U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY of EAST ASIAN and PACIFIC AFFAIRS SPEAKS AT THE JACKSON SCHOOL
APRIL 1, 2015

“Telling young Foreign Service officers beginning their careers that diplomacy in Asia is a contact sport. You have to meet with government officials; talk to students, and experience cultures,” said U.S. Assistant Secretary Daniel Russel during his speech on America Looks West: Our Future with Asia at the Jackson School. Russell reflected on U.S.-Pacific relations in 2015 through the lens of six countries in the region, highlighting milestones in bilateral cooperation and opportunities and challenges in education, climate change, trade, human rights, and nuclear energy. He emphasized the new normal of U.S. relations with Asia is that of sustained engagement, and that Asia is a huge trade partner and economic growth engine for Seattle and the entire state.

PUTTING DIGITAL into DIPLOMACY
APRIL 10, 2015

“Diplomacy is changing in a world where both our allies and our enemies are connected,” said State Department Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Public Affairs Valerie Fowler to an audience of Jackson School students and faculty. In her talk, “The Future of Diplomacy in a Digital Era” Fowler emphasized the need for diplomats to take responsible risks and use social media to engage key audiences around the world. Questions from the audience ranged from dealing with negative comments on social media while maintaining transparency and the use of social media as propaganda, to analytics that measure quality of engagement and human and financial infrastructure needed to maintain a coordinated and strategic social media response.

A CONVERSATION on LIBYA’S FUTURE
APRIL 30, 2015

“In Libya we face challenges not anticipated. Today I speak while my people in Libya are being killed, while families are being dispersed, while homes are being shattered, while access to a frail health care system that has been destroyed from years of corruption and neglect can actually become a death journey for patients seeking help,” said Dr. Laila Bugaighis, CEO of the Benghazi Medical Center in Libya to members of Seattle’s Libyan community and UW faculty and students gathered at the UW Club to hear her talk on “The Fight for Libya’s Future.”

Dr. Bugaighis stressed the importance for UW students to support, speak out, and educate themselves on the issues surrounding Libya.

Earlier in the evening, in a video message the U.S. Ambassador to Libya Deborah Jones emphasized the shared connections between Americans and Libyans that date back to 1951. “Libya has faced many challenges but through it all the people-to-people ties created through institutions like the University of Washington and across the U.S are helping to support Libya’s transition. We all have a stake in Libya. Now is the time to build agreement,” she said.

Dr. Anne Stevens, a physician at Seattle Children’s Hospital, introduced Dr. Bugaighis at the event. She emphasized through exchange programs, education and reaching out to political leaders, UW students can help Libya’s future.

The event also served as a memorial for Stevens’ brother, J. Christopher Stevens, the former U.S. Ambassador to Libya who died in 2012, and Bugaighis’ late cousin, human rights lawyer Salwa Bugaighis.

“Chris had a lifelong passion for people and the culture of the Middle East… when my parents visited him they could see what he saw in Libya,” Dr. Stevens told the crowd. “He saw the potential for developing a modern society and new country while conserving its rich culture and history.”
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

While this publication was in production, I attended our final *Intersections in International Affairs* public series for the academic year. The speakers included a general, a diplomat, a development professional, an entrepreneur and a reporter.

The honest discussion that ensued about the uncertainties, constraints and opportunities in a world of increasing global complexity reminded me of the positive impact the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies is making in teaching and preparing our students and bridging the gap between the academic and real world.

Our year reflects this mission. The United States Department of Education funded all eight of our Title VI National Resource Centers to support student fellowships, language study, new courses, outreach activities, and innovative programs. The University of Washington now has the highest number of international area studies centers in the United States funded by the Department of Education.

The Carnegie Corporation also chose the Jackson School to be part of their initiative to “bridge the gap” between academia and the policy world. Their generous grant is providing time and space for a policy institute for our faculty and students to collaborate with the business and non-profit sectors on finding solutions and communicating research about global issues.

The quality of our students and activities are increasingly closing the gap between research and policymaking. This is especially true of our new 10-month master’s degree in applied international studies for professionals interested in global affairs, and for our Ph.D. in International Studies, entering its third year with a reputation for blending rigorous academics with applied projects that focus on contemporary problems.

The crown jewel of our “bridging the gap” curriculum for undergraduates continues to reap benefits beyond the classroom. This year students in the Task Force on “Promoting Human Rights and Healing in the Wake of Civil War” spent time in El Salvador, enabling them to produce a uniquely powerful and comprehensive report. We look forward to more opportunities for students to enroll in Task Force seminars that have an international travel component.

Thanks to our excellent faculty and staff, each of the 20 centers and programs that are affiliated with the Jackson School offers innovative curricula, rich programs, and diverse opportunities for our students, faculty, and community.

Some new initiatives: the Arctic minor spearheaded by our Canadian Studies Center combines natural and social sciences and works as a bridge among the College of the Environment and Arts and Sciences. The growth of our Sephardic Studies Program within the Jackson School’s Stroum Center for Jewish Studies has led us to host one of the richest collections of digital materials about the Sephardic Jewish experience in the United States.

Our world is becoming interconnected at a rate that is unprecedented in human history. As the articles in this report show, the Jackson School is positioned to offer our students the foundation they need to confront the many seemingly intractable problems whose solutions require sustained focus, informed judgment, and cutting-edge skills. Together with our friends and supporters, we look forward to many more years of success and growth.

Reşat Kasaba
Director, Jackson School of International Studies
Stanley D. Golub Chair of International Studies,
Jackson School of International Studies
Craig Gannett, Chair of the Jackson School Advisory Board, shares some key highlights of 2014-2015 and the leadership role of the Jackson School in the study of international affairs.

This has truly been a banner year for the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, as it continues to bridge the gap between the academic community and policymakers. And it comes at a time when policymakers (both public sector and private sector) more than ever need a sophisticated understanding of the facts and circumstances in which they are making crucial decisions.

The leadership of the Jackson School has been recognized by both the Federal government and the philanthropic sector. This academic year, the School received more funding from the U.S. Department of Education than any other higher education institution to widen understanding of international studies and the world. At the same time, it became the only public higher education institution in the country to be awarded the Carnegie Corporation’s “Rigor and Relevance Initiative” grant, a gift that will launch an international policy institute at the School.

The School’s curriculum continues to evolve in the same direction. It has launched a new Master’s in Applied International Studies, where practitioners and academics collaborate on real-world projects. It has also introduced The Bridge Lab, a seminar where Ph.D. candidates share their expertise with policymakers, business, media, and non-profits.

But I’ve saved the best news for last: Professor Reşat Kasaba has agreed to serve for another five-year term as Director of the Jackson School. Under his continuing leadership, we are confident that the School will continue in the same forward-thinking direction, and I ask that you join us in supporting his efforts.

“We are proud of the direction that the Jackson School has taken in the last several years, with its emphasis on policy and pragmatism for student learning. The Jackson Foundation has sought to enhance the School’s ability to keep its training relevant for the next generation of international affairs generation leaders, working with the School on policy-focused conferences and helping to create a Master’s program that is grounded in real-world political concerns. It is exciting to see the young and vibrant new faculty members who continue to be hired by the Jackson School in areas such as American foreign policy and key area studies. We are certain the best years of the Jackson School – with its illustrious history – are still to come.”

LARA IGLITZIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HENRY M. JACKSON FOUNDATION
NEW OFFERINGS

ASIA-PACIFIC MILITARY FELLOWSHIP

The Asia-Pacific Military Fellowship will allow a military leader in the Pacific Northwest to engage in depth on U.S. policy toward the Asia region in an academic setting. The one-year grant will start in the 2015-2016 academic year and be split between the Jackson School and the University of Washington Tacoma.

“The Asia-Pacific Military Fellowship at the University of Washington epitomizes the effective partnership and working relationship with the U.S. Army’s I Corps and Joint Base Lewis-McChord. This Fellowship will foster dialog and civilian-military collaboration in a university setting. It provides our best and brightest military leaders an opportunity to gain greater competency in the political, cultural, and historical frameworks of national interests, preparing them for the future positions in the Asia-Pacific region.”

LIEUTENANT GENERAL STEPHEN R. LANZA
JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD

IN 2015-2016, LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAREN K. PRICE WILL JOIN THE JACKSON SCHOOL AND UW AS THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC MILITARY FELLOWSHIP.

GARY & CONSUELO CORBETT CANADA-U.S. FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

Exceptional undergraduate students are selected to spend a full academic year at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, thanks to the Gary & Consuelo Corbett Canada-U.S. Fellowships Program, administered by the Center for Canadian Studies.


MASTER OF ARTS in APPLIED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (MAAIS)

Mid-career professionals looking to accelerate their career and broaden their view of the world are now able to pursue a 10-month Master of Arts in Applied International Studies (MAAIS). The curriculum is taught by a mix of academic and practitioner faculty, and complemented by the MAAIS Civic Council comprised of corporate, nongovernmental, and political and security sector leaders from companies and organizations directly influencing global policy and decision-making.

THE MARCY MIGDAL FUND for EDUCATIONAL EQUALITY

Each year, The Marcy Migdal Fund for Educational Equality will support two exceptional students who wish to enhance access to education for the most vulnerable, either locally or around the world. Marcy Migdal was known throughout Washington state as a leading educator strongly committed to social justice.
The U.S. Department of Education renewed grant funding for all eight of the Jackson School’s Title VI National Resource Centers — surpassing all other applicants in both total grant awards and number of centers funded — with more than $16 million over four years. The funding supports teaching, research, and understanding of international studies and languages.

"With so many active centers on one campus, we are able to explore some of the most important problems of our world in an effective, interdisciplinary and cross-regional way," said Jackson School Director Reşat Kasaba.

At least half of Title VI funding will go to Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships, or tuition and living stipends that allow selected students to immerse themselves in learning a modern foreign language and area study related to their topic of research.
The Jackson School expects to award between 110 and 140 FLAS fellowships to UW students each year.

**TITLE VI: Outreach**

Outreach on global issues is a key component for Title VI centers. This includes training and activities for K-12 educators and students, the higher education community and the public, through lectures, special events, workshops, and speaker series, among others.

**SOME EXAMPLES in 2014-2015:**

- **An annual ‘Community College Master Teacher Institute’** with the theme “Global Development and Changing Gender Roles,” giving educators an in-depth look at a current global issue to use in their classrooms.

- **A two-day workshop for educators** on “Europe’s Transformative 20th Century: From a Continent of War and Division to a Continent of Peace” – timed to mark the centennial of World War I and 25-year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

- **The U.S. in the World speaker series** organized by the Center for Global Studies brings renowned scholars to speak to academic and public audiences, such as Pulitzer-Prize winner Frederik Logevall, who spoke to a packed audience at the UW on Feb. 26, 2015 on “Obama and the World in Historical Perspective.”

- **In the wake of the Charlie Hebdo killings** on Jan. 7, 2015, Jackson School faculty hosted a public discussion on “Paris and Beyond: Making Sense of the World.” (Watch the archived video at youtube.com/UWJSIS)
For most students, end of winter quarter means finishing a research paper on deadline or taking exams. For the 116 graduating seniors who are majoring in international studies at the Jackson School this year, it meant all of the above – plus preparing, presenting and defending their research findings in a professional setting to visiting high-level policymakers. “It’s a humbling experience to realize what an ongoing process Task Force is, versus a one-off paper that you write for a course,” said Audrey Nelson, a student who researched transnational strategies for addressing conflicts in hydrocarbon and mining extraction activities in Central Andean nations. “It’s exciting to make tangible recommendations.”

This year, Task Force seminars covered topics from large-scale marine reserve management to U.S. military bases in Japan and Korea. Four out of the eight topics focused on human rights issues: labor trafficking in Washington state and the U.S.; livelihoods affected by mining extraction in Peru; El Salvador’s “disappeared” children and human rights in the Middle East and North Africa.

The students who were in the Task Force “Promoting Human Rights and Healing in the Wake of Civil War” spent ten days in El Salvador working with Asociación Pro-Búsqueda and exploring their topic from the perspective of the people in that country.

Whether presenting on transport access issues in Iran and Pakistan for Afghanistan’s mineral wealth, or how to manage a large-scale marine reserve, or reasons for a new foreign aid department at the Cabinet level, during Task Force students learned what it takes to research, write, and present policy briefs – and receive critical feedback from experts.

“In Task Force you are asked to be precise and practical, consider how you are going to do what you propose to be done, and consider who will pay for it. Students take on some of the most challenging issues that some people have been thinking about for years,” said Jackson School Director Reşat Kasaba.
“That we are stronger, safer, and better off when we project the best of ourselves around the world is a concept that I saw come through today in the Task Force presentations,” said Rajiv Shah, former USAID Administrator, to over 130 Task Force students, faculty and visiting policymakers during his keynote speech at a dinner on March 13 at the UW Club celebrating Task Force. “And I think this is very much the spirit of the Jackson School …”

Shah participated in Task Force as one of nine expert policy evaluators who debated with students on their research, policy recommendations, and presentations during a rigorous two-hour session. Evaluators also gave advice on career opportunities.

“I want students to take with them from this experience [the ability] to think critically about issues in as many ways and perspectives as possible,” said Matthew Golden, U.S. Foreign Service Officer who evaluated the Task Force on managing Afghanistan’s mineral wealth.

**TASK FORCE 2014-2015 EVALUATORS:**

- **El Salvador’s Ambassador to the United States**
  - Francisco Altschul

- **U.S. Foreign Service Officers**
  - Carmela Conroy and Matthew Golden

- **Department of Commerce Anti-Human Trafficking Expert**
  - Bev Emery

- **Washington State Senator**
  - Jeanne Kohl-Welles

- **Pew Charitable Trusts Marine and Environmental Scientist**
  - Kathryn Matthews

- **Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales Senior Researcher**
  - Martin Scurrah

- **Former USAID Administrator (2010-2015)**
  - Rajiv Shah

- **Human Rights Watch Deputy Director**
  - Joe Stork
FROM LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS ... 

For this year’s Task Force team addressing U.S. and Washington state policies on human trafficking, the story continued into legislative chambers in the state’s capital, Olympia.

On March 24, at the invitation of the Washington State Labor Council and AFL-CIO, a group of five Task Force students presented their anti-human trafficking research to, and fielded questions from, the Washington State Legislative Council for consideration in future related policy.

In closing the session, Task Force Student Coordinator Ana Alice Block told the panel of legislators: “We are a small group here today but we represent multi-generations of consumers. We ask you to join us in this fight and that our laws can represent this issue.”

... TO KING 5 TV NEWS

“It’s a wonderful opportunity for students to learn human rights by doing human rights,” said Jackson School Professor Angelina Snodgrass-Godoy in an interview that aired on April 9 with King 5 TV News.

She and her students told King 5 about two short documentary films they made on location in El Salvador, in partnership with Asociación Pro-Búsqueda, to help reunite San Salvadoran parents of “disappeared” children. The videos went public on El Salvador’s ‘Day of the Disappeared Child’ on March 29.

The students said they had learned enough Spanish so they could understand key issues during their trip.

Student Emma Mahboub talked about an El Salvadoran mother for whom two of her children had disappeared during the war there. “As we were leaving, she grabbed my hand and kept holding onto it, as if she felt like this [project] was doing something, and that her voice would be heard.”
Teaching Real World Policy

U.S. Congressman Adam Smith reflects on his five years of teaching Task Force as Practitioner-in-Residence and guiding students in making global policy.

1. Why does teaching international studies matter? International studies matters more than ever because we live in an increasingly inter-connected world with increasingly diverse cultures - and policy crosses borders. It is important for students to gain a better understanding of how foreign policy gets developed, for their future success.

2. How do you incorporate your experience as a member of Congress into teaching? I use my practical experience of presenting policy to policymakers, including in my previous roles on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and, currently, the Armed Services Committee.

3. How does Washington state shape the Jackson School outlook? Washington state has two major ports and increasingly significant trade with Asia and the rest of world. It has very diverse cultures; over 100 languages are spoken in just a handful of counties alone. Washington also offers cutting-edge technology and companies that give it an important international flavor. So the Jackson School is a good place for studying international affairs, and for the positive impact of other cultures in Washington itself.

4. What distinguishes the Jackson School approach in preparing students for U.S. foreign policy? It comes as close as possible to the real world as opposed to academic theoretical studies. A course such as Task Force allows students to design a paper that’s going to a policymaker on a key point of policy.

5. What lessons do you hope Jackson School students take with them in their careers? How important it is to understand other countries and cultures, and the practical experience of how to apply knowledge learned in Task Force and the Jackson School to the real world.
The Jackson School will establish an International Policy Institute focused on bridging the gap between academia and the policy, business, non-profit and security sectors, thanks to winning a $1 million grant from the Carnegie Corporation.

The Jackson School is reaching beyond the classroom and into the strategic setting of the Pacific Northwest to bring a new and unique voice to the policy conversation by creating an innovative global affairs institute.

Out of the 22 schools in the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA), the Jackson School was selected as one of five grantees – making it the only public institution and school on the West Coast in the area of global affairs - to win a $1 million Carnegie Corporation grant to improve the transfer of research and expertise between higher education and the global policy world.

The funds will be used to establish the Jackson School International Policy Institute. The institute will facilitate the application of student and faculty expertise to real-world challenges, and create a platform for collaboration among the UW, partner universities and a host of international affairs practitioners to generate pioneering solutions.

“For many years, we have worked with companies and non-profit organizations of the globally connected Pacific Northwest to address critical international challenges, and we have brought the results of this work to policymakers,” said Jackson School Director Reşat Kasaba. “This generous award will allow us to further our vision of bridging the gap between our work and the work of policy, development, security and business practitioners.”

The new institute will provide training opportunities and time for faculty, students, and post-doctoral fellows to work with practitioners across the international affairs spectrum. This will include entrepreneurs, trade professionals, security specialists, global development experts, and business leaders in Seattle, Washington D.C. and beyond on common issues of global concern.

In addition, it will offer a range of activities from workshops, debates and high-level briefings to fellowships, publications, and conferences - to generate new approaches and original thinking on critical global challenges and be a resource for local, national and international audiences.

The new International Policy Institute will complement and build upon ongoing Jackson School initiatives to bridge the gaps between the academy and international policy and decision-making.
THE BRIDGE LAB = PH.D.
RESEARCH for ALL

In its second year of existence, the three-year Ph.D. program continues to innovate to respond to transformational changes in the world, including technology and economics.

For many doctoral students of international studies, research means a political science theory and methodological approach. For Ph.D. candidates at the Jackson School, the focus is on making research relevant by bridging the gap between academia and professional applications.

The Bridge Lab, an initiative started by the Ph.D. program at the Jackson School and the only one of its kind among comparative programs in the U.S., is training students to share their expertise with policymakers, business, media and non-profits. It is a required course for Ph.D. students who must present a problem-focused article related to their dissertation research to a broad community of policy experts, media, or subject matter influencers.

During a recent session, Ph.D. candidate Steve Smith presented a draft article on the peril and promise of Chinese democratization to colleagues – and Issac Stone Fish, Asia editor at Foreign Policy. A discussion followed not only about China, but also about how Smith could adjust his article to make it more accessible for a general audience.

“We are asking Ph.D. students to focus not just on an area of study but also a broad thematic area of interest, to keep research relevant,” said Ph.D. Director Saadia Pekkanen. “We want to train students to become public intellectuals.”

Since it began, The Bridge Lab has helped students develop their research interests for wider audiences, and in some cases, publish in a foreign policy magazine, including The Diplomat.

“Our curriculum combines deep knowledge of major world regions with an interdisciplinary skill set,” added Director Reşat Kasaba. “We provide excellent preparation for an engaged and productive life as a global citizen.”

The Ph.D. program, which welcomed its second cohort of students in fall 2014, combines four cross-disciplinary foundational fields, such as “Peace, Violence, and Security” and “Law, Rights, and Governance,” with the School’s world-renowned expertise in area studies.

STUDENT RESEARCH for SEATTLE’S PRIVATE SECTOR

Since 2010, the Jackson School’s International Studies Program has matched select students with research projects sponsored by and for private sector companies and non-profit organizations.

This spring, nine Jackson School students are putting their research on cyber infrastructure to work with the computing giant Microsoft.

“It’s proving to be an impactful opportunity for each student involved and tangibly demonstrates the value of UW’s international studies training,” said Sara Curran, chair of the international studies program.

“It’s been invaluable to work with a private client and learn not only from our own research, but how they apply that research to their business practices,” said Stacia Lee, an international studies major, of her cybersecurity research project with Microsoft Trustworthy Computing Group, headquartered in the Seattle area.

Each year, the applied research project provides Jackson School students a unique opportunity to take their classroom learning to the real world in response to strategic regional research requests from companies such as Starbucks, Construction for Change, williamsworks, Global Washington, and Microsoft.
The Master of Arts in Applied International Studies (MAAIS) is a new 10-month program at the Jackson School that offers professionals an opportunity to earn an accelerated master’s degree.

“The MAAIS program has given me the opportunity to have a better understanding of what is going on around the world right now and how organizations are planning for the future,” said Tanya Lingle, a 30-year old student from Seattle who had spent four years in the health tech industry and lived abroad before entering the MAAIS program.

Lingle is one of a handful of students from five continents who in 2014 joined the Jackson School’s first-ever master’s degree program geared toward U.S. and international professionals. The 10-month curriculum, for which students must have a bachelor’s and several years of professional work experience, is designed by and for practitioners. This year, students populated the program from a range of backgrounds including technology, education, transportation, manufacturing, government, and civic activism.

“As leaders move up in their careers and organizations, they are increasingly challenged by matters that span geographic regions, thematic issues areas, and professional sectors,” said Jennifer Butte-Dahl, a former senior adviser in the U.S. State Department and the director of the master’s program. “This degree aims to connect the dots so that graduate students are able to more effectively engage with governments, international and nongovernmental organizations, foundations and companies to tackle critical global challenges.”

Jackson School professors with expertise in area studies and practitioners of law, business, development and security from the broader Seattle community teach the multidisciplinary courses and applied research projects.

Unique to the program is the collaboration and contribution from the MAAIS Civic Council, a group of government, business and non-profit leaders who represent organizations actively engaged in global policy and decision-making.

Designed to balance theory and practice, the program aims to create a vibrant community platform for conversations about critical international affairs challenges.

For Torge Schwandt, a German citizen with a background in environmental services and who entered MAAIS as a Fulbright scholar, making connections has been a highlight of his year in MAAIS. “Learning how to communicate across sectors and how policies are made in the U.S. has opened lots of opportunity for me,” he said.

In spring 2015, Schwandt is undertaking an internship at the Washington State Chamber of Commerce to connect U.S. companies to Germany’s renewable energy efforts.

“Seattle represents the new world of international affairs. We may be thousands of miles from the “other” Washington, but actors across the Pacific Northwest are making a global impact. This combination makes Seattle the perfect place for international studies training,” added Director Butte-Dahl.

For more information about MAAIS go to: http://www.appliedinternationalstudies.uw.edu
MAAIS FORGES NEW ALLIANCES in SEATTLE

In its first year MAAIS has launched major initiatives designed to engage the growing community of international affairs stakeholders in honest and provocative discussion about the work occurring at the intersections of government, business, and philanthropy, such as:

- A public series “Intersections in International Affairs” in collaboration with the World Affairs Council, Crosscut, the Henry M. Jackson Foundation and a host of additional community partners
- Debate forums like “Trade + Aid” that bring the Seattle community together on common global issues
- Engagement in events such as exploring lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender global rights, or the challenges of navigating an increasingly complex world

MEET a STUDENT

NAME: Torge Schwandt
PROVENANCE: Rostock, Germany
LANGUAGES: German, French, and English
BACKGROUND: Environmental management, consultant, and Fulbright scholar
STATUS: First graduating class of Master of Arts in Applied International Studies

In his own words: “I WANT TO GET THINGS DONE, AND THIS NEW MASTER’S PROGRAM KEPT UP THAT MOTIVATION, TEACHING ME HOW THE U.S. AND WORLD FUNCTIONS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, POLICY WORLD. FOR SURE I FEEL THIS PROGRAM WILL GIVE ME A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE IN MY CAREER AND HOME COUNTRY.”
PARTNERING for MYANMAR 2.0

Myanmar may be 7,000 miles in distance from Seattle, but that is not stopping the Jackson School from helping the country transition from decades of authoritarian rule and isolation to democratic rule.

Thanks to a $1.5 million grant from USAID, since January 2014 the Jackson School has been leading UW’s effort to support Myanmar-based leaders of social change through technology, training, and partnerships.

With additional funds from Microsoft and the UW Technology and Social Change Group (TASCHA), who provided a matching grant from the Gates Foundation, the Jackson School is collaborating with Myanmar libraries, civil society organizations, government, and emerging research institutions to develop and deliver digital information literacy and information strategies curriculum.

One of the first activities included a UW-based training, held in summer 2014, for 25 mid-career fellows from Myanmar government, civil society, political parties, libraries, research institutions, and the media. Most of the participants had never worked together before the training and represented different perspectives in Myanmar’s history and current transition process.

“We have a lot to do ... today’s democratic transition has been slow,” said Myo Zaw Aung, one of the participants and a former political prisoner who chairs The Innovative, a training and resource institution in Myanmar committed to political education and policy consultancy.

The group continues to collaborate on information projects to rebuild democratic institutions in their country and actively engages with the UW team through Facebook and Jackson School-led training programs in Myanmar. In August 2015, UW will host an information summit in Myanmar, reuniting 2014 fellows and building a larger network of individuals and organizations committed to building capacity for trustworthy information on behalf of democracy and peace-building.

Jackson School Associate Professor Mary Callahan, who has devoted over a decade of her research on Myanmar, helps to oversee the larger initiative. “The 50 years of public disinvestment in Myanmar’s education system represents one of the greatest barriers to progress on any front,” Callahan said. “In the current environment, building the capacity of local universities and developing the leaders of tomorrow is necessary to sustain democratic and economic reform.”

With direct funds and in-kind support totaling more than $3.5 million, the Jackson School has a unique opportunity to build sustained partnerships with education and research institutions in Myanmar, providing strategic resources that Myanmar citizens and leaders need for building effective and evidence-based policy changes in their country.

The Jackson School has collaborated on projects in Myanmar for over 15 years.
MELTING ICE MATTERS in the ARCTIC

Through the Canadian Studies Center, the Jackson School is building upon its Arctic & International Relations initiative that began in 2012 in response to the Arctic’s growing importance in global geopolitics.

The Arctic may sound far from the University of Washington, but its rapidly melting ice is attracting international attention – and that of students and professors at the Jackson School.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, with Canada as the Arctic’s second largest nation-state, the Canadian Studies Center together with the School of Oceanography introduced a new course - “Arctic 200: Indigenous Diplomacies and International Relations in the Arctic” – adding to the School’s emerging leadership in research and teaching of the Arctic.

The Canadian Studies Center also continued its distinction as being the only National Resource Center in the country to offer least-commonly taught Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS) in Inuktitut, or the Inuit language spoken in the Canadian Arctic.

Since 2005, a total of 12 FLAS Fellowships have been awarded in Inuktitut, making a significant contribution to the study and understanding of the Arctic region for current and future generations.

“It was the people of Igloolik who guided me into a richer and clearer understanding of Inuktitut,” said Walter O’Toole, a major in creative writing, who was one of two students awarded a FLAS Fellowship for Inuktitut language study in summer 2014. “When our qamutik broke while we were out on the ice, I helped fix it … then learned how to describe what I had done.”

O’Toole also became the first UW student to graduate with a minor in Arctic studies, a program which was signed into the curriculum by former UW President Michael K. Young in January 2014.

The Jackson School is the only institution in the contiguous U.S. to offer an undergraduate degree in Arctic Studies.

CANADA FULBRIGHT CHAIR JOEL P. HEATH

Joel P. Heath joined the Canadian Studies Center as the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Visiting Chair in Arctic studies for 2014-2015. Prior, he spent seven years working on a documentary in the Belcher islands in Canada’s Hudson Bay studying the eider duck and its relationships with local Inuit communities.

The Canada Fulbright Visiting Chair is supported by the Office of Global Affairs, the Jackson School of International Studies, Social Sciences Division, College of Arts and Sciences, College of the Environment, and the Foundation for Educational Exchange Between Canada and the United States of America.
JEWISH STUDIES PROFESSOR WORKING
to REVIVE LADINO LANGUAGE

BY LILY KATZ, UW JOURNALISM

It was not until his great uncle handed him a stack of old letters, 12 years ago, that Assistant Professor Devin Naar was able to begin filling in the gaps of his family’s history.

Naar had known since he was a boy that he had relatives living in Greece during World War II. What he did not know was the fate that befell them.

His uncle’s letters proved to be the key to unlocking the mystery of this lost branch of his family’s past, but they were written in Ladino, the centuries-old Judeo-Spanish language of the Sephardic Jews. “It was in deciphering those letters that I was able to really get a picture of what happened to the Jewish community of Salonica (Greece) during the war and the murder of my relatives during the Holocaust,” said Naar.

Inspired by his discovery, Naar is leading a project dedicated to keeping the Sephardic language and culture alive. When written, Ladino looks like Hebrew; when spoken, it sounds like Spanish. Ladino was originally spoken by the Jews expelled from Spain in 1492. When they migrated elsewhere, especially to what was then the Ottoman Empire, the language became a rich mixture of antiquated Spanish, Hebrew, Arabic, Turkish, Greek and other languages. As most Ladino-speaking Jews assimilated into other cultures or perished during the Holocaust, Ladino nearly died out.

After college, Naar spent a year in Salonica—the picturesque seaport city from which many of the mysterious letters had come—as a Fulbright Scholar, studying the city’s history and immersing himself in the languages, culture and hometown of his relatives.

Following his travels, he received his Ph.D. in history from Stanford University in 2011. Under the tutelage of Aron Rodrigue—one of the few scholars of the Sephardic world—Naar won an award for his dissertation on the Jewish community of Salonica.

In 2012, he launched Seattle Sephardic Treasures, part of the larger UW Sephardic Studies Program coordinated by Naar to preserve Sephardic traditions. Just a fraction (about 5 percent) of Jews who immigrated to the U.S. between the 1880s and the 1920s were Ladino-speaking Sephardic Jews, many of whom chose Seattle as their final destination.

Seattle Sephardic Treasures has collected more Ladino books than are housed in the Library of Congress or Harvard University.

Eventually, Naar hopes to upload audio recordings—some of which are more than 70 years old—to provide students, scholars and community members with an online resource for learning Ladino.

“Saving a language is saving a culture,” says Wendy Marcus, ’76, music director at Seattle’s Temple Beth Am, a large reform temple in North Seattle. “At the rate we’re losing languages today, it’s nothing short of a mission on Devin’s part, and I applaud that mission.”

Excerpted from the UW College of Arts & Sciences’ Perspectives magazine.

“SAVING A LANGUAGE IS SAVING A CULTURE.”

WENDY MARCUS, TEMPLE BETH AM
NEW FACULTY

2014-2015

MIKA AHUVIA, assistant professor, received her Ph.D. from Princeton University in Religion. She researches the formative history of Jewish and Christian communities in the ancient Mediterranean world. Specializing in Late Antique Jewish history, she works with Rabbinic sources, liturgical poetry, magical texts, early mystical literature, and archaeological evidence. (1)

JEFFREY C. BEGUN, lecturer, specializes in international economics and political economy, China, and environmental issues. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Washington and he is the co-author of several articles including “Red Obsession: Foreign Conglomerates Battle over Chinese Wine” and “In Search of an Environmental Kuznets Curve in Sulphur Dioxide Concentrations: a Bayesian Model Averaging Approach.” (2)

DANIEL BESSNER, assistant professor, received his Ph.D. in History from Duke University in 2013 and spent the 2013-14 academic year as a post-doctoral fellow at Cornell University’s Einaudi Center for International Studies. His research addresses U.S. foreign relations, cultural and intellectual history, U.S.-Europe relations, Jewish studies, and the history of the human sciences. His book manuscript, provisionally entitled Democracy in Exile: Hans Speier and the Rise of the Defense Intellectual, is under contract with the U.S. in the World series at Cornell University Press. (3)

2015-2016

 VANESSA FREIJÉ, assistant professor, received her M.A. in History from Duke University. She received her Ph.D. in History from Duke University in spring 2015. Previously, she held a Fulbright-Garcia Robles Fellowship and a pre-doctoral fellowship with the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego. She currently holds the Katherine Goodman Stern Dissertation Completion Fellowship at Duke. (4)

STEPHEN MEYERS, who focuses on disability studies, will hold a joint appointment with the Law, Societies, & Justice Program and the Jackson School. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from UC San Diego in 2014. He has published articles about disability rights in diverse global settings including Cambodia and the MENA region, and examines how the passage of the UN Disability Convention in 2006 imports a new kind of contentious politics that can be a challenging fit for organizations. Before pursuing his doctorate, Professor Meyers worked as a disability rights practitioner in international development organizations. (5)

MATTHEW W. MOSCA will join the Jackson School and History Department faculty for 2015-2016 as an assistant professor specializing in history of Imperial China. He is currently Assistant Professor of History at The College of William & Mary. He earned his Ph.D. in History and East Asian Languages from Harvard University and has held fellowships at UC Berkeley, University of Hong Kong and the Institute for Advanced Study. Mosca’s current book project is on Qing historiography on Chinggis Khan’s conquests. His teaching interests include the Mongol empire, imperial China’s foreign relations, China in the world, and political, social, and cultural interactions across Eurasia. (6)
HONORS & AWARDS

Assistant Professor Daniel Bessner was awarded the 2014 “Charles Schmitt Prize for Best Article by a Young Historian” by the International Society for Intellectual History. He also has received a 2015-2016 fellowship at Dartmouth College Dickey Center for International Understanding, among others.

Associate Professor Maria Elena García received the 2014 University of Washington Undergraduate Research Mentor Award.

Professor Angelina Snodgrass Godoy was awarded the University of Washington’s 2014 Outstanding Public Service Award for her work establishing the UW Center for Human Rights. The University of Hong Kong awarded Professor Gary Hamilton with a Visiting Research Professorship in the HKU Department of Sociology. The award covers three academic years (2013-2017), during which Hamilton will spend two months each year in residence.

Associate Professor Arzoo Osanloo (Law, Societies, and Justice) has been named chair and director of the Middle East Center, beginning in July 2015. Director Ellis Goldberg (Political Science) retired from the UW in 2014.

Professor Ken Tadashi Oshima (Architecture) has been named chair of the Japan Studies program.


Associate Professor Scott Radnitz was selected to participate in the International Policy Summer Institute of the Bridging the Gap project at American University in Washington, D.C., in June 2014. The workshop trains scholars to disseminate policy-relevant academic research.

Associate Professor Cabeiri Robinson received a Society of Scholars fellowship from the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities for the 2014-15 academic year. She also won the Association for Asian Studies 2014 Bernard Cohn Book Prize and the American Institute of Pakistan Studies 2013-2014 book prize for Body of Victim, Body of Warrior.

Korea Studies Program celebrates career of Senator Paull Shin

On June 12, the Jackson School honored Senator Paull Shin by designating the Korea Studies Program in his name. Shin, who represented the 21st Washington Legislative District for 15 years, played a pivotal role in the development of Korea Studies at the University. He garnered support for the program from local and international Korean communities, and backed legislation to benefit the program. The Paull Shin Korea Studies Program at the UW is one of the few places in the United States to offer undergraduate and graduate training in Korean studies in a variety of disciplines.

RETIREMENTS

PROFESSOR GAD BARZILAI
Professor Gad Barzilai joined the Jackson School in 2005 and has taught courses in Law, Society & Justice, International Studies, and Jewish Studies. An internationally renowned scholar, he served as Jewish Studies Chair from 2008-2011. A well-liked and supportive colleague, we wish Professor Barzilai all the best as the Dean of the University of Haifa Law School.

PROFESSOR R. KENT GUY
Celebrated scholar of Chinese history and chair of the East Asia Studies Center at the Jackson School Professor R. Kent Guy retired at the end of 2013, after over 30 years of service at the University of Washington. A specialist of the Qing Dynasty and recipient of numerous teaching awards for his undergraduate and graduate courses, Professor Guy will continue to teach part-time at the UW.

PROFESSOR KENNETH B. PYLE
Henry M. Jackson Professor of History and Asian Studies Kenneth B. Pyle is retiring after 51 consecutive years of teaching at the University of Washington. Dr. Pyle served as director of the Jackson School from 1978 to 1988. It was under his leadership that the School acquired its current structure, name, and stature, making it one of the leading institutions of its kind. He is the author and editor of numerous books on modern Japan and its history, and founded the Journal of Japanese Studies in 1974, which continues today as a leading publication in its field. President George H.W. Bush appointed Dr. Pyle to chair the Japan-United States Friendship Commission (1992-95). Concurrently, he served as Co-Chairman of the U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange.

He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Henry M. Jackson Foundation (1983–present), was the founding Director of the National Bureau of Research, and was a founding board member of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation (1981–88). In 1999, the government of Japan decorated Dr. Pyle with one of its highest imperial honors, the Order of the Rising Sun, for his contributions to scholarship and cultural exchange. He will continue to teach part-time at the UW.
**FACULTY on the BOOKSHELF**


*Confronting Memories of World War II: European and Asian Legacies* edited by Daniel Chirot, Gi-Wook Shin, and Daniel Sneider (University of Washington Press). This collection provides unique insight into the way that World War II continues to influence.

*The Shape of the New: Four Big Ideas and How They Made the Modern World* by Scott L. Montgomery and Daniel Chirot (Princeton University Press) tells the story of how revolutionary ideas from the Enlightenment have shaped the world we know today.


*The Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia* edited by Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (Oxford University Press).

*Body of Victim, Body of Warrior* by Cabeiri Robinson (University of California Press) examines the lives of Kashmiri refugees. It has won the Association for Asian Studies 2014 Bernard Cohn Book Prize and the American Institute of Pakistan Studies 2013-2014 Book Prize.

*86 Days in Greece: A Time of Crisis* by Taso Lagos (English Hill Press). An insider's view into the social, political and economic dimensions of the crisis in Greece.

Teaching globalization at the Jackson School has become even more global, thanks to the Internet and Professor of International Studies Matt Sparke. In 2014, Sparke made his “Introduction to Globalization” class - long popular with UW students and international studies majors - a massive open online course, known as a “MOOC.” MOOCs are free online courses delivered through platforms such as Coursera, which allow students to access videos, readings and discussion forums on a specific topic.

“When I was a student in the UK, I enjoyed The Open University because they offered free courses on TV and the radio. The MOOC is an echo of that concept but for more global times,” he said.

As one of only a handful of MOOCs offered at the UW, and the first from the Jackson School, Sparke’s “Globalization and You" MOOC has reached thousands. In its first offering, the 10-week course had participants from 198 different countries, and 12,500 of them watched at least one whole lecture while 2,500 participated in the discussion forums. The majority of these participants had bachelor and postgraduate degrees.

“My idea for this MOOC was to foster a global conversation about globalization drawing on the participation of all these people from around the world,” Sparke said. “Student feedback from my Jackson School teaching on globalization made me think this would work, and also prepared me for many of the questions about alternatives posed by this global audience.”

In final evaluations, a common refrain among the students was that the course gave them a new perspective and more thorough understanding of the implications of globalization.

Want to see the MOOC “Globalization and You”? Check out its upcoming offerings at www.coursera.org/course/globalization and www.edx.org/course/global-markets-personal-impacts-uwashingtonx-jsis123x

Recent research by the Jackson School’s Center for Human Rights continues to make the news in El Salvador and beyond. In 2015, the Center collaborated with the Jackson School’s Student Task Force to document two massacres and create two short films that seek to help locate El Salvador’s “disappeared children.”

These efforts were featured in local media as well as in El Salvador, where human rights organizations are helping to reunite families of an estimated 2,500 Salvadoran children adopted into American families during the war years.

Other original research on El Salvador human rights includes a partnership with two leading U.S. organizations, the Human Rights Data Analysis Group and the National Security Archive, in analyzing and releasing the “Yellow Book,” a previously secret 1987 document from Salvadoran military intelligence.

Salvadoran newspapers and Latin American radio and TV gave extensive coverage on the findings of the research by the Center and its partners, and the research website received over 180,000 hits.

The Yellow Book was an enemies list, identifying almost 2,000 Salvadoran citizens as “delinquent terrorists” that included human rights advocates, labor leaders, and political figures, many of whom are known to have been victims of illegal detention, torture, extrajudicial execution, and/or forced disappearance.

The UW Center for Human Rights received the 2013 Human Rights Award from The City of Seattle.
MEET a STUDENT  GOING TO UKRAINE VIA SEATTLE

Christi Anne Hofland’s (M.A., International Studies; MPA, 2015) interest in Ukraine led to the Jackson School and a job overseas.

What inspired you to attend the Jackson School? After three years of living in Ukraine, I felt that I had reached a ceiling in what I could accomplish abroad and needed a change. However, I wasn’t ready to simply let go of my experience. I had become fascinated with the region and wanted it to be the focus of my career. That’s how I found the Jackson School of International Studies.

How does learning another language fit into your career? At the Jackson School I have achieved more in languages than I had anticipated coming in. I maintained enrollment in Russian language each academic year, and in 2015 even added Polish courses. I spent my first summer of graduate school on a Critical Language Scholarship for intensive Russian in Ufa, Russia, and the second summer I received a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship for intensive Ukrainian.

What have you achieved through the Jackson School? Beyond language training, I have built important networks through my Jackson School cohort and academic conferences. I have also found ways to contribute to the broader Seattle community by presenting at the Horizon House Retirement Center’s World Concerns Speaker Series, the World Affairs Council Global Classroom Teacher Workshop, and the Washington State Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference.

What are your plans after graduation? In summer 2014 I went to Ukraine for an internship in the public affairs section of the U.S. Embassy. The experience gave me a unique perspective on international activity and a chance to be at the front end of U.S. involvement in a crisis. This led me to my plans following graduation in spring 2015: I have accepted a position to direct an American Center opening in Kyiv, Ukraine. This dynamic initiative by the U.S. Embassy is designed to build mutual understanding between the U.S. and Ukraine through engaging educational and cultural platforms. I look forward to applying the nuanced and detailed area studies education I have gained at the Jackson school in a way that serves both American diplomacy and the Ukrainian community during this critical time in Ukraine’s history.

EXAMPLES OF STUDENT HONORS

The UW Honors Program has selected Wanda Bertram, a recent graduate of the international studies program, as a 2014 Bonderman Fellow. This award will enable Bertram to travel across several regions of the world, from Southeast and Central Asia to Armenia and Turkey, in 2014-15. She plans to explore the ways that local storytelling customs help people in various stages of social upheaval to historicize their experience.

Joshua Gregory (2014) was awarded a Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship that will support his two-year master’s degree at Syracuse University. Administered for the U.S. Department of State by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Pickering Fellows each participate in a domestic and overseas internship. Upon the completion of the master’s degree, Fellows commit to five years as a Foreign Service Officer.

Three recent graduates of the international studies program, Philmon Haile, Daniel Miller, and Anne Mwendar, were awarded Charles B. Rangel Fellowships to pursue graduate study. The program supports fellows through graduate school in preparation for appointments as Foreign Service Officers.

Haile will apply his fellowship for a master’s at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. In March 2014, First Lady Michelle Obama quoted Haile in a major speech in Beijing about the importance of studying abroad.

As a Rangel Fellow, Mwendar will earn a master’s degree at Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. Elected by faculty and staff, she also received the 2014 Jackson Leadership Award for academic excellence and leadership potential. Mwendar is currently part of the State Department’s U.S. Foreign Service internship program.

Miller will apply his Rangel fellowship toward his current Ph.D. studies at the Jackson School.

Recent graduates Katherine Schroeder (2015), Philmon Haile (2014) and Kevin Shaw (2013) received Fulbright awards through the U.S. Student Program. Schroeder, international studies major with a minor in Russian, will undertake an English teaching assistantship in Russia. Haile is pursuing sociology-related research in Jordan, where he studied Arabic in 2013. Shaw will spend time in Sichuan Province in China to study the effects of rapid urbanization on rural and peri-urban access to health care.

Michael Brinley, a first-year master’s student in the Ellison Center for Russian Eastern European and Central Asian Studies Program, has been awarded the DACOR Bacon House Foundation Fellowship 2015-2016. Michael went to junior high and high school in Russia as a child of missionaries and speaks fluent Russian. Each year DACOR offers graduate fellowships for study toward a master’s degree in international affairs.
JACKSON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION & PROGRAMS

Research Scientist Jessica Beyer works as director of the Information Strategies for Societies in Transition Project and as faculty adviser for undergraduate and graduate students on applied research projects. She holds a Ph.D. in political science from the UW.

Web Designer Jeremy Pritchard has over 10 years of experience in visual communication and design. He has worked on branding and marketing projects in a range of sectors including retail, education, tourism and healthcare. Originally from Sydney, Australia, Jeremy enjoys exploring the Pacific Northwest via hiking and camping.

Payroll Coordinator Kaitlyn Xiu Qing Li graduated from the UW in June with dual degrees in economics and statistics. She has worked in the Jackson School business office as a student since 2010. During her senior year, she interned in the UW Treasury Department, Assets and Liabilities Management office.

CHINA STUDIES / EAST ASIA CENTER

Program Coordinator Curtis Reed is a graduate of the UW China Studies Program and returned to Seattle after a stint working for the federal government in Washington, D.C.

EAST ASIA RESOURCE CENTER

Outreach Coordinator Mary Barnes formerly served as a museum education and outreach staff in Texas and was a Fulbright English teacher in Indonesia. She earned a graduate degree in Southeast Asian Studies from the Jackson School and has a graduate certificate in museology.

Assistant Director Yurika Kurakata previously worked at the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture at Columbia University and at the Radcliffe Fellowship Program at Harvard. She received her graduate degree in international education from Harvard and her undergraduate degree from the University of the Sacred Heart in Tokyo. She also taught high school social studies. She is thrilled to be working with teachers again.

CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES AND CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

Assistant Director Monica Rojas-Stewart is originally from Lima, Peru. She holds a doctorate in anthropology from UW and is a recognized community artist and activist. She recently launched two community arts organizations – DE CAJóN Project and MÁS – Movimiento Afrolatino Seattle – to promote cultural contributions of people of African descent in Peru and Latin America.

MASTER OF ARTS IN APPLIED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (MAAIS)

Director Jennifer Butte-Dahl is the first director of the MAAIS program, which launched in 2014-2015. She is also an affiliate faculty member and has a background that spans five continents, including as a senior adviser in the State Department. She holds an undergraduate degree in management from Purdue University and a graduate degree from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.

Streum Center for Jewish Studies, she is the first director of the MAAIS program, which launched in 2014-2015. She is also an affiliate faculty member and has a background that spans five continents, including as a senior adviser in the State Department. She holds an undergraduate degree in management from Purdue University and a graduate degree from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.

Program Adviser Andrea Sadlier is responsible for recruitment, admissions, advising, financial aid, program coordination and event management. She has worked with undergraduate and graduate students for over 10 years at the UW and Seattle University. She received her bachelor’s from the UW and a master's in academic advising from Kansas State University.

Program Coordinator Rebecca Steelman is a native of Texas and a graduate of the UW with majors in international studies, Near Eastern languages and civilization and political science. As a student she co-coordinated the Jewish Studies Committee at the UW. At the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies, she is able to explore her passion for nonprofit leadership, organizational management and social justice work.

ELLISON CENTER FOR RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES

Associate Director Phil Lyon comes to the Jackson School from Al Jazeera America, where he was a project management coordinator in New York City and Washington, D.C. Phil holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Maryland as well as graduate degrees in international relations from Johns Hopkins University and history from the UW. Phil was a Fulbright Fellow and a Boren Fellow in Croatia, and later served as president of the Fulbright Association’s board of directors.

Outreach Coordinator Valentina Petrova is from Varna, Bulgaria. She holds a dual master's degree from the UW in public administration and international studies. She is a former journalist and public relations professional. Her role at the Ellison Center includes event management, collaboration with other centers and departments across UW, and K-12 teacher outreach.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DEDICATING a CAREER to HELPING OTHERS

When Kent Hill finished his master’s degree in Russian studies at the Jackson School in 1976, he wanted to become a Foreign Service Officer.

When he was not selected, he decided to become an educator, received a Ph.D. in Russian history from the UW, and headed to Moscow, where he gained a lifelong interest in issues of religious freedom.

That began his 35-year career in U.S. government, academic and non-profit leadership roles. Ironically, though his original desire to be a Foreign Service Officer was not immediately fulfilled, Hill landed two Senate-confirmed USAID Administrator positions, first in the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, for which he used his Jackson School area studies training, and then as head of the Global Health Bureau.

Today, Hill is senior vice president of international programs at World Vision US, an arm of World Vision International, one of the world’s largest international development NGOs.

In this role, he monitors $1 billion that World Vision US uses for its overseas operations, often visiting projects around the world, from Sudan with U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator Toby Lanzer. “It’s meaningful work. It’s work that matters,” Hill said.

Hill stressed it is important for international affairs practitioners to understand world religions and applauded the Jackson School’s thematic areas of study that focus on religion, such as Comparative Religion and Jewish Studies. “Fully grasping the importance of religion in global culture and politics is tremendously important,” Hill said. “Religions can be part of the problem, but they are often key to the solution.”

He encouraged Jackson School students to take chances early in their career and not look too far ahead. “Enjoy and profit from your opportunities today,” he said. “It’s fine to choose a major, but I would urge young people to always keep their eyes wide open to opportunities.”

JACKSON SCHOOL ALUMNUS KENT HILL ON A TRIP TO CHINA IN 2010 AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT WITH THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION, THE POSITION HE HELD BEFORE JOINING WORLD VISION IN 2011 AS VICE PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS.

MEET an ALUMNA

NAME: Anne Mwendar
PROVENANCE: Seattle, WA, USA
LANGUAGES: English, French, and Kiswahili
BACKGROUND: B.A. with Interdisciplinary Honors in International Studies from the Jackson School and a minor in political science; recipient of the 2014 Jackson School Leadership Award and a Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellowship.
STATUS: First-year master’s student at Columbia University School of International & Public Affairs, with summer 2015 as a Rangel Fellow in U.S. Representative Jim McDermott’s office in D.C.

IN HER OWN WORDS: “Growing up as a first generation American in Seattle’s international atmosphere greatly strengthened my passion for international affairs. At the Jackson School I was able to delve deeper into the diverse array of issues around the world, from development to human rights, to understand that public policy can be a very effective way to address these global issues.”

UNDERGRADUATE

Shannon Ansbagh (B.A., International Studies/Latin America, 1994) moved from a 17-year stint at Microsoft to join the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as a business analyst in budgeting and forecasting. Shannon continues to use her experience in international trade, product launches, and export compliance.

Laura Araki (B.A., International Studies/Japan, 2012) currently works as a global supply chain analyst at Ciber, a contractor for Microsoft. Laura previously worked at Expeditors International, a global logistics company with offices worldwide, focusing on supply chains, transportation, customs, and brokerage.

David Buerge (B.A., International Studies/Japan, 2000) transferred to Hong Kong, having spent the last five years working in Tokyo. David continues to work for BlackRock, a hedge fund asset management company based in Seattle, overseeing Asia Pacific operations.

Heather Campbell (B.A., International Studies/Global Health, 2012) was accepted to the London Business School and will be studying for her MSc in Management. Heather plans to go into a role in consulting, retail, technology and/or e-commerce.

Noelle Ericson (B.A., International Studies/Western Europe, 2011) joined Amazon.com to work as an Italian- and Spanish-language investigations specialist. Noelle previously lived in Treviso, Italy, teaching a variety of subjects to Italian students at Fondazione Pio X.

Maria Guo (B.A., International Studies/Foreign Policy, 2012) is working toward earning her master’s in education from Columbia University in New York, also assisting with student counseling appointments and employer relations work at the Columbia Alumni Career Services center.
Paul Higson (B.A., International Studies/Political Economy, 2007) works as a human resources business partner at Google for engineering in Seattle and Kirkland. He also manages a team based in the Bay Area overseeing international mobility for engineering operations globally.

Andrew Hughes (B.A., International Studies, 2005) transitioned back to the practice of law as a solo practitioner after running for a position in United States Congress in 2011. Andrew also received his LL.M. from the University of Washington with experience in policy work and as a public defender.

Jessica Jarcev (B.A., International Studies/Russia, East Europe and Central Asia), 2008) works as a political officer in the U.S. Foreign Service based out of Washington, D.C. She recently returned from serving as the human rights officer at the U.S. embassy in Astana, Kazakhstan, where she worked with international and local NGOs, local government officials, and religious leaders. Her next assignment will be in Zagreb, Croatia.


Camille McDorman (B.A., International Studies, 2009) has returned to the UW to start work on her J.D. at the School of Law as a Gates Public Service Law Scholar. Prior to that, Camille worked as the Education in Emergencies program manager for Save the Children in Myanmar, working with internally displaced persons in the wake of religious/communal violence.

Kelsey Miller (B.A., International Studies/Foreign Policy, 2012) was recently promoted to manager of business development for the CleanTech Alliance in Seattle. The CleanTech Alliance is the largest state clean-tech trade association in the nation, representing more than 300 businesses and organizations to advance the growth of clean-tech jobs, companies, and services.

Evan Morrissey (B.A., International Studies/China, 2004) is posted as a Foreign Service Officer in Beijing, China. This is Evan’s second assignment in the Foreign Service after graduating from the Georgetown with a master’s degree and serving in Mumbai, India, as a Pickering fellow.


Arundhati (Pal) Sambataro (B.A., International Studies, 2006) is co-founder and director of development for Women’s WorldWide Web (W4), the first online crowd-funding platform in Europe in 2010 specifically dedicated to girls’ and women’s empowerment. Sambataro organized W4’s first U.S. event on May 20, 2014 in Seattle. Ticket proceeds benefited the nonprofit Foundation, which highlights women’s empowerment. Sambataro organized W4’s second assignment in the Foreign Service after graduating from the Georgetown with a master’s degree and serving in Mumbai, India, as a Pickering fellow.

Jared Sarkis (B.A., International Studies/Middle East, 2013) works as a State Department security contractor in Washington, D.C. to verify federal security clearances. Jared graduated from the Jackson School after an eight-year career supervising infantry units with the U.S. Army, including three deployments to Iraq.

Crystal Zhu (B.A., International Studies/Foreign Policy, 2013) works at DocuSign in recruitment and human resources, working with teams across the company to manage interviews, hiring processes, and recruitment events. Crystal was previously a participant in and coordinator of the Jackson School’s student-alumni mentor program.
THE HENRY M. JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES is TRULY GRATEFUL to its DONORS for THEIR SUPPORT.

For more information about giving to the Jackson School, contact Allyse Goehring at 206-616-3253 or allyseg@uw.edu. Or donate online at www.jsis.washington.edu. The Jackson School extends its sincere regrets to any donor whose name has been misspelled or may have been inadvertently omitted from our list reflecting gifts received from July 1, 2013 to March 31, 2015.

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THE JACKSON REPORT 2014–15

students on research internships to over 35 countries.

work in the U.S. Foreign Service, tragically died in 1996 in a plane crash. Since then, the Fund's contribution on Feb. 23.
to a crowd of donors, Jackson School faculty and Shedd Scholars gathered to celebrate

A scholarship fund administered by the Jackson School in memory of Leslianne Shedd, who earned her bachelor's in international studies at the UW, has awarded over $500-$1,999

LESLIANNE SHEDD MEMORIAL FUND HELPS UW STUDENTS BECOME GLOBAL CITIZENS

A scholarship fund administered by the Jackson School in memory of Leslianne Shedd, who earned her bachelor's in international studies at the UW, has awarded over $100,000 to UW students dedicated to serving the broader community.

“I can’t think of a better way to remember Leslianne,” said her father Bob Shedd to a crowd of donors, Jackson School faculty and Shedd Scholars gathered to celebrate the Fund’s contribution on Feb. 23.

Leslianne Shedd, known for her passion helping others around the world and her work in the U.S. Foreign Service, tragically died in 1996 in a plane crash. Since then, the fund established by her family in her honor has sent 65 University of Washington students on research internships to over 35 countries.
SUPPORT the SCHOOL

Every gift to the Jackson School makes a real impact, from helping students become more global citizens to turning innovative ideas into realities and ensuring that the University of Washington retains a world-class faculty. Make a difference by giving a donation today.

For more information, contact Allyse Goehring, associate director of advancement for the Jackson School, (206-616-3253 or allyseg@uw.edu).

To make a gift online go to: giving.uw.edu/jacksonschool
On his way to the G-20 summit in Australia U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew made a stop at the University of Washington to visit with Jackson School students in “Global Markets and Local Economies,” a course taught by Professor Jeffrey Begun.

Students benefited from Secretary Lew’s openness to questions about the state of the world economy and the priorities the United States was planning to emphasize at the summit. The Secretary discussed with students their perceptions of the U.S. and world economies and their plans for future careers in international relations.

“Your [international affairs education] programs are important and have a direct impact on decision-makers,” said Colonel Eric Larson, U.S. Army, to an audience of academics, students and policymakers in Washington, D.C. Larson served as one of 14 panelists at “The Future of International Affairs Education and Foreign Language Studies in the United States,” a forum organized by the Jackson School, the Henry M. Jackson Foundation, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center of Scholars.

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With this lecture Logevall, a specialist on U.S. foreign policy and the Vietnam War, launched the U.S. in the World speaker series, a program co-sponsored by the Jackson School and Center for Global Studies.

He spoke earlier in the day to Ph.D. students in The Bridge Lab, a required seminar to close the gap between academic research and policy. Logevall engaged students in discussion on successes and challenges of the role of an academic as a public figure.

The overflow crowd at the symposium heard foreign policy academics, including from the Jackson School, military, and representatives from the U.S. Departments of Defense and Education underscore the importance of bridging the gap between academia and policy. They highlighted the value of training students in international affairs for more informed policy decisions and international business acumen and how to address the overall decline of U.S. government funding for area studies and foreign languages.

U.S. Department of Education Senior Advisor and Director of International Affairs Maureen McLaughlin emphasized job candidates from other countries have an advantage because they speak another language.

“President Wilson more than any other U.S. president has influenced U.S. foreign policy since WWI,” Pulitzer-Prize winning author Fredrik Logevall told over 200 UW students, faculty and members of the public, 

Saadia Pekkanen, director of the Jackson School’s Ph.D. program. “When I started looking at cybersecurity people thought I must be interested in Star Trek.”

“President Wilson more than any other U.S. president has influenced U.S. foreign policy since WWI,” Pulitzer-Prize winning author Fredrik Logevall told over 200 UW students, faculty and members of the public gathered to hear his talk on “Obama and the World in Historical Perspective.” He asserted the U.S. is in a unique position to change the world, elaborating on Obama’s foreign policy positions and the impact of U.S. policy on other countries.
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U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY of EAST ASIAN and PACIFIC AFFAIRS SPEAKS AT THE JACKSON SCHOOL
APRIL 1, 2015

“Tell young Foreign Service officers beginning their careers that diplomacy in Asia is a contact sport. You have to meet with government officials, talk to students, and experience cultures,” said U.S. Assistant Secretary Daniel Russel during his speech on America Looks West: Our Future with Asia at the Jackson School.

Russel reflected on U.S.-Pacific relations in 2015 through the lens of six countries in the region, highlighting milestones in bilateral cooperation and opportunities and challenges in education, climate change, trade, human rights, and nuclear energy.

He emphasized the new normal of U.S. relations with Asia is that of sustained engagement, and that Asia is a huge trade partner and economic growth engine for Seattle and the entire state.

PUTTING DIGITAL into DIPLOMACY
APRIL 10, 2015

“Diplomacy is changing in a world where both our allies and our enemies are connected,” said State Department Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Public Affairs Valerie Fowler to an audience of Jackson School students and faculty. In her talk “The Future of Diplomacy in a Digital Era” Fowler emphasized the need for diplomats to take responsible risks and use social media to engage key audiences around the world.

Questions from the audience ranged from dealing with negative comments on social media while maintaining transparency and the use of social media as propaganda, to analytics that measure quality of engagement and human and financial infrastructure needed to maintain a coordinated and strategic social media response.

U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY of EAST ASIAN and PACIFIC AFFAIRS SPEAKS AT THE JACKSON SCHOOL
APRIL 1, 2015

“The Fight for Libya’s Future.”

Dr. Bugaighis stressed the importance for UW students to support, speak out, and educate themselves on the issues surrounding Libya.

The event also served as a memorial for Stevens’ brother, J. Christopher Stevens, the former U.S. Ambassador to Libya who died in 2012, and Bugaighis’ late cousin, human rights lawyer Salwa Bugaighis.

“Chris had a lifelong passion for people and the culture of the Middle East…when my parents visited him they could see what he saw in Libya,” Dr. Stevens told the crowd. “He saw the potential for developing a modern society and new country while conserving its rich culture and history.”

PHOTO CREDIT: OLEKSANDRA MAKUSHENKO/THE DAILY

A CONVERSATION on LIBYA’S FUTURE
APRIL 30, 2015

“In Libya we face challenges not anticipated. Today I speak while my people in Libya are being killed, while families are being dispersed, while homes are being shattered…while access to a fail health care system that has been destroyed from years of corruption and neglect can actually become a death journey for patients seeking help,” said Dr. Laila Bugaighis, CEO of the Benghazi Medical Center in Libya to members of Seattle’s Libyan community and UW faculty and students gathered at the UW Club to hear her talk on “The Fight for Libya’s Future.”

Dr. Bugaighis stressed the importance for UW students to support, speak out, and educate themselves on the issues surrounding Libya.

Earlier in the evening, in a video message the U.S. Ambassador to Libya Deborah Jones emphasized the shared connections between Americans and Libyans that date back to 1951. “Libya has faced many challenges but through it all the people-to-people ties created through institutions like the University of Washington and across the U.S are helping to support Libya’s transition. We all have a stake in Libya. Now is the time to build agreement,” she said.

Dr. Anne Stevens, a physician at Seattle Children’s Hospital, introduced Dr. Bugaighis at the event. She emphasized through exchange programs, education and reaching out to political leaders, UW students can help Libya’s future.

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THE HENRY M. JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES