

Global and International Relations Program Newsletter

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GLOBAL & IR PROGRAM EVENTS

World Affairs Trivia Competition

The World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh is celebrating its fifth year of WorldQuest! Join us on October 14, 2008, for an evening of fun, food, and friendly competition. Flex your competitive muscles while also promoting Pittsburgh’s diverse international communities!

If there is enough student interest, the Global and International Relations Program will sponsor a team to compete at WorldQuest. Last year’s winners were a team from Pitt’s University Center for International Studies—time for some friendly neighborhood competition!

Visit http://www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org/nu_upload/WorldQuest-Prep.ppt to learn more and see sample questions.

Students interested in participating should contact Traci Sebastian at traci@andrew.cmu.edu by Monday, September 15, 2008.

Lecture: “The Averaged American: Citizens and Statistics in the 20th Century”

Thursday, September 11, 2008

4:30pm

Adamson Wing (Baker Hall 136)

During an election year in which the public is subjected to daily political polls, it's difficult to imagine a time when collecting such data was impossible. In Carnegie Mellon University's annual Giler Humanities Lecture, University of Pennsylvania Associate Professor of History Sarah Igo will explore the evolution and significance of this endless stream of data points and its role in fields ranging from consumer marketing to politics.

Igo specializes in modern American cultural and intellectual history, the history of the human sciences, the sociology of knowledge and the history of the public sphere. She is the author of "The Averaged American: Surveys, Citizens and the Making of a Mass Public," which won the President's Book Award of the Social Science History Association and was a Slate Best Books of the Year Selection in 2006.

Sponsored by the Humanities Scholars program, along with the Science and Humanities Scholars program, the Department of Statistics, and the Global and International Relations Program, the Giler Humanities Lecture is funded by Carnegie Mellon alumni Kim and Eric Giler. The lecture is free and open to the public.

OTHER EVENTS

Lecture: "EU Budgetary Policy and Fiscal Federalism"

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

12:00pm

Posvar Hall 4130, University of Pittsburgh

This lecture is presented by Dr. Ivana Simikova of the Technical University of Liberec in The Czech Republic. Her lecture will introduce EU budgetary policies and their instruments, provide a comparison with the theory of fiscal federalism and provide proposals of possible changes in the current EU budgetary policy. For more information, contact Karen Lautanen: kal70@pitt.edu.

Luncheon/Discussion: "Staying Competitive in a Globalized World"

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

12:00pm – 1:45pm

The Duquesne Club, Walnut Room, 325 Sixth Ave., Downtown Pittsburgh

With quick advances in technology and the growing interconnectedness of a globalized world economy, how do companies stay competitive? Globalization offers various new market opportunities while presenting both large and small businesses with challenges to overcome if they plan to survive and, indeed, thrive in this ever-changing global economy.

As president of UPS International, Dan Brutto is responsible for all international package, freight forwarding and logistics businesses, as well as U.S. international package services. He is also a member of UPS's Management Committee, which is responsible for the day-to-day management of the company. Most recently, Mr. Brutto was president of Global Freight Forwarding for UPS, where he was responsible for air freight network management and global brokerage services.

In the 1990s, Dan Brutto was part of the UPS international Acquisition and Financial Integration team, where he was responsible for establishing UPS operations in 35 countries across Europe and Asia including the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia. He earned undergraduate degrees in business and accounting from Loyola University, and a master of business administration degree from the Keller Graduate School of Management.

For details or to register, visit <http://www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org/programs.jsp>.

Panel Discussion: “Transatlantic Perspectives on Health Care Reform: The EU and U.S. Compared”

Thursday, September 11, 2008

12:00pm

Posvar Hall 4130, University of Pittsburgh

This panel discussion will focus on reforming health care in European States as well as the United States and will feature Dr. Marc Smyrl, Dr. Beaufort Longest and Ms. Anne-Laure Beaussier. For more information, contact Karen Lautanen: kal70@pitt.edu.

Workshop: Salsa Lessons

Thursday, September 11, 2008

9:15pm - 10:15pm

Galleria, 1st Floor Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh

Free and open to the public. With instructor Marlon Silva! Other dates include September 18 & 25. For more information, contact Luz Amanda Hank: 412 648 7394, lavst12@pitt.edu.

Lecture: Thomas Friedman: “Pittsburgh and the Changing Global Economy”

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

8:00pm

Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Avenue

Three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times columnist and author, Thomas Friedman, will be the keynote speaker for the launch of the Pittsburgh Middle East Institute. He is an expert on the Middle East, globalization and the Green Revolution. His forthcoming book is *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*.

For tickets, visit the Heinz Hall box office or call 412-392-4900.

Conference: “Pittsburgh and the Middle East Gulf States: Forging Lasting Ties”

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

7:30am – 10:45am

Duquesne Club, 325 Sixth Avenue

Discover the growing opportunities for our region in developing partnerships with the Gulf States and elsewhere in the Middle East – in business, education, health care, service industries,

and cultural exchange. Learn about this increasingly important part of the world and how to operate in it. Join us for breakfast and enlightening presentations and panel discussions.

Keynote speaker: John Zogby, President & CEO of Zogby International & renowned pollster, introducing us to the region, its people, and their view of the world and of us.

Panel Discussion to follow:

Moderator: Glen Meakem, Co-founder & Managing Director, Meakem Becker Venture Capital
Ambassador David Aaron, Director, RAND Center for Middle East Public Policy
Charles Bogosta, President, UPMC International & Commercial Services Division, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Ambassador Wendy Chamberlin, President, Middle East Institute, Washington D.C.
Anton Germishuizen, Director and Vice President, Burt Hill
Mark Kamlet, Provost & Senior Vice President, Professor of Economics & Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University
Her Excellency Huda Ezra Ebrahim Nonoo, Ambassador from Bahrain to the U.S.

For details or to register, visit <http://www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org/programs.jsp>.

Dinner and Lecture: “Debating Conflict and Peace in Islamic Theology”

Sunday, September 21, 2008

6:00pm

William Pitt Student Union, University of Pittsburgh

The Pittsburgh Dialogue Foundation & The Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies (CERIS) invite you to attend the second annual Iftar Dinner with Guest Lecture by Dr. Zeki Saritoprak, Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies at John Carroll University.

*Iftar refers to the evening meal for breaking the daily fast during the Islamic month of Ramadan. (Please note Dr. Saritoprak will present prior to the breaking of the fast at 7:20 PM)

Professor Saritoprak holds a Ph.D. in Islamic Theology from the University of Marmara, Turkey, where he also earned his B.A. in Divinity and master’s degree in Islamic Theology and Philosophy. Additionally, Saritoprak attended Al-Azhar University in Cairo for several years while conducting research for his dissertation. He is the founder and honorary president of the Rumi Forum for Interfaith Dialogue in Washington, D.C. Saritoprak has conducted research and taught courses at Harran University Turkey, Georgetown University, the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and Berry College in Rome, Georgia.

Please RSVP by September 15, 2008 to events@pghdialogue.org

Lecture: “The Big Squeeze: Tough Times for the American Worker”

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

4:30pm -6:20pm

Gregg Hall (Porter 100)

Steven Greenhouse has been the labor and workplace correspondent for The New York Times since 1995. He has covered business, economics, and foreign affairs for the Times and has been a correspondent based in Paris, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.

His new book, *THE BIG SQUEEZE*, takes a fresh, probing, and often shocking look at the stresses and strains faced by tens of millions of American workers as wages have stagnated, health and pension benefits have grown stingier, and job security has shriveled. Going behind the scenes, Steven Greenhouse tells the stories of software engineers in Seattle, hotel housekeepers in Chicago, call center workers in New York, and janitors in Houston, as he explores why, in the world's most affluent nation, so many corporations are intent on squeezing their workers dry. We meet all kinds of workers: white collar and blue collar, high tech and low tech, middle income and low income; employees who stock shelves during a hurricane while locked inside their store, get fired after suffering debilitating injuries on the job, face egregious sexual harassment, and get laid off when their companies move high-tech operations abroad. We also meet young workers having a hard time starting out and seventy-year-old workers with too little money saved up to retire.

The book explains how economic, business, political, and social trends - among them globalization, the influx of immigrants, and the Wal-Mart effect - have fueled the squeeze. We see how the social contract between employers and employees, guaranteeing steady work and good pensions, has eroded over the last three decades, damaged by massive layoffs of factory and office workers and Wall Street's demands for ever-higher profits. In short, the post-World War II social contract that helped build the world's largest and most prosperous middle class has been replaced by a startling contradiction: corporate profits, economic growth, and worker productivity have grown strongly while worker pay has languished and Americans face ever-greater pressures to work harder and longer. Greenhouse also examines companies that are generous to their workers and can serve as models for all of corporate America: Costco, Patagonia, and the casino-hotels of Las Vegas among them. Finally, he presents a series of pragmatic, ready-to-be-implemented suggestions on what government, business, and labor should do to alleviate the squeeze.

This lecture is part of the University Lecture Series.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: STUDY ABROAD

Essay Competition for Study Abroad Returnees

NAFSA: Association of International Educators and "Abroad View," the global education magazine for students, are hosting an essay contest for your chance to become the next Student Diplomat. You are invited to submit a compelling story that articulates how your undergraduate international experience(s) has helped meet the United States' need to understand global situations and compete in the global arena. Please address one of the following questions in your essay:

1. **SHAPING YOUR IDENTITY:** How has your study abroad experience informed the way you view yourself as an American and as a global citizen?

2. FOREIGN POLICY: Based on your experience overseas, how do you think study abroad promotes mutual understanding with other countries and cultures to advance U.S. foreign policy?

3. COUNTERING ANTI-AMERICANISM ABROAD: How did your experiences and/or interactions studying abroad further cross-cultural understanding between your host country and the United States or perhaps correct a misperception within your host country about the United States and/or Americans?

Eligibility: The Student Diplomat Essay Competition is open to U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents who have had an undergraduate study abroad experience, whether they are currently enrolled through an accredited college or university or have studied abroad since spring of 2004.

Terms: All submissions will be considered for publication by “Abroad View” and NAFSA: Association of International Educators. The winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$150 and an STA Travel voucher worth \$300.

Guidelines: Essays should be a minimum of 1,000 words and no more than 1,500 words. The deadline for entries is November 14, 2008. Earlier submissions are welcome, as they will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

All essays must include the following to be considered: Full contact name, complete contact information with e-mail address, college or alma mater, and your study abroad program along with the year you studied abroad. E-mail your essay to studentdiplomat@nafsa.org. For further information, or to read the past winners’ essays, please visit www.nafsa.org/studentdiplomat.

FOR FACULTY

Call for Papers: 9th European Conference on e-Government

This is the Second call for papers for the 9th European Conference on e-Government, being held at the Westminster Business School (University of Westminster, London, UK), on the 29-30 June 2009.

As governments seek to remodel and restyle their services, e-Government continues to arouse interest and attention. New dynamic issues such as e-democracy, e-citizenship, e-Identity and e-voting have become core elements in the development of public sector delivery. The multi-tier nature of e-Government, relevant at local government, central government but also at the supranational level such as the European Union, makes it of importance to academics and practitioners alike. Vital questions are posed which link technological development and a streamlining of government services to more social based values of inclusion, accessibility and power relationship ratios

e-Government encompasses more than just technology – it challenges the way in which public sector service providers and citizens interact. Democratic renewal, the transformation of service

delivery, community leadership and citizenship integration are all key elements of this fascinating subject.

You can see the full call for papers is available online at
<http://academic-conferences.org/eceg/eceg2009/eceg09-call-papers.htm>

Abstracts are required in the first instance and should be submitted by 8th December 2008 via the online form at
<http://academic-conferences.org/eceg/eceg2009/eceg09-abstract-submission.htm>

*Compiled by Traci Sebastian, Global and International Relations Program.
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