

BRIDGES

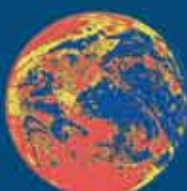
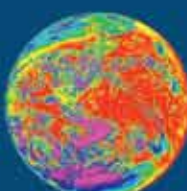
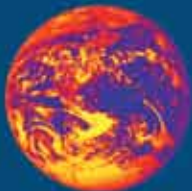
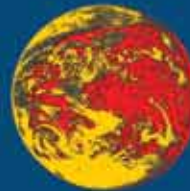
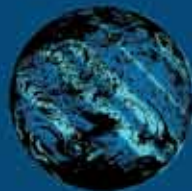
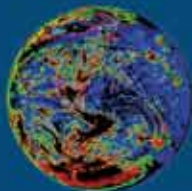
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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about Others*

*Riding the Wave of the
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Several years ago we chose “Expand your world” as the Kennedy Center’s tag line. We liked the excitement the phrase captured and the implicit message to move beyond campus and explore the world. While I support that interpretation, for me the message has always had a broader meaning.

I certainly hope students will explore the world beyond campus, but I also hope students will expand their worlds while *in* Provo. That expansion happens when they attend a lecture, listen to a podcast, or pick up and read a free copy of the *New York Times*, distributed each morning at the Kennedy Center. This can happen when they take coursework that pushes them to think about other cultures, histories, and political systems. It can happen when they study another language and its literature. It also can happen when students leave campus and find a more diverse and interesting culture than they thought existed in our community.

We have an amazing comparative advantage at BYU. Principally, because of faithful missionary service, our students have a broader and deeper engagement with the world’s cultures and peoples than any other undergraduate campus in the United States. While we should be justifiably proud of that advantage, we must invest and add value to that advantage. As we invest in our students’ already strong global capabilities, we help create not only better prepared students, but a truly global university. We invite you to invest in our students and help make the real hope of “Expand your world” a reality.

Jeffrey Ringer
Director

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PUBLISHER
Jeffrey F. Ringer

MANAGING EDITOR
Cory W. Leonard

EDITOR
J. Lee Simons

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Elizabeth Williams

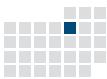
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Robbie Cromwell

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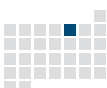
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8 September
“Libya: The End of the Beginning”
George Joffe, visiting professor at King’s College



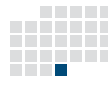
6 October
“International Decisions that will Shape Your Future”
Peter Huntsman, president and CEO, Huntsman Corporation



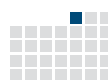
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His Excellency João Vale de Almeida, EU ambassador to the U.S.



16 November
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30 November
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His Excellency Han Duk-soo, Korean ambassador to the U.S., and The Honorable Kathleen Stephens, and former U.S. ambassador to Korea



1 December
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Rob Nixon, Rachel Carson Professor of English, University of Wisconsin—Madison

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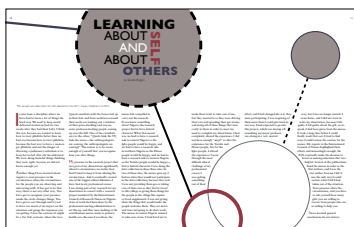


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You Are What You EAT

Food and Identity in Europe Past and Present

by Eric R. Dursteler

In recent years, the expression “you are what you eat” has been everywhere; it has graced book titles, magazine articles, television series, radio programs, and electronic media outlets. Most of these popular contemporary references address issues related to diet, nutrition, and healthy lifestyles. For these disparate sources, the sound bite encapsulates the notion that our health, happiness, and well-being are inseparably interconnected with what we eat.

The adage is not new; however, its roots trace back to one of the earliest and most influential commentators on food: Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, who was, perhaps not surprisingly, French. In 1825, the Parisian politician, judge, and all-around *bon vivant* published a book entitled *Physiologie du goût : Méditations de Gastronomie Transcendante*, translated into English as the *Physiology of Taste or Meditations on Transcendental Gastronomy*. Despite its unwieldy title, the book was hugely successful, and represents the first real attempt to reflect on food in a serious and systematic fashion. Among many memorable *bons mots*, the most famous is Brillat-Savarin’s statement, “*Dis-moi ce que tu manges, je te dirai ce que tu es*” or “tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are,” from which derives our modern abridgment “you are what you eat.”

In making this assertion, Brillat-Savarin was not issuing a manifesto about healthy eating or trying to market a new diet. Indeed, given his intense appreciation of food, he would likely have been quite surprised to see the ways in which contemporary culture has appropriated his aphorism. What Brillat-Savarin was suggesting was something much more profound, namely the tight link in human cultures between food and identity.

The interrelation between food and identity that Brillat-Savarin sensed intuitively has been developed more systematically by twentieth-century anthropologists, historians, and literary scholars. They have shown that because of the biological imperative that we eat and drink every day, as well as the central role that the acquisition, production, and consumption of food plays in our existence, food functions as a potent social, religious, gender, political, and cultural marker. The sum total of our food-related activities, what scholars have termed “foodways,” form

a sort of culinary identity that serves to both define and to differentiate: those who eat similar foods are deemed trustworthy and safe, while those whose foods differ are viewed with suspicion and revulsion.

This notion is not new, of course. From the earliest times, food has marked human culture. In classical antiquity, Greeks and Romans used foodways as a means to differentiate between sedentary, agriculture-based societies like their own, which they of course considered civilized, and more pastoral and nomadic cultures that existed on the periphery of their urban-centered civilizations, which they categorized as barbarian. The historian Herodotus, for example, described non-Greek people as “eaters of meat and drinkers of milk,” in contrast to Greeks who ate bread and drank wine. Along with the olive, wheat, and the grape comprise what scholars have called the triad of Mediterranean foods, and in classical times, they were considered the core foods that marked civilization from barbarity.

In describing the Gauls, who inhabited modern-day France and other parts of northern Europe, classical writers such as the Greek geographer Strabo commented at length on their foodways. The Gauls slept and ate on the ground and consumed large quantities of meat, which they devoured “like lions . . . grasping whole joints with both hands and biting them off the bone.” The Roman historian Tacitus similarly wrote of the northern European Fenni, that they ate “the roots of wild plants and the half-raw flesh of any kind of animal whatever.”

The emphasis on raw meat and plant material was a way to dehumanize what Greeks and Romans considered uncivilized peoples by equating their food habits with those of animals. Among classical writers, the emphasis on meat, whether domesticated or wild, over bread was directly connected to a savage, uncivilized state: animal flesh was the food of brutes. As the anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss showed, the chemical transformation of food through cooking has represented for many cultures a symbolic dividing line between nature and culture. In their organic, unaltered condition, raw foods are the sustenance of wild animals, in contrast to cooked food, which through human ingenuity is transformed from its natural state. Cooking, in other words, sets humans off from animals, and by extension, civilized peoples from barbarians.

The ancient Israelites provide another example of the ways that food functioned to define and preserve a distinct cultural identity. The Mosaic law presented an elaborate and diverse system of practices meant to maintain the unique identity of the comparatively small Israelite tribes in the midst of the much larger and more dominant cultures of the ancient near east. A central component of this system is a very detailed dietary code intended to serve both as a daily reminder to the Israelites and a clear line of demarcation to their neighbors of the differences between them. Over time, these prohibitions evolved into the more elaborate system of *kashrut* (from the Hebrew root for fit, proper, or correct), practiced in one form or another by many Jews today. Kashrut provides detailed guidelines on what can and cannot be eaten, how animals must be slaughtered, and how foods were to be prepared. The efficacy of these food markers is evident in the familiar narrative of Daniel who, when faced with assimilation into the triumphant Babylonian hierarchy, asserted his Jewish identity by refusing to transgress the Mosaic dietary code.

“The Gauls slept and ate on the ground and consumed large quantities of meat, which they devoured “like lions . . . grasping whole joints with both hands and biting them off the bone.”

In a more modern context, it is illuminating to think about the Word of Wisdom observed by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as a dietary code functioning similarly to the Jewish practice of *kashrut*. While generally its core prohibitions of alcohol, tobacco, coffee, and tea are interpreted primarily as an inspired code of health, the proscriptions of the Word of Wisdom are also one of the most powerful boundary markers for Latter-day Saints in defining and differentiating themselves from broader contemporary society.

The nexus of food and identity was not unique to the ancient world, indeed classical precedents profoundly marked

medieval and early modern views of food. This is evident in the age's voluminous travel literature. Then as now, travelers were led by their stomachs: they regularly commented on the varied array of foods they consumed, and they used foodways as a familiar way to order unfamiliar cultures and peoples they encountered. Travelers, adventurers, and colonial officials in the New World commented extensively on the continent's many new and alien foodways. They were particularly fascinated by reports of native cannibalism—the ultimate culinary act of savagery. This was a very common trope in the literature of the early modern period, though recent scholarship has called into question the veracity of many of these tales. Whether it was practiced or not, reports of cannibalism were only the most extreme example of the ways Europeans used indigenous foodways as a means to assert their difference from and moral superiority to the people they colonized.

In comparison to the Americas, many more travelers stayed closer to home, visiting other regions of Europe and the Mediterranean. Particularly in the territories of the Ottoman Empire, travelers were fascinated by Muslim foodways and used these to produce culinary geographies that inscribed boundaries often less a product of religious than cultural differences and that often closely paralleled their classical Greek and Roman precedents. Travelers made much of the “Turks” heavy consumption of poorly prepared meat, their insipid bread, and what the English traveler Henry Blount described as their “outrageous drunkenness.” Similar to their Christian European contemporaries, Ottoman travelers such as Evliya Çelebi, whose *Seyahatname* (*Book of Travels*) is one of the great works of seventeenth century Ottoman literature, were also influenced by classical Greco-Roman and Arab authors in employing foodways as a means to demarcate infidelity and barbarity in their own travels. As in classical times, in the medieval and early modern world, who you were was defined, at least in part, by what you ate and how you ate it.

The traditional world of the post-classical era was fundamentally altered during the great technological, political, and social transformations of the nineteenth century. The cultural link between food and identity remained but underwent a significant metamorphosis in response to the rise of new nationalist ideas and the accompanying dramatic redrawing of the European map along stark national lines.

Nineteenth-century nationalists argued that nations were primordial cultural communities that, following the French



Revolution, began to naturally and inevitably take political form as nation-states. Recent scholarship has shown nations are social constructions or “imagined communities” with roots reaching back only into the eighteenth century. The nation-states of the modern era were a product not of natural but historical forces that cobbled together disparate peoples into the new political

form of the nation-state. To bind these newly minted polities together, it was necessary to expend significant effort to create structures and narratives of the nation—as Massimo d’Azeglio, a key figure in the unification of Italy, allegedly said, “We have made Italy, now we must make Italians.” This process included creating national languages, national histories, and artistic legacies exhibited



in new national museums, national literatures, and not surprisingly, national cuisines.

The role of food in manufacturing national identity is evident in Italy, which had historically been politically and culturally carved into constituent parts with powerful local identities, and was only effectively united by military force in the second half of the nineteenth century. The great diversity of Italy at unification is underlined by the fact that only 2 percent of Italians spoke the Tuscan dialect that was elevated to the status of national language. Italian diversity is also apparent in the peninsula's great culinary variety.

While today we consider pasta the quintessential Italian food, at unification, wheat bread and pasta were more common to the south, while corn in the form of polenta was eaten in northeastern Italy and rice in the northwest. Bread made of chestnut flour was also common in the country's many impoverished regions. It was not until the twentieth century that pasta came to capture the Italian culinary imagination and became widely consumed, though in ways heavily adapted to local tastes. Similarly, unified Italy was divided along the so-called butter/oil line that ran along the border of Emilia Romagna and Tuscany. North of the line the principle fat used in cooking was butter, while olive oil was preferred to the south. Beyond these broad differences, Italy's culinary landscape was characterized by tremendous local diversity in basic foodstuffs and preparations.

In the aftermath of unification, the cultural divide between the north and south became a recurring theme in the struggle to unite the nation, and food differences were seen as an essential aspect of what set the regions apart. Successive Italian governments instituted wide-ranging policies to address food issues, particularly endemic food shortages and malnutrition. Their limited success is testified to by the massive economic-driven emigration dominating Italy's first century. These policies gradually moved Italians toward a somewhat more common, shared national cuisine that to a degree transcended powerful regional culinary identities. This process was also influenced by the 1891 publication of the first national cookbook, *La scienza in cucina e l'arte di mangiar bene* (*The Science of Cookery and the Art of Eating Well*), whose author, Pellegrino Artusi, compiled recipes from Italy's diverse regional foodways in an attempt to establish the parameters of an Italian national cuisine.

In the end, these efforts were only minimally successful, as indeed has been the attempt to make "Italians" out of Italy's diverse regional populations. This is apparent in the culinary variety still characterizing Italy today. As the author of one of the most popular contemporary cookbooks of Italian cuisine, Marcella Hazan, has observed, "The first useful thing to know about Italian cooking is that as such it doesn't actually exist." Indeed, it is a reasonable question to ask to what degree the notion of a national cuisine is a useful way to understand the complex culinary cultures of any European state.

*"The first
useful thing to know
about Italian cooking
is that as such
it doesn't actually exist."*

Marcella Hazan

The significance of food in the politics of identity is not a curious artifact of the past; the issue informs current political debates in ways that underline the continued importance of food in demarcating boundaries. This is evident in contemporary Europe where battles over the highly politicized issues of immigration and religion are in part being fought in the market and at the dinner table.

While migration has always been an important force in Europe, recent years have seen a significant growth in both legal and illegal immigration. In 2010, there were more than 47 million immigrants in the European Union countries, out of a population of just over 500 million. Over 75 percent of these immigrants lived in five countries: Italy, Germany, Spain, France, and the United Kingdom. In France, there are almost 7 million immigrants in a population of 65 million, and immigrants in Germany number almost 10 million out of a total population of 82. The actual number of

“Food is unmistakably a unique and potent means of manufacturing and preserving identity.”

immigrants in Europe is certainly much higher, as significant numbers go uncounted.

Not only the total number, but also the rate of immigration in the past decade has been quite dramatic. For example, in Italy legal immigrant numbers have gone from 1.5 million in 2003 to 4.5 million in 2011. For a country historically a source of net out-migration, this transformation has had a profound social, economic, and political impact. Because a significant percentage of immigrants come from Islamic countries, including Turkey, Albania, Morocco, and Algeria, the immigration debate in Europe has also been tightly linked to broader issues such as terrorism, Turkey’s accession to the EU, and the place of Islam in contemporary society. These issues are almost obsessively parsed in the halls of political power, the media, cafés, and homes. The conversation is often incendiary and far-right political parties throughout Europe, including the regionalist Lega Nord in Italy, have made immigration and opposition to the spread of Islam pillars of their political platforms. These parties have progressively moved from the political margins and have experienced a growth in power paralleling the rise in immigrant numbers.

The debate over immigration is also being fought on the culinary battlefields of Europe. In 2008, the town council of the lovely central Italian city of Lucca passed legislation banning any so-called “ethnic” food outlets from being opened in the historic center. The objective, according to city officials, was to protect “the culinary patrimony of the town.”

Lucca’s action ignited a heated national debate, particularly when other cities, including Bergamo in Lombardy, Forte dei Marmi in Tuscany, Cittadella in the Veneto, and most notably, Italy’s financial capital of Milan, enacted similar legislation. Luca Zaia, the Italian Minister of Agriculture at the time of Lucca’s ban, and a member of the Lega Nord, strongly supported the actions, stating: “We stand for tradition and the safeguarding of our culture.” He also defiantly asserted that he had never eaten a kebab, stating: “I prefer the dishes of my native Veneto. I even refuse to eat pineapple.” For Zaia, eating was a political act: to eat a kebab or a pineapple was to reject his culinary heritage, though revealingly not his Italian but his regional identity.

Officials in the cities passing the legislation repeatedly insisted the measures “target[ed] McDonald’s as much as

kebab restaurants,” and their intent was “to safeguard and appreciate our land and our cuisine.” It was patently clear to many observers that the movement was part of a burgeoning xenophobia directed at the growing immigrant minority in Italy, particularly Muslim immigrants. One Italian newspaper described the campaign as “culinary ethnic cleansing,” while another called it a new “crusade against the Saracens.”

The actions of these politicians and other European culinary warriors evidence a paradox. On the one hand, they clearly understand the power of food symbolism in fractious contemporary political issues. By framing their political agendas in terms of defending Italian cuisine and culture, they can mobilize significant popular support among people who might otherwise be uncomfortable with their more extreme political positions. On the other hand, these laws attempting to defend the culinary patrimony of Italy overlook the very diversity that is the historical heart of Italian cuisine.

This point is driven home by Vittorio Castellani, an Italian celebrity chef and food writer, who responded to the spate of anti-kebab legislation by noting there is no cuisine “that does not come from mixing techniques, products, and tastes from cultures that have met and mingled over time.” This is true of an iconic Italian dish like spaghetti with tomato sauce, which is a byproduct of culinary miscegenation. Dried pasta was introduced into Italy from the Arab world in the Middle Ages, and tomatoes originated in Peru and were only incorporated into Italian cuisine beginning in the eighteenth century.

The mobilization of food as a weapon in current political debates is not limited to Italy. In France several years ago, members of a far-right nationalist movement began serving food to Paris’ homeless and downtrodden. This seemingly charitable act was intended as a political statement against immigration, Islam, and multiculturalism. The simple meal included bread, cheese, and a glass of wine. The centerpiece of what was described as a “European solidarity feast” was a hot bowl of “identity soup.” This was a hearty, traditional French soup whose key ingredient was pork—smoked bacon, sausage, and pigs’ ears, feet, and tails. The group’s motto was “help our own before others,” and the “others” they targeted were poor Muslim immigrants whose religious tradition forbids the consumption of pork.

While these Italian and French examples may seem fairly benign, even silly, examples of political theatre, the issues at their heart can take on a much more violent form. This was evident in the recent breakup of a neo-Nazi extremist cell in Germany that had terrorized immigrant communities for over a decade. Among their numerous acts of violence, the members were responsible for what were dubbed the kebab murders, in which eight immigrant and German-born Turkish proprietors of kebab shops and ethnic food stores were murdered over the course of fourteen years. Troubling evidence has emerged linking the murderers to the far-right National Democratic Party, and perhaps even German intelligence services that were at best inept but more clearly negligent in solving the extended crime spree.

Returning to our point of departure, it is clear Jean Anthelme Savarin-Brillat was onto something when he penned the phrase "tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are." Whether we look at classical Roman stereotypes of the food of barbaric German tribes, early modern travelers' misinformed descriptions of American cannibalism and Ottoman bad bread, nationalists efforts to manufacture an Italian cuisine, or misguided contemporary attempts to defend Europe from the kebab, food is unmistakably a unique and potent means of manufacturing and preserving identity. ○

Dursteler, an associate professor of history at BYU, is a former Fulbright fellow, NEH fellow, and in 2006–07, he was a fellow of the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence, Italy. His research interests are the early modern Mediterranean, identity, conversion, and the history of food. His first book was Venetians in Constantinople: Nation, Identity and Coexistence in the Early Modern Mediterranean (2006) and a Turkish translation will be published in 2011. His second book, Renegade Women: Gender, Identity and Boundaries in the Early Modern Mediterranean, was published in 2011. He is the editor of the News on the Rialto and book review editor for the Journal of Early Modern History. He received a BA and MA from BYU and an MA and a PhD from Brown University. Dursteler and his wife, Whitney, are the parents of three children.



LEARNING ABOUT **SELF** AND ABOUT **THE** OTHERS

by Sandra Rogers

This excerpt was taken from her talk delivered at the 2011 Inquiry Conference at BYU.


I come from a discipline where we have had to learn a lot of things the hard way. We used to keep newly delivered women in bed for two weeks after they had their baby. I think this was because we wanted to learn how to treat phlebitis better than we had ever known how to treat phlebitis, because the best way to have a woman get phlebitis and run the danger of throwing a pulmonary embolism is to keep her in bed after she has delivered. We were doing harmful things thinking they were right, because we did not know enough yet.

Another thing I have learned about inquiry is your presence in the circumstance alters the circumstance for the people you are observing and interacting with. It has got to be that way; there is not any other way. You have got to recognize your presence inside the circle changes things. You have got to sort through and try not to have too much of an impact on the situation and gauge the responses you are getting. I love the cartoon (it might be a *Far Side* cartoon) where the two,

typical cannibals with the bones tied up in their hair and bone necklaces around their necks are looking out a window of their grass dwelling and you see some professor-looking people coming up over the hill. One of the cannibals says to the other, “Quick, hide the TV, hide the stereo—the anthropologists are coming, the anthropologists are coming!” The notion is to be aware enough of yourself that you recognize how you alter things.

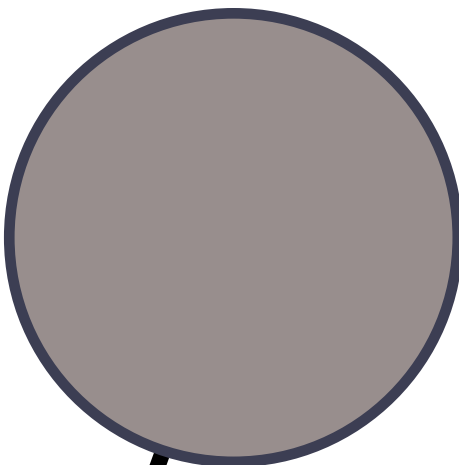
My presence in the research project that was part of my dissertation significantly altered a circumstance no matter how hard I tried to keep it from altering the circumstance. And it eventually created one of the biggest ethical dilemmas I have had in my professional career. I was doing part of my research for my dissertation in concert with a research project instituted by the International Council of Research Nurses in Nigeria. A lot of work had been done by the professional nursing administration to set this up, and they were looking at the contributions nurses made to primary health care. Because I was there, the

nurses felt compelled to carry out the research. If you know something about Nigeria, the research project had to have federal character. What that meant was we had to have a research site in eastern Nigeria so the Igbo people would be happy, and we had to have a research site in northern Nigeria so the Hausa people would be happy, and we had to have a research site in western Nigeria so the Yoruba people would be happy—that is federal character. I was doing the data collection in these three sites. In two of these sites, the nurses gave up. I had no data; they would not participate in the data collection, because they said I was not providing them gas or taking care of their cars as they had to travel to this village or giving them things for the people in the village like aspirin or food supplements. I was not giving them the things that would make the people welcome them. They sat down and were not going to do their work. The nurses in eastern Nigeria wanted to take care of me. I tried hard not to



make them want to take care of me, but they wanted to so they were driving their cars and spending their gas money and doing all of these things that were costly to them in order to meet my need to complete my dissertation. I had completely altered the experience. I did not have enough “umph” to alter the experience for the Yoruba and Hausa people, but for the Igbo people, I altered the experience. I went through the most difficult ethical challenge of my professional career; I was getting something out of their

effort, and I had changed the way they were participating. I was requiring of them more than I could give back in any way. I had expected to go into this project, which was keying off something my major professor was doing in a very neutral



way, but I was no longer neutral. I came home, and I did not want to write my dissertation, because I felt guilty. I felt guilty about the gift, so-to-speak, I had been given from the nurses. It took a long time before I could finally work that out. I tried to find ways I could restore the cosmos for the nurses. My reports to the International Council of Nurses highlighted their efforts and interestingly enough, the ICN eventually made the decision to invest in nursing education that was helpful. Several of the publications listed the nurses in order as the first authors, and I was the last author, because I felt it was the only way I could restore what I felt I had taken out of the situation. Your presence alters the circumstance, and you have to ask yourself how many gifts you are willing to receive from people who are so willing to help you.

I have learned general conclusions do not always

apply to an individual person. We use general conclusions to help us have a general understanding, but we recognize individuals within a population can still do different things. I have learned things are not always what they seem on the surface. In my doctoral program in San Francisco, we had a major professor who was Egyptian. Because of that, we attracted a lot of doctoral students from the Middle East: Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia—everywhere. On one occasion, a new student came from Egypt as women in Muslim

societies were beginning to want to be covered and wear the veil, where before they had not as much. She was veiled and covered, and one day it would be bright pink and another day it was lemon yellow and another day she would fly in with lavender, and she would tell us about her belief in modesty. One of my friends was also Egyptian, but Nawal came to school in gray skirts and monotone sweaters. One day I asked Nawal, “What is the difference here? You seem to be very religious. Why are you not covered like our classmate? And she replied, “It is because she does not understand the spirit of the law.” That is exactly how she said it. I asked her to enlighten me. She said, “Well, the spirit of the law is modesty and not drawing attention to yourself. When she comes in, veiled in the rainbow, who does everyone look at? When I come in, who does everyone look at?” I said, “We all look at her.” Nawal said, “That violates the spirit of the law, and before I left Egypt, I talked to my father

about how I was going to live this principle of modesty in an American environment. He taught me I could live this law by not drawing attention to myself. Consequently, I don’t come in veiled and covered in bright colors.” Which of these two women was living the law of modesty as outlined in the Qur’an? When you came back to report on that in next year’s Inquiry Conference in your talk on how women live their religiosity in what they wear, how would you have explained that? Which one would have been the model you would have used? You would have to explain both of them, would you not? And because you only had two data points, you would have to say: It is not possible for me to make a conclusion, because I only have two data points. I am going to have to go back mom and dad! You are going to have to pay for me to go on my second inquiry visit so I can figure out which of these things is more true.

The last thing I would like to say is inquiry about self and others is about dot gathering and connecting those dots. I started collecting dots that were meaningful to me in various international experiences when I was in grade school and my father was sending me to the encyclopedia. Sometimes, because I could reference a historical point in a foreign country,

I was trusted. People were willing to confide in me, because it looked like I had made the effort to understand their context. Sometimes that data point was from as early as junior high, before I knew what I was doing, but it was a data point. We find them in all sorts of places, we find them in things we read in textbooks, we find them in our interactions with others from

that area, we find them in talking to other people who have been to this particular part of the world or have experience there. We find them in journals. We find them from our faculty who have experience, and we find them in literature—we find them in all sorts of places—these little data points that help us understand other people. And then, they start to connect to each other. Our understanding begins to

grow, and instead of having a factoid, we begin to have a picture. Then the picture becomes clearer like adding pixels to a monitor, and we begin to see the picture more distinctly. ○

Rogers is international vice president at Brigham Young University and has responsibility for the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies, the Ambassadorial Visits Program, and oversees the university's Division of Continuing Education. Rogers previously served as the associate academic vice president for International, Distance and Continuing Education. Her broad experience in the international arena includes studying, serving, and working in countries such as the Philippines, Nigeria, Jordan, and Romania. In addition to serving as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Philippines, Rogers has worked with the Church's Humanitarian Services Committee in Africa and Eastern Europe. As a nursing professor, she was asked to serve as a consultant for numerous international programs, including training and development projects funded by the United States Agency for International Development. Rogers also served as dean of BYU's College of Nursing for six years. Her research has focused on primary health care programs. She received a PhD from the University of California—San Francisco, specializing in international, cross-cultural nursing and received degrees from the University of Arizona and Brigham Young University. See the full talk online at <http://kenedy.byu.edu/events/inquiry/video/2011>.



RIDING THE WAVE OF THE TUNISIAN REVOLUTION

by Sarah Familia
Class of 2001



On Friday afternoon 14 January 2011, my husband, our two small children, and I were packing and preparing for our flight the next morning to Tunisia. Although our personal and professional lives had taken us to Europe, South America, and Southeast Asia, it had been ten years since I set foot in the Middle East during a BYU study abroad to Syria. Now, having completed a contract with an Italian company, we wanted a warm, laid-back place to spend a few months working on a new business idea. Tunisia had it all: gorgeous beaches, low cost of living, Roman ruins, original *Star Wars* sets, and political stability. Political stability, that is, until the day before we were supposed to fly out.



Nationwide protests against unemployment and government corruption had reached the capital a few days before, but that morning our contacts in Tunis had assured us the situation was

reasonably stable. Then, at around 5:30 p.m., we received nearly simultaneous calls from our Chicago-based Tunisian landlord and his brother in Tunisia. The government had fallen, the president had fled the country, and military gun battles were taking place with rogue police in the streets. In case we were still undecided, the airport was also closed, rendering our imminent flight not only inadvisable but literally impossible.

“
*Our plane was full
 of jubilant Tunisians
 exercising their
 newfound right to
 freedom of speech.*
 ”

Things started to calm down after a few days. The people continued to demand a full democracy, but peaceful strikes and protests began to replace angry riots and violence. My husband and I decided we would give it a few weeks to make sure things settled down. After all, who was flying into Tunisia, except daredevil journalists and exiled opposition figures ready to hit the streets, when most tourists were still trying to get out? In the end, though, we couldn't wait. Seven days after deposed President Ben Ali took off from Carthage International Airport, we touched down in Tunisia.

Family, friends, and strangers were horrified with the subsequent adventures I recounted on my blog, but we delighted in the opportunity to experience the effects of a historic grass-roots revolution firsthand. Our plane was full of jubilant Tunisians exercising their newfound right to freedom of speech. The man next to us was a young Tunisian studying in France. He had taken a week off from his studies to fly home and participate in the revolution. Most of the conversations I had with Tunisians during those



“
*In a situation
 of uncertainty,
 unfamiliarity, and
 danger, they are
 showing their
 true quality.*
 ”

first few euphoric weeks were celebrations of new adventures in democracy, as the government continued to make unprecedented changes and the shock waves reverberated through Egypt and the rest of the Arab world.

Life in Tunisia immediately following the revolution had its inconveniences along with its excitement. When we approached an airport taxi, baggage in hand, and asked him to take us to the central train station, he informed us there was a general transportation strike to protest against members of Ben Ali's party who were still running the government. However, taxis did not join the strike until the following day. And if the strike wasn't enough, the central train station had been burned anyway. "Did you want me to take you straight home?" he asked. Well, when he put it that way, we did.

"Home" was Borj Cedria, which Middle East specialists will recognize as the headquarters of the PLO during the tumultuous 1980s. Post-Tunisian-revolution it remained a bit of a scary place. When we arrived, our landlord was still going out every night to man the barricades against marauding rogue police, who were drive-by shooting from ambulances and causing general mayhem. Because ex-President Ben Ali had made his career in the police force, many police elements remained loyal to him after his exile. This resulted in a void of trust in the police force. Security was high, with frequent checkpoints and a policeman in every roundabout, but each policeman had to be guarded by a machine-gun wielding soldier.

We now live down the beach from the burned-out shell of the president's family mansion in the coastal resort town of Hammamet. For months, our family remained some of the very few foreigners here. We've already extended our original four-month stay, and will probably end up lengthening it to at least a year, as we continue to soak up the sun and the revolutionary atmosphere, while we explore forming an NGO dedicated to helping Tunisians

start small businesses. Unemployment is still high, the security situation is occasionally tense, and the economy is looking at a hard year due to the devastated tourist season. However, Tunisians remain mostly optimistic, justly proud of their revolution, and committed to their slow-but-sure transition to a fully functioning democracy.

Most impressive to me is this: In the midst of all the excitement and difficulties here, several ordinary Tunisians have risen to heroic heights. Behind, but not beneath, the demonstrators who braved bullets and tear gas are the quieter heroes who manned the barricades, protecting their neighborhoods during the weeks following the president's departure. And there is the military that won enthusiastic support for refusing to fire on its own people and then stepped modestly aside to let democracy flower.

Tunisians face their challenges with grace and compassion. They are on the vanguard of freedom and want to see it through, both for themselves and for the rest of the region. A few months after the revolution, as neighboring Libya convulsed in chaos, many families in the south of Tunisia opened their homes to the refugees streaming over the border. In a heartwarming display of solidarity and public-spiritedness, some Tunisian volunteers traveled as many as eight hours to the improvised camp, welcoming the exhausted and traumatized refugees with fresh water, sandwiches, and smiles.

The Tunisian revolution is something to be proud of, not only for its odds-defying political success but for the courage of so many ordinary people who are stepping up to take responsibility for making the world around them a better place. In a situation of uncertainty, unfamiliarity, and danger, they are showing their true quality. Democracy may be a new experience for Tunisians, but from what I see, they have civic-mindedness and good citizenship down. ○

LECTURE SPOTLIGHTS

VIEW FROM THE KREMLIN



Sergei N. Khrushchev, senior fellow at Brown University, visited BYU to present his view of the Cuban Missile Crisis, giving students a different perspective on the Cold War. Khrushchev, son of Nikita, the former USSR leader, spoke of the Soviet Union's transition from a centralized to a decentralized society and its international security and the

consequences of this transition including the creation of a criminal society in Russia, as a consequence of the mistakes in the early stages of market reformation. He touched on Cold War history and the turning points in relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union during the Khrushchev, Eisenhower, and Kennedy periods. While working in the missile and space program, he was in charge of missile guidance systems and space design in Moscow, including work on cruise missiles for submarines, military and research spacecraft, moon vehicles, and the "Proton," the world's largest space booster. Khrushchev is the author of more than 350 books and articles on engineering, computer science, history, and economy published in twelve languages, with the most recent, *Reformer: The Birth of a Superpower, Pensioner Souznogo Znacheniya*, published in Russia in 2010. Over 150 students crowded the Kennedy Center on 16 November, 2011 to learn about the Soviet view on the Cuban missile crisis.

POVERTY AND CONSERVATION



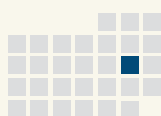
M. Sanjayan, lead scientist at the Nature Conservancy, explained how much humans affect biodiversity,

both positively and negatively, every day. Sanjayan discussed the northern white rhino—a species that has dwindled to only six in the world—as well as many undiscovered species. He described “nature dripping with biodiversity and crawling with creatures” we must save and the major role those living in poverty have to begin to play in conservation. Sanjayan addressed the weaknesses of the World Food Program (WFP) and how those who live in poverty-stricken countries have learned to rely on and use the environment in which they live when government programs, like the WFP, fail them. They learn to understand the animals, plants, soil fertility, and water sources, because it is “nature who picks up the slack” when other sources are unable to provide and help the very poor.

In addition to his role at the Nature Conservancy, Sanjayan also has a faculty research appointment at the University of Montana and is a Catto Fellow at the Aspen Institute, where he studies the nexus between conservation efforts and poverty alleviation. His scientific work has been published in *Science*, *Nature*, and *Conservation Biology*. A frequent guest on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, and the Today Show, Sanjayan has also appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman and has been featured in several documentaries, most recently hosting and narrating a four-part series on energy, “Powering the Future,” for the Discovery Channel.

His lecture was the first in a series sponsored by the Environmental Ethics Initiative (EEI). Its mission is to provide invigorating interdisciplinary scholarship and pedagogy at BYU by increasing awareness of and responsibility for contemporary environmental problems among students and faculty.

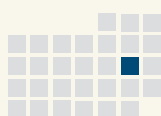
NOTABLE LECTURES



16 September 2011

[“Samoa–U.S. Relations”](#)

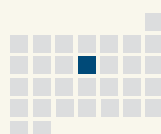
His Highness Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi, Samoan
Head of State



20 September 2011

[“Korea–U.S. Relations”](#)

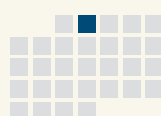
Jeong Gwan Lee, Consul General, Republic of Korea,
San Francisco



12 October 2011

[“Taiwan’s Elections—American and Chinese Interests”](#)

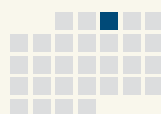
Doug Paal, vice president for studies, Carnegie
Endowment for International Peace



2 November 2011

[“Situating Constantinople”](#)

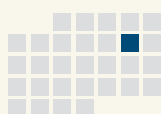
Monique O’Connell, associate professor of history,
Wake Forest University



3 November 2011

[“Energy in the 21st Century: Could Muir, Patton, and
Gandhi Agree on a Program?”](#)

R. James Woolsey, former director, CIA



11 November 2011

[“Europe–U.S. Relations”](#)

His Excellency João Vale de Almeida, EU ambassador
to the U.S.



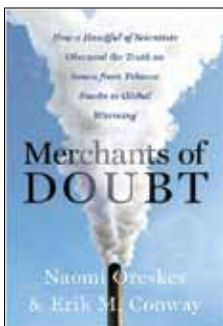
RECOMMENDED READS

MERCHANTS OF DOUBT: HOW A HANDFUL OF SCIENTISTS OBSCURED THE TRUTH ON ISSUES FROM TOBACCO SMOKE TO GLOBAL WARMING

by Naomi Oreskes and
Erik M. Conway

Historians Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway explain how a loose-knit group of high-level scientists, ran effective campaigns to mislead the public and deny well-established scientific knowledge. In seven compelling chapters addressing tobacco, acid rain, the ozone hole, global warming, and DDT, Oreskes and Conway show how corporate-sponsored science, aided by a compliant media, has skewed public understanding of some of the most pressing issues of our era.

—Kendall Stiles, *international relations coordinator*

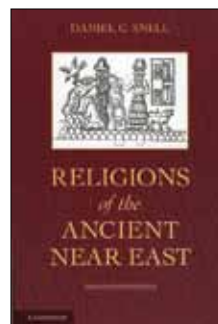


RELIGIONS OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

by Daniel C. Snell

Intended for a general audience as well as for students in introductory courses, *Religions of the Ancient Near East* is well written, up to date, broad in scope, and quite concise (only 167 pages of text, plus references and an index). Snell covers the basic religious beliefs and practices of the major countries and cultures in the ancient Near East (the modern Middle East), including the Sumerians, Babylonians, Canaanites, Phoenicians, Egyptians, and Israelites. One engaging feature of this book is that each chapter begins with a short vignette designed to aid readers in “imagining” what it was like to “live” the religious practices of ancient Near Eastern peoples. These mini-accounts are based on archaeological and textual sources, as well as Snell’s educated imagination to help flesh them out. For anyone desiring insight and understanding of the religious world of the ancient Near East—the world in which the Israelites lived—this book provides a great introduction.

—Dana Pike, *Ancient Near Eastern studies*

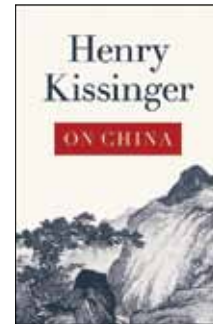


ON CHINA

by Henry Kissinger

Many things wrong with the book, but for a firsthand memoir of one who played a central role in the early years of U.S.–China relations, it offers much insight and history.

—Eric Hyer, *Asian studies coordinator*

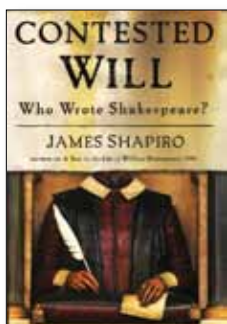


CONTESTED WILL: WHO WROTE SHAKESPEARE?

by James Shapiro

You may have seen the trailer for the forthcoming movie *Anonymous*, which dramatizes the view that the works attributed to Shakespeare were actually written by a ghost writer, Edward de Vere, the Earl of Oxford. This compelling, carefully argued book is the antidote to this kind of speculation. At the end of the book, Shapiro—one of the best Shakespeare scholars working today—makes a strong case for the traditional claims of Shakespeare's authorship. The heart of the book, however, is devoted to an examination of why the question of Shakespeare's authorship has become so contested in popular culture, and he offers some perceptive and ultimately convincing reasons.

—Stan Benfell, *European studies coordinator*

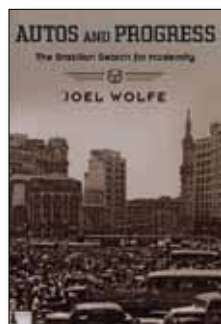


AUTOS AND PROGRESS: THE BRAZILIAN SEARCH FOR MODERNITY

by Joel Wolfe

This is a delightful look at the manipulation of the automobile as a means to, and a metaphor for progress throughout the Americas. Wolfe studies the parallels between Brazil and the U.S. where the automobile is an important means of motility, expansionism, intermural exploration of vast expanses, prestige, etc.—and the very essence of modernity. He contrasts the auto's function and economic dynamic in Brazil—always an integral part of its evolution—with that of other Latin American countries, where multinationals like GM, Ford, and VW may have been less symbiotic and more “imperialistic” as their products “edited” those respective societies.

—Christopher Lund, *Latin American studies coordinator*

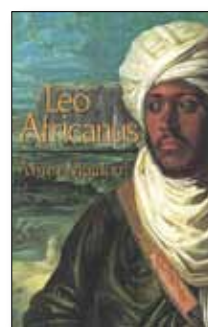


LEO AFRICANUS

by Amin Maalouf

Hassan al-Wazzan, named by Pope Leo X Leo Africanus late in his life, was a famous traveler, merchant, and geographer whose adventures encompassed the entire Mediterranean and stretched from Africa to Rome. As a child, Hassan and his family were expelled from Granada, Spain under the shadow of the Alhambra while Christopher Columbus frequented Grenada's taverns awaiting Queen Isabella's favor to sail to the Americas. By the twilight of Hassan's life he has personally witnessed events which result in a changed world. Spain is now Christian and embarking on the Inquisition, with Spanish Muslims and Jews scattered throughout North Africa and Turkey. Barbarians have sacked Rome and the Protestant Reformation has begun. The Mamelukes have captured Cairo. The trade in New World tobacco has become a highly profitable source of income linking the New and the Old World as trade in slaves and gold begins. Amin Maalouf, a prize-winning author who writes in French (Peter Sluglett, Professor of History at the University of Utah translates the book from the original French beautifully), has presented Hassan's vivid history as fiction in graceful language. The book is a page-turner complete with carnage, war, shipwreck, Vatican politics, and romances in each locale.

—Donna Lee Bowen, *Middle East studies/Arabic coordinator*



KENNEDY CENTER MAJORS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
ANCIENT NEAR EAST STUDIES
ASIAN STUDIES
EUROPEAN STUDIES
LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
MIDDLE EAST STUDIES/ARABIC

SENIORS: 140

JUNIORS: 89

SOPHOMORES: 80

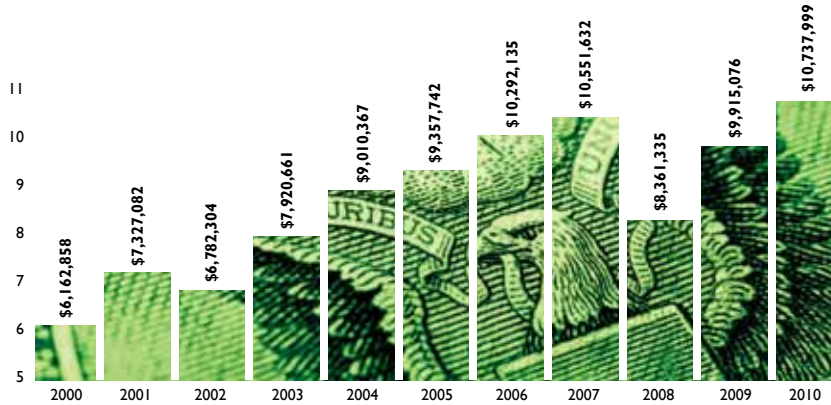
FRESHMEN: 59

SENIORS



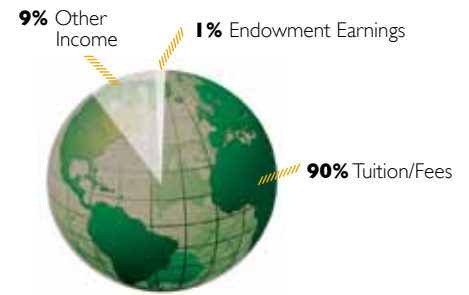
Financial Highlights

Endowment Balance
In Millions



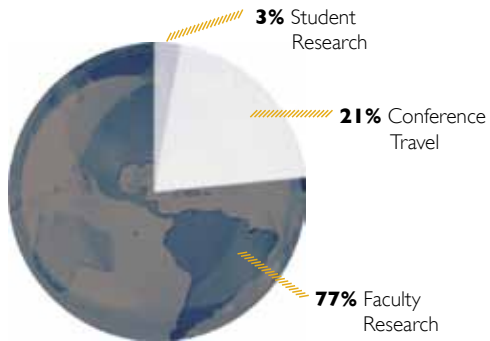
3%

of Kennedy Center Grants go to Students



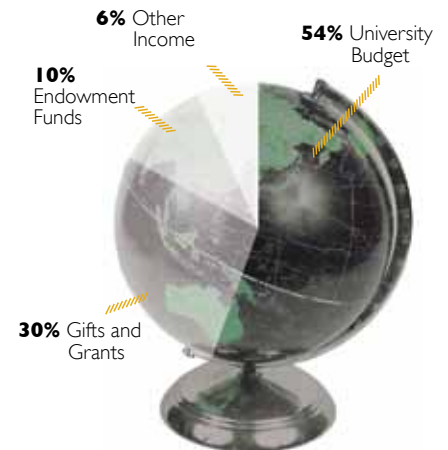
International Study Programs Sources

Kennedy Center Grants



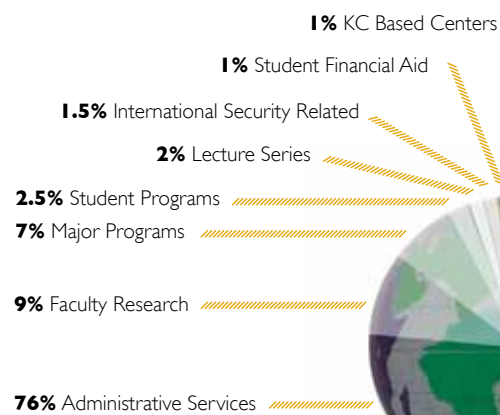
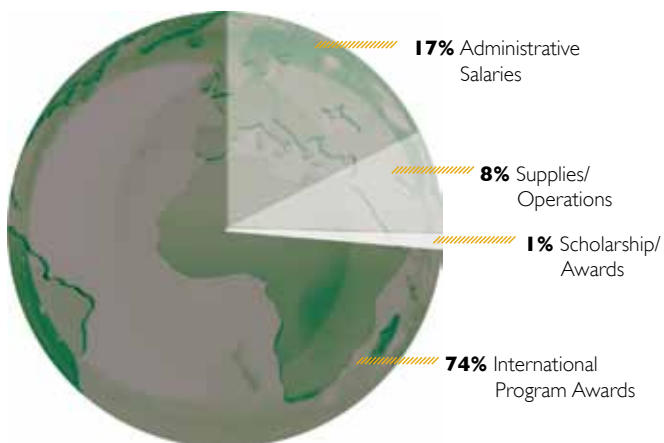
170

is the approximate number of international programs managed by ISP.



Kennedy Center Sources

ISP Funds Uses



Kennedy Center Uses

Lecture Highlights



Each semester the Kennedy Center organizes a wide range of speakers, conferences, events, and activities that enrich campus and link students, faculty, and the community with the broader world. Some notable events include a few reoccurring series as well as an ever-changing round of new guests.



January

Beyond Cliche: Improving your Study Abroad Photography, Paul Adams, photography area coordinator, Department of Visual Arts, BYU,

Mama, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Samurai, David Howell, professor of Japanese history, Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University

The Sakh-Rites in the Memphite Elite Tombs of Egypt's Old Kingdom, John S. Thompson, PhD candidate, Egyptology, University of Pennsylvania

Understanding the Korean Constitutional Court, Jinhan Kim, research judge, Constitutional Court, Republic of Korea

France, the European Union, and the United States, Romain Serman, consul general for France in San Francisco

■ **Meet the New Boss, Same as the Old Boss: The United States and North Korea in the 1960s (and Beyond?)**, Mitchell Lerner, associate professor of history, The Ohio State University



February

■ **Justice Through their Eyes: The Legal Journey of Released Prisoners of the Rwandan Genocide**, Yolande Bouka, PhD candidate, international relations, American University

What's Next? Tunisia, Egypt, and the Future of the Middle East, Kennedy Center Panel Discussion

Taking North Korea Seriously, Kirk W. Larsen, associate professor of history, BYU

Learn about the Foreign Service, Amy Hyatt, Diplomat in Residence for BYU

The Rise of China: What it Means to the United States, Elisabeth Bumiller, Washington correspondent, New York Times

Why State Department Internships Matter (and How To Get One), Internship Panel



March

Almost Ten Years after September 11: Just another Comment on Fundamentalism, Gideon Aran, Richard and Rhoda Goldman Visiting Israeli Professor, UC—Berkeley

A Day in the Life of a Peace Corps Volunteer, Erin Curtiss, recruiter, Dallas Regional Office, Peace Corps

Verdi and the 150th Anniversary of Italy, Luca Bonomi, president, Società Dante Alighieri

What Are They Saying About the Historical Jesus These Days?, Craig Blomberg, Distinguished Professor of New Testament, Denver Seminary

■ **Cambodia—U.S. Relations**, His Excellency Hem Heng, Cambodian ambassador to the U.S.

Europe Today: A Political Crisis or a Crisis of Values?, Massimo De Angelis, journalist, RAI

Ukraine—U.S. Relations, His Excellency Olexander Motsyk, Ukrainian ambassador to the U.S.

Africa's Ambiguous Adventure, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Cheikh Hamidou Kane's *l'Aventure ambiguë*

Russian Orthodoxy Today, Natalia A. Pecherskaya, Rector of the St. Petersburg School of Religion and Philosophy

Ordinary Men: A Profile of the Chechen Insurgents and their Tactics, Dodge Billingsley, documentary film producer and director, Combat Films and Research

China—U.S. Relations, His Excellency Zhang Yesui, Chinese ambassador to the U.S.

Belgium—U.S. Relations, His Excellency Jan Matthysen, Belgian ambassador to the U.S.



April

The Erosion of Religious Liberties—Impact on the International Church, 22nd Annual International Society Conference

Exploring Graduate Programs and Careers in Government, Fred Axelgard, vice president, Middle East business development, General Dynamics

Nigeria on the Brink, John Campbell, Ralph Bunche Senior Fellow for Africa Policy Studies, CFR

■ **The Law and the Women: Protection of Rights for Muslim Women in Polygyny**, Debra Majeed, associate professor and chair, philosophy and religious studies, Beloit College

India and the Globalization of Science, Engineering, and Technology, Allam Appa Rao, vice chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, India

Brazil—U.S. Relations, His Excellency Mauro Vieira, Brazilian ambassador to the U.S.

U.S. Policy Toward Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, CFR Conference Call, Dan Caldwell, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Pepperdine University



Spring/Summer

Thugs and Drugs: U.S. Policy in Latin America, Alexandra Zwahlen Tenny, narcotics affairs program officer, U.S. Embassy, Lima, Peru

Careers in Diplomacy, Alexandra Zwahlen Tenny, narcotics affairs program officer, U.S. Embassy, Lima, Peru

Refugees in Utah, Film Screening, Ingrid Amado, filmmaker

Lament for America vs. Renaissance America: Can America Compete Effectively in a Rapidly Changing World?, Earl Fry, professor of political science

The Whole Truth: Forensic Rituals and Forensic Evidence in Ancient Near Eastern Courtrooms, Bruce Wells, associate professor of Hebrew Bible, Saint Joseph's University

What Can You Do with a Kennedy Center Degree?, Spencer Edgin, Experienced Commercial Leadership Program, General Electric

Christians in Contemporary Iraq: Current Plight and Future Prospect, Herman Teule, chair of Eastern Christianity, Radboud University, Netherlands

■ **The Egyptian Revolution: A Personal Account of Days and Nights in Tahrir Square**, Adel El-Daba, chair, World Languages Department, Cairo American College



September

Leadership and Execution: How Getting Things Done Will Make a Difference in your Career, Michael K. Simpson, senior consultant, Global Leadership and Execution Practice, Franklin Covey

Lecture Highlights

Humanities+: The Case for a Liberal Arts Education, John R. Rosenberg, dean, College of Humanities

Career Reflections: Government Affairs, Ally Isom, deputy chief of staff, Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert

Career Reflections: Career Counseling, Kris Tina Carlston, prelaw advisor, Brigham Young University; McKenzie Lawyer Davies, career counselor, Brigham Young University

Samoa-U.S. Relations, His Highness Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi, Head of State, Samoa

■ **Korea-U.S. Relations**, Jeong Gwan Lee, consul general, Republic of Korea, San Francisco

Tino Rangatiratanga: An Insiders Reflections on the Maori Sovereignty Movement, Rangī Kipa, Maori artist

Flatterers, Wheedlers, and Gossip-Mongers: The Importance of Lying in Pre-Modern Europe, Dallas Denery, associate professor of history, Bowdoin College

Career Reflections: Finance, Roger Gardiner, vice president, Credit Risk/Finance, Goldman Sachs

Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife: Lessons from Iraq for Afghanistan and Beyond, John A. Nagl, president, Center for a New American Security

The Arab Summer: What it means for the Arab World and for U.S. Policy, Roxane Farmanfarmaian, visiting scholar, Middle East Center, University of Utah

Career Reflections: Intelligence, Calvin Andrus, Office of Public Affairs, Central Intelligence Agency



October

Is the Euro Toast?, Wade Jacoby, CSE director and professor of political science, and Richard W. Evans, assistant professor of economics

■ **International Decisions that Will Shape the Future**, Peter R. Huntsman, president and CEO, Huntsman Corporation

Career Reflections: Judiciary, Thomas B. Griffith, Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit

Taiwan's Elections—American and Chinese Interests, Douglas H. Paal, vice president for studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Career Reflections: Campaign Management, Peter Valcarce, president, Arena Communications

Has America Lost its Mojo: The Changing Nature of Power in the Contemporary World, Amos A. Jordan, Brigadier general, retired

In the Fog: Making Sense of the Modern War Story, Dodge Billingsley, documentary film producer and director, Combat Films and Research

Italy as a Global Brand, Robert Viscusi, Brookludian Professor of English, City University of New York

Career Reflections: Law, RonNell Andersen Jones, associate professor of law, Brigham Young University



November

Situating Constantinople: The Byzantine Empire in the Mediterranean, Monique O'Connell, associate professor of history, Wake Forest University

Career Reflections: Policy Development, Ron Gordon, director, Commission on Criminal Justice and Juvenile Justice, State of Utah

Energy in the 21st Century: Could Muir, Patton, and Gandhi Agree on a Program?, R. James Woolsey, former director, CIA

The Ring and the Cross: Tolkien and Lewis, Paul Kerry, associate professor of history, and Tim Slover, associate professor of theatre and media arts, University of Utah

Career Reflections: Nonprofit, Carolyn Grow Dailey, president/CEO, ASCEND, A Humanitarian Alliance

Why the Euro will Survive, His Excellency João Vale de Almeida, EU ambassador to the U.S.

■ **The Cuban Missile Crisis: View from the Kremlin**, Sergei N. Khrushchev, senior fellow, Brown University

Two Christian Monastic Communities in Late Antique Egypt: Recent work at Dra' Abu el-Naga (Thebes) and El-Hagarsa (Sohag), Malcolm Choat, senior lecturer of ancient history, Macquarie University



December

Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor, Rob Nixon, Rachel Carson Professor of English, University of Wisconsin

■ **Germany and the Euro: A Current Perspective**, Wolfgang Drautz, Consul general of Germany, Los Angeles

Career Reflections: Diplomacy, John Dinkelman, deputy chief of mission, U.S. Embassy Nassau, the Bahamas

You Are What You Eat: Food and Identity in Europe, Anca Sprenger, associate professor of French, and Eric Dursteler, associate professor of history

“
The past year
we held
more than
90
Lectures,
Symposia, and
Workshops
”



Alumni Outreach



KENNEDY CENTER CONVERSATIONS

Kennedy Center Conversations are small events that afford an opportunity for alumni, friends, and others to connect with the Kennedy Center on engaging international, interdisciplinary topics. We need your help to identify future locations for upcoming events and will work to explore faculty or other possible speakers as well as the best venue and format for your area. Upcoming events for 2012 include Chicago, New York, Dallas, and San Francisco. Drop us a line with your suggestions and support at kennedyevents@byu.edu.



National Defense University Fellows—Washington, D.C. 4 March 2010

An international security panel featuring officials representing Australia, Colombia, Jordan, Malaysia, Pakistan, the UK, and the U.S. met to discuss worldwide perspectives of the U.S. and its policies. Nearly ninety professionals, students, and interns gathered to hear the panel, moderated by Lieutenant Colonel Bryan Haderlie of the U.S. Air Force at the Barlow Center.

Dodge Billingsley—New York City 21 August 2010

Independent filmmaker Dodge Billingsley returned back to New York to explore the challenges of documenting war in a retrospective discussion, touching his work in Chechnya, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Caucasus, and other conflict regions. The event, held at the Lincoln Center Building, was hosted in partnership with the LDS Professionals Association and coordinated by Kennedy Center alum Paul Dozier.



Valerie M. Hudson—Washington, D.C. 28 October 2010

In a special briefing at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., Professor Valerie Hudson, now chair of strategic studies at the Bush School, Texas A&M and Kennedy Center advisory board member, spoke on "R2PW: the Right to Protect Women" to an audience that included U.S. Ambassador and BYU alum Robert King, as well as representatives and alumni from the Hill, State Department, and policy community. Gordon Flake, Kennedy Center alumni advisory board member, coordinated the event.



Earl Fry and Valerie Hudson—Washington, D.C. 28 October 2010

How would you grade the freshman year of President Obama's foreign policy record? We invited BYU professors Valerie Hudson and Earl Fry to spend an evening discussing the U.S. administrations' initiatives, identifying strengths and challenges, and exploring promises as well as pitfalls. This event was co-sponsored with the BYU Political Affairs Society and included Washington Seminar interns as well as other young professionals in the city.



Ryan Wright—New York City 17 April 2011

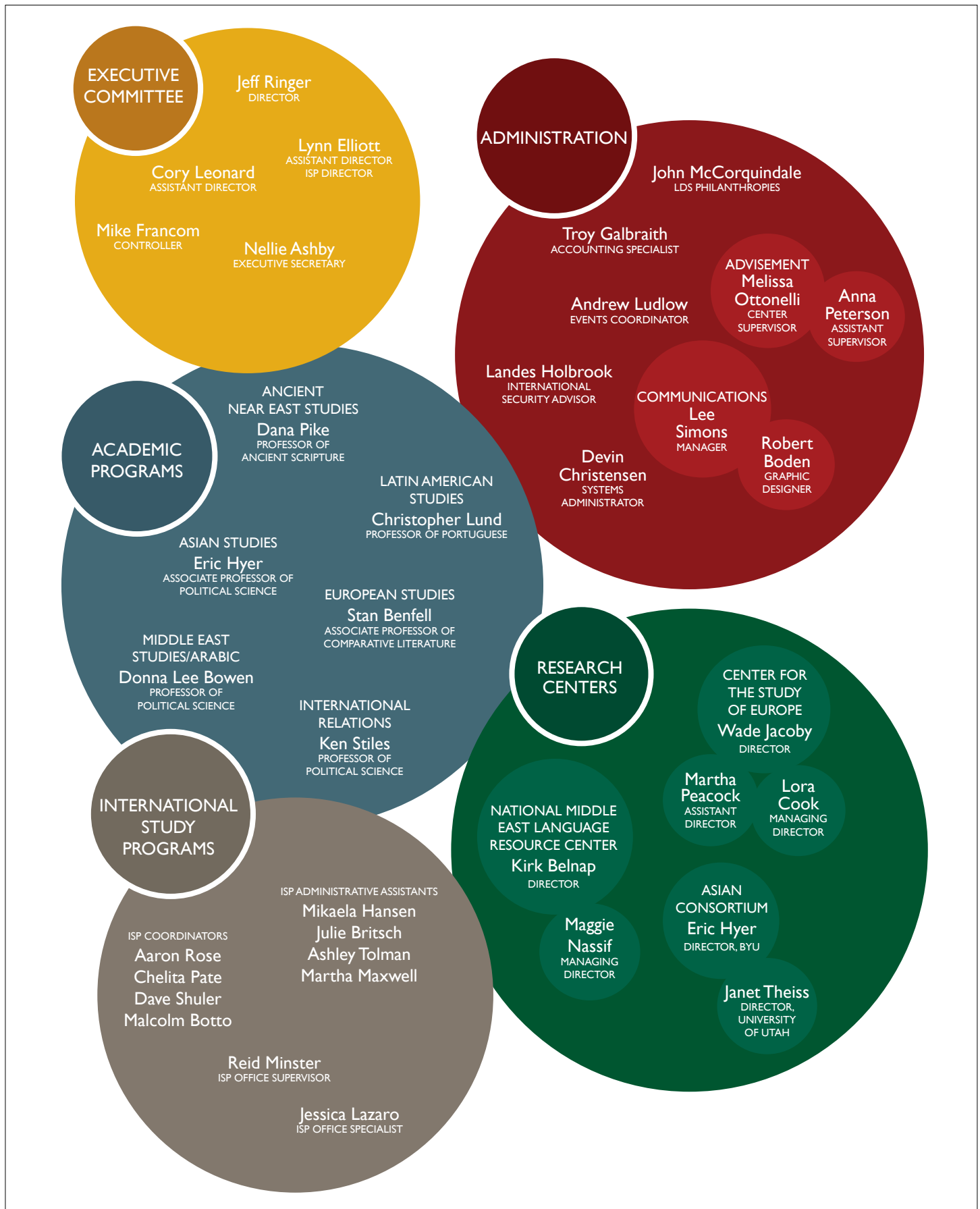
Students and young professionals met at the LDS Public and International Affairs Ambassador Room in New York City to discuss careers, making decisions, and what it's like to be a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the city with Ryan Wright, senior vice president at Sony Music. Wright shared personal insights into his career, from breaking the Back Street Boys while working in South Korea to insights into how he keeps his faith and family a central part of his life.



Maggie Nassif—Provo, Utah 3 August 2011

Utah County alumni were invited to learn more about the latest on the Arab Spring in Egypt and the region from Maggie Nassif, managing director, BYU National Middle East Language Resource Center. The event was scheduled just days after Nassif returned from a summer visit to her native country; she is currently in Egypt on a Fulbright award.

Kennedy Center Organization



Research Funding 2011



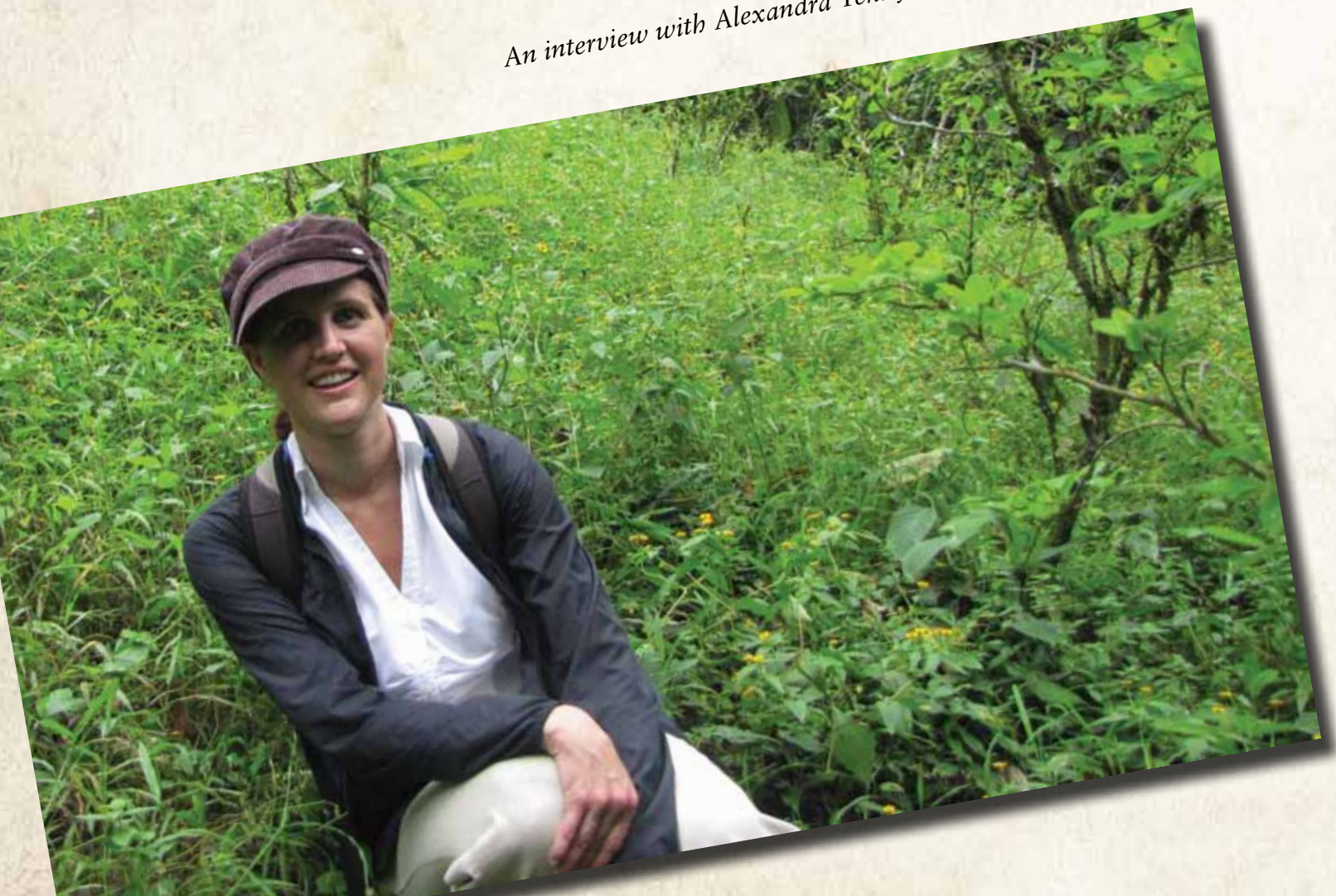
NAME	DEPARTMENT	PROJECT
Paul E. Kerry, Hans-Wilhelm Kelling	History, German	George Bancroft's Student Notebook
Aaron Skabelund	History	Dogs at War in Film; Memories of Military Horses in Japan
Amy Harris	History	Share and Share Alike: Siblinghood and Social Relations in Georgian England; a second, as yet untitled, book on marital status and family relations
Andrew L. Johns	History	In the Eye of the Storm: John Sherman Cooper and the Cold War
Cynthia Finlayson	Anthropology	Archaeological Excavations at the Great Roman Theater of Apamea, Syria
David J. Johnson	Anthropology	Excavations of a Nabataean Rock Cut Tomb at Petra, Jordan
Eric Dursteler	History	Bad Bread and the "Outrageous Drunkenness of the Turks"
Evan R. Ward	History	Travel, Paradox and Joseph Neeham's Chinese Odyssey
Jessica Preece	Political Science	Political Party Candidate Selection Procedures in Russia, Ukraine, Hungary, and Lithuania
Joel J. Campbell	Communications	The Impact of UK's Freedom of Information Act on public affairs news reporting
Joel Selway	Political Science	Understanding the Laotian State in Comparative Perspective
Joseph William Myrer	Exercise Science	Cross-Cultural Comparison of Posture, Core Strength, and Function
Mark H. Showalter	Economics	A Panel Study of Flexible Spending Accounts
Niwako Yamawaki	Psychology	Beliefs about Causes of and Risk Factors for Mental Disorders: A Comparison of Japanese and American college Students
Pat Vahrs	Exercise Science	Comparison of Cardiovascular Risk and Carotid IMT between BYU and Hungarian Coeds
Valerie M. Hudson	Political Science	Family Law and State Conflict

We awarded approximately \$65,000 in research funding to BYU faculty engaged in exploring international and transnational topics, both historical and comparative.

THUGS AND DRUGS

NAVIGATING PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ABROAD

An interview with Alexandra Tenny



Q: When did you know you wanted to be a Foreign Service officer?

A: I was introduced to the Foreign Service life when I was very young. Every embassy around the world has a program called Summer Hire Program for children of employees in the embassy. I worked in the consular section as a high school student, and the idea grew over time as a natural thing I knew I wanted to do. I also returned to Damascus to work as an intern with what was then the U.S. Information Agency. I took the exam to see if that path would work—and it worked!

Q: What has been the most interesting part of your posts as a Foreign Service officer?

A: The variety of work I've been involved in and the impact I've had. Everything from seeing quotes from a speech I wrote for an ambassador used in the local news programs to conceptualizing and executing a multinational judicial conference and briefing a U.S. Supreme Court Justice on his role and participation.

Q: Briefly describe the differences between a political officer and consular officer.

A: They are two separate tracks (and most recently I have been a narcotics officer). A consular officer's bread and butter work is processing visas, processing people immigrating to the U.S., reuniting families, and assisting American Citizens living in the host country. A political officer is more of a journalist. They are expected to develop an understanding of the host country, its issues, and its relevance to the U.S., and reporting back to Washington on those issues, providing the local context and point of view, as well as offering analysis for the policy makers in D.C. They also provide spot reports as results are coming up in developing events such as major protests, the fall of the government, or conflict. A political officer also assists Washington in drafting major reports to Congress, such as the Human Rights report, the Trafficking in Persons report, and the Religious Freedom report, among others. They place observers in various points around the country so our policy makers in Washington have a full arsenal of information of what they need. It's more writing, whereas a consular officer deals with the adjudication of U.S. law.

Q: From consular officer to political officer to narcotics affairs program officer is quite a leap. How does a transition like that happen?

A: A narcotics affairs program officer is considered an inter-functional position, and the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau deals with a variety of issues related to rule of law, judicial reform, etc. The INL Bureau handles a large budget and works to implement programs throughout the globe aimed at building institutions, law enforcement structures, and addressing transnational crime. They look for people with all sorts of backgrounds: folks who are creative in terms of developing assistance programs, skills in people management, resource management, and strong language skills. It is resource-management heavy. Even as a mid-level officer, I manage millions of dollars across a broad range of programs. I've gone from reporting to developing programs and managing funds. It is interesting and exciting, and I feel like I have made a real impact through these programs.

Q: How will your duties change from Peru to your new post in Colombia?

A: One aspect of INL work that I personally like is the job necessitates rolling up your sleeves and getting out of the office. I had the opportunity to work with young adults and communities in the inner city of Lima and also travel throughout the country into areas traditionally known as narco-trafficking areas or terrorist controlled areas. INL work demands strong language skills, as the majority of those we work with, such as the police, community leaders in rural areas, etc., have had little exposure to English. Getting out of the office and developing strong language skills are highly important to effective public diplomacy. While in Peru, we had traveled to a very remote area to run a training program (we had to fly into a grass airstrip then take a helicopter to the town). I was chatting with several of the villagers, holding the many babies being thrust into my arms, and getting to know the community members. Afterwards, one of my staff asked why I let them touch me and hug me, why I insisted on spending one on one time with them instead of sitting at the head table the whole time. I tried to explain to her that no matter what we give this community, what they are going to remember about the U.S. is the interaction

they had with a U.S. diplomat who came to their village. I truly believe not only is this real public diplomacy, but it is the best way to “win hearts and minds.” We do more service to the U.S. as diplomats through people to people contact than anything else.

Q: What aspects of your duties change from Peru to your new post in Colombia?

A: In Peru, I was running what is considered “soft programs.” I was managing demand reduction, anti-money laundering, prosecutorial and judicial training, and the International Law Enforcement Academy—focused more on institutional programs. In Colombia, I’ll be managing the Manual Eradication Program and working with Washington to shape our overall eradication policy. One of the primary functions of the U.S. in both these countries is eradication of the coca plant, where we are physically pulling these plants out of the ground. In Colombia we do what is known as manual eradication and aerial spray eradication. The U.S. funds aerial sprays of the coca fields, and the Colombian government funds the manual eradication, those who are going out manually and pulling it out. It is dangerous work given the often aggressive posture of the FARC, land mines, etc. Often spray planes are fired upon as they spray a field. However, the manual eradication is where they experience the heaviest casualties. The coca fields are mined with IEDs buried under the plant so that when the plant is pulled, the mine goes off. The civilian eradicators (who are protected by Colombian National police) often come under attack when they’re working in the fields or walking around the fields. The U.S. provides assistance funds for their security force protection of the manual eradicators and programs to assist in the continuation of the program (such as asset seizure of the land where coca is being grown, etc). I’ll be working with the Colombian military and the Colombian police to improve the capabilities of their police and their military to provide protection for the manual eradicators, to better conduct post-blast investigations after an IED explodes, and work with the prosecutors in seizing the land used for growing coca and producing cocaine.

Q: Have your experiences in Model UN as a student been helpful in your career?

A: Oh, absolutely—and I tell people that all the time. First, you have to develop interpersonal skills, and it’s



something they test for in the oral exams for the State Department. MUN gives students the opportunity to understand give and take, to work with different personalities, to build consensus, and those are skills I continually use not just with my foreign counterparts but within the embassy as well. One of the main reasons I got this job in Colombia was because of the skill I developed in Peru working across a variety of U.S. agencies and building interagency cooperation. The State Department doesn’t work in a vacuum; we work in collaboration with the military, with USAID, and others. We deal with agency cultures, individual personalities, and you have to build consensus so you can create a mission-wide policy or policy recommendations for the ambassador that everybody agrees on and that meets each individual agencies’ priorities. Just like in MUN, you’re trying to build up a resolution and make sure each country’s priorities are in there—you have to learn give and take. Those are really important skills to use throughout a career. I also use my MUN experience in the literal sense. In both my position in Peru and in my position in Colombia I worked directly with the UN office. I’m grateful for my understanding of the UN gained from my MUN experience, because I think it helped me work with them more effectively.

Q: What aspects of your academic experience at the Kennedy Center (or BYU) have you had the opportunity to use in becoming or being a Foreign Service officer?

A: For me, one of the most useful intro classes was Chad Emmett’s political geography class. In general, what the Kennedy Center gave me, in addition to the academic foundation the State Department looks at and values, was the real-world experience and exposure that sets you apart from other applicants. For example, I did a study abroad to southeastern Turkey, the intercultural outreach program, which built up multimedia and presentation skills for me, became important as a program officer and as a briefer. The kind of student the Kennedy Center produces is a student who’s aware, informed, intellectually curious about the world, isn’t afraid to get out there and meet people, and building the ability to adapt to cultures, understand



cultures, tackle difficult languages, etc. I think the Kennedy Center produces those students in a unique way, and the State Department recognizes that as a great formula for a successful FSO.

Q: What was it about political geography that was powerful to you?

A: It opened my mind to combining the academic with the practical. I wrote a report on the Uighurs of China for my final paper. I internalized the influence of resources (not just oil) on modern-day conflict. Understanding the basis of conflict—be it water, borders, history—you have to remember those things when you're dealing with even a very modern society. People have long memories, and if you understand that about a culture, it gives you the ability to understand why you're getting assistance here, or why your counterpart will think a certain way, or why they won't just do it, even if it's so logical to you, but to them it's not. The class gave me an opportunity to think deeper on some of these issues and how important they are.

Q: You've lived in Jamaica, Latvia, and Peru. How do you immerse yourself in the cultures?

A: You have to get out and walk around. It's very easy to become comfortable with the embassy and the American community. In some cultures, it's easier to make local friends. I've always been grateful for my husband's job outside the embassy. We've used that to expand our network and our friends. He's also a professional rugby player, so that got us into a very interesting network of people in Latvia. Some of the easiest ways to immerse yourself is not only to travel together as a family but little things like walking the aisles of the grocery store and trying new products that may seem at first unidentifiable. Another advantage for an FSO is the large force of local staff who work with us in the embassy. They are invaluable in learning about the local culture quickly. In countries where the Church is large, it provides many cultural

opportunities. In Peru for example, we went to the local ward, and my daughters went to the local school. I think that by immersing your family and your private life into the local culture was not only very socially enriching, but professionally I felt like I came to know the country a lot faster. For example, at my daughters' school, attended by children of upper-middle class Peruvians, we found a group of parents who were all our age, all the children were friends so there was an abundance of birthday parties, special occasions, school events, etc. It was always a wonderful opportunity to ask them about local politics or their opinions on issues of particular interest, which enabled me to hear what that class of Peruvians thought as opposed to the elites or the poor. The tourist haunts also provide rich opportunities. We went to Machu Picchu, and the local guide told us how none of the tourist money stays in the surrounding towns but all goes back to Lima. We went to the jungle and saw our four year old make friends with children who didn't speak Spanish yet (they speak their local language until they go to school and learn Spanish). I conversed with the tribe, and the leader's wife asked me if I could hire her daughter as my maid. I realized how vulnerable these tribes and groups are to human trafficking.

Q: What has surprised you most about being a Foreign Service officer?

A: I don't know, that's an interesting question.

Q: How do you balance career, marriage, and motherhood?

A: I couldn't do it without my husband being a true partner. I outsource the cleaning; I outsource the laundry. One advantage when you live overseas is you can hire help that is very affordable. I also have an amazing husband who is a contractor with AID, and he follows me. He's an attorney by trade and has done some fascinating work every place we've been. For example, in Jamaica he worked with an organization working in the prisons for falsely-convicted felons; in Latvia, he worked for a Danish law firm; in Peru, he was hired as a contractor with the USAID labor and trade development office, and he'll continue that in Colombia. I think it's the same challenges every working mom has. For me it was about establishing boundaries with my bosses and letting them know what my priorities are but also sharing the burden in the office and supporting other parents



in their desire to put family first. Some bosses are easier to work with than others on this issue, but I think that is true across professions. With the State Department, it is a traditionally more male-dominated profession, but that has changed. Now we have a new generation of female officers coming in who are married when they come in to professional spouses and already have children or plan on having children early during their career. Whereas our sisters who came before us waited until they were further along in their careers and much older. It has been fascinating for me to watch the State Department handle that. It's like taking an aircraft carrier and turning it 180 degrees—it takes a while, but they're getting there. The State Department is trying to be very family friendly, and I think they are. They provide a lot of care for families, but the phenomenon of the female worker is that we want to have babies, and be home with those babies, so they're adjusting, and I think they're doing a good job adjusting. We also have a union that advocates for us to the State Department, so I think that's taken on a lot of these issues as well. And it's not just the moms; we have dads coming into the Foreign Service who aren't just all about the job. They want to be fathers and want to be at home. The State Department is adjusting to the demand for a work and life balance. And now with technology, I can work almost entirely from my Blackberry some days, which offers me a great degree of flexibility and time management options. We have a lot more tools available to us that make it easier to work from home, to work on the road, you can work in traffic. In Lima's traffic, it took an hour to get anywhere, so that's not time wasted anymore. I'm not forced to stay late to make up that time at the end of the day anymore, because I can work on my Blackberry. All of these amazing tools make it much easier for us to find balance. It is a daily challenge but not impossible.

Q: Narcotics seems like a scary thing to do in any environment, but Perhaps Colombia carries an added stigma of being a very violent place when it comes to drug cartels. Have you faced danger previously, and do you expect to be in danger in Colombia?

A: There's always danger, because you're going to areas of the country, for example in Peru, where a terrorist presence is still active. There's a debate whether or not they're still political, but they are still active and involved in the

narcotics trade. There are areas in the country where we were not permitted to go; there are certain areas where I traveled with a security escort. Where our eradicators operate, they are attacked, but that's not where we go as FSOs. Have I ever felt in danger, no. The machine gun mounted on the side of the helicopter helped give me a sense of security. In Colombia, we'll see. The security situation in Colombia is improving; there aren't as many restrictions on diplomats in terms of moving around the city. There are places you can drive to outside the city that you couldn't go to before, so that's an encouraging thing for me. Out in the field it's still very dangerous, but it's not really necessary for me to go to those places. The scary thing to me is that the people I work with and know and value as friends do go into those areas. They do face danger for doing work we have asked them to do. For example, one of the projects I monitored was called "Creating a Culture of Legality," and it was in a part of Peru with zero state presence and heavy terrorist presence. We hired an NGO to go in, start softening the ground, and start working with the people toward alternative lifestyles—trying to help them see they didn't need to grow coca in order to make a life for themselves. One of my main promoters had her house surrounded and was threatened to be burned alive inside, because the local drug organization didn't like her anti-drug message. She was a wonderful and dedicated person but understandably quit the project. That was heavier on my heart than me going out there, because she was in danger working on a project I developed and funded. We ask people to do these things for us, because we want to make their country better. They do it, because they believe in a better future; they believe in fighting the drug trade and put themselves at risk. It's very humbling to work with these people who are doing things that are mutually beneficial to both our countries. They don't get paid large amounts, they don't have to do it, but they do it because they believe it is the right thing to do. You meet some amazing people who are doing very difficult work.

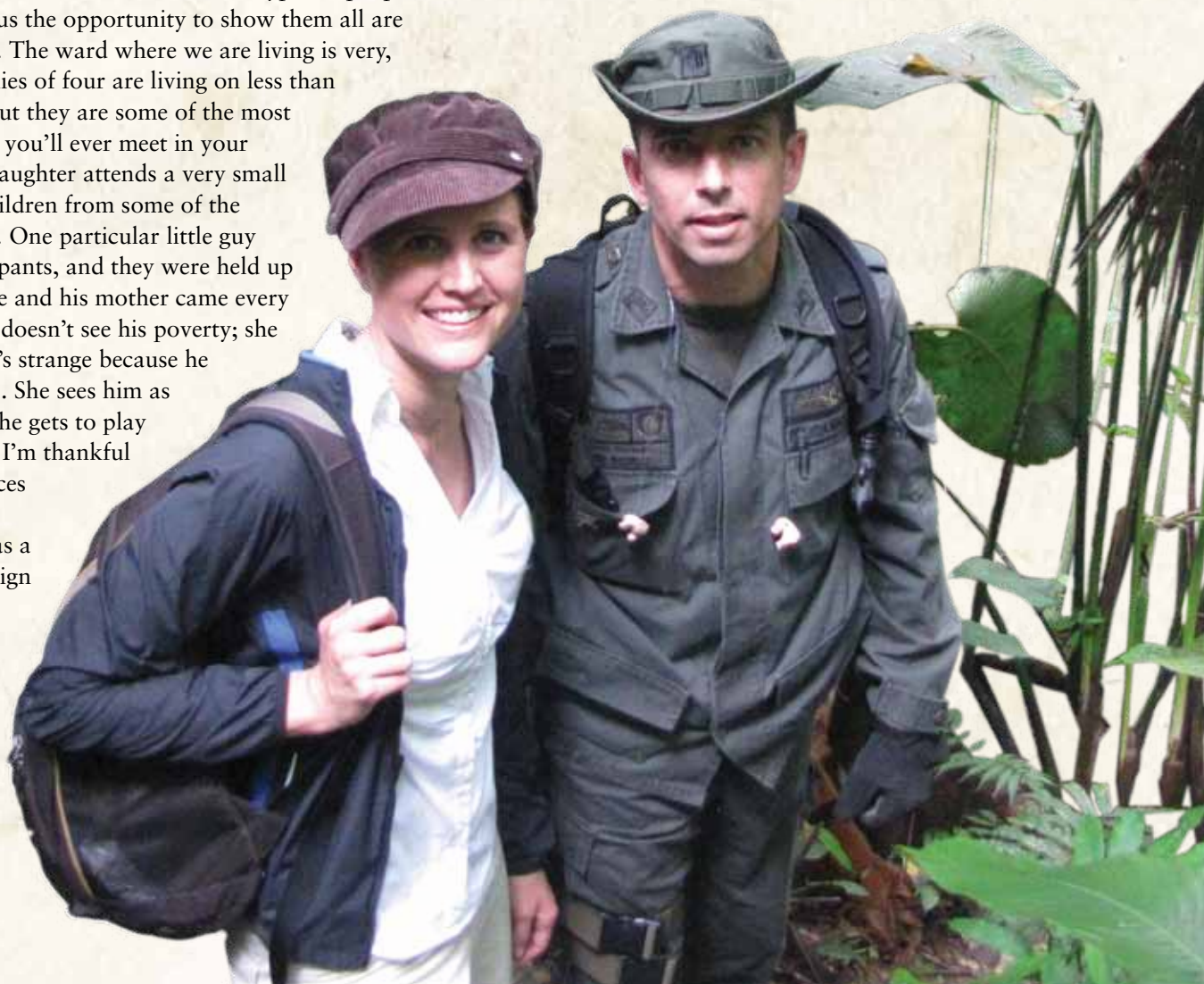
Q: Are there any experiences from your posts you can share with us?

A: My older daughter, MaKayla, is fluent in Spanish. She's four and sounds like a Peruvian. We'll go to

Colombia, and she'll have three more years of Spanish, and my baby, Arianna, will have the same opportunity. That's going to open so many doors for them to be near-native speakers. (I speak Spanish as well as my husband but not nearly as fluently as my daughter). It's an investment really, they'll have that for their whole lives and always use it. I'm also grateful the lifestyle offers a way to expose our children to different types of people, which provides us the opportunity to show them all are children of God. The ward where we are living is very, very poor. Families of four are living on less than a dollar a day, but they are some of the most beautiful people you'll ever meet in your entire life. My daughter attends a very small Primary with children from some of the poorest families. One particular little guy had one pair of pants, and they were held up by a rope, but he and his mother came every week. MaKayla doesn't see his poverty; she doesn't think he's strange because he has ratty clothes. She sees him as another amigo she gets to play with at Church. I'm thankful for the experiences I've offered her because I serve as a diplomat in foreign countries. She's made friends with ROUS (rodents of unusual size); one of them was named Charlie—she became friends with this big



rodent that followed her around in the jungle. There are a lot of sacrifices you make in not having your children in the states and the opportunities that provides, but I think it balances out. At the end of the day, I'm humbled by the opportunity to serve my country, to play a role in the growth of developing countries, to be involved in combating international crime, and I'm so thankful for the opportunities to enrich my children's lives by exposing them to the world. ○



ICON ABROAD

STUDY ABROAD BAG RETROSPECTIVE

As a part of your International Study Programs experience, “the bag” that comes as part of your study abroad, internship, or field study program has become emblematic of a rite of passage that more than 1,100 BYU students undertake each year around the world.



Original Maroon—Similar to the bag sold at the BYU Bookstore and used across our programs from the 1980s to approximately 1994.



Uphill Down Backpack—The backpack moved students’ gear to their shoulders, signaling a new functionality that was used from 1994–97.



Backpack Version 2—A new version that was much the same as its predecessor as ISP branding starts to change from 1997–2000.



Ogio—Golf anyone? This Utah-based company rose to national prominence for its athletic bags, making this ISP backpack a favorite of students (and student athletes) from 2004–06.



Uphill Down—Not to be outdone, the original manufacturer makes a return in what many consider the most durable, comfortable bag of all time. Also, the padded laptop pocket debuts in several colors, 2007–09



Dakine—Chances are you have seen these bags everywhere, especially on the slopes. Snowboarders and study abroaders are sporting these bags 2010–present.

Don't see your bag? Send us a photo at kennedycenter@byu.edu and share a story about your own experience abroad. We'll include you in a drawing to receive a brand new one.

THE SITUATION ROOM



One of a Kind: Designed to serve Brigham Young University's global needs for analysis, safety and security reporting, and crisis management, the Situation Room, located in the Kennedy Center, allows us to monitor incoming satellite feeds for the latest news, display maps, student/faculty profiles, as well as updates.



People Power: Landes Holbrook serves students, faculty, and staff as one of only a handful of security/safety directors in all of U.S. higher education, collaborating with the U.S. Department of State Overseas Security Advisory Council, NAFSA Health and Safety Subcommittee in Education Abroad, and the Church Security Department.



Low-tech: Student employees list some of the hundreds of programs on a whiteboard wall with the possible hazards. Past challenges have included health issues, earthquakes, and a coup d'etat (once).

Discovering a Passion

by Elizabeth Williams

Thomas Nance stepped up as the “man of the house” when his father left to serve with the Army Reserve in Iraq during Nance’s senior year of high school. As the only child left at home, he felt the need to take care of his mother and prepare more carefully for a future career and adult life. Although his

three older siblings had graduated from college, Nance graduated high school without having applied to a university. He felt a lack of direction regarding where to attend college but after speaking with an education counselor, Nance enrolled for a summer term at BYU followed by night classes during fall semester.

While attending BYU, Nance solidified his testimony of the Church with religion classes that supported

his desire to serve a mission. He departed in 2006 to serve in Yerevan, Armenia, where he learned of and grew to love a culture different than his own. Nance was welcomed by warm, hospitable people with a passion for life he had not witnessed in the United States. In addition to growing spiritually, he became convinced he wanted to learn more about the culture of the Middle



While his mission opened his eyes to a new world, it was Model United Nations that taught Nance to see the world from a global perspective.

East and perhaps work internationally. Nance became close with an American family on his mission who worked as a diplomat for the U.S. Embassy. The family had moved from Moscow to Kuwait to Beijing for work and that kind of travel interested Nance. Returning home from his mission, he was eager to explore the international world and quickly declared an international relations major.

While his mission opened his eyes to a new world, it was Model United Nations that taught Nance to see the world from a global perspective. The class helped Nance form a habit of checking international current events daily, and taught him debate, communication, and leadership skills that eventually benefited him on a professional level. The class prepared Nance and his classmates for the mock UN competition in New York, where they worked with other schools to draft resolutions to aid in solving international issues. Nance and his partner were one of only five out of 219 partnerships awarded a committee award at the end of the competition, and he came away with valuable experience that helped prepare him for future career options.

In 2009, Nance received an internship as a junior Foreign Service officer at the U.S. Embassy in Brussels, Belgium. He worked in the political section of the embassy and gained valuable

professional work experience. As an intern, he saw the need for Arabic speakers to fill government positions and switched from international relations to a Middle East Studies/ Arabic major.

Although he enjoyed his Foreign Service internship, Nance wasn't fully committed to working for the government. While exploring career options, a friend mentioned he might look into an internship with Goldman Sachs. Upon researching, he found Goldman Sachs' operations division targeted diversified majors, and surprisingly, non-business majors were more likely to be hired than he previously thought. By connecting with former BYU students who worked for Goldman Sachs, this network assisted him in receiving an internship offer at Goldman Sachs' Salt Lake City office. And his Model UN experience was another factor that set him apart from other candidates during the interview process.

The environment at Goldman Sachs was different than that of the embassy in Belgium. While both internships gave him valuable life and work experience, his time at Goldman Sachs provided a more competitive, efficient, fast-paced learning environment. He could see tangible results of his work there, and that kind of impact increased his motivation to work hard. He felt a sense of ownership for his work and enjoyed

the opportunity to prove his worth to an important company. Following his internship, Nance was offered a full-time position as an analyst at Goldman Sachs beginning July 2012.

The MESA major requires a semester abroad, which Nance completed this fall in Amman, Jordan. The program consists of intensive language, current event, newspaper translation, and presentation classes; daily one-on-one speaking appointments with an Arab professor; and required homework assignments that include reading and translating newspaper articles at least two hours a day and speaking with natives two hours a day outside of school.

Dedicated persistence and a strong work ethic were crucial during his undergraduate study. Nance chose to combine international study and work with his BYU experience, which provided multiple opportunities to learn and grow from the study of other cultures, all of which have helped shape his character. ○



Language-Driven Life

by Elizabeth Williams

From Spanish to Arabic to English, **Raage Sofe** has long been interested in the study of languages. After taking Spanish through high school, Sofe intended to study the makeup of language as a linguistics major at BYU; however, he quickly realized his love of language extended beyond linguistics to the culture, people, politics, and traditions of countries. The Middle Eastern Studies/Arabic (MESA) major combined all of his interests with its focus on Arabic, Middle Eastern politics, and an in-depth study of Islam. His continued study of Spanish has helped him understand the “how” of learning a language before attempting to master a language so unrelated to English as Arabic.

From a small town in eastern Oregon, Sofe’s first experience with international affairs was his service as a missionary in the England London South Mission. He spent much of his time in inner-city London speaking with people from countries all over the world—immigrants from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and the Caribbean—along with native Britons on an almost daily basis and received assignments periodically to speak to Spanish and French wards. This rich immersion in cultures and languages made his mission a springboard for his interest in international affairs.

The Kennedy Center has supported Sofe during his journey toward an MA in international affairs and a study abroad in Jordan. His involvement in Model UN, Middle East Studies Arabic Students, and Foreign Service Student Organization, and networking events like the annual “Night of Diplomacy,” have pushed Sofe forward and helped prepare him for a career as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. State Department. He also participated in BYU’s Washington Seminar during spring and summer 2011 while interning for Schramm, Williams, & Associates, an international trade lobby focused on agriculture. These experiences were critical in preparing Sofe with critical skills, like public speaking and networking, not necessarily taught in his classes that future employers will certainly be looking for.

The Boren Scholarship in particular was a driving force behind Sofe discovering the opportunities available in government work. This award prepares students with a background in foreign language to work in national security following graduation by sending them on an advanced study abroad to become an expert in a language critical to U.S. national security. As a MESA student, Sofe’s Boren award sent him to Amman, Jordan, as part of the BYU Arabic study abroad during fall semester 2011.

One of the unique opportunities associated with the Amman study abroad program is the chance Sofe has had to interact with native Arabs and see the culture and hear the language firsthand. He has had the chance to dive in and explore the culture along with the language and has learned how people in a different culture live, think, and act on a daily basis—something quite impossible to teach in a classroom. ○

FROM THE KENNEDY CENTER

DIPLOMACY IN SPANISH

Some 400 students from about 20 junior high and high schools across the state of Utah attended the recent BYU Model United Nations conference at Brigham Young University. Jeff Ringer, Kennedy Center director, opened the conference as keynote speaker, and stressed the importance of the United Nations in international politics and the individual skills learned through simulating its proceedings.

Top delegation awards were presented to Brighton High School, Lakeridge Jr. High, Mountain View High School, Timpview High School, West High School and Woods Cross High School. Honorable mention awards were also given to Maeser Preparatory Academy, Mountain Crest High School, Provo High School, Springville Junior High and Westlake High School.

This is one of the only high school conferences that includes a Spanish Language committee where advanced heritage and language immersion students can negotiate, write, and speak in Spanish.

RETHINKING INTERCULTURAL OUTREACH

Intercultural Outreach (IAS 353), a nationally recognized course sponsored by the Kennedy Center, was approved as a General Education Global Awareness elective, which means students from any major on campus may register this fall or winter to become involved more deeply in learning about culture.

“This is a course unlike others you have taken,” said Ana Preto-Bay, the new IAS 353 instructor and BYU professor of Spanish and Portuguese, who calls it a “transformative experience” as students read and discuss theory, history and current events and engage in lively class discussions, panels and guest presentations to learn about the importance of culture.

BYU’s Center for the Study of Europe provided a generous grant to help the Intercultural Outreach program retool and apply for General Education elective approval. Under Preto-Bay’s guidance, the course is positioned to be an innovative model nationally among U.S. Department of Education Title VI centers.

STUDENTS DISCUSS EXTREME POVERTY

Arthur Douglas, state director of the Farm Service Agency for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was the special guest at a White House Youth Roundtable on Extreme Poverty. As part of an initiative announced last March by the White House, students from a wide range of disciplines discussed the Obama Administration’s approach to alleviating extreme poverty, especially through its “Feed the Future” program. Students also provided ideas for ways the United States’ approach to international development could be more effective and sustainable.

STORIES ABROAD

BYU students who traveled through ISP as part of an internship, study abroad, direct enrollment, or field study experience submitted their personal stories as video projects

in hopes of winning the grand prize: an iPad. Students turned inspirational, humorous, embarrassing, and encouraging stories into video slideshows with pictures and voice



recordings, original sketches, poetry, and live footage from the field. They shared their stories in two minutes or less and uploaded them to the BYU Stories Abroad YouTube channel. Students voted by commenting on the videos and the top four videos received prizes including an Apple iPad and BYU Bookstore gift cards.

Peter Carroll won the Grand Prize with his story, “People First.” Carroll used live video and personal pictures from his field study in Uganda to share an important message he learned. His story reminded viewers of the blessings we have in the U.S. that we often take for granted and ends with powerful words: “These people, in rural Uganda . . . who greeted me warmly and sent me away with gifts; these people who happened to live in poverty are people first—they are so much like you and me—and this knowledge . . . makes me feel more human.”

Matt Merrill's video, "Tong-Ien" took first place; Amanda Quintana's "Through Pale Eyes" came in second; and Anna Gleave's "Lecciones Pequeñas de España" came in third.

To watch these and other videos from the contest, visit <http://www.youtube.com/user/BYUstoriesabroad>

AWARDEES

Earl Fry, professor of political science at BYU, was appointed to the Fulbright Bicentennial Chair in American Studies at the University of Helsinki in Finland for the 2011–12 academic year. Fry has been teaching a lecture course and seminar in Helsinki dealing with U.S. foreign policy and competitiveness. He is also working on his new book *Renaissance America*, which examines best practices to improve America's overall competitiveness in a rapidly changing world.

Fry believes part of the reason he was awarded the grant was because of the publication of his recent book *Lament for America*, which discusses why the U.S. may be a superpower in relative decline and what must be done to reverse that. "There are only about a dozen Fulbright Distinguished Chairs awarded worldwide in social sciences on an annual basis, so I am gratified to have received this honor," Fry said.

Tesa Lush is a sophomore majoring in German with a linguistics emphasis. Lush received a boost to her German studies this year with an invitation to participate in the 2011–12 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals.

A native of Sandy, Utah, she is one of seventy-five participants who were chosen from a pool of more than five hundred applicants to experience this unique, year-long work-study scholarship program. The program began in July and includes two months of intensive German language training in Germany, four months of classroom instruction at a German university or college of applied sciences, and a five-month internship in the participant's career field.

Lush is also working toward a Spanish minor and plans to get an MBA in international business with an emphasis in human resources.

NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The **Center for the Study of Europe** helped Utah teachers gain increased understanding of Shakespeare with a July workshop at BYU and at the Utah Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City; recognized elementary students at their annual Art Competition, including a gallery reception at the Harris Fine Arts Center; supported the second annual French Camp, directed by Rob Erickson of BYU's Center for Language Studies.

Café CSE lecture series launched in fall 2011 featuring two faculty experts discussing important issues facing contemporary Europe. Topics have included, "Is the Euro Toast," "The Ring and the Cross: Tolkien and Lewis," "Cowboys and Politicians: Will the EU or the U.S. Save the Global Economy and the Environment?"

The **Weidman Center for Global Leadership** sponsored the 14th annual International Engineering Education Colloquium in November at BYU, the first time this event was held west of the Mississippi. Chelita Pate, Kennedy Center ISP coordinator, served on the planning committee, which hosted more than 150 participants from colleges of engineering, government, education, and nonprofit organizations.

The **Intermountain Consortium for Asian and Pacific Studies** coordinated several lectures as well as sponsored local area Title I students to attend a number of Chinese-language performances, including a BYU visit by the Shanghai Chinese Opera Orchestra and the Peking Acrobats. BYU and Asian studies faculty conducted several workshops for area school teachers to help integrate Asian studies into their curriculum.

BYU's Title VI centers continue to monitor U.S. Congressional funding.



INTERNATIONAL AMBITIONS MARK BYU FLAS RECIPIENTS

Thirty-nine 2011–12 Foreign Language and Area Studies scholars were selected to receive full-tuition scholarships for the academic-year as well as a \$5,000 stipend, which may be used to finance a student's travel to another country in order to study their chosen language more in-depth. FLAS scholars are undergraduate and graduate students from a variety of majors, yet they are united in their love for language. These are just a few of the recipients and their interests:

Matthew McCullough is double majoring in political science and Italian and hopes to specialize in international law in Italy. This summer he will intern with an Italian law firm in Siena.

"Receiving the FLAS grant will help me to continue to study the Italian language and culture, which will be very valuable to me in my chosen career," said McCullough.

Jacob Kunzler, who is studying English and Portuguese, said winning the FLAS scholarship "was a huge relief to me, because these last few semesters have been very stressful, trying to juggle everything."

Ashley Erickson is a law student who will study Dutch at BYU. Erickson hopes to increase her marketability as a practitioner of international law.

"The FLAS grant will help me continue studying the language and culture I love in a way I may not have been able to do in law school without this grant," she said.

Jacob Yingling, a chemical engineering student who will study Portuguese, said, "I have been given the opportunity to invest in a deep cultural experience that will enhance my ability to be a part of the global economy. Not only will I have a better understanding of international research, but I will be capable of providing my own research to more audiences."



KENNEDY SCHOLARS 2011–12

Emphasis is placed on students who have an international or global focus which they have demonstrated through majors, minors, participation in Kennedy Center programs, theses, research projects or internships.

Allison Brown

Major: European studies
Minor: Communication and management
Holladay, UT

Andrew Bean

Major: International relations
Minor: Business management
Portland, OR

Brock Mason

Major: Ancient and Near Eastern studies and philosophy
Minor: Economics and logics
Colorado Springs, CO

Dario Espinoza

Major: International relations
Minor: Chinese
Tulancingo, Mexico

Dallin Palmer

Major: International relations
Provo, UT

David Romney

Major: Middle Eastern studies
Minor: Economics and Hebrew
Raleigh, NC

Gary Ashcroft

Major: International relations
Cochran, GA

Michelle Rubio

Major: Public relations
Minor: International development
Miami, FL

Maggie Sabey

Major: Public health
Minor: International development
Littleton, CO

Noah Driggs

Major: International relations
Minor: Business management and Korean
Salt Lake City, UT

Natalie Schultheis

Major: Linguistics and Latin American studies
Minor: TESOL
Evansville, IN

Rachel Fisher

Major: Sociology
Minor: International development and French and African studies
Fruit Heights, UT

ALUMNI UPDATE

Jared Johnson is an associate at Greene, Roberts, and Rasmussen, PLLC in Las Vegas, Nevada. Johnson specializes in tax law, ERISA, employee benefits, and executive compensation. He received an LLM in taxation from the University of Alabama and a JD in Law from Pepperdine University. *BA, International Law and Diplomacy, 2001*

Silene Walters is a CPA, MAS, small business consultant, and tax expert in Rockford, Illinois. Walters also acts as a member of the taxation committee in Individual Taxes at the Illinois CPA Society and president at Walters Accounting Inc. She received an MA in accounting and taxation from Northern Illinois University Business College. *BA, International Relations, 1993*

Davis Smith is the founder and co-CEO of baby.com.br, Brazil's one-stop-shop for baby products online. This concept won Smith first-place at Harvard Business School's Business Plan Contest. *BA, International Studies; minors: Management, Latin American Studies, 2003*

Andria McQueen is a project manager at ACF Solutions, a business systems consulting firm focused on implementing software as a service solution for clients worldwide. *BA, International Studies, 2000*

Andreas A. Söderström is a technical consultant at IM Flash Technologies LLC, a joint venture of Micron Technology and Intel, formed to manufacture NAND Flash memory. *BA International Relations; minors: Latin American Studies, Sociology, 2003*

Robert Rogers is board chairman at Partners for Self-Employment and managing attorney at his law firm in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Rogers' firm is a specialized, cross-border full support, international law firm comprised of seasoned former general counsels or associate general counsels of U.S. fortune companies. He received a JD from University of Minnesota Law School. *BA, International Studies, 2006*

Jared Paget is a supply chain manager at NUK U.S.A. in Madison, Wisconsin. Paget received an MS in international business from J. Mack Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University. *BA, International Law and Diplomacy, 2000*

Carlos Perez is the president of Kitchen Fair International in the Dallas, Texas area. Perez is responsible for directing and conducting all aspects of the business of Kitchen Fair globally in accordance with the company's policies, goals, and objectives. He received an MBA from the University of Phoenix. *BA, International Relations; minors: Latin American Development, Portuguese, 1994*



HUNSTMAN CEO HONORED WITH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Since 1983, the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies has recognized a select number of global leaders with the Distinguished Service Award. This recognition acknowledges individuals who have made international contributions that increase understanding, foster goodwill, and demonstrate the importance of a global perspective.

In October, we honored Peter R. Huntsman, whose business and philanthropic activities embody the highest values and leadership of global citizenship. Huntsman received the award and presented "International Decisions that Will Shape the Future" to an audience of students, faculty, and staff in the HBLL auditorium.

David C. Maness is a Foreign Affairs Officer at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. Maness received an MA in international policy from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. *BA, French, 1996*

Zachary Davis is president of Kanon in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Davis was previously a junior fellow in the Democracy and Rule of Law Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. *BA, International Relations, Philosophy, 2009*

Ryan Meldrum is a senior manager in global sales operations at FedEx Kinko's in Dallas, Texas. Meldrum received an MBA from the Las Vegas College of Business at the University of Nevada. *BA, International Relations, 1996*

Rachel Strawn Thibodeaux is the chief operating officer at Nine by Blue, a site dedicated to marketing and greater search visibility on the web based in Seattle, Washington. *BA, International Relations, 1997*

Ian Davis works as a staff attorney in Washington, D.C. at the Grameen Foundation. Previously, Davis worked as a research intern at Grameen Bank, a law clerk at Scribner & McCandless, P.C., and a program officer at the National Conference of State Legislatures. Davis received a JD from Pepperdine University in 2009. *BA, International Studies, 2004*

Kevin Ryan Jenkins is a Battle Captain and Blackhawk pilot in the U.S. Army. Jenkins has previously served as the Battalion Commander's Adjutant managing personnel and human resource issues for approximately 250 soldiers, a Senate District 12 chair in Salt Lake County for the Republican Party, and as a personnel and administration officer at the Utah Army National Guard. He is currently working on an MBA from Indiana University and received an MS from Thunderbird School of Global Management. *BA, International Studies, Chinese Studies, Military Science, 2005*

Joe Bright is the principal at Texas Consumer Choice, Inc. in Austin, Texas. Bright has worked as the benefits and compensation manager at Nana Management Service, LLC, as an expat contractor at Service Employees International, Inc., and as manager HSE at Loadcraft Industries, Ltd. *BA, International Relations, 1982*

Steven Dorsey is working in the Peace Corps in Costa Rica as the country director. Dorsey has also worked as the program manager of the DHHS/OMH program and as vice president and director of Capture Management at SiloSmashers and as the regional director over Latin America and Caribbean at Project HOPE. *MA, International Relations, 1991*

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Brigham Young University
David M. Kennedy Center
for International Studies
237 HRCB
Provo, UT 84602

Address Service Requested



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FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

*“The first condition of understanding
a foreign country is to smell it.”*

—T. S. Eliot