

Fourth Annual  
**International  
Symposium** NOVEMBER 9  
2005  
Beloit College



Symposium organized by George Lisensky, Chemistry Department,  
with special thanks to Dianna Kile.

Cover design by Dave Coates,  
Student Graphic Artist, Office of Public Affairs.

**SESSION I: WOOD ROOM, MAYER HALL**

Moderator: Whitney Sweeney, Department of Psychology

9:00	Whitney Sweeney	Opening remarks
9:05	Kelsey Sheridan	Captives of the Gringo Dollar: Artesanos in Ecuador
9:30	Shannon Carmody	More Than Just Turtles: Environmental Education in Galapagos
9:55	Jenna Hunter	Avenue of the Volcanoes
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Ed Mathieu, Department of History

10:35	Ed Mathieu	Opening remarks
10:40	Michael McDermed	The Adventures of Michael McDermed in Raiders of the Lost Mummy (Presented in Earthquakevision)
11:05	Brian Bjurstrom	Chinchorro Mummification Practices
11:30	Robin Burke	Connecting Geology, Climate and Archeology in the Atacama Desert
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Brock Spencer, Department of Chemistry

1:00	Brock Spencer	Opening remarks
1:05	Ben Oney	My First Mummy (Chile)
1:30	Liz MacLeod, Megan Metzger	Fábrica de Caca: Our Experience in a Bolivian Orphanage
1:55	Francesca Vitale	Dirt, Bugs, and Human Bones: Ancient Textiles of Peru
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Oswaldo Voysest, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

2:35	Oswaldo Voysest	Opening remarks
2:40	Andrew Bartles	Moroccan Sun
3:05	Amy Elliott	The Othering Imagination: Gender & Tourism in Turkey
3:30	Break	

Symposium participants, sponsors, moderators and guests are invited by the Dean of the College to attend a reception in their honor, 4:00-4:30, Weeks Lounge, Pearsons Hall.

**SESSION II: RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM, MORSE-INGERSOLL HALL**

Moderator: Kim Mills, Department of Anthropology

9:00	Kim Mills	Opening remarks
9:05	Emily Bartlett	Explaining the American Puzzle: Living in Denmark During the 2004 U.S. Presidential Election
9:30	Justus A. Myers	A Comment on Race, Religion, and the Welfare State: Observations from Denmark
9:55	Carson Moran	Linguistic Waffling: Belgium's Language Divide
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Chuck Lewis, Department of English

10:35	Chuck Lewis	Opening remarks
10:40	Jaslyn Cincotta	Commies, Brewers and the French: Architecture of Europe
11:05	Emma Colburn	From Fallen Words to Broken Thoughts: Hunting for Stories in Scotland
11:30	Kenneth Blaine	Exploring Urbino: Living, Learning, Performing and Experiencing Culture in Italy
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Ellen Joyce, Department of History

1:00	Ellen Joyce	Opening remarks
1:05	Ashley Farrell	Travel Photography: Making the Foreign Exotic (Ireland)
1:30	Jill Terrell	The Shifting Sands of Belfast: Population Movements of Working Class Catholics and Protestants
1:55	Sarah Bryner, Felicia Karas	Unexpected Differences: A Day in the Life of Two Irish-Americans
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Darrah Chavey, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

2:35	Darrah Chavey	Opening remarks
2:40	David Fallest	Don't Smile at the Police, and Other Advice (Russia)
3:05	Elena Ilina	Two degrees at the same time: Russian State University for the Humanities and Beloit College
3:30	Logan Johnson	A Walk in the Garden of the Mother of God: My Pilgrimage to Mount Athos
3:55	Break	

**SESSION III: NORTH LOUNGE, WORLD AFFAIRS CENTER**

Moderator: Phil Shields, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

9:00	Phil Shields	Opening remarks
9:05	S. M. Anwaruddin	Islam, West, Stereotype, and Truth
9:30	Alyssa Coriell	Sizing Up Reality: The Influences on Body Image in a Costa Rican Rural Community
9:55	Katie Moyer	Managing the Commons Through Obligation (Mexico)
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Carl Mendelson, Department of Geology

10:35	Carl Mendelson	Opening remarks
10:40	Lorin Jones	Transition from a <i>Turista</i> to a Welcomed Gringa (Mexico)
11:05	Marah Alabweh, Elif Alpoge, Diane N. Pham, Khalid Qumsieh, Paulo Barreiro Sanjines	Conflict of Lost Identities: International Students Speak on the Beloit Experience
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Kathy Greene, Department of Education and Youth Studies

1:00	Kathy Greene	Opening remarks
1:05	Zeva Levine	The Life Aquatic: Tropical Marine Ecology in Florida and the Bahamas
1:30	Sandile Nakuna	Strategies for Stopping the Spread of HIV in South Africa and Baltimore
1:55	Joe Reistetter	Marine Habitat Distribution in the Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Reserve, Costa Rica: A Geographic Information Systems Mapping Project
2:20	Break	

Moderator: John Rosenwald, Department of English

2:35	John Rosenwald	Opening remarks
2:40	Jennifer Laube, Ellen Sieg	Journey to Teotihuacan, Mexico
3:05	Angela Erickson, Alexandra Hoover, Thomas McHale, Kelly Skibiski	Helping People Help Themselves: Health and Microcredit in Nicaragua
3:55	Break	

**SESSION IV: LOGAN ROOM, WRIGHT ART CENTER**

Moderator: Bill Green, Museum Studies

9:00	Bill Green	Opening remarks
9:05	Kristin Block	Wet Markets in China: A Visual and Experiential Reflection
9:30	Jason Marmon	Understanding Cultural Differences in the Pursuit of Science: My Experiences in China
9:55	Julie Chang	The Shanghai Museum: Its Chinese Roots and Western Appearance
10:20	Break	

Moderator: Sylvia López, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

10:35	Sylvia López	Opening remarks
10:40	Ricky DeVoe	China's Wushu: A Martial Experience
11:05	Si Cheng	Handicraft in China: Reality and Preservation
11:30	Cionne Wolfe	Early Morning Tai Chi: Physics, Mysticism, and Dim Sum
11:55	Break	

Moderator: Patrick Polley, Department of Physics and Astronomy

1:00	Patrick Polley	Opening remarks
1:05	Lincoln McLain, Jeffrey Thimm	China in the Era of Globalization: The Dragon Has Awakened
1:30	Emily C. Eagle	The Empathy of Power: Reflections on Nepal
1:55	Colin Galbraith	Kangaroos, Diplomacy, and Tequila: The Art of Studying Physics in Australia
2:20	Break	

Moderator: Kate Linnenberg, Department of Sociology

2:35	Kate Linnenberg	Opening remarks
2:40	Denzil C. Showers	Beyond the 452 Ton Buddha of Nara: Interdisciplinary Study Opportunities in Nara Prefecture, Japan
3:05	Mara Ghadimi	Keitai: The Influence of Mobile Phones on Community in Japan
3:30	Jing Zhang	Karaoke Culture
3:55	Break	

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**Marah Alabweh '06** See page 16

**Elif Alpoge '06** See page 16

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**S. M. Anwaruddin '07** Satkhira, Bangladesh

Major: English

Minor: Political Science

Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

### **Islam, West, Stereotype, and Truth**

The United States of America is the focal point in today's world for its democratic practice, role in world politics, economic policy, endeavor to bring democracy to the states under dictatorship, and imperialistic attitude. There is no doubt that the U.S. has been the center of the world's attention since the beginning of the last century. However, the tragedy of September 11 heightened the interest of the world in the message of the U.S. and its stand against terrorism. The Iraq invasion, on the other hand, led to near worldwide criticism of the U.S. It also challenged the credibility of U.S. foreign policies and the U.S. role in world politics. As a result, at this point, I believe, every nation of the world has distinct stereotypes of America.

I will begin my discussion with my own stereotypes of America. I was born and grew up in a middle class Muslim family in Bangladesh. I grew up with severe criticisms of the U.S. filling my ears. People in general were very much anti-American. Everywhere I heard anti-American slogans. This led me to construct my own stereotype of America: an America that is imperialist in politics, capitalist in its economy, and anti-Islam when it comes to religion. Concerning religion, I had another stereotype, namely, the West considers Islam a religion that inspires terrorism.

My discussion will focus largely on how my own stereotypes of America have changed since coming to the U.S. I will also try to discuss the truth behind the stereotypes and our duty to discover the truth in order to bridge the widening gap between the East and West. It is true that the West has been the target of suicide-terrorist attacks over the years, but we have to know the difference between the Islamic ideology and terrorism.

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**Andrew Bartles '08** Dixon, Illinois

Major: Biochemistry

Sponsor: Kosta Hadavas

### **Moroccan Sun**

Leaving one's comfort zone to find out what the world and oneself are like is an important activity in life. This past summer I had the privilege to spend ten weeks studying and living in the old part of Fez (the Fez Medina). As a city more than 1,000 years old, Fez is the cultural and spiritual capital of Morocco.

I enrolled at the Arabic Language Institute of Fez and studied the Moroccan dialect of Arabic and also studied the Koran in Arabic. My lodging was with a large extended family in a house 700 years old. By studying and living in this manner, I opened new windows to the time-refined culture of this city and its people.

Presented in this symposium will be an interpretation of my experiences of Moroccan family and community lifestyle in the Medina. I will also offer insight into the lessons that typhoid fever taught me throughout the summer.

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**Emily Bartlett '06** West Lafayette, Indiana

Major: Anthropology, History

Sponsor: Shannon Fie

### **Explaining the American Puzzle: Living in Denmark During the 2004 U.S. Presidential Election**

As the only Scandinavian country to belong to both the European Union and NATO, Denmark has a direct interest in American political issues. While living and studying in Denmark during the fall of 2004, I learned how much importance Danes place on our presidential elections. I was frequently questioned by my host mother and her friends about the U.S. presidential election and in return they openly expressed their own opinions. Many European countries focused on the election because they hoped for a new presidential administration with interests similar to their own. For Denmark the election was especially important because of its status as a U.S. ally and a member of the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq. The outcome would affect its relationships not only with the U.S., but with other members of the European Union, NATO, and the rest of the world. Other Europeans also exhibited a high degree of interest in the U.S. election — much more interest than Americans ever have about elections in a foreign country.

During the month before the American presidential election, I traveled with other American students to Germany, Russia, and Italy. Talking to students and professionals in these countries provided opportunities to learn how people in very different parts of Europe view American politics and how their views compare with those of the Danes. Most Americans are like I was before I went to Denmark and have very little understanding of how American elections and policies are perceived abroad. In my presentation I will give a brief introduction to life in Denmark and then focus on specific examples of Danish and other European views of the 2004 American presidential election.

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**Brian Bjurstrom '07**

Long Grove, Iowa

Major: Anthropology

Sponsor: Dan Shea

**Chinchorro Mummification Practices**

In June, the Beloit College Atacama Field School made the fortuitous discovery of a female mummy while excavating near Pisagua Viejo, Chile. She was naturally mummified and remarkably well-preserved by the hot, dry climate and the nitrate rich soil. Extraordinary preservation of mummies such as this one gives us windows into the past of this area. This arid, coastal environment of the Atacama Desert began to be settled near the seventh millennium B.C. by people known as the Chinchorros. This simple pre-ceramic and pre-metallurgical society was dependent on the fertile waters of the Pacific Ocean for survival. Despite their simple technology and lifestyle, or perhaps because of it, the Chinchorros were deeply concerned with the afterlife and the bodies of the deceased. Today, the earliest known examples of artificial mummification anywhere in the world come from the Chinchorro culture circa 5,000 B.C. The artificial mummification process of the Chinchorro culture progressed over time and can be broken into three separate styles — black, red, and mud-coated. Around 2000 B.C. complex artificial mummification appears to wane and by 1000 B.C. Chinchorro mummification is abandoned.

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**Kenneth Blaine '08**

South Brunswick, New Jersey

Major: Music

Sponsor: Renato Premezzi

**Exploring Urbino:  
Living, Learning, Performing and  
Experiencing Culture in Italy**

At the end of Spring Semester of last year, I received a Venture Grant to study piano at the Corsi Internazionali di Musica in Urbino Italy. During my travels in Italy throughout the Marche region and Venice, I studied piano intensely, took part in several performances, and became engulfed with Italian culture. I will be discussing the musical and cultural experiences in the city of Urbino. I will also be performing some of the pieces that I have studied and performed while abroad. There will also be information presented on the excursions that were taken to Gradara, San Marino, Pesaro, Cattolico, and Venice.

The City of Urbino is a renaissance city enclosed in walls with a palace and several churches. Here within this city is the University of Urbino. I had the pleasure of studying at the University's music institute. Each day consisted of individual practice in the morning and group piano master class in the afternoon led by Dr. Renato Premezzi. I took part in 3 concerts while I was there. Playing at least two songs for each one. The pianists that attended had the opportunity to hear over 40 pieces of piano repertoire and understand them in depth and structure.

A slideshow presentation will be given along with performances of some of the music I worked on while I was in Italy. Allow me to introduce to you the culture of Urbino, Italy and its surrounding areas.

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**Kristin Block '06**

DeForest, Wisconsin

Major: Cellular &amp; Molecular Biology, French

Sponsor: Paul Stanley

**Wet Markets in China:  
A Visual and Experiential Reflection**

SARS. Avian flu. These recent health scares have reverberated across the world. The spread of infectious diseases is a complex and dynamic process, and advances in transportation have sped such movement. With such concerns as the origin and transmission of SARS and the avian flu in Asia, it is important to assess the potential of disease transmission from various sources, using a variety of approaches. The transmission from

animal to human for both of these diseases is believed to originate from food handling conditions. This led me to examine the dynamics of wet markets to gain more insight into disease transmission.

In the summer of 2005, I had the opportunity to travel around southeastern China for three weeks on an AsiaNetwork grant. My group traveled through many of the regions hit hardest by the recent disease outbreaks: Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, and Chengdu. This presentation is a reflection on observations of wet markets, regional food specialties, public health measures, and the effect of cultural differences on making such observations.

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**Sarah Bryner '06**

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**Robin Burke '07**

Kalamazoo, Michigan

Major: Geology  
Sponsor: Dan Shea

### **Connecting Geology, Climate and Archaeology in the Atacama Desert**

The Atacama Desert of northern Chile is among the driest places on earth. Stretching from the altiplano region of the Andes west to the Pacific Ocean, the stark landscape is not only arrestingly beautiful but highly conducive to conserving archaeological artifacts. Rich and varied human history is preserved in the parched soils of this desert.

I visited the Atacama Desert in the summer of 2005 as part of Dan Shea's archeology field school. The goal of the visit was to gain experience in archaeological digging and to locate artifacts. As a geology major I saw numerous connections between archaeology, geology and climate. Connections between science and social science disciplines in this particular region include the effect of soil type on digging conditions, the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the semi-permanent weather system which keeps the Atacama dry and preserves artifacts, and seismic activity.

Effects of the weather system which keeps the desert dry were experienced on a daily basis. Fog and dew are the main sources of precipitation in the Atacama, especially in the fall and winter of the southern hemisphere. The result of this is cool and foggy days in a location that is otherwise incredibly dry. Fog helps to partially lithify soil in the desert, especially in coastal regions, resulting in a very hard material difficult to dig through.

Seismic activity also directly affected this dig. On June 13, 2005, an earthquake of magnitude 7.9 originated in Tarapaca, Chile, 116 km below the surface. This earthquake was felt strongly at the dig site, in the coastal town of Pisagua. As a result of the quake, the one road leading into the town was damaged, electricity and the fresh water supply were cut for a number of days, and the dig was halted.

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**Shannon Carmody '07**

Rock Island, Illinois

Major: International Relations  
Minor: Environmental Studies  
Sponsor: Ken Yasukawa

### **More Than Just Turtles: Environmental Education in Galapagos**

Darwin conducted the first scientific study of the Galapagos Archipelago, but the singular beauty and unique biology of the islands made them famous. With hundreds of endemic and native species, evolution can be seen in action on the Enchanted Islands. As a World Heritage Site and popular destination for scientists, naturalists, and tourists who seek pristine nature, the 26,000 citizens that inhabit 3% of the islands are often completely overlooked. However, these inhabitants are now being forced to evaluate pressing issues such as immigration, commercial fishing, habitat degradation, and growing tension with the scientific community. Productive dialogue with scientists would help to reduce this tension, but local residents must have environmental awareness and biological understanding to engage scientists effectively.

On the islands Baltra, Santa Cruz, and San Cristóbal I worked with high school students, the Charles Darwin Research Station and Ecology Project International in an informal environmental educational program monitoring nesting marine turtles. While living on Isla San Cristóbal, I evaluated the formal and informal environmental education programs in an attempt to understand what is working, what needs to be changed, and why Galapagos, turtles and people alike, are worth saving.

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**Julie Chang '06**

Taipei, Taiwan

Major: Classic Civilization

Minor: Anthropology

Sponsor: John Rapp

### **The Shanghai Museum: Its Chinese Roots and Western Appearance**

Mainland China has been growing at an astounding rate during the last ten years. Among all Chinese cities Shanghai is the most developed, international, and metropolitan due to its distinctive historical background. As one of the first five treaty ports that were opened to foreign trade by The Treaty of Nanjing (1842), the city of Shanghai quickly prospered with the help of foreign funds and ideas. It is a place where Eastern culture intersects with Western culture. The contradiction and conversation between the two are both clearly reflected in the Shanghai Museum, which makes it a very interesting place to study. As a museum of ancient Chinese art, its collection of 120,000 artifacts includes some of the best examples in all of China. Since the inauguration of the newest building on October 12, 1996, the Shanghai Museum has tried to gain international standing as a world class museum. In order to do this it adopted display techniques from the West, while otherwise maintaining Chinese methods of operation. The museum is trying to break with tradition without becoming fully westernized. I will try to examine whether it is truly possible to merge two opposite cultures in one place.

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**Si Cheng '07**

Wuhan, China

Major: International Relations

Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

### **Handicraft in China: Reality and Preservation**

Being an international student in the United States, I am amazed by people's interests in going to museums and the effort they put forth to preserve art. Visiting a museum is never a common Sunday activity for families in China due to the fact that most museums are not in good condition.

Chinese traditional art includes Chinese folk art, Chinese handicraft, Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy, Beijing Opera, etc. Each of them represents the true beauty of Chinese history. Unfortunately, many of them, such as handicraft, are struggling to survive. Through my travel in the rural southwest part of China, I met people

with extraordinary artistic skills but they are usually in their senior years or in a poor health condition. While enjoying the indescribable joy of seeing those arts, I feel pain at heart because of the feeling of losing them in the near future. What is flawed in our heritage preservation system in China?

The good news is that the Chinese government and some organizations are trying to save our precious heritage. A couple of magnificent museums are built and the export market of handicraft is growing.

I would like to give you an introduction to a particular Chinese handicraft "paper cut" — the history, production and interesting stories of its patterns and why it has lost popularity in China. At the same time I would like to discuss what we can do to preserve ancient folk art.

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**Jaslyn Cincotta '08**

Wilmington, Vermont

Major: Undecided

Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

### **Commies, Brewers and the French: Architecture of Europe**

This project is the result of a month-long, solo journey around Europe through Beloit's Venture Grant Program. I visited three countries where I was able to stay with families who provided local perspectives on their communities. The architecture of a community reflects the essence of the villages, cities and towns in which it is found, and one of the most fascinating ways to measure a community is by how they use their historical buildings in modern situations. One of the glaring differences between the United States and Europe is the vast amount of history and historical structures that Europeans live amongst. The architecture I photographed ranges from well-known historic landmarks to small churches built by brewers in Bavaria to the natural architecture in one of Slovakia's 5,200 known caves.

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**Emma Colburn '08**

Portland, Oregon

Major: Undecided

Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

### **From Fallen Words to Broken Thoughts: Hunting for Stories in Scotland**

Scotland is a place where the hills drip green and steeples permeate the panorama. For centuries, the art of storytelling has been valued as a way to communicate the beauty of the land, recount experience,

and inspire belief. Even today, when the allure of television draws people away from active forms of entertainment, storytelling has remained a thriving part of Scottish culture.

Last summer the Venture Grant Committee provided me with the opportunity to travel to Scotland and begin to uncover the oral traditions of storytelling. Between interviews with storytellers, chance conversations that fell into place, and stories I was told, the tradition of storytelling revealed itself to me as something much more than mere entertainment. Instead, I found the art of the story to be infused with a spirituality inspired by the land and interpreted by the teller. In a place where the history of the past wafts down bare necks, telling stories provides a way to situate one's self in the context of history while connecting to the moment presently passing. In my symposium I will recount and examine the ways that this traditional form of communication was revealed to me through the individuals that I met and the stories they had to tell.

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**Alyssa Coriell '06** Colorado Springs, Colorado

Major: Psychology

Minor: Health Care Studies

Sponsor: Suzanne Cox

### **Sizing Up Reality: The Influences on Body Image in a Costa Rican Rural Community**

Recent studies demonstrate that the media negatively influences body image and this is an increasing problem in the United States. This study explores the cultural and psychological influences on the beliefs, ideas and body images for the female students in the 10th grade at Potrero Grande High School in Potrero Grande, Costa Rica. Participant observation, interviews and surveys were used to determine that there was no significant difference between the actual body size of the girls and their opinions of their own body size. Further, the ideals of the men and women about the ideal body for women were not significantly different demonstrating that the opinions of the males are influential for the girls as well. In conclusion, there are not yet negative body images in Potrero Grande, and the influencing factors are mainly cultural coming from men and families.

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**Ricky DeVoe '07**

Houston, Texas

Major: Physics

Sponsor: Paul Stanley

### **China's Wushu: A Martial Experience**

Despite the different arrays of martial arts and styles, most of them share common techniques, and are organized into categories. The basic physical technique that is used to classify these styles is: striking and grappling. (But for the purpose of this research I will only be looking at striking.) This striking technique usually means hit damage done by a punch or a kick. Such styles of martial arts like Karate, Kung Fu, and Tae Kwon Do would then fall under this category. The art of self-defense intrigues my mind in the way they relate to the human body and physical movement. I have always been interested in using physics to explain the vast dynamics of the human body. Because of this I have always wanted to travel to China to observe the original ways of martial arts.

Modern Wushu is a martial art, which combines a foundation in the traditional Chinese fighting arts with a modern disposition towards aesthetics, grace, and performance. It emphasizes a combination of strength, speed, and flexibility rarely seen in other martial arts or sports. Both a martial art and a performance art, Wushu is the national sport of China, and is practiced throughout the world.

I wanted to see if the "Chi" (that most masters of Wushu described as internal energy that you get from within that is shared with the world) is a real force that gives them the ability to perform amazing human feats, or is it just classical physical properties of the body. For the interests of this project I looked at the simple punch and kick in which to analyze.

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**Emily C. Eagle '06**

Spokane, Washington

Major: International Relations

Minor: Religious Studies

Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

### **The Empathy of Power: Reflections on Nepal**

On February 1, 2005, King Gyanendra of Nepal announced a "State of Emergency," suspending civil liberties along with all democratically elected bodies. The telephone, wireless, and Internet systems throughout the country were shut down, and the military closed the airport. My flight, an hour away from arrival in Kathmandu,

returned to Thailand. And while the airport re-opened and I arrived only a day late, the King's move set the political context for my semester abroad and affected my experiences and observations.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world, and its recent history has been stained by pervasive corruption, rapid changes of government, and an ongoing Maoist insurgency. Foreigners, including many Americans, work in Nepal for embassies and consulates, multilateral institutions, and non-governmental organizations. These organizations exist in Nepal in the context of "helping:" embassies maintain diplomatic ties, development agencies work to fight poverty, and military representatives aid His Majesty's Government in the war on terror.

As I studied Nepali culture and its troubled development, I struggled to reconcile my own national identity within my host country. I have yet to come to terms with the harsh reality that I, as an American guest in a Nepali home, had more rights and protection from the government during the state of emergency than my host family did.

By nature of my US citizenship, my empathy came from a position of security and privilege. My interest in my own security, and, moreover, my perceived right to that security, often clouded my interaction with Nepalis, tainting my concern for the well-being of my new friends with the bitterness of a heritage of power.

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**Amy Elliott '06**

Farmington Hills, Michigan

Major: Creative Writing  
Minor: Religious Studies  
Sponsor: Beth Dougherty

**The Othering Imagination:  
Gender & Tourism in Turkey**

The TV spots promise a place where you can swim with mermaids, whirl with dervishes, and ride with Ottoman warriors through the arches of Roman ruins. The guidebooks offer you the "insider information" you need to bypass "the other tourists" and experience "the real Turkey." The package tours take you to "authentic Turkish villages" where life passes at the same slow, earthy pace it's passed for centuries.

Tourism: the delicate discourse of attraction and authenticity; the complex play of myth, imagination and experience; the commodification of culture and the construction of regional identity; the natural desire to see something new, do something different, participate in

something genuine. It is a \$10 billion industry in Turkey with a radical effect on the structures and operations of gender.

Media produced by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism portrays Turkey as an essentially female place — alluring and sensual, timeless and dark. In heavily touristed areas, however, "real" women are often relegated to visible but "traditional" roles, real (rolling lavish, weaving rugs) or imagined (belly dancing), while men dominate the service sector and direct the business of tourism. And because of the great tourist demand for pure, unchanging places, these relationships are unlikely to equalize any time soon; indeed, as proof of the destination's integrity through time, they are quite valuable.

Drawing on previous sociological research as well as conversations with Turkish women and my own experiences as a female tourist, this presentation will explore the changing dynamics and discourses of work, identity, and gender in a place that is almost sexually attractive to tourists looking for pleasant weather, mythic appeal and culture unspoiled.

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**Angela Erickson '07**

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**David Fallest '06**

Des Plaines, Illinois

Major: Physics, Russian  
Minor: Russian Studies  
Sponsor: Paul Stanley

**Don't Smile at the Police, and Other Advice**

Although I have traveled overseas several times, and I have studied Russian for several years, nothing quite compared to the experience of being in Moscow for real. From the moment my plane landed, the test began; a test that would last four months. The familiar thought that perhaps I should have studied more almost immediately leapt to mind. What followed was not only a test of all my previous knowledge, but also one of the greatest single learning experiences I have had so far.

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**Ashley Farrell '06**

Strafford, Vermont

Major: Anthropology  
Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

**Travel Photography:  
Making the Foreign Exotic**

During my year abroad in Ireland (2004-2005), I took nearly 1000 photographs. Yet, upon returning, I

noticed that the photographs I had taken did not accurately represent my experience abroad. After talking to other people, I discovered that they had had a similar realization about their own foreign photographs. During my presentation, I will be discussing how my own, as well as some other people's, photographs differ from the reality of living and traveling abroad and the conclusions I have reached about why this happens.

My presentation will be composed largely of examples of photographs taken in Ireland, Denmark, Germany and the Canary Islands. It will be divided into two sections: living abroad and traveling abroad. In the first section I will discuss both the disproportionately small number of photographs that get taken within the city of residence abroad, and the way in which the photographs taken differ from the reality of life in a foreign city. During the second part of the presentation, I will focus on why the majority of pictures are taken while traveling away from the host city and/or country. I will also discuss why these photographs misrepresent the locations they were taken in and/or the photographer's experience in these locations. More broadly, I will talk about how people's photographs more accurately represent themselves, and their personal preferences than the location they are photographing. I will also discuss and show how different people, traveling and living in the same countries, have very different photos of those experiences.

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**Colin Galbraith '06**

Winchester, Virginia

Major: Physics

Minor: Math

Sponsor: Paul Stanley

**Kangaroos, Diplomacy, and Tequila:  
The Art of Studying Physics in Australia**

In July of 2004 I packed up my gear and boarded a plane for 24 hours. Six months later I returned with nothing but an empty bank account and a sack full of stories. Come get the raw truth on Australia's seedier side. Discover the horrifying secret behind a Wollongong, a Koolobong, and the dreaded Zed. Come find out the value of watching your professor do push ups and why at the end of the day you never feel like you've accomplished anything.

Australia, the land down under, the home of wandering dingos, poisonous mammals, the ravenous Toohey, and the frightening OP Bundaberg. Learn how to win friends and influence people through the combined power of your wit, charm, and liver capabilities. Discover

how to manipulate and side-step complicated integrals with special techniques like the Gamma and Beta functions, all on only 3 hours of sleep. Finally, get all the questions you ever had on Australia, like "What is Vegemite? And does the water really spin the other way?" answered along with some questions you'd just never think to ask.

So come on out to learn all about beer, marsupials, Uni customs, social norms, bar etiquette, and maybe, just maybe, a touch of physics Australia style.

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**Mara Ghadimi '06**

Placitas, New Mexico

Major: Anthropology

Sponsor: Pablo Toral and Yasutaka Maruki

**Keitai: The Influence of Mobile Phones  
on Community in Japan**

In 2003, over 86 million Japanese citizens (nearly 68% of the population) subscribed to a mobile phone service. The cell phone, or keitai, has had an influence on societies worldwide, but the Japanese community in particular has latched on to this pocket sized piece of mobile technology and made it a pivotal part of daily life in Japan. Today the number of cell phones with internet capabilities exceeds the number of people who own home computers. In fact, the Japanese more often use their cell phones to send e-mails than to make calls. Found in the hands of everyone from elementary school children to elderly men and women, it is overwhelming how indispensable cell phones have become to Japanese society.

The cell phone allows individuals to be in constant contact with their own "personal communities," thereby shrinking notions of time and space. Having spent ten months in Japan, I witnessed how important a cell phone was to having a social life and how cut off from it I was without one. It has not only changed the way Japanese communicate and socialize, but it has given a culture with a formal and conservative history the ability to communicate openly through the anonymity of the internet and e-mail.

In addition, e-mail takes away the pressure of immediate response that one faces with face-to-face interactions of phone calls. The participants have no social status, gender or age, thereby creating grounds for communication where everyone is equal.

### **Avenue of the Volcanoes**

**“**Give me silence, water, hope. Give me struggle, iron, volcanoes.”-Pablo Neruda

Situated on the Pacific side of a group of volcanoes known as the "Ring of Fire," all of Ecuador's Andean peaks are volcanic in origin. Beginning at the end of the Mesozoic Era, the subduction of the more dense Nazca Plate underneath the less dense South American Plate has resulted in the development of Ecuador's many potentially violent volcanoes. Ecuador's own "Avenue of the Volcanoes," although breathtaking, loomingly runs for 325 kilometers in the form of a valley between the two major Cordillera ranges. While studying volcanology and seismology in precariously placed Cumbaya, Ecuador, just on the outskirts of the capital, Quito, our class would travel every weekend to a different location of geological interest. Whether hiking a steep-sloped stratovolcano waiting to erupt explosively at any moment, or resting on the edge of a dormant crater lake that sits idly in the remnants of such a volcanic explosion, the adventure was ever-present. In the course of studying the volcanoes and hearing the stories of the people who live in their shadows, I came to recognize and appreciate, geologically and socially, the lifestyle which accompanies such unpredictable and powerful geological phenomena.

### **Two degrees at the same time: Russian State University for the Humanities and Beloit College**

**W**hen I was accepted to Beloit College as a regular student, I had only one year left at the Russian State University for the Humanities. I decided to complete two degrees at the same time. This spring I graduated from my university in Russia, and this is my last year at Beloit College. I have the same major at Beloit College as in Russia, which is political science.

Here are some questions that I would like to cover in this presentation:

-How an institution affects the pedagogical process (liberal arts school versus university)

-How culture affects the educational process (e.g., since a majority of Russian professors grew up in the USSR and implicitly have different perspectives than Beloit College professors)

-Why attitude is one of the most important things in a student's perception (e.g., cheating is the way one learns in Russia vs. standards of academic honesty at Beloit; also, at Beloit College a student can declare his or her major even as late as the junior year, but in Russia one has to decide on a major before entering school).

Though my experience in the two schools is different, there are some similarities: political science students have to read a lot and write long analytical papers. There are also differences, for example, in the educational process itself and the methods of learning (in Russia students hardly do one PowerPoint presentation during their entire school career). Russian students go to a public library more often, but the students are never obliged to have a textbook, as they receive all the information they need to know from lectures.

I am lucky to have had an experience of two different educational systems, and I think that students should go abroad to learn different perspectives on the same subject.

### **A Walk in the Garden of the Mother of God: My Pilgrimage to Mount Athos**

**T**he peninsula of Mount Athos in northern Greece has been the center of Orthodox Christian spirituality for over a millennium. On this rocky outcrop of land stretching fifty kilometers into the waters of the Aegean Sea are twenty monasteries that today still preserve the traditions of Byzantine monasticism and its way of life.

All visitors to the Holy Mountain are considered pilgrims. Some come as Orthodox Christians wishing to venerate the relics of saints, to immerse themselves in the ancient Church services, and to speak with the monks about matters of the spiritual life. Some come as artists and academics in order to study the art and literary works that have survived pillaging and iconoclasm in the temples and libraries of the monasteries. Others come to the Mountain simply as climbers for a weekend excursion or as

curious backpackers. Whatever the reason, few leave Athos without an impression of its beauty and solitude.

In the spring of 2005, with the help of a Beloit College Venture Grant, I was able to visit Mount Athos and experience the way of life as an Orthodox Christian pilgrim. Over the course of five days I lived, ate, and prayed with the monks of five different monasteries and was able to speak with them (sometimes even in Russian) about their life on the Mountain and my life in "the World." Please join me as I relive my pilgrimage to this place of ancient faith and Edenic beauty.

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**Lorin Jones '08**

Plainfield, Illinois

Major: Spanish, Business Administration

Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

**Transition from a *Turista*  
to a Welcomed Gringa**

When I applied for a Venture Grant to learn to dance the Mambo in Monterrey, Mexico, I also had the intention of photographically documenting cultural events around the city and improving my Spanish-speaking skills. I achieved my goal of learning the Mambo by taking several dance classes daily. But due to the modernism of the city, I was unable to find many traditional activities to photograph. Walking or riding around Monterrey, a major business city, I felt like I could be in any U.S. city. However, after making friends (many through my dance classes), I found frequent unexpected opportunities to participate in and immerse myself in the culture. While learning dance I felt like I was becoming accepted as a part of the community. And it is this immersion that provided the real flavor of Monterrey. It was not only my desire to learn more about the community and its inhabitants that enabled me to have these experiences, but also the friendliness and openness of the residents I met. The more I tried to immerse myself, the more open and encouraging the people of Monterrey became. I began to fully realize how integral Latin dance and music are to the citizens of Mexico, even in such a modern place. The friends I made are deservingly proud of their modern city and their cultural heritage and customs.

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**Felicia Karas '06**

See page 15

**Jennifer Laube '08**

See page 15

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**Zeva Levine '08**

Mount Vernon, Ohio

Major: Undeclared

Sponsor: Carol Mankiewicz

**The Life Aquatic: Tropical Marine Ecology  
in Florida and the Bahamas**

This past summer I spent two weeks in June participating in a program run out of Miami University of Ohio studying Tropical Marine Ecology in Key Largo, Florida and San Salvador, Bahamas. The program was designed to take a class composed of 25 undergraduate and graduate level students of varying ages through adventures of discovery-oriented investigations in a wide range of marine environments.

While in Florida we studied the mangroves, Everglades, fossil reefs, and patch reefs in this ecologically diverse area. From Key Largo we flew to San Salvador, Bahamas, a remote Bahamian island located about 200 miles southeast of the commercial island, Nassau. With its small population and underdeveloped economy and industry, San Salvador proved to be the perfect place to study marine environments that have had relatively limited human disturbance throughout their history. While immersed in this environment we studied intertidal zones, lagoons, several coral reefs including a coral reef "wall," the old Pleistocene shoreline, astronomy, two different caves, and a few of the island's inland lakes of varying salinities.

This presentation chronicles my adventures SCUBA diving & snorkeling (during both day and night), hiking, cave exploring, and researching these two beautiful ecologically diverse areas of the world, including my experience of being immersed in a culture different from my own. My hope is that through sharing these experiences more students at this campus will be encouraged to take advantage of unique opportunities to take intensive courses abroad.

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**Liz MacLeod '08**

See page 14

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**Jason Marmon '06**

Eudora, Kansas

Major: Chemistry, Physics

Sponsor: Paul Stanley

**Understanding Cultural Differences in the  
Pursuit of Science: My Experiences in China**

During the summer of 2005, thanks to a grant obtained through asianetwork.org, five Beloit College physics

students, under the direction of Dr. Paul Stanley, conducted individual research topics in several Chinese cities over a span of three and one-half weeks. My research project, entitled the Evolution of Chinese Weapon Physics as a Function of Dynastic History, will be used to address issues that include identifying ideal sample populations, cultural differences related to research, problems encountered during travel, interesting places to visit, and my perspective of traveling through China.

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**Michael McDermed '07** Cedar Springs, Michigan  
Major: Political Science, History  
Sponsor: Dan Shea

### **The Adventures of Michael McDermed in Raiders of the Lost Mummy (Presented in Earthquakevision)**

Roy Chapman Andrews was born in Beloit, Wisconsin on January 26, 1884. Upon graduating from Beloit College in 1906 Andrews left for New York City with the intention of working for the American Museum of Natural History. By 1935 he had become the director. By 1981 Andrews' archetypal life as the dashing adventure scientist made him one of the primary inspirations for the movie character Indiana Jones.

I, Michael Walter McDermed was born in Lansing, Michigan on July 9, 1984, one hundred years after our renowned scientist. Alas, I am no Roy Chapman Andrews or Indiana Jones, but before my summer in the desert of northern Chile those archetypal figures were the only connection I had to anthropology or archeology. Thinking of Roy and Indiana as I sat at my desk at Beloit College last spring (no doubt blaring the Indiana Jones theme song) I couldn't think of one reason why I shouldn't go on an archeological adventure. I would be running from snakes, and fighting the Nazis, and finding this ark thing... well, not exactly... It was way cooler!

On our trip we found a pregnant mummy (sorry no ark) from an understudied time period and experienced a major earthquake that was rated at 7.8 (Richter scale), not to mention there was more than one epic game of Euchre. So come join me on a slide show adventure more exciting than any Indiana Jones movie. This presentation not approved by Harrison Ford.

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**Thomas McHale '07** See page 16

**Lincoln McLain '08** See page 15

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**Megan Metzger '08** See page 14

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**Carson Moran '06** Harvard, Massachusetts  
Major: International Relations  
Sponsor: Pablo Toral

### **Linguistic Waffling: Belgium's Language Divide**

Since gaining independence in 1830, Belgium has been a split nation where animosity between the Francophone and Flemish communities has shaped the politics, economics, and culture of the state. Belgium's national problems are often blamed on the language divide and many claim that the increasing isolation of these communities foreshadows independence and a breakup of the state.

During my studies at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel this spring, I was able to closely examine whether or not this rift still exists. Using elements of Belgian history as well as the opinions of politicians, scholars and the general public, I will explain the complicated relationships between the two groups and the possible implications of a divided state. How did Belgium develop this way? Where is it going?

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**Katie Moyer '06** Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
Major: Sociology  
Sponsor: Charles Westerberg

### **Managing the Commons Through Obligation**

While traveling through the Sierra Juarez in Oaxaca State, Mexico, the following is posted at the entrance to a community: IN THIS COMMUNITY PRIVATE PROPERTY DOES NOT EXIST. PROHIBITED: THE BUYING AND SELLING OF COMMUNAL LANDS. What type of political and social organization makes the prohibition of private property workable in this community? How does Garret Hardin's classic treatment of the "Tragedy of the Commons" coexist with or dispute the community's reality?

My research examines the role of culture in making the prohibition of private property possible. I find that the socio-political organization of communities must enter the contemporary debate over private and communal property. My analysis of the core structures of communality shows how economic theory is filtered through a cultural lens in which obligations precede rights. This research has implications for further study into collective action and the management of commons.

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**Justus A. Myers '06**

Hallowell, Maine

Major: Sociology

Minor: Political Economy

Sponsor: Charles Westenberg

**A Comment on Race, Religion, and the Welfare State: Observations from Denmark**

Proponents and critics of the welfare state employ substantively differing accounts of what consequences follow from this type of political and economic arrangement. The former generally argue in favor of the welfare state from some variation of a Rawlsian position of justice, while the latter point to the multitude of incentive problems that are raised in such a system of redistribution. Popularly understood arguments for or against the welfare state often ignore the unintended consequences of such measures (redistribution or non-redistribution), particularly when these actions by the state interact with social and cultural phenomena. This presentation will explore the relationship between race/religion and the Danish welfare state, focusing in particular on the unintended effects of this system on Muslim immigrants. In doing so, I will argue that such effects must be included in our calculus of the costs and benefits of the welfare state.

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**Sandile Nakuna '06**

Cape Town, South Africa

Major: Political Science

Minor: African Studies

Sponsor: Marion Fass

**Strategies for Stopping the Spread of HIV in South Africa and Baltimore**

The spread of HIV/AIDS in South Africa is mainly through heterosexual sex while the main cause of the same problem in Baltimore, Maryland is by sharing contaminated needles among intravenous drug users.

In the summer of 2005 I did a research on HIV/ AIDS among intravenous drug users with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. This research was basically conducted by reviewing research literature and studies done by professional researchers among drug users in Baltimore, Maryland. This involved visiting recovering drug users in the recovery houses, visiting the needle exchange and drug programs, and attending a health fair in Baltimore. The main purpose of the study was to look at differences and similarities in ways of how HIV is contracted and spread in America and South

Africa, and also to look at strategies on how the battle to stop the spread of HIV/ AIDS is fought in these two countries. As a student from South Africa, doing research at a US medical center is, for me, an international experience. Baltimore became a place where I did the comparison of HIV transmission between South Africa and America, I also happen to learn about the culture and responses of the communities towards this devastating and fearful virus. I talked to people living with the virus, and have been or are still drug users, about their relationship with their friends, family and community.

The main reason for these researches was to compare the spread of HIV/ AIDS in South Africa and Baltimore, and ways to stop the spread of human immunodeficiency virus in this two regions.

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**Ben Oney '07**

Northfield, Minnesota

Major: Anthropology

Minor: English

Sponsor: Dan Shea

**My First Mummy**

While participating in the archaeology field school in Chile this summer, I was fortunate enough to experience a remarkable first dig. After sifting through dozens of buckets filled with sand, llama dung, and shellfish remnants, Dan Shea, four other Beloit students, and I excavated the mummified body of a young, pregnant woman. Having been obsessed with mummies since early childhood, our discovery left me with a sense of great accomplishment and elation. At the same time, I found myself at times wondering if our work was inherently disrespectful of the body we were studying. My symposium will consist of a discussion of the conflicting emotions that our dig elicited in me. Explanation will also be given as to how archaeologists and indigenous peoples approach the issue of excavating human remains, both in the U.S. and in Chile.

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**Diane N. Pham '06**

See page 16

**Khalid Qumsieh '07**

See page 16

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**Joe Reistetter '06**

Gurnee, Illinois

Major: Mathematical Biology  
Sponsor: Rama Viswanathan**Marine Habitat Distribution in the Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Reserve, Costa Rica: A Geographic Information Systems Mapping Project**

In 1985, Costa Rica created the Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Refuge in the southern Caribbean region. The refuge includes marine and terrestrial habitats that contain high levels of biodiversity. To date the region remains relatively unstudied. In order to assist future investigations and provide a common document to gather the results of other studies in the area, I created a marine habitat distribution map using a geographic information system (GIS) software package, ILWIS.

Field data were gathered in March and April of 2005 outside a town on the southern Caribbean coast of Costa Rica. Transects were performed of the reef system under study, and at each point in the transect a GPS point was taken, the composition of the sea floor noted (sand, reef cement, or sea grass bed), and the percent of algal and live hard coral cover estimated. The map was created in the ILWIS software package using these data and digitized aerial photographs taken of the area in 1998. The map was drawn using two substrate classes, reef cement and sand, and had an accuracy of 72 percent. It was not possible to create an accurate map that directly estimated algal cover and live hard coral from the photographs due to the insufficient resolution of the digital image and low water clarity. The maximum observed live hard coral cover was 25 percent, and 20 percent of the points where reef cement was observed had more than 50 percent algal coverage.

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**Paulo Barreiro Sanjines '08**

See page 16

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**Kelsey Sheridan '06**

St. Paul, Minnesota

Major: International Relations  
Minor: Anthropology  
Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer and Jo Ortel**Captives of the Gringo Dollar:  
Artesanos in Ecuador**

“We are messengers to the world,” remarked one traveling Colombian jeweler to me while in

Ecuador, “What we sell to you is not just intricate work to display to your friends, but a piece of ourselves.” ‘Artesanos,’ loosely translated as ‘artisans,’ range from intricate jewelry-makers, to cloth and textile sellers, to hemp connoisseurs, to nature collectors, to painters, to fire jugglers, and travelers. Above all, their incredible talents are furbished for the large tourist industry. Their rich, although not wealthy, presence in Latin America lends itself to a unique economic and cultural voice of the indigenous peoples — even if sometimes seen as an annoyance. In Ecuador, where I spent a semester, their spirit and persistence is shown in their work, leading me to question the “art vs. craft” paradigm. The two are very often meshed together.

I was fortunate to befriend a group of vagabond jewelers from all over the world who made their living with the Ecuadorian currency: the U.S. dollar. A group of them in a tiny fishing-turned-hippy-surfing town quickly became my confidants in a country where we were all foreigners. They invited me into their lives with an incredible humility, vivaciousness, wittiness, and acceptance. From these jewelers, I discovered more about their self-perceived role in society, their hardships, their relationships with the tourists, and above all our similarities. Through their stories and wisdom, I was able to better understand the role of an artesano in society at large. I will be discussing these discoveries side-by-side with an exploration of their work in hopes of giving more insight and place to art itself, traveling, and gringos in a dollarized country.

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**Denzil C. Showers '10**

Beloit, Wisconsin

Major: East Asian Languages and Culture  
Sponsor: Rob Lafleur and Yasutaka Maruki**Beyond the 452 Ton Buddha of Nara:  
Interdisciplinary Study Opportunities in  
Nara Prefecture, Japan**

The 大仏, (Daibutsu), or Big Buddha, of Nara is among the first great wonders of Japan learned by American students of Japanese language and culture. Unfortunately it is far too easy and common to overlook the grandeur and charm of Nara while viewing it as the home of Daibutsu. This symposium will combine images and sounds collected in 2005 to provide a glimpse into the history and current conditions of this, the first capital city of Japan.

Near the city of Nara, yet still within Nara prefecture, is Asuka. Here a brief look at a legendary turtle and the legendary birth place of Prince Shotoku (574 - 622) will

introduce both Asuka, the city in and around which Japan's pre-Nara capitals existed, and the importance of Buddhist influences during this period in Japan.

Within Nara the Shin-Yakushiji, built in the mid-eighth century, provides a stunning view of Tempyo Period art and architecture. The original edifice still stands, and virtual restorations done by scholars in Japan provide full color images of the sculptures within. The Man-yo Botanical Garden, built recently, was inspired by the twelve hundred year old collection of Japanese poetry, the Man-yoshu. I will devote the greatest time and attention to this sight as it shows an integration of the oldest and newest of Japan in a way that appeared both effortless, and not uncommonly in Japan. A brief look down the streets and alleys of Nara will highlight the importance of avoiding the beaten path.

Following mention of other sights of interest, I will also try to convey the indescribable feeling of entering and viewing the Daibutsu within the Todaiji. The presentation will conclude with the introduction of several opportunities for continued interdisciplinary study in the city and prefecture of Nara.

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**Ellen Sieg '08** See page 15

**Kelly Skibiski '07** See page 16

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**Jill Terrell '06** Dayton, Ohio

Major: International Relations (Peace & Conflict Studies)

Minor: International Economics

Sponsor: Pablo Toral

### **The Shifting Sands of Belfast: Population Movements of Working Class Catholics and Protestants**

Peacewalls wind throughout distinctly marked unionist and nationalist neighborhoods in Belfast, Northern Ireland. These walls confirm that segregation is alive and flourishing in a society that is supposedly experiencing the effects of the Good Friday Agreement. In the case of Belfast, the city's territoriality is an active agent that is moving society toward disruptive unrest.

People and their place attachments to community spaces have long been the focal points for conflicts around the world, and today's situation in post-war Belfast is one prime example. Population movements of working-class Catholics and Protestants have created a profound sense of instability within the city.

I believe that housing policies should be the mechanisms creating a stable and solid society; however, it was apparent to me while visiting various neighborhoods in Belfast that the policies of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) have done the opposite. The reality of sectarian divides was appalling to me, especially when I began to link what I was experiencing in Belfast with racial divides that linger in many areas of the United States. My research was to find specific policies of the NIHE that promote integration and to examine why these policies have not been successful. By speaking with residents, community leaders, politicians, and policymakers in Belfast, I was able to analyze the complexities of social geography in this segregated European city.

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**Jeffrey Thimm '08** See page 15

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**Francesca Vitale '07** Brattleboro, Vermont

Major: Sociology

Minor: International Textiles (Self designed)

Sponsor: Judy Newland

### **Dirt, Bugs, and Human Bones: Ancient Textiles of Peru**

The landscape of Peru is embedded with colorful textiles of amazing design. This condition is especially true in the desert South Coast, which is a compelling place to study textiles due to its dry climate. Because burials often occurred underground in hand dug tombs, textiles surrounding the dead were protected from the sun. In addition to burials, human ritual sacrifices to the gods were not uncommon; many of those sacrificed were young girls. Juanita, still frozen, resides in a museum freezer five hundred years after she was given to the gods on top of a volcano. Wrapping her body were textiles, pottery, corn, and other burial items. These have helped tell the story of her culture and its traditions.

This presentation will examine the different cultures and styles represented in ancient Peruvian textiles; it will also look at why the textiles on the South Coast have been so well preserved and how these fascinating artifacts can enlighten future weavers, textile historians and archaeologists about ancient techniques and peoples. I will highlight two aspects of my specific experience: the importance of understanding weave structures and the field conservation of textiles in relation to the overall study of ancient textiles.

My study was supported by the California Institute for Peruvian Studies (CIPS) which is a non-profit organization whose principle objectives include discovery, preservation, investigation and dissemination of data contributing to a more complete record of Peruvian culture.

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**Cionne Wolfe '06**

Buffalo Grove, Illinois

Major: Physics

Minor: Integrative Biology

Sponsor: Paul Stanley

**Early Morning Tai Chi:  
Physics, Mysticism, and Dim Sum**

As part of an ASIAnetwork grant, I traveled through China in order to study the motivations and explanations of Chinese martial arts practitioners. I was particularly interested in seeing whether or not they perceived the practice as mysticism, physical concepts, or something else entirely. Although I spent considerable effort preparing for the trip, the communication barriers surprised me: not just language barriers, but cultural ones as well. Although local people tried to help, too often surprise dead ends appeared. Despite these obstacles, the experience was enlightening - I learned lessons about the realm of research, the Chinese culture, and how to partake of this great meal...

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**Jing Zhang '07**

Sichuan, China

Major: Biochemistry

Minor: Performing Arts

Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

**Karaoke Culture**

With enough sake, anyone will think they can sing —that is the beauty of karaoke. Throughout history, the art of singing has been performed by trained professionals. With the invention of karaoke, that is no longer true. Holding a microphone in your hand and singing a song to the accompaniment of an “orchestra”, you can feel like a professional singer.

Karaoke was born in the Kansai area of Japan 20 years ago. Over the years it has become popular in Asia and also the rest of the world.

This past summer I was offered an opportunity to study abroad in Japan and also had a chance to go back home to China. Having had experienced the karaoke scene for almost every week of the summer, my interest and understanding of it has grown. In my presentation I would

like to talk about my understanding of karaoke culture and how it differs in the countries I have been to.

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**Joint Presentations and Panels**

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Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

**Liz MacLeod '08**

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Major: Undeclared

**Megan Metzger '08**

Chatham, Illinois

Major: Undeclared

Sponsor: Olga Ogurtsova

**Fábrica de Caca:  
Our Experience in a Bolivian Orphanage**

Last summer, through a Venture Grant, we were able to travel to Cochabamba, Bolivia to volunteer at la Casa Cuna. In Cochabamba, the third largest city in Bolivia, 60% of the population lives below the poverty level. Rural citizens come to Cochabamba looking for work, but all too often cannot find employment in the crowded city. The high unemployment rate of the city has resulted in an abnormally large number of cases of child abandonment. Two to three children are abandoned in Cochabamba each day. La Casa Cuna provides care for children (1) who are found abandoned under bridges or in the streets, (2) who are removed from an abusive situation in their home by a social worker or (3) who are placed there for adoption by a parent with hope for a better future.

For two and a half weeks, we worked with la Casa Cuna to provide the children with the opportunities that a larger staff can offer such as field trips away from the house. We also helped around the house by changing diapers, reading stories, wiping noses, feeding the children, getting them ready for bed and tidying up. With 24 children, newborns to age three, this was no easy task.

During this time, we lived with an upper-middle class Cochabamban family. During the week, we all met at the house for lunch and on the weekends, they showed us the markets, the dance clubs, and el Cristo of the Andes. They also helped us to understand the tense political situation unfolding in Bolivia at the time.

If you're interested in majors related to Spanish, Latin American studies, child care/development, sociology, etc; If you're thinking about studying abroad in South America; If you'd like to do something amazing with your summer or vacation term — Join us for “Fábrica de Caca: Our Experience in a Bolivian Orphanage”!

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Sponsor: Elizabeth Brewer

**Sarah Bryner '06**

Anchorage, Alaska

Major: Political Science  
Minor: Biology and Society

**Felicia Karas '06**

Edina, Minnesota

Major: Creative Writing  
Minor: Journalism

**Unexpected Differences:  
A Day in the Life of Two Irish-Americans**

Lecture's finished. Where do you go? At Beloit, that question would be answered before you ever started the day: more class, the library, a meeting with a professor, work or a club event. An average Beloit day is busy, tiring, and routine. An average day in Ireland is anything but. When we studied at the National University of Ireland, Galway, we were presented with the dilemma of how to fill our copious amounts of free time. Felicia started selling tea to the student masses, while Sarah donned a uniform and arranged plates of biscuits for the cafeteria. We couldn't imagine just letting that free time stay free. By following the events of one of our typical Irish days, compared to a typical day in the life of a representative Irish classmate, we hope to illustrate the more subtle differences between the lives of Irish and American college students. What happens in those curious "unscheduled blocks of time?" Why were Felicia and Sarah so determined to keep busy? Don't the Irish students get bored? Although seemingly narrow questions, they can yet help us define the greater cultural differences between Irish and American culture, particularly with regard to the notions of "work ethic" and "free time."

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Sponsor: Yaffa Grossman

**Lincoln McLain '08**

Santa Rosa, California

Major: Environmental Studies

**Jeffrey Thimm '08**

Tirana, Albania

Major: Integrative and Medical Biology  
Minor: Health Care Studies

**China in the Era of Globalization:  
The Dragon Has Awakened**

In the spring of 2005, we, Jeff Thimm and Lincoln McLain, applied to a summer institute that was to take place in China and Hong Kong, China. We wanted to go to China because of our lack of knowledge about the area, to push our horizons and to become better citizens of the world.

By bus, rail and plane we journeyed, traveling to Hangzhou in the Yangtze River delta, to Guangzhou in the Pearl River delta, and to the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong.

Through tours and presentations, friendships and conversations with peoples of differing views from the Mainland, Hong Kong and the West, we learned of China, its culture and the lifestyles led by its peoples. It became very evident to us that the slumbering dragon of China is waking, and many are asking how will China contribute to globalization and what roles will it play in the world. There are many differing views as to the specifics and to the immediate future, but when it comes down to it, with China's textile factories and free-market development zones, green tea and herbal medicines, Confucianism and Taoism, and increasing military and political power, the ball is rolling.

In our presentation, we will share our journeys through China, what we learned from its peoples, and their prospects for the future in a globalized world.

This is not the price of tea in China, this is a force of the future - learn it well.

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Sponsor: Shannon Fie

**Ellen Sieg '08**

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Major: Undeclared Anthropology  
Minor: Undeclared Religious Studies

**Jennifer Laube '08**

Charleston, Illinois

Major: Biochemistry/Classics  
Minor: Undeclared Physics

**Journey to Teotihuacan**

Teotihuacan, one of the most famous archaeological sites in Mexico, was the focus of our study. Still mostly roped off for archaeological research, it is the home of the famous Pyramids of the Sun and Moon, the Quetzal Butterfly Palace, and the Avenue of the Dead. Teotihuacan has fascinated archaeologists and historians for years, and we visited it in order to photograph the site and bring the experience back to campus.

We spent five days in Mexico City, two of them on site at Teotihuacan. Before we began our project, we toured the downtown portion of Mexico City itself and visited the Museum of Anthropology. We spoke Spanish, stayed in an international youth hostel, traveled by public transportation, learned how to replace a stolen passport and exit visa, and climbed the Pyramids. Overall, it was an

amazing and educational international trip, and we are very excited to present it to our peers.

This presentation includes pictures taken on site at Teotihuacan and an overview of our five days in Mexico City, outlining the project, the journey, the photographs, and the final product — an exhibit at the Logan Museum in the spring of 2006 that will include our photographs in conjunction with the Logan's Teotihuacan artifacts. In this presentation, we will cover everything from traveling on the Metro to applying for a passport at the U.S. Embassy, and of course, what it feels like to stand on the top of the Pyramid of the Sun, complete with photograph illustrations.

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Sponsor: Nancy Krusko

**Angela Erickson '07** East Troy, Wisconsin  
Major: Political Science

**Alexandra Hoover '07** Erie, Pennsylvania  
Major: Anthropology  
Minor: Biology and Society

**Thomas McHale '07** Cherry Hill, New Jersey  
Major: Undeclared IDST Africa and Development  
Minor: Health Care Studies

**Kelly Skibiski '07** Barrington, Illinois  
Major: Anthropology

### **Helping People Help Themselves: Health and Microcredit in Nicaragua**

“Bleat. Bleet.” The group steps back warily to avoid the hungry mouths of the shoats trying to devour the clothing off the backs of the gringos who have just stepped foot into a Nicaraguan village for the first time. As our group huddles between shoat pens, we listen to the farm woman's story about how the acquisition of the shoats, purchased through a microcredit loan, helped change her life. She relates how overtime she received more loans which allowed her to expand her operation and raise more capital. The cash income from farming provides more nutritious food on the table, and access to education and medical care. Shoat and pig farming has brought this woman, and others in the village, out of extreme poverty and given them a new outlook on life.

In the spring of 2005 we traveled to Nicaragua to study the relationship between Health and Microcredit. We met with a number of individuals, who dealt with microcredit at a variety of levels: local, nation-state, and international. These meetings provided first-hand

knowledge of the intricacies of health care and microfinance. Our presentation will explore the relationship between health and microcredit in Nicaragua.

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Sponsor: George Lisensky and Roc Ordman

**Marah Alabweh '06** Amman, Jordan  
Major: English Literature  
Minor: Political Science

**Elif Alpogge '06** Dix Hills, New York & Istanbul, Turkey  
Major: Biochemistry  
Minor: Physics

**Diane N. Pham '06** Geneva, Illinois  
Major: Chemistry

**Khalid Qumsieh '07** Bethlehem, Palestine  
Major: Computer Science

**Paulo Barreiro Sanjines '08** La Paz, Bolivia  
Major: Biochemistry

### **Conflict of Lost Identities: International Students Speak on the Beloit Experience**

A panel discussion presents personal insights into some international students' experiences at Beloit College. International students provide a view through the looking glass on education, language barriers, culture, politics, gender relations, food, etiquette and American-International relations on campus. We attempt to understand the conflicts caused by our cultural identities lost in the foreign culture of the Midwest. We answer questions American students appear to have about our experiences and state questions we have for those born and raised in what we view as the foreign culture of the United States. We will engage those in attendance in a discussion we hope will spread around the campus and beyond. Is the United States Foreign Policy reflected in American students' pop culture at Beloit College? Should everyone have to conform to United States values on campus? Should there be a group including international students to define acceptable behavior? Who are the international students and who are the Americans?