

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

news & views

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TUFTS PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

In Memory of Boryana Damyanova

By Katie Schaefer

The news of Boryana's death has been a tremendous shock to those of us in the IR Program. She will truly be missed, not just by her fellow students and faculty, but by the entire Tufts community.

Boryana declared her IR major in October 2003. Because of her interests in international relations and economics, Boryana chose to focus on International Finance. She also joined the Institute for Global Leadership (IGL) her freshman year and stayed actively engaged with their many programs. Director of IGL, Sherman Teichman, knew Boryana well and recently described her death as devastating and her loss to the community truly significant.

Boryana also volunteered to be a leader within the IR major as a senior IR Mentor. IR Mentors serve as a guide to new or prospective IR majors. They help advise these students through their major, with an emphasis on the student experience. In her mentor profile, Boryana spoke of her interest in finance and her internship experiences. Not only did she spend a semester in Washington D.C. through the Tufts-in-Washington program, but she also held internships at Century Bank in Medford, NBC News, the Democratic National Convention in Boston, and General Electric, where she worked on international law and policy.

IR Staff Assistant Elizabeth Gottlieb frequently communicates with IR students about administrative matters, and had lately been in touch with Boryana concerning her IR major. Gottlieb was touched by how Boryana was always "very gracious and was very appreciative of [the IR office] help." Boryana frequently signed emails with "kind regards" or "all the best" and thanked Gottlieb throughout for her help.

Boryana was truly an exemplary person, striving not only to be the best she could be as a student, but also to be a citizen of the world. While we can never bring Boryana back into our lives, her contributions to Tufts and to the world around her will forever be remembered.

This edition of News & Views is dedicated to the memory of Boryana Damyanova.



Boryana Damyanova

Photo courtesy of Tufts Institute for Global Leadership

Biography of an IR Intern

By Julie Schindall, IR/Music 2007

Majoring in International Relations at Tufts has been something of an experience in getting over an inferiority complex. I remember that fateful spring back in my freshman year when I decided I simply had to major in IR, and the worries that followed me as I went for my inaugural visit to the IR office and a chat with John Jenke, former IR Assistant Director. The people going in and out of the IR office seemed too amazing for my capabilities. They were so international, so intelligent, and so experienced in international affairs! How would I ever measure up?

I figured that at the very least I could attempt to get experience in the field via internships. After arduous drafting sessions of my CV and cover letter, I finally sent in my application to two organizations, fully expecting to not even get an interview.

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IR Students Experience Westpoint Academy

By Serena Fan and Emily Kenney

Senior IR majors Serena Fan and Emily Kenney were selected to attend this year's SCUSA conference, sponsored by the IR Program. They share their experience below:

The Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) has been held at the United States Military Academy at West Point since 1948. This year at SCUSA, 57 of approximately 150 West Point cadets, 40 senior participants and 200 students from more than 100 colleges and universities in North America, as well as 36 Fulbright Scholars from all over the world, participated in events held from November 13th to the 16th. The conference promotes an understanding of U.S. foreign policy through academic discussions, as students work together to develop U.S. foreign policy recommendations over the four day period. The theme of this year's conference was "U.S. Responsibility and the Global Community: Interests, Opportunities, and Ethics," and it featured sixteen roundtable policy discussion groups ranging from "Africa in Crisis" to "The U.S. Role in Democratization" to "Western Europe." At the end of the conference, each roundtable handed in a 1000-word policy recommendation and performed a skit to demonstrate their recommendations to the other delegates.

Roundtable discussion groups provided an academic setting for exchanges over US foreign policy. Cadets from West Point, in addition to students at other military academies including Norwich, the Citadel, Air Force and Navy, offered an interesting contrast to those representing much more liberal public and private universities. For example, on the "Western Europe" roundtable, a civilian delegate advocated for a reduced US role in the region to allow other European countries to gain control of leadership. One West Point delegate strongly objected to this point, contesting that this would weaken America's powers, and be

a danger to the future of US supremacy. The debate was heated and lengthy, providing an opening lesson on how West Point cadets are trained to think.

First hand perspectives were also available from delegates who were from the areas discussed. The "Africa in Crisis" roundtable had four representatives from African nations, including a delegate from Zimbabwe. This delegate insisted that the US should use its armed forces to remove the dictator of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, from power – much to the dismay of the delegates representing the various branches of the service, whose job it would be to remove him. Lastly, adult co-chairs acted as facilitators of the roundtables. They also served as a resource due to their exceptional background knowledge and work experience, ensuring that delegates retained a realistic perspective on the policies being created.

Although discussions over policy were scholarly and often animated, an even greater exchange took place outside the classroom. Sleeping on cots, 6:40am wakeup calls, lunches in the mess hall, and evenings in the on-campus pub allowed delegates an inside view of life at the Academy. Delegates were housed in the student barracks for their three nights at West Point. The barracks are essentially dorms, but with much stricter regulations. Doors must be kept open if a male and female are in the same room without the presence of a third party and no one is allowed to roam the halls after 11:30pm. Oftentimes, hosts would already be asleep when delegates returned from evening events at 11pm, and woke up as early as 5am to exercise before breakfast. Delegates were also responsible for keeping their suitcases orderly; rooms were subject to their thorough daily inspections despite the presence of guests.

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Emily Kenney and Serena Fan at West Point

Faculty Spotlight: Claire Conceison

The Faculty Spotlight section of this newsletter is designed to give IR Core Faculty a chance to talk about their research and interests, as well as any experiences they may have had. The IR Program hopes this will allow the entire IR Community to get to know better the accomplished faculty available to the IR student body.

I came to Tufts last fall as the newest member of the Department of Drama and Dance, where my responsibilities include teaching courses in world theatre history, Asian performance, and Asian American theatre and film, along with directing a mainstage show every other year. My inaugural production will be a new play from China called *Heads or Tails?* to be performed in the Balch Arena Theatre April 4-8, 2006. Written by Meng Jinghui, China's most influential avant-garde director, the play's exploration of mistaken identity and second chances in our current post-modern, hyper-capitalist world is both dark and hilarious. This is the first time a Meng Jinghui play will be performed in English or by a theatre company other than his own, and Meng himself will come to the Tufts campus for opening night.

As a scholar of contemporary Chinese theatre, I focus in particular on Sino-American relations, intercultural performance, and international theatre exchange—hence, my presence on the International Relations core faculty. Since I first began studying Chinese language and society as an undergraduate, I have been fascinated by the mutual perceptions (and misperceptions) of Chinese and Americans and the way these images have shifted over time in relation to political and cultural circumstances. For the past fifteen years, I have examined these global and local shifts through the lens of the modern drama stage, which has been a barometer of Chinese society

throughout the twentieth century. From the first western-style spoken drama performed in Chinese—an adaptation of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* produced by overseas Chinese students in Tokyo, Japan in 1907—to current adaptations of Pulitzer Prize winning plays like *Proof* and *Doubt*, Chinese artists have often turned to American works to comment on their own circumstances as a nation and as individual human beings. At the same time, playwrights in China have continuously written original plays featuring Chinese characters and settings that reflect both their own experiences and their perceptions of foreigners. In my first book, *Significant Other: Staging the American in China*, I look closely at seven plays staged between 1987 and 2002 that included Americans among their cast of characters, in order to determine how the image of the US and its citizens was changing in contemporary China during a period of increasing anti-Americanism.

My current book project is a collaborative autobiography of Ying Ruocheng, an important Chinese artist and statesman who died in 2003. You may recognize Ying as a film actor if you have seen Bernardo Bertolucci's films *The Last Emperor* or *Little Buddha*, but he was also a renowned translator of foreign plays (and of Chinese plays into English), a stage actor and director, and a progressive Vice Minister of Culture during the turbulent late



Photo courtesy of Kathleen Doohar

1980s (ending his term after the Tian'anmen Square Massacre). Through his efforts as both politician and cultural ambassador, Americans like Arthur Miller and Charlton Heston were brought to Beijing to direct landmark theatre productions, and both gentlemen published books about their experiences upon their return to the US. Ying was a luminary in Chinese artistic, intellectual, and diplomatic circles and a tireless advocate for international exchange and understanding, yet his fascinating life story has never been available to international readers. It was quite an honor for me to spend time with him during the final years of his life, recording his oral history from his boyhood during the Japanese occupation of China through his professional career with the Beijing People's Art Theatre and the Ministry of Culture.

In addition to my ongoing project about Ying Ruocheng, I return to China for about two months every year in order to participate in activities at the theatre academies and

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IGL to Host Exhibits and Symposia

By Heather Barry, IGL Assistant Director

In the first six weeks of the 2006 spring semester, the Tufts Institute for Global Leadership will present two exhibitions in the Slater Concourse of the Aidekman Arts Center and host the TILIP and EPIIC international symposia.

The two exhibitions in Slater Concourse in the Aidekman Arts Center are "EXPOSURE/VII Workshops: Bali and Kosovo" and "Resistance and Renewal: Selected work from Kim Berman, 1986-2006." The Bali and Kosovo exhibition will run from January 10-February 3, 2006 and will feature a selection of student photographs taken during the summer of 2005 in workshops led by acclaimed VII Photo Agency photographers. John Stanmeyer and Gary Knight led the Bali workshop with 3 students and then Gary Knight was joined by journalist and former chief editor of the International Herald Tribune, Mort Rosenblum, on the Kosovo workshop. The Kosovo workshop was specifically designed for the Institute's EXPOSURE program; eight student members of EXPOSURE participated. A journal of the photographs and articles that the students worked on will be published in the spring by de.MO, a New York based publishing firm that publishes most of VII's work.

The themes of the Bali photos include the role of women in Bali society, modernization, and a week in the life of one of Bali's major temples. The Kosovo collection explores many facets of post-war Kosovo, including Serb-Albanian interaction in Mitrovica, the plight of Roma refugees, women in the Kosovar police force, and deforestation.

These joint workshops with the VII Photo Agency will be ongoing initiatives of the EXPOSURE program. One is also being held for ten students over winter break in Argentina, again led by Gary Knight and Mort

Rosenblum, and several more are being planned for the summer.

The "Resistance and Renewal" exhibition, February 6-February 28, will feature the work of Kim Berman, a Tufts/Museum of Fine Arts and EPIIC alumna. Kim Berman was born in Johannesburg in 1960 and is one of the most respected artists in South Africa. Ms. Berman's work reflects political and social issues from pre- and post-Apartheid to the current AIDS pandemic. Formerly an African National Congress activist, Ms. Berman founded three seminal projects for art and social transformation: Artist Proof Studio (1992), Paper Prayers Campaign (1996), and Phumani Paper (2000). Her work has been exhibited throughout Europe and North America, and her specific work concerned with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was selected to hang in the Constitutional Court in South Africa. She will receive a 2006 EPIIC Distinguished Alumni Award and speak about her work at an opening reception and lecture on Wednesday, February 22.

The exhibition of Kim Berman's work leads into EPIIC's 2006 symposium on "The Politics of Fear," from February 23-February 26, 2006. The symposium will address issues including Europe and the integration of its Muslim minority population, the balance of civil liberties and security, the use of torture, international responses to genocide, and how societies reconcile and transcend the politics of fear. Some of the featured speakers will be Turhan Canli (A'86), neuroscientist and psychologist working on the brain basis of individual differences in emotion and personality; Irwin Cotler, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; Juan Guzmán,



VII Workshop: Kosovo 2005
Photo courtesy of Nicky Solbecki EPIIC '06

the former Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals in Santiago, Chile; Farooq Kathwari, Chair, Board of Directors, Refugees International; Roelf Meyer, former Deputy Minister of Law and Order and of Constitutional Development (1986 to 1991) and Minister of Defence, Communication and Constitutional Affairs (1991-1996), South Africa; Hania Mufti, Regional Director, Middle East and North Africa Division, Human Rights Watch; Pdraig O'Malley, author of *The Uncivil Wars: Ireland Today* and *The Heart of Hope: South Africa's Transition from Apartheid to Democracy, 1989-1996*; and Ervin Staub, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Program in Peace Psychology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

At the beginning of February, the Institute will host the eighth annual symposium of the Tufts Institute for Leadership and International Perspective (TILIP) on "China's Future Challenges." The symposium will take place from February 3-5 and the keynote speaker is The Honorable Anson Chan. Dubbed the "Conscience of Hong Kong," Dr. the Honorable Anson Chan was a career public servant, serving 38 years in Hong Kong's Civil Service. She retired in 2001 as the Chief Secretary of

Intern Biography

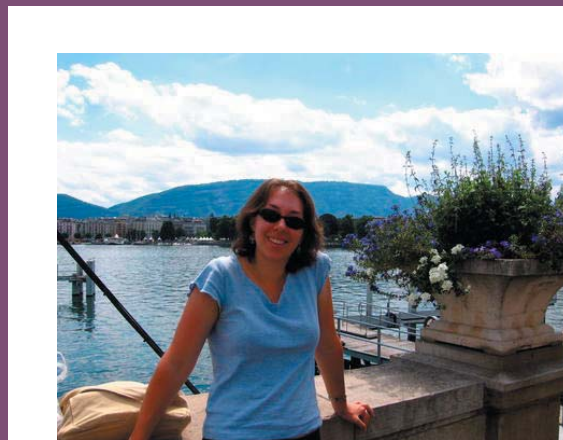
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That spring, however, my lucky stars were truly watching out for me, and I was accepted to both internships I applied to: at Senator Kennedy's Boston office and at the Consulate General of Israel to New England. That summer was one of the most amazing experiences of my life, marked by the Democratic National Convention in Boston and working hours that I never imagined possible. I went into those internships as a 19-year-old college freshman; I left them a capable press relations specialist who spoke the language of Blackberries and targeted media campaigns.

As sophomore year rolled around, I could hardly wait to finish up the academic "tedium" and return to exciting weeks of business casual dress and morning clips. By the time school finished last May, I had an internship at New England Cable News (NECN) all lined up, working with the Media Relations specialist. I fully expected another fast-paced summer of wheeling and dealing with the press, this time from the other side of the field.

Needless to say, I quickly discovered that my first internships had been amazing experiences that had set a high standard for my future experiences. My time at NECN was slower than I had expected, and yes, I did have to occasionally make copies. By the end of the summer, I had managed to arrange a deal to go out with a reporter in the field once a week as her "shadow," which was truly an excellent experience. Overall, however, my summer at NECN was largely an (important!) learning experience in dealing with a different type of office environment and learning to accept that not all internships would be as fabulous as my very first.

Immediately following my time at NECN, I left for my year of study abroad in Geneva, Switzerland. I chose my first semester program based on the fact that they offer an internship with an international or non-governmental organization based in Geneva. What better way to up the ante of my CV than with an internship in a foreign country, in the most international of all international cities?



Julie Schindall at Lake Geneva in Switzerland

And thus I find myself sitting at a desk at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy writing this reflection on my internship experience. The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) is a unique combination of think tank and institute for higher education, concentrating in the field of security policy. In cooperation with the Swiss government, the GCSP hosts a range of faculty and experts who do research and develop teaching modules that contribute to the study of current international security policy in academia, private and public consulting, and professional continuing education. The core of the GCSP's activities

lies in its International Training Course (ITC), which hosts approximately thirty civil servants and military personnel from Europe and North America for nine months of classes and field trips to develop their knowledge of the most current issues that face the world today in global security.

This internship is again different from all my past experiences due to the international nature of the organization. From casual conversations in the hallways with ITC participants from Bosnia & Herzegovina and Poland to attending lectures by the French Minister of Defense, the opportunities allowed me to make international contacts that have been truly amazing. Doing an internship abroad has shown me that for my personal intellectual development, work experience abroad is absolutely necessary. It is yet another step to building a more complete realization of my career goals.

Looking back at my more naïve freshman self, I can say that after two-and-a-half years of college and four internships, experience in the field has proven to be one of the most important and rewarding aspects of my education. While each experience can be daunting, exciting, and upsetting (all at the same time!), each experience makes me a more capable student of international relations. Perhaps one day I will be able to join the ranks of those amazing IR majors I so envied my freshman year!

West Point

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Unlike cadets, civilian delegates had extra freedoms. All delegates were allowed to go to the on-campus pub, which is usually opened to seniors, or “Firsties” only. Nightly topics of discussion ranged broadly, from politics to the differences of life at the various universities represented. Additionally, delegates arrived on the eve of one of the most important events of the year: “Branch Night,” when seniors are told which job they will be doing for their five

years of mandatory service after graduation. The celebration was mixed with some sorrow, as delegates witnessed firsthand how West Point cadets face the possibility of serving in Iraq.

At the close of the four days, exhausted from uncomfortable cots and early wakeup calls, delegates quickly finished policy papers and prepared skits. All of the hard work of the week

was evident in the presentations. Even more tangible, though, was the sense that all those present had made new friends, exchanged ideas, and had thoroughly enjoyed the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience life inside one of the world’s most prestigious military academies.

Faculty Spotlight

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professional theatres in Shanghai and Beijing. This year, I was in China from August through October, and was fortunate to enjoy both the annual College Theatre Festival, featuring university amateur drama clubs from all over the country, and the Asia Contemporary Theatre Festival (hosted for the first time by mainland China) which included plays from Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. As part of the latter festival, I was invited to lead a workshop on community-based theatre, something that the 25 undergraduate students who attended had never explored. The scenarios they created in the workshop addressed issues ranging from international terrorism to drug use among

China’s rural floating populations.

While in Shanghai, I traveled to Hangzhou to visit a student in our Tufts program at Zhejiang University, and during my first two weeks in Beijing I was joined by graduate student Virginia Anderson, who conducted original research on responses to AIDS in the Chinese theatre community. Among those we interviewed was film and television actor Pu Cunxin, who works arduously on behalf of AIDS orphans as China’s “AIDS Ambassador.” Pu is currently on tour in the US with the Beijing People’s Art Theatre stage production of *Teahouse*, a Chinese classic penned by Lao She nearly half a century ago. I spent my final

days in Beijing helping the actors and crew prepare for their first American experience—and shipping home boxes of books and archival materials in preparation for my own departure for the US.

I feel very fortunate to have a second home in the theatre community in China, as well as a new home here at Tufts where my research is so enthusiastically supported. My spring graduate seminar, *Modern and Contemporary Chinese Theatre* (open to interested undergraduates as well), allows me to combine my research and teaching, and will also coincide with our spring production of *Heads or Tails?*, an exciting, unusual new play.

IGL Programs

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the Hong Kong government. In that position she was a principal advisor to the Chief Executive and head of Hong Kong’s 190,000-member civil service. Dr. Chan was the first woman, and the first person of Chinese ancestry, to hold that position. In retirement, Dr. Chan has continued to be an active public

citizen, declaring her unyielding support for democracy and freedom and calling for legislative elections, a credible legislature and respect for civil liberties.

Issues the TILIP symposium will address include the implications of China’s nationalism,

geopolitics and China’s quest for oil, environmental consequences of development, the risks and benefits of investing in China, the changing balance of power in East Asia, and China’s ongoing social dilemmas, from the urban-rural divide to concerns over pandemics such as avian flu and AIDS.

Scholarship Deadlines

Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize

The Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize is awarded to second-semester sophomores and juniors who undertake a project, activity or plan of study in any field involving international issues. Designed to foster the spirit of the award, the prize encourages personal growth and independence, while increasing ones understanding of all peoples and encouraging a commitment to the world community. Second-semester sophomores and juniors from any department or major with a minimal GPA of 2.8 or above are eligible for the prize. Preference is given to U.S. citizens, but students of any nationality are urged to apply.

Deadline: January 26, 2006 by 4pm.

The IR Research Scholars Program

This scholarship pairs rising IR seniors with faculty mentors who guide a summer research project in preparation for an Honors Thesis, senior seminar paper, Fulbright proposal or other significant research paper in the senior year. The scholarship will support a minimum of eight weeks of IR Core Faculty-mentored summer research for the gathering of materials and data. Awards will be granted to both students and faculty mentors. **Deadline: February 3, 2006 by 4pm.**

Luce Student Research Scholarship in Science and Humanitarianism

Tufts students (junior standing and above) are eligible for research scholarship funds from the Henry R. Luce Program in Science & Humanitarianism through the IR Research Scholars Program. The Luce Student Research Scholarship in Science & Humanitarianism is open to students who have a demonstrable interest in public health and international humanitarian assistance, and the capacity to engage in original research at home or abroad. Topics in Psychosocial Humanitarian Assistance, Migration and Health, and the Ethics of Humanitarian Aid with particular reference to Nutrition and or Health will be considered for award under the same terms and conditions of the IR Research Scholars Program. **Deadline: February 3, 2006 by 4pm.**

Additional information and application material can be found on the IR Website at <http://ase.tufts.edu/ir/researchOpportunities.htm>



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The IR News & Views newsletter highlights events and people in the Tufts IR community and provides selected information about the larger Boston community. The publication appears twice a semester and welcomes feedback from students and faculty.



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Upcoming Events

IR Research Colloquium: A "Taste" for Research

The annual IR Research Colloquium allows the 2004-2005 IR Research Scholars and the Luce Student Research Scholar on Science and Humanitarianism to present their research to the Tufts community. Come learn about their research and taste food from their regions of interest!

Spring semester: date and time to be determined

2005-2006 EPIIC Symposium: "The Politics of Fear"

February 22-26, 2006

This year's student-run EPIIC symposium will seek to answer questions involving the politics of fear and how it permeates all nations of the world. For more information, see the EPIIC article in this issue.