Passing the Baton:  
Director's Note by Professor Karen Alter, Director of International Studies

This Spring I will be stepping down as Director of International Studies. For most of our students, I have been a very behind the scenes director—invisible even. My primary goal as Director has been to help the Associate Director, Galya Ruffer, find her feet.

The International Studies program underwent an avulsive change under my leadership. In 2006 we launched an entirely new structure. There is much to still work out. Next year will be the first year that nearly every IS student will be part of this “new” IS Adjunct Major, thus the first year we will offer a full complement of capstone Integrating Seminars. It will be the second year of our International Studies honors program. Unlike most honors programs, IS accepts students in their sophomore as well as junior year. We are still seeing how it works to have students take an honors seminar in their sophomore year, spend a year abroad, and then pick up where they left off as part of a new cohort of students.

Thanks to Mary Finn and Catherine Grimstead, we have managed to create from pretty much nothing an operating budget. We now have resources to help student research projects and to support student events. The new Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education & Engagement Grant supports student engagement, volunteerism or service projects either locally or abroad. We continue our Guetzkow prize for best seminar paper, and will be launching the Frank Safford Award for the best honors thesis. This newsletter, also a new initiative, is a product of our new budget.

Less exciting but equally important is that IS will be creating a joint administrative structure with a number of Area Studies programs. We may be moving offices and hope to gain a more consistent administrative system for all of the involved programs.

This Winter Dr. Kennette Benedict taught a Professional Linkage Seminar on Sources of Change in National Security Policy. We plan to offer this seminar again next spring and to create more exciting learning opportunities for our students.

Next Fall Professor Jonathan Caverley will be joining the Department of Political Science, filling a new faculty line created by President Henry Bienen. Professor Caverley's research investigates the international political effects of military technology and the making of grand strategy. Before beginning his academic career, Jonathan served as an officer in the U.S. Navy aboard the fast attack submarine USS HOUSTON, and as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science at Northwestern. Professor Caverley has received fellowships from the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago and the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation. He has worked as a consultant for the RAND Corporation and the U.S. Senate, and as a research associate for the Kennedy School’s National Security Program. Professor Caverley received an A.B. in History and Literature from Harvard College (ask him about his honors thesis on spy novels!), an M.P.P. from the Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago and (soon) a Ph.D. from University of Chicago. Professor Caverley will teach American Foreign Policy, and other courses on national security related topics.

If I have been invisible to most of you, it is because I know that Professor Ruffer is the future of International Studies at Northwestern. Galya Ruffer and Bianca Ramirez’s hard work and dedication are what make International Studies successful. I want to thank them for all they do to make this program work, and for making my directorship delightfully easy, enjoyable and successful. I also want to thank Henry Bienen and Mary Finn for their help and support.

Professor Ruffer will be the next Director of International Studies; Professor Timothy Earle will help as an invisible sounding board of support. The program is in good hands under this new leadership. I will surely be involved in International Studies in the future, but for now, I’m going to enjoy a well deserved sabbatical working on my book, tentatively titled: The New Terrain of International Law: International Courts in International Politics.
On behalf of Northwestern’s Model Arab League, we would like to thank you for the International Studies Program’s generous support of our Lebanon lecture series this Spring quarter. The series was a remarkable success, providing students and community members alike with opportunities to learn about critical current political events in Lebanon from the perspective of American and Lebanese policy makers and academics.

In only its second year, Northwestern’s Model Arab League (MAL) met with great success, winning 6 awards at the annual regional conference and holding 5 on-campus educational events. The most recent was a timely and heated debate between a Lebanese academic and a former Pentagon adviser on the political crisis in Lebanon, held just days after sectarian violence erupted in Lebanon. One student commented that the experience was “by far one of the most intellectually rewarding” of his Northwestern career. In the upcoming year, MAL hopes to expand its on-campus activities by offering a student organized seminar about Middle East politics.

The PASA (Polish American Student Alliance) has enjoyed a successful year by having over 20 students participate in the May 3rd Polish Constitution Day and hosting many events such as the 2nd Annual Polish College Student Photography Contest, Andrzejk, dinner and movie nights, and a Polish Coffee Hour.

The Global Engagement Summit was held April 16-20 at Northwestern University. GES is is a five-day conference for young people who care deeply about global change.

Highlights from GES 2008:

- The Summit was the third conference to be blogged live on the Skoll Foundation’s “SocialEdge” website: (http://www.socialedge.org/blogs/global-engagement-summit)
- We had 39 countries represented by international delegates, international students studying in the US, and internationally-focused projects!
- During the Engage Chicago program, 22 delegates participated in service learning projects in Chicago.
- At the Summit, we received incredible feedback from delegates and facilitators, especially regarding a mentorship program that saw delegates meet one-on-one with a facilitator for feedback on their specific project proposal
- Through our GES-Global Giving competition, delegates were able to raise over $36,000 for their projects. Six projects remain on the Global Giving website (http://www.globalgiving.com/cge.html) focusing on education for the underprivileged and public health. The programs will be implemented in China, Tanzania, India, Ghana, Panama, and California.

GES chose two new Co-Directors for 2009, Emily Eisenhart and Rajni Chandrasekhar. Rising seniors, they have both been involved with GES for several years and, between the two of them, have worked on development projects and research projects in India, Uganda, and Egypt. Current Co-Directors Ryan Pederson and Liz Voeller will still be at Northwestern—Ryan will be working at the Center for Global Engagement, and Liz will be a fifth year engineering and international studies student. We look forward to a new year and engaging year!
The International Studies Program is proud to announce Eu-wen Ding as the recipient of the 2008 Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education and Engagement Grant. The Lee F. Anderson Memorial Grant was created this year through a generous donation from Dr. Charlotte Anderson. Global education and commitment to the condition of the world and its peoples were the core themes of Professor Lee F. Anderson's intellectual and ideological agendas. At the time of his death in 2000 his family and friends created the Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education Fund to help insure his legacy and to honor Professor Anderson's unwavering commitment to promoting pre-collegiate and collegiate education that prepares students to be responsible, humane citizens in an increasingly globalized world.

After reviewing a number of applications the Awards Committee chose Eu-wen’s project entitled, Philanthropy and Community Based Organizations: Effects of Donor Contributions on the Implementations of Exit Strategies by CBOs as the winner. Eu-wen is a Junior and double major in Mechanical Engineering and International Studies with a focus on Africa.

Eu-wen was born and raised in Singapore but both his parents are from Malaysia. While he admits that majoring in Mechanical Engineering and International Studies is not the most common combination he states, “I like the breadth and interdisciplinary perspective from the IS major, while I feel that the math and analytics from ME keeps me pretty grounded (and sane) with some solid skills as well. When analyzing any issue, I like to be able to take multiple perspectives into consideration. This was what dissuaded me from pursuing the rather well-trodden path in economics, and pushed me towards the IS major, where multidisciplinary learning is encouraged.”

In 2007 Eu-wen participated in the Engage Uganda Program sponsored by the Center for Global Engagement and spent the summer in Africa where the idea for his project took root. When asked how the award has affected his life he responded, “Receiving this grant gave me much more than financial resources, it gave me the impetus and legitimacy to start conversations with people about ideas and possibilities. When the professors, deans, and directors I talked to heard that I had won this grant, it became a lot easier for them to listen to my ideas as something worth listening to. As a result, virtually everyone in the school I talked to was willing to support me; in two instances, even to the point of providing me with further financial support so that all my costs are now covered. The best case scenario for my project is to find cool, exciting, but doable engineering design projects while I am in Uganda and have a successful run as a pilot project. If I get good feedback from participating students, then I hope to be able to prove to the administration that it would be worthwhile and beneficial to institutionalize programs that focus or deal with issues pertaining to engineering design for the third world. That is my ultimate goal: to influence the curriculum at McCormick.” Congratulations to Eu-wen. We wish him the best on his upcoming project.

The International Studies staff welcomes you to become a supporting member of our program by donating to our gift funds. Every year International Studies alumni make donations to support IS students pursuing international endeavors.

If you would like to support the Anderson Global Education & Engagement Fund or other student initiatives please contact us at international-studies@northwestern.edu

Additionally gifts can be made online at: http://development.northwestern.edu

Mail checks made out to Northwestern University to:
Office of Alumni Relations and Development 2020 Ridge Avenue Evanston, IL 60208
International Studies Honors Research: Class of 2008

The newly founded honors program in International Studies is pleased to present the first students graduating with honors in International Studies. Their project topics range from the educational system in Cote d’Ivoire, the democratization of Egypt, and the varied policies regarding refugees clearly demonstrate our students’ wide range of interests as well as their dedication to truly becoming informed global citizens. Through the International Studies curriculum at Northwestern as well as their individual study abroad programs they have embarked on a multidisciplinary exploration of the world around them. We hope this curiosity and thirst for knowledge remains with them throughout their lives.

Jillian Durkin, Economics and International Studies

“What About the Students? Educational Choices Made in Cote d’Ivoire After 1960”

Afer declaring independence in 1960 from France, Cote d’Ivoire sought to improve their state run public educational system. They set high goals for national literacy and enrollment figures, devoting a substantial part of their domestic budget towards the educational sector. While the education system has indeed grown it has failed to accomplish its goals of increasing both enrollment and the national literacy level.

One of the major factors that led to the growth of the educational sector was the existence of technical assistants, French educators brought in to share their expertise. The use of technical assistants was a result of the Cooperation agreements signed between Cote d’Ivoire and France. These agreements attracted much needed businesses into the country, however they also created problems. This thesis explores the problematic relationship created by the use of technical assistants.

Though the program attracted foreign capital into the Cote d’Ivoire it failed to generate substantial changes to the educational system. Instead, the use of non-Ivorian educators and the French model of education created a cultural disconnect between the educators and students thus impeding the use of education as a means to develop the national culture. Technical assistants remained in Cote d’Ivoire longer than expected, some indefinitely, raising the costs of the program and eventually taking its toll on the national economy. Additionally the long-term use of technical assistants negatively affected the labor market by taking away jobs from Ivorians. Despite its many pitfalls and its failures for the educational system the government decided to continue funding this program. This research stressed the importance of examining the role of the state as an actor in the development of the education system.

Michael Schoengold, Political Science and International Studies

“Forgetting Civil Society’s Charisma in Egypt: Examining Civil Society and Remembering Political Parties”

The attacks of September 11th gave new urgency to America's long history of attempting to assist the democratization of foreign nations. My thesis examined the theory behind civil society democratization programs and clarified what both ‘civil society’ and ‘democracy’ mean. Following the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the slow progress of former satellite states toward democracy, scholars latched onto what this study calls ‘civil society democratization.’ This form of democratization hopes to unobtrusively develop an infrastructure for grassroots political and social activism, building social capital and creating a mobilized and politically aware citizenry.

My research focused on the democratization efforts in Egypt. After years of Soviet influenced policies, Egypt began gradual liberalization programs through the 1970s and 1980s. Egypt has long been considered a ‘pivotal state’ and major target for American democratization programs. Furthermore, American policymakers have been eager to utilize civil society democratization programs in Egypt due to two factors, its partnership with the United States and the U.S. interest in spreading democracy in the Arab world.

This thesis examined the origin and theory of the United State’s recent reliance on civil society democratization programs. However I argue that rather than focusing on civil society programs political society must be reexamined as the most important institution in the democratizing of Egypt. I theorize that while the development of civil society is positive for the Middle East’s political development, policymakers and scholars must resist the temptation to put complete faith in civil society programs and place an increased emphasis on the development of opposition political parties in Egypt. This paper recommends further scholarly examination of ways to strengthen the power of political parties as well as a new effort to find creative ways to empower parties in Egyptian society through America’s traditional democratization tools and funds.
The International Studies web site is changing. We are working closely with Information Technology to make a comprehensive calendar that will make accessing and distributing event information fast and simple. Student groups will soon be able to post their events on our events page. We will be working to get this feature up and running during Summer break and have it ready by Fall quarter. We look forward to working with you all again in the coming Academic Year.

Look for the new calendar Fall Quarter 2008!

Aimee O’Malley, Italian and International Studies

“Creating the Desire to Return Home: Adapting Responses to the Barriers of Voluntary Repatriation”

Refugees do not always want to go home. This is a hard clear fact of post-conflict situations, and a fact that has proved troublesome for the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR). Over the years, UNHCR as adopted many different policies regarding refugees and the best place for them, for the state and for the international aid agencies that help them. Over time, UNHCR policies have shifted and morphed going from one extreme to another. For my research I have broken the years of UNHCR involvement into what I term “Phases,” periods of time when different repatriation approaches were favored. Phase One covers the post World War II era until the 1980’s. Phase Two begins in 1980 and continues until 2000. Phase Three is the current Phase, from 2000 to today. During each Phase, a different approach – or sometimes no approach – to refugee repatriation was supported. I argue here, through an analysis of case studies in Algeria (Phase One), Mozambique (Phase Two) and Sierra Leone (Phase Three) that for each Phase, the practical shift in policy seen on the ground was the result of a decoupling between the refugee and the agency, based upon a lack of trust. My thesis detailed the varied circumstances each Phase presented the agency, and how the UNHCR policy has continually adapted to these challenges, to morph from an entirely hands-off approach to the refugee empowerment programs of today.

For more information about the Honors Program in International Studies please visit: www.internationalstudies.northwestern.edu. Honors applications for the 2009/2010 academic year will be accepted Winter quarter 2009.

International Programming

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Look for the new calendar Fall Quarter 2008!
INTL ST 201-2 Sec. 26: Global History II
6 weeks, EVAN, 6/24 - 7/31
TuTh 1 - 3:30pm, Georgi Derlugian

This course examines the key processes of our contemporary epoch, or the “short 20th century” (1914 to 1991), taking them, as Stephen Jay Gould prescribed, in the whole system of relations. Starting with the mutual suicide of the great powers in the First World War, the class traces the effects of newer, much bigger and invasive governments and economic corporations. Students try to figure out what caused the two world wars; the nature of fascism, populism, the New Deal, and communism; how the former colonies became independent states, and what came out of their programs of national development and modernization. The course investigates the institutions that ensured the long peace of the Cold War and how their breakdown released the newest globalization. It also speculates what might come out of globalization. This course counts toward the Weinberg College historical studies distribution requirement.

INTL ST 390 Sec. 36: East Asian Political Economy
6 weeks, EVAN, 6/24 - 7/31
TuTh 12:30 - 3pm, So Young Kim

This course explores the politics and economy of East Asia focusing on three broad themes. First, we will examine the historical origin and validity of the East Asian model of development and how it is being challenged by global trade and financial integration. Second, we will explore political institutions and dynamics and how the geopolitical conditions of East Asia have influenced the prospects for democratic consolidation in the region. Finally, we will look into the inter-play of political and economic realms with societal and cultural institutions and norms prevailing in East Asia. We will examine the debate on whether the so called “Asian values” are just a claim to legitimize quasi-democratic regimes in the region, or are a unique set of cultural beliefs giving rise to a distinct form of East Asian political economy. In studying these three broad themes, we will use cross-regional comparisons to understand both the uniqueness of East Asian political economy and its similarities to Western political economic systems.

INTL ST 390-0 Sec. 26: Special Topics in International Studies: The Global Mafia Business
6 weeks, EVAN, 6/24 - 7/31
TuTh 6 - 9pm, Georgi Derlugian

In recent decades sociologists have made substantial progress in understanding the workings and typical environments of organized crime. This course explores this new understanding using the “classical” example of Sicily and post communist Russia. Further questions include the effect of narcotrafficking in Colombia; who really fought in Bosnia and Kosovo; and whether we can expect to see an Iraqi mafia. In the second part of the course students make presentations about other kinds of criminal undergrounds using their newly gained theoretical knowledge.

INTL ST 390-0 Sec. 28: Islam and Politics in the Middle East
8 weeks, EVAN, 6/28 - 8/16
Sa 9am - 12:30pm, Liubov Derlugian

Present is a moving moment on the roads from past to future. For a meaningful discussion of future possibilities for the Middle East (democracy, Islamic caliphate, or something else), we must first study the historical-geographic trends and the forces and events that shaped the present situation. We will then focus in more detail on the key issues in the politics of contemporary Middle East: the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; the war in Iraq; and the struggles in Turkey and Iran regarding their future direction and relations with the world.

The Newsletter of the International Studies Program
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The International Studies Advisory Committee
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Hendrik Spruyt (Professor, Political Science)
Andrew Wachtel (Director, BCICS)
Each year the International Studies Program presents a number of students with the following departmental awards: a Certificate of Distinction in Foreign Languages which stresses the pursuit of advanced language skills; the Guetzkow Award and the Frank Safford Award for Best Senior Honors Thesis.

The Harold Guetzkow prize competition was established in 1991, to honor the work of Harold Guetzkow, a distinguished professor of Political Science, Psychology and Sociology at Northwestern from 1957 to 1986. In choosing past prize winners, the committee has tried to honor the cross-disciplinary nature of Professor Guetzkow’s work, and to choose papers which reflect the goals of the International Studies adjunct major to foster within students a global perspective; a set of intellectual competencies that facilitate more effective and responsible participation in the world system.

We are also proud to present for the first time, the Frank Safford Award for Best Senior Thesis. The Frank Safford Award recognizes excellence in undergraduate scholarship by International Studies Honors students. The prize celebrates the significant contributions to the International Studies Program of Professor Safford who served as Director of the Program from 2002-2006. This year we had a number of students eligible for these awards. Congratulations to all the Award Recipients!

**The Frank Safford Award for Best Senior Thesis:**
Michael Schoengold, *Political Science and International Studies Honors*
“Forgetting Civil Society’s Charisma in Egypt: Examining Civil Society and Remembering Political Parties” (see page 5)

**The Guetzkow Prize:**
Ryan Pederson, *Economics and International Studies*
“The Resilient Ugandan: Life Stories of Ugandan Community Leaders”

Ryan spent the summer of 2007 in Uganda interviewing citizens who had been identified as especially committed and socially-responsible adults. Through intensive life-narrative interviews, Ryan sought to understand how these highly generative adults made sense of their broad social commitments and how these commitments fit in with their understanding of their own life stories. Ryan identified themes and issues that are unique to the social ecology of everyday life and the complex meaning systems in Ugandan villages and towns. This research was supervised by Professor Daniel P. McAdams, Professor of Psychology and Professor of Human Development and Social Policy.

**Certificate of Distinction in Foreign Languages:**
Sydney Carter, *History and International Studies* ~ Distinction in French
Madeleine DeWitt, *History and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Italian
Rachel Gandell, *Political Science and International Studies* ~ Distinction in French
Maureen Johannigman, *Dance and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Italian
Kate Kashdan, *Political Science and International Studies* ~ Distinction in French
Agnieszka Kwiecien, *Spanish and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Spanish and Portuguese
Dustin Liebling, *French and International Studies* ~ Distinction in French
Lisa Matuska, *Journalism and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Spanish
Aimee C. O’Malley, *Italian and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Italian
Jacob Whalen, *Political Science and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Chinese
Michelle Woods, *Spanish and International Studies* ~ Distinction in Spanish
Congratulations to our Graduating Seniors!

We hope that you will remain in contact with us and keep us updated on all your future endeavors.