

International Studies Program ~ Spring 2016 Update

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Chairperson ~ International Studies Advisory Board, 2015-2016 AY
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This bulletin is directed to all ISU faculty and administrators affiliated with the International Studies Program. Its purpose is to:

- Report on the number of students in the IS Program and other developments,
- Inform the Affiliated Faculty about actions taken over the past year by the IS Advisory Board (IS-AB),
- Report the results of our spring elections to governance positions and other personnel changes,
- Announce student awards and program completions,
- Raise issues currently facing the governance in International Studies,
- Generally raise awareness about International Studies among the relevant faculty.

Program Growth and Development, Sponsored Events

Students

The number of students enrolled in the IS Minor (as of March 2016) held steady at around 31. (On-going problems in the Office of Registration and Records have obstructed making a definitive count.)

We believe there is considerable scope for increasing the number of students in the program because it is such a great complement to a wide variety of major fields of study. Toward that end, plans are in place to participate in the Study Abroad Fairs during the 2016-2017 academic year, and to approach students and faculty in the College of Business in a recruiting effort. We will continue working with the ROTC cadets, emphasizing to them that military careers can be enhanced with a background in International Studies.

Speakers Series and Other Events

We hosted a second International Studies Speakers Series in the spring, with a total of three public lectures.

23 September ~ Erik Scott, Professor of History at the University of Kansas, spoke on: *Familiar Strangers: The Georgian Diaspora and the Evolution of Soviet Empire*.
Co-sponsored with the ISU Center for Global Engagement.

25 February ~ Zhanna Chernova, Professor of Sociology at the Higher School of Economics, Saint Petersburg, Russia spoke on: *Work and Family Balance in Contemporary Russia*.
Co-sponsored with the ISU Department of Social Work, and the ISU Gender Studies Program in the Dept. of Multidisciplinary Studies.

21 April ~ Paul Josephson, Professor of History at Colby College, spoke on: *Big Dams, Big Danger Why Modern States Destroy the Landscape in the Name of Progress*.
Co-sponsored with the ISU Department of Earth and Environmental Systems.

All of these speakers came to campus through the support of the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University – Bloomington. We hope to continue this collaboration in the coming academic year.

The International Studies leaders were approached by faculty in the Department of Political Science seeking support for an International Conference on Cuban Affairs in collaboration with the University of Havana. Look for an announcement in the fall with details of scheduling and participants. The conference will bring several Cuban academics to the ISU campus.

We are also collaborating with Ruth Fairbanks (Gender Studies and History) to present a panel discussion on the *Political and Economic Implications of Brexit* in the fall semester.

Advisory Board Actions

New Master List of International Studies Courses

A thorough inventory and vetting of the complete Undergraduate Catalog was completed by the IS-AB. We now have a definitive list of courses with sufficient international content to constitute an acceptable elective toward the Minor in International Studies.

Curricular Policy Statements

Two Curricular Policy Statements were approved to clarify provisions in the International Studies Program.

- Research Paper in Lieu of Study Abroad for the International Studies Minor
- Capstone Course ~ IS 490 – Provisions for Administration of the Course

These are available on the International Studies website.

Curricular Housekeeping

We completed minor housekeeping to streamline and consolidate International Studies courses in the ISU catalog.

Fall 2016 Conference on Cuban Affairs

The IS-AB voted to recommend that our home department (Department of Multidisciplinary Studies) provide funding to support this conference.

New Publicity Materials

Updated versions of a publicity poster and handbill for the Minor in International Studies was approved and have not been printed.

Workshop on Academic Advising for International Studies

James Gustafson will lead a workshop on academic advising for the Minor in International Studies early in the fall semester. In addition to a few members of the IS Affiliated Faculty, the workshop will include three advisors from University College who will become liaisons between UC and the International Studies Program.

New People in International Studies Roles

New Affiliated Faculty

During the past academic year six ISU faculty member joined the IS Affiliated Faculty.

Donna Selman, D. of Multidisciplinary Studies, College of Arts & Sciences

Lisa Decker, D. of Criminology and Criminal Justice, College of Arts & Sciences

Tad Foster, D. of Human Resource Development and Performance Technologies, College of Technology

Charles Norman, D. of Multidisciplinary Studies, College of Arts & Sciences

Ann Ledbetter, D. of Communication, College of Arts & Sciences

Cody Hanson, D. of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, College of Arts & Sciences

International Studies Advisory Board Members

Terms on the IS-AB are ending for Melanie D'Amico, Don Richards, and Sala Wong. The International Studies Affiliated Faculty elected the following members to fill these vacated seats:

Lisa Decker, Associate Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Cody Hanson, Assistant Professor of Spanish and Latin American Literature

Michael Chambers, Professor of Political Science

Awards, Scholarships and Minor Completions

The IS Advisory Board selected three students for recognition and support awards.

International Studies Expert Award ~ **Steven Middleton**

Major: Aviation Management Minors: Military Leadership, International Studies

International Studies Ambassador ~ **Elinor Balensuela**

Major: English Minors: Creative Writing, Communication, International Studies

International Studies Study Abroad Scholarship ~ **Sara Young**, to study in Japan for fall 2016

Majors: Packing Engineering Technology, Language Studies – Japanese

Minors: Lean Six Sigma, International Studies

The following students completed their Senior Projects for IS – 490 and thus the International Studies Minor requirements.

Elinor Balensuela Department of English

Ethan Davis Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics

Steven Middleton Department of Aviation Technology

Future Issues Needing Attention

Recruitment ~ Students and Faculty

There is considerable scope for expansion in the number of ISU students who declare the IS Minor. We should encourage more to do so. This minor is complementary to a broad range of major programs of study. Please help to spread the word on what we offer students to expand their perspective and make them stronger applicants for employment.

We also seek to have broader engagement with faculty in the professional colleges of ISU. I am aware of several faculty members in the Colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Services and Technology who have international interests and experience that could make substantive contributions to the International Studies Program. You probably know some as well. Encourage them to engage with us.