It is hard to believe that the fall semester is nearing completion. As you will see below, these past few months have been rather busy ones. The Department of Global, International & Area Studies continues to grow, both in terms of the number of students and faculty participating in our various programs. Department faculty have also continued to work on plans to reconfigure and expand curricula in accordance with our mission and strategic goals. We wish you the best of luck in completing your classes and preparing for final exams.

**MESSAGE FROM DR. CHERNOTSKY**

On October 24, GIAS and its Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies sponsored a talk by Maria Pacheco, who spoke about *Women’s Empowerment and Challenges in Guatemala*. Ms. Pacheco made a stirring presentation about the work she has done in promoting sustainable development by cultivating locally-owned businesses in rural Guatemalan communities. Her appearance in Charlotte was hosted by the Sinapi Foundation and her visit to campus was also supported by the Office of International Programs.

On November 1, University of Pittsburgh sociologist Mohammed Bamyeh visited campus to deliver a public address on *Islamic Law as Anarchy: The Ethics of Unimposed Order in Shari’a*. His talk was a most timely one and generated lively discussion. In addition to GIAS, sponsors included the Center for Professional and Applied Ethics, the Honors College and the Department of Philosophy. A luncheon prior to the talk was hosted by the Center for Professional and Applied Ethics.

The department and its Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies sponsored a showing of the film *Defiance* on November 15. Starring Daniel Craig, the movie tells the true story of the Bielski brothers, who saved 1200 lives and organized the largest Jewish resistance unit during World War II. An exhibit relating to their activities was hosted by the Museum of the New South last spring in conjunction with the *Violins of Hope* program. The film showing was part of the university’s celebration of International Education Week.

We also co-sponsored three lectures that were held on campus as part of the annual International Speaker Series, in cooperation with the Office of International Programs and the World Affairs Council of Charlotte. On October 23, Phillip Coggan, a columnist with *The Economist* magazine, spoke about his book on debt and the new world order. On November 12, Brigadier General Thomas Gorry addressed the role of the US Marine Corps in support of national security strategy. On November 16, the Consul General of Mexico, Carlos Flores discussed US-Mexican relations.
WORLDQUEST

The department once again fielded a team for World Quest, the international trivia contest sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Charlotte on November 13 at the Westin Hotel. This year’s categories included flags of the world, the history of Italy, the geography of Australia, elections around the world, international foods, the Cuban Missile Crisis and current events. Sixty-one teams representing academic institutions, local agencies and businesses participated in the highly competitive contest. While rather challenging, World Quest always provides a considerable amount of fun and enjoyment. Members of the team were Ainsley Rose along with Professors Bolton, Cox, Green, Houck, Johnson, Minslow and Chernotsky.

On November 27, the Department hosted its Celebrate Seniors Day to recognize students graduating in December from GIAS programs.

PHI BETA DELTA

The Department was well represented at the induction ceremony of the Mu chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the Honor Society for International Scholars on November 15. Congratulations to new International Studies inductees: Joshua Holden, Jesse Keenan, Lori Perkovich and Margaret Weigle. Previous inductee, Ellen Hoffman serves as chapter Vice President.

CELEBRATE SENIORS DAY

On November 27, the Department hosted its Celebrate Seniors Day to recognize students graduating in December 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.
SPRING AND SUMMER COURSES

We recently completed our intensive three week advising for the spring semester. While we saw a great many of you during this period, not all students came in for an advising session. GIAS advisers continue to be available during their regular office hours until the end of fall classes. If you would like to see an adviser, come by the office (Macy 103) and sign up for an appointment. This is the best way to insure that requirements are being met. We also urge all students to monitor their general degree requirements closely to avoid any “surprises” as they move toward graduation.

The schedule of classes for summer school is posted in early December. GIAS is planning to offer INTL 1101 (Introduction to International Studies) and INTL 3115 (Globalization and Digital Media – on-line) in the first session. In the second session, we will again offer INTL 3115 (Globalization and Digital Media - on-line) along with INTL 3111 (Politics and Culture in Literature – writing intensive) and INTL 2301 (Introduction to European Studies). Additional courses for our major and minors will also be available.

SPRING BREAK STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM: JOURNEY TO AUSCHWITZ

We are pleased to announce that GIAS will be conducting a spring break study abroad program that will focus on historical sites related to the Holocaust, with special emphasis on the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Oswiecim, Poland. The sixteen students accepted into the program will travel to Krakow and on to Oswiecim and will participate in seminars and workshops organized by the Center for Dialogue. They will also have the opportunity to engage in service activity at the camp itself. In addition to the spring break experience (March 1-8, 2013), students will attend a number of additional class sessions scheduled as part of HGHR 3050 - Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz. Professor Judy LaPietra organized the program and will lead the tour, accompanied by Professors Cox and Chernotsky. This promises to be a most informative and sobering experience.

FOWLER SCHOLARSHIP

We would like to remind you again that the Fowler International Scholarship is available for 2013-14. The minimal award is $4000 for the academic year. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2013. The award is open to students majoring in either International Studies or Political Science who are considering a career in law or international affairs. Eligibility requirements and application procedures are noted on the web. While this is a highly competitive award, the number of applicants is generally not particularly large. If you are eligible, you are strongly urged to apply.

http://gias.uncc.edu/Student-Resources/Fowler-Scholarship.html

UPCOMING PROGRAM (JANUARY 16)

International Studies alumnae, Jillian Mourning will be returning to campus on January 16 to host a screening of the film, The Price of Sex. This documentary debuted at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. Jillian will also speak about the NGO she has founded, All We Need Is Love, which seeks to promote awareness of human trafficking. The program is scheduled for 3:30-5:30pm in Denny 120.
FACEBOOK PAGE

Please note that we have 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. If you have not joined, please consider doing so by accessing the following link:

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

Dr. Cox has established a separate FACEBOOK page for students particularly interested in matters relating to the Holocaust, genocide and human rights.

http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/248663284848417/

GRADUATES

We congratulate the following students who have applied for graduation in December and wish them the best of luck as they move forward:

International Studies Majors:

Alkusaimi, Abrar
Brooks, Christopher
Capers, Keshia
Daniels, Iman
Daughtry, Lauren
Gates, Rhonda
Hoffman, Christina
Holden, Joshua
Idohou, Daniel
Ireri, Susan
Kalonji, Faustin
Lagouros, Maria
Lemmond, David
Magwood, Megan
McDonald, Ebony
McNeill, Adarrienne
Mincey, D’Netra
Montenegro, Diego
Mora, Jorge
Otero, Michelle
Park, Angela
Perkovich, Lori
Puckett, Joshua
Rojas, Diana
Rose, Ainsley
Schoeni, Emily
Shin, Sara
Ung, Valerie
Uscier, Jeanna
Weigle, Margaret

Minors

Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights
Ireri, Susan
McNamara, Zachary
Nichols, Michaline

International Studies
Ewing, Kelsey
Haynes, Monica
Philmon, Ryan
Richter, Jennifer
Saleet, Emmett
Williams, Peggy

Islamic Studies
Ergle, Daniel
Holden, Joshua
Smith, Robert
Staley, Ryan

SPRING SEMESTER

Please remember that the spring semester begins on Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Have a safe and restful break!