

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

news & views

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TUFTS PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Women as Global Leaders: IR Student Spends Week in the UAE

By Rachel Brandenburg

Rarely discussed in the United States, the United Arab Emirates has become a leader in the fight for women's rights in the Arab world.

In February, the UAE hosted the first international women's car rally race – the only such competition for women in the Arab world. According to an article published in the international edition of The Jerusalem Post on March 11, 2005, one of the Emirate's own residents, Marwa Al Aifa, a 25 year old business executive, won the first place race title. A Saudi citizen born and raised in the UAE, Al Aifa has never visited Saudi Arabia and does not plan to in the near future. Among other things, in Saudi Arabia women are not allowed to drive. Per the requests and demands of the late leader of the Emirates, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Nahyan, the UAE promotes religious tolerance and equal rights for women. In the UAE, Al Aifa is allowed

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SCUSA 56: Student Foreign Policy Discussions at West Point

By Noah Trugman

Last Fall, from November 10th to 13th, a Delegation of 13 Tufts students attended the 56th annual Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA 56) hosted by the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The conference was entitled "Beyond Hegemony: The Goals and Consequences of American Action at Home and Abroad."

SCUSA 56 brought together more than 250 students from across North America to discuss critical issues relating to various U.S. foreign policy topics. Students were divided into roundtables organized around either a theme (such as Homeland Security or Democratization) or a geographical region (like Western Europe or Sub-Saharan Africa).

Inevitably, many issues overlapped. One of the central questions of the conference was about the nature of democracy. What is a democracy and is it in the best interests of the U.S. to try to spread democracy? How should the U.S. promote democracy at home and abroad?

The Middle Eastern Gulf States roundtable that I participated in touched on these issues within the context of the growing Iraqi insurgency and the potential threat of an Iranian nuclear weapons program. The discussion was moderated by Amir Asmar, a senior intelligence officer with the Defense Intelligence Agency, and Hamela Jumaa-Aqraee, an Iraqi national who served as the translator for the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division. Their opinions were heard and expertise respected, but neither dominated the opinion of the group.

With cadets firing at every question, I found the discussion to be more conservative-leaning than liberal. Still the roundtable represented a wide range of political views. There were students from all different academic, cultural and political backgrounds. A particularly opinionated Lebanese grad student studying energy economics argued forcefully that the U.S. demand for oil is the underlying force driving all U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East.

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Scholarships Upcoming Deadlines

Will you be graduating from Tufts next year?
Don't miss out on these exciting scholarship
opportunities!

Fulbright Scholarship

Application Deadline for Graduating Seniors: **September 20th, 2005**
www.iie.org/fulbright

The Fulbright full grant supports one year of academic research abroad. Restriction on the academic fields varies by country. The Fulbright Teaching Assistanship supports one year of teaching English abroad, in approved locations. Any US citizen who will have a B.A./B.S. degree by May 2006 is eligible. Tuition, fees, living expenses, transportation and a dependent allowance will be provided, though the actual amounts vary. Language proficiency is required, the level of which varies by country. A plan of study, which is designed to be carried out in a specific foreign university, is of special importance to the Fulbright review committee.

Although this deadline is in the late fall, successful applicants begin the process in the spring of their junior year or the summer after. Once applications are received in the Office of Undergraduate Education, a faculty committee convenes to interview the applicants before final submission to the NY Fulbright office.

This year, 40 Tufts students applied, 25 advanced to the second round, and 9 have already been accepted. Interested students should attend the Fulbright information session that will be held on **April 22 at 4PM in Dowling 745**.

Rhodes Scholarship

Application Deadline for Graduating Seniors: **September 15, 2005**
www.rhodesscholar.org

Granted for study at Oxford University, this scholarship provides support for tuition and travel for a period of two years. Males and females between the ages of 18 and 24 with a B.A./B.S. degree by May 2006 are eligible. Criteria emphasize leadership experience. For U.S. citizens, although citizens of British Commonwealth nations may be eligible for the Rhodes Competition in their home country. Successful applicants are typically exceptional academically, are leaders on campus, and have an all around "presence" in their extracurricular activities.

Marshall Scholarship

Application Deadline for Graduating Seniors: **September 15, 2005**
www.marshallscholarship.org

Thirty scholarships are available for two years of study in any field leading to the award of a British University degree. Academic excellence (3.7 average after the freshman year) and extracurricular activities are necessary, as well as a clear plan of study that fits into long term goals. For U.S. citizens only.



2004-2005 Scholarship Winners

IR Research Scholars



Stephen Johansen
"American and British Bombing of Germany in WWII"
San Francisco, Boston, Washington D. C.



Michael Lingenfelter
"Trade or Consequence: Japanese Decision Making in 1941"
Boston, Washington D.C.



Niyati Shah
"Comparative Analysis of the Correlation Between Risk-Taking and HIV Status for Urban and Rural Tanzanian Youth"
Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania

Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize



Haenee Jamie Chang
"Nol Yi Theatre: A Korean Theatre Movement"
South Korea



Bic Leu
"Poggio Civitate Excavation"
Murlo, Italy



Benjamin Roseth
"Music in Post-Economic Collapse Society"
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Luce Student Research Scholarship in Science and Humanitarianism



Francis Dixon
"Dependence and Reciprocity"
Chapare and Cochabamba, Bolivia

IR Students Honored with Awards for Public Service

By Kirk Okano-Lange

The academic achievement and service contributions of the IR student body is consistently high and widely noted. Elsewhere in this issue we give space to students whose merits have been recognized by the Borghesani Prize, the IR Research Scholarships, the Luce Scholarship, and IR conference scholarships. IR is also proud to acknowledge two students who have been honored for their superlative commitments to service and citizenship: Ana Martinez and J. Jeremy Sueker.

On April 13th, Ana received the President's Award for Citizenship and Public Service from President Lawrence Bacow. The President's Office and the University College of Citizenship and Public Service coordinated a wide nominations process and highly competitive selection process. In the year of the greatest number of faculty and administrator nominations in the history of the Award, Ana was one of a dozen students selected among undergraduate and graduate students from schools across the University.

She was recognized for a range of contributions. Ana has founded and helped guide student organizations, organized events that have enriched the intellectual and student life of the university, and offered service to Tufts' host community—all while completing a double major (IR/Community Health) and conducting award winning political science research.

What distinguished Ana's contributions from her peers, however, was her initiative to found, plan, and implement the Tufts Uganda Internship Project—an international service project bringing Tufts students to Uganda to collaborate with non-governmental organizations that work with communities displaced by the devastating 18 year war in the country's north. (Read more about TUIP in the last issue, Winter 2005, of IR News and Views.) The selection committee was impressed that TUIP served to help advance a number of Tufts' institutional goals, including: improved cross-school and interdepartmental collaboration, research excellence, and the active global citizenship of future generations of Tufts students.

Likewise deeply dedicated to addressing complex social issues through service is Jeremy Sueker who was recently awarded the highly prestigious Truman Scholarship. Jeremy was the first Tufts student in 11 years to capture this award. The Truman Foundation aims to provide select students with financial support for graduate study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service. Among 602 nominees from 65 colleges and universities nationwide, Jeremy was one of ultimately only 75 students chosen.

This selection process recognized in part what Jeremy has achieved while at Tufts—an impressive set of accomplishments including co-founding the Tufts HIV/AIDS Collaborative (read more about THAC in the Vol. IV Issue II edition of IR News and Views). The Truman Scholarship also recognizes what a student plans to do and the career path they intend to follow in public service. Jeremy impressed the Foundation with his well considered plans to confront the AIDS pandemic through public health policy and research.

Reflecting his double major in IR and Community Health, Jeremy's focus is on both domestic and international HIV/AIDS challenges and responses. The selection committee was impressed with his work with the HIV and AIDS Programme at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa last summer—which lent him rather sophisticated understandings of community-based public health research and the need for culturally informed interventions. Another strength of Jeremy's application was a policy proposal that called attention to a much overlooked group domestically that is at particular risk for HIV/AIDS: the incarcerated population. Jeremy made a compelling case with strong public health, ethical, and budgetary arguments. Wherever Jeremy ultimately turns his talents and dedication, he is sure to make an impressive impact. ■

IR Students Commemorate Global Health Day

By Rebecca Rudner

On Thursday April 7, Tufts students welcomed Liz Marmanides of UNA-USA to campus. The day marked the UN's annual World Health Day, this year dedicated to the theme of "Healthy Mothers and Children." It aimed to draw global attention to the half a million women that die annually in pregnancy or childbirth and to the 11 million child lives lost before the children reach the age of five. Students gathered in Barnum Hall to hear details of the tragedy and discuss ways to advocate for health rights for all women and children. Ms. Marmanides' presentation and the conversation that followed moved from

statistics of the major causes of death, to the complete preventability of the diseases causing 90% of child deaths in the developing world, to strategies for creating a national awareness of the problem at hand.

It was simultaneously sobering and encouraging to be reminded that the environmental movement was a fringe group only 10 years ago and is now embedded in the American consciousness. The event drew to a close with the suggestion that concentrated public awareness activities have the potential to do the same for maternal and child health

worldwide. By 2015, we have the opportunity to be living in a country that is committed to providing preventative health services worldwide. Our challenge: to get the general population here to relate to and identify with the communities in rural Latin America and Africa. It is quite a challenge.

The event was made possible by the work of the IR Program, Tufts Student AIDS Coalition, and funding by the University Coalition for Global Health. For more information about World Health Day or internship possibilities with UNA-USA please contact the IR office. ■

Boston Area Events

"Reconstructing Iraq: The Arab Discourse and the International Role"

Hafez Mirazi, Washington Bureau Chief of Al-Jazeera television

Date: Monday, April 25, 2005
Time: 5:30pm
Location: 3-270 (MIT)

Lecture sponsored by: Center for International Studies, Department of Urban Studies and Planning

"Religion in the 21st Century: The Meaning of Religious Terrorism"

Speaker: Mark Juergenmeyer, Director, Global and International Studies, UC-Santa Barbara

Date: Thursday, April 28, 2005
Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Location: Building W11-Main Dining Room (MIT)

Lecture sponsored by: The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT Division of Student Life and the School of Humanities, Arts and Sciences
Free and open to the public - registration required. Contact weinmann@mit.edu to register.

"Conference on South Sudanese Girls and Women"

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2005
Time: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Location: Cohen Auditorium, Aidekman Arts Center (Tufts University)

Part One: The Background. The place of women in traditional South Sudanese culture. Men's and women's roles. Courting and marriage. Married life. Speaker: Dr. Jok Madut Jok, Associate Professor of History, Loyola Marymount University

Part Two—The Impact of War. How girls and women became displaced. Trauma. Psychological impact. Survival strategies. Nature of life for girls and women in displaced-persons camps and refugee camps. Changed expectations.

Speakers: Dr. Julia Duany, author and Research Fellow, University of Indiana Sasha Chanoff, Director, Mapendo International; Board Member, Sudanese Education Fund

Part Three: Resettlement in The United States. Getting acculturated. Major surprises of American life. Gender issues. Education issues. Establishing autonomy. Impact on male/female relationships. Expectations of marriage. Changes in sense of identity. Dealing with expectations of families and relatives in Africa.

Speakers: Aduel Riak; Apuk Ayuei; Mangok Bol; Sarah Rial; Margaret Juan Lado

Conclusion: Lessons. Identifying major conflicts and problems of resettled girls and women. Targeted support and services.

Panel Discussion, Chair: Dr. Jok Madut Jok.

Co-Sponsored by The Sudanese Education Fund and The Refugee Round Table, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University
Contact: Susan Winship, susanwinship@comcast.net

"Reshaping the Holy: Muslim Women's Activism in Bangladesh"

Speaker: Elora Shehabuddin, Rice University.

Date: Thursday, April 28, 2005
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Common Room, Center for the Study of World Religions, 42 Francis Avenue (Harvard)

Free and open to the public. Reception to follow.

IR Program News

SCUSA

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Others at the table had different ideas.

Although the goal was to formulate a policy proposal, after three days of intense debate and disagreement, the roundtable itself proved the difficulty of multilateral negotiations. If a group composed overwhelmingly of American students cannot agree on a foreign policy agenda, how ever are competing nations expected to cooperate? In the end, our group opted for a policy of American unilateralism.

Throughout the conference, students were treated to a series of panels and speeches by other foreign policy experts. Dr. Jane Holl Lute, U.N. Assistant Secretary for Peacekeeping Operations, highlighted the contrast between the threat of lawlessness and the obvious capacity for U.S. action abroad. The key note banquet address was given by Dr. Rohan Gunaratna, head of the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research in Singapore. He suggested that the most effective way to combat terrorism was to invest more in conflict resolution to end regional conflicts that spawn international terrorism.

Perhaps the most educational aspect of the conference was experiencing first hand the

culture of life at West Point. From the moment we stepped off the bus, the Tufts students were greeted by cadets with gray uniforms and shiny black shoes. I was taken to "Mac," a barrack named after General Douglas MacArthur. My host, a third year student who

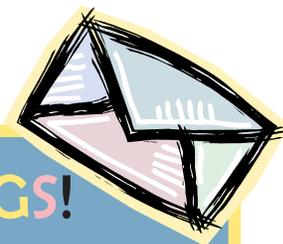


shall remain nameless, showed me around West Point and gave me the skinny on all the rules, all the do's and don'ts and definitely-don't-get-caught's. Enforcement of the rules at West Point is extremely strict. Students are punished with marching hours, meaning they have to march in uniform back and forth across the field for hours at a time. My host, I

am sorry to say, had already reached the elite, but unfortunate, 200 Club. In other words, he had done a lot of marching.

Paradoxically, West Point is both very hierarchical and egalitarian. All of the cadets dress the same. They eat the same food. They share showers. They take the same classes and go to bed at the same time. But cadets are also clearly distinguished by their year and rank. The plebes (first year cadets) have to salute higher ranking cadets and officers (that is, everyone else) as they walk by. The "Firsties" have their own senior pub.

Much of what I learned was from talking to the cadets about their political views, backgrounds, and experiences at West Point. The cadets, too, had much to learn from us "civilians." The military-civilian interaction seemed like the primary purpose of the conference. Life at West Point is nothing like the life at Tufts, from the rules and regulations to the political expectations, which made SCUSA 56 a memorable experience. After much hesitation, my host admitted to me under his breath that he had voted for John Kerry. "But if you tell anyone," he said, "I'll kick your butt." ■



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IR Student News

UAE

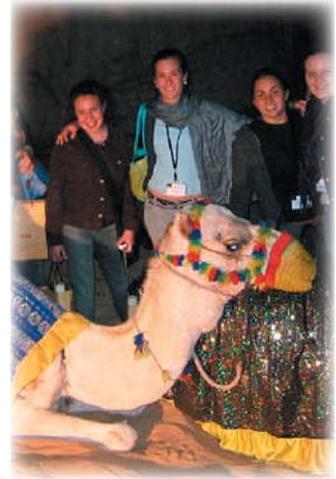
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to drive – and in her case, drive fast – attain high level professional positions, and dress as she wants, outside her workplace (because she works for the government, at work she must wear the traditional black abaya over her clothes and a scarf covering her hair).

In March, the UAE hosted the first international conference on women's leadership to be held in the Middle East: "Women as Global Leaders: Educating the Next Generation." I was fortunate enough to attend this conference and witness this remarkable feat in the company of seven other Tufts women. Organized by the student councils of Zayed University and sponsored by UAE Minister of Education Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority, Microsoft, CNBC, and First Gulf Bank, among others, the conference brought together nearly 1000 women from all over the world. For three days, undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students, professors, professionals, and government officials from around the globe were treated like royalty and given the opportunity to engage with each other and listen to the stories of women who have successfully achieved national and international leadership positions.

As a student of international relations, with a focus on the Middle East, and as somebody who has a significant amount of travel experience in the region, I have studied regional politics and been exposed to Arab culture, but never had I really focused on anything related to the United Arab Emirates. After one week in the country and a few days with some of its women, I have learned more than I could have possibly gleaned from any number of books or classroom hours.

Upon my first visit to the Abu Dhabi campus of Zayed University one day before the conference began, I was incredibly impressed with the students, faculty, and resources of the institution. Zayed University was founded in 1998 as a public university open only to women. It has grown and developed since, and from a comprehensive tour of the campus



and only an abbreviated explanation of its student initiatives, one would think it has had more than seven years to come as far as it has. The women's leadership conference was conceived less than one year ago by students of the University, and designed as a forum to bring together an international cadre of women leaders in order to expose them to the different cultures and societies that they represent, as well as to the culture of the UAE. In my opinion, the conference was a complete success in both regards.

During the conference I was able to listen to some of the country's leaders, interact with Zayed University students from different parts of the Emirates, and be dazzled by the extravagance of Dubai. I explored one of the famous Dubai resorts, at which the conference was hosted, and I was entertained by traditional dancers and music, fireworks, laser shows, and fantastic live sand animation, during the conference evening events. Before and after the formal program, I was able to spend time in the emirates of Dubai and Abu Dhabi, as well as Sharjah and Al Ain, a city on the border of Oman, officially part of the emirate of Abu Dhabi, and experience the warm hospitality of the families of two Zayed University students we befriended during the conference. I visited numerous souks in Dubai, Al Ain, and Sharjah, spent some time on the gorgeous shores of the Arabian Gulf, stood face to face with camels at a camel souk in Al Ain, spent an evening

at the Al Ain hot springs park, and rode beautiful orange sand dunes outside the city. Individually and together, these experiences comprised an incredible, unforgettable week. If not for the numerous pictures I took in each place, I would have trouble believing that it was all real.

I return from the UAE with new friends, new knowledge, new interests, and new sources of inspiration and motivation for learning and leading local and international initiatives. I was endlessly impressed and inspired by the conference participants, as well as the students who organized the tremendous event. The UAE is a country unlike any other I have ever visited or studied. Very young, it has benefited tremendously from strong leadership, and is still growing and determining how to continue to develop itself in the most productive ways. It is a commendable achievement for an Arab and Muslim country in the Middle East to be able to boast hosting both the first international women's car rally race, and the first international conference on women's leadership in the Middle East, as well as enormous economic and other successes, all the while maintaining the welfare and traditional identity of its citizens. If the Zayed University women whom I met become the next generation of UAE leadership, the country will be in good hands and its successes will surely continue. ■

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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.



International Relations
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BEST OF LUCK ON
FINALS!!

From the IR Program Staff

Have a wonderful summer!