

International Relations Program Newsletter

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EVENTS

Film: Reel Voices from the Middle East: “Under the Moonlight”

Friday, February 15, 2008

7:00pm

Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, University of Pittsburgh

Seyyed Hassan, a young seminary student, is preparing to don the clerical attire. While the other students are also busy with similar preparations, Seyyed Hassan's supplies are stolen by a small boy. To identify the culprit, Seyyed Hassan sets out for the suburban area where he meets people who have never met a cleric and know nothing about the clerical profession. Under such unfamiliar circumstances, Seyyed Hassan acquires a new understanding of society and human beings. For more information, contact Veronica Dristas: 412-624-2918, dristas@pitt.edu.

Lecture: “From Immigrant Workers to Domestic Youth: New Kinds of Trafficking ‘Victims’”

Monday, February 18, 2008
12:00pm
2201 Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh

Professor Denise Brennan's lecture considers how a rhetorical -and policy- shift that focuses on domestic youth in prostitution affects the broader effort to fight trafficking of foreign nationals to the United States. While recent anti-trafficking activities by law enforcement have been targeted in the sex industry, other forms of immigrant labor abuse have been ignored. Dr. Brennan contends that the low numbers of trafficked persons (foreign nationals) found to date nationwide is, in part, a consequence of not looking. Common sense suggests that with resources directed to finding domestic youth in forced prostitution, fewer efforts will be made to reach foreign workers exploited in work sites beyond brothels. Dr. Brennan conceives of trafficking at one end of a continuum of everyday migrant labor exploitation, emphasizing that it occurs in a number of industries that depend on immigrant labor. She examines a confluence of factors that make it difficult to find immigrants in situations of forced labor - even for social-service providers and immigrant rights' groups that have social networks built on trust in immigrant communities. Denise Brennan is Associate Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Georgetown University, Washington DC. She is the author of *What's Love Got to Do with It? Transnational Desires and Sex Tourism in the Dominican Republic* (Duke Univ. Press 2004). Currently she is writing a book on trafficking to the United States: *Life After Trafficking: Resettlement after Forced Labor and Servitude in the United States Today*. For more information, contact Frayda Cohen: fraydac@gmail.com.

**Policy Forum: Global Issues & Policy Implications for the Pittsburgh Region
Featuring Sen. Arlen Specter**

Tuesday, February 19, 2008
12:30pm – 2:00pm
One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant St

The World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh in partnership with Leadership Pittsburgh, Inc. presents Global Issues & Policy Implications for the Pittsburgh Region. This is the second in a series of Policy Forums with our region's leaders. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) will be the featured speaker.

Reservations required by February 18 – no refund for cancellations after that date. For details or reservations, see <http://www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org/>.

Lecture: "HIV/AIDS and Education in Post-War Contexts: Issues of Gender, Orphaned and Vulnerable Children, and Refugees in Southern Sudan and Uganda"

Wednesday, February 20, 2008
12:00pm
4217 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. James Jacob (Acting Director of the Institute for International Studies in Education (IISE), Administrative and Policy Studies, School of Education) will discuss the multisectoral impact of HIV/AIDS in post-conflict Southern Sudan, with a special focus on the challenges for the

education sector regarding issues of prevention, treatment, and capacity building. Uganda's vacillating history of military strife shortly following independence fueled one of the world's highest national HIV adult prevalence rates in the late 1980s and early 1990s before experiencing a decade of decline. A recent resurgence in the overall HIV prevalence rate among some populations raises questions of concern for medical practitioners, policy makers, researchers, and educators. Several studies recognize suggested predictors for this recent increase in HIV prevalence, including apathy, gender-based violence, civil strife, and harboring refugees from neighboring countries. This lecture discusses the effectiveness of the national HIV response toward high-risk, post-conflict groups in the two case countries, with an emphasis on internally displaced peoples, refugees and the Diaspora from neighboring war-torn countries. For more information, contact Veronica Dristas: 412-624-2918, dristas@pitt.edu.

Lecture: “Coercing Human Rights: How Powerful States Regulate Repression Through Preferential Trade Agreements”

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

12:00pm

4130 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh

The Research in International Politics (RIP) Speaker Series presents Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Politics, Princeton University.

Lecture: “The Crisis in Kenya: Post Election Violence, Politics and Ethnicity”

Thursday, February 21, 2008

5:00pm - 7:00pm

WWPH 4130, University of Pittsburgh

Kenya has since independence been the "beacon of peace" and political stability in the Eastern Africa region with most of the western world referring to her as an "African success story" in democracy. Kenya has been considered an "an island" of peace in a region that has had more than its share of conflicts and political instability. However, looking at the recent post election violence that threatens to tear the country apart, the fires that have engulfed the country since the contested December 27 2007 election results and the ethnic animosity that has been rekindled, the questions we ask are: What really happened in Kenya?; and, How can the country be 'whole' again?. Perhaps the bigger question is: Was there a 'whole' in the first place or has it always been splinters seemingly presented as "one whole"? And finally: What does the situation in Kenya reveal about politics and Africa's political structures? The presenter will be Dr. Joshua Kivuva who holds a Ph.D in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh and has taught political science at the University of Nairobi (Kenya), and African Politics at Indiana University of PA. He is currently a consultant specializing in Refugee Affairs. He has done research and presented numerous papers on ethnicity and the politics of democratization in Africa. Respondents after the presentation will include: Dr. Joshua Forest, Political Science at Laroche College, Dr. Macrina Lelei, African Studies, University of Pittsburgh and Dr. Louis Picard, GSPIA, University of Pittsburgh. For more information, contact Dr. Macrina Lelei: 412-648-2058, macrina@pitt.edu.

Film: Reel Voices from the Middle East: “Turtles Can Fly”

Thursday, February 21, 2008

7:00pm

Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, University of Pittsburgh

From acclaimed director Bahman Ghobadi (*A Time for Drunken Horses*) comes the first film shot in Iraq since the fall of Saddam Hussein. Heart-wrenching as well as spirit-raising, *Turtles Can Fly* mixes humor and tragedy to startling effect, resulting in a very timely masterpiece about children struggling to survive in an endless war zone. On the Iraqi-Turkish border, enterprising 13-year-old "Satellite" (Sorani Ebrahim) is the de facto leader of a Kurdish village, thanks to his ability to install satellite dishes and translate news of the pending US invasion. Organizing fellow orphans into land mine-collection teams so that they can eke out a living, it's all business until the arrival of a clairvoyant boy and his quiet, beautiful sister. For more information, contact Veronica Dristas: 412-624-2918, dristas@pitt.edu.

Film: Reel Voices from the Middle East: "Forget Baghdad"

Friday, February 22, 2008

7:00pm

Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, University of Pittsburgh

A film reflecting upon the clichés of "the Jew" and "the Arab" in the last hundred years of cinema, combined with the biographies of some extraordinary individuals: Iraqi-Jewish communists. Over the years, Samir himself the child of Iraqi immigrants in Switzerland has focused on the issues of alienation and the formation of identity in his films. In the context of this discussion, Prof. Ella Shohat (sociologist and film historian at the City University of New York) is one of the most important figures in the film. Raised in Israel as the daughter of Iraqi Jews, she reflects on her history. The film "Forget Baghdad" also focuses on the life stories of four other exceptional individuals: Shimon Ballas, Professor of Arabic in Tel Aviv, is involved in the pro-Palestinian peace and civil rights movement. Sami Michael, one of Israel's most famous best-selling authors, who broke with the communists back in the mid-1950s. Moshe (Moussa) Hourani, a wealthy kiosk owner and building contractor in a Tel Aviv suburb who to this day continues to vote for communists. Samir Naqqash, the only one of the four who still writes in Arabic. His works of literature have brought him critical acclaim and quite a number of prizes but publishers these days are no longer interested in bringing out his books neither those in the Arab world nor those in Israel. For more information, contact Veronica Dristas: 412-624-2918, dristas@pitt.edu.

Lecture: US Army War College: "National Security for a New Era"

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Rm. 630, William Pitt Union (6th Fl.), University of Pittsburgh

The Matthew B. Ridgway Speakers Series Presents: US Army War College: "National Security for a New Era."

Panelists: Col. Mike Hoadley, US Army; Col. John Cho, US Army; Col. Thomas Evans, US Army; Lt. Col. Jeffrey Kelly, US Air Force; Lt. Col. Mike Sweeney, US Marine Corps; and Col. Lora Tucker, US Army

Notwithstanding the continuing debate about the war in Iraq, there is general agreement that America's military forces are being pushed to the limit with serious implications for operations across the globe. The next president will face major challenges in redefining our military's missions, force structure, and deployment in support of U.S. interests. Meeting those challenges requires an understanding of the current state of our military.

To address these issues, GSPIA's Matthew B. Ridgway Center along with the World Affairs Council, again welcomes the Current Affairs Panel of the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA. These officers — from different military services and career fields, including the Guard and Reserves — are the military leaders of today and tomorrow who are charged with managing these issues. Members of the U.S. Army War College, as part of the Eisenhower Series College Program, will hold a group discussion with students, faculty and concerned citizens. The Eisenhower Series College Program is an academic outreach program established by the Department of the Army to encourage dialogue on national security and other public policy issues between students of the U.S. Army War College and the civilian public.

This event is free and open to the public.

Study Abroad Information Session

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

5:00 – 6:00pm

McKenna/Peter Rooms, University Center

The Office of International Education will be holding a study abroad information session on Tuesday, February 26. Students interested in studying abroad are invited to hear returnees talk about their experiences and get an overview of study abroad at CMU.

Fulbright Information Session

Monday, March 3, 2008

4:30pm

McConomy Auditorium, University Center

Carnegie Mellon University Fellowships and Scholarships Office and University of Pittsburgh Honors College present U.S. Student Fulbright Program Information Session for the Fulbright and other IIE study abroad programs. All interested students (and faculty and staff) are welcome!

Program Director of the U.S. Student Fulbright Program, Walter Jackson, will describe this prestigious one year abroad program through which students can study, research, or teach English. He will also discuss other prestigious study abroad scholarships available through the Institute of International Education (e.g., NSEP, Gilman, Freeman-Asia, Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes).

*NOTE: Undergraduates can apply to each of the IIE Programs above, but only seniors, graduate students, and alumni can apply to the Fulbright Program. U.S. citizenship is required for all awards.

Underclassman are encouraged to attend this info session, however, to not only take advantage of the other IIE opportunities, but to plan in advance for Fulbright.*

For more information about all of these awards, visit <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html>

Contact Judy Zang (jzang@cmu.edu) for more information

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Register for the Foreign Service Officer Test

Interested in becoming a US diplomat? Register now for the March 1-8 testing window at <http://careers.state.gov/officer/register.html>. The timing couldn't be better – you have the opportunity to become one of over 700 U.S. Diplomats to be hired beginning in October 2009. (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/02/03/AR2008020303081.html>.) If you need additional inspiration, please visit careers.state.gov to hear Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice explain to you how to affect global change and impact people's lives.

Information Management Specialist Positions at the State Department

Use your A+ and Network+ certification on cyber security projects overseas.

It takes more than good intentions to make a better world. It takes intelligence, a global perspective, uncommon dedication and specialized talent. In short, it takes you. Visit <http://careers.state.gov/specialist/opportunities/infomanage.html> for specific qualifications and to apply online. Join the U.S. Department of State as we show the world a side of America it has never seen.

“China in My Eyes” Competition

The Lenovo Project IMUSE (Initiating Mutual Understanding Through Student Exchange) is sponsoring a national essay and photo contest open to all undergraduates to share their views on modern China. Winners may choose between a 2-week trip to Beijing and the opportunity to work as a 2008 Beijing Olympics volunteer or a new Lenovo laptop. For more details, see <http://www.imuse2008.org/competition.php>. Submissions are due by March 31, 2008.

Summer Internship: Nonproliferation Studies

The Summer Undergraduate Internship in Nonproliferation Studies at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) is a paid internship. Interns will be compensated at the same rate as graduate research assistants

(\$9.00/hour) and will work with CNS staff members on substantive issues for one of the following Nonproliferation Programs: Newly Independent States; East Asia; Chemical and Biological Weapons; International Organizations; or the Nonproliferation Education Group. CNS's research interests also cover WMD Terrorism and Space Security Issues.

For details, see <http://www.idealists.org/en/internship/119096-274>.

Summer Internship: Project on Middle East Democracy

The Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that seeks to identify and inform a constituency in favor of more consistent and credible U.S. support for democracy in the Middle East. To pursue this goal, POMED provides policy briefs for Members of Congress and their staff, forums for constructive dialogue in Washington and the Middle East, and a weekly news digest highlighting trends in the region and in U.S. policy.

For details, see <http://www.idealists.org/en/internship/119091-108>.

Summer Internship: Global Trade Watch

Global Trade Watch is part of Public Citizen, the national environmental and consumer organization founded in 1971. Global Trade Watch monitors Congress and international institutions and fights for trade and other economic policies that promote sustainable development, human rights and economic justice.

For details, see <http://www.idealists.org/en/internship/119032-121>.

Summer Internship: Afropresencia.com

Afropresencia.com Inc is a corporation dedicated to the healthy sustainability of marginalized populations throughout the Americas. It has a specific interest in black populations. Through its website, Afropresencia.com Inc promotes activism and advocacy, both of which are conducted through the dissemination of news analysis, feature stories and commentary.

For details, see <http://www.idealists.org/en/internship/119020-84>.

Summer Internships: AFS Intercultural Programs

AFS Intercultural Programs is a worldwide, nonprofit organization that has been leading student exchange for more than 55 years. AFS was founded by volunteer ambulance drivers who survived World War I and II. They believed-as AFS believes today-that the way to build a more just and peaceful world begins when people from different countries and cultures meet, learn together, and better understand one another. The drivers sought to promote international understanding and peace through student exchanges. In 1947, AFS exchanged 52 young people to 11 countries formerly at war.

For a list of current internship opportunities, see <http://www.idealists.org/en/org/100759-33>.

Compiled by Traci Sebastian, traci@andrew.cmu.edu