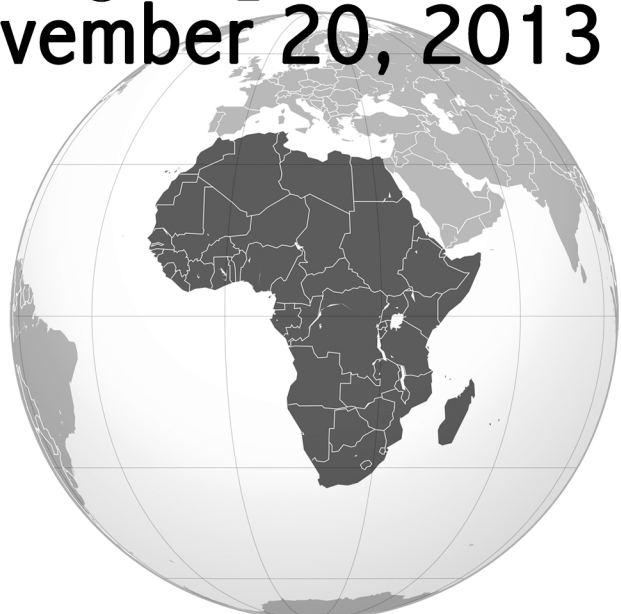




Twelfth Annual
International Symposium
Beloit College • November 20, 2013



The International Symposium celebrates Beloit College as an international college. In this twelfth annual event, 61 student presenters and 49 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.

Funding for International Opportunities for Beloit College students

**Study Abroad Enhancement Grants (for projects undertaken during study abroad)* support critical engagement with local environments leading to a better understanding of the lived realities of the host culture(s) through projects and other experiential learning activities. See: <http://www.beloit.edu/oie/>

Additional Funding Opportunities

The grants and fellowships listed below are administered by the Initiatives Program, Office of International Education, and the Liberal Arts in Practice Center. Some are exclusively for international opportunities and all of them use a Common Application. Unless noted, funding is only available for summer opportunities. To apply, access the Common Application online at: <http://www.beloit.edu/lapc/funding/beloitonly/>. ***The deadline for the Common Application is the Monday after Spring Break, March 17, 2014.*** Information about other funding opportunities can be found at <https://www.beloit.edu/lapc/funding/>

**International Education Grant* for projects that "enable students to apply their studies to an international context" (available for both summer and winter projects).

**Weissberg Human Rights Grant* for off-campus research, internships and conference attendance in the field of human rights (available for both summer and winter projects).

**Venture Grant* for current sophomores to participate in entrepreneurial, self-testing, or intellectually challenging projects that benefit both the student(s) involved and others. Projects may be of a personal, service, or commercial character, and may be completed independently or through an organization.

**Bacon Super-Vision Fellowship* for participating in any low-paid or unpaid summer internship.

**Class of 1986 Field Experience Fellowship* for current juniors participating in any low-paid or unpaid summer internship.

**Class of 1996 Service Learning Fellowship* for participating in a low-paid or unpaid summer internship with a substantial community service component.

**Small Business Internship Fellowship* for participating in a low-paid or unpaid summer internship with a small business to learn aspects of entrepreneurship.

**Mikva-Cohen Endowed Internship Fund* for pursuing intensive summer internships with a preference for experiential opportunities in three areas: performing arts, social justice activism and practical politics.

**Martha and Alan Stutz Grant Fund* awarded for travel and research abroad, living expenses associated with summer internships, off-campus research and travel. While open to students in all disciplines, preference is given to students in Art History, Anthropology and/or Museum Studies who will commit to presenting at the Student Symposium.

**Society for Learning Unlimited Grant for Internships or Community-based Research* for community-based academic study during the summer or academic year.

**Kohler Fund for Community Engagement* for educational opportunities that encourage community engagement for students and faculty, such as, but not limited to internships.

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

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RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM, MORSE-INGERSOLL HALL		
Moderator: Kristin Bonnie, Department of Psychology		
8:40	Kristin Bonnie	Opening remarks
8:45	Marian Whitaker	May Her Tongue Become Lead and Stab Her Tongue: Curse Tablets of Ancient Greece and Rome
9:10	Grace Holdinghaus, Alison Bresnahan, Barak Ben-Amots	Maintaining Mental Health Abroad: Views from Australia, England and Ireland
10:00	Break	

Moderator: Daniel Barolsky, Department of Music		
10:10	Daniel Barolsky	Opening remarks
10:15	Maria Heath	Traditional Flamenco and Modern Social Ideals in Southern Spain
10:40	Hannah Haverkamp	Mist, Mountains, and Song: Geography and National Identity in Historic and Modern Wales
11:05	Mackenzie Endress	How do rising costs of accommodation impact students of the London School of Economics financially and socially?
11:30	Break	

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FAIR IN THE SCIENCE CENTER ATRIUM FROM 11:30-1:00.

Moderator: Amy Briggs, Department of Biology		
1:00	Amy Briggs	Opening remarks
1:05	Matej Jungwirth	Bitter Fruit of the Black Garden: Hiking in Nagorny Karabakh
1:30	Margaret Kepley	Road to Hell: The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in the Social Exclusion of Czech Roma
1:55	Hana Vacková	Reflexivity & Fieldwork: The Trials and Tribulations of a Novice Field Researcher among the Roma in the Czech Republic
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Fran Abbate, Department of English		
2:30	Fran Abbate	Opening remarks
2:35	Chloe Bell	The Children Are Our Future: A Look At The Austrian and American School Systems and Their Roles in Society
3:00	Renée Gagner	Women as Leaders: Austrian Women Writers' Revolutionary Acknowledgement of Nazi Occupation
3:25	Amanda Lawnicki	From Impressions to Expressions: Visitor Books and the Memory of the Siege of Sarajevo
3:50	Break	

WOOD ROOM, MAYER HALL		
Moderator: Carl Mendelson, Department of Geology		
8:40	Carl Mendelson	Opening remarks
8:45	Mayu López	Intercultural Communication: An Internship in Chinese, English, and Spanish
9:10	Sophie Maloney	Cultural and Political Approaches to Environmentalism in Ecuador and Consequences for International Conservation Programs
9:35	Charles Baxter, Eugenia (Daisy) Gaines, Claire Kern, Ethan Ley, Faye Wassinger	<i>Muévete</i> : Engaging Meaningfully with the Host Culture
10:00	Break	

Moderator: Darrah Chavey, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science		
10:10	Darrah Chavey	Opening remarks
10:15	Ethan Ley	Struggling Against an Unsupportive Culture and State: An NGO in Quito, Ecuador
10:40	Jessica J. Ritenhouse	The <i>Cuy</i> and His Place in the Hearts, Kitchens, and Excavation Pits of Peru
11:05	Jane Choi	What "really" happened in Brazil: An honest account of the challenges of research and the value of talking about unsuccessful research experiences
11:30	Hannah Aaron	<i>¡Viva la lucha!</i> Chilean Student Protests and Political Discourse
11:55	Break	

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FAIR IN THE SCIENCE CENTER ATRIUM FROM 11:30-1:00.

Moderator: Nancy Krusko, Department of Anthropology		
1:00	Nancy Krusko	Opening remarks
1:05	Kelsi Brooks	A Winka Disease in the Makewe Community of Temuco, Chile: Cultural Perceptions of HIV/AIDS through the Eyes of Mapuche People
1:30	Rebecca Lewis	Ackee and Saltfish: Food and Identity in Jamaica
1:55	Traci Spacek	"Keeping it True": An Ethnographic Study of the Evolution of Contemporary Jamaican Fiction through a Post-Colonial Lens
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Lisa Anderson-Levy, Department of Anthropology		
2:30	Lisa Anderson-Levy	Opening remarks
2:35	Bethany Clarke	Land of Wood and Water: Understanding Landscape in Kingston, Jamaica
3:00	Meghan Caves	"Leaf uh Life": Treatments and Understandings of Cold and Flu in Southeast Jamaica
3:25	Rita Bouwens	Behave Yourself! An Ethnographic Study of the Self Through Coming-of-Age Narratives from Jamaica
3:50	Break	

ROOM 150, SCIENCE CENTER		
Moderator: Kevin Braun, Department of Chemistry		
8:40	Kevin Braun	Opening remarks
8:45	Amanda Lawnicki	Comrade <i>Kamen</i> : Practices of Post-Soviet Memorialization in Eastern Europe
9:10	Daniel Hodorowski	The Faces Behind the Flags: Football-Hooliganism and National Identity in Moscow
9:35	Maren Banda	Examining the linguistic, historical and economic dimensions of the Trans-Siberian Railway
10:00	Break	

Moderator: Warren Palmer, Department of Economics and Management		
10:10	Warren Palmer	Opening remarks
10:15	Mary Fair Briggs	Tibetan Buddhism and Daily Life in the Mustang Region of Nepal
10:40	Rachel McCarty	Everything is Possible: A Beginner's Mind Approach to Autonomous Learning
11:05	Phong Tran	Japanese Criminal Justice

POSTER SESSION: Please talk individually with the presenter.

11:30	Michelle(Yixuan) Ping	The Changing Ecology of Rural Schooling and Rural Society in China: Observations from My Volunteer Work with Rural Chinese Children through Dream Corp
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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FAIR IN THE SCIENCE CENTER ATRIUM FROM 11:30-1:00.

Moderator: Susan Furukawa, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures		
1:00	Susan Furukawa	Opening remarks
1:05	Yoon Joo Joanne Cho	Civic Education: A Catalyst to Democratization
1:30	Eunhye Jang	The Power of Co-Working & Open Innovation
1:55	Tingting Fan	Diagnosis and Treatment in a Chinese Psychiatric Hospital
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Josh Moore, Office of International Education		
2:30	Josh Moore	Opening remarks
2:35	Wenxin Xu	China's Educational AID Programs for Developing Countries: A Case Study in a Training Program for Southeast Asian Professionals in Jinhua, China
3:00	Max Zapf-Geller, Nicholas Mischler, Zoe Gierman, Alison Bresnahan, Narges Hussaini, Paula Diamond, Jacy Pieper	Digital Narratives of Study Abroad: Australia, Botswana, Germany, India, Ireland, Japan, and United Kingdom through Film
3:50	Break	

ROOM 349, SCIENCE CENTER		
Moderator: Heath Massey, Department of Philosophy and Religion		
8:40	Heath Massey	Opening remarks
8:45	Carolyn Stransky	Advantages of being an athlete abroad
9:10	Hannah McNamee	Israel's Impact on My Jewish Identity
9:35	Matej Jungwirth	Educating for Peace: Volunteer Insights From Nablus, the West Bank
10:00	Break	

Moderator: Rongal Nikora, Health and Society Program		
10:10	Rongal Nikora	Opening remarks
10:15	Zoe Gierman	A Look Inside Private and Public Primary Education in Gaborone, Botswana
10:40	Karen Jones	Eye Care and Global Health in Ghana
11:05	Megan Slavish	Beyond Health Care: Stories and Social Determinants of Health in India, Argentina, and Southern Africa
11:30	Patricia Weber	Queer Zines as Educational Tools for Gender and Sexuality: A Study on Amsterdam's Queer Squatting Community
11:55	Break	

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FAIR IN THE SCIENCE CENTER ATRIUM FROM 11:30-1:00.

Moderator: Diane Lichtenstein, Department of English		
1:00	Diane Lichtenstein	Opening remarks
1:05	Alen Kerić	Interning through Chicago's Lookingglass
1:30	Lucile Tepsa	A cross-cultural exploration of how childbirth care providers in Washington D.C. and Copenhagen, DK, integrate maternal autonomy into their practices
1:55	Meghan Walsh	A Comparative Look at Midwifery and Obstetric Care in Denmark and the United States
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Bill Green, Department of Anthropology and the Logan Museum		
2:30	Bill Green	Opening remarks
2:35	Caitlin Rankin	Communicating in Different Languages: Working on an Icelandic Sheep Farm
3:00	Isaiah Farley	The Effects of Climate Change on Norwegian Glaciers and Fjords
3:25	Devin Lundy	Learning Ethnohistorical Archaeology in Mexico
3:50	Break	

Hannah Aaron '14

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Majors: Comparative Literature; Spanish

11:30 Mayer

Sponsor: Amy Tibbitts

¡Viva la lucha! Chilean Student Protests and Political Discourse

Protests have become a part of everyday life for Chile's youth – the first generation born after Augusto Pinochet's military dictatorship. Millennials in the U.S., though faced with a number of comparable burdens, are overwhelmingly apathetic, plagued by a profound sense of helplessness in their abilities to effect political change. In Chile (and many other countries throughout the world) millennials possess an incredible sense of motivation and self-worth. Chileans have taken to the streets, demanding a free, quality education: "una educación gratuita y de calidad".

Over the course of my semester at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, as the education movement intensified, I became friends with a number of students directly involved with marches, strikes, and occupations of university spaces. I participated in "marchas", "paros", and "tomas", which often escalate into violence – the "Carabineros de Chile", or "¡Pacos culiaos!", ruthlessly abuse protestors with tear gas, rubber bullets and water canons. Still though, students stand in strong solidarity with one another, and have slowly been transforming the scaffolding of the country's educational institutions.

Another Chilean phenomenon (one particularly relevant to my studies), is its language. A common saying is that if you can understand a Chilean "lolo" (teenager), you can understand any Spanish speaker in the world. Chilean Spanish is filled with slang words that reflect the circumstances of every day life. Though "modismos" are historical in their origins, Chilean youth have essentially constructed their own dialect by manipulating words in new and inventive ways. Among the countless words I came to know are: "bacán", "pulento", "carrete", "cachai", "chela", "pucho", "jotear"... The language of Chilean youth is markedly unique, and reflects new attitudes amongst millennials, people undoubtedly different from their parents – less conservative, surely, and eager to project their *own* visions into an open future.

Maren Banda '15

Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: International Relations; Modern Languages, Russian

Sponsor: Pablo Toral

9:35 SC 150

Examining the Linguistic, Historical and Economic Dimensions of the Trans-Siberian Railway

This past summer I took the Trans-Mongolian route of the Trans-Siberian Railway. The Trans-Mongolian started in Moscow, went through Mongolia and then ended in Beijing, China. It took a total of five days to go all the way from Moscow to Beijing. The only time I exited the train was in Mongolia for a brief stay. Other than that, the rest of the trip was spent solely on the train.

The trip itself was extremely poignant in terms of contextualizing many of the concepts I have studied as a student of both Russian and Chinese. There are several levels of that contextualization which I aim to address. The first being the historical aspect of the trip, meaning, the history behind the construction of the Trans-Siberian and how it connected Russia, China and Mongolia. Furthermore, the Trans-Siberian routes (there are three total) are an impressive accomplishment simply because of the vast amount of distance they cover. On another level, Russian, Mongolian and Standard Chinese are extraordinarily different languages, and, on the train if you did not speak at least one of the languages getting food at the stops could be quite a challenge. The final level which I will address is the sheer difference in population and how population affected local economies at different points in the trip. At some points you might go for hours and see nothing but forest, then, at a stop the tracks may be lined with vendors. At other points of the trip you were totally encompassed in central urban areas.

Charles Baxter '14

see page 24

9:35 Mayer

Chloe Bell '14

New Berlin, Wisconsin

Major: History

Minor: German

Sponsor: Ellen Joyce

2:35 MI

The Children Are Our Future: A Look At The Austrian and American School Systems and Their Roles in Society

Education has been a point of dispute and frustration in America for quite some time. It seems that recent

reforms or lack thereof have not made any difference or made anyone particularly happy with the United States' school system.

My experience as a teaching assistant in an Austrian school provided me with the tools to compare and contrast the American and Austrian school systems in the hopes of discovering a new perspective on education to potentially help improve American schools. I discovered that education and its role in society is not only a frequently discussed topic in America, but in Austria as well. It seems that changes to the educational system in both countries have become quite a concern regardless of differences in culture. While the concerns for the Austrian school system are different, and arguably less intense, than those in America, it brings up the question of which system is the most successful; whether one has a better grasp upon student success.

During my time in Vienna I looked into these questions and discovered some interesting points, giving me a new perspective on the roles of culture in the way a society, and its school system, develops and sustains itself. Austria and America have very different school systems, but they ultimately aim for the same goal: to educate our future generations in the important skills necessary to continue to improve our society. My research has focused upon the differences in these school systems and how they affect the success of their students. From strict separation of levels of intelligence to the idea of raising your hands or speaking when the mood strikes, these systems have their differences and similarities, but the question is: are they working?

Barak Ben-Amots '14 see page 23
9:10 MI

Rita Bouwens '16 Marne, Michigan
Majors: Anthropology; Spanish 3:25 Mayer
Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy

Behave Yourself! An Ethnographic Study of the Self Through Coming-of-Age Narratives from Jamaica

"The happiest people are kids because they have no worries." – a young Jamaican woman

Everyone, no matter his or her nationality, grows up and eventually must come to terms with and reflect upon the changes that have occurred during adolescence. Based on personal narratives from Jamaican women, this

presentation will ponder what coming of age can say about the self. Adolescence and coming of age are culturally constructed categories which may include components of self-reflection and awareness, racial and class identities, and gaining individual independence. Phillips (1973), Jamaican scholar and lecturer and principal of Mico Teachers' College and Moneague Teachers' College respectively, suggested that physical adolescence is a universal phenomenon while psychological adolescence varies between cultures. While the physiological changes at adolescence are universal, there are differences in how those changes and others are perceived and how one should act upon them. Socioeconomic class was the major variable that I noticed. Some of these class differences include varying perceptions on how/if class affected the passage into adulthood, thoughts about being a woman in Jamaica, "rules" that parents emphasized, and worries that women had. Therefore, I plan to focus particularly on perceptions of the self during adolescence and how they relate to differences in social class. I interviewed women between the ages of 15 and 65 to capture accounts of different generations and social classes to see if these variables contributed to differences in the transition through adolescence.

Alison Bresnahan '14 see page 23
9:10 MI

Alison Bresnahan '14 see page 24
3:00 SC 150

Mary Fair Briggs '16 Moretown, Vermont
Majors: Anthropology; Religious Studies 10:15 SC 150
Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy
Abigail McGowan (University of Vermont)

Tibetan Buddhism and Daily Life in the Mustang Region of Nepal

The United States, and much of the Western world, often divides the realms of the sacred and the secular. It is assumed that religion "naturally" resides in a space separate and distinct from the mundane aspects of everyday life. This division is not present in many regions of the world and religion is integrated into everyday life and is inseparable from the public sphere.

Over the summer of 2013, I spent one month trekking through the Mustang region of Nepal to conduct ethnographic research about the intersections of religion

and culture among the region's culturally and ethnically Tibetan communities. I focused on the functions local Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and nunneries serve in their communities.

The closure of the Tibetan border by the Chinese government has led monasteries and nunneries to adapt traditional practices to their new economic, geographical, and educational realities. In spite of these challenges, monastic institutions continue to function as integral parts of the community and permeate almost every aspect of daily life.

My presentation will discuss how Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and nunneries continue to play vital roles in the everyday lives of the Tibetan Nepali people in this region. The everyday practices I will examine during the presentation are teaching and schooling, employment, and daily community and family chores. It is important to consider how Mustangi monasteries and nunneries are integrated into daily life as the United States debates the division of church and state. Does religion already influence our lives in ways that are invisible to us? Are all religions kept out of the public sphere or just some religions? Examining the situation in Mustang can help us address these questions and start to understand how the division between the sacred and the secular is artificial and even problematic.

Kelsi Brooks '14

Major: Anthropology

Minor: Biology

Sponsor: Marion Fass

Beloit, Wisconsin

1:05 Mayer

A Winka Disease in the Makewe Community of Temuco, Chile: Cultural Perceptions of HIV/AIDS through the Eyes of Mapuche People

My research sets out to discover the cultural perceptions of HIV/AIDS and sexual health in the Mapuche population and culture of the Makewe community in Temuco, Chile. The Mapuche people are the largest ethnic and original group in Chile making up around 10% of the population. The Mapuche culture follows a cosmovision and system of health based around the equilibrium of their bodies and nature. Sickness is the result of a personal transgression or a transgression in nature, which is felt spiritually before it becomes biological.

HIV/AIDS exists outside their cosmovision and is referred to as a 'winka kütan' or a disease from the occidental world. From the Mapuche perspective,

HIV/AIDS is not created by or rooted in the Mapuche culture; therefore, it cannot directly fit within the Mapuche health system. Even though the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is low in the Mapuche community of Makewe, HIV/AIDS is one example of the challenge Mapuche people face in navigating two health systems and two understandings of health.

The investigation comprised of 12 formal interviews with a variety of informants. It revealed that the perceptions of HIV/AIDS are greatly affected by gender roles, the lack of sexual health in the Mapuche health system, the different uses of the occidental health system and their own health system, and the stigma of HIV/AIDS.

Meghan Caves '16

Anchorage, Alaska

Majors: Anthropology; Biochemistry

3:00 Mayer

Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy

“Leaf uh Life”: Treatments and Understandings of Cold and Flu in Southeast Jamaica

How DO you catch a cold? What is happening in your body when you have a cold? What even IS a cold? If these questions were posed to people all over the world many different answers would emerge because every culture has its own constructed view of the body. These different understandings influence the ways in which people experience and understand illness. Arthur Kleinman, a noted medical anthropologist, has termed these culturally unique understandings of illness as explanatory models, which provide information on peoples' ideas about what an illness is called, what causes an illness, the course it will take, how serious it is, what it does to the body and mind, and what is most feared about the illness and the treatment. Ethnographic research was conducted among individuals from the parishes of Kingston and St. Thomas for three weeks in the summer of 2013. My study shows trends in South Eastern Jamaican explanatory models and treatment of cold and flu and indicates differences between young and old as well as urban and rural individuals. This study contributes new, specific information about cold and flu understanding opposed to more generalized illness narratives. It also contributes to the broader body of literature on explanatory models as well as on understanding cold and flu in Jamaica. The larger implications of this research are the use of this information by local medical professionals in Jamaica as well as medical professionals throughout the world; the differences in how individuals understand their bodies and

illness within them are meaningful in this time of rapid and intense cultural exchange.

Yoon Joo Joanne Cho '14 Seoul, Republic of Korea

Major: International Relations

1:05 SC 150

Minor: History

Sponsors: Rachel Ellett and Beth Dougherty

Civic Education: A Catalyst to Democratization

Democracy promotion not only addresses electoral processes, political stability, and legitimization of political parties, but also highly emphasizes the importance of civic education. Civic education is a component of democratization that allows the public to take part. Civil society plays an important role that acts as a mediating mechanism between the people and the government; its duty also lies in providing people full access to civic education. Civic education will allow people to obtain the necessary information for them to participate in the democracy building process. Therefore, democratization withholds more legitimacy with the people's contribution and involvement. Furthermore, not only will the government be accountable for the outcome of the democratization process but also the people through civic education.

Since the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house arrest in 2010, Myanmar has been on the road to democratization. However, the process has not been easy as the country suffers from numerous political, ethnic, and religious disputes along with a lack of access to civic education for the people and a weak and fractured civil society.

The importance of civil society in democracy promotion through civic education will be explained in depth using the Republic of the Union of Myanmar's democratization process as a case. This symposium paper will examine the effectiveness of external democracy promotion strategies through an examination of National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) efforts to strengthen civil society and civic education in Myanmar. Based on original fieldwork conducted in the summer of 2013, this research finds that international efforts to promote democracy in Myanmar in the area of civil society and civic education are having limited long term impact in the face of limited political liberalization in other aspects of democratization.

Jane Choi '14

Cape Town, South Africa

Major: Anthropology

11:05 Mayer

Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy

What "Really" Happened in Brazil: An Honest Account of the Challenges of Research and the Value of Talking About Unsuccessful Research Experiences

Most of us tend to stay away from conversations about our failures and researchers are not exceptions. At the end of my research in Ilhéus, a small coastal town in Bahia, Brazil, (in May 2013) I obtained interesting results and produced a research paper that was readable and maybe even, commendable to some. However, I knew that if I take into consideration my intentions and my research methodologies, the entire project was problematic, in other words, a total failure. My research involved interviewing a vulnerable population affected by Hansen's Disease, also known as, leprosy. When I thought back in order to reexamine the way I conducted my interviews, I realized that I might have overlooked some serious ethical concerns. Furthermore, at the time, I did not consider how my position as a student researcher from the US could shift power dynamics, affect my relationship with the people with Hansen's Disease, as well as any conversations I had with them. At times, desperate to produce a "coherent, successful result" I chose to dismiss anomalies and used interviews that aligned with the argument of my research. Perhaps most importantly, I disrupted the lives of people with leprosy and used them as research subjects and - however unintentionally - the fact that I might have caused harm in their lives and took advantage of their vulnerability makes me a guilty research. This presentation will problematize research - the intentions of researchers and the methodologies we employ by examining my own experiences conducting research in Brazil. It will also consider questions such as: what can one gain from a research failure? How can researchers mitigate the harm that they cause upon communities/subjects? Lastly the presentation will question the lack of discussion and transparency about research failure within academic settings while emphasizing the value of talking about these experiences.

Bethany Clarke '15

Major: Anthropology

Sponsor: Lisa Anderson-Levy

Gilford, New Hampshire

2:35 Mayer**Land of Wood and Water: Understanding
Landscape in Kingston, Jamaica**

The first known inhabitants of Jamaica, the Taino, named the island land of wood and water. In the hundreds of years that have passed, the name, Xamayca, remains the same and "the land" continues to be an integral piece of many Jamaican identities. This past summer, I spent three weeks conducting ethnographic research in Kingston and working at an internship at the National Ecology Agency. My ethnographic study focused particularly on city residents' movements through the green spaces of Kingston and the island of Jamaica and in what ways these movements constructed particular understandings of "the land." Through participant observation and over thirty interviews with a broad base of Jamaicans, I found that Kingston is experienced as landscape through an interconnected web of household food production, personal religious philosophies, and a native reaction to the tourist gaze. Many residents of Kingston are migrants from more rural parishes. In their movement away from the country, there is also a sense of loss as they leave the place they and many of their ancestors called home. This loss of place is wrestled with, suppressed, or reconciled in different ways depending on the individual. By understanding Kingston as a social landscape where peoples' actions construct their environment, my research highlights an evolving definition of uprootedness that characterizes urban Jamaicans' sense of self.

Paula Diamond '14

see page 24

3:00 SC 150

Mackenzie Endress '14

Beloit, Wisconsin

Majors: Economics; Mathematics

11:05 MI

Sponsor: Bob Elder

**How Do Rising Costs of Accommodation
Impact Students of the London School of
Economics Financially and Socially?**

I present the findings of the research project completed during my study abroad experience at the London School of Economics. The project was completed during two weeks of full-time research in the summer of

2013 through the LSE GROUPS undergraduate group research program with coauthors Tanieka Kargwal, Melissa Luki Andreany, and Bobak Saadat. The abstract of our paper follows:

"Students in London face the most expensive living costs in the United Kingdom with a significant part of their budgets allocated for paying accommodation fees. Thus, the increasing rents of student housing calls for research into the extent of the financial strain imposed on students and the resulting social consequences. In this paper, the rising costs of student housing in London are discussed in relation to their social and financial effects on LSE students. Despite evidence of increasing rents in London, there have been few studies on the resulting consequences. A survey of 101 LSE students was carried out via online and paper questionnaires supplemented by 2 follow-up interviews. The survey results are presented as descriptive statistics and contextualized with a thematic analysis of qualitative information obtained from interviews. The findings show that students are sensitive to the changing costs of accommodation, selecting housing further from LSE, and considering transferring to universities outside of London. Particularly, the data suggests that students from low-income backgrounds may not be able to afford participating in communal activities or rent shared-housing with their peers. Policymakers should re-evaluate the system of distributing housing and introduce new housing to ensure students receive housing appropriate for their budget and encourage a greater sense of community."

Tingting Fan '15

Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: Psychology

1:55 SC 150

Sponsor: Greg Buchanan

**Diagnosis and Treatment in a
Chinese Psychiatric Hospital**

In summer 2013 I completed an internship at the No. 8 Psychiatric Hospital of Zhengzhou in Henan province, China. I was able to meet with both doctors and patients in the hospital and will report on some case studies and on what I have learned about the differences between psychiatric care and mental illness in China and the United States. For example, Confucian ideology emphasizes personal duties and social goals rather than the more individual thoughts and goals seen in the West. Because of the emphasis on fulfilling responsibilities to family and society, one might expect that feelings of guilt and shame are more common psychological symptoms for Chinese

people. Similarly, attitudes about sex differ markedly between the two countries and this may also have different effects on psychopathology. In both countries, medical treatment is the main way these disorders are treated in psychiatric hospitals. But in China this is likely to involve traditional medicines as well as western medicine, which may or may not be to the patient's benefit.

Isaiah Farley '15

Majors: Geology; History
Minor: Medieval Studies
Sponsor: James Rougvie

Marquette, Michigan
3:00 SC 349

The Effects of Climate Change on Norwegian Glaciers and Fjords

Norway as a country evokes a sense of beauty in extremism, with tall mountains, frigid glaciers, and the deep fjords. While participating in the "From Mountain to Fjord" program in Sogndal, Norway during the fall of 2012 my class researched how climate change is affecting these Norwegian icons. We spent a large portion of the semester learning about how these features form and interact.

Throughout the semester we used a variety of analytical instruments and simple methods to measure properties of proglacial lakes and streams as well as the fjords that they ultimately enter into. We also acquired sediment cores from the fjords and analyzed them for age, sedimentation rates, and amount of organics. We documented the changes that are affecting the area, such as the retreat of glaciers and eutrophication of lakes, and compared our data with that of researchers from other locations in Norway and previous years of the program and found similar results all around.

Being in Norway provided a unique view on climate change as a concept. While the primary professor for the program was German there were several assisting Norwegian professors that also shared their views with us. This range of opinions from people in different fields gave us the opportunity to work with different methods of interpretation of data. This influence and the results of our research changed how I thought about climate change and how it relates to human influence.

Renée Gagner '14

Majors: Political Science; Psychology
Sponsor: Georgia Duerst-Lahti

Waukesha, Wisconsin
3:00 MI

Women as Leaders: Austrian Women Writers' Revolutionary Acknowledgement of Nazi Occupation

After World War II, Austria was reluctant to acknowledge its own passive role in its *Anschluss*, or occupation, by Nazi Germany. For a country which had only recently formed its own identity, Austrian government and citizens felt pressure to put these events behind them and move forward as a neutral nation. As a result, those who had a deep understanding of Austria's involvement, especially writers and other prominent figures, were silent.

Female writers, who were not dominant in Austrian literature at the time, had less status to risk than male writers and other prominent figures. As a result, they were the first group to acknowledge Austria's role in the *Anschluss*. This came first through thickly veiled, metaphorical stories, such as Marlen Haushofer's *We Are Killing Stella*. As a discourse began to open up, writers such as Ingeborg Bachmann were able to more directly speak about the occupation, its effects on Austrian citizens, and Austria's role in the war as a whole. By beginning to acknowledge the issues that many Austrians were eager to put out of their memories, female writers opened up a dialogue about World War II that eventually allowed the whole nation to participate.

During my time studying in Vienna, Austria, I had the opportunity to take a course about Austrian female writers from 1945 to the present. Much of this course focused on writers' reactions to World War II. By studying this topic while observing modern Austrians' views on the war, I had the opportunity to see how these writers' works opened up a discourse about the country's past. This symposium will synthesize my academic work about Austrian female writers and the *Anschluss* with my firsthand experiences of Austria's current discourse about this topic.

Eugenia (Daisy) Gaines '14

see page 24
9:35 Mayer

Zoe Gierman '15

see page 24
3:00 SC 150

Zoe Gierman '15

Majors: Education; Spanish

Sponsor: Kathy Greene

Sonja Darlington (Beloit College)

Seattle, Washington

10:15 SC 349**A Look Inside Private and Public Primary Education in Gaborone, Botswana**

Private or public schooling? Which one is more effective? It is a debate that exists in pretty much every country, but the intricacies of these debates vary each place you go.

My symposium will be exploring the differences between private, international schools in Botswana (a peaceful economically-sound country in southern Africa) and the public ones. Based off of research done while I was studying at the University of Botswana, there will be plenty of information about how public schools operate, their resources, and teaching pedagogies. I will also discuss a case study I completed while abroad on one of the more elite, international schools in the capital city, Gaborone. This will go into thorough detail of the resources, limitations, and pedagogies applied at international schools in Botswana.

Throughout the symposium, I will share small anecdotes from my time abroad, and will also discuss what I plan on doing in the future in relation to public and private schooling.

Hannah Haverkamp '14 New Brighton, Minnesota

Major: History

10:40 MI

Minor: Studio Art

Sponsors: Robert Lafleur and Ellen Joyce

**Mist, Mountains, and Song:
Geography and National Identity in
Historic and Modern Wales**

The numerous national and ethnic identities of the native British Isles have been shaped by myriad factors, including industrialization, language politics, and the geography of specific regions. This past academic year, I studied abroad at Aberystwyth University in Wales, where I took a class on the history of urbanization in Wales, during which we explored the impact that geography and social conditions have on urban development. In this symposium, I intend to use research conducted in the classroom setting as a jumping-off point for how these factors play into larger questions of Welsh identity.

Mountains, in particular, have been instrumental in shaping what “Welshness” is – during the Industrial Revolution they were the source of the coal that powered the British Empire. Workers flocked to them, creating towns like Merthyr Tydfil that stretched long and thin, winding along the narrow valley floors, thus giving rise to a type of ribbon industrial development that behaved more like a barracks than a civic center. Welsh mountains have been nutrient-poor hills only good for raising sheep on. They have been a defense against invaders, and an inspiration to poets both from within and without the culture. Today, they support a booming tourism industry that reinforces the identification of Wales with its mountains. Yet in many ways, the overidentification of Wales with its rurality can be problematic, whether by mummifying the culture in an idealized imagined space, or by focusing national energies on the preservation rather than the utilization of natural resources.

Maria Heath '14

Mt. Carroll, Illinois

Majors: Comparative Literature; Spanish

10:15 MI

Sponsor: Amy Tibbitts

**Traditional Flamenco and
Modern Social Ideals in Southern Spain**

Generally, when people think about Spain, one of the first images that comes to mind is flamenco music and women in brightly colored gypsy dresses. Is this representative of an authentic flamenco tradition or are these modern displays of flamenco the fabrication of an inauthentic idea of Spanish identity? Moreover, how does this ‘traditional’ culture, authentic or not, manifest itself in modern Spanish society?

Though I can’t claim to have definitive answers to these questions, my experiences with flamenco and Spanish culture in Andalucia (the southernmost region of Spain) have shown me that these issues are complex and ever-changing, especially in this time of economic unrest in modern Spain when protests are more common than fairs. Though it’s obvious that some manner of ‘traditional’ culture still exists in Southern Spain, how it interacts with the more modern, globally conscious Spanish culture is not often immediately clear.

In this symposium I will examine the relationship between the traditional Spanish self-expression of flamenco music and dance and the modern Spanish identity and modes of public self-expression in the social and political spheres. Starting with some history on the flamenco culture, I will use the April Fair of Seville as a

prime example of how this culture manifests itself in modern Spain, and I will make a comparison between this phenomenon and the newer tradition of public protests. I hope to shed some light on contemporary flamenco as both a historical and modern mode of cultural expression.

Daniel Hodorowski '14

Aurora, Illinois

Majors: International Relations; Russian

9:10 SC 150

Minor: Russian Studies

Sponsor: Donna Oliver

The Faces Behind the Flags: Football-Hooliganism and National Identity in Moscow

Football (soccer, as we call it here) is a passionate game. Plenty of sports have their passion; football, however, remains the most tribalistic among organized sports. The most average, seemingly mild-mannered man can turn into the vein-in-the-forehead, vulgar street fighter in response to a contentious game. While traveling in Moscow I hoped to find a connection between the football-hooligans that we see in movies, videos on the internet, and at stadiums and concepts of national identity and civil society in contemporary Russia. Being passionate about both soccer and identity politics, I posed some questions to myself prior to leaving for Moscow: In what ways does football-hooliganism in Russia reflect the interplay of alcoholism, nationalism, and racism? In what ways is football violence connected to economic disparity, social strife, and political crackdowns on dissent? In pursuing this project, I utilized research that was done on the phenomenon of football-hooliganism in Eastern Europe as well as on the band Pussy Riot, who were incarcerated for hooliganism last year. I next put my theory to the test by going to football matches in Moscow and having one-on-one conversations with the hooligans themselves. Between dodging bottles and vulgar chants from the crowd, I conducted my fieldwork in Moscow specifically, but I also applied it to a larger context of political affiliation and socialization of sport in Eastern Europe. My research has led me to conclude that football-hooliganism serves as a microcosm for the current nationalist/fascist movement in Russia, which uses racism, nationalistic narratives, and violence to enhance its political, social, and economic agenda.

Grace Holdinghaus '14

see page 23

9:10 MI

Narges Hussaini '14

see page 24

3:00 SC 150

Eunhye Jang '15

Seoul, Republic of Korea

Major: Media Studies

1:30 SC 150

Minor: Studio Art

Sponsor: Daniel Youd

The Power of Co-Working and Open Innovation

During the summer of 2013, I worked in Ask Lab, a social enterprise associated with Xindanwei, the first co-working community in China. My presentation will discuss the nature and advantages of "co-working" through two interrelated events that I coordinated with my coworkers: i.e., "Student Bootcamp" and "Audi App Jam". Both of these projects aimed to create innovative Apps for cars of the future; Student Bootcamp had for its target audience students, whereas Audi App Jam was targeted at professionals. Our Ask Lab team gathered talented people from different fields such as programmers, designers, marketers etc. In the Audi App Jam event, 6 teams were made up of a diverse range of professionals. The teams pitched their ideas and developed them into prototypes. During the two-day event, I observed the synergy of co-working. Under normal working conditions, designers usually only work with other designers; similarly, programmers also only work with other techie people. In the co-working environment, however, they get chance to work with people from other fields, thereby increasing opportunities for unexpected insights. Without individuals from a variety of fields, there most certainly would not have been the same level of energy and creativity. From this event, I have learned about the significant power of co-working. I believe this is meaningful because co-working with people from different fields can produce more creative ways of thinking.

Karen Jones '15

Portage, Michigan

Major: Health and Society

10:40 SC 349

Minor: Biology

Sponsor: Katie Johnson

Eye Care and Global Health in Ghana

The Eye Care System in Ghana is a new and quickly developing system. Unite for Sight is a global health delivery organization that works within this system, hoping to eradicate preventable blindness in Ghana. Unite for Sight partners with local eye clinics throughout Ghana and

provides them with resources that enable them to administer care to a greater number of people. As a Global Health Impact Fellow with Unite for Sight, I went on outreaches to rural villages where we provide eye care to the villagers, assisting with visual acuity testing and administering drugs and glasses prescribed by the optometrist.

The Eye care system in Ghana is one very narrow aspect of global health. However, before going on this endeavor, my internship provided online training pertaining to global health and health aid organizations. This training on the ethics of global health work, cultural competency, effective health education, and sustainable development allowed me to learn about the theories of appropriate global health conduct. The ability to learn about these theories and then apply them and experience them firsthand was very powerful and made the experience much more meaningful.

In my presentation, I will talk about my experience assisting with the delivery of eye care in this developing country and what that has taught me about the larger issues surrounding global health.

Matej Jungwirth '15 Prague, Czech Republic
Majors: International Relations; Comparative Literature
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty **9:35 SC 349**

Educating for Peace: Volunteer Insights From Nablus, the West Bank

For five weeks in summer 2013, I volunteered with Project Hope, a Canadian-Palestinian NGO in Nablus. Nablus is the largest city in the West Bank (the “uncrowned queen of Palestine”) and its society is undoubtedly one of the most conservative in the Palestinian territories. Moreover, it is a home to some of the largest refugee camps in the West Bank, Balata and Askar, which are over 60 years old. During my stay with Project Hope I taught English and played soccer with Palestinian youth from the refugee camps and from neighboring villages.

Living in the very heart of the Palestinian territories for over a month gave me some insight into what exactly it takes to live 24/7 under the shadow of Israel’s military presence. However, from my numerous conversations with local Palestinians, it became clear that many of them despise their own Fatah-dominated government (which was long overdue with holding Palestinian elections) at least as much as they despise Israel’s continuing settlement of their land.

For many of the Palestinians who took classes at Project Hope, language proficiency represented a coveted opportunity to leave their homeland for Europe or the US. According to Project Hope’s director, by offering classes spanning from art and theatre to languages to film-making it can “introduce a normality of life to children living under abnormal circumstances.”

During my stay in Nablus I also had the opportunity to form lasting friendships with other international volunteers from over ten different countries. It was very interesting to observe the different and sometimes very strong preconceptions with which these people came to Palestine and the eagerness with which some engaged in political protests outside the activities of Project Hope. Although I was receptive to the Palestinian plight, I took no part in these protests since I believed that would inappropriately transform my role from that of teacher to political activist.

Matej Jungwirth '15 Prague, Czech Republic
Majors: International Relations; Comparative Literature **1:05 MI**
Sponsor: Daniel Brueckenhaus

Bitter Fruit of the Black Garden: Hiking in Nagorny Karabakh

This past summer I organized a two-week hiking trip to the remote region of Nagorny Karabakh in the Lower Caucasus. Tucked tightly between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Nagorny Karabakh is an elevated swathe of very fertile land, about the size of Rhode Island. This region lay at the crossroads of many ancient civilizations, and the name itself includes elements of three languages – Persian, Turkish and Russian – and literally stands for “mountainous black garden.”

Twenty years ago this region, which fell under the governance of the Azerbaijani Soviet Republic although inhabited by an Armenian majority, became the center of a contentious dispute between the Armenian and Azerbaijani Soviets. Many scholars argue that this civil war, the first ever to occur within the Soviet Union, represented the beginning of a chain of events that ultimately led to the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Nowadays Nagorny Karabakh is a poor and underdeveloped entity whose statehood is not respected even by Armenia, the country that yields a de facto military and political influence over the region. While hiking there we had the unique opportunity to explore its beautiful nature, and early Christian heritage. More importantly, however, we had many opportunities to

speak with local Armenians about their perceptions of the recent war, their political situation, and their disappeared Azeri neighbors, all of whom were forcibly removed from Armenia and Karabakh into Azerbaijan, thus making that country the world's leader in per capita refugee count. This movement happened in the opposite direction as well, as almost all Azerbaijani Armenians were transferred to Armenia.

Although this conflict is no less interesting and complex than the Balkan wars, it seems to be much less prominent in the Western consciousness. It is a fascinating example of ethnic hatred that is induced from above, by the political elites, rather than by long-standing animosities between two nations. The words of one farmer from the Togh village capture it well: "There is no such thing as bad nation – only bad people."

Margaret Kepley '15

Falls Church, Virginia

Majors: Education and Youth Studies; International Relations

Sponsor: Bill New

1:30 MI

Road to Hell: The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in the Social Exclusion of Czech Roma

During the 1950s, the communist government of Czechoslovakia began relocating Roma from rural Slovakia to Czech cities to work in the local factories. By the time the democratic Czech Republic came into being in 1993 most of the local factories had closed and the Roma found themselves unemployed. Along with the end of communism came the deterioration of the social safety net, which had insured the employment of Roma. As a result there have been many Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and considerable European Union legislation created around the issue of 'social exclusion' in the Czech Republic and other post-communist countries. NGOs suffer from a double-edged sword: on one side they were created to help and better the lives of the Roma. On the other side, in order to maintain legitimacy and funding from private and government donors they must focus more on the desires of the donors than the Roma. Due to this double bind that NGOs are caught in, they have become ineffective in achieving their ultimate goal, which in this case is to stop the process of 'social exclusion' for Czech Roma. I will examine the role NGOs, particularly Open Society Institute and People in Need, in ameliorating and sustaining the 'social exclusion' of Czech Roma. I have chosen to focus on texts from George Soros, Open Society Institute and People in Need which demonstrate

how NGOs have decreased and/or perpetuated Roma 'social exclusion'.

Alen Kerić '14

Konjic, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Major: Performance and Media Studies

1:05 SC 349

Minor: Political Science and German

Sponsor: John Kaufmann

Interning through Chicago's Lookingglass

From May to August in 2012, I had a three month long internship at the Lookingglass Theatre Company in Chicago. I lived and worked in one of the biggest theatre cities in the world. As an Arts Administration and Development intern, I traveled an intense journey during which I was welcomed into a friendly and collegial professional community.

I had the opportunity to engage in the development of several theatre shows for the company's 25th Season, write a program article for a Tony-Award winning show and do a lot of networking in the Chicago theatre community. As a Beloit, I also wanted to bring my experience back to campus. By now, with the help of B.I.T.E. (Beloit Independent Theatre Experience) and the Theatre Dance and Media Studies department, I have visited the theatre with two groups of fellow students to watch some of their work.

The experience of the internship has helped me to get a sense of what Chicago's Theatre-world looks like, if this is what I want to do in the future, test my value in the theatre job-market and have some major questions answered, such as: How to get a job? How to live in a big city and use your connections well?

Besides answering these big questions with this symposium, I hope to tell the campus about the key lessons that I learned through my Lookingglass experience.

Claire Kern '14

see page 24

9:35 Mayer

Amanda Lawnicki '14

Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Major: International Relations, Russian

8:45 SC 150

Sponsor: Donna Oliver

Comrade Kamen:* Practices of Post-Soviet Memorialization in Eastern Europe

A towering sculpture of Lenin is not exactly what I expected to find in the middle of Kharkov, Ukraine. But there he was, only a short walk from the statue of

Shevchenko (the professed father of Ukrainian literature), which also handily serves as a nationalist (read: anti-Russian) rallying point.

The juxtaposition of these two sculptures represents a physical manifestation of current post-Soviet memorialization trends in Eastern Europe. On one extreme, the Moscow city government proposed re-installing the statue of Felix Dzerzhinsky (former head of the Soviet secret police) to its original place in the city. On the other, Hungary only recently lifted its ban on the use of Communist symbols, such as the iconic five-pointed red star.

In my presentation, I will trace the stone versions of Lenin and his followers across multiple borders, piecing together the memorial practices I witnessed in four ex-Communist countries (Russia, Ukraine, Poland, and Hungary), in an attempt to find out if Lenin (and his legacy) is truly buried in the past, or if he has been resurrected as a symbol of a lost era. What is it that drives post-Soviet memorialization: the pain of the past, or nostalgia for it?

**Kamen (камень, камінь, kamień)* is the word for stone in Russian, Ukrainian, and Polish respectively.

Amanda Lawnicki '14 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Major: International Relations, Russian **3:25 MI**
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty
Elma Hašimbegović (The Bosnian Historical Museum)

From Impressions to Expressions: Visitor Books and the Memory of the Siege of Sarajevo

This past May, I had the opportunity to work with the Bosnian Historical Museum in Sarajevo. Because visitor impression books are an exceptionally useful and underutilized resource for both those seeking to improve the museum, as well as for those looking to understand the impact of cultural memory and memorial space more holistically, I chose to document and study the visitor books of the museum's Besieged Sarajevo exhibit.

The purpose of my research was an attempt to understand how both international visitors and locals are navigating the recent past, specifically in regards to the Siege of Sarajevo (1992-96).

Though there was a range of comments, from compliments to criticisms, they shared many commonalities and can be broken down into a few main categories. Primarily, these comments highlighted the dual identity of the museum both as a place of memory

and a space for learning – identities that are currently being threatened by the lack of political interest in providing funds for the Historical Museum and several other cultural institutions around the city.

Rebecca Lewis '14 Paynesville, Missouri
Major: Anthropology **1:30 Mayer**
Sponsors: Lisa Anderson-Levy and Nancy Krusko

Ackee and Saltfish: Food and Identity in Jamaica

Identity is not a tidy package with which we are born. Identities are acquired over time and we learn to perform various aspects of our identities in myriad ways. We typically think of identity being performed through language, dress, art, music, dance, and the list goes on. But what about food? It is essential to life, but it is not simply a form of nourishment. Peoples' preferences and taste speak to their conceptualization of authenticity, national identity, and social hierarchy. In the particular case of Jamaica, a country whose history is marked by slavery, colonialism, immigration, and a huge tourist industry, food plays an important role in understanding how culture is performed. This study explores what is considered traditional Jamaican food, and how foods come to be understood as such, and compares this to what people eat on a daily basis. Here, I use the term traditional as participants chose to define it: by asking them what they considered traditional, and taking into account all similar responses. Research for this study was conducted over a three week period (May 19- June 9, 2013) in Jamaica. Approximately ten interviews and observation in food stores and restaurants contributed to the data collected. Previous research done by Wilk (1999), has focused on Belize, and examined the relationships among food, nation, and the codification of cuisine. Arnason's (1990) social theories about nations demonstrate that nationalism can provide a homogenizing, and therefore unifying, effect for disparate groups of people, and ultimately legitimize a nation's power. My work draws on both of these to better understand how, for example, something like ackee and saltfish becomes a national symbol.

Ethan Ley '14 see page 24
9:35 Mayer

Ethan Ley '14

Majors: Spanish; History
Sponsor: Sylvia Lopez

Jaffrey, New Hampshire
10:15 Mayer

Struggling Against an Unsupportive Culture and State: An NGO in Quito, Ecuador

The Republic of Ecuador in recent years has undergone a process of decentralization and economic reform under the current administration of President Rafael Correa. Within this changing context, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have found their roles changing with regards to the social groups they serve.

As part of my study abroad experience in Quito, Ecuador during spring 2013, I visited and volunteered at an NGO in the south of Quito. The Centro de la Niña Trabajadora (Center for the Working Girl, CENIT) is a non-profit NGO that devotes itself to helping working children and their families. CENIT offers various programs designed to provide educational opportunities to underprivileged populations that often do not have the means or options available to receive these resources from other organizations and/or entities.

During my short time there I was able to work as a volunteer, and in part as an observer of the workings of this organization. After speaking at length with volunteers and briefly with administrative employees, it became clear that the organization continues to function under the weight of its own financial, rhetorical, and social problems. Unfortunately, the process of decentralization and economic reform, coupled with the abovementioned problems, has pushed the volunteers and employees of CENIT to become the only foundation and support for CENIT's continued survival in the context of a state and culture that doesn't fully support it.

In this presentation I will discuss these ideas in the context of the Ecuadorian state and the culture on which CENIT is based.

Mayu López '15

Major: International Relations
Minor: Chinese
Sponsor: Daniel Youd

Quito, Ecuador
8:45 Mayer

Intercultural Communication: An Internship in Chinese, English, and Spanish

In an increasingly globalized world, becoming culturally aware is extremely important for success. The ability to communicate effectively with people from different cultures is a valuable and transferable quality. For one month this summer, I interned at Sinohydro Corporation's offices in Ecuador. Sinohydro Corporation (中国水电) is a Chinese company that specializes in power and infrastructure. As the largest foreign investor in the country, Sinohydro is constructing a two billion dollar power plant that will replace 60% of Ecuador's electrical energy in the next two years. I worked in the human resource department in Quito and my duties included helping with simple translations and interdepartmental communication. My coworkers were both Chinese and Ecuadorians and everyone who worked at the company spoke English. We worked in an environment in which Chinese, English, and Spanish were all appropriate and necessary languages to communicate. By observing the different interactions of my coworkers and reflecting on my own experiences I became more attuned to the difficulties and complexities of intercultural communication. This symposium will explore the meaning of intercultural communication and its significance in an office setting. Additionally, it will provide some suggestions on how to be successful in a multicultural environment in a professional setting.

Devin Lundy '14

Major: Art History
Sponsor: Joy Beckman

Davenport, Iowa
3:25 SC 349

Learning Ethnohistorical Archaeology in Mexico

While the Spanish Conquest brought an end to Aztec rule of Postclassic Mexico, the myriad cultures previously under Aztec domination have continued to thrive to the present. During my exploration of Central and Southern Mexico this summer as part of an archaeological field school, I found it common to hear people speaking in

Zapotec and Mixtec, languages spoken by the Oaxacan nobility prior to Spanish intervention.

The Mixtec, Zapotec, and Nahuatl nobility referred to themselves as "Children of the Plumed Serpent," tracing their ancestry to the human incarnation of the Plumed Serpent deity, Quetzalcoatl, mythical king of the first great Postclassic city, Tula. From major centers in Central and Southern Mexico such as Cholula and Zaachila, an ethnically diverse nobility of Zapotecs, Mixtecs, and Nahuas engaged in the extensive trade of luxury goods. Deerskin codices and polychrome vessels from these societies display remarkably similar iconographic and stylistic traits. These similarities can be attributed to the desire of these related societies to communicate across linguistic barriers.

While I learned the history of the Postclassic Children of the Plumed Serpent from daily visits to museums and archaeological sites across Central and Southern Mexico, I also experienced their descendants' culture by participating in craft demonstrations, taking part in village tours, and visiting sacred shrines where non-Christian rituals continue to be performed. I will demonstrate in my presentation that the cultural continuity between the Postclassic Mixtecs, Zapotecs, and Nahuas and their descendants gives us a better perspective on the archaeology and art of Postclassic Mexico.

Sophie Maloney '14

St. Paul, Minnesota

Major: Environmental Studies

9:10 Mayer

Sponsor: Yaffa Grossman

Xavier Silva (School for International Training)

Cultural and Political Approaches to Environmentalism in Ecuador and Consequences for International Conservation Programs

Ecuador is considered to be one of the most biodiverse countries in the world; unfortunately the natural habitats in Ecuador are quickly disappearing due to mining, deforestation, and oil extraction. In the spring of 2013, I studied abroad with the SIT Ecuador: Comparative Ecology and Conservation program. To improve our understanding of the environmental efforts of organizations that work to combat the rapid depletion of biodiverse ecosystems, I completed a semester-long group project, which reviewed all of the large environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Ecuador.

We found that environmentalism activities in Ecuador focus mainly on conservation, sustainable development, and protection of indigenous communities. Most organizations work towards protecting biodiverse areas, researching ecosystems, and assisting in sustainable development of indigenous communities in these regions.

We found that the main constraints on conservation efforts in Ecuador are bureaucracy, the laws regarding land rights, the exploitative mindset of the government, and the inconsistent legal status of environmental organizations. Another constraint on these organizations is funding, however available funds were often not the primary constraint on conservation efforts.

International environmental organizations provide funding and stability to conservation projects in Ecuador. However, these organizations often struggle to support long-term conservation projects. This symposium presentation evaluates the efficacy of international organizations with regards to specific cultural and political realities.

Rachel McCarty '14

Kansas City, Missouri

Major: Anthropology

10:40 SC 150

Minor: Environmental Studies

Sponsor: Jennifer Esperanza

Everything is Possible: A Beginner's Mind Approach to Autonomous Learning

The junior year of college at Beloit brings with it the exciting and daunting expectation of "going abroad" to enrich our learning, broaden our horizons, take a break from Beloit and come back anew. But what does it mean to "go abroad" and why are so many of us doing it at this pivotal year of our education? Furthermore, what constitutes "success" in our study abroad experiences and how does we go beyond compartmentalizing the memories?

This push to "go abroad" influenced my choice to seek out an internship in India, where I spent my Spring '13 semester. In preparation, I secured myself a focus with a faculty-approved research project. I knew exactly what I wanted to get out of the experience and how to measure the success. And then I arrived, and everything was different.

For weeks I felt bombarded by culture shock and the pressure to complete my specific assignment or else return a failure. In all my planning I hadn't accounted for the time to pursue my personal interests outside of research. Eventually I released my expectations, choosing

instead to follow the directions of my observant intuition. Choosing to release my assumptions, embrace my beginner's mind, and explore the infinite unknown of the land and the people that lay before me.

The Spring brought for me encounters with backpacker culture, rural agriculture, community seed resilience, permaculture, multiple religious expressionism and pilgrimage acts, spiritual ecology, globalization and the impacts of tourism, issues of water and food security. All the while teaching me the constant practice of self-reflexivity in field observations, the power of being in the present moment, and autonomous and experiential learning.

Hannah McNamee '15 Mahtomedi, Minnesota
Major: Psychology **9:10 SC 349**
Minor: Health and Society
Sponsor: Lawrence T. White

Israel's Impact on My Jewish Identity

I'm Jewish. This is a simple statement, but it is one of the most important statements I use to describe myself. Judaism has always been important to me, yet I have always had to fight hard to identify with it. My parents sent me to religious school, I was Bat Mitzvahed, I went to Jewish camp every summer, and I celebrated every Jewish holiday. However, growing up in a predominantly Christian community with parents who were supportive yet uninterested in Judaism was frustrating. I desperately craved a Jewish-driven life like those of my camp friends. I wanted to celebrate Shabbat, keep kosher, and speak Hebrew at home. Most of all I wanted to go to Israel.

This past summer I finally spent 2 months in Israel and felt at home from day one. Being in Israel was everything I dreamed of while growing up. Without even trying, I was thrust into my idealized world of Jewishness. It was as if the entire country was acting as my parents and enforcing a Jewish lifestyle on me. Shabbat is celebrated every week, everyone speaks Hebrew, everyone fights for their country, and being Jewish is as normal and expected as celebrating Christmas is in the United States.

In this presentation I will get to the root of my idealization of the Jewish lifestyle and answer several questions. Why didn't the Western Wall meet my expectations? Why was the bus the most "Jewish" place in Israel? Why do I now feel brave enough to shoot a gun? Why did I sometimes feel more at home in an unfamiliar country than the place where I grew up? All these

questions are pieces to my "Jewish Identity" puzzle, and after going to Israel the pieces are finally starting to fit together.

Nicholas Mischler '14 see page 24
3:00 SC 150

Jacy Pieper '14 see page 24
3:00 SC 150

Michelle (Yixuan) Ping '15 Dalian, China
Majors: Economics; Math **Poster 11:30 SC 150**
Sponsor: Jingjing Lou

The Changing Ecology of Rural Schooling and Rural Society in China: Observations from My Volunteer Work with Rural Chinese Children through Dream Corp

Human ecology, referring to the study of the relationship between human and their surrounding social and built environment, is playing an important role throughout life in rural China. In rural China, with the rapid growth of the national economy and with the increasing working opportunities in cities, it is a normal phenomenon that parents go to the city to earn a better living for their family. Therefore they have to leave their children with their grandparents in the village. There are two immediate results of this movement, and both have tremendously altered the human ecology of the rural society. First, with many adult labors leaving for city, the local agricultural and industry (if any) production have dropped drastically. Second, young children and the elderly have been left alone in the village, lacking of proper care. In particular, for the "left-behind children", with little attention from their parents and without proper policies from the government, their growth in all aspects, from academic to psychological, has encountered great challenges. So how will the education in school and at home influence their development? What is their view of this society? Where will they choose to stay when they grow up? These decisions will in return influence future development of the ecology of the local society.

I had a chance to observe rural China closely through joining Dream Corps, which is a non profit organization dedicated to promoting reading among children in rural China by opening resourceful libraries and developing reading programs. I visited elementary schools in three provinces and five different sites in rural China. Through helping the schools set up the library system and teaching

reading classes there, I got involved into rural students' life. Through chatting and teaching classes, I got to know what rural kids thought about this world. I learned so much about the difficulties of their life and the problems that they encounter in life. It is a valuable chance for me to fully immerse myself to rural life, which varies a lot from what the books had said. It also allows me to examine the changes of local ecology in rural Chinese society, from the perspective of the rural children.

Caitlin Rankin '14

Sligo, Pennsylvania

Major: Anthropology, Environmental Geology

2:35 SC 349

Sponsor: Sue Swanson

Communicating in Different Languages: Working on an Icelandic Sheep Farm

"Language barrier" is a phrase used to describe the difficulties faced when people who have no language in common attempt to communicate with one another. The issue of potential language barriers is often the first to come up when considering an abroad experience, as the ability of a person to verbally communicate with the members of his or her host country is typically seen as the most essential requirement for study abroad. In this presentation I will share my experiences working on an Icelandic sheep farm, where I lived and worked with a man with whom I did not share a common language. Despite the language barrier between us, I was still able to learn how to raise and birth sheep, how to drive 5-speed, and how to ride the unique gaits of the Icelandic horse. My experience at the farm would have been entirely different had we shared a common language. However, the language barrier did not lessen my experience, as it taught me how to communicate without a shared language.

Jessica J. Ritenhouse '16

Winchester, Massachusetts

Major: Anthropology

10:40 Mayer

Sponsor: Kylie Quave

The *Cuy* and His Place in the Hearts, Kitchens, and Excavation Pits of Peru

One of the only things I knew about Peru before I had decided to go there was that Peruvians ate guinea pig, or *cuy*. Because of that fact, I knew that I was going to be in for a culture shock when I went to spend a month in Peru over the summer. I went to Peru in order to help Professor Kylie Quave conduct faunal analysis of an Inca

site that had been excavated the previous year. Through this experience I learned how to catalogue artifacts, how to gather data on specific artifacts, and how to identify different animal bones.

When we weren't working on the animal bones, I was able to immerse myself in Peruvian culture. One of the cultural symbols that kept appearing in the faunal remains, throughout the festivals, and in the traditions of Peruvian life was the *cuy*. A few times we went to visit a Peruvian family living in a rural town just outside of Cusco. The *cuy*s living in the family's house would scuttle around our feet, eating up potato skins and corn kernels that we threw on the ground.

The bones of *cuy*s have appeared in the archaeological remains of Inca and other Andean cultures for a long time. The research I conducted in Peru was no exception. What bones found in excavation pits do not show is the larger significance that the *cuy* plays in the Peruvian culture up through today. The role these furry little animals serve in Peru, goes far beyond the "house-pet" that they are here in the United States. By stepping outside of the cultural norms of my own country, I was able to see that some of our taboos are actually quite delicious.

Megan Slavish '14

Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: Health and Society

11:05 SC 349

Minor: Political Science

Sponsor: Marion Fass

Beyond Health Care: Stories and Social Determinants of Health in India, Argentina, and Southern Africa

"If the politicians lived here, it would not look this," said Duke, the man I sat next to on the Route 88 New Orleans bus. We were riding through the ravaged Lower Ninth Ward, a neighborhood still struggling to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Duke did not have health care, but that was not the only thing preventing him from living a healthy life.

Whether it is in America or abroad, healthy communities are not just about health care systems.

South Africa has a progressive constitution but is still struggling to provide basic human rights in the aftermath of an oppressive apartheid regime. India places high importance on family relationships and education but has a deplorable record of violence against women. Argentina has national health insurance but struggles to provide care to rural citizens and indigenous people. Botswana

has a national antiretroviral program, but community norms prevent many from going to the pharmacy to obtain free drugs.

In all of these countries, the social determinants of health— such as political economy, access, and community norms— have a profound impact on health outcomes. Mitigating epidemics of infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, or even violence, then, cannot be solved by health care reform alone.

This presentation will highlight key social determinants of health in these four countries by using quotes and stories from those who are perhaps best qualified to design solutions: local community members and experts. These anecdotal examples will be framed within the political economy and overall health landscape with the goal of using stories to both inform public health efforts and better conceptualize the broad definition of health.

This presentation will be based on my experiences on ACM's program at the University of Botswana-Gaborone in spring 2012 and on International Honors Program's comparative health program in spring 2013.

Traci Spacek '14

Majors: Literary Studies; Religious Studies

Sponsors: Lisa Anderson-Levy and Nancy Krusko

Evanston, Illinois

1:55 Mayer

"Keeping it True": An Ethnographic Study of the Evolution of Contemporary Jamaican Fiction through a Post-Colonial Lens

Jamaica formally gained independence from Britain on August 6, 1962, but colonial influence continued across the island, and remains deeply rooted in Jamaican society. Erupting from decades of forced silence emerged the voices of Jamaicans looking to re-write this history and present to Jamaica, and the world, the identities of Jamaican people from their point of view. The literary genre of creative fiction from the West Indies, and Jamaica in particular, flourished in the post-colonial era, and continues to evolve. The works of Caribbean authors and their fiction has largely been studied and critiqued through the lens of post-colonial literary studies, many times presented as perceptions of national identity through characters at home and abroad. This study, influenced by Postcolonial Studies and Maroon Studies frames, will provide a brief history of the evolution of the Jamaican fiction genre through literary analysis paired with ethnographic research conducted in Kingston over the course of three weeks during the summer of 2013. I

examine how readership and publication in Jamaica have affected the development of the genre. I will focus on the works and words of three lesser-known contemporary Jamaican authors; Marcus Bird and his first novel *Sex, Drugs & Jerk Chicken*, Diana McCaulay and her novel *Huracan*, and a short story titled "The Red Dress" by Dr. Kim Robinson. My analyses of both conversations with and readings of the works from these three authors will expose what I have identified as the more recent shifts in the post-colonial identities represented in Jamaican fiction.

Carolyn Stransky '15

Seattle, Washington

Major: Media Studies

Minors: Journalism; Political Science

Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

8:45 SC 349

Advantages of Being an Athlete Abroad

Nationally, the number of collegiate athletes who study abroad is lower than for other students. In most Division I programs, it is very unlikely that athletes will be able to study abroad. However, in Division II or III athletics, it is more likely that student athletes can participate in off-campus programs. At Division III schools like Beloit, many coaches and administrators find that studying abroad helps fulfill the ideal of equipping students to thrive after graduation in an increasingly globalized society. If this is the case, then why do fewer than 20 percent of the student athletes on campus take advantage of this opportunity?

As a volleyball player, athletics were naturally a factor in my decision on whether to study abroad. I was hesitant about my ability to stay in shape in a foreign country, how missing spring practices would affect my performance on the court, and what spending eight months away from my teammates would do to our team dynamic. Ultimately I decided that the risk would be worth the reward and I spent my spring 2013 semester in Istanbul, Turkey. Upon arriving, I realized that being an athlete shaped the way I interpreted situations and how I was able to handle challenges. Plus, I found many alternative methods to remain in the best condition possible.

In this session, I will report recent research undertaken on this topic, factors potentially affecting study abroad enrollment patterns within Beloit College athletics, and findings from interviews I conducted with Buccaneer coaches and athletes about decision-making related to study abroad. I will then discuss how these results have helped lead to ways to encourage more

athletes to take advantage of an experience that for myself and many others has been a transformative and integral part of the Beloit education, athletic experience, and personal growth.

Lucile Tepsa '14

Houghton, Michigan

Major: Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Biology

1:30 SC 349

Sponsor: Suzanne Cox

A Cross-cultural Exploration of How Childbirth Care Providers in Washington D.C. and Copenhagen, DK, Integrate Maternal Autonomy into Their Practices

Professional organizations that issue guidelines for obstetric care claim to place priority on ensuring maternal and fetal safety and preserving client autonomy. In practice, however, obstetric guidelines are often more limited in scope, and are based solely on perceived fetal safety risk. Relatively less attention is given to factors in a woman's social, economic, or cultural context that might contradict the care protocol indicated by this perceived risk. In addition, a variety of structural barriers, misinformation, and pressures from family, friends, and society complicate the ability for women to make autonomous decisions regarding birth.

The midwifery model seeks to provide a more holistic approach to childbirth care by emphasizing a prospective view of risk and a flexible interpretation of the "normal" birth. An exploration of childbirth care practices in Copenhagen, Denmark and Washington, D.C. showed that a health care provider's professional title or training does not always indicate the childbirth care model under which the provider practices. The degree to which care providers emphasize maternal autonomy in their practices varies widely between and within the fields of midwifery and obstetrics. This evidence underscores the importance for prospective childbirth care clients of carefully exploring the unique practices of a given care provider, regardless of professional title, rather than assuming that all midwives practice under the midwifery model and obstetricians under the obstetric model.

Phong Tran '14

Hanoi, Vietnam

Major: International Relations, International Political Economics

Minor: Japanese

11:05 SC 150

Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

Japanese Criminal Justice

In 2010, among the OECD countries, Japan had the second lowest homicide rate: 0.5 cases per 100,000, 10 times lower than the US (5.0/100,000) and 36 times lower than Mexico (18.1/100,000). For rape, Japan had 1.1 cases per 100,000, 90 times lower than Australia (91.2/100,000) and 60 times lower than Sweden (58.6/100,000). For robbery, Japan's rate was a mere 4/100,000; 450 times lower than Belgium (1762/100,000). In fact, Japan can be considered to be the country with the lowest crime rate in the OECD.

Crime in Japan has been a unique and interesting phenomenon. Compared to its peers, not only are its crime rates significantly lower in almost every major category, they have also been consistently low for the last few decades, a feat that is even more extraordinary given the fact that Japan is one of the most populous and densely populated countries in the world. During my semester in Japan, I had the chance to study the Japanese criminal justice system, and this exceptional case sparked further interest in me. Thus, my symposium extends the research from my study in Japan, and seeks to understand the Japanese justice system and find some plausible explanation to this phenomenon.

Hana Vacková '15

Olomouc, Czech Republic

Major: Education and Youth Studies

Minor: Anthropology

1:55 MI

Sponsors: Jennifer Esperanza and William New

Hristo Kyuchukov (Free University of Berlin)

Reflexivity & Fieldwork: The Trials and Tribulations of a Novice Field Researcher among the Roma in the Czech Republic

"Mistakes can be creative: they produce crises, fruitful enmities, and embarrassments and make personal relations more dramatic than if one were always the smooth and poised observer." - David Riesman

Doing research is never what one imagines it to be; it is almost certain one will be confronted with many obstacles and make mistakes in the process. During the summer of 2013, I assisted a professor from The Free University of Berlin conduct his research in the Czech Republic, my home country. The research consisted of

scheduling and implementing linguistic tests which were developed to map the linguistic competencies of pre-school Roma children, who are on the margins of the Czech society as well as the Czech educational system.

Rather than focusing on the logistics of the summer project and the tests themselves, I would like to focus on the process and the experience of being in the field and working in the Roma community. My presentation will examine how I, as a research assistant, had to unpack my positionality and the identities that influenced the outcomes of my fieldwork. By drawing from personal stories from the field as well as other unanticipated obstacles encountered by professional ethnographers, I hope to uncover the complexity of doing fieldwork, and suggest some takeaway guidelines for future student researchers.

Meghan Walsh '14

Major: Health & Society
Sponsor: Marion Fass

Chicago, Illinois
1:55 SC 349

A Comparative Look at Midwifery and Obstetric Care in Denmark and the United States

Every year, midwives in Denmark oversee 100% of births. The rate of cesarean sections of 15% contrasts with 33% in the United States. Unlike the United States, midwifery care is highly respected and an essential feature of obstetric care in Denmark. This past semester I took a life-changing course called, Pregnancy, Birth, and Infancy in Denmark where I learned about how the Danish healthcare system cares for mother and child from conception, through pregnancy, and into early childhood. While abroad, my sister was pregnant, thus I learned firsthand how contrasting the care she would have received had she been in Denmark.

Learning and realizing the vast differences between the health care systems and how they manifest into social changes that affect childbirth, this course sparked and cemented a career goal in midwifery. In my presentation, I would like to share my experiences as an American learning about the societal and healthcare effects on Danish people as they plan to start their families and how it changed my life. This symposium will explore questions surrounding how cultural values affect childbirth, why forms of pain relief vary so greatly between countries, and why I believe the midwifery model should be imposed and celebrated here in the United States.

Faye Wassinger '15

see page 24
9:35 Mayer

Patricia Weber '14

Gurnee, Illinois
Major: Education and Youth Studies: Youth and Society
Minors: Health and Society; Music
Sponsor: Kathleen Greene
Shawna Silverhand (SIT Study Abroad)

11:30 SC 349

Queer Zines as Educational Tools for Gender and Sexuality: A Study on Amsterdam's Queer Squatting Community

During my time in Amsterdam from September 2012 to December 2012, I was researching how queer zines can be educational tools for gender and sexuality (zines are self-made publications; independent magazines). To answer this question, I had to find out where zines were being used in The Netherlands. I found a shop called Bookie Wookie that sold art zines and another shop called Fort van Sjakoo that sold more anarchist and feminist zines. Through interactions with people of the queer and squatting community, I discovered that queer zines were starting to be used, but only within a small group of the queer squatters (squatting is occupying an unoccupied piece of land/area/building). A collective opened up a Queer and Feminist Zine and Comic Archive on December 1st, 2012 in the basement of Fort van Sjakoo.

Queer zines were not widely made in the past, and right now they are starting to be created within the same queer squatting group, so most of my research is from five interviews of queers and squatters related to how zines have been used in the past and what this could mean for the future. Thus, the second part of the main research question became, how is Amsterdam's queer squatting community using queer zines? I will be using the interviews conducted and the five queer Dutch zines that are the only queer Dutch zines published (at least to the knowledge of my interviewees and of my research during practicum at the International Homosexual Lesbian Information-center Archive).

I attempt to answer the question, why are queer zines being used presently to educate on gender and sexuality in The Netherlands? I need to go back to Amsterdam and do further research in order to completely know the answer to this question. The history of zines, the queer community, and the squatting community will be reviewed to understand the research questions more in depth.

Marian Whitaker '14

Des Moines, Iowa

Major: Classical Civilizations and Creative Writing

8:45 MI

Sponsor: Kosta Hadavas

**May Her Tongue Become Lead and Stab
Her Tongue: Curse Tablets of Ancient
Greece and Rome**

Revenge, Sex, and Magic. It's like an ancient version of BC Confessions.

Want to get rid of your crush's girlfriend? Need your opponent in football to sprain his ankle? Crave revenge for whoever stole your bike? Consider the ancient form of curse tablets to help solve all of your life problems.

Curse tablets of the Ancient Greek and Roman worlds are a relatively unexplored sociological and religious phenomena within the larger field of Classics. However, this form of prayer had a distinct role in shaping ancient religion and daily life. Using examples from all over the ancient world, including those found in present-day England, Egypt, Greece, and Italy, this presentation will explore the specific rituals associated with invoking the gods for use in a curse tablet, the different occasions in which curse tablets were employed, and the ways in which they formed an important part of the complex religious traditions of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

Wenxin Xu '15

Beijing, China

Majors: Education; Economics

2:35 SC 150

Minor: Mathematics

Sponsor: Jingjing Lou

**China's Educational AID Programs for
Developing Countries: A Case Study in a
Training Program for Southeast Asian
Professionals in Jinhua, China**

In this summer, I spent 3 weeks in Jinhua, China as an intern and a researcher to study a seminar for higher education administrators coming from Southeast Asian Countries. This seminar lasted three weeks and is one of the many short-term training programs nation-wide supported by the Ministry of Commerce in China and provided to professionals and state officials from developing countries in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. The seminar I studied is offered by Zhejiang Normal University, located in East Coast of China. This university offers many sessions year around for professionals from Africa and Southeast Asia to study public policies and practices in China, ranging from education to economics.

The session I studied is for higher education administrators from South East Asia. There were totally 14 participants in this session: five from Laos, five from East Timor, and the other four from Philippines. During the seminar, participants took 15 lectures, mainly discussing contemporary higher education policies and practices in China. In addition, participants visited some nearby cities, such as Yiwu and Hangzhou, a large and more developed city – Shanghai, and a small and less developed city – Nanchang.

I served as one of the student coordinators and accompanied the participants throughout the session, both during classes and during the fieldtrip. This experience allows me to observe the daily routines of the program, interview both the participants from Southeast Asia and program coordinators from China about their experience and opinions, and examine the strength as well as the problems of the program. I aim to place my findings in a larger context of China's efforts to increase its soft power globally and how such educational training and collaboration programs help as well as fall short of such goals and efforts.

Max Zapf-Geller '14

see page 24

3:00 SC 150

Sponsors: Tamara Ketabgian and Robin Zebrowski

9:10 MI

Barak Ben-Amots '14

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Major: Education

Alison Bresnahan '14

Bloomington, Minnesota

Major: Cognitive Science

Grace Holdinghaus '14

St. Louis, Missouri

Majors: Creative Writing; Cognitive Science

**Maintaining Mental Health Abroad:
Views from Australia, England and Ireland**

Studying abroad is a valuable addition to a liberal arts degree, no matter what the major. However, there are unique and surprising trials that every student abroad will encounter. When those trials are compounded with depression, anxiety, or other mental health issues, it becomes difficult to have a positive experience.

Come speak with Barak Ben-Amots, Alison Bresnahan, and Grace Holdinghaus, three Beloit students who went abroad in the Spring 2013 semester. One went to Ireland, one went to England, and one went to Australia, but all of them struggled with maintaining mental health while they were away from Beloit.

We will address specific ways to handle mental health issues while abroad, referencing our own experiences, psychological data, and resources available to all Beloit students. If you are considering going abroad, this panel will help you have a positive and valuable experience no matter what bumps there are along the road. If you have gone abroad and struggled with similar issues, please join us and add your perspective to the conversation.

Sponsor: Sylvia López

9:35 Mayer

Charles Baxter '14 Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: Psychology
Minor: Spanish

Eugenia (Daisy) Gaines '14 Gonzales, Texas

Major: Sociology
Minors: Human Development; Spanish

Claire Kern '14 Flossmoor, Illinois

Major: History

Ethan Ley '14 Jaffrey, New Hampshire

Majors: History; Spanish

Faye Wassinger '15 Bensenville, Illinois

Major: Spanish

Muévete: Engaging Meaningfully with the Host Culture

Students study abroad with the aim of getting to know the host culture and making friends with host nationals. They also want to engage in excursions that will let them see more than their host neighborhood and school. Moreover, students hope to have experiences that will challenge them to grow both academically and personally and see the world from another culture's perspective.

So how realistic are these goals? How can one go about accomplishing them? What are some of the hurdles that students encounter in trying to meet them? In this panel discussion, five students who studied in Quito, Ecuador or San José, Costa Rica will address these questions. They will discuss the steps they took to get to know host nationals both on and off their respective host campus, how they used their linguistic abilities to make the most of their learning experiences, and what out-of-class activities they completed to let them see their host country, learn about NGOs, and expand their overall understanding of themselves and other cultures. Though they will be speaking about experiences in Latin America, they are confident their insights will be applicable to just about anywhere students choose to study abroad.

Sponsors: Elizabeth Brewer and Joshua Moore

3:00 SC 150

Alison Bresnahan '14 Bloomington, Minnesota

Major: Cognitive Science

Paula Diamond '14 Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: Critical Identity Studies

Zoe Gierman '15 Seattle, Washington

Majors: Education Track 1; Spanish

Narges Hussaini '14 Kabul, Afghanistan

Majors: International Relations; Modern Languages

Nicholas Mischler '14 Rockton, Illinois

Major: Japanese Language and Culture

Jacy Pieper '14 Galesburg, Illinois

Major: Cognitive Science
Minor: Biology

Max Zapf-Geller '14 Portland, Oregon

Major: Anthropology

Minor: Studio Art

Digital Narratives of Study Abroad: Australia, Botswana, Germany, India, Ireland, Japan, and United Kingdom through Film

Study Abroad: challenging, scary, thought provoking, fun, confusing, exciting, full of struggles, riddled with insights, and definitely worth it. Through videos created during Josh Moore and Betsy Brewer's Study Abroad Reflection and Integration class, this unique screening will give audience members a visual glimpse of what it means to study abroad, from pursuing change in Japan, navigating unfamiliarity in India, taking leaps of faith in Botswana, finding everyone's notions are wrong about the UK, discovering international identity in Germany, and studying conflict resolution in Northern Ireland, to living in the moment in Australia.