

April / May 2015



## Department of Global, International & Area Studies

### 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 hope you have had a good semester and have new and exciting things in your future. We have had another busy year, as you can see from the information included in the newsletter, and are already planning for the next. We are particularly proud to have sponsored our third *Journey to Auschwitz* study abroad program this spring that gave participants the opportunity to observe first-hand the legacy of the atrocities committed at the camp. We look forward to the *Food, Inequality, and Sustainability in South Africa* study abroad program scheduled for this summer. We are also completing our for-credit international film course, *Culture, the Environment and Health*, offered in cooperation with the Department of Public Health Sciences and supported by a Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Grant.

We are also looking forward to introducing our revised curricula next year. As some of you know, departmental faculty have been working on these proposals for the past two years. Changes include: restructuring the concentrations within the INTL major, simplifying the requirements for the INTL minor, streamlining the distribution requirements for the HGHR Studies minor, and eliminating the minors in Islamic and Judaic Studies. **Most importantly, these changes will affect entering students, and will not alter requirements or otherwise interfere with the ability of enrolled majors and minors to complete their courses of study (including those in the two minors that are being discontinued) in a timely fashion.** More information regarding the specifics of the changes and the schedule for implementation will be forthcoming.

I would also remind you that we maintain both GIAS and HGHR FACEBOOK pages and encourage you to join either one or both to stay connected.

Finally, I wish to congratulate all of our May graduates. We hope that you will stay in touch periodically to let us know how you are doing.

Have an enjoyable, productive and safe summer!

### Summer and Fall Classes

We want to remind you that registration for summer and fall classes is still underway. We are pleased to inform you that **all GIAS and HGHR summer courses will be offered on-line.** 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 in the fall, 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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## Department Programs

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

- ⇒ Faculty Panel Discussion (John Cox, Joyce Dalsheim, Amal Khoury – GIAS; Felix Germain – AFRS; Gregory Starrett ANTH): *Beyond the Headlines: Blasphemy, Free Speech, and Murder in France* (January 2015).
- ⇒ Tina Campt, Barnard College: keynote presentation on *Fugitivity, Futurity and the Visual Archive of the African Diaspora* for the 2015 Southeast German Studies Consortium Workshop (February 2015).
- ⇒ Video Screening & Discussion: *Reflections Unheard: Black Women in Civil Rights* (March 2015).
- ⇒ Community Peace Event: *Peace in the Park: United Against Violence (From Ferguson to Paris, Denmark to Chapel Hill)* (March 2015).
- ⇒ Video & Dialogue with survivor Mugabo Yves: *Rwanda: Genocide & Survival* (April 2015).
- ⇒ Melissa Siegel-Barrios, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services: *Gender-based Violence in a Misogynistic-Culture* (April 2015).

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:

- ⇒ Badrul Alam, Jamia Millia Islamia University (India): *India's Foreign Policy* (Sept. 2014).
- ⇒ Katherine Kaup, Furman University: *Ethnic Politics in China* (October 2014).
- ⇒ Ramon Gil-Casares, Ambassador of Spain to the United States: *Spanish-American Relations* (November 2014).
- ⇒ Col. Mark Mykleby, US Joint Chiefs of Staff: *America's Grand Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (January 2015).

GIAS again conducted its study abroad program *Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz* in conjunction with its HGHR 3050 course in the spring. This involved a week-long study tour to Krakow and Oświęcim, Poland centered around the World War II Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps.

GIAS developed a new summer study abroad program (July 11-August 3, 2015) *Urban Agriculture: Food, Inequality, and Sustainability in South Africa*, which is scheduled to be conducted during the second summer session.

The Department, in cooperation with the Department of Public Health Sciences, received a Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Grant for *Culture, the Environment and Health: Building an Understanding of Place Through Film*. This resulted in a five-part, for-credit international film series course in spring 2015.

## Student Recognitions

We would like to congratulate the following students for their achievements this past year:

- ⇒ **Lucy Masson** was accepted into the Peace Corps, scheduled to serve in Burkina Faso.
- ⇒ **Janelle Day** and **Hannah Lacombe** were named recipients of the Fowler International Scholarship for 2015-16.
- ⇒ **Brian Barton** and **Ling Guo** were inducted into Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars.
- ⇒ **Mirage Berry** and **Sarah Walker** were selected for the Charlotte Research Scholars program.
- ⇒ **Dominique Walker** received a JASSO (Japanese government) Scholarship to study at Doshisha University (Japan) in 2014-15.
- ⇒ **Rarnard Stewart** received the Gilman Award to study at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies (Japan) in 2015-16.
- ⇒ **Lara Al-Nadi, Jean Barriga Sarango, Janelle Day, Bridget Ogburu-Ogbonnay, Jason Park** and **Kassie Smart** received Office of Education Abroad scholarships for study abroad in 2015-16.
- ⇒ Six students participating in the *Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz* study abroad program—**Kayla Jensen, Marisela Morales, Katelyn Morgan, Jami Palchus, Breanna Ringerson** and **Kelsie Stanley**—presented reflections on the experience at the Community Holocaust Remembrance Day event at Shalom Park in Charlotte.



Robert G. Fowler, Jr. Scholarship recipients  
Janelle Day and Hannah Lacombe

## Robert G. Fowler, Jr. Scholarship

Congratulations to International Studies and Political Science major, **Janelle Day** for being named as one of the recipients of this highly competitive and prestigious award. Political Science major **Hannah Lacombe** was also named a recipient.

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

Over spring break, twelve students traveled to Poland for a unique opportunity to explore the lessons of the Holocaust. Led by Professor Judy LaPietra, they participated in the *Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz* program, in conjunction with our HGHR 3050 course. The trip began with visits to sites in Krakow related to Jewish history and the Holocaust, including Oskar Schindler's factory. It then focused on the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camps in the town of Oswiecim, where the students and professors spent most of the week.



Six students participating in Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz study abroad program, along with Professor LaPietra. They presented reflections on the experience at the Community Holocaust Remembrance Day event at Shalom Park in Charlotte.

In addition to touring and learning of the horrors perpetrated at these camps, students had the chance to observe and participate in the Auschwitz museum's documentation and preservation techniques. Students also engaged in lectures and dialogues with local experts, historians, and Holocaust survivors.

## Facebook Pages

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/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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**We're on the Web!**  
**www.gias.uncc.edu**

## Graduates

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



### International Studies Majors

Alzate Rivera, Jhon H.	Fordham, Kimberly T.	Mishra, Thakur P.
Anderton, Autumn L.	Gibbs, Andrew J.	Nelson, Jacob E.
Baker, Jonathan M.	Guo, Ling R.	Rodriguez, Jose
Banks, Sara K.	Hamilton, Tiara	Saralidze, Nino
Blanco Chaves, Marlene	Huerta, Christina M.	Schiappacasse, Natalia A.
Burke, James W.	Jama, Zhara M.	Sesay, Abdul L.
Cardillo, Alexander M.	Johnson, Gregoria	Sharpe, Lenwood S.
Chami, Halah R.	Kelnhofer, Benjamin	Tillison, Taylor C.
Clark, Spenser D.	Lara, Sasha A.	Walther, Theresa M.
Corbett, Michael	Linden, Mckenzie K.	Whitesides, Henry M.
Covington, Christopher C.	Long, Emily N.	Wood, Jonathan R.
Drye, Kristina E.	Melton, Mary K.	Yusupova, Feruza
Foley, Sean M.	Miller, Kaylee A.	

### Minors

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

Allen, Amanda N.	Moore, Meghan E.
Hyman, Joseph E.	Sharpe, Lenwood S.

#### **International Studies**

Armstrong, Mickail L.	Freeman, Edwin T.	Stewart, Maia
Bollinger, James W.	Hodge, Jessica L.	Swancy, Ryan S.
Chong, Hoi Ching	Petsiavas, Stephanie M.	Wurz, Kaleigh A.
Daigle, Michael	Rutledge, Cameron G.	Zhang, Shunxing

#### **Islamic Studies**

Moseley, Michael M.	Nall, Lindsay A.	Yoder, Matthew R.
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## Celebrate Seniors Day

On April 16, 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.



Fall classes begin August 24, 2015