



CGS Newsletter



The contrast between ancient Chinese traditions and new modern ways of living. Photo by María Inés Zamudio

Destination: China

Journalism students gain first-hand experience with international reporting

By Nancy Benson

Globalization, global warming, the worldwide web, these are all indicators of an interconnected world. Journalism students have a special responsibility to understand these interconnections. After all, it is through the prism of their writing and reporting that many United States citizens, and armchair travelers, will learn about our increasingly integrated world.

China was selected as our destination because it will likely overtake the U.S. economy in the next decade, which means these journalism students will be reporting on China throughout their careers. It is also a country with strong ties to the Illinois economy.

This is one of only two international courses in

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Pursuing Liberty at Libertad

By Shara Esbenshade

A barren soccer field, grassless with fading white lines. Brightly painted cozy homes next to shacks whose walls are pieced-together scraps of metal, the colors of the advertisements they once bore only just starting to fade. Dirt floors, dirt streets. No running water. Smiling children run about, the teens are laughing, singing. The women wash clothes in the street and the men play dominoes. These are the images that met us as we first stepped foot in Batey Libertad in the Cibao region of the Dominican Republic.

Thirteen Illinois high school students spent two weeks working with this migrant community, one of hundreds of such bateys in the Dominican Republic, on a service learning trip organized as a pilot program through the International High School Initiative at the Center for Global Studies, a Title VI National Resource Center at the University of Illinois. Most of us had spent the school year studying the Dominican Republic and

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The Limits and Opportunities of Technology

Featured theme for Prisms of Globalization

The *Prisms of Globalization* seminar series organized by CGS features experts who can speak knowledgeably and accessibly about issues of global importance. Past lectures by campus faculty and specialists from around the globe have contributed compellingly to campus initiatives and augment the interdisciplinary lectures in the Global Studies Initiative of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<http://www.globalstudies.uiuc.edu/>).

This semester, CGS joined forces with the Engineering and Technology Studies at Illinois (ESTI) program organized by Professors David Goldberg, Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering, and Michael Loui, Electrical and Computer Engineering. The lecture series, "The Limits and Opportunities of Technology," is an engineering and humanities-based exploration of technologies and policies that can reduce the environmental impact of energy generation and consumption.

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Welcome from Edward A. Kolodziej, Director Center for Global Studies

Integral to our mission, the Center for Global Studies promotes and supports innovative research and teaching to define what globalization as a contested notion is, to identify the multiple and cumulative impacts of the powerful forces driving this process, and to make this knowledge known to interested parties around the globe.

We do this by collaborating with partner institutions around the globe. For example, *Global-e*, an electronic journal for the global studies field, resulted from a collaboration with partner institutions at universities in North Carolina and Wisconsin. Information on new global studies research is regularly posted on the Virtual New Bookshelf in our Global Studies Virtual Library <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/cgs/index.htm>.

CGS works closely with the multiple disciplinary and professional units and faculty and students at Illinois. Nancy Benson's international journalism program, *Destination: China*, received funding support from CGS. I urge you to visit the project website to learn more about the students' learning experiences. The CGS *Prisms of Globalization* series is targeted toward undergraduate, graduate, professional, and non-specialist campus audiences. This year we joined

forces with two outstanding faculty in engineering, David Goldberg and Michael Loui, to consider the limits and opportunities of technology to address the challenges confronting the world's populations and, in particular, Americans today.

We provide resources and knowledge about globalization for educators and students and all members of the public concerned with global problems and how to solve them for the benefit of peoples everywhere. A student who participated in the CGS summer program to the Dominican Republic writes movingly about the experience and the accompanying photos by another student are poignant souvenirs.

The International High School Initiative (IHSI), administered by CGS, offers professional development opportunities to schools and teachers across the state. The IHSI Global Studies Forum held October 12-13 with the Peoria Area World Affairs Council focused on Women in Development. In February, 2008, IHSI will co-host the 7th annual conference of the International Studies Schools Association for teachers across the nation.

We welcome your participation in any and all CGS activities.

Edward A. Kolodziej, Director

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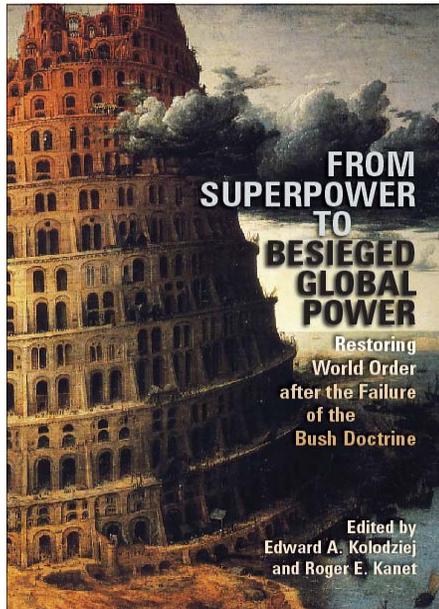
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Recent Books on Global Studies by CGS Faculty Affiliates



In their Introduction, Edward Kolodziej and Roger Kanet argue the Bush Doctrine misguidedly assumed that the United States was a superpower, a unique power that could compel others to accede to its preferences for world order. In reality the U.S. is a formidable but besieged global power, one that can influence but certainly not dic-

tate world events. A flawed Doctrine has led to failed policies that extend America's reach beyond its grasp, most painfully evident in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

From Superpower to Besieged Global Power includes essays by leading scholars and policy analysts to assess the impact of the Bush Doctrine on world order, to explain how the U.S. reached its current low standing internationally, and to propose ways the country can repair the damage wrought by ill-conceived security and foreign policies. The contributors agree that American power and influence will increase only when the U.S. binds itself to moral norms, legal strictures, and political accords in cooperation with other like-minded states and peoples.

Edward A. Kolodziej is Emeritus Research Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Global Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Roger E. Kanet is Professor of International Studies at the University of Miami.

University of Georgia Press
ISBN 978-0-8203-3074-7 pb: \$24.95
ISBN 978-0-8203-2977-2 hc: \$69.95

Global Knowledge Cultures

Edited by Cushla Kapitzke and Michael Peters

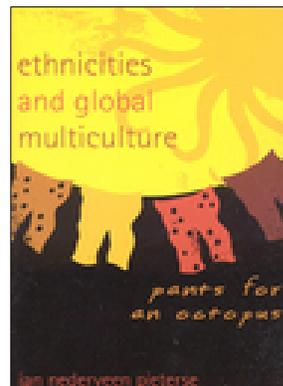
Knowledge is about cultural power. Considering that it is both resource and product within the brave new world of fast capitalism, this collection argues for knowledge cultures that are mutually engaged and hence more culturally inclusive and socially productive. Globalized in-

tellectual property regimes, the privatization of information, and their counterpoint, the information and creative commons movements, constitute productive sites for the exploration of epistemologies that talk with each other rather than at and past each other.

Global Knowledge Cultures provides a collection of accessible essays by some of the world's leading legal scholars, new media analysts, techno-activists, library professionals, educators and philosophers. Issues canvassed by the authors include the ownership of knowledge, open content licensing, knowledge policy, the common-wealth of learning, transnational cultural governance, and information futures.

Cushla Kapitzke, Queensland University of Technology, Australia. Michael A. Peters, Educational Policy Studies, and interim director of the Global Studies in Education Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Sense Publishers, Educational Futures, volume 14
ISBN 978-90-8790-218-6 pb: \$ 49
ISBN 978-90-8790-219-3 hc: \$147



Ethnicities and Global Multiculture: Pants for an Octopus

Jan Nederveen Pieterse

Arguing that ethnicity and multiculturalism are essential for understanding globalization, Jan Nederveen Pieterse offers a sustained treatment of the reach of these key forces. He shows that multi-ethnicity preceded the nation-

state by millennia; but argues that states, feeling the threat to their national identities, seek to control or suppress it. Contemporary multiculturalism, another attempt to regulate multiethnicity, is a work in progress in which dramas of global inequality are played out.

Moving beyond worn notions of ethnicity and multiculturalism, Nederveen Pieterse proposes ethnicities and global multiculture as alternative, wide-angle perspectives on cultural diversity. Global multiculture offers a fresh account of layered cultural dynamics amid accelerated globalization.

Jan Nederveen Pieterse is professor of sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
ISBN 978-0-7425-4063-4 pb: \$24.95
ISBN 978-0-7425-4063-7 hc: \$72

Pursuing Liberty

continued from front page

possibilities for economic, social, and environmental sustainability in the country's poorer regions. We researched the country's politics, economics, social problems, and environmental situation and coordinated a collective presentation. The university's Engineers Without Borders taught us about the scientific side of sustainable energy and we heard from speakers including a graduate student whose research centered on racism in the Dominican Republic and a UN student representative who presented the UN's Millennium Goals.

Our stay at Batey Libertad was a further exploration into possibilities for sustainability. The commu-



Children playing with tires by the soccer field. Photo by Cody Bralt

nity had asked for help with the construction of a new house, which became the goal of the trip. Before we came, we raised \$3,000 by selling Dominican coffee to cover the cost of building materials, and we helped with construction during our time there. But by the end of two weeks, the building of the house was a mere detail amid all the experience and knowledge we as students took away from this trip.

We planted fruit trees, cleaned pigsties, helped sell groceries at the local colmado (store), taught English, helped children with their schoolwork, and talked with local leaders about existing projects and future plans for the community.

Through these activities we got a taste of what daily life in this area of the world entails. We made close friends with locals through soccer, music, and conversation. And we were continually humbled by the trust and acceptance with which we were met.

Of course, it was not all easy and beautiful. The more we got to know some of our peers the more they told us about the darker parts of batey life: the racism and the deportations, and the more we started to think about how we were perceived as middle-class Americans. We were forced to come to terms with the guilt we

felt for having so much unearned privilege and opportunity where these people have so little. Even though many of the students on the trip would not be considered white in the US, the kids in the batey saw most of us as being of the same race as the lighter-skinned Dominicans who are responsible for the periodic deportations that completely disrupt their lives.

This made us understand how relative the concept of race is. We started to come to terms with all the parts of us we couldn't help: nationality, race, social class; and started to think about how we could use our privilege to better the world.

Ninety percent of Batey Libertad's population is of Haitian descent, and some are illegal immigrants. Anthony (name changed for security), one of the fifteen residents the batey had sent to college through the Education Across Borders program, explained to me in a casual interview that whether one has legal documents hardly matters, because Dominican police forces mistreat and deport people if they are black regardless of their citizenship.

It was not easy to think about these issues. I had more than one experience that made me break down in tears. But I would wish it upon everybody. This type of interaction across nations, cultures, and ages and the tough questions we had to ask ourselves made us change for the better.

We've learned about what our role can be in fighting global poverty, but we've also come to realize that these social problems exist at home, where our own government acts similarly toward immigrants and the poor. In a way it is ironic that it took an international trip to comprehend the characteristics and causes of poverty and gain the drive to work to end it, but often all



Many houses in Batey Libertad are constructed from scrap tin siding. Here, laundry dries in front of some houses. Photo by Cody Bralt

one needs is to look at a situation with an outsider's lens.

We've learned that community-improvement efforts anywhere need to start with the empowerment of the community itself. When we left Batey Libertad, a house was standing where there had been none before. That house and our friendships, however, were the extent of the impact we made there. We were the ones who were changed by this experience, and we left knowing we would give back. We would spread our knowledge, we would apply it elsewhere, and we would return to the Dominican Republic.

Funding support for this project was generously provided by a grant from the Chancellor's Civic Engagement Task Force, the Department of Education National Resource Centers Title VI grant, the International High School Initiative, the Illinois Center for International Business Education and Research, and numerous families, friends and businesses who donated supplies and funds for the project activities. The Vermont Coffee Company enabled the students to raise funds by selling Alta Gracia and Tres Mariposas coffee. Professor Jon Erickson at the University of Vermont was extremely helpful in assisting CGS with organizing all aspects of the trip. Jennifer Shoaff, a doctoral student in anthropology at Illinois, played an essential role as trip coordinator, translator, and friend of the community. Yanlco Munesi assisted with organizing day to day logistics of the trip. Thank you all, and special thanks to the residents of Batey Libertad who welcomed us into their lives.

Pictures from the trip are available at:
www.usd116.org/uhs/ihs/DominicanRepublic.htm

Read the student blog at:
www.uni.uiuc.edu/gargoyle/dominican%20republic/



The finished house with neighbors sitting in front. Plastic pans for washing dishes are on the porch. Photo by Cody Bralt

Destination: China *cont'd from front page*

the journalism curriculum. It is the only course incorporating travel to another country, where journalism students put their reporting skills to the test within a global framework. Ten journalism students were selected from a pool of twenty applicants for enrollment in Destination: China.

Weekly lectures and discussions during the semester focused on the culture, economy and politics of China. The students

were challenged to see the connections between China and the U.S., including connections between China and central Illinois.



A billboard for Tiffany & Co. borders the temple. Photo by Sam Unger

Thus, some of the story topics attempted to explain the intertwining of China with central Illinois. Graduate student Michael Koliska reported on the soybean trade between Illinois and China, and compared the farming practices of a Chinese soybean grower to those of a Vermillion County farmer. Graduate student John Paul highlighted three Illinois companies, of various sizes, doing business with China. Other stories assessed the way in which Chinese society is evolving. Liz Murray reported on the changing role of women.

Lauren Thorbjornsen examined the life of a migrant worker – someone who moved from a small village to a big city to earn a living for the family. Liz Reising and Sam Unger reported on preparations for the upcoming Olympics, including efforts underway in Beijing to control pollution from factories and car exhaust.

The students interviewed sources from all levels of Chinese society. They toured factories, visited small farms and produce markets, met with Olympic officials, talked to the elderly in nursing homes, and interviewed university professors and provincial government officials, including a member of the Central Committee. Overcoming the language barrier posed the greatest difficulty. But the Illinois students were aided by journalism students from Fudan University in Shanghai and Peking and Tsinghua University students in Beijing, who served as interpreters and helped find and access sources.

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Global-e: An Electronic Journal for Global Studies Programs

A collaborative effort by global studies programs at the universities of Illinois, North Carolina, Wisconsin-Madison, and Wisconsin-Milwaukee resulted in the recent launch of *Global-e*, an electronic journal for scholars and practitioners.

Published on a quarterly basis, articles emphasize global phenomena or processes such as climate change, human migration, global governance, feminism and women's rights, genocide, nuclear proliferation, energy, disease, security issues, and global media. The editors welcome articles covering academic research alongside those dealing with pedagogy and policy. Each edition features brief essays and provocative reflections that aim to stimulate discussion within the global studies community. Essays are open to reader response and commentary.

To inquire about article submission, please contact any one of the collaborating units: Center for Global Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (<http://www.cgs.uiuc.edu>); Center for Global Initiatives, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<http://gi.unc.edu>), Global Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison (<http://global.wisc.edu>), Center for International Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CIE>).



As new editions are posted on the web, email announcements are sent to subscribers and global studies listservs.

Global-e is available at: <http://www.global-ejournal.org>

Prisms lectures, continued from front page



Lectures in Fall 2007 investigated energy topics. David Ruzic, Professor of Nuclear, Plasma and Radiological Engineering, made good on his promise to create a mini-explosion as part of his lecture, "The Future of Energy Use in the U.S. and the World."

The lecture by George Gross, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Government and Public Affairs, "Global Energy Trends: The Supply/Demand, the Technology and the Policy Dimensions" was a model of clarity. Deepak Divan, Director of the Intelligent Power Infrastructure Consortium, will speak on November 14, "Smart Grid: Key to a Sustainable Energy Infrastructure."

Lectures scheduled for Spring 2008 featuring UIUC professors Jay Keson (law) and William Sanders; former Google engineer Georges Harik, will cover cybersecurity and policies. Lectures are video and audio recorded and are available for download from the CGS website (<http://www.uiuc.edu/goto/prisms>).

Global Fest: One World, Many Faces!

It is not too soon to start planning to bring students to GLOBAL FEST 2008, March 7-8, 2008.

Global Fest is a state-wide multidisciplinary celebration to promote the study of world languages and cultures, and international/social studies. Each spring, almost 1,000 middle and high school students and teachers and community youth organizations from across Illinois come together to participate in introductory world language classes and hands-on cultural activities from around the world. Groups are encouraged to develop and lead activities, perform for prizes, challenge themselves at the Global Connections Quiz Bowl, and to bring exhibits or even objects for sale.

The two-day event is held at Urbana High School. Registration to host an activity, participate in Global Connections, or reserve an exhibit table is due by January 18, 2008. Registration to attend is due February 15, 2008. Cost per student is \$12. Travel grants are available.

For more information, contact Global Fest chair: Julia Mullikin (815-932-1769) mullikin@hsd2.k12.il.us

Destination: China

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During their travels the students posted to a multi-media web site that could be viewed by anyone on the internet. Their final project was a two-hour radio special broadcast on WILL Radio (AM 580), the public broadcasting station in Champaign-Urbana.

The reporting trip was also highlighted across the Champaign-Urbana community. Students appeared on WILL Radio's hour-long *Afternoon Magazine*. WCIA-TV interviewed students on the *Morning Show*. They made appearances on WDWS Radio *Penny for Your Thoughts* program, and gave two noontime talks, one for East Asian and Pacific Studies, and another for *Know Your University* – a series sponsored by the campus YMCA.

But, the impact of the student stories reached beyond the Champaign-Urbana community. Journalism student Ted Land sold his radio piece, about pollution caused by the processing of electronic waste in China, to a national environmental website. After



Bundles of old IL state computers await their fate in the CMS warehouse in Springfield, IL. Photo by Ted Land

publication on the website, Land was contacted by a reporter from *National Geographic* who wanted sources for an e-waste story he was researching.

At the end of the trip, the journalism students sent journalism department head Walt Harrington their course evaluations, which produced very positive comments. Here is a sampling:

“Without a doubt, this was one of my best ever life experiences. It has altered my perspective of international journalism and of China.”

“Traveling abroad is awesome in and of itself. Now, combine travel to the world's most populous country with the journalistic mission, the quest to be a storyteller in China, to track down sources, do interviews in an international language, to find your way in some of the world's biggest cities and you get a real education!”



The Great Wall

“I grew more as a reporter through this experience than from any other journalism project I've taken part in. I was never really that interested in pursuing international journalism before this trip. Now, I can't wait for my next overseas trip. It was an amazing experience that changed my life, and changed my priorities.”



Journalism students from Illinois

This was Professor Nancy Benson's second International Reporting course. The first one was to Peru. All of these positive outcomes would be jeopardized if Benson is unable to obtain funds for future destinations. If ongoing funds can be raised, her goal is to have journalism students report from every region of the developing world.

The multimedia weblog, Destination: China, is available at: <http://will.atlas.uiuc.edu/index.php/chinaBlog>

You can listen to “China: Beyond the Great Wall” at <http://will.uiuc.edu/pressroom/china.htm>



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CGS Announcements

February 7-9, 2008 Plan to attend the ISSA

K-12 Educators — Register now for the 7th Annual International Studies Schools Association conference, held in conjunction with the IHSI Global Studies Forum in Itasca (Chicago metro area).
<http://www.intlschools.org> (800) 967-2847 x 1
Early-bird rate until December 31st!

March 7-8, 2008 Global Fest: One World, Many Faces

Register to host an activity, participate in Global Connections, or reserve an exhibit table by January 18, 2008. To attend, register by February 15, 2008. Cost per student is \$12. Travel grants are available. For information, contact Global Fest chair: Julia Mullikin (815-932-1769) mullikin@hsd2.k12.il.us

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS)

Announcements about the availability of applications will be sent to departments in December; the application deadline is expected to be in mid-February, 2008. Graduate and professional students pursuing advanced language and cultural studies for future professional or disciplinary work are encouraged to apply to CGS.

CGS Newsletter

Editors: Karen Hewitt and Chaebong Nam

Number 5 Fall 2007

CGS Publishes its Newsletter biannually and we welcome your comments and suggestions. To be added to our mailing list, please contact CGS at the address below.

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