Center for Global Studies Receives $2.2 million Title VI Grant from US Department of Education

By Edward A. Kolodziej, CGS Director

First the good news: Under Title VI the U.S. Department of Education (USED) awarded the Center for Global Studies a four-year grant of $2.2 million for the period 2010-14. Also renewed for four years is its status as a National Resource Center in Global Studies.

Each year the Center will have $300,000 to support UIUC’s research, teaching, and outreach missions in global studies as well as $255,000 for graduate and undergraduate Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships.

Thanks to the strength of UIUC faculty and units in international and global studies as well as the depth of language instruction, CGS achieved a score of 465 out of 480 points (97%) for its substantive proposals and an almost perfect score of 99% for its FLAS program. These scores were the highest of the 20 universities competing for NRC status for international/global studies, of which 12 were awarded grants by USED. CGS was also accorded the largest grant among these NRC awardees.

The application process is very complicated. An enormous amount of data about global studies, including faculty, courses, degree programs, university support, library resources, etc. have to be assembled to address eleven Title VI evaluative measures. Steve Witt, the Associate Director, performed a miracle in consolidating these data from numerous databases and presenting them in reader-friendly displays, all within 45 pages of narrative.

The accompanying figure summarizes CGS’ application. The central theme around which five UIUC “Clusters of Excellence” in global studies were identified was Sustainable Economic Development and the Environment. This is a central concern of global studies research that addresses the current sociopolitical, economic and environmental development needs of the world’s populations in tandem with a concern for preserving resources for future generations. Intersecting arenas of CGS-supported research include Security & Natural Resource Conflict; Rule of Law and Human Rights; Global Studies as a Field of Study; and Global Studies Informatics.

Some highlights may illustrate the scope of sustainable development on this campus. CGS will provide support for the development of new courses in departments and units across campus: to service a new major launched by the recently created School of Earth, Society and the Environment in LAS; ACES immersion programs in Sierra Leone and Costa Rica, designed to

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Global Studies Research & Training

Profesional Development for Faculty and K-12 Educators

To receive advance registration information about teacher training workshops, please subscribe to the K-12 Global Education listserv: http://cgs.illinois.edu/about/signup

Seeing Eye to Eye: Bringing International, National & Local Perspectives to Social Studies

Illinois Council for Social Studies

April 15, 2011 at the University of Illinois

To present or to register: www.illinoiscss.org.

Exploring Global Citizenship through Humanitarian Law

Global Studies Forum

April 16, 2011 at the University of Illinois

Organized with the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross. To present or to register: www.illinoiscss.org.

Responsibility to Protect: Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law

2011 International Summer Institute

July 25-29, 2011 at the University of Illinois

Organized with the International Services Division of the American Red Cross

The annual International Summer Institutes are co-sponsored by the National Resource Centers for Area Studies at the University of Illinois and are open to faculty at post-secondary institutions and K-12 teachers. For registration information: http://i2i.illinois.edu/

CGS Visiting Scholar for 2010-11

Jianzheng Zhang

Jianzheng Zhang is Associate Professor at Jilin University, China. His research interests lie in international economics (focusing primarily on East Asian economic development) and rural Chinese economics. He is researching international monetary system reform and international regional financial cooperation.

CfP: Funding Available for Prisms of Globalization Lecture Series for 2011-12

The Center for Global Studies invites faculty and units to develop an interdisciplinary series of Prisms of Globalization lectures for non-specialist audiences of faculty, students and the general public.

The Prisms of Globalization Lectures address innovative research on global issues confronting the world's populations and identify ways to manage or resolve these challenges. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, Sustainable Economic Development and the Environment; Security and Natural Resource Conflict; Rule of Law and Human Rights; Global Studies Informatics; and Global Studies Education.

Prisms lectures highlight the research of campus faculty and support invited lectures by national and international experts.

Applications should be developed and submitted by at least two faculty, preferably from more than one disciplinary or professional unit to encourage multidisciplinary and multiprofessional cooperation. Proposals should include a minimum of two lectures on a unified theme, with a preference for semester-long series of three lectures, or year-long series of six lectures.

Successful applicants will be expected to write a brief article (approximately 1,300 words) on the theme of the lecture series for the Center for Global Studies Policy Brief publication.

Funding support for a year-long series provides up to $5,000 for travel and honoraria for visiting speakers, video conferencing, reading group materials, and promotion. The lecture series will be featured on the CGS website. All lectures will be videotaped and streamed on the CGS website, subject to the speaker's consent. The Center for Global Studies will serve as the administrator of these lectures and provide logistical support for the programs of awardees.

Funded activities may begin any time after August 20, 2011 and must be completed by May 4th, 2012.

Questions or requests for additional information should be addressed to either Edward A. Kolodziej, Center for Global Studies Director (edkoloj@illinois.edu), or Steve Witt, Associate Director (swwitt@illinois.edu), ph: 265-5186.

The call for proposals and application requirements may be found on the CGS website: http://cgs.illinois.edu/news/prisms-globalization-lecture-series-call-proposals
Recent Books by Faculty Affiliates of the Center for Global Studies


Covering subjects ranging from treaties and dispute settlement to the environment, human rights, and war crimes, this anthology reveals the influence of international law on political behavior. Updates include chapters on terrorism, humanitarian intervention, and the International Criminal Court, new international actors, and the importance of domestic political factors in international law and compliance.


Witt and Rudasill edited a volume that explores the interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary aspects of the social sciences, and the impact of changes in the social sciences on the organization and dissemination of information and knowledge. Contributed essays address Disciplinary and Organizational Shifts, Data Services, and Developing Social Networks.


The editors of this volume ask what advances the arts and sciences, and what role does creative thinking play as a driver of economic production and social policy in post-industrial societies. Essays in the volume explore the collective, social and global dimension of human imagining, and the ambivalent relationship of social institutions, including universities, schools, economies, media and culture industries, to the collective imagination.


Qualitative researchers are increasingly called upon to become human rights advocates, to help individuals and communities honor the sanctity of life, and promote privacy, justice, freedom, peace, and human dignity. Papers from the Fifth International of Qualitative Inquiry in 2009, offer examples of human rights work being done by scholar/activists in the social sciences, education, health care, social services, cultural studies, and other fields.
train graduate students in agricultural development; an online course on ecosystem health and sustainable agriculture with Veterinary Medicine; and with the Environment Change Institute to promote global studies of environmental and ecological issues.

The second cluster focuses on global security and national resource conflicts. This will lead to new courses in Geography on resource conflicts and in Engineering on issues associated with global and regional distribution of energy. Key faculty developing these initiatives include, respectively, Colin Flint (Geography) and Clifford Singer (Nuclear Engineering). This cluster will also support an interdisciplinary faculty team to teach global security through the humanities.

The third cluster addresses issues of international law, business, and human rights. This is a particularly ambitious project jointly supported by CGS and its sister NRC at Indiana University. Work will also begin on developing a Certificate in Global Legal Studies as well as a conference on comparative juvenile justice systems. As for outreach, workshops are planned with the American Red Cross on issues of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights in cooperation with NRCs at the University of North Carolina, the University of Washington, and the University of Wisconsin.

The fourth cluster supports work to develop global studies as a field of study. Within this rubric CGS will support online courses to assist students to complete a Global Labor Studies Degree; and launch a new graduate minor in global studies, anchored by a graduate seminar in global governance that will be taken by all FLAS students in the spring of each year. Thanks to the cooperation of the University Librarian, Paula Kaufman, CGS will add to its staff a full-time Global Studies Librarian, Professor Lynne Rudasill, the first such post in the country.

The final cluster concerns global studies in library and information sciences. Programs include a new course in global information policy, further development of a unique global reference service to hunt down foreign materials in requested by scholars, and the development of media professionals in reporting on foreign affairs and global issues.

Some measure of the penetration of CGS into the academic life of the campus is suggested by its active involvement in supporting 37 units from 11 colleges and institutes. Over the 2010-14 grant cycle, CGS also projects the creation of 24 undergraduate and 23 graduate courses, and advanced language instruction in Arabic, Persian, and Turkish.

The latter point is especially important for Title VI grantees. The Title VI grant privileges the development of language instruction, notably for Less Commonly Taught Languages, and of associated cultures. CGS received over 80 applications for FLAS Fellowships. It awarded 12 graduate and 4 undergraduate FLAS fellowships for the study of Arabic, Hebrew, Hindi, Swahili, and Wolof.

CGS is especially keen to encourage students in the professional schools to apply for FLAS fellowships to further the aim of producing professionals in the sciences, medicine, law, and business who have language competence at a high level of proficiency to assist their careers and leadership in their fields. I invite you to read the profiles of the CGS FLAS recipients on the facing page.

Title VI also assigns a priority to outreach in global studies. Thanks to Karen Hewitt’s leadership, CGS Outreach Coordinator, the Center’s outreach programs in 2010-14 will serve more than 300,00 participants from K-12, post-secondary, media, business and the public.

Anyone interested in learning more about CGS, its activities, and resources are welcome to consult our website at http://cgs.illinois.edu or email me at edkoljo@illinois.edu; Steve Witt, at swwitt@illinois.edu; Karen Hewitt, at khewitt@illinois.edu; or Lynne Rudasill, at rudasill@illinois.edu. Annetta Allison, CGS Office Manager, will be pleased to navigate you around these folks and Center activities. She can be reached at allison2@illinois.edu.

Request for Proposals for Course Development & Enhancement Individual Grants up to $10K

The Environmental Change Institute, CGS, and the colleges of ACES, Business, and Law are seeking proposals for new or enhanced courses on global change. Priority will be given to proposals on food systems and security, resource and energy use, public policy and economic well-being, and biodiversity and ecosystem health. Priority will be given to proposals in ECI's core domains: food systems and security, resource and energy use, public policy and economic well-being, and biodiversity and ecosystem health. Pre-proposal screening materials due: January 14, 2011. For more information: http://cgs.illinois.edu/news/course-development-and-enhancement-call-proposals
CGS Supports a Graduate College Focal Point Group on the Global Political Economy of Information

Focal Point is a Graduate College initiative that seeks to catalyze the formation of intellectual communities made up of faculty and graduate students around important issues and areas of critical national and human need. Whether it is the increasing challenges in global health and engineering, global economic and social issues, or the challenges of understanding and communicating in an increasingly complex world, it is clear that solutions will encompass multiple disciplines and require innovative thinking. There are seven thematic Focal Point Groups meeting in 2010-11. CGS offers funding support for lectures and materials for the following group:

**Reinventing East Asia: The Global Political Economy of Information.** This group is composed of graduate students and faculty in East Asian and Pacific Studies, History, Institute of Communications Research, and Library and Information Science who share an interest in scholarship on the global political economy of information within an East Asian context.

As members of an interdisciplinary research community, the group seeks to develop new theoretical frameworks to understand how the information industries in East Asia are reorganizing themselves to integrate into the global political economic system, and how such transformations affect local social structures and cultural practices.

The Reinventing East Asia Focal Point project goal is to examine the contours of “information economies” and assess how East Asian countries have been mobilizing information industries, not only for economic growth, but also for resurgence of political power. Over the course of the academic year, through readings and discussions and invited lectures, Focal Point group members will interrogate how and under what conditions actors such as nation states, multinational corporations, and citizens/consumers compete and/or ally with each other; assert their political and economic power by redefining their cultural identities (ie: “rewriting the nation”), and reinventing their traditions in more palatable forms.

In 2009-10, CGS supported the Focal Point group, Global Patterns of Sustainable Consumption. A Policy Brief by Rebecca Gresh summarizes recent global policies to address sustainable consumption; it can be accessed on the CGS website: http://cgs.illinois.edu/resources/publications/policy-brief.html

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The Global Currents Blog

**Lynne Rudasill, Global Studies Librarian, keeps the Global Studies community up-to-date on resources & publications**

The Global Studies Library invites you to subscribe to the Global Currents Blog and to add your comments or responses to postings. Global Currents keeps you up-to-date on global studies resources available in the University Library and the scholarly community. In addition to information about new resources, twice a month Global Currents offers a “Faculty Spotlight” which highlights recent global studies articles by faculty affiliated with the Center for Global Studies” (see sidebar). If you are aware of global studies resources or developments that you think will interest global studies colleagues, please bring them to the attention of Lynne Rudasill, Global Studies Librarian: rudasill@illinois.edu.

**Faculty Spotlight - Thomas Basset**

Thomas Basset, Professor of Geography and faculty affiliate of the Center for Global Studies, has several recently published articles on the issues of hunger, sustainability and agricultural developments in West Africa.


The riots over food price inflation in several countries in 2008 brought the world’s attention to the growing hunger problem. This paper is an overview on the publication’s theme - poverty and development.

“Slim pickings: Fair trade cotton in West Africa” Geoforum Vol. 41, Issue 1, Jan 2010

This paper explores the role of fair-trade cotton in Mali and Burkina Faso and whether it as effective as it claims.


Professor Basset looks at the role of privatization as promoted by the World Bank and the European Union in rural farm lands and how it is affecting people’s relationship with each other and their land in unanticipated ways.

All three articles are available in electronic full-text to members of the campus community through the University Library. Go to www.library.illinois.edu/orr to search for the journal and conference proceedings titles.
Meet the Center for Global Studies Foreign Language Advanced Studies Fellowship (FLAS) Students

Nagham Awadallah obtained her undergraduate degree in English language, literature, and translation from Birzeit University, Palestine. She speaks Arabic and French, and is currently learning Hebrew. Nagham is a graduate student in Linguistics, and her field of interest is sociolinguistics.

Sophia Balakian is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology. She studies Swahili with her FLAS fellowship. Her current research interests involve refugees from the Horn of Africa in East African locations, as well as in the United States. She plans to examine issues of diaspora, violence and memory, and families. She graduated with a B.A. in anthropology from Cornell University, where she studied South Asia, and did research in Nepal. After that she worked for an NGO called Facing History and Ourselves in Boston.

Daniel Carr is a Linguistics PhD student focusing on phonological patterns in English and Bantu languages, as well as the use of English and Swahili by Tanzanians on the Internet as an index of global and local identities.

Whitney Carr is a second year master’s student at the Graduate School for Library and Information Science (GSLIS), and studies Advanced Arabic. After two years in the Peace Corps in Mauritania, West Africa, she became interested in information services and access for Arabic speakers, and applied to library school in order to help improve these services and access. She currently works with the Global Studies Library to compile bibliographic guides to resources in Arabic for G.I.V.E.S (Global Interlending Verification Enquiry Service).

Liliana Carrizo completed her Master’s on Mongolian music of the central Gobi desert and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology. Her research focuses on the musical practices of Iraqi Jews, their implication in the politics of identity, and their role in the construction and negotiation of individual and collective memory.

Harry Fischer is a PhD student in the Department of Geography and is studying Hindi with a FLAS Fellowship. He did his master’s research examining environmental politics and natural resource management in Himachal Pradesh, India. For his doctoral dissertation, he plans to examine how resource-dependant communities in the Indian Himalayas are adapting to climate change.
Vincent Glaviano is a third-year undergraduate doing an individualized major in South Asian Studies. His focus is on South Asian languages, particularly Hindi and Sanskrit. He also takes courses on South Asian literature, history, religion, landscape architecture and other humanities/social science disciplines, combining cultural knowledge with coursework in public health and health administration. He has completed a minor in Spanish and is working on a certificate in global business culture, specializing in South Asia.

Elizabeth Sartell is a master’s student in Middle Eastern studies. She received her BS from the University of Illinois in 2008, with a major in mathematics and a major in religious studies, concentrating on religion (Islam) and culture. Elizabeth has done extensive undergraduate research in Islamic Mathematics, culminating in a paper and website (http://new.math.uiuc.edu/im2008/rogers/) discussing the cultural aspects of medieval Islamic contributions to modern algebra. She plans to pursue a doctorate degree in comparative Middle Eastern religions.

Jeff Thibert is a doctoral student in the Departments of Educational Policy Studies and Religion. He is interested in the relationship between values and education in pluralistic societies. He has used his study of Arabic, supported by the FLAS, to translate a 1979 book on education by Yusuf al-Qaradawi as part of his dissertation project, which focuses on the possibilities for the facilitation of personal autonomy within the educational philosophy Yusuf al-Qaradawi presents in that book.

Nathaniel Uchtmann is currently studying Swahili with his FLAS fellowship. He is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. Additionally, he is in the Medical Scholars Program and will resume his studies as a 3rd-year medical student next summer. Nathaniel completed his law degree in 2008, and passed the bar exam for New York. His goal is to combine his academic pursuits with his strong interests in health, human rights, conservation, development, and education to pursue an international career that is both fun and fulfilling.

Eric Verdeyen is a junior double majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations, and Global Studies with a concentration in conflict and security, with a minor in Arabic Studies. This past summer he studied Arabic in Syria at the University of Aleppo. He will be continuing his Arabic studies this spring semester in Alexandria, Egypt through Middlebury College.

Matthew Niemi is a master’s student in Middle Eastern Studies. He did his undergrad in International Studies with a focus on the Middle East and Linguistics. He is studying Arabic and Islam with a FLAS Fellowship.

Archana Prakash is a Ph.D student in Middle East history. Her research examines the Egyptian engagement with modernity as a global process in the nineteenth century through a focus on the foundations of the modern education system. Her teaching interests include Global and African history.

FLAS Applications for 2010-11
due February 11, 2011
For more information, visit www.flas.illinois.edu
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Center for Global Studies Staff

Edward Kolodziej, Director
edkoloj@illinois.edu
217-265-7518

Steven W. Witt, Associate Director
swwitt@illinois.edu
217-265-7518

Karen Hewitt, Outreach Coordinator
khewitt@illinois.edu
217-244-0288

Lynne Rudasill, Global Studies Librarian
rudasill@illinois.edu
217-263-6879

Annetta Allison, Office Manager
allison2@illinois.edu
217-265-5186

Graduate Assistant:
Katelyn Edds, Library and Web Assistant