



UNC Charlotte

# Department of Global, International & Area Studies

March / April 2013

## Message from Dr. Chernotsky

As we approach the end of the academic year, I want to wish you the best of luck in completing your final exams. I am sure that many of you are anticipating a restful break. We continue to look at ways to enhance our curricula and to expand the department. To this end, we conducted the department's first sponsored study abroad program this past semester – the *Journey to Auschwitz* discussed below. I am also pleased to announce that **Dr. Sebastian Cobarrubias** will be joining us next year. Dr. Cobarrubias has a Ph.D. in Geography from UNC Chapel Hill and has been working on a project in Spain for the past few years. He will be offering courses on development and migration. We welcome him to GIAS.

As you read through the information below, you will see that we have had a busy semester and that a number of our students have received important recognition. We congratulate them for their accomplishments.

You are also reminded that GIAS and HGHR FACEBOOK pages have been created and we encourage you to join either one or both.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of those who will be graduating in May. We hope that those leaving the university will be in touch periodically to let us know how you are doing.

Have an enjoyable and productive summer!

## Summer and Fall Classes

We want to remind you that registration for summer and fall classes is still underway. If you haven't already done so, you should sign up for your classes before they are filled. Even as there are still seats in some of our core courses, these seats begin to fill up quickly once the summer SOAR sessions begin. A list of courses for each of our programs is available in our Macy 103 office and on the departmental website. <http://gias.uncc.edu>.

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### Special points of interest:

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- ♦ *Fowler International Scholarship Recipients*
- ♦ *Spring Break Study Abroad: A Journey to Auschwitz*
- ♦ *Spring 2013 Graduates*
- ♦ *Seniors Day*

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## Department Programs

GIAS was actively involved this semester in sponsoring or co-sponsoring numerous programs with a global focus:

The International Speaker Series continued, co-sponsored by GIAS along with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, the Office of International Programs and Atkins Library. We heard from **Ambassador Gilles Noghes** (Monaco) and **Ambassador John Beale** (Barbados), **Philip Auerswald** (George Mason University), **Stephen Brereton** (Canada Consul General), and **Eli Groner** (Israel Ministry of Economic Affairs).

International Studies alumnae **Jillian Mourning** returned to campus to host a screening and discussion of the film, *The Price of Sex*, which debuted at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. Jillian also spoke about the work of the NGO she founded, *All We Need Is Love*, which promotes awareness of human trafficking.

GIAS hosted **Gershon Baskin** of the Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information, which seeks to promote a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Dr. Baskin spoke on “The Failed Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process: Lessons Learned.”

GIAS hosted **Amalia Sa’ar** (University of Haifa) for presentations on “Challenges of Feminist Action Research” and “Palestinian Women and the Israeli Workforce.”

In concert with its Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies, GIAS hosted **Hamidija Custovic** (local Bosnian Muslim community leader) for a presentation on “The Bosnian Genocide” and **Suly Chenkin** (Holocaust survivor) for a presentation on “Testimonies of the Holocaust.”

## Student Recognitions

The Department would like to recognize the following students for their outstanding achievements:

**Kristin Shattuck** was named the recipient of UNC Charlotte Student International Education Award.

**Amanda Davis, Jesse Keenan** and **Andrew Morimoto** were selected to present papers at the UNC Charlotte Undergraduate Research Conference.

**Bryan Guess** was named Outstanding Junior in Anthropology.

**Courtney Singleton** and **Henry Whitesides** were awarded Halton Study Abroad Scholarships.

**Benjamin Kelnhofer** was awarded the Josephson Study Abroad Scholarship.

**Courtney Singleton** was awarded the Martz Study Abroad Scholarship.

**Mengesha Gamerew, Bryan Guess, Luisa Marquez, Jake Taylor, Andrew Morimoto, Michaeline Nichols** and **Melissa Siegel** were selected to present papers at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Forum on Human Rights at Virginia Tech.

Earlier in the year, **Joshua Holden, Jesse Keenan, Lori Perkovich** and **Margaret Weigle** were inducted into the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars.

Join us in congratulating these students for their work.



2013-14 Fowler International Scholarship recipients Kristina Drye & Koffi Yao-Kouame

## Fowler Scholarship

Congratulations to International Studies majors, **Kristina Drye** and **Koffi Yao-Kouame** for being named as recipients of this highly competitive and prestigious award.

## Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz

Over spring break, sixteen students traveled to Poland for a unique opportunity to explore the lessons of the Holocaust. Led by Professor Judy LaPietra, these students participated in the *Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz* program that was conducted in conjunction with our HGHR 3050 course. Professors Cox and Chernotsky also participated. The trip included a visit to Holocaust sites in Krakow, including the site of Oskar Schindler's factory, and then focused on the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camps in Oswiecim. In addition to touring and learning of the horrors perpetrated at these camps, students had the chance to observe behind the scenes documentation and preservation activities and to listen to lectures from various professional staff members. During the week, the group was housed at the Center for Dialogue and Prayer, a study center run by the Catholic Church located within walking distance to the entrance of Auschwitz. Not long after their return, a number of participants shared their experiences with members of the Charlotte community at the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration at Shalom Park.



## Facebook Page

Please note that we continue to host a GIAS FACEBOOK page. Dr. Houck is our administrator and seeks to use the site to enable students (present and past) to stay connected and to foster discussion of timely issues. We are interested in expanding both the membership and activity of the page. If you have not joined, please consider doing so by accessing the following link:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php/gid=101217669379>

The UNC Charlotte Center for Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies also has a FACEBOOK page. Dr. Cox is the administrator. We are also interested in expanding both the membership and activity of this page. If you have not joined, please consider doing so by accessing the following link:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/248661328484817>





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## Graduates

We would like to congratulate the following students who have applied for graduation in May.

### International Studies Majors

Alexandrou, Nicholas G.	Graf, Elizabeth C.	Odegova, Tetyana
Cardinal, Lydia L.	Houghton, Daniela K.	Pahountis, Kalliopi
Ceesay, Ebrima	Idlibi, Bouchra	Pruscino, Jessica R.
Daniels, Iman S.	Imes, Stephanie N.	Puckett, Joshua P.
Davis, Amber M.	Ivankovic, Ilija	Read, Amanda S.
Delacruz, Liz	Kalonji, Faustin	Romero, Francisco J.
Dorrell, Ashley M.	Keenan, Jesse J.	Sandke, Carol J.
Dossou, Ablavi	Kempe, Nancy J.	Shattuck, Kristin A.
Dugan, Conor T.	Kovtun, Victoria V.	Suggs, Stephanie K.
Durocher, Stephanie K.	Lukianov, Elizabeth A.	Torrealba Mendez, Eulimar A.
Falconi, Silvia E.	Mann, Shani	Wabela, Kunganzi
Fields, Takisha E.	Manuel, Ariane	Yang, Chaoya S.
Garcia Menjivar, Oscar	Marques, Luiza D.	Zarour, Steven C

### Minors

#### **Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights**

Craig, Amelia B.	Manuel, Ariane	Selman, Brittany R.
Lee, Honey	McCormick, Shannon M.	Whaley, Joshua B.
Magana, Maria G.	Rummage, Elizabeth A.	

#### **International Studies**

Aljure, Sarita	Coleman, Brittney E	Richmond, Briana L.
Brafford, Robert S.	Corbett, Brodrick L.	Sevillano, Gabriela R.
Buedel, Bronwyn K.	Davis, Lamardo P.	Spelman, Amber K.
Cardella, April	Garcia, Sarai O.	Stahl, Edward D.
Chadic, Gessica S.	Johnson, Chelsea S.	Woo, Ye R.
Coffin, Joanne E.		

#### **Islamic Studies**

Easley, Derek M.	Ijaz, Omar F.	Schneider, Chelsea M.
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## Celebrate Seniors Day

On April 23, the Department hosted its Celebrate Seniors Day to recognize students graduating in May from GIAS programs. Students were treated to a pizza lunch and were given a small token to remember the time they have spent with us.



**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!**