The fourth annual Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education and Engagement Grant reception took place on Thursday, May 26th, 2011, at the home of Charlotte Anderson. The program received a number of excellent applications this year for projects in five different countries.

Congratulations to this year’s winner Hayley MacMillen for her project entitled “Changing Ways of Life in Peru”. The Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education and Engagement Grant was created in 2008 to support the core themes of Professor Lee Anderson’s intellectual and ideological agendas, global education and commitment to improving the condition of the world and its peoples.

Hayley will use these funds to travel to Peru this summer to conduct her research project. Hayley is partnering with Novica, an organization that provides traditional artisans with microcredit opportunities and sells their goods online to a worldwide clientele. Advised by Prof. Beth Bennett in Medill, MacMillen will spend the summer conducting interviews with local artisan women in the Los Jovenes community in Lima to create a short documentary and photo project about the impact of Novica on their lives. Hayley is a Philosophy major and Global Health minor in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. She is looking forward to connecting her varied interests in philosophy, global health, international studies and journalism with this project. Hayley will come back to Northwestern to share not only the women’s stories but also display to other students how one can engage directly, respectfully and productively with an international community. She hopes to add a valuable component to the already thriving conversation going on the Northwestern campus: the conversation about how we can change the world.

Congratulations also to Kaleb Tsang, Junzi Shi, and the rest of the Thirst Project team for this year’s Honorable Mention project, “The Thirst Project: Bringing Clean, Safe Water to the Driest Place on Earth”. Kaleb and Junzi will be travelling to Chile this summer to conduct preliminary interviews with community members of the Molinos and Capisca, Lluta river valley in hopes of developing clean water solutions for farming and personal use. This unique project stems from the core collaboration of an anthropology student and an engineering student. With the support of Professor Aaron Packman in the McCormick School of Engineering, the team hopes the project will eventually develop into a seminar that addresses humanities, engineering and design concepts. The Thirst Project is a part of Engineers for a Sustainable World (ESW).

Applications for the Lee F. Anderson grant are accepted during winter quarter each year. For more information about grant guidelines and funds please visit: http://www.internationalstudies.northwestern.edu/research/deptprizes.html or email us at international-studies@northwestern.edu.
JESSIE CHEN  
_Biological Sciences and International Studies with a minor in Chemistry_  
_Adviser: Kearsley Stewart_

**Is Culture Impacting Health? Gender Inequality and HIV/AIDS among Indian Women**

The purpose of my thesis is to examine the relationship between domestic violence and HIV/AIDS incidence among women in India. In order to do so, I utilize data from both the National Family Health Survey 3 as well as smaller independent studies to conduct an in-depth examination of what factors lead to domestic violence against women, and how this affects women’s sexual health. Religious traditions have structured Indian society, and societal norms and expectations that are based in a fundamental devaluation of women translate to a deep impact on daily life for Indian women, one that includes health issues. Previous examinations of the relationship between domestic violence and HIV in women have been limited to small local studies, many of which have been conducted in other countries, but the data explored here show that there is a positive relationship between experience of domestic violence and HIV seropositivity among women across India, although transmission methods differ by state. Much of the positive relationship can be attributed to a lack of decision-making power, but it can be seen that wealth may also have an effect on the strength of this relationship. Future research still needs to be done in order to examine the strength of this relationship and better understand how HIV transmission among married, monogamous women in India can be prevented, but our current understanding of the relationship between domestic violence and HIV holds important implications for creating new ways in which the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic can be addressed in this country.

CHARLEEN FEI  
_Political Science and International Studies with a minor in Chinese Language & Culture_  
_Adviser: Gordon Davis_

**Forests of the Mind: A Study of Chinese Environmental Perception**

We now live in a time in which our relationship with nature is more broadly-cited and marketed than ever before. In light of this growing influence, it is exceedingly crucial that we reexamine our concept of “environment”—an altogether vague and abstract idea in spite of its importance. When we leave to go camping or hiking, we often say to others that we want to ‘get in touch with nature’. When environmental activists pass out bumper stickers, ‘nature’ is what the stickers implore us to respect. But the simple, biological definition of nature does not seem to capture the intrinsic value that is placed on nature—an entity that seemingly deserves respect, and indeed, a nurturing relationship. What we will discover is that our conception of ‘nature’ and ‘the environment’ is a social construct which is created by our interpretations of the world based on religious, philosophical, and historical influences. The ‘nature’ with which we have a relationship is, ultimately, a projection of our own societal goals and values as much as it is an independent set of conditions which affects the development of different cultural values. In the case of China, this difference in environmental narrative is uniquely affective—China’s rapid development has created a burgeoning world power drawing from vastly different cultural resources than those familiar to Americans and the rest of the West. Thus, my thesis will attempt to provide a better understanding of these cultural resources which influence the Chinese worldview—the Chinese meanings of ‘the environment’, ‘nature’, and man’s relationship to nature in Chinese thought, as well the possible impacts of these constructs on the role of the environmental ethic in Chinese policy.
Since the introduction of elections in Kenya during the 1990s, the developed world imagined the country’s democratic development would have been promising. However, nearly every election since has challenged this assumption by provoking violent uprisings across Kenya. These cycles of violence have become even more pronounced over time. In particular, violence surrounding the Sabaot Lands Defense Force (SLDF), the militia blamed for the massive violence in Mount Elgon, remained aflame when uprisings across the country settled in the few months preceding elections. Incorporating the most comprehensive analysis of reports covering the violence in Mt. Elgon to date, including government, local and international NGO and media reports, my thesis examines the genesis and growth of the SLDF as well as the federal government’s counterinsurgency of near-unprecedented force in March 2008. As the balance of power appeared to tip in favor of this alternate source of power, the federal government’s authoritarian response revealed an increased level of violence in the region. This case reveals that weak institutionalization during the democratic transition period allowed for a shift in the domestic balance of power between the federal government and militias such as the SLDF, catalyzing violent conflict. More broadly, these findings also indicate that violence in transition democracies such as Kenya is symptomatic of political strategies of the country’s elite, often predating and during democratic transition.

The question of how international law can be integrated domestically is at the core of international relations research. Current studies analyze how domestic actors use international law as a tool of change in the presence of international courts. However, the question of how international law functions in the presence of domestic courts has not been adequately studied. This thesis, therefore, examines the extent to which the domestic functioning of international law changes in response to variation in the existence of an external international court. It focuses on a comparison between two systems of international law: the Geneva Conventions System, in which cases are tried in domestic courts, and the Inter-American System, in which cases can be tried in an international court. Central to this comparison are two court cases, Hamdan v. Rumsfeld and Jiménez v. Ecuador, each of which illustrates the domestic functioning of international law in member states of the Geneva Conventions System and the Inter-American System, respectively. This research finds that international law, whether it is applied in an international or domestic court, functions primarily as a source of legitimacy for domestic actors. Furthermore, this thesis asserts a symbiotic relationship in which international law both depends on and legitimizes the activism of domestic institutions. These findings expand the scope of the literature on domestic compliance constituencies and suggest a powerful role for domestic courts in the application of international law within state borders.
ALISA ROMNEY  
*Political Science and International Studies*  
*Adviser: Wendy Pearlman*

**Religious Legitimacy in Domestic Politics: The battle over FGM in Egypt (1981-2008)**

Egypt is a nation defined by its strategic management of the geographic and cultural crossroads it deftly straddles: between the Middle East and Africa, the Middle East and the United States, and secularism and Islamism. The Mubarak regime was careful to balance these relationships, so as to utilize the legitimacy that each confers, especially the religious legitimacy conferred by Al-Azhar, the highest institution of Sunni thought in the Arab world, and the Muslim Brotherhood, a banned Islamist political party with a grassroots movement. While the use of these institutions to confer religious legitimacy on the regimes from Nasser to Mubarak, particularly in times of crisis, is well documented by scholars, less is known about how this affects the passage of human rights legislation, which, in addition to being of domestic and international importance, often carries religious implications. The issue of Female Genital Mutilation, declared a human rights violation by the United Nations, offers an interesting case study by which to analyze the politicization of human rights and how this affects the passage of human rights legislation. Despite international and domestic pressure to eradicate the practice, which peaked in the mid-1990s, the Mubarak regime did not outlaw FGM until 2008. At first glance, this resistance may seem illogical, as the passage of legislation illegalizing FGM would not entail a loss of political legitimacy, but would entail a great loss of international legitimacy. My thesis will attempt to explain these seemingly incongruent or irrational state policies, through a case study analysis and process tracing of the major points in the debate over FGM. I will demonstrate how the need to preserve religious legitimacy in times of crisis leads the Egyptian regime to buck international pressure in order to yield to the stance of the institution conferring this legitimacy, while in times of stability the regime is able to forego a potential loss of religious legitimacy and secure the passage of human rights legislation.

RAPHAEL ZELIKOWSKY  
*Political Science and International Studies*  
*Adviser: Brian Hanson*

**Good Governance After Crisis: Inclusive Decision-making in Global Finance**

The increasing globalization of international finance reveals the interconnection of states most clearly in a time of crisis. Each crisis in the history of global economics opens a window to the relationship between states, as cooperation becomes necessary and the costs of defection are catastrophic. My thesis seeks to understand the degree to which global transitions in power and increased economic interconnection are reflected in international institutions. While many have studied the economic origins and effects of these crises, little has been written on the changing composition of governing financial organizations as a direct result. Using a theoretical framework that examines decision-making structures and gains from cooperative models, this paper traces the historical development of the world economic system from World War II to the impact of both the East Asian and global financial crises on the IMF and the G20. By examining each crisis, one can gain a broader comprehension of which states or actors get included or excluded, why, and what are the consequences? Furthermore, one can evaluate the significance of inclusion in comparison to theoretical assumptions, allowing readers to gain a greater understanding of the underlying behavior that results in this inefficient and exclusionary global financial architecture. This study concludes that in spite of a clear need for coordination, declining world powers have acted instead in their own short-term interests, sacrificing the efficacy of governing institutions.
International Studies Senior Awards

Each year the International Studies Program awards three prizes to our graduating seniors honoring excellence in research by undergraduates. This year the committee selected Kathryn Johnstone for the Frank Safford Prize for Best Honors Thesis. Congratulations to Katie for her thesis entitled, “Too Big to Ignore: Kenyan Federal Response to the Sabaot Lands Defense Force Terror in Mt. Elgon, 2006-2008,” advisor: Will Reno, Department of Political Science. This year’s Guetzkow Prize for best paper written in the Senior Integrating Seminar was awarded to Theresa Shih for her project entitled “Economic Development, National Identity, and Tourism in Southeast Asia,” advisor: Stefanie Bator, Department of History. Congratulations also to Kristina Infante for receiving Honorable Mention for her paper entitled “Looking Ahead: An Investigation into the Future of the U.S. Policy Towards Cuba”, advisor, Stefanie Bator, Department of History.

We are very excited to announce that nine students qualified for the Certificate of Distinction in Foreign Languages. This certificate is awarded to students who have proven proficiency above the 2-year language requirement or have excelled in more than one foreign language. Our 2011 awardees are: Lana Birbrair (Spanish and French), Lucia Campbell (German), Jessie Chen (Chinese), Matthew Chen (Chinese), Amy Collins (Spanish), Kristin Coveney (Spanish), Katie Johnstone (Spanish), Kirsten Salyer (French), and McCall Vollum (French, Spanish and Russian).

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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, the Guetzkow Prize or other student initiatives please contact us at: international-studies@northwestern.edu

You can also mail checks made out to Northwestern University and include “International Studies Program” in the memo line to: Office of Alumni Relations and Development 2020 Ridge Avenue Evanston, IL 60208

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

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Bianca Ramirez, Asst. Director
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Graduating Seniors

International Studies Graduating Class of 2011
Congratulations to all our Seniors!

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Lily Alexandrovna Ryzhkova CAS

**Winter 2011**
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Jonathan George Blough CAS
Candace Meagan Carter CAS
Lauren Elizabeth Coffaro SPC
Samantha Lea Dupont CAS
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Corinne Allison Bernstein CAS
Lana Birbrair JOU
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Daniel Yoo CAS
Kristina Ashtar Youmaran CAS
Mikhail Zarkh CAS
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Benjamin Zhu CAS

CAS: Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences  JOU: Medill School of Journalism  MEA: McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science  MUS: Bienen School of Music  SPC: School of Communication  SES: School of Education & Social Policy
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Internal and External Student Awards

2011 IS recipients:

**Elena Aleksandrova**, Department of French and Italian, Distinguished Essay in French

**Corinne Allison Bernstein**, Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs

**Alexandra Goldberg Britton**, Department of Political Science, McGovern Award for Academic Excellence and Leadership in Political Science

**Sarah Elizabeth Freeman**, Department of African Studies, African Research Leadership Award

**Brenna Jeanette Helppie-Schmieder**, Department of Political Science, McGovern Award for Academic Excellence and Leadership in Political Science

**Kathryn Lynne Johnstone**, Department of Sociology, William H. Exum Award

**Nicholas Kazvini-Gore**, Department of German Language and Literature, Northwestern University Award for Outstanding Achievement in German

**Aja Dawn Ringenbach**, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Best Essay for Spanish 200-Level Literature and Culture Classes

**Divya Sooryakumar**, Clinton Fellowship for Service in India

**Dan Quoc Tham**, Department of German Language and Literature, Northwestern University Award for Outstanding Achievement in German

**Lianna Jessica Trubowitz**, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program, LACS Undergraduate Research Grant

**Mikhail Zarkh**, Department of Economics, Frederick S. Diebler Award for Distinguished Honors Thesis
Fellowships and Grants deadlines early Fall 2011

Summer is a great time to work on fellowships...don’t forget about the early internal deadlines for the following fellowships:


DAAD art/music-early October | DAAD other apps-early October | Luce-early October | Gates/Cambridge-early October

For more information please contact the Office of Fellowships
http://www.northwestern.edu/fellowships/