interviews with various artisans, intermediaries and a specialist in tourism held in Salta Capital, Jujuy Capital and Humahuaca (Jujuy).

Danica Slavish '12 See page 21

Susan Smela '12 See page 21

Susan Smela '12 New York, New York
Majors: International Relations; Japanese Language and Culture
Sponsor: Rachel Ellett

Manga Outside the Frame(work): An Analysis of Copyright Law and Fan Creation in Japan's Independent Comic Industry

Manga (otherwise known as Japanese comics) has surpassed steel as one of Japan's most exported and profitable goods. It wields massive influence over the world's youth, and has turned Japan into the center of a global "cool." Yet outside of Japan, few know that much of the manga they read on legally grey internet scanning/translation sites are actually *doujinshi*- fan comic creations. The *doujinshi* market is massive in its own right, with small conventions in all the major Japanese cities culminating in the explosion of *otaku* (rabid fan) culture called Comiket, a biannual Tokyo convention. Year after year Comiket is the largest cultural convention in Japan and largest comic convention in the world. In three days, over half a million attendees and 35,000 vendors exchange millions of US dollars purchasing fan-made creations based on mainstream works.

But how did this fan comic industry become so large? Why are these fans doing this? Perhaps most importantly, where are the copyright lawyers?! Through a combination of research, interviews, and participant observation, this presentation will give you an otaku-eye view into a world where the lines between producer and consumer are nonexistent. I will overview *doujinshi*'s history and relation to the "mainstream" manga market, then present an analysis of Japanese copyright laws that allow *doujinshi* to thrive. Lastly, I will discuss its implications for US fan culture, copyright law, and the structure of corporate creativity in a globalized world.

Chelsea Steck '12

Winfield, Illinois

Major: Sociology

Minor: Environmental Studies

Sponsor: Sonja Darlington

Improving Student Access to Higher Education in South Africa: Lessons from an *Umlungu*

During my semester in a service learning program in Cape Town, South Africa, I had an internship with Yabonga; a non-profit organization that runs outreach programs for individuals both infected with and strongly affected by HIV/AIDS. In 2010, Yabonga's first generation of youth graduated from high school, but the majority remained unemployed despite having a diploma. As a part of my service, I helped create a program for these out-of-school youth, which focused on work experience, career counseling, and skills building. The ultimate goal of this program was for participants to become employed or to attend some form of higher education.

While working with the learners, I discovered that one of the main barriers to their success was a lack of career guidance in township high schools. I then co-developed career guidance manuals that focused on realistic career goals for students who attended poor-quality township schools. These manuals are currently being used in workshops for youth in Yabonga programs, high schools, and a post-release program for incarcerated youth to better prepare students for a more promising future.

This symposium will cover my experience as an *umlungu* working with Yabonga, as well as, how the out-of-school youth problem affects South Africa as a whole. I will also discuss the lessons I learned from being an international volunteer and my limitations as a foreigner.

Leigh Wasson '12

Madison, Wisconsin

Major: Economics and Management

Minor: Studio Art

Sponsor: Josh Hall

TEDxUbud: Things I've Learned in Bali

The second semester of my junior year at Beloit College I took a vacation semester, sold my car, and bought a plane ticket to furthest island away from Wisconsin: Bali, Indonesia. With no school program, job, or plans I made it my goal to meet as many people as I could, one of who proved to change my life. Within 24 hours of meeting Daniela Burr and uncovering a mutual

nerdy obsession with TED Talks we decided that we could start a TEDx event in Ubud and submitted our proposal to TED.com.

“TEDx” events are localized independent versions of TED Talks that take place worldwide and embody the TED motto of “ideas worth spreading”. Bali, being an international hub of travelers, entrepreneurs, and ideas seemed to be the ideal setting to start something exciting.

TEDxUbud 2011 was an event held on May 6th in Ubud, the magnificent cultural center of Bali, which hosted ten talks from passionate local and international speakers. The content of the talks ranged from midwifery in times of environmental disaster, digital entrepreneurship in the fashion industry, gender rights and religious reconciliation in a war torn community, structuring spiritual consciousness into businesses, embracing embarrassment, free running, wild boar hunting, and break dancing. Our mission was to invite the most engaged and motivated people from a wide range of disciplines, passions, and backgrounds to tell their stories. I would like to share the things I’ve learned from TEDxUbud and the many challenges and successes of starting a project from scratch in a foreign country.

Ronit Weinmann '12

See page 21

Regina Willensky '12

New York, New York

Majors: Economics & Management; Environmental Studies

Sponsor: Warren Palmer

The Decline of Elephants In Ghana: Economic Incentives, Human Habitat Encroachment, and Failed Institutions

I studied the decline of endangered species around the world focusing my research on the decline of elephant populations in Ghana. I will discuss habitat loss, climate change, and unsustainable hunting practices such as poaching as the drivers of global species extinction. The focus of my presentation will center on my experiences this spring during my field practicum in Ghana through American University’s Washington Semester Program on International Environment and Development. While in Ghana this spring I witnessed the scope of elephant decline as economic incentives encourage hunters to kill this species for their lucrative returns on the black market. These strong economic incentives to poach elephants for their ivory combined with a lack of regulatory and

protective institutions in Ghana have driven the decline of elephant population in Ghana down to two living elephants.

While the survival of elephant populations in Ghana might be bleak, this symposium will also address some success stories of elephant conservation in sub-Saharan Africa including South Africa and Kenya.

Tessa Wood '12

Claremont, California

Major: Sociology

Minor: Ancient Mediterranean Studies

Sponsor: Debra Majeed

Polygyny in Salalah, Oman

The Sultanate of Oman is an Islamic oil-rich country in the Arabian Gulf. The law of Oman is based on *Sharia*, or *Quranic*, law. In Oman, it is legal for a man to have up to four wives and – while this type of marriage is on the decline – it is still widely accepted. In cities like the capital Muscat, it is an uncommon practice. News of polygenist marriages may come as a surprise, but nearly every Omani knows a man who has more than one wife. The general practice of having more than one spouse is known as polygamy; however, Oman only allows polygyny, which is when a man has more than one wife. Polyandry is when a woman has more than one husband, but this practice is not allowed in Oman.

Last fall, I spent the semester abroad in Oman. During the first month of the program, I met a Canadian woman who was the second wife of an Omani man with three wives. I began to wonder what her life was like and what had made her choose to marry a man who already had a wife. I decided to explore this topic, and devoted the final month of my program to an Independent Study Project. Over the course of the month I interviewed young women and men whose parents were in polygenist marriages and two Omani men with two wives.

The goal of this presentation is to give an introduction to the current practices of polygeny in Salalah, Oman. It examines how and why men marry multiple wives, why women agree to marry a man with multiple wives, how multiple wives interact with each other and all of the children, and how the culture of polygeny is changing in Salalah. In addition, I want to explore how polygeny is being practiced in Oman, how it relates to Islam, how family members interact, and how much longer polygyny will last.

Kun (Cleo) Zhang '13 Jiaxing, Zhejiang, China
(with **Dingxi (Safari) Fang**)

Majors: Mathematics; International Relations
Sponsors: Daniel Youd and Beth Dougherty

Difficulties Faced by an NGO in China: Summer Internships at Dongjen Center for Human Rights Education and Action

This previous summer, we spent one and a half months interning at the Dongjen Center for Human Rights Education and Action. Dongjen is an NGO in Beijing that aims to protect the rights of marginalized groups in Chinese society, especially people living with HIV.

After helping carry out several projects there, we realized that there are many difficulties that prevent Chinese NGOs from accomplishing their missions. One challenge is posed by the Chinese government, which keeps a close eye on the work of NGOs and often refuses to approve NGO requests to host public events. Other pressures result from the public's lack of information and misunderstanding of the issues.

In our presentation, we will share our own stories about the tasks we performed working for Dongjen under government and public pressures. Cleo will share her experience of working with the 5th Beijing Queer Film Festival, which drew the intervention of the Public Security Bureau, the Cultural Affairs Bureau, as well as the Industrial and Commercial Bureau. Safari will share what happened to one of her projects, Dongjen-IHRLI (International Human Rights Law Institute) Student Program, which had to adjust its plan and schedule several times so that it could fit government regulations. We'll also talk about some HIV-related social problems in modern Chinese society and a conference on HIV Blood Transmission Compensation, which took place in Beijing this July.

Sponsor: Betsy Brewer

Ariana Anderson '12 Wilson, Wisconsin
Majors: Comparative Literature; Women's and Gender Studies

David Dunder '12 Minneapolis, Minnesota
Major: Spanish

Janice Geis '12 Mendota Heights, Minnesota
Majors: Theatre Arts: Design; Stage Management
Minor: Political Science

Natalie Moore '12 Beloit, Wisconsin
Majors: Spanish; Sociology

Jennifer Olson '12 West Lafayette, Indiana
Majors: International Relations; Religious Studies

Danica Slavish '12 Beloit, Wisconsin
Major: Psychology
Minor: Biology and Society

Susan Smela '12 New York, New York
Majors: Japanese Language and Culture; International Relations

Ronit Weinmann '12 Huntington Woods, Michigan
Major: Psychology
Minor: Legal Studies

Reflection and Integration: Study Abroad Experiences

As part of the IDST 201: Reflection and Integration class, eight students took an introspective look at their study abroad experiences through the medium of digital story telling. Each student drew on their experience to create a short film about a lesson or story. Study abroad allows students to gain intercultural understanding, meet new people from various walks of life, live independently in a different culture, and broaden their horizons. The wonderful thing about these films is that they aptly represent each of the individual's journeys, as no two study abroads are the same.

The films presented are:

- David Dunder, "Barcelona and Beyond: Searching for Cultural Clarity," CIEE Barcelona
- Ronit Weinmann, "Coming Home," Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- Natalie Moore, "Smell the Guavas," Beloit Ecuador Program, Quito
- Danica Slavish, "From Signe to Malika," Beloit Estonia/Morocco Program
- Janice Geis, "Working for the Mouse," Disney College Program, Orlando, FL
- Susan Smela, "Enter the Dragon," Akita International University, Japan
- Jennifer Olson, "Pilgrimage," CIEE Jordan
- Ariana Anderson, "Alhamboulilay," Beloit Senegal Program