DENTAL MEDICINE’S GLOBAL REACH

By David Hill

Point your finger to just about any country on the globe and there’s a good chance it’ll land on a place where a UB School of Dental Medicine alumnus is teaching, researching or practicing. Such is the vast reach of the dental school, thanks in large part to its status among the top programs in the U.S. and its vision toward improving global health.

Renowned outside the United States, UB’s dental school each year attracts aspiring dental practitioners who come here to obtain a coveted American dental degree. Upon earning their DDS, some continue their dental education, while others set up practice in North America.

Some, like Michael Mandikos, a native of Australia, return to their home country and share the skills they’ve acquired with colleagues. Mandikos came to UB in the fall of 1995, when he entered the Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics after obtaining a DDS with honors from the University of Queensland, Australia. Mandikos studied in Buffalo for three years, leaving with a certificate and a master’s degree (in biomaterials)—and a fiancée.

“I had three of the best years of my life at UB,” says Mandikos, who has been a prosthodontist for 13 years. He returned to Australia in 1998, where he began lecturing part time at the University of Queensland while establishing his private practice in Brisbane, the continent’s third-largest city. In 2008, he moved his practice to the suburb of Graceville.

“Studying at UB, and in fact the whole collegiate experience of being at UB for those three years, really has shaped my entire practicing life,” Mandikos says.

“There are so many ways that UB has shaped the clinician that I became and, in fact, the person that I am now.”

Mandikos is one of more than 200 SDM alumni working outside the U.S. The majority of those foreign alumni are in Canada; other countries include Korea, Thailand, Spain and Japan.

Fourteen alumni are practicing in Saudi Arabia, including Ahmed M. Al-Kahtani, who serves as president of the Saudi Dental Society.

Expanding the school’s global reach is a key component of SDM’s mission statement, and it’s a vision in which dental school Dean Michael Glick firmly believes. “It’s a global

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society. Everyone is in contact with everyone else, everyone knows what goes on. To be siloed is detrimental—you can’t do it any longer,” Glick says.

“I think what’s important here is to recognize that it is a two-way street; that we can provide something, but we also need to recognize what they can give us,” he adds.

“The UB brand and the UB dental school brand are very highly regarded, and there’s a lot of competition to come here.”

Glick, who became dean in December 2009, embodies the school’s international mantra. Born in Sweden, he received degrees in dental medicine at Hebrew University Hadassah School of Dental Medicine in Israel before coming to the U.S.

Upon becoming editor of the prestigious peer-reviewed Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA), Glick appointed JADA’s first-ever international editorial board. Moreover, JADA now publishes several international editions, including ones in India, Spain, Mexico, Portugal, the Middle East and, soon, China.

That UB’s dental school is highly regarded on a global scale is rewarding, but it comes with a need for constant improvement. “It’s gratifying, but it’s also challenging because you also need to keep it up,” Glick says. “How do we do it better? How do we increase this international collaboration? And again, it goes two ways.”

Teaching students from all corners of the globe
Every day, the walls of Squire Hall echo with the wealth of knowledge shared in classrooms and clinics by highly trained faculty. The dental school began welcoming foreign students in 1896 when a pair of Germans graduated from what was then known as Buffalo Dental College. Wilhelm E. Th. Muller and Paul B.H. Quedenfeldt were the dental school’s first two international graduates, not counting Canadian residents, according to school records.

The following year, Anna M. Thrane of Vienna, Austria, became the first female international graduate. Thrane was an exceptional student who transferred from the New York School of Dentistry and graduated from Buffalo Dental College in just two years. She received a grade of 100 in electricity. After graduating, she was asked to join the faculty and taught operative dentistry.

Three years later, Joseph Vogl graduated. He, too, was from Vienna. And in 1902, Hildegard Schottky, a transfer from the University of Gottingen (Germany), obtained her DDS from UB.

For more than a century since, dental students and practitioners have continued to come to UB from all corners of the globe. Many leave their native countries and enroll as first-time dental students. But a unique program offers practicing dentists in foreign lands the opportunity to study American dentistry at UB through the school’s International Dentist Program (IDP).

“It’s an advanced standing program designed for people who have dental degrees from abroad who would like to practice dentistry in the U.S., and in order to do that, they have to earn a U.S. DDS because the curriculum can vary so greatly from country to country,” explains Sandra Flash, SDM’s executive director for academic and student affairs.

The program originated under Dean James A. English, who led the school during the 1960s. “Because of the political changes taking place worldwide, a number of dentists left and in some cases fled their countries to take residence in the United States,” the SDM history book “Roots of Renown” notes.

The program has been revamped for the 2011-12 academic year. Traditionally, IDP accepted anywhere from one to 10 students. However, it has been expanded starting this year to accommodate a larger group.

For this year, more than 300 foreign dentists applied to IDP, 49 of who were interviewed. Sixteen were selected for the program—13 from India, two from Pakistan and one from Egypt. The school plans to enroll 24 students starting next year. In addition, it is now a two-year program instead of three.

The dental school created the program out of “a moral responsibility to advance oral health worldwide by training dentists who will go back to their countries and practice what they learned here,” says Othman Shibly, SDM clinical assistant professor and director of the International Dentist Program.

IDP has trained many dentists who now hold prestigious positions in dental organizations around the globe, Shibly notes. They include the dean of a dental school in Taiwan, as well as Ahmed Al-Kahtani, who, as noted earlier, heads the Saudi Dental Society.

IDP students began their eight-week summer session June 6 and finished Aug. 5, receiving instruction in operative dentistry, implants, fixed prosthodontics, pediatric dentistry and more. The session helped integrate the IDP class with the regular four-year DDS students. “The DDS students have been very welcoming and supportive, and the IDP students have been eager to assimilate into the program,” Flash says.

As with many of the dental school’s international programs, IDP is mutually beneficial to the school’s four-year DDS students and the program’s participants. IDP students obtain a coveted American DDS degree, while SDM’s students are exposed to different cultures without having to leave Buffalo.

“There are so many benefits to it. The DDS program is so packed in terms of curricular content that it’s hard for our students to go abroad,” says Flash, noting that the school’s Buffalo Outreach and Community Assistance (BOCA) program is one opportunity, “but otherwise, they
don’t have the opportunity. Being exposed to international dentists who have a wide variety of expertise is only going to enhance their education without having to go anywhere else.”

Moreover, IDP helps the dental school’s four-year students hone a critical professional skill: interpersonal communication. “Dentistry is a field that is very social. You need to interact with patients and communicate with people from different cultures and backgrounds,” she explains. “The more practice and exposure you have to that, the more accepting and at ease you will be at gaining a rapport with people from different backgrounds.”

A legacy of international research
UB’s School of Dental Medicine also has maintained a progressive approach toward embracing research collaborations abroad. The school’s contributions to international research date back to 1920. That’s when two UB alumni—Leuman M. Waugh (1900) and Waugh’s roommate, Charles F. Bodecker (1900)—along with faculty member Victor H. Jackson were among two dozen professionals who gathered at the Columbia University Club to form the International Association for Dental Research (IADR).

Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., the IADR now boasts more than 12,000 members worldwide. Bodecker served as IADR president during the 1940s. In fact, he was one of the first two elected members of the organization and presented its first report. Bodecker’s father, UB alumnus Carl F.W. Bodecker, also played a prominent role in international dental research, serving as chairman of the Dental Clinic in the International Medical Congress in Washington, D.C., in 1887. He also presided over the clinic of the International Dental Congress at Chicago during the World’s Fair.

Waugh achieved notoriety for his excursions to the Arctic, where he researched caries. Before he died in 1972 at age 95, Waugh was the last living founding member of the IADR.

Many SDM faculty members continue to carry on the dental school’s legacy of international research.

Robert Genco, ’63, SUNY Distinguished Professor in the UB Department of Oral Biology, served as IADR president in 1985-86 and again in 1991-92. Another SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Sebastian Ciancio, who graduated from UB, has fostered several collaborations with researchers abroad, including Sultan Al Mubarak, with whom he collaborated on an important paper focusing on periodontal therapy in diabetic subjects. Their paper recently was published in the International Journal of Diabetes Mellitus.

Ciancio, who chairs the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, is one of several SDM faculty “globetrotters.” He traveled to Singapore in August to serve as featured lecturer at the Singapore Dental Society’s annual convention, where he lectured to the dental society and to the National University of Singapore Faculty of Dentistry.

Last January, Ciancio was a featured speaker at a dental convention in Dubai, where he talked about the impact of dental problems both on oral health and bodily health. And in June, Ciancio received a recognition award from the International Academy of Periodontology during its biennial meeting in Lviv, Ukraine. Ciancio is the immediate past president of the organization.

UB dental school professors’ expertise often is sought as a result of agreements the school has forged with universities around the world. The school now has roughly two dozen such agreements, with more in the works, allowing SDM faculty to share their knowledge abroad while foreign professionals bring their experiences to UB.

“The advantage is, it gives our students a global perspective in what is happening in the world of dentistry,” Ciancio says.

Oftentimes, these research collaborations yield findings that can be applied in the U.S. Ciancio points to the diabetes research paper with Al-Mubarak as an example. Diabetes is on the rise in the United States, but in Saudi Arabia, a far larger part of the population is affected by the disease. Researchers can apply the knowledge they gathered in the Middle East to diabetes research in America, Ciancio explains.

Moreover, he says, such international collaborations help UB students learn about different health care systems. “It gives us a very broad perspective, both in our research abilities and in our ability to understand worldwide problems and help find solutions to these problems,” says Ciancio. “Sometimes, the solution you find to a problem abroad can be applied to one at home that you haven’t found yet.”

This year, the dental school signed another agreement with the Saudi Cultural Mission, which will send up to four practicing dentists to study American dentistry at UB. The agreement was forged through the dental school’s previous relationship with Saudi dentists. Shibly, the International Dentist Program director, says the welcoming nature of both the UB School of Dental Medicine and the university itself make Buffalo an attractive option for international dentists.

“Many of our postgraduate trainees here have or are now in very high positions in Saudi Arabia,” says Glick, the school’s dean. “The president of the Saudi dental association is a graduate from here, some associate research deans are from here, and that gives us a tremendous opportunity to continue these types of international endeavors.”

David Hill is community relations associate for University Communications. This piece was adapted from Hill’s article in the fall 2011 issue of the UB Dentist newsletter.
As the fall semester draws to a close, it is good to take stock of this season of new beginnings. Our new president—UB’s first to be born overseas—has declared his strong commitment to international education. Early in the semester we had occasion to showcase UB’s international engagement and global reach as part of President Tripathi’s investiture celebration in mid-September.

Part of a week-long series of special inaugural events highlighting the strengths and impact of the university, “UB Engaging Our World Day” on September 19 drew attention to the many ways UB is an internationalized institution with extensive and impactful activities and affiliations around the world. The day included the “UB Global Fair” with exhibits by departments, service units and international student clubs featuring the broad range of international studies, programs, services and cultural activities that contribute so much to the university. In addition to staging performances of their arts and culture, participating international student clubs prepared delicacies from their native cuisines for visitors to sample at the fair. The fair also featured presentations by eight globally engaged faculty, who introduced their audience to the international research, teaching and service activities they do across the globe.

Providing such visibility to UB’s international dimensions during inauguration week was a clear indication of the importance our new president assigns to the university’s international agenda. As Provost, Dr. Tripathi convened the International Strategy Task Group, as part of the UB 2020 effort, to develop a strategic internationalization plan for the institution—a plan that is still in the process of being implemented.

This issue of UB International provides a current sampling of the variegated international outreach and engagement activities of UB that reflect our “internationalization imperative”—with distinctive examples from a number of schools, including Arts and Sciences, Dental Medicine, Law, Social Work, Architecture, Planning, Public Health and Health Professions, Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and Engineering and Applied Sciences.

All of our schools recognize the internationalization imperative. Higher education in the new century is irremediably shaped by the forces of globalization and technological change that allow instantaneous communication and collaboration with all parts of the world. A review of the listing of international activities by our faculty and staff in this issue—representing only a fraction of what is actually going on at UB—suggests the extent of our colleagues’ active engagement with collaborators and partner institutions abroad.

UB has had a head start in the internationalization process thanks to its international enrollment strategy, pioneering programs overseas, and the international orientation of its faculty and research. However, universities across the U.S. and around the world have now recognized the importance of internationalization, and are striving to catch up by bolstering their international enrollment, programs and affiliations.

Likewise, as part of her “Power of SUNY” strategic plan, SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher is leading the effort to internationalize the campuses of SUNY not only to enhance the educational and research missions of these institutions but to help advance SUNY’s support of New York State’s economic development and competitiveness strategy. UB is proud to be part of that effort. Together with our colleagues across SUNY, we look forward to addressing a critical part of the internationalization agenda—enhancing the preparation of our students for careers in the global economy and supporting New York State’s workforce development needs. ☺
LAW SCHOOL’S LL.M. PROGRAM ENROLLS MOST DIVERSE CLASS EVER

By Joseph Schneider

This year the UB Law School’s Master of Laws (LL.M.) programs admitted one of the most internationally diverse classes in recent history, and nearly doubled their enrollment from the previous year.

We welcomed students who are from or have studied in Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, France, Guyana, Jamaica, Namibia, Pakistan, Spain, Togo, Trinidad, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Zimbabwe.

In addition, the law school hosted visiting scholars this fall from Ireland, Norway, and Turkey, as well as one exchange student from ESADE Law School in Barcelona, Spain.

To be admitted to an LL.M. program, an applicant must have a first degree in law, which is a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree in the U.S. and Canada but a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) in most of the rest of the world. In addition, all applicants are interviewed, usually with the help of internet communications software such as Skype.

Once we accept a student, we place him or her in touch with either a current student or a recent graduate, preferably a student from the applicant’s locality or one with similar interests. This allows accepted students to hear about life in Buffalo and in O’Brian Hall from the first-hand perspective of the student.

The age of our students varies. We have students with many years of experience in practice as well as those who just finished their first law degrees last year. Our alumni tell us that they find Buffalo both large and small, with the diverse resources and opportunities of a major city as well as the welcoming and inviting environment of a close-knit community.

One of the primary reasons non-U.S. trained attorneys come to our General LL.M. program is to sit for the New York bar examination and become licensed to practice law in New York. It is one of only a handful of states that allow people without a J.D. degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association to sit for the bar exam.

While non-U.S. trained lawyers from jurisdictions rooted in the common law (English) tradition who have attended law school for a minimum of three years can usually sit for New York’s bar examination without obtaining an LL.M., those from civil-law jurisdictions must first complete an LL.M. degree.

New York law is the law of global commerce, and that is nowhere more apparent than the rising proportion of non-U.S. trained graduates who sit for its bar exam.

Last year a quarter of the people sitting for the New York Bar Examination were not trained in the United States, and the top country of origin was China.

Despite the many advantages they offer to international students, one of the biggest challenges UB Law School’s LL.M. program confront is visibility.

The stories students share about discovering UB Law School abroad suggest that, like Buffalo itself, UB Law is a well-kept secret overseas. Indeed, many accepted students tell us anecdotes of being referred to UB Law School by a prominent alum or faculty member—everyone seems to have a story about how they learned about UB Law School.

As a globally focused program within a major internationalized research university, we are actively seeking to increase our prominence abroad and become more widely known as a top destination for non-U.S. students. To find out more about our programs, please visit our website at http://www.law.buffalo.edu/llm.

Joseph Schneider is Director of Post-Professional and International Education at the Law School.
UNIVERA FOUNDER TO HEAD GLOBAL HEALTH OFFICE AT UB

By Judson Mead

Arthur Goshin (BS ‘66, MD ’70) helped start a community health clinic in the First Ward in Lackawanna, N.Y., when he was a medical student at UB in the late 1960s. A few years later he turned his interest in community health care into the HMO that became Univera Healthcare, a $1 billion-a-year health care and health insurance business.

Now he’s starting a new program at UB with the whole world in his sights.

This fall the school created the Office of Global Health Initiatives, which Goshin will head. He will not take a salary. He has also made a gift of $100,000 to the school primarily for fellowships for students in global health placements. It is the largest gift in the young school’s history.

He had recently sponsored three occupational therapy student placements in India and Africa through his Healthy World Foundation.

“With cutbacks in state funding for UB, it seemed unlikely that the SPHHP would be able to identify resources to create the office, so I decided to help with both my time and some resources,” Goshin says.

His connection to global health issues comes through organizations doing work in the field. He retired from Univera in 2003, and shortly afterward traveled to rural Haiti with a friend who was advising a Freedom from Hunger microfinance program there. Goshin says he was immediately struck by the possibility of integrating health care with microfinance.

His interest led to membership on the Freedom from Hunger board of trustees. He also started his own pilot health project in Uganda. He helped Freedom from Hunger obtain a $6 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for a microfinance and health care project and served as a senior advisor for the project in Benin, Burkina Faso, Philippines, Bolivia and India.

He started the Healthy World Foundation, which he self-funds, in 2006. The foundation partners with in-country organizations and is engaged in projects in Uganda and India ranging from clinics for the homeless, childhood malnutrition, projects serving disabled children and the frail elderly in rural villages to a collaboration with Roswell Park Cancer Institute for oral cancer screening and a collaboration with the World Health Organization on a new malaria intervention.

Lynn Kozlowski, dean of SPHHP, says of the new office, “It’s great to have someone to take on this work who can network in the university, in SUNY and in the global health community.”

Goshin has already met with SUNY Senior Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs Mitch Leventhal in Manhattan. This fall one of the UB MPH students he is funding is working in a rural village at a placement he arranged with an organization run by a man who was India’s 2009 Social Entrepreneur of the Year. It takes connections to make connections.

After a career in the health care business and the start of a second career in global health, Goshin sees potential intersections of interest—for instance, between a public health researcher working on ways to reduce waterborne disease by sanitizing water sources and engineering faculty working on low-cost water purification systems—as what he calls “opportunistic partnerships.”

His long-term vision is that the school can become a leader in global health learning, research and service engagement. He also sees the school as a potential nexus of global health collaborations across UB, SUNY and Western New York.

Goshin divides his time between Buffalo; Santa Fe, N.M.; and New York City. He estimates that he spends about a month a year in India and Uganda. He sits on the boards of several non-profit organizations (including the Community Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, of which he is a founder) and several corporate boards. When he is in Buffalo, he’s in his SPHHP office in Kimball Tower.

When he came to UB as an undergraduate planning to take a pre-med curriculum and go to medical school, his dream was to be a doctor in a faraway place, bringing medicine to people who had none. Things didn’t turn out quite that way. Now he’s catching up with how it all started.

Judson Mead is a senior editor for University Communications.
GLOBAL EXPERTS GATHER IN BUFFALO FOR QUAKE SUMMIT

By Ellen Goldbaum

The 2011 earthquakes that struck New Zealand and Japan, research on improving nuclear power plant design, earthquake engineering research in the U.S. in the next quarter century and improving resilience of buildings, bridges and critical infrastructure were all on the agenda for Quake Summit 2011, Earthquake & Multi-Hazards Resilience: Progress and Challenges, held in Buffalo June 9-11, 2011.

Quake Summit 2011 combines the annual meeting of UB’s MCEER (formerly the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research) and the George E. Brown Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), funded by the National Science Foundation. It was held in the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center and the Hyatt Regency Buffalo.

Geared toward earthquake engineers, hazards researchers and students and educators in these areas, the conference featured nearly 100 presentations on the latest research in earthquake engineering and multi-hazards resilience. It attracted more than 200 experts and students from throughout the U.S. and abroad.

February’s Christchurch, New Zealand, earthquake and the March 11 offshore Honshu, Japan, earthquake and tsunami were discussed during the opening plenary session at 5:30 p.m. June 9. This session is being organized by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, a national, nonprofit, technical society of engineers, geoscientists, architects, planners, public officials and social scientists.

A plenary session titled “Earthquake Engineering: The Next 25 Years” will take place at 8 a.m. June 11 and will explore recommendations of two National Research Council panels.

“Next Generation Nuclear Power Plants” will be covered in a breakout session on June 11 chaired by Andrew Whittaker, professor and chair of the UB Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. The session will feature discussion of methods to assess hazards and advance the structural design of Generation III+ and IV nuclear power facilities.

Whittaker, who noted that the session was planned prior to the devastating Japanese earthquake and subsequent nuclear power failures, says it was “a forward-looking session” that focused on design of future nuclear power plants, rather than assessment of existing facilities. Presenters discussed isolation and modular technologies, some of which have been developed at UB, for building new nuclear power plants.

Topics covered by other breakout sessions included mitigation of hazards to buildings, bridges and other structures of steel, wood and concrete; electric power substations; wind turbines; nonstructural components; lifelines; and the general issue of improving resilience.

Efforts to improve extreme events education were addressed, included a presentation on MCEER’s earthquake engineering seminar series in Haiti and platforms for sharing earthquake engineering and extreme event educational resources.

Representatives of NEES and each of the 14 NEES laboratories throughout the United States were on hand to provide information and demonstrations on experimental, computational and online collaborative capabilities.

Three workshops showcased NEES features that facilitate research, online collaboration and data management.

Quake Summit 2011 also included a continuing education seminar for practicing engineers that reviewed changes in earthquake-design standards for construction throughout the U.S. The seminar, titled “Changes to Seismic Provisions of ASCE/SEI 7-10: Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures” Ground Motion, Structural, Non-Structural Components,” was jointly sponsored by MCEER and the Buffalo section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

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Quake Summit 2011 included a field trip to UB/MCEER’s ECLIPSE campus to view a full-scale bridge test of elastomeric seismic isolation bearings that support these 72-foot long concrete box girder bridges.


**UB CENTER CONDUCTS U.S. LAUNCH AND SYMPOSIUM FOR WORLD REPORT ON DISABILITY**

UB’s Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange (CIRRIE) conducted the U.S. Launch and Symposium on the World Report on Disability in Arlington, VA, September 12-13, 2011.

The Report was released by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank in June, 2011, and national events are being organized in various countries to make policy makers, researchers, practitioners and disability advocates aware of it.

CIRRIE was invited by WHO and the World Bank to organize and host a launch event in the U.S. Other collaborating organizations were the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-agency Committee on Disability Research and the U.S. International Council on Disabilities. CIRRIE director, John Stone of the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions, was co-chair of the event.

The World report on disability summarizes the best available scientific evidence on disability and makes recommendations for action in support of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The product of a multi-year effort by over 300 contributors from all parts of the world, the World Report provides documented evidence of the social and economic status of persons with disabilities, the state of disability services, problems and good practices, as well as recommendations for needed research and development. It also includes the first update of WHO’s global disability prevalence estimates for more than thirty years.

One billion persons, or 15% of the world’s population, are persons with disability. For the topics discussed, the Report represents the best single source of knowledge on disability at the global scale.

The objective of the September meeting was to introduce the report to U.S. audiences. WHO has encouraged member states to conduct national events to disseminate the report to key stakeholders in each country, especially policy makers. The U.S. launch was aimed at moving the report’s recommendation forward through U.S. policy, practice and advocacy. The symposium examined the implications of the World report for the U.S. domestically and internationally.

The first morning featured representatives of international organizations and U.S. federal government agencies that develop and implement disability policies and fund research related to disability. The opening statement was delivered by Kareem Dale, the White House Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy. The next day and a half was devoted to the presentation and discussion of the eight chapters of the Report. Discussion was focused on the implications of each chapter for the U.S., both domestically and internationally.

Two UB faculty members contributed to the Report and presented chapters at the Symposium. John Stone presented the chapter on Rehabilitation. Edward Steinfield of Architecture and Planning presented the chapter on "Enabling Environments," which he co-authored.

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**QUIKE SUMMIT**

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Quake Summit’s technical program chairs were Whittaker; Andre Filiatrault, MCEER director and UB professor of civil, structural and environmental engineering; and Thalia Anagnos, professor of general engineering, San José State University.

More than a dozen UB faculty and staff participated in the Quake Summit, many of whom have traveled to countries and regions devastated by extreme events as part of international efforts to improve the resilience of communities against earthquakes and other hazards. Disaster mitigation, response to extreme events and multi-hazard engineering are research strengths of the university identified in the UB 2020 strategic plan. Founded in 1986, MCEER, headquartered at the University at Buffalo, is a national center of excellence in advanced technology applications dedicated to reducing losses from earthquakes and other hazards, and to improving disaster resilience. One of three such centers in the nation established by the National Science Foundation, MCEER has been funded principally over the past two decades with more than $67 million from NSF, more than $47 million from the State of New York and more than $34 million from the Federal Highway Administration.
UB ASIAN STUDIES HOSTS NYCAS 2011: ASIA AT WORK AND PLAY

Professors, graduate students and other scholars with an interest in Asia gathered in Buffalo September 16-17 for the 2011 New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS), hosted by the UB Asian Studies Program and organized by Kristin Stapleton, director of Asian Studies; and Bruce Acker, assistant director.

The theme of the 2011 conference was “Asia at Work and Play,” highlighting the ways in which the labor and creativity of people in and from Asia have transformed the world.

The 167 registered NYCAS participants included 26 faculty and staff and 21 graduate students from the UB College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate School of Education, Law School, School of Management, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB Libraries, and the UB Art Gallery.

Registered participants were joined at public lectures and exhibition openings by several hundred other faculty, students, and community members.

Non-UB participants at the interdisciplinary conference hailed from 16 states and provinces and 6 countries overseas, including China, Japan, Australia, England, Italy, and Russia. Professor Larisa Zhilina of Dostoevsky State University in Omsk, Russia, who spoke on Russian and Japanese student perceptions of each other, may well be the first NYCAS participant to travel from Siberia for the conference.

Scholarly panels on the theme of Asia at Work and Play and a wide range of other topics took place at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center. In addition to the 41 panels, conference highlights included:

- The exhibition opening in the Center for the Arts gallery of “Buffalo Beijing: Translation,” an impressive collaboration between MFA students in UB’s Department of Visual Studies and students at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing
- The world premiere of Dinh Q. Lê: Saigon Diary, a striking multimedia exhibition at the UB Anderson Gallery (September 17 – December 31) that provides tremendous insight into economic, social, and environmental conditions in contemporary Saigon
- “What is Asian Contemporary Art: The Challenges of a New Field of Enquiry,” a keynote address by Melissa Chiu, vice president for Global Arts Programs at the Asia Society
- A plenary address by the president of the Association for Asian Studies, Gail Hershatter, entitled, “The Girl Who Burned the Banknotes: A Child Daughter-in-Law’s Story and the Shape of Social Change in Early Socialist China”
- “China’s Sacred Sites,” a display of stunning photographs based on the book of the same name by Buffalo architect Bonnie Foit-Albert
- “The Arts in Asia: A Workshop for Teachers,” featuring presentations on visual and performing arts in Vietnam, Japan, and India
- An energetic drum performance by the Korean Folk Art Club

The conference would not have been possible without the significant involvement and assistance of many faculty, staff, and students across the University at Buffalo. Asian Studies is especially grateful for the close collaboration on NYCAS 2011 from Bruce Kolesnick and Amy Veiders in the UB Office of Special Events, Sandy Olsen and Sandra Firmin in the Department of Visual Studies, Eric Yang and Peggy Du in the UB Confucius Institute, and Heidi Conschafter at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center.

A strong cadre of undergraduate and graduate student volunteers—mobilized by Asian Studies graduate assistant Jeffrey Chow—helped with registration, exhibitor displays, event reception, and many other tasks.

Significant financial contributions came from the UB College of Arts and Sciences, the UB Confucius Institute, the Association for Asian Studies, East View Information Services, Norman and Thuy Murray, and Papaya and Saigon/Bangkok restaurants.

The next NYCAS conference, September 28-29, 2012, will be held at SUNY New Paltz, focused on the theme “Contesting Tradition.” The NYCAS web presence is now hosted by the UB Asian Studies Program, so additional information about upcoming conferences can be found at www.asianstudies.buffalo.edu/nycas/index.shtml. UB faculty and graduate students with an interest in any part of Asia or Asian diasporas are encouraged to consider attending and presenting at the 2012 conference. 🔗
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH WITH UB TEAM

By Patricia Donovan

A month in ancient, sub-Arctic peat bogs among the seals and grizzlies of Kamchatka’s outer banks is not for the out of shape or faint of heart.

Fortunately, Claude Larson is neither. An intrepid, Montreal-born and exceptionally fit middle-school science teacher from Oak Ridge, N.J., Larson has climbed mountains, jumped from planes and trawled the North Atlantic to survey the sea scallop population.

But her month-long trip to Kamchatka’s sub-arctic northeastern shore in July 2010 with an expeditionary force of archaeologists, volcanologists, ecologists and geologists let by UB anthropologist Ezra Zubrow certainly takes the cake.

Larson was participating in a project sponsored by PolarTREC (Teachers and Researchers Exploring and Collaborating), a program in which K-12 teachers spend two to six weeks participating in hands-on field research in the polar regions. They then bring their experiences back to the classroom and to other educators.

“The goal is to invigorate polar science education and understanding by bringing K-12 educators and polar researchers together,” says Zubrow, whose expedition is part of the International Circumpolar Archaelogical Project, funded by the National Science Foundation.

In connection with the project, Zubrow and his team have been conducting geological surveys, excavations and ecological climate analyses of Siberia’s remote Kamchatka peninsula, a rough and extremely volcanic wilderness region the size of California. It is sparsely populated, littered with deserted villages, derelict industrial sites and former Soviet military installations, most long abandoned. A sad and forlorn place in some ways.

Getting to the field site required, among other trials, a 10-hour plane flight from Moscow to the Kamchatka city of Petropavlovsk, followed by endless miles of travel by bus and car, then a four-hour barge trip across a lake, followed by a seven-hour drive across wooded wilderness in a Cold War-era tank to arrive at the base camp on the Stolbevaya River.

“Yes, I hung off a tank,” Larson says, “and I ate dinner in the field while ash from an erupting volcano dropped all over me. I hiked many miles a day over rough terrain and wandered in a field so full of excavated depressions (the local ancients lived in underground dugouts) that it was like being on the moon—if the moon was covered with deep summer grass.

Not only that, but Zubrow adds: “On her first day out, it was the novice Larson who found the first cluster of circular depressions that indicated the site of ancient, round, underground houses, including the oldest one we found during the entire season. It was 6,500 years old.”

Each community being surveyed, mapped and excavated during the project’s several field expeditions once numbered about 500 reindeer hunters and fishermen, and a few may be up to 10,000 years old, Zubrow says.

“I’m always aware,” he says, “that here in what are to us such remote and distant places, real people lived and loved and died; had children—and now they’ve totally disappeared. But in my work, I get to bring them into present-day consciousness. I consider this to be such a privilege.”

It is an undertaking that involves digging deep into ash, earth and peat bogs, sifting tons of soil, analyzing often tiny and frequently eroded bits of stone and other materials, using a GPS to map their location and later, placing them in a context that describes their meaning or use.

“It was an amazing experience to slowly trowel out sections of earth or sift through layers of volcanic ash and suddenly see things appear: a knife or a bone, a chip or flake—in the end, they comprise a ‘magic bag’ of precious objects,” Larson says. “It was such an awakening for me. Twelve people traveled to the ends of the earth to come back with a little plastic bag that can tell us so much about a people, their communities and way of life that existed thousands of years ago. I’ve seen items like this in museums,” she says, “but I had no idea what it took, what it meant. I do now, because now I’ve found them myself.

“And no matter where I go or what I do,” she says, “the people I was with on this trip will be with me because no one else I ever meet for the rest of my life will have done this work.”

Patricia Donovan is a senior editor for University Communications.
EWA ZIAREK'S CAREER COMES FULL CIRCLE

By Jim Bisco

Ewa Ziarek, Julian Park Professor in the Department of Comparative Literature, refers to her “double arrival” at UB. She first came here as a graduate student in 1985 with her husband, Krzysztof, whom she met at the University of Warsaw.

“The idea of us coming to America to study at the time was like going to the moon. It seemed absolutely impossible,” she recalls.

“I came here straight from Poland and didn’t have a clue. It was at the end of martial law (in Poland). When I arrived (at UB), I couldn’t type because at that time you had to have permission to own a typewriter (in Poland). It was a time of censorship and control of the dissemination of the written word. It was a big surprise that I had to type my papers and I didn’t know how to, so it was a culture shock.”

Their figurative trip to the moon—Buffalo—was suggested by American Fulbright scholars who were teaching at the University of Warsaw. They recommended UB at the time because of the Ziareks’ interdisciplinary interest and double-track pursuits of literature and philosophy as master’s students. “We applied to several places and Buffalo accepted us, so we decided to take a risk with this unknown place,” she explains. “It turned out to be a perfect fit.”

After graduating from UB in 1989, they both received teaching offers from the University of Notre Dame. “We decided to stay in this country for many reasons, but one for me was that it was possible to combine an academic career and family life,” she says. “Also, the access to books, the library and computers.”

The couple had reached full professorship at Notre Dame when two openings appeared in UB’s Department of Comparative Literature—one for a specialist in feminist theory and another for an expert in poetry (Krzysztof is a poet)—for which they were encouraged to apply. That was 1994 and the heralding of the Ziareks’ second arrival at UB.

“At first, the experience was very different but the sense of the cutting-edge intellectual work, excitement and interdisciplinary inquiry remained the same,” she says. “I wanted to put these intellectual ideals into my pedagogical practice, continue my own research and to build institutional structures that support this kind of experimental intellectual ethos. I’ve been very fortunate to be on the faculty here.”

Ziarek describes her experience in the department as enriching. “I value both collaborating with my colleagues, but also the teaching, having interdisciplinary and international graduate students. That’s new for me,” she says.

“Right now, I’m teaching a seminar on (German-American political theorist) Hannah Arendt and (Bulgarian-French philosopher and feminist) Julia Kristeva; I have students from Comparative Literature, English, art, musicology, Philosophy and American Studies. Students from Korea, Algeria, Poland, Slovenia, Germany, China and America. That’s very exciting. Maybe because I am a naturalized immigrant, to be in this kind of international company at UB and trying to create a welcoming environment for all my students is priceless.”

The founding director of UB’s Humanities Institute, Ziarek is now on an institute fellowship, launching her third book in a trilogy on feminist theory and contributions to Western culture that began in 2001 with “An Ethics of Dissensus” (Stanford) and continued with her second, “Feminist Aesthetics,” to be published by Columbia in 2013.

The third book, “Natality and Biopolitics,” will explore possibilities and limitations of the feminist politics of “natality”—a term she borrowed from Arendt—in the age of globalization. For Ziarek in this context, natality has a three-pronged meaning: to biological birth, to the influx of newcomers to political life, and to the possibility of a new beginning.

She combines this concept with biopolitics, a new area of political theory and medical research. “It represents a shift in politics, where the quality of human life becomes a political issue. We can see that most dramatically in such issues as abortion, right to death, medical euthanasia and stem-cell research. The explicit discussion of biopolitics is missing in Arendt’s philosophy. I want to develop it from a feminist perspective by focusing particularly on the area of human birth, reproduction, as well as citizenship and ‘naturalization’.”

Ziarek points out that this is a rich topic that might lead to more than one book. With that in mind, she is considering subsequent interdisciplinary international collaborations—with Rosalyn Diprose, a philosophy professor at the University of South Wales, Australia, a political theorist with experience in biomedical ethics, as well as with colleagues in the UB Law School who have been continued on page 16
SRIHARI RECEIVES MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AWARD

By Ellen Goldbaum

Sargur N. Srihari, director of the University at Buffalo’s Center of Excellence in Document Analysis and Recognition (CEDAR) and SUNY Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, has won the 2011 International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR) Outstanding Achievements award.

He is being honored with the award for his outstanding and continued contributions to research and education in handwriting recognition and document analysis, and for his service to the community.

Srihari recently traveled to Beijing to accept the award and serve as a keynote speaker at the conference, held bi-annually by the International Association for Pattern Recognition.

His speech, entitled “Probabilistic Graphical Models in Machine Learning,” focused on the design of computer programs that learn and are able to modify their behavior in an environment of constantly changing information. Without machine learning, many computers that deal with rapidly changing data would require constant reprogramming.

Machine learning is crucial in fields such as document analysis and recognition due to the difficulty of expressing perceptual images, such as handwriting, in algorithms that computers can understand. Many of the advancements in machine learning were developed locally.

“Buffalo has played an interesting role in the history of machine learning,” Srihari says. “The first generation of machine learning programs, known as perceptrons, was developed at Calspan Corporation, here in Buffalo, in the 1960s. Many second-generation machine learning programs were enabled by postal data collected at the Buffalo post office by UB CEDAR students.”

CEDAR is one of the largest research centers in the world devoted to developing new technologies that can recognize and read handwriting. Research by Srihari, his colleagues and students at CEDAR that allowed machines to recognize and understand handwriting was at the core of the first handwritten address-interpretation system used by the U.S. Postal Service. The research was later applied to “reading” tax forms and to forensic handwriting analysis.

“The third generation of machine learning programs, which are based on probabilistic graphical models, are what enable many of today’s natural language applications,” Srihari says.

An example of these third-generation programs is text analytics engines, which are capable of extracting information such as names and organizations from text in a variety of languages, including English, Chinese, Russian and Urdu.

The ICDAR conference also presents an award to promising researchers under the age of 40. Three of Srihari’s previous students have won the award, including Venugopal Govindaraju, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and director of the Center for Unified Biometrics and Sensors at UB, who received the award in 2001; Jonathan Hull, director of Ricoh Research in Palo Alto, CA, who won in 1997; and Tin Kam Ho, head of statistics research at Lucent Bell Labs in Murray Hill, NJ, who won in 1999.

In addition to founding and directing UB’s CEDAR, Srihari is a fellow of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the International Association of Pattern Recognition. He organized the first-ever international workshop on computational forensics in the U.S., which was held at the National Academy of Sciences. He also has been a member of federal committees charged with developing and applying the best scientific standards to important social issues, serving on the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Library of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Identifying the Needs of the Forensic Science Community. He also is the author of more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and the subject of major coverage in the news media.

Ellen Goldbaum is a senior editor for University Communications.
By Patricia Donovan

Hundreds of international scientists from dozens of biomedical fields gathered at UB in July 2011 seeking a common language with which to energize cross-disciplinary research.

The International Conference on Biomedical Ontology took place July 26-30, and conference convener Barry Smith says attendees had a common goal: to enable all of the data produced by the entire spectrum of life sciences to be easily retrieved and understood by those working in all biomedical fields, from the molecular to the global scale.

“It is a huge order,” Smith says, “little understood by the general public and difficult to achieve, but absolutely necessary for the continued development of biomedical science. It promises benefits in some ways similar to those brought to physics by the standardization of units of measure in the 18th century.”

The goal is so important, that Smith, an internationally recognized medical ontologist and Julian Park Chair and SUNY Distinguished Professor in the UB Department of Philosophy, has devoted his professional life to this endeavor.

The public may assume that when biomedical scientists talk, they use the same words to mean the same things. But as Smith points out, in different research fields, even such common terms as “pain,” “gene,” “blood” and “cancer” may have very different meanings when used in different contexts. With the exponential growth of biomedical data, this simple fact has enormous implications. It leads to incompatibilities that frequently confuse, halt cross-disciplinary research and severely limit communication among researchers.

“In order to advance science,” he says, “it is crucial to successful biomedical research that researchers in various disciplines—from molecular biology to public health—who write in different languages and use discrete reporting schemes accurately translate terms used by all systems in which they operate.

“Otherwise, meaning is lost. Information pertaining to research results cannot be found, in ways which can have devastating consequences to medical research,” Smith says.

“Shared ontologies, which are agreed-upon systems of meaning, are designed to prevent this from happening, to enhance knowledge among systems that could not otherwise talk to each other,” he says.

“We not only need to develop and populate ontologies,” Smith explains, “but encode shared definitions in a way that enables computer programs to use them, and then promulgate our results to researchers throughout the world so that they understand this new knowledge and have functional access to it.”

To these ends, the July conference is one of a series initiated in 2009 to offer a forum for representatives of all major communities involved in the development and application of biomedical and related ontologies.

In addition to many scientific presentations, the conference offered poster sessions, tutorials, workshops and demonstrations of new software critical to translational research.

Among the issues under discussion this year were techniques and technologies for collaborative ontology development, reasoning with biomedical ontologies, the evaluation of biomedical ontologies and how biomedical ontologies interact with the Semantic Web (i.e., the “Web of data” that enables machines to understand the semantics, or meaning, of information on the World Wide Web).

Smith says presenters considered these issues in connection with gene and cell research, biomedical imaging, biochemistry and drug discovery, biomedical investigations, experimentation, clinical trials, clinical and translational research, and development and anatomy.

Keynote speakers were Bernard de Bono of the European Bioinformatics Institute, and Roberto Rocha, senior corporate manager for knowledge management and clinical decision support in the Clinical Informatics Research and Development (CIRD) group of Partners Healthcare and Harvard School of Medicine.

De Bono’s talk on the “Virtual Physiological Human Project” addressed efforts to bring together physiology and pharmacology modelers to develop uniform representation for anatomical structure and function by increasing the interoperability of clinical systems.

Rocha’s talk, “Practical Applications of Ontologies in Clinical Systems,” addressed his work with Partners Healthcare and at the University of Utah (2000-08), where he led the design and implementation of a distributed-data and knowledge-management infrastructure to support clinical and translational research.

UB presenters included Werner Ceusters, professor of psychiatry, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and principal investigator on a new National Institutes of Health grant focused on an ontology for pain and related disability, mental health and quality of life. He presented a tutorial to illustrate how this developing ontology can help patients with chronic pain clearly and accurately express how they feel to the doctors and health care providers trying to understand and treat them. In addition to Smith and Ceusters, other UB presenters included Alex Diehl of the Department of Neurology, Randall Dipert of the Department of Philosophy, Patrice Seyed of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, and Alan Ruttenberg of the School of Dental Medicine.
TOSHIKO MATSUTANI RECEIVES 2011 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Toshiko Matsutani, president of the UB Alumni Association Chapter in Japan, received the 2011 Achievement Award—Industry Leadership from the School of Management during the school’s annual awards ceremony at the Airport Millennium Hotel in Buffalo on November 3, 2011.

Matsutani is chair and CEO of Beniya Co. Ltd., a prominent, upscale fashion retail chain headquartered in Kobe, Japan, with stores throughout the country. Beniya was founded in the late 1940s and led the Japanese fashion industry by introducing European women’s fashions.

Matsutani succeeded his father as CEO after receiving his Ph.D. from the UB School of Management in 1985. He modernized the company by introducing a new American-style operating system, heavily based on computerization. He also introduced the first e-commerce system in the Japanese retail industry, which allowed consumers to purchase fashion items online.

To attract the younger women’s market, Matsutani established a subsidiary clothing chain, offering casual and affordable American designer clothing. He also introduced locally designed, less expensive fashions specifically targeting Japanese consumers, which quickly captured a large share of the Japanese fashion market.

Under Matsutani’s leadership, Beniya is developing an innovative, company-based IT operation system with the support of a grant from the Japanese government.

A trustee of Konan University in Kobe, Matsutani also serves as an adjunct professor of management in the Hirao School of Management at Konan. He has played a key role in facilitating the development of an academic exchange between UB and Konan University.

Matsutani serves as chair of the Kobe-Sannomiya Retail Association and is a leader in the development of the Sannomiya shopping area. He is a member of the Kobe Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce and actively promotes study abroad programs for young people.

Matsutani earned an associate degree in fashion merchandising from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, a bachelor’s degree in business science from the UB School of Management, where he received the Student Achievement Award as the Best Doctoral Student.

PMBA STUDENTS VISIT EUROPE FOR MARKETING PRACTICUM

Fourteen students in the School of Management’s Professional MBA (PMBA) program gained global experience firsthand through an international marketing practicum that included an eight-day trip to London and Paris.

Modeled after the school’s very successful Executive MBA international residency, the course was designed to help PMBA students understand and appreciate the strategic marketing issues and tactical considerations needed when conducting business globally.

During the first of the practicum’s three phases, students attended evening classes to identify a particular marketing problem or opportunity within their own firm. The second phase of the practicum provided real-world exposure through on-site visits to finance and high-tech manufacturing organizations in Paris and London.

While in Paris, students visited Eli Lilly and Co. and spent time conducting research for their small group projects. In London, they met with representatives from GE Capital, HSBC (including a tour of their offices), Infosys and Rich Products.

The itinerary was packed, but student response was very positive. Oliver Hays, PMBA ’13, is already using what he learned to add value to his organization. “I have shared many of my findings with my company,” said Hays. “A lot of the marketing practices used by these companies are relevant for our operations and strategy as well.”

Similarly, Fredrick Sponholz, PMBA ’12, was able to derive immediate benefits from his experience. “Going on this trip allowed me to connect with colleagues overseas that I would otherwise never have interacted with,” he said. “I learned a great deal about several practices that make them successful, and I was able to offer my insights on how we operate that may benefit them as well.”

Europe is the main trading partner for the U.S., receiving nearly a quarter of all U.S. exports. London is one of three command centers for the world economy, with New York City and Tokyo. Currently, more than 100 of Europe’s 500 largest companies are headquartered in Central London.

The Paris urban agglomeration is Europe’s biggest city economy and the sixth largest in the world. The region hosts 38 of the Fortune Global 500 companies and has recently been shifting towards high-value-added service industries.

Sarah Blankenship, PMBA ’12, has traveled to Europe many times before, but gained a different perspective...
REORIENTING MY PERSPECTIVE ON THE ARTS IN SINGAPORE

By Faruh Kuziev

It is not easy to describe what the UB Arts Management Summer School in Singapore meant to me. It influenced me on many different levels – personal, professional, and academic. Some of the influences are not evident yet, but will surely determine my future decisions, choices and ideas.

Although I’ve lived my whole life in Tajikistan, I had been lucky enough to travel in Central Asia, Europe and the US. These trips gave me a picture of the international arts and culture situation and helped me access the main discourses in this field.

Prior to arriving in Singapore I was Euro-centric in thinking about ways in which arts should develop, by what means this process should progress, who should be at the head of it and so on. I never really focused on the arts situation in Asia, and its artists, institutions, events and processes were a mystery to me. Visiting Singapore and exploring its arts scene, meeting its arts managers and attending arts events made me reevaluate my Western-oriented perspective in managing the arts.

As an arts manager, I made choices in favor of the West when it came to collaborative projects, inviting an artist or developing a concept for an event. The trip to Singapore helped me discover new opportunities for my future.

The artistic level of artworks and performances, their depth and aesthetic power as well as topicality of the concepts were striking. The show in the Singapore National Museum of Art Negotiating Home, History and Nation: Two Decades of Contemporary Art in Southeast Asia, 1991-2011 proved that Southeast Asian artists have a strong connection to situations and communities in their countries and have an eloquent language to convey their messages in bright punchy pieces.

What struck me most was the way artists from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan and other Southeast Asian countries used both traditional techniques and materials such as woodwork, knitting, skin-work, and cane-work, and contemporary media such as photo and video.

That gave me an idea how such traditional approach could be promoted in my own country where we have similar handicraft tradition that could be conceptualized into various contemporary art mediums.

Making contacts with Singapore Art Museum’s curators and management and having a potential collaborative project with them is an enviable advantage an arts manager from Central Asian can only dream of. This immense institution is an exchange and collaboration hub for Southeast Asian artists and collectives.

As for other art events, I was incredibly lucky to enjoy one of the most powerful theater pieces I have ever seen. “Tempest: Without a Body” (Samoa, New Zealand) presented in the Esplanade Performance Art Center was a breathtaking anti-war show performed in a plastic wordless language depicting an oppressive post-apocalyptic world full of shock-inspiring creatures, sounds and motions.

I daresay that this summer school for me was another step up as a developing arts manager and as a researcher looking into the problems of managing the arts. When I came to the US from Tajikistan I knew I did not know anything. After the first year I thought I learned and knew a lot. In Singapore I realized that everything I knew needs to be reevaluated and critiqued. I realized the importance of criticism as a research method and a practical approach. By meeting officials, managers and leaders who had a ‘Pro’ position and talking to those who stood on a ‘Con’ ground, I realized the significance of alternative questions, ideas, and processes.

Such institutions as Esplanade Theatres on the Bay and Singapore Art Museum being satisfied with the status quo are opposed to The Substation and Theater Training and Research Program who look for change. Coming from a similar situation in Tajikistan and seeing how arts managers in Singapore cope with top down governmental policies and practice was one of the most fascinating experiences I had there.

Faruh Kuziev is a Fulbright scholar from Tajikistan enrolled in the Arts Management Program.
**SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES EXPANDING**

The UB community is currently benefitting from the contributions of Ian Wilson, who has joined Asian Studies as an adjunct faculty member from Syracuse University, where he is a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology completing his dissertation, “A Variously Understood Past: The Negotiation of Bharatpuri History.” He is helping Asian Studies expand UB’s existing first- and second-year Hindi course offerings to include the closely related language of Urdu, which UB plans to offer through the second year in the future.

Mr. Wilson’s role at UB is part of a broader U.S. Department of Education-funded initiative to expand the existing South Asia curriculum at the university. In addition to 1st-year Hindi-Urdu, he is teaching a course entitled “Society and Caste in Contemporary India” in fall 2011 and “Contemporary Asian Societies” in the spring 2012 semester. His recent Asia at Noon presentation, “Remembering in the Kings’ Village: Centrality and Opposition in Collective Memory,” examined centralizing and decentralizing forces in oral narratives he collected in the ancestral village of the rulers of the former North Indian kingdom of Bharatpur.

The UB Asian Studies Program continued its partnership with the Indian community organization Triveni to offer memorable performances and interactive workshops on campus this fall. On November 18, Rhythm of Rajasthan brought their exciting fusion of rhythms and melodies from the great Thar Desert in northwest India to the Mainstage Theater.

Prior to the performance, the Rajasthani musicians and dancers presented a dance workshop for UB dance majors. Additional sponsors of the Rajasthan performance included Gujarati Samaj of Buffalo and the Center for the Arts. Earlier in the semester, Asian Studies and Triveni teamed up with the Department of Music for a workshop in Baird Recital Hall with acclaimed Hindustani vocalist Nagaraj Rao Havaldar.

In conjunction with expanded South Asian language and content course offerings, Asian Studies recently inaugurated a new South Asia@UB website that draws together various faculty and student carrying out research in and about South Asian societies. For more information, see http://wings.buffalo.edu/english/as/Hakala/SouthAsiaAtUB

Professor Walter Hakala hosted an informal series of film screenings in conjunction with his South Asia courses. Films include the controversial *Fire* (1996), the Bollywood films *Umrao Jaan* (1981), *Taal* (1999), and *Dil Se* (1997), and the documentary *Father, Son, Holy War* (1994). For more information, see http://wings.buffalo.edu/english/as/Hakala/SouthAsiaAtUB/News

Jim Bisco is a senior writer for University Communications.

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**PMBA STUDENTS**

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Dealing with the question of reproductive rights. The book or books has the potential, she agrees, to attract a crossover readership.

She contends that Buffalo has been a great place to live and has found the university to be very open-minded.

“When we were first here as graduate students with a small child, it was great to be embraced by other professors and graduate students who were in a similar situation,” she recalls. Their son, Lukasz, recently earned his Ph.D. at Purdue University, where he is teaching computer science as a visiting professor.

“And now what we appreciate about UB are not only the intellectual opportunities, but also the cutting-edge art, music and poetry,” she says.

“Being among artists as well as scholars is very important for us. The artistic environment of the university and of Buffalo is important to us and that’s what makes it exciting to be here.”

"It was the first time I've seen the business side of things or had a chance to meet local professionals," she said. Jason Lang, PMBA '11, derived value from his experience as well. "The PMBA trip gave me the unique chance to learn firsthand about the challenges that businesses face operating within the EU," he said. "It was the most enriching and rewarding aspect of the PMBA program." Upon their return, students attended two classes, one in February and one in March, submitting formal reports and making group presentations as the third and final phase of the practicum.

Charles Lindsey, assistant professor in the UB School of Management, taught the course and accompanied the group on the trip, along with Courtney Walsh, assistant dean of executive education.

“Students who elected to take this course learned how to implement global strategies despite varying regulations and cultures," said Walsh. “Gaining this type of experience early in their careers will enable them to add significant value in the workplace.”
OF EIGHT UB FINALISTS IN THE 2011-2012 STUDENT FULBRIGHT COMPETITION, FIVE HAVE RECEIVED GRANTS

By Patricia Donovan

UB produced eight Fulbright student finalists in the 2011-12 Fulbright grants cycle and, of these, four have received Full Fulbright Grants for Study and Research and one has received a Full Fulbright Teaching Assistantship Grant to study and/or teach in Europe, Africa, South America and Canada.

Sasha Pack, PhD, associate professor of history, has been faculty advisor for the UB Fulbright Program since 2009, and calls this “the largest number of student recipients of Fulbright grants from UB in recent memory, and certainly the largest number since I’ve been advising the program.”

“Last summer (2010) we did something different,” Pack says. “We established a summer program for the Fulbright applicants during which they exchanged application essays and critiqued one another’s submissions for clarity and effectiveness. It is important, after all,” he says, “to convey expertise in a particular discipline in a way that is clear and comprehensible to those not in that field of study. “The students said they thought it was very helpful and perhaps the proof is in their success,” Pack says.

The Fulbright recipients are:

**Justin Parks**, of Albuquerque, N.M., a PhD candidate in the UB Department of English, whose work focuses on modernist poetry in the context of the liberal-democratic state. The son of Ann and Jay Parks of Albuquerque, and a graduate of that city’s St. Pius X High School, Parks received a Fulbright grant to conduct research at the University of Turku, Finland, during the 2011-12 academic year.

**Joseph Lake**, of Palo Alto, Calif., a PhD student in the UB Department of Music, who received a Fulbright Study Scholarship in the Creative and Performing Arts to fund a full academic year of work in music composition at the Carl Maria von Weber Hochschule fur Musik in Dresden, Germany, where he will compose a piece for orchestra to be premiered by the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra. Lake is the son of David and Susan Lake of Palo Alto and a 1998 graduate of Henry M. Gunn Senior High School, Palo Alto.

**Brian McSherry**, who will receive his bachelor of fine arts degree in communications design from the UB Department of Visual Studies in June, received a Fulbright Canada grant to fund his studies in graphic design at Concordia University, Montreal, Quebeck, from September 2011 through May 2012. McSherry, a native of Chester, N.Y., is the son of Sean and Evelyn McSherry of Chester, and a 2007 graduate of John S. Burke Catholic High School in Goshen, N.Y.

**Raechel Horowitz** of Niskayuna, N.Y., a May graduate of UB with a double major in English and French, received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to teach in an elementary or high school in Morocco for the 2011-12 academic year. Horowitz is a 2007 graduate of Warwick Valley High School, Warwick, N.Y.

**Melissa Schindler** of Medina, Ohio, who studies Diaspora literatures, is scheduled to receive a PhD in English from UB in 2013. She received a Fulbright to study the African diaspora from March to December 2012 at Brazil’s Universidade Federal in Sao Joao del-Rei, a historical city in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

More enslaved Africans were sent to Brazil during the Atlantic slave trade than to any other nation in the Western Hemisphere, and many of them were shipped to Minas Gerais to work in the gold mines. Subsequently, many thousands of Brazilians emigrated to the U.S. from Minas Gerais, more than from any other place in the country.

With Pack on leave in fall 2011, Professor Kenneth Shockley, Department of Philosophy and a Fulbright grantee to Australia, has been appointed the new Campus Fulbright Advisor at UB.

Shockley is building upon Pack’s efforts to partner with the Fellowships and Scholarships Office of the UB Honors College to promote awareness of Fulbright opportunities and to increase the number of UB students applying for Fulbright each year.
**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS ENJOY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM**

Since not all education takes place in the classroom, the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) offers UB’s international population a rich array of trips and activities throughout the year. The desire to create positive experiences filled with wonderful memories for the students and scholars is one of the principles on which the extracurricular program is founded. The activities, which now number 30-40 per year, are offered each semester and during summer as well.

“The goals for our trips and activities are manifold,” explains Eric Comins, Coordinator for Student Programs at ISSS. “We want to take students off-campus to places that they wouldn’t ordinarily go on their own. We try to show them some of the many wonderful things that Buffalo and Western New York have to offer.”

He continues, “The trips are also designed to help our students meet other international students as well as domestic students. It’s a great way to meet new people and enjoy new experiences.”

The activities program becomes more popular each year. The 2011 calendar year saw a new participation record: 1,445 students and scholars participated (909 during the fall semester, 379 in spring and 157 in the summer). The popularity is fueled by word-of-mouth, marketing efforts aimed at students and scholars, and from being responsive to the students’ feedback.

The biggest trip of the year takes place in August, when five busloads of newly-arrived students visit Niagara Falls before classes start. Other popular trips include going to see the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, attending a UB Bulls football game, and hiking in Letchworth State Park in fall.

Sylvie Delcambre, a graduate student from Belgium, goes on trips as often as possible because: “When you arrive at a new location, it is not easy to know what to do or where to go. ISSS proposes activities as varied as a visit of downtown Buffalo, Niagara Falls, a canoe trip, hiking in state park, a BPO concert, football/hockey games (with explanation of the rules before, which was really helpful!), etc. Every time, the organization is perfect. We leave and come back on time, and we meet really nice people.”

As mentioned by Delcambre, some events may seem somewhat esoteric to a majority of international students, such as a Buffalo Sabres ice hockey game or the aforementioned football game. In such cases, ISSS offers instructional pre-event “classes,” such as “Hockey 101.” The special presentations are designed to teach students what they will need to know to more fully enjoy the events.

The past trip season for 2011 included some interesting new offerings. For example, a guided bird watching trip was offered at Tiff Nature Preserve in April. We were fortunate to see 43 different species that day. River rafting was also a popular new offering in April. It was so popular that we offered another more challenging rafting trip in May to begin the summer trips season.

Some of the more notable new offerings for the summer schedule were horseback riding, sailing Lake Erie on a 22-meter schooner, a guided boating tour of Lockport’s locks on the Erie Canal, and a guided kayak trip of Buffalo Harbor. Keeping up the aquatic theme, a guided canoeing trip was one of the new offerings for this past fall. Looking ahead to 2012, at least half of the winter/spring trips will be first-time events. These will include a trip to an indoor water park, a guided snowshoe hike, late-night “cosmic” bowling, indoor paintball, and lasertag.

ISSS’s trips and activities initiatives seem to be meeting the goal of having a positive impact. Lian Sheng Ye, an undergraduate student from South Africa, offers his enthusiastic endorsement: “Having been on most of these trips myself, ISSS has made an indelibly positive impression on my life at the University at Buffalo.

“Not only do these excursions insightfully introduce students to the diversity of activities in the Buffalo region, but they also enlighten students on internationalism since [most] students attending these excursions are international students,” Ye said.
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING
Department of Architecture
A project by Joyce Hwang, assistant professor, called “Bat Tower,” is an architectural installation at Griffis Sculpture Park near Buffalo that has been featured in several international publications: Science & Vie Découvertes, Number 150, June 2011 (Publisher: Mondadori: MontroUGE Cedex, France); Azure Magazine, Volume 26, No. 203, October 2010 (Azure Publishing Inc., Toronto, Ontario, Canada); and My Green City: Back to Nature with Attitude and Style, February 2011 (Gestalten Books: Berlin, Germany).

The Regional Institute
Kathryn Friedman, director of law and policy research, engaged in myriad international activities between 2010 and 2011. The IBM Center for the Business of Government awarded a $20,000 grant to Friedman as principal investigator and Kathryn A. Foster, director, to investigate the effectiveness of current models for environmental collaboration across international boundaries in North America. The research evaluated selected case studies of cross-border environmental collaboration along the northern and southern boundaries of the United States. The research article, “Environmental Collaboration: Lessons Learned about Cross-Boundary Collaborations,” was published in February 2011 in the center’s Collaborating Across Boundaries journal series. The effort is part of a series of research efforts sponsored by the center to advise local, regional, state and federal government officials with practical strategies for moving forward on cross-boundary collaboration in diverse policy areas. In addition to this research, Friedman presented in various international forums. In winter 2010-2011, she was invited to present research on the Canada-US relationship and border security at the Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas; the Frank Church Symposium, International Affairs Council, Idaho State University; and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Canada Institute, Washington, DC. In spring 2010, she presented border research at a symposium entitled, “Governing the Canada-US Border,” held at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Canada Institute, Washington, DC. Friedman’s article, “Recommendations for Policymakers on Northern Border Governance,” was published in Proceedings: Seminar on Canada-US Border Management Policy Issues, held at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. (April 2010).

INternATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY AND STAFF

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of American Studies
Kari J. Winter, professor, presented a paper on 21st-century anti-human-trafficking rhetoric at an International Conference on Globalisms in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in July 2011, after which she conducted research on the slave trade and Afro-Brazilian culture in Salvador, Brazil.

Department of Anthropology
Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, associate professor, is currently a visiting scholar at the Latin American Studies Program at the University of Toronto, Canada. Bacigalupo will conduct ethnographic research among the indigenous Mapuche of Southern Chile between December 17, 2011 and January 15, 2012.

Department of Biological Sciences
Matthew Xu-Friedman, associate professor, spent a month in spring 2011 in the laboratory of Benedikt Grothe, at Ludwig-Maximilians University, near Munich, Germany. Grothe is a prominent figure in auditory research, particularly related to the neuronal mechanisms underlying localization of sound. Xu-Friedman learned techniques for making recordings from the auditory system in anesthetized animals, to further his research about the effects of modulation on processing of auditory information in the brain. In addition, Xu-Friedman lectured on his research (“Role of Plasticity at an Auditory Synapse”), taught in a graduate course, and observed some of their laboratory courses. That last experience has already had an impact at UB. With the support of Gerald Koudelka, professor and chair, and Mary Bisson, professor and co-lecturer, Xu-Friedman moved to introduce the same software and hardware platform in use in the German teaching lab to extensively revise the department’s undergraduate lab in physiology.

Department of Chemistry
Luis A. Colón, professor and chair, hosted Markus Ganzera from the Institute of Pharmacy at the University of Innsbruck in Austria for a month in summer 2011. Ganzera performed preliminary experiments in collaborative research seeking the development of new methodologies to study naturally occurring compounds in plant extracts.


Department of Classics
Roger Woodard, the Andrew V. V. Raymond Professor of the Classics and professor of Linguistics, was elected by Wolfson College, Oxford to be a visiting scholar during 2010/2011. He was in residence at Oxford during Trinity Term where he undertook research on early Greek conceptualizing about language, collaborated with other
Oxford scholars and Oxford graduate students, and lectured on Near Eastern cult and links to archaic Greek cult.

Department of Communication

Hua (Helen) Wang, assistant professor, presented findings from her research grants on “The Emergence, Development, and Practices of Chinese Social Network Sites” by Annenberg Program on Online Communities Research Initiative at the University of Southern California where she obtained her Ph.D. in Communication in 2010. Wang and her collaborators presented three studies at international conferences: (1) “Networked play as online community participation: Uses and gratifications of social games” at the CHI Social Games Workshop in May 2011 held in Vancouver, Canada; (2) “Sharing with ‘fronds’: Personified organization-public communication on social network sites” at the 5th International Conference on Communities & Technologies, Organizations and Social Network Sites Workshop in June 2011 held in Brisbane, Australia; and (3) “Visions and praxes: The trajectories of Chinese SNS trailblazers” at “A Decade in Internet time: Symposium on the dynamics of the Internet and society” in September 2011 held by the Oxford Internet Institute in Oxford, UK. In addition, Wang was invited to give guest lectures to over 100 sociology students at the University of Toronto, Canada in March 2011 to talk about “networked play and online communities” and then in September to talk about “gaming for fun and beyond”.

Department of Comparative Literature


Department of Economics

In May 2011, Alex Anas, professor, attended the Applied Urban Modeling Conference 2011 at Cambridge University, United Kingdom, where he presented an invited paper co-authored with Tomoru Hiramatsu, postdoctoral research fellow, “RELU-TRAN: Applications and Challenges”. On May 27-28, 2011 Anas attended the Folk Snickers Symposium sponsored by the Royal Technological Institute in Stockholm, Sweden where he presented his working paper “Metropolitan Decentralization and the Stability of Travel Time”. On May 30, he gave the same presentation to the faculty and graduate students at Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany, where from May 28 through June 2, 2011 he was the guest of the Chair of Spatial Economics and Regional Science Institute of Transport and Economics, and the Faculty of Traffic Sciences.

Isaac Ehrlich, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chair, has been invited to serve as a research fellow by IZA - the Institute for the Study of Labor, headquartered in Bonn, Germany. Ehrlich was recently appointed to the scientific board of the Wittgenstein Center for Demography and Global Human Capital in Vienna, Austria, established by the Austrian Academy of Science and other institutions.

Department of English

Douglas Basford, instructor and assistant director of composition, traveled to Paris, Rome, and Florence this year, with the assistance of an Individual Development Grant, to consult manuscripts and early printed editions of the sonnets of an important Italian burlesque poet who is not generally known in the Anglophone world, with the intention of producing a body of translations. He has just published translations of avant-garde Italian poets—Gabriele Frasca and Edoardo Sanguineti—in the latest issues of Western Humanities Review and The Atlanta Review. He also recently published his translation of Jan Baetens’s article about French author Pierre Alferi in the journal SubStance, and has another critical translation forthcoming in Melodia E. Jones Chair Jean-Jacques Thomas’s journal FPC. He is currently editing a special Italian translation issue of the online poetry journal Unsplendid, which he founded and co-edits, and is at work on a project aimed at documenting the varieties and dissemination of a unique form of Italian folk song.


Bruce Jackson, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Samuel Capen Chair, has eight photographs in “Terre Humaine en photographies,” an exhibit of approximately 100 photographs at Bibliothèque nationale de France October 4-November 2010. Some of the other photographers and ethnographers represented in the exhibition were Walker Evans, Sebastiao Salgado, George Condominas and Claude Lévi-Strauss. Twenty-two of Jackson’s photographs from the Arkansas prison are online in the Photography section of the


Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chair, organized two international conferences: “‘Were I Britain born’: Emily Dickinson’s Transatlantic Connections,” at Oxford University, UK in August 2010; and “Structures of Innovation,” the 13th annual Modernist Studies Association Conference, in Buffalo in October 2011.

David Schmid, associate professor, presented a keynote address titled “Monsters for a Neoliberal Age” at re-thinking the Monstrous, a conference at Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, Germany, July 2011 and a paper titled “Base and Superstructure in Crime Fiction” at the States of Crime Conference at Queen’s University in Belfast, Northern Ireland in June 2011.

Howard Wolf, professor emeritus, is working with Jaroslav Kusnir from Presov University, Slovakia, on a Slovak translation of a series of his short stories, *Exiles by Starlight*.

Sara Metcalf, assistant professor, participated in the Third Annual Workshop on Dynamic Modeling for Health Policy hosted by the University of Saskatchewan, Canada in July 2011. She was invited to the workshop on the basis of her expertise in agent-based and system dynamics modeling, and shared insights from research efforts modeling social structures to support healthy aging. Metcalf is principal investigator of the UB sub-award to NYU as part of an exploratory research grant through the NIH R21 program in systems science. To an international and interdisciplinary audience in Saskatchewan, she presented the latest results of her NIH collaboration with NYU and Columbia University. A portfolio of models is employed in the project to simulate the effects of oral health outreach programs for older adults in urban environments. Other speakers at the workshop reported on the utilization of Canadian health data to inform dynamic models of public health problems. Organized by Nathaniel Osgood of the University of Saskatchewan, the workshop included a group model-building component in which policies about urban health were contrasted for the U.S. and Canadian contexts.

Department of History

In February 2011, Jonathan Dewald, professor, was Directeur d’Études Invité at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France and presented a series of four lectures there, during his current research about the nobility of seventeenth-century France; Dewald also lectured on the same material at the Université de Paris X (Nanterre) and at the University of Newcastle, UK. In May and June, 2011, Dewald was a guest fellow at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, at the University of Freiburg, Germany, and presented two short papers there. Finally, in November 2011 he visited the Department of International History at the University of Wuhan, China, and presented a series of six lectures, on the social structure of early modern France and on the social implications of historical thinking about that period.

Jennifer Gaynor, assistant professor, conducted oral history research in Sulawesi, Indonesia on the memory of capture during a period of rebellion in 1950’s. The research was funded by UB’s Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender and will contribute to a chapter of her current book project.

Kristin Stapleton, associate professor and director of Asian Studies, accompanied a U.S. Congressional Staff delegation to China in August 2011. The delegation explored China’s infrastructural development, with visits to transportation-related ministries in Beijing, the port of Tianjin, and the new subway system under construction in Wuhan. The delegation was hosted by China’s National People’s Congress. Stapleton provided background to the delegation on contemporary history and politics in the PRC. Stapleton and Bruce Acker, assistant director of Asian Studies, co-chaired the annual meeting of the New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS) in September 2011 (see p. 9). NCAS sponsors academic meetings that bring together scholars of Asia from across New York state and the world. This year’s participants included scholars from Russia, China, Japan, Italy, Australia and England. Stapleton was a featured speaker in October 2011 at a symposium on “The 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Republic of China” at Indiana University, making a presentation on “The Chinese War and Peace: An Intimate Portrait of 1911 in Chengdu.”

Department of Linguistics

From October to December 2011, Jeff Good, assistant professor, and a postdoctoral associate Pierpaolo Di Carlo are organizing a project in Cameroon to assess the preservation needs of the Buea Archives in Cameroon, which holds significant collections of British colonial documents. The project is funded by the Endangered Archives Programme run by the British Library and will begin digitizing high-priority materials and will also donate equipment to the archives and offer training opportunities to Cameroonians allowing them to continue work on digitization after the project ends.

Department of Mathematics

Jason Manning, associate professor, gave an invited lecture series entitled “Recognizing low-dimensional manifold groups” at the 9th KAIST Geometric Topology Fair, August 8-12 2011 at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in Daejeon, Korea.

Department of Music

Cort Lippe, associate professor of composition, received an invitation and travel grant from the Seoul Electronic Music Festival to travel to Korea in winter 2010 for a performance of one of his compositions and to give a lecture. He spent a week teaching in Tokyo as a visiting professor at the Kunitachi College of Music. In summer 2011 Lippe attended the International Computer Music Conference in Huddersfield, United Kingdom, where his music was selected for performance. He had a new piece premiered in Bangkok, Thailand, followed by seven performances in Seoul, South Korea. He also had three performances in Germany and two in Greece, as well as performances in Switzerland, Spain, and France. In addition, he was a member of the artistic and scientific committees for the 5th Toronto Electroacoustic Music Symposium in Canada, served as an outside examiner for Nanyang Technological University, UB’s exchange partner in Singapore, and as a reviewer for the IRCAM Musical Research Residency Program, France.
Department of Philosophy
The Samuel P. Capen Chair in Philosophy at UB and the College of Philosophy and Social Development of Shandong University, China co-sponsored an international conference on “The Interpretation of the Philosophical Classics: East and West” this past summer. The conference took place at the campus of Shandong University in Jinan, China, between June 1 and 6, 2011. Nearly forty scholars from Europe, North America, and East Asia participated. It was organized by Jorge J. E. Gracia, SUNY Distinguished Professor, and his UB colleague, Jiyuan Yu, professor, and Liu Jie from Shandong University. Among the distinguished speakers were John Marenbon (Cambridge), David Garber (Princeton), Phillip. J. Ivanhoe (Hong Kong), Vincent Shen (Toronto), and Cheng-yung Cheng (Singapore), Yang Xiao (Kenyon), and others. Various aspects of the issues raised by the interpretation of classical philosophical texts were explored by the participants, ranging from historical studies about major particular figures that had addressed these issues to topics such as the difficulties posed by temporal and cultural differences between interpreters and the classics, the very nature of a classic, the problems involved in the transmission of texts from antiquity, questions of translation into contemporary idioms and into languages other than those used in the classic texts, matters of communication, and so on. And there were, of course, papers presented dealing with the philosophical interpretation of classical figures such as Confucius and Aristotle. The conference in particular focused on how these individual figures themselves understand what interpretation is.

Jiyuan Yu published in Chinese a monograph Aristotle’s Ethics (Beijing: Renmin University Press, 2011). He was selected to give the 2011 Distinguished Alumnus talk by the Shandong University, China. He was the keynote speaker at the 17th International Conference on Chinese Philosophy, “Inter-culturalism and Philosophical Discourse: Retrospect and Prospect,” French National Scientific Research Centre (CNRS) and Graduate School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (HESS), Paris, 4-8 July 2011. His speech was entitled “Transmission, Innovation, and Philosophizing in Confucius”. At the conference he also gave a panel presentation entitled “Transcendence and Heaven in the Analects”. In Paris, the University at Buffalo was chosen by the International Society for Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) as the site to host the 18th International Conference on Chinese Philosophy in 2013, with Jiyuan Yu as the convener.

Department of Physics
Surajit Sen, professor, spent a week as an invited guest of the Council of Scientific Investigation and Research (CSIR) Centre for Mathematical Modeling and Computer Simulations in Bangalore, India, between June 24 and July 1, 2011. During this visit he helped initiate a new research project led by his collaborator T.R. Krishna Mohan and jointly funded by the Defence Research and Development Organization, India and CSIR on designing novel shock absorbing structures. During this visit, he presented seminars at CMMACS and in the Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

Department of Political Science
The Games of July: Explaining the Great War, a book by Frank Zagare, professor, was recently published by the University of Michigan Press. The book develops a novel explanation for the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

Department of Psychology
Eduardo Mercado III, associate professor, was a visiting researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin, Germany in June 2011. There he worked together with members of the Center for Lifespan Psychology on experiments designed to explore the role of brain plasticity in cognitive aging and development.

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
David Castillo, associate professor and chair, co-edited with Bradley Nelson of Concordia University in Montreal, a new book, Spectacle and Topophilia: Reading Early Modern and Postmodern Hispanic Cultures, published by Vanderbilt University Press, with essays contributed by Justin Read, associate professor, and Colleen Culleton, associate professor.

Jorge Guitart, associate professor, was a Visiting Professor in the Spanish Graduate Program of Middlebury College in Guadalajara, Mexico, in summer 2011.

Jean-Jacques Thomas, Melodia E. Jones Professor of French, has been elected to a four-year term on the Executive Council of the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States. Thomas serves as director of the Quebec Studies Program at UB.

Department of Sociology
Steve G. Hoffman, assistant professor, delivered a keynote address in December 2010 at the Institutions and Organizational Environments Workshop: Towards an Ethnography of Complex Systems, which was co-sponsored by SOCIUS - Centro de Investigação em Sociologia Econômica e das Organizações (Research Center in Economic and Organizational Sociology), Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, and Instituto de Ciências Sociais (The Institute of Social Sciences) at the Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal. The paper his talk was based upon, “The New Tools of the Science Trade: Contested Knowledge Production and the Conceptual Vocabularies of Academic Capitalism,” is forthcoming in Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale, the journal of the European Association of Social Anthropologists. The article will be accompanied by separate commentary from the social theorists Cris Shore, University of Auckland, and George Marcus, University of California, Irvine. It will also include Hoffman’s response to both comments. Hoffman has also been invited to a workshop on visual organizational studies on May 22, 2012, at the Goodenough Club in London, England. The workshop will focus on contributions to The Routledge Companion to Visual Organization, edited by Emma Bell, Samantha Warren and Jonathan E. Schroeder. Hoffman’s chapter in the volume will be entitled “Simulated Organizational Realities in Virtual and Physical Space (Or, Why Boxers and Artificial Intelligence Scientists Mostly Do The Same Thing).”

Department of Visual Studies
Elizabeth Otto, associate professor, received a $5,000 SUNY Con- versations in the Disciplines (CID) award to present a conference on the 19th- and 20th-century “new woman” in global visual culture. Otto, the only UB faculty member among 26 CID recipients for 2011-12, used her grant to help fund “The International New Woman in Photography and Film,” a conference on gender and representation held Sept. 15-16, 2011 at UB. The conference addressed representations of the “new woman” from the 1870s through the 1960s, a period in which more and more women became educated, dramatically increased their presence in the workforce, actively challenged notions of gender identity and provoked the emergence of a feminist wave that resulted in dramatic social change throughout the world. Otto received the award in conjunction with three SUNY colleagues who collaborated on the conference: Kristine Harris, associate professor of history and director of the Asian Studies Program at New Paltz State College; Leesa Rittelmann, associate professor of visual arts and new media at Fredonia State College; and Kathleen Vernon, associate professor of Spanish languages and literature at Stony Brook University. Otto’s current book project, Haunted Bauhaus: Spirit and Body in the Home of Rationalized Culture, challenges conventional understandings of the Bauhaus, interwar Europe’s most influential art institution. Hers is the first sustained investigation of the way the Bauhaus engaged with the body in relation to spiritualism and the occult, gender and figuration, and the surreal. The book explains how, despite the sleek surfaces and cold structures that defined the Bauhaus, there lurked an unexpected embrace of the irrational.
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Michael Glick, professor and dean, delivered a number of lectures overseas, including continuing education courses in Brazil, Israel, New Zealand and Singapore. He also served as chair of the science committee for the World Federation and was a consultant for the World Workshop in Oral Medicine, London, UK. Glick was the keynote speaker for the International Oral and Oropharyngeal Cancer Conference in Mumbai, India.

Department of Oral Biology

Olga J. Baker, assistant professor, presented an invited paper on cytokine-mediated inflammatory responses in salivary glands at the Brazilian Saliva Symposium in Sao Paulo.

Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences

Richard Ohrbach, associate professor, was in Malmö, Sweden, in September 2011 for 2 weeks as a funded fellow in the Dental School’s Visiting Scientist Programme at Malmö University. This most recent trip is his fourth such funded visit to Malmö. With colleagues, they completed the first manuscript in a series of papers regarding cross-cultural aspects of pain (data from Sweden, Italy, and Saudi Arabia); began analyses for the second manuscript which will assess cross-cultural equivalency of the many self-report instruments used in the study sites and using new statistical methods to analyze the data collected in the US as the reference sample; completed a manuscript regarding dental education and TMD; conducted a field trial of the new DC/TMD via an examiner reliability study with examiners from Sweden, Italy, and Saudi Arabia; and worked on the recommendations for further TMD research methods as stemming from the recently held workshop in San Diego. The School of Dental Medicine at UB and the Dental School at Malmö University signed an affiliation agreement earlier in 2011, and this trip to Malmö included a presentation (“The University at Buffalo: Pedagogical, Education, and Research Opportunities for Malmö Collaboration”) by Ohrbach to the Malmö faculty in order to initiate collaboration. As one step in that direction, Ohrbach and Swedish colleagues began the initial development of a combined training center for TMD research methods which would be based at SDM and Malmö’s Dental School.

Jose Luis Tapia, assistant professor, gave an invited lecture on “New frontiers in Oral Pathology - The Ontology Initiative” at the FDI World Dental Federation, Annual World Dental Congress, September 14, 2011, in Mexico City, Mexico. The lecture was included as part of the FDI Science Committee Session - New frontiers in global science.

Department of Orthodontics

Sawsaan Tabaa, clinical assistant professor, provided several days of lectures at the School Oral Health Program in Kuwait, focused on interceptive orthodontics and recent advances in orthodontics.

Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry

Joseph Bernat, professor and chair, presented lectures on child abuse at the Middle East Conference on Pediatric Dentistry in Kuwait City, Kuwait. He also participated as an external reviewer for the Faculty of Dentistry at Kuwait University for graduating dental students in recognizing child abuse.

Department of Periodontics and Endodontics

Sebastian G. Ciancio, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, was one of the keynote speakers at the annual meeting of the Singapore Dental Society on August 12, 2011. He spoke on the Impact of Oral Health on General Health and discussed methods of treating oral diseases so that their adverse effects on oral health would be minimal. Ciancio also was a keynote speaker at the opening session of the Meeting of the International Academy of Periodontology held in Lvov, Ukraine, June 17, 2011.

Department of Restorative Dentistry

Sebastiano Andreana, associate professor and chair of implant dentistry, was invited by the Kuwaiti minister of health to give a series of presentations to dentists on current trends in advanced general dentistry at dental administrative conferences sponsored by the Ministry of Health.

Donald E. Antonson, professor and associate chair, lectured in Slovenia on techniques for excellence using direct resin composite materials and in Montreal on the demise of porcelain metal restorations.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Department of Learning and Instruction

Ming Ming Chiu, professor, showed that family effects on fifteen-year-olds’ reading achievements differed across cultures in 41 countries (Family and reading in 41 countries: Differences across cultures and students” published in Scientific Studies of Reading). He further showed that understanding the shapes and sounds of words had different effects on the Korean and English learning of native Koreans (Morphological awareness, phonological awareness and literacy development in Korean and English published in Scientific Studies of Reading). He also gave 3 presentations: Social metacognition, micro-creativity and justifications; and Cognition and Social Metacognition during Online Discussions at the Alpine Rendez-Vous 2011 Workshop. La Clusaz, France; and The relationship between collaborative learning activities, individual and other group members’ behaviors at the 14th Biennial EARLI Conference for Research on Learning and Instruction, Exeter, United Kingdom.

X. Christine Wang, associate professor, gave a number of invited lectures in March 2011 during her sabbatical: “Young children’s epistemic reasoning and computer supported collaborative science inquiry,” at the workshop “Early Years and Technology” at Alpine Rendez-Vous, sponsored by European Union- STELLAR Alliance, La Clusaz, France; “Exploring the relationship between theory of mind and practical Epistemology in young children’s science inquiry,” an invited presentation at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China; “Formative experiment: bridging educational research and curriculum development” at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China; “Publishing in SSCI Journals in the U.S.,” an invited presentation at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China; (2010, September); “Exploring young children’s epistemic reasoning in computer-supported collaborative science inquiry,” an invited presentation at the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China; (2010, July); “Google it: Young children’s epistemic reasoning in science inquiry,” at East China Normal University, Shanghai, China; (2010, July); “Publishing in Educational Research Journals in the U.S.” at East China Normal University, Shanghai, China.

Randy Yerrick, professor of science education, delivered four key-note addresses to international audiences meeting to discuss the role of technology in 21st Century learning environments. These included “Science Education Reform: Teaching from what we know/ Learning from what we don’t,” a keynote address given at the 2011 International Conference on ICT in Teaching and Learning in Hong Kong in July 2011; “Mobile Technologies and Web 2.0 in the Science Classroom,” a keynote address given at the Apple Learning Academy, Hong Kong in July; “Science in a Next Generation Learning Environment,” a keynote address given at the Technology Education Leadership Academy, Singapore in December 2010; and It’s about time...and it’s about time, a keynote address given at the C21 Educators Academy, Chinese University of Hong Kong in August 2011. While in Singapore, Hong Kong, and Jakarta, Yerrick also conducted workshops for teachers at the Raffles Girls School, the Hong Kong International School, and Singapore School of Science and Technology. These workshops included model lessons taught by Yerrick to native children to demonstrate state-of-the-art technologies at work like iPads, digital microscopes, and wireless data collection probe-
ware. These lessons were coupled with professional development meetings to foster reflection with teachers on what it means to build and inquiry learning community in science classrooms. Yerrick also participated in the planning of the upcoming International Coastal Cleanup of Singapore as well as trained personnel in the use of iPad 2’s GPS functions and live data collection so geographic and scientific data could be logged and mapped live in the endangered mangrove habitats.

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy

Sibry Tapsoba, an alumnus of the program from Burkina Faso, who received his Ph.D. in 1989, was appointed in October 2011 as Resident Representative of the African Development Bank for Egypt. Egypt is the second largest portfolio of the African Development Bank with yearly loans to the tune of USD 1.7 billion (on average). With the ongoing “Arab Spring,” the wide divide in the society and the limited inclusiveness in economic growth are calling for a revised development approach, which will likely involve new roles for the youth. In such a context, skills building, science and innovation could be used to restore hope in the youth and enhance competitiveness of the country’s economy.

Lois Weis, SUNY Distinguished Professor, delivered a series of seven invited lectures for faculty and graduate students September 13-20, 2011, at Minzu University of China and Beijing Normal University. Among others, Weis delivered the following invited lectures at the two universities: “Changing Landscape of Race/Ethnicity and Social Class in Postsecondary Education in Worldwide Context with Specific Focus on the United States;” and “In the Shadow of the Mills: The Practice and Utility of Qualitative Research.”

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Paschalis Alexandridis, UB Distinguished Professor, has been appointed Honorary Adjunct Professor at the Beijing University of Chemical Technology (BUCT) in a ceremony held on June 10, 2011. In the context of his trip to Beijing, he presented seminars and had discussions with colleagues at BUCT and at the Department of Chemistry, Beijing Normal University. Alexandridis also presented a plenary lecture on “Self-Assembled Block Copolymer Templates for Nanoparticle Synthesis, Surface Modification, and Organization” at the International Symposium on Integrated Molecular/Materials Engineering ISIMME-2011 held in Beijing. In July 2011, Alexandridis presented an invited lecture on “Nanostructured Polymers and Solvents: Opportunities in Health, Environment, and Energy Applications” at the National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos” (Aghia Paraskevi, Attiki, Greece) on the occasion of celebrations for the 50th anniversary from the founding of “Demokritos.” Alexandridis also visited and had discussions with colleagues at the Industrial Chemistry Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, University of Athens.

Mark Swihart, professor, was an invited attendee at the 2011 Japan-America frontiers of Engineering Symposium, held June 6-8, 2011 in Osaka, Japan. Sixty of the most promising engineers under the age of 45 from Japan and the United States met for an intensive 2-1/2 day symposium on developments at the cutting edge of engineering technology. The event was intended to facilitate international and cross-disciplinary research collaboration, promote the transfer of new techniques and approaches across disparate engineering fields, and encourage the creation of a transpacific network of world-class engineers.

Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

Qian Wang, assistant professor, served as an academic committee member and area editor for the 11th International Conference of Chinese Transportation Professionals in Nanjing, China from August 14 to 17, 2011. In addition, her two papers were selected for presentation and publication in the conference proceedings, titled: “Modeling the Impact of Smart Growth on Travel Choices: An Enhanced Travel Demand Forecasting Approach,” and “Commercial Vehicle Travel Patterns in Urban Areas: Findings and Implications from the Denver Metropolitan Area.” This annual conference was jointly organized by Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA) and Southeast University, and sponsored by American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), World Bank, Nanjing Association of Science and Technology, Reason Foundation, and the Transportation Research Association in Nanjing, China.

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Deborah Chung, professor and Niagra Mohawk Chair, was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Alicante, Spain, on June 10, 2011 in recognition of her pioneering research in smart materials and carbon composites.

Taranraj Singh, professor, currently at the RWTH Aachen as a Humboldt Fellow gave three invited seminars: “Tumor Motion Prediction for Radiation Therapy” at the GSI Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research, Darmstadt, Germany on Sept. 23, 2011; “Taming Vibrations” at the Fraunhofer-Institut für Betriebsfestigkeit und Systemzuverlässigkeit LBF, Darmstadt, Germany on Sept. 23, 2011; and “Application of Polynomial Chaos in Estimation and Control” at the Interdisciplinary Center for Scientific Computing, University of Karlsruhe-Haus-Hi, Germany on Sept. 26, 2011. Singh with his student Christoph Antink presented a poster entitled “Tumor Motion and Deformation Estimation for Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy” at the 10th International Conference on Complexity in Acute Illness in Bonn, Germany, 9-11 Sept., 2011.

LAW SCHOOL

Isabel Marcus, professor, taught women’s human rights in Poland in spring 2011. She lectured at the Universities of Gdansk, Białystok and Warsaw Law faculties as well as a number of NGOs. In addition, she taught a seminar on State Regulation of Reproduction at Jagiellonian University Law Faculty for one month as an invited scholar. In addition, Marcus hosted two Domestic Violence Visiting Scholars at UB Law School in fall 2011, one from Turkey and the other from Ireland.

Lynn Mather, professor, was invited to Dublin, Ireland, in late November, 2011 to deliver the keynote address at a conference on “Regulating the Legal Profession.” The conference is organized by University College Dublin, Centre for Regulation and Governance, to explore the implications of new legislation that has been proposed to regulate the Irish legal profession. Mather has been studying the role of lawyers in different countries, and she has a forthcoming book with the University of Chicago Press, Lawyers in Practice: Ethical Decision Making in Context.

makau Mutua, SUNY Distinguished Professor and dean, travelled to Beijing, China in fall 2011 to give a talk on “Reconstructing Citizenship” at the Beijing University of Technology (BJUT), UB’s long-standing partner, and to discuss possible collaborative academic programs. With his Chinese hosts, he explored possible summer programs, faculty exchanges, and LLM intakes.

Winnifred Sullivan, professor, organized two Luce Foundation workshops on “The Politics of Religious Freedom” (with Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Saba Mahmood, and Peter Danchin). The first took place in Venice, Italy on July 11-12, 2011. The second took place in Chiangmai, Thailand, on December 11-12, 2011. She was also an external examiner for the Ph.D. of Ann-Marie Leatl, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, whose project is titled “The State of Secularism: Constituting Religion and Tradition towards a Post-Apartheid South Africa.” Sullivan sponsored Helge Årsheim, a Ph.D. student from the University of Oslo with a grant from the Norwegian government, to study at UB Law School during fall 2011.
Debu Talukdar, professor, presented an invited research paper entitled “Trends in Global Consumption Patterns and Role of ‘Neighborhood’ Influence,” at the 2011 China India Consumer Insights Conference held in New Delhi, India in July, 2011. This conference was organized by the Yale University School of Management in cooperation with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and the Emerging Markets Initiative at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business. In partnership with the World Bank’s African division, Talukdar is currently conducting a systematic empirical study of slum dwellers in several cities across sub-Saharan Africa. Based on this study, he co-authored a research paper entitled “Informal Housing Markets: Living Conditions, Rents, and Their Determinants in the Slums of Nairobi and Dakar,” which is forthcoming in the Land Economics journal.

Mulchand Patel, SUNY Distinguished Professor, participated in the Summer School 2011 on Molecular Metabolism, sponsored by the Danish Ph.D. School of Molecular Metabolism during September 7-10, 2011. Patel serves as a member of the Advisory Board of the Summer School. Patel also participated in a Workshop entitled “Programming Beta Cell Development, Impairment and Regeneration,” in Helsingør, Denmark, October 23-26, 2011. The title of his presentation was “Beta cell reprogramming in the immediate postnatal period”. This workshop was the latest in a series focusing on pancreas development held in Europe every two to three years since 1990.

Richard V. Lee, professor, has been elected a Master of the American College of Physicians. The founding editor of the journal Obstetric Medicine, Lee was recently appointed Emeritus Editor in Chief by the publisher, the Royal Society of Medicine Press, based in London, UK. Lee was in London in October 2011 for meetings at the Royal Society, which will be publishing a new book of essays and commentaries by Lee.

Steven J. Fliesler, Meyer H. Riwchun Endowed Chair professor of Ophthalmology and Vice-Chair and Director of Research, gave an invited platform presentation, entitled “Cholesterol in the Retina: You Only Miss It When It’s Gone,” at a meeting of the ARVO International Society of Ocular Cell Biology (ISOCB) in Vancouver, Canada, held September 7-10, 2011. He also chaired a session at that meeting, on “Ocular Cell Structure and Dynamics.”

Alex J. Vecchio, a recent Ph.D. graduate and post-doctoral associate, was awarded a travel fellowship to the XXII Congress and General Assembly of the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr), held from August 22-29, 2011 in Madrid, Spain. The U.S. National Committee for Crystallography awarded the fellowship to early career crystallographers, under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences. As part of his prize obligations, Vecchio participated in a junior-senior crystallographer mentoring dinner, a U.S.-Spain-Latin America networking and collaboration reception, was allowed to observe the General Assembly of the IUCr, and additionally, presented a poster entitled “Coordinated productive and unproductive substrate binding in the COX-2 homodimer”. The first Congress and General Assembly of the IUCr was held in 1948, with subsequent meetings currently held internationally on a triennial basis; the General Assembly branch of the meeting develops and approves scientific policies of the Union.

Sung-Heui Bae, assistant professor; Carol Brewer, professor; and Sharon Hewner, assistant professor, were invited to attend the “Translating Systems Research to Practice: Nursing Health Services Research Symposium” in Toronto, Canada on September 29, 2011. The purpose of this symposium was to bring together expert and emerging nursing health services researchers to focus on the issue of new directions in nursing systems research.

You-Wu Bill Wu, associate professor, visited Chulalongkorn University in Thailand from June 10, 2011 until July 2, 2011 to teach a three-week doctoral level course entitled “Advanced Nursing Research Design”.

Yan Liu, head of Division of Clinical Pharmacy, from the Pharmacy College, Chongqing Medical University, China visited the Department of Pharmacy Practice from February 17 to March 17, 2011. Liu met with Wayne Anderson, professor and dean, and Edward Bednarczyk, professor and chair, and engaged in lectures, student activities and tours of several experiential sites used by the school. On behalf of Dean Li Qingeng, she expressed their interest in developing collaborative programs with the SOPPS at UB. These programs include a pharmacist-exchange and pharmacy student observation program; an international Doctor of Pharmacy program; and a web-based continuous education program. A memorandum of understanding between the Pharmacy College, Chongqing Medical University and the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is currently being developed to support future collaboration.

You-Wu Bill Wu, associate professor, visited Chulalongkorn University in Thailand from June 10, 2011 until July 2, 2011 to teach a three-week doctoral level course entitled “Advanced Nursing Research Design”.

SCHOOL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Department of Political Science

Gary A. Giovino, professor and chair, has been working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office on Smoking and Health (CDC/OSH) and the World Health Organization to develop the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS). GATS provides a global standard for the systematic monitoring of adult tobacco use and factors that influence use. Nationally-representative surveys were
completed during 2008-2010 (Wave I) in 14 countries (China, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Turkey, Egypt, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay). Field work is currently underway or will be completed shortly in Wave II countries: Argentina, Panama, Nigeria, South Africa, Qatar, Romania, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Repeat surveys will be conducted in all Wave I GATS countries. Giovinio led the development of the GATS questionnaire and Chairs the GATS Questionnaire Review Committee, which approves each country’s questionnaire. GATS is designed to generate comparable data within and across countries and will enhance countries’ capacity to design, implement, and evaluate tobacco control interventions. Funding for GATS has been provided by the Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the governments of Brazil and India. Giovinio has also been asked by CDC/OSH to lead the re-design of the questionnaire for the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS), the largest health risk behavior surveillance system in the world. GYTS monitors tobacco use in 13-15 year old students in 188 countries/sites. Funding for the GYTS has been provided by CDC/OSH, the Canadian Public Health Association, National Cancer Institute, United Nations Children Emergency Fund, and the World Health Organization—Tobacco Free Initiative.

**Department of Social and Preventive Medicine**

Pavani Ram, assistant professor, is leading a team of doctoral students and research assistants in an effort to assist evaluation of UNICEF programs that promote handwashing with soap. Handwashing has shown to reduce diarrhea and pneumonia, the two leading causes of death in young children. As a part of this project, Ram and her team are working with the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene team at UNICEF headquarters to develop a monitoring and evaluation toolkit for handwashing promotion programs that will be used by UNICEF programs in over 100 countries. Over the next 2 years, Ram and her team will be guiding UNICEF teams in Kenya, Nepal, and Zambia in evaluation of large-scale handwashing promotion programs. The work by Ram’s team will fill significant gaps in the understanding of whether or not large-scale handwashing promotion programs succeed in changing the behavior of individuals and whether this change in behavior is sufficient to improve health in low- and middle-income countries.

Xuefeng Ren, assistant professor, has been appointed to a visiting professorship in the Center of Laboratory Animal and Medical Research, Guangdong, China. He was invited to give a presentation titled “Epigenetics & Epigenomics of Chemical Exposures” in 2011. He also interacted with graduate students and faculty members there to engage research and academic activities. In addition, Ren has been appointed to the editorial review board of *Chinese Journal of Clinicians* from 2011 to 2014.

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

Laina Bay-Cheng, assistant professor, participated in two recent international conferences. In June 2011, she participated in a poster session, “Thwarted sexual agency: Narratives from adolescent girls in the U.S. child welfare system” at the 20th World Congress for Sexual Health, Glasgow, Scotland; and in October 2011 she gave a paper “Ethical parenting of sexual youth” at the International Conference on Moral Education, Nanjing, China.

Kate Kost, professor, and MSW students Lindsay Phelps and Leah Vanbournondien traveled to Tanzania in July 2011 with Mara Huber, director of the UB Center for Educational Collaboration and Anne Wadsworth from the Buffalo community. This was part of a new study abroad course offered by the school. While in Dar es Salaam, the group met with staff from the US Embassy and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) about their efforts to improve maternal and child health, access to educational technology and malaria prevention in Tanzania. In addition, the students and Kost met with Leah Omari, Coordinator of Links and Collabora-
remote access to subscription information sources, remote methods of research instruction, publisher licensing agreements, and current copyright law. The meeting was organized by the International Institute of Buffalo’s Open World Leadership Center.

Pam Rose, coordinator of Web Services and Library Promotion for the Health Sciences Library (HSL), oversees the library’s ongoing International Donations Program. The program’s wiki lists organizations from many countries which collect and distribute books and other materials to multiple countries and geographic areas, providing potential donors with contact information for institutions, agencies and programs that need educational materials and equipment but have little or no budget.

Fred Stoss, associate librarian, Arts & Sciences Libraries, was invited to speak at the 2011 Green Aruba II Conference in Oranjestad, Aruba. This was Aruba’s second major environmental conference focused on state-of-the-art sustainable energy technologies, the socio-economic possibilities that green sustainable energy offers, and the financial aspects of implementing green energy projects. Stoss’s path to the 2011 conference began in 2008, when he served as one of the keynote speakers for the annual meeting of the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) held in Grosier, Guadeloupe. Stoss returned to Aruba in 2009 where he presented, “Climate Change in the Caribbean: Challenges and Hopes.” His 2011 conference presentation, “Sustainability and Climate Challenges for Aruba: Fitting the Pieces Together”, outlined essential strategies for bringing together the themes of Green Aruba I (climate change) and Green Aruba II (sustainable energy technologies).

Associate librarian Cindi Tysick, Arts & Sciences Libraries, is the Libraries’ liaison for UB’s international students. Through her participation in UB’s International Student Orientation program, Cindi introduces new international students to the Libraries and explains the role of the subject librarians who are the primary Libraries’ contacts for faculty and students. As chair of the Libraries’ Information Literacy Task Force, Cindi recently updated the Libraries’ Guide for International Students, a publication that offers tips on finding books and journal articles, borrowing and returning library materials, and using the ILIiad system to obtain materials not owned by the UB Libraries.

The Libraries recently acquired a collection of 47 contemporary Chinese documentary films. These documentaries are the work of dozens of Chinese filmmakers, and include films produced by well-known activists as well as works by local filmmakers who have yet to achieve widespread attention. All of the films were created in the last decade, and together they highlight the many social and cultural changes that have occurred in China in recent years. The documentaries are available in the Multimedia Center on the second floor of Silverman Library in Cazenovia Hall.

Publications, magazines and posters from the Poetry Collection’s Wyndham Lewis Collection were part of a recent exhibition: “The Vorticists: Rebel Artists in London and New York, 1914-1918.” From January 29 - May 15, 2011, the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, Italy featured the exhibition, and from June 1 - September 4, 2011, the exhibition was on view at the Tate Britain in London. This exhibition was the first attempt to recreate the three Vorticism exhibitions mounted during World War I that served to define the group’s radical aesthetic for the public. Among historians of modernism, Vorticism has been traditionally treated as an insular British art movement. “The Vorticists: Rebel Artists in London and New York, 1914-18” overcame that myth by identifying the movement as a distinctly Anglo-American endeavor developed in 1914 as an avant-garde response to the impact of French Cubism and Italian Futurism on artists and writers in London and New York.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Stephen C. Dunnett, professor and vice provost, was a member of a special panel at the annual conference of NAFAA: Association of International Educators in Vancouver, Canada in May 2011. The panel was organized by the Japanese Association of Foreign Student Affairs (JAFSA) and was titled “The Response of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education to the Tohoku Disasters and the Short and Long Term Effects on U.S. – Japan Interchange.” The session was held on May 31, 2011. Dunnett was a panel presenter at the inaugural SUNY Conference on Critical Issues in Higher Education, titled “Universities as Economic Drivers,” and held in Buffalo September 26-27, 2011. Dunnett’s panel was titled “The Global Reach of Higher Education.” The SUNY conference coincided with the release of the second edition of the “SUNY Report Card” which includes metrics for the “SUNY and the World” strategic plan. Dunnett serves as co-chair of the System-wide Implementation Team for "SUNY and the World."

John J. Wood, senior associate vice provost, was a presenter at the 2011 Conference of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) in Copenhagen, Denmark in September 2011. Wood was one of the presenters for a full-day EAIE pre-conference workshop titled, “A Primer on U.S. Higher Education,” and he was a panelist for a conference session titled “From bilateral agreements to broad-based partnerships: moving beyond traditional exchanges.”
STENGER NAMED PRESIDENT OF BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

By Sue Wuetcher

Harvey Stenger Jr., interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, was named president of Binghamton University by the SUNY Board of Trustees on November 22. The appointment is effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Bruce McCombe, SUNY Distinguished Professor in the Department of Physics and a former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will replace Stenger as interim provost and executive vice president.

President Satish K. Tripathi praised Stenger, calling his appointment as BU president “richly deserved recognition of his remarkable vision and the depth and breadth of his leadership and expertise. These are all qualities that we have come to know very well during Harvey’s service at UB, and I am confident that they will distinguish him as an exceptional president at our sister SUNY institution,” Tripathi said.

Under Stenger’s leadership as interim provost, UB’s academic enterprise “continues to make impressive strides forward as we pursue our long-range institutional vision of excellence,” he said, adding that UB is “very well positioned to build on our strong academic foundation” as the university searches for its next provost.

“While I am very sorry to see him leave UB, I am thrilled to continue working with him as a presidential colleague at our fellow university center at Binghamton,” Tripathi said. “I know I am joined by all of Harvey’s colleagues and friends at UB in expressing my heartfelt thanks for his exemplary contributions over the years and my warmest wishes for every success in this important new leadership role.”

"Harvey’s strong commitment to international education, evidenced when he was dean and interim provost here, will serve Binghamton well,” said Stephen Dunnett, vice provost for international education. "My staff and I work closely with our counterparts at Binghamton, and we admire what BU has already achieved in the international area."

Stenger was named interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs in April. He joined the UB faculty in 2006 as dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences after serving as dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at Lehigh University. He also holds an appointment as professor of chemical and biological engineering at UB. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University and a doctorate from MIT, both in chemical engineering.