

# International Studies Program

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2009 NEWSLETTER

## Director's Note: Applying for Grants and Fellowships

In the spirit of a tightened economy infused with the promise of a new presidency, what better way to spend money than to invest in international studies undergraduate leaders who research global problems and engage as responsible actors in communities around the globe. In this issue we bring you some of the activities of our remarkable undergraduates such as Rhodes Scholar Mallory Dwinal and Lee F. Anderson Global Engagement and Education Grant recipient Eu-wen Ding in the hopes of inspiring others to apply to our honors program or follow in Eu-wen's footsteps by submitting a proposal for the Lee F. Anderson Grant or other fellowships and grant opportunities highlighted in the newsletter.

In an effort to fully support undergraduates in their research endeavors, we are launching a "Next Steps" workshop (see, page 6) in collaboration with the Center for Global Engagement to help students returning from fall quarter study abroad to channel their creative ideas into proposals for research or engagement projects. We are also working with Andrew Wachtel and Simon Green at the Graduate School to set up a graduate mentors program that will give IS students pursuing honors the chance to work one-on-one with a graduate student to develop their thesis project. In the spring we will once again host the Study Abroad Research Program ("SARP") that was a success this past fall. All these new programs are perfect examples of the creative

interdisciplinary and cross-university collaborations that continue to expand undergraduate international research opportunities.

One area that continues to present a challenge given the diffuse nature of International Studies as an interdisciplinary program that draws from the faculty of other departments is the creation of an international studies faculty community. Having an IS faculty community would greatly benefit our student majors as they seek out a faculty advisor for their honors thesis or in support of a University Research Grant. To outreach and build our faculty affiliates we will be sponsoring a number of informal gatherings throughout the year. As the culmination of the "Next Steps" workshop, faculty will be invited to start off the evening with a reception with students and then head over to a faculty dinner in town. This winter we will also be launching our new IS web site that includes a "faculty affiliates" page. We welcome all international studies faculty on campus to become a faculty affiliate.

~Galya Ruffer

## IS Major wins Rhodes Scholarship



Each year 32 scholars are awarded Rhodes Scholarships. These individuals represent all 50 states of the United States. Recipients are chosen based on a number of criteria including intellectual distinction, excellence in qualities of mind and in qualities of person. The International Studies Program is excited to congratulate one of our majors, Mallory Dwinal, as a recipient of one of this year's Rhodes Scholarships.

Northwestern students are among the nation's top-ranked students but not all students begin their careers at Northwestern with a clear path ahead of them. Rhodes Scholarship winner Mallory Dwinal is one such student. Mallory has walked down various paths to arrive to this point. Initially interested in a career in medicine, it only took one summer internship at an emergency room to convince her that her future lay elsewhere. Mallory states, "I started my freshman year as a Spanish major because I had studied it in high school and didn't want to lose the language. From there, I also started studying Chinese and later on, French. I am on Northwestern's Speech Team, so I have to analyze news events on a regular basis; I picked up the International Studies major because I wanted to get a better handle on the events I discussed. Later on, I also picked up an Economics Major and Business Institutions Minor." Besides her work at Northwestern Mallory has also studied abroad in Beijing and has worked for a summer in Mexico City. Mallory states, "It was during these experiences abroad that I realized how important language acquisition is in educational systems." These academic interests and goals eventually led her to her community work in Evanston and Chicago.

Beyond her academic obligations Mallory has been an active member of her community. With the support of Lillian Kamal (a former lecturer of the Economics Department) she applied for a grant to support a program she developed called the Social Enterprise for Language Foundations (SELF). This program matches Northwestern student volunteers with non-English speakers at two local elementary schools. Mallory notes, "Our tutors help students, grades K-8, with homework and English activities. We have about 40 volunteers and 60 ESL students involved in the program now. I have loved volunteering in these schools, and seeing all of the issues that exist in urban schools—linguistic or otherwise—compels my interest in an education policy career." She is currently using this academic background along with her work in Chicago Public Schools to write an honors thesis for the Economics Department, entitled "The Economics of Bilingual Education".

Her work with SELF was the catalyst for her Rhodes application. During the summer of her junior year she began preparing her application for Northwestern's early September deadline. After that

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### IS Faculty Affiliate: Jonathan Schachter

Jonathan Schachter, currently teaching Dynamics of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism, has been teaching Northwestern undergraduate students in political science and international studies and graduate students in public policy and administration since 2003.

During his tenure as the Managing Deputy Director for Emergency Management at the Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications, Dr. Schachter led the division responsible for developing the City of Chicago's all-hazards emergency management and homeland security programs, plans, and strategies, and for coordinating large-scale emergency response and recovery operations.

Under Dr. Schachter's direction, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) led the City of Chicago's efforts following Hurricane Katrina. OEM's activities included coordinating the deployment of police officers, firefighters, and other support personnel and equipment to Louisiana and Mississippi, and the provision of housing, health, and other services to over 7,000 evacuees at the city's centralized reception center.

Dr. Schachter's research interests include the impact of psychology on foreign policy decision-making and assessing the effectiveness of

public safety and security programs and policies. His recent work has focused on the possibility of deterring terrorist groups and on the often-asserted, but largely unsubstantiated belief that surveillance cameras in public places prevent crime and terrorism.

Relying on a multi-disciplinary mix of policy analysis, political science, history, religious studies, and psychology, Dr. Schachter tries to demystify terrorism for students – and identify potential solutions to the problems it presents – by demonstrating its clear, identifiable links to political developments, its tactical evolution, and its appeal to some parties to conflict around the world. He hopes to bring a similar integrated approach in the coming quarters to upper-level courses and seminars on research methods and on the increasingly apparent links between foreign policy and domestic public safety.

Dr. Schachter earned his Ph.D. in Policy Analysis from the RAND Graduate School of Policy Studies. While at RAND, he conducted research and analysis for the Advisory Panel to Assess Domestic Response Capabilities for Terrorism Involving Weapons of Mass Destruction ("The Gilmore Commission"). Dr. Schachter was also part of a team charged with studying the policy implications of 9/11 for the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Greater Los Angeles and the Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney.

### The International Studies Program remembers Professor Harold Guetzkow

1915-2008

Dr. Harold Guetzkow taught for Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology at Northwestern University from 1957-1985. His colleague, University of Kansas Professor Philip Schrodt remembers Guetzkow's contributions to the field of International Studies, "The thirty years that Harold Guetzkow spent at Northwestern coincided with the development of systematic and quantitative methods for the analysis of international politics. Guetzkow was an internationally recognized leader in these efforts during the whole of this period, first with his adaptations of social psychological models to the study of politics, then with his pioneering efforts in human, then human-machine, and finally all-machine simulations of international behavior. Guetzkow's influence can be seen not only in his own work, but that of individuals who were either his students or came to work with him at Northwestern as post-doctoral students: to name only a few, Paul Smoker went on to direct the Richardson Institute of Conflict Studies in Lancaster (UK), Ladd Hollist the International Studies Association, and Stuart Bremer the Correlates of War project."

Former student Michael Ward (University of Washington) recalls, "After an active and influential career, Prof. Guetzkow retired from Northwestern University in 1985, having been feted at the 1985 International Political Science Association meetings with the presentation of a Festschrift, *Theories, Models, and Simulations in International Relations: Essays in Honor of Harold Guetzkow* (Westview Press, 1985). During 1987-1988 Prof. Guetzkow was elected President of the International Studies Association. At that time he took up a project focused on the study of values as they affect decision making in the international arena. He began a study of cultural values in decision making with scholars at the Pacific School of Divinity and also began a productive relationship with Kent Kille of Wooster College who brought the project to culmination in 2007 with the publication of *The UN Secretary-General and Moral Authority: Ethics and Religion in International Leadership* (Georgetown Press 2007). Throughout his career, Harold worked to support the efforts of other scholars interested in decision-making and international politics."

Dr. Harold Guetzkow passed away on November 11, 2008 in San Jose, California at age 93. He was preceded in death by his wife Lauris, whom he had married in 1944. He is survived by sons James (Charlotte) and Daniel (Diana) Guetzkow, and his daughter Gay (Howard) Ben Tre. In his seven decades of active scholarship, he distinguished himself as a vibrant and path-breaking scholar as well as an incredibly talented mentor.

A memorial academic symposium is being planned for the latter part of 2009 at Northwestern University. Donations may be made to "Northwestern University," for the purposes of the Harold Guetzkow Prize in International Studies, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, International Studies Program, 1897 Sheridan Road, University Hall, Room 20, Evanston, IL, 60201. A memorial web site is planned at [www.haroldguetzkow.info](http://www.haroldguetzkow.info) which will contain information about the upcoming symposium.

### Guetzkow Prize

#### *Call for Papers*

The Guetzkow Prize in International Studies was created by the Program and first awarded in 1992 to bring together various perspectives and modes of disciplines engaged in the field of international studies. The prize is awarded to the most outstanding senior research paper written by an adjunct major enrolled in the International Studies Senior Seminar.

The Prize was named for Harold Guetzkow, Professor of Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology from 1957-1986, a distinguished scholar of international studies.

The International Studies Program seeks nominations throughout the year so Winter quarter and Spring quarter papers are eligible for the prize. The prize is awarded at the end of the year during our Graduation reception in Spring quarter. A paper may be submitted by a student or professor and must be accompanied by a faculty letter of recommendation.

Past winning papers have included: "The Dynamics of Reform in the Mexican Telecommunications Sector", "Mythologies of Florence", "The Growing Pains of a Nation: The Social and Economic and Political Reasons for Singapore's Exaltation of Asian Values", "Remembering, Representing, and Enacting lo boliviano: Indigenist-Multiculturalism' in the Construction of National Identity in Contemporary Bolivia", and "The Resilient Ugandan: Life stories of Ugandan community leaders."

All submissions can be sent to the International Studies Office located at 1897 Sheridan Road, University Hall 020.

### Call for Applications for the Certificate of Distinction in Foreign Languages

The International Studies Program awards Certificates of Distinction in Foreign Languages to adjunct majors who have studied one or more languages above and beyond the two-year minimum requirement set by Weinberg College. The award is open to all graduating seniors and application materials can be found on the International Studies web site. Please set up an appointment with an International Studies advisor to submit an application.

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### Applications for the Honors Program in International Studies

Attention Juniors, the deadline for applying to the Honors Program in International Studies is Friday, February 6, 2009. All applications must be submitted to the International Studies Office by 5:00pm. For more information and to obtain application information please visit [www.northwestern.edu/intstudy](http://www.northwestern.edu/intstudy).

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### Petition to Graduate with International Studies

All adjunct majors and minors in International Studies must complete (2) two Petitions to Graduate, one in their disciplinary major and one in International Studies. If you fail to do this, the Registrar will not be aware of your adjunct major/minor in IS and will not give you credit for the work you have done. All Juniors should file a Petition to Graduate during Spring quarter with the International Studies Office. If you are a senior and have not completed a Petition to Graduate with us please set up an appointment to do so as soon as possible. To set up an appointment to file a petition to graduate please send an e-mail to [international-studies@northwestern.edu](mailto:international-studies@northwestern.edu).

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

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>

## Students Abroad: Florianópolis, Brazil

Discovering Brazil by Cassandra Blohowiak, *Jour '09*



to class, what professors to avoid, and where I should hang out on the weekends. Florianópolis, or Floripa for short, is one of three island state capital cities in Brazil. Although there was no shortage of beaches (Floripa boasts 42 to be exact), once winter hit, my bathing suit found a new home at the bottom of my suitcase, and I was hard-pressed to find other ways to pass my time. I went hiking, visited museums, shopped at open markets, and road tripped to Italian-esque towns a few hours from where I stayed.

My program was unique because it was small. There were only three other Americans studying at my school, and since we were directly enrolled in a federal Brazilian university, we had different classes, different schedules and extracurriculars, making it difficult to coordinate times to chat. Being alone was scary at first, but I soon realized it was for the better. I was forced to talk to the locals and had the opportunity to explore the parts of the island that truly interested me.

My class subjects ranged from Journalism to Brazilian film studies, but I learned most outside of the classroom. Through talking with my friends, I learned how to make Brazilian candy, how to samba dance, and what people really thought of the United States. It was these personal experiences that reinforced my interest in studying journalism and international studies.

I was partaking in so many new things—many of which no one at Northwestern could picture—and I discovered I wanted to tell as many people about them as possible. What better way to share experiences with people than writing about them? Although I haven't had much time to devote to this yet (school gets the best of me sometimes), I plan on pursuing it after graduation. My dream would be to work for a food and travel magazine—the perfect place to tell one of my unique Brazilian adventures. Brazil is the only country—besides the U.S. of course—I've traveled to. After coming home I began to wonder what sorts of adventures other countries were secretly guarding. I guess for now I'll have to sit back and learn about them in a lecture hall. But hey, that's better than nothing.

After a busy reading week last winter quarter I sped to the airport to catch a plane to the land of soccer, beaches and the Amazon Rainforest. It was the beginning of a grand adventure that many students undertake during their college career. Studying abroad can be a life-changing experience, but also one of the most overwhelming. Being thrown into a new culture can be as difficult as trying to run a marathon with a pulled leg muscle. You've gone through months—maybe years—of training, yet your handicap forces you to jog instead of sprint.

As an international studies major, I took several classes about international relations and Latin America—not to mention three years of intensive Portuguese language study. Although I had this knowledge under my belt, when my plane touched down more than 5,000 miles away from home, I knew it was going to be a challenge.

As one of the first students from Northwestern to go on the newly adopted Middlebury program to Florianópolis, Brazil, I didn't know what to expect. There were no reviews available in the study abroad office to give me tips on what to bring

### Fellowships and Undergraduate Research Grants Deadlines

Undergraduate Research Grants ([www.northwestern.edu/undergrad-research](http://www.northwestern.edu/undergrad-research))

2008-09 Academic-Year Grant Deadlines:

Tuesday, January 20

Tuesday, February 24

Friday, March 13, 2009 (Summer Grant Deadline)

Immersion Language Grants (<http://www.northwestern.edu/immersion>)

Friday, January 30, 2009

External Fellowships for International Programs:

January 25, 2009, Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes (for summer 2009)

January 31, 2009, De Kármán Fellowship (tuition support for senior year)

January 31, 2009, DAAD Summer University Course Grant (for summer 2009 in Germany)

January 31, 2009, DAAD Research Internships in Science and Engineering (for summer 2009 in Germany)

February 6, 2009, Humanity in Action (summer 2009 human rights program in Europe)

April 30, 2009, Registration for 2009 NU British/Irish Scholarship Nomination Process (for 2010-11 graduate study abroad)

May 1, 2009, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship—Date Varies by District (for 2010-11 graduate study and service abroad)

May 31, 2009, Registration for 2009 NU Fulbright Process—Preferred (for 2010-11 research, teaching, or graduate study abroad)

For more information about the Florianópolis study abroad program or other study abroad programs please visit <http://www.northwestern.edu/studyabroad/> or visit their office at 630 Dartmouth Place, Evanston, IL 60208.



### Engineering Design for the Developing World by Eu-wen Ding, MEA '09

In the summer of 2008, with a grant from the Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Education and Engagement Award I traveled to Uganda to identify projects that would allow me to start a program at Northwestern that would better enable engineering students to actively and meaningfully engage in issues pertaining to international development. To accomplish this goal I worked in collaboration with faculty and administrators of the Engineering school to start a pilot program within existing classes on design. Because of the scope of the project I also secured sponsorship from the McCormick School of Engineering and the International Program Development office at Northwestern. The pilot program I developed that will be implemented in spring quarter 2009 is called 'Engineering Design for the Developing World.'

*"Engineering Design for the Developing World, is an attempt to enhance the social aspect of engineering by connecting bright, inquisitive, and creative young minds, with chronically neglected, real life needs that exist in the Third World."*

Engineering Design for the Developing World, is an attempt to enhance the social aspect of engineering by connecting bright, inquisitive, and creative young minds, with chronically neglected, real life needs that exist in the Third World. Through this program students will work in teams to solve a specific technical issue affecting real individuals in

Uganda. Students will learn about the problem and its context from the people themselves via video interviews that I took while in Uganda. The purpose of this program is to increase the exposure of American students to issues of international development, with the aim to better prepare these students to become globally and socially responsible citizens in the future.

Armed with just a video camera and going into Uganda this past summer, I was not sure what to expect. I did not really know how I would find projects, or whether I could pull off the idea for my program successfully, if at all. However things turned out easier than expected, most likely due to the fact that this was my second

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### *IS Rhodes Scholar recipient* continued from page 1

she spent the month of October working closely with Northwestern's Fellowships Office going through a number of revisions before submitting the final application. By November she was notified that she was accepted into the interview rounds and began mock cocktail parties and interviews with the Fellowships Office. Mallory adds, "I would like to point out that the Office of Fellowships does a great job preparing its students for these competitions!"

The actual process itself was a two-part interview in Seattle for 16 district finalists. After a luncheon, an intense panel interview where her first question was in Chinese, and a three hour wait she finally received the news that she chosen as the recipient of a Rhodes Scholarship. Mallory recalls, "Mine was the first of the two names called, but I did not register that I had been selected as a Rhodes Scholar until the car ride home. Actually, a week later I am still struggling to wrap my mind around the fact that I will be at Oxford in a few months."

Next year Mallory will pursue a one-year MSc (Masters Degree) in Comparative and International Education. After that, she plans to spend two years with Teach for America (she has already been accepted to teach in a bilingual classroom in the D.C. region). She has also received notice that her deferral request to Harvard Business School has been accepted, so after Oxford and Teach for America, she will pick up her spot in Harvard's MBA program. After completing these three programs over the next five years, she hopes to start a career in education policy making. The International Studies Program wishes Mallory the best of luck in all her future plans!

*Anyone interested in the Rhodes Scholarship, Teach for America, or Harvard Business School is free to contact Mallory at mallorydwinal2007@u.northwestern.edu for more information and/or advice. For more information on the Rhodes Scholarship and other undergraduate opportunities please contact the Office of Fellowships at: <http://www.northwestern.edu/fellowships>.*

#### The Newsletter of the International Studies Program

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#### The International Studies Advisory Committee

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Georgi Derlugian (*Associate Professor, Sociology*)  
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Andrew Wachtel (*Dean, The Graduate School*)

## Upcoming Events and Programs

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### Next Steps Program

Sponsored by the International Studies Program and the Center for Global Engagement



Back from abroad?

Interested in developing a research project?

Looking for a way to incorporate your experiences abroad into your future plans?

The IS Program has teamed up with the Center for Global Engagement to bring you a 2-day workshop where you will

- learn about funding opportunities for undergraduate projects,
- learn how to write a successful grant application and refine your grant writing skills,
- find out about internship and volunteer opportunities with NGO's and International Development Organizations
- connect with faculty at Northwestern to help support your future research initiatives

Monday, January 26, 2009 5:00pm-6:30pm

Tuesday, January 27, 2009 3:30pm-6:30pm

For more information and to register please contact the International Studies Office at 847-491-7980 or e-mail [international-studies@northwestern.edu](mailto:international-studies@northwestern.edu).

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### Study Abroad Research Program (SARP) Fall Quarter 2008 & Spring Quarter 2009

This past fall quarter the International Studies Program collaborated with the Study Abroad Office to run the Study Abroad Research Program (SARP). SARP was developed to give outgoing study abroad students the chance to refine their research skills and develop an independent research project to undertake while abroad. This unique 5-week program brings together faculty members and program administrators from the various schools at the University to guide students through the research writing process. SARP reflects our goal of developing stronger connections between students' study abroad experiences and their academic work on campus. It is also a clear reflection of the Provost and President's directive to encourage more research projects among undergraduates. This year eleven students produced independent research proposals to carry out in five different countries which include South Africa, France, Japan, Denmark and England. SARP also encourages all participants to submit their proposals for the SARP grant which provides funding towards the independent research project. Fall quarter's SARP grant recipients were:

Emily Kinglsey-Ma, "Taking Care of Mind and Body: Mental Services in HIV/AIDS Treatment Facilities in South Africa." NU-South Africa, Public Health Program

Emily Levin, "South Africa Community-Health Clinics and the Prevention and Treatment of Cervical Cancer." NU-South Africa, Public Health Program

Esther Lin, "Black Economic Empowerment and black South African Racial Identity." NU-South Africa, Democracy & Development Program

Robert Sotolar, "Islam in the West: The Integration of French Muslims." NU-France, Montpellier Integrated Studies Program

Amit Vira, "Epidemiological Survey of Eye Health Awareness in Stellenbosch." NU-South Africa, Public Health Program

Congratulations to all grant recipients!

The next SARP session will run Spring quarter 2009 for students accepted into study abroad programs for the 2009-2010 Academic Year. For more information about how to apply to SARP please contact Bianca Ramirez at [b-ramirez@northwestern.edu](mailto:b-ramirez@northwestern.edu) or visit [http://www.northwestern.edu/studyabroad/academic\\_issues/SARP.html](http://www.northwestern.edu/studyabroad/academic_issues/SARP.html)

## Winter Quarter Events

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### Northwestern University Conference on Human Rights Humanitarian Aid and Human Rights: Sovereignty, Accountability, and Effectiveness January 22-25, 2009

The Northwestern University Conference on Human Rights (NUCHR) is the largest undergraduate student-organized and student attended conference on human rights in the United States. NUCHR is committed to raising awareness, promoting academic dialogue, and mobilizing social action on international human rights issues. The conference brings together distinguished academics, activists, policy-makers, and students from around the globe to discuss a unique human rights topic each year. This three day summit is also free and open to the public.

The 6th Annual Northwestern University Conference on Human Rights will take place January 22-25, 2009 on Northwestern's Evanston Campus. This year's conference topic is "Humanitarian Aid and Human Rights: Sovereignty, Accountability, and Effectiveness" and will take a critical look at humanitarian aid in multiple contexts. Approximately 40 highly qualified delegates from top-tier universities around the country will gather in Evanston to participate in the conference keynote speakers, panel discussion, and smaller break-out group projects throughout the weekend. All of the keynote speakers and panel discussions will be free and open to the public.

On the opening night, Thursday 22nd, Nicholas De Torrente, executive director of Doctors Without Borders in the United States, will give the opening keynote address. The conference will continue on Friday with three panel discussions focusing on Sovereignty, Accountability, and Effectiveness. On Saturday, delegates will use the framework for analyzing humanitarian aid established on Friday and use it to analyze the humanitarian situation in post-Cyclone Nargis Burma. There will be a panel of experts including Joel Charny, Director of Refugee International and Ivan Lupis at the United Nation's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

#### Full Schedule:

#### **Thursday January 22nd**

Delegates arrive

8pm-9pm: The Role of NGOs in Humanitarian Crises Keynote - Nicholas de Torrente

#### **Friday January 23rd**

9am: Breakfast

10am-12pm: Panel 1 Tensions between Sovereignty and the Responsibility to Protect

12pm-1pm: Lunch

1pm-3pm: Panel 2 Humanitarian Aid and Accountability

3:30pm-5:30pm: Panel 3 Effectiveness of Humanitarian Aid

6pm-7pm: Social Entrepreneurship: What Can We Do Now? Keynote – TBA

8pm-10pm: Dinner Banquet

10pm: Movie night! Screening of Beyond Borders

#### **Saturday January 24th**

9am: Breakfast

10am-12pm: Case Study Panel: Response to Cyclone Nargis in Burma/Myanmar

12pm-1pm: Lunch

1pm-3pm: Discussion Section - Scenario discussion: background, history

3pm-4pm: Human Rights Youth Leader Keynote - Chris Day

4:30pm-6:30pm: Discussion Section - Draft proposals

7pm-8pm: Backing Out of a Dead End Street: Humanitarian Exit Strategies Keynote - Dirk Salomons

8pm-10pm: Challenges to Solutions Banquet

10pm: Social event

For more information on the NUCHR or for updated information on workshops or panels please visit <http://nuchr.net>



# *International Studies Program*

Northwestern University  
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## *Engineering Design for the Developing World*

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summer in Uganda. I had previously studied in Uganda in the summer of 2007 with the Engage Uganda program, now called the Global Engagement Summer Institute. Because of the set of contacts I made in Uganda from my first study abroad experience I found that meeting the right people and organizations this second summer around was relatively easy. When I landed in the country, my host family from the previous summer insisted that I stay with them again, and the NGO that I previously worked with gladly helped me set up appointments with other organizations they had contacts with. I was able to meet with nearly a dozen different organizations and travel to rural communities throughout the country to document issues first hand. The Ugandans I met were very supportive of the idea behind my project and one enterprising, sprightly sixty-eight year old farmer told his friend, "That's why I was excited when you told me that an engineer was coming, because I want him to give me more ideas!" In fact, one of the four projects that will be featured in the Engineering Design for the Developing World program this spring will be his project, developing a chicken egg incubator suitable for the rural Ugandan countryside.

Despite my initial concerns of encountering rejections from organizations that might perceive my requests as an imposition, each person I contacted was welcoming. However, I soon realized that along with hospitality my presence also inadvertently raised funding expectations for some of these organizations. Being a foreigner in Uganda guarantees you a warm welcome from local NGOs because

every foreigner is a potential financial resource, and resources are so scarce that the opportunity to establish a contact with a foreigner can never be turned down, even if that foreigner is just a young student. More often than not the hospitality that people show is genuine, but I was sometimes put in a difficult position when my mere presence built up expectations of financial donations that I had no way of delivering on.

Nonetheless, with sufficient time spent explaining my project and what I hoped to do, most organizations were still very accommodating, allowing me to tag along as they went to rural communities to visit with their constituents. I met dozens of amazing people, explored a fascinating country in depth, and was able to develop a project that ideally fit with both my majors in engineering and international studies.

*Applications for the Lee F. Anderson Memorial Global Engagement and Education Grant can be found at the International Studies Office or on our web site at [www.northwestern.edu/intstudy](http://www.northwestern.edu/intstudy). Applications can be submitted for individual or group projects. The application deadline is March 2009.*