

# Global and International Relations Program Newsletter

## June 2009

### In this issue:

#### Events

Conference: "Accessibility in the Context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Transatlantic Perspectives" (6/12)

#### Announcements: Study Abroad

Study Abroad Photo Contest

#### Announcements: Careers/Internships

Foreign Service to Expand in the Coming Years

Summer Internship in India

Spring 2010 State Department Internships

Foreign Service Security Technical Specialist

PRIA International Internship Programme

#### Announcements: Conferences/Publications

Communication Symposium: "Global Teaching, Global Learning" (6/29-7/1)

2009 Youth Assembly at the United Nations

18<sup>th</sup> International Youth Leadership Conference in Prague

Conference: "Israel/Palestine: Mapping Models of Statehood and Paths to Peace"

Third Annual Fostering Global Citizenship in Higher Education Conference

International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy

#### For Faculty

2010-11 Fellowship Opportunity at Durham University's Institute of Advanced Study

## EVENTS

### Conference: "Accessibility in the Context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Transatlantic Perspectives"

Friday, June 12, 2009

8:00am - 5:00pm

Thornburgh Room, 1st Floor, Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh

This policy conference will explore transatlantic perspectives on accessibility in the context of the practical implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The conference will explore the Convention's emphasis on accessibility from a human rights perspective. The issue of accessibility will be given prominence in this transatlantic dialogue as it is crucial for the implementation of the convention's human rights dimension. The link between human rights and accessibility will provide the background for the discussion. The built environment, transport, and Information & Communication, including Information and Communication Technology (ICT), are vital for such implementation, and provide a focal point for the discussion. The promotion of global standards and possible U.S.-EU cooperation in this area will be discussed. A goal of the conference is to be a platform for discussion related to the work of the on-going EU-U.S. dialogue on accessibility as well as the more political dimensions of the convention in relation to accessibility and the ratification

process. The convention has been signed by the Member States of the EU but has not yet been ratified.

For more information, contact Karen Lautanen: [kal70@pitt.edu](mailto:kal70@pitt.edu).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS: STUDY ABROAD**

### **Study Abroad Photo Contest**

Do you have a photo that depicts an interesting fashion style abroad? Share it with us, and you just might win a \$250 travel voucher, courtesy of STA Travel.

But hurry -- the deadline is coming up on June 30. Enter at <http://glimpse.org/contests/submit/>.

Want to check out your competition? <http://glimpse.org/contests/>.

We hope to hear from you, and good luck!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS: SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS**

*For scholarships/fellowships related to study abroad, please see “Announcements: Study Abroad.”*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS: CAREERS/INTERNSHIPS**

### **Foreign Service to Expand in the Coming Years**

Sources at the State Department indicate that they are looking to double the size of the Foreign Service – from something along the lines of 11,000 to 22,000 people – over the next few years. They are specifically focused on management, consular and economic positions. Therefore, it is a great time for interested students to apply for the Foreign Service. It is possible to take the Foreign Service Exam prior to graduation (there are test sites in Pittsburgh, around the US, and internationally), which is a good idea as it usually takes at least a year or two to get through the application and testing process and get an assignment.

Specific info can be found at: <http://careers.state.gov/officer/index.html>.

### **Summer Internship in India**

What are you going to do this summer? Make the most of it and empower women by doing a work placement in India!

Prime Trust is a rapidly growing Indian based non-governmental organization (NGO) formed in 2002. The organization is based in Puducherry (formerly Pondicherry), Southern India. We strive to empower women and create social change.

We encourage and support the women to form Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and offer financial support through microfinancing. We believe that education and guidance is an important part of their success. For this reason, we have set up awareness programs to talk about issues that affect their life. Programs include HIV/AIDS, health and nutrition, women's rights, and domestic violence.

Education is not only important for the women in the community, but their children too. Our remedial school program in the slums of Pondicherry is aimed at helping children get a better education.

The NGO consists of six staff members and four trustees, including two Dutch trustees. Besides this, Prime Trust depends on the help of volunteers and interns that can help with our activities.

Currently we are looking for:

- volunteers or interns to work on our the Domestic Violence campaign
- volunteers or interns to work on our the Nutrition campaign
- volunteers or interns to work on our the HIV-AIDS campaign

Tasks within the Campaign:

- Arrange awareness meetings and speak on the topic with the help of our staff members
- Write proposals to expand the program
- Look for partner organizations to conduct the program with
- Develop evaluation methods to measure the effectiveness of a campaign (only available for long-term volunteers and interns)

NB The precise tasks will be decided in accordance with the volunteer/intern and can be adjusted if needed. You can also work on an assignment that we can put into words together.

Requirements:

- You are independent, undertaking and you have good communicative skills
- You have cultural empathy
- You have affinity with development work
- You have affinity with international cooperation
- A minimum age of 18 years old

We offer:

- An amazing experience in a development country
- Work experience at a registered NGO
- You will be part of an international and interdisciplinary team
- Terrific guidance
- Cheap housing

Are you interested to work for us for a minimum period of two weeks? Please send a letter of motivation and your CV to Mr Arasu, director of Prime Trust ([admin@primetrust.org](mailto:admin@primetrust.org)). Please let us know when you are available. For more information (including our terms and conditions), please check our website [www.primetrust.org](http://www.primetrust.org).

## **Spring 2010 State Department Internships**

The U.S. Department of State is now accepting applications for its 2010 Spring Student Internship Program.

Visit <http://careers.state.gov/students/programs.html#SIP> for more information and to start the online application process. Please note that the deadline to submit completed applications is July 1, 2009.

You must be a U.S. Citizen and a student (a full- or part-time continuing college or university junior, or graduate student - including graduating seniors intending to go on to graduate school) to be eligible. Please read the program description and vacancy announcement for more information.

## **Foreign Service Security Technical Specialist**

The Department of State is now accepting applications for Foreign Service Security Technical Specialist positions. Visit <http://careers.state.gov/specialist/opportunities/sectech.html> for more information, and to start the application process.

Potential applicants are strongly urged to read this entire vacancy announcement to ensure they meet all of the requirements for this position and fully understand the special circumstances involving a career in the Foreign Service before applying.

All applicants must be American citizens and at least 20 years old to apply and at least 21 years of age to be appointed. All career candidates must be appointed to the Foreign Service prior to the month in which they reach 60 (preference eligible veterans excepted).

## **PRIA International Internship Programme**

PRIA proudly announces the PRIA International Internship Programme (PIIP) from 31 August 2009-23 October 2009.

The PRIA International Internship Programme ( PIIP) aims at providing students and other individuals from across the globe an unparalleled opportunity to participate in a programme which brings them face to face with the realities of development in the Indian context, from a grassroots perspective. Through this experience the programme will assist students to expand their professional and personal horizons . Sharing of experiences of other countries and processes will only serve to enrich the learning of each individual.

The PRIA International Internship Programme ( PIIP) has its background in PRIA's rich experiences with a range of individuals who have come to PRIA as interns over the past ten years. The learning experiences of these interns both professionally, as well as the impact it has had on their personal lives, have been a major factor in us developing this course. Besides this, several requests from individuals to organize a structured internship which could offer them

credits has also been a motivating factor for PRIA to follow this as part of their Continuing Education Unit.

For more information kindly write to [education@pria.org](mailto:education@pria.org)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS: CONFERENCES/PUBLICATIONS**

### **Communication Symposium: “Global Teaching, Global Learning”**

June 29 – July 1, 2009

Please join us for this year’s Communication Symposium on June 29, 30, and July 1 (Mon-Wed) and let us know you’re coming!

Our theme is “Global Teaching, Global Learning,” and our guest speakers (and expert resources!) include Jodi Crandall from the University of Maryland (UMBC) and Vivian Zamel from the University of Massachusetts in Boston (UMass Boston).

Visit <http://english.cmu.edu/research/symposium/index.html> for brief information about the symposium.

The schedule is still in process, but here is a brief overview.

On Monday June 29—Admissions in Doha & Pittsburgh, talk by Jodi Crandall, and afternoon discussions about how we understand and interpret “culture” for designing academic and metacurricular experiences.

On Tuesday, June 30—Talk by Vivian Zamel, discussions about how our pedagogies interact with multilingual students’ needs in the global teaching and learning context.

On Wednesday, July 1—Presentations and discussions about understanding literacy as developmental across the curriculum and across the 4 undergraduate years. Wrap up by Jodi Crandall.

If you have questions about the program, please email the symposium coordinator Danielle Wetzel ([dfz@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:dfz@andrew.cmu.edu)).

\*\*Please send your RSVP to Emily McCall ([emccall@cmu.edu](mailto:emccall@cmu.edu)), the Symposium Co-Coordinator.\*\*

### **2009 Youth Assembly at the United Nations**

The 6th Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations (August 5-7, 2009) gathers hundreds of youth delegates from dozens of countries around the world to the UN Headquarters in New York City who are interested in identifying pressing global issues and working towards enacting positive change. The Youth Assembly is planned in full partnership with the United Nations Department of Public Information, with programme planning support from the UN Programme

on Youth. The Assembly has grown to become one of the largest gathering of young people on the United Nations annual calendar.

The mission of the Youth Assembly is to inspire young people to make a difference in United Nations renewal by giving them the opportunity to learn and get involved with programs aimed at youth leadership and the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

We are currently inviting student to apply to participate in discussions of how young individuals, institutions, and organizations could make a difference in fulfilling the goals of the UN while developing their own personal careers through youth led development.

This event, free after registration, is preceded by an optional, extensive Leadership Seminar and followed by a social program for getting to know New York City and continuing the networking with new global friends and colleagues.

For more information, visit our website at [www.faf.org/hl\\_youthassembly.htm](http://www.faf.org/hl_youthassembly.htm). The website includes packages available for those who wish to stay in our accommodations with other participants and all other registration and program detail information.

### **18<sup>th</sup> International Youth Leadership Conference in Prague**

Over 50 participants have already secured their places at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Youth Leadership Conference. These students represent various universities from 20 different countries, namely Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Canada, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Pakistan, Puerto Rico, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. With new applications coming in each day and accepted participants confirming their spots, we are expecting even more countries to be represented at the conference.

Students interested in the opportunity should apply as soon as possible, as the deadlines are approaching and the spots are quickly filled. Applications can be submitted online at [www.czechleadership.com](http://www.czechleadership.com).

The facilitators at this conference are Andreas from Norway, Ayushma from Nepal, Beatrix from France/Switzerland, Lwandile from South Africa, Manuel from Mexico/Costa Rica, Nate from the US, Tom from the UK and Victoria from the UK/Kenya.

The 18th IYLC will be featuring several guest speakers. We have just received a confirmation from Nqobizitha Mlilo, spokesman for Zimbabwe's MDC and aide to Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai. This is very exciting news, and we hope that the participants will have an opportunity to gain the first-hand knowledge about the situation in Zimbabwe and other African countries.

The up-to-date conference schedule can be found on our web-site at [www.czechleadership.com/itinerary.php](http://www.czechleadership.com/itinerary.php). To learn more about the subjects we will be discussing

and people we will be meeting during the conference, please visit [www.czechleadership.com/agenda.php](http://www.czechleadership.com/agenda.php).

As we are trying to limit the number of mass e-mails we send out, we will be posting more news on our blog at <http://czechleadership.com/blog>. We will also be increasing our presence on social networks, including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. More information is here: <http://czechleadership.com/blog/?p=254>.

### **Conference: "Israel/Palestine: Mapping Models of Statehood and Paths to Peace"**

June 22-24, 2009, Toronto, Canada

The purpose of this conference is to explore which state model would be the best to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, respecting the rights to self-determination of both Israelis/Jews and Palestinians. Despite the current diplomatic focus on the two-state model, the continued failure to bring peace to the region highlights the necessity of rigorously examining all options for a resolution of the conflict. The conference seeks to systematically measure the two-state model against the promise of alternatives; very specifically the potential in the model of a single bi-national state.

The central goal of the conference is to focus a scholarly lens on a wide range of issues pertaining to one and two state models. These would include, among other relevant topics, possible federal and parallel state models, democracy and constitutional design, immigration and refugee return policies, resource allocation, gender and nationalism, and the role of religion. Mindful of the fraught context in which debates relating to Israel/Palestine unfold, this conference aims to open up a measured and thoughtful conversation on the range of possible paths out of the current impasse.

Conference program is now available on the website <http://www.yorku.ca/ipconf/Program.html>

The conference is co-sponsored by Queen's University and York University.  
An official U50 initiative, part of York University's 50th Anniversary celebrations.

for details about registration please visit the conference website:  
<http://www.yorku.ca/ipconf/registration.html>.

As conference space is limited, priority will be given to full-time faculty and graduate students with demonstrated scholarly interests in the subject-matter of the conference.

### **Third Annual Fostering Global Citizenship in Higher Education Conference**

October 5-6, 2009

The Vermont Campus Compact and World Learning/SIT Study Abroad are hosting the third annual Fostering Global Citizenship in Higher Education conference to be held October 5-6, 2009, in Brattleboro, Vermont, for campus teams and individuals interested and engaged in fostering global citizenship in higher education.

The conference will be held on the campus of World Learning/SIT Study Abroad in Brattleboro, Vermont, on Monday, October 5, and will engage participants in a variety of interactive workshops, plenary sessions, facilitated working groups, and action planning sessions. Participants will explore global citizenship and the means of promoting it on campuses, share practical applications and strategies for fostering global citizenship and enhance strategies for cross-campus collaboration.

Who should attend: Campus teams made up of study abroad/international education offices, service-learning/community service offices, cross-cultural offices, student services, career services, academic affairs, faculty members, and other interested parties

Anticipated outcomes for campus teams include:

- Exploring global citizenship and the means of promoting it on our campuses
- Sharing and discussing practical applications and strategies for fostering global citizenship
- Developing strategies for cross-departmental collaboration
- Developing national networks for ongoing support for these efforts

On Tuesday, October 6th, a day of post conference institutes will be held and 4 extended workshops will be offered for faculty and staff engaged in designing or supporting curriculum or projects with a global focus. Topics for the institutes include global citizenship and sustainability, re-entry, reflection, and curriculum integration of global issues.

This conference is sponsored by World Learning/SIT Study Abroad and Vermont Campus Compact, with co-sponsorship from Middlebury College and the University of Vermont.

For questions or additional information, please contact:

[www.vtcampuscompact.org/2009/2009\\_Fostering\\_Global.htm](http://www.vtcampuscompact.org/2009/2009_Fostering_Global.htm).

### **International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy**

Berlin, 27th – 31st July, 2009

The International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy will bring together young leaders from across the world for a program of lectures, panel discussions, and seminars lead by leading figures from international relations. The following are a selection of the speakers during the Symposium:

- Jorge Sampaio, UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, Former President of Portugal
- Joaquim Chissano, Former President of Mozambique, Former Chairperson of the African Union
- Dr. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga, Former President of Latvia
- Cassam Uteem, Former, President of the Republic of Mauritius
- Dr. Erkki Tuomioja, Former Foreign Minister of Finland
- Borys Tarasyuk, Former Foreign Minister of the Ukraine
- Samuel Jones, Head of Culture, Demos
- Prof. Dr. Joseph S. Nye Jr. \*, Distinguished Service Professor, Harvard University (\*video lecture)

- Prof. Dr. Cynthia Schneider, Former US Ambassador to the Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Christian Armbrüster, Judge and Professor in Law, Free University Berlin

Further information about the International Symposium can be found at [www.culturaldiplomacy.org/symposium](http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/symposium).

Enquiries concerning the Symposium should be made to [symposium@culturaldiplomacy.org](mailto:symposium@culturaldiplomacy.org)

The International Symposium is open to applications from students and young professionals with an active interest in international relations.

The program for the International Symposium will consist of five days of lectures, seminars and panel discussions with leading figures from the political, diplomatic, academic and civil society spheres.

## **FOR FACULTY**

### **2010-11 Fellowship Opportunity at Durham University's Institute of Advanced Study**

The Durham Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) is an ideas-based institute launched in October 2006 as a forum for high-level inter- and multi-disciplinary debate on major themes. The aim of the Institute is to produce new thinking about ideas that change the world through dialogue among and between scholars and intellectuals in different disciplines, and to communicate this thinking to the wider academic community, policymakers and the public in general. At its core lies a generously funded UK and international fellowship programme. It allows the IAS to gather the world's finest scholars and non-academics from the full spectrum of science, social science, arts and humanities disciplines to address themes of global significance.

We are very keen that the Institute's fellowship program attracts the very best scholars from across the world. There are two types of fellowship available: "fast-track" for early- to mid-career academics and "distinguished" for mid- to late-career academics. Each fellowship bestows its recipient with an honorarium (£2-3,000), a travel allowance, accommodation, and money to buy them out from their teaching if this is necessary in order for them to be able to accept the fellowship (up to £8,000).

There are up to 20 fellowships available and each is for a three month period (either October-December 2010 or January-March 2011) and most, but not all, will be awarded to individuals whose research provides the best fit with the Institute's annual theme. During their stay, in addition to pursuing their research, fellows are required to engage with each other and with staff at Durham, deliver a public lecture and an IAS seminar, and work on an IAS web-based publication of circa 5,000 words.

The Institute's annual theme for 2010-11 will be "Futures" with the potential for research to be carried out in areas concerning the prediction of the future, attempts to sustain the future, the various ways in which the future is represented in the arts, the effect the past has on our experiences now and in the future, and how the future is conceptualized to name a few. We think

this theme will be of great interest to a wide range of scholars from across all disciplines. The closing date for applications is 14 June 2009.

Full details can be obtained from the Institute's website: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/ias/fellows/apply/>.

---

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

*Items are included in this newsletter for informational purposes only; inclusion in the newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by the Global and International Relations Program.*

*To subscribe, unsubscribe, or submit items, email [traci@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:traci@andrew.cmu.edu).*

*For archived issues of the newsletter, visit <http://www.cmu.edu/ir/newsevents-archive.html>.*