Letters and Science Welcomes the 2012 Diversity Fellows

by Kathy Quirk, University Relations

UWM welcomed the fourth cohort of Diversity Fellows during a site visit early in March and looks forward to their full-time arrival in late early summer.

The Diversity Fellows program, which started in 2009, provides an avenue for UWM to strengthen its academic programs, while pursuing the university’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, says Dr. Cheryl Ajivotutu, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor.

The Diversity Fellows are comprised of underrepresented students who have recently graduated with a doctoral or terminal degree or are Ph.D. candidates. They will teach a six-week course during the summer session or conduct research in their area of discipline.

The 2012 Diversity Fellows who will be joining UWM come from an array of backgrounds, though they are united by some common objectives, including the opportunity to teach.

“I was excited about the opportunity to get some teaching experience before starting my professional academic career,” says Shaun Ossei-Owusu, a doctoral candidate from Berkeley’s University of California, Department of African American Studies. Ossei-Owusu will be teaching “Order and Disorder: The Quest for Social Justice”, a course in the Department of Africology. His research has reviewed equality in the criminal justice system, with specific focus on public defenders. “The majority of the research focus in this area has been with police officers and prosecutors, however, public defenders play a key role.”

Selina Gallo-Cruz is a doctoral candidate from Emory University’s Sociology Department who will be teaching a sociology course this summer. “I was very interested in becoming a Diversity Fellow for the opportunity to expand my teaching experience and become acquainted with scholars at UWM whose work I am familiar with.” Her research interests are in the areas of culture, social movements and global change.

Joseph Flipper, a doctoral candidate in Religious Studies at Marquette University, joins the fellows with the advantage of being familiar with the Milwaukee area and the UWM campus. Flipper indicates he has used the Golda Meir Library often while attending Marquette University. One of the factors that attracted him to the Fellows program was the unique opportunity to work between two different areas. His research focus is on the relationships between Christian theology and modern politics, and he will be teaching a course on religion and literature this summer.

Two other Diversity Fellows will work in other Schools at UWM. Melissa Redmond, a doctoral candidate from the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto, is the program’s first international Fellow. She will be teaching a course in Cultural Diversity and Social Work in the Helen Bader School of Social Work this summer. Jacqueline Nguyen, a postdoctoral fellow in the Child Development Laboratory at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, will be teaching a course in the School of Education. Her research interest, which grew out of her own experiences as a second-generation child of Vietnamese immigrants, focuses on parent-child relationships among immigrant families.

The Diversity Fellows program is a campus-wide initiative that supports departmental efforts to increase campus diversity, notes Ajivotutu, “We are committed to preparing our students to be effective citizen-leaders who respect and appreciate the dynamics of a pluralistic world.”
Hoover Book Out To Set the Record Straight

by Laura L. Hunt, University Relations

In 1948, *Life* magazine named the 10 worst U.S. presidents. Time magazine ran a similar list only last year. In each – and in almost every such ranking in between – President Herbert Hoover was included, blamed for not doing enough to end the Great Depression. But is Hoover’s stained reputation deserved?

A UWM historian, who has published the first new book on Hoover’s presidency in 25 years, says no. In fact, many of the social programs contained in Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “New Deal” were actually conceived or launched by the 31st president. Hoover’s presidential campaign of 1928 even coined the term “New Deal.”

Compared to many of today’s Republican politicians, says Professor Glen Jeansonne, Hoover could hardly be labeled “tea party.” Jeansonne’s book, *The Life of Herbert Hoover, Fighting Quaker, 1928-1933*, was published recently by Palgrave Macmillan. In it, he describes how Hoover grappled with many of the same issues that continue to challenge presidents to this day – welfare, health care and a weak economy. Hoover’s approach to these issues was progressive, says Jeansonne.

A supporter of organized labor, Hoover first proposed plans for social security, old-age pensions and medical care in the 1920s. He passed tax hikes for the wealthy and established public works projects, such as the Hoover Dam, during the Depression, but they didn’t last as long as programs during Roosevelt’s administration, says Jeansonne.

Hoover was cautious of overspending because he felt that habitual deficit spending would evolve into the norm, he says. “Once a program was inserted into government, he believed it would be impossible to extract. He also saw the addictive nature of welfare, and also how such policies could end up becoming a political plum for votes.”

Hoover had never held elective office before winning the presidency in 1928. But he was well-known by the public because of his celebrated work in distributing food in Europe both during and after World War I. As Secretary of Commerce, Hoover raised the profile of this cabinet position and looked for ways to increasing efficiency in business and industry. So recognized was his humanitarian work, Hoover was asked to coordinate disaster relief after devastating floods in the Mississippi Delta in 1927.

“Jeansonne skillfully explains how a man once heralded as the ‘Master of Emergencies’ was later branded as ‘President Reject,’” says Timothy Walch, director emeritus of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. “It’s a cautionary tale of the contradictions between public service and political leadership and Jeansonne tells it well.”

A contentious relationship between Hoover and Roosevelt didn’t help Hoover’s legacy. Neither did Roosevelt’s friendship with Will Rogers, the favorite celebrity of average America at the time. Both publicly criticized Hoover.

Jeansonne believes the amount of misinformation about Hoover that spread – some even permeating textbooks – resulted from the fact that Hoover’s presidential papers were not made public until 1964, a generation after Roosevelt’s papers were made available.

“Much information about Hoover’s presidency was taken from Roosevelt’s library because there wasn’t any other material out there for scholars,” says Jeansonne. “By the time Hoover’s papers were opened, historians weren’t interested anymore.”

Orphaned at nine, Hoover rose to wealth and fame as an international mining engineer, but for most of his years in public service, he took no salary.

Characteristic of his Quaker upbringing, Hoover did not demonstrate much emotion in public nor did he seek credit for his achievements. Uncomfortable with self-promotion and disinterested in perpetuating himself in office, Hoover’s humility and down-to-business style was misconstrued as being dull and uncaring.

*The Life of Herbert Hoover, Fighting Quaker, 1928-1933* is Jeansonne’s eighth book. He has also written biographies of Barack Obama and Elvis Presley (both with David Luhrssen), Huey P. Long, Leander H. Perez and Gerald L.K. Smith, the last book being a nominee for the Pulitzer Prize in biography in 1988.

Jeansonne’s website:
http://historyjeansonne.com

**Book Signing:**
Friday, May 11, 7 p.m.
Boswell Book Company
If a volcano erupted, who would be more interested – a geologist or a geographer? Both – but not for the same reasons.

To the casual observer, there might be some confusion. After all, both start with “geo” and end in “y.” Both disciplines involve studies of the Earth, its processes, appearance and relations to humans. And, each discipline overlaps with the other as studies of these fields have evolved through the years.

Put simply, geographers study the surface of the Earth, its landscapes and its features, why they are where they are, and its appearance and relation to humans. Issues revolving around human interaction with the environment are key to much of geography. Geologists study periods of Earth history many millions, even billions of years ago, look deeper into the Earth and its rocks and its internal processes.

Take the example of the volcanic eruption. According to Glen Fredlund (Geography), the geographer more typically would want to know how the volcano shaped the environment and the lives of the people who live around it. Human geography focuses upon people and their activities and expressions. It involves historical considerations such as agriculture, urbanization, movement of resources and products, human migrations and patterns of cultural activities. Physical geography studies the Earth’s surface processes and landforms.

The geologist would want to understand the volcano itself, its actual composition and what caused it to erupt. Geoscientists are investigators as well as historians of the Earth, says Robert Graziano (Geosciences). They routinely investigate the Earth’s features and processes, while at the same time interpreting the history of the Earth embedded in the rocks, soil, water and ice of this planet.

The distinction between the disciplines may be further blurred to the casual observer because many universities classify geology and geography as separate departments, but others have joint departments. Still others have departments of Earth or Environmental Sciences, which include both geographers and geoscientists. Some group the field of geography with other social sciences, while others place it with natural sciences or applied sciences. In some universities geology is grouped with biological or atmospheric sciences. A case may be made for each of these classifications.

Typically, a student with a keen interest in the physical Earth and its processes is more likely drawn to geosciences, while a student with an interest in humans’ interaction with the Earth may prefer to study geography.

For the student debating between the two areas, Glen Fredlund and Robert Graziano suggested exploring classes in both disciplines to find out for yourself which more closely matches your interests before making a decision. Students also need to consider their long-term professional goals. For example, students trained in geosciences are often employed in petroleum, mining, engineering, water or environmental industries. Geographic Information Systems is a vibrant professional field for geographers interested in providing geographic data management, spatial analysis and system management to the criminal justice, health services, municipal, engineering, transportation and marketing sectors of the economy. Some students may also find that a joint degree may be the best approach to meet their career goals.

Glen and Robert also recommend that current and future students research faculty members and their specific interests and expertise. Finding a mentor and working side-by-side can greatly help students in both their short-term academic career and long-term in their profession.

Whether they become a geologist or geographer, or an expert in one of the many sub-disciplines, they’ll be historians and investigators of the Earth. They’ll use their skills to explore and explain how the forces of nature alter human behavior and how humans influence the Earth, both essential elements to solving society’s most challenging resource problems.
When a blustery winter snowstorm is on its way, We Energies looks to a group of meteorologists and atmospheric science students at UWM to predict when and where it will hit and how strong it will be. UWM’s Innovative Weather group is the energy company’s main resource for determining the size of its crew, and where and when it should be dispatched. For the students, it’s an opportunity to obtain meaningful work in their future profession.

They soon learn that weather is quirky, unreliable and unpredictable. But Innovative Weather (IW) is steady, focused and customized. Just ask the 11 clients that depend on the University’s weather-forecasting service to run their businesses efficiently and with the fewest weather-related interruptions.

Innovative Weather is celebrating its fifth anniversary. A service of the Math Department’s Atmospheric Sciences Program, it was the brainchild of Professor Paul Roebber and alumnus Mike Westendorf. As Program director, Paul conducts specialized research that enhances the cutting-edge weather forecasting. As director of operations, Mike oversees the day-to-day operations.

Since 2007, 35 students ranging from juniors to PhD candidates have participated in hands-on meteorology, developing professional and personal skills essential for weather-forecasting careers. Now, faculty candidates and graduate applicants cite Innovative Weather as a reason to come to UWM.

Students begin as basic interns and work their way into more responsibilities and the opportunity to be paid. They tape broadcasts for three client radio stations and communicate easily-understood, customized weather information to eight business clients. IW is nonprofit; client fees are deposited back into the IW service.

When they developed IW, Paul and Mike aimed to create a program that would mentor students in real-life, professional experiences. For clients, they wanted to provide service at a level that is higher than existing weather-forecasting services, which in many cases is one-size-fits all, Westendorf says. Most weather firms have automated their processes, and clients don’t receive forecasts that are specific to their individual business needs.

Contrast that with IW where the staff provides service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, with an emphasis on how weather will impact that business’ operations.

Using Roebber’s state-of-the-art models for weather analyzing, monitoring and forecasting, IW provides considerable additional information compared to traditional models. Westendorf’s operational meteorology background puts a premium on quality communication of information in a way that’s most useful to an individual client.

IW’s customization includes risk assessment (probability and possibility) and alerts. For instance, winds of 35 miles per hour may not seem important, but at that speed and with leaves on trees and heavy rain, outages may occur. The National Weather Service (NWS) doesn’t issue warnings until they think there will be storms producing at least 58 mph winds. Lightning strikes are a concern, because they are so random, but the NWS doesn’t issue warnings for lightning. IW does. Alerts are issued when weather is occurring. During times of severe weather, the IW meteorologists are in constant touch with the client. They will call the client every time the weather gets worse, and the client calls IW when they have questions or need clarification. Otherwise, via computer, clients are provided a steady stream of information.

For example, for We Energies timing is of utmost importance. They need to know the windows of most likely risk and, geographically, which service centers will have the greatest potential to see weather-related issues. The company’s challenge is to have enough crews standing by, but not have too many sitting idle.

Last April 10, nearly 200 Kaukauna homes and businesses were damaged by a tornado, and there were small, brief touchdowns in the Fox Valley. IW meteorologists knew there was a real risk of strong thunderstorms and before the storms hit they alerted the power company that the southern areas were not likely to bear the brunt of the storm. With this knowledge, We Energies could pinpoint where to move resources in the Fox Valley in order to get lines up and promptly restore service to more than 15,000 customers who were affected.

Besides We Energies, other clients include the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), University School, Great Lakes Water Institute, Lake Express auto ferry and Time Warner Cable in Wisconsin and Ohio.
Applause and Laurels

Student awards were given to

**Biological Sciences:**
- Richard P. Howmiller Graduate Award: Emily Tyner
- Hutto-Erdman Conservation Scholarship: Danielle Goodrich
- Ray Hatcher Memorial Award: Keir Wefferling
- Ivy Balsam-Milwaukee Audubon Society Award: Rachael Toldness
- James D. Anthony Award: Elizabeth Kierepka and Darren Rebar
- Clifford H. Mortimer Award: Wendy Olsen and Subhomita Ghoshroy
- Joseph B. Baier Award: Vyara Matson
- James J. Magnino, M.D. Scholarship: Jessica Loppnow
- Louise Neitge Mather Scholarship: Elizabeth Bolton

For more information about what these awards represent, please see: [http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/events/upload/BioSci_Awards_Spring_2012.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/events/upload/BioSci_Awards_Spring_2012.pdf)

**Women’s Studies**
- Rachel Skalitzky Award for first place undergraduate student research paper – Natasha Martin for “More Than A Cluster of Pixels.” The award is named in honor of Rachel Skalitzky, Associate Professor Emerita in Comparative Literature and the first long-term Director of the Women’s Studies program at UWM.
- Eliana Berg Award for first-place graduate student research paper – Suchismita Banerjee for “Transgressing Domesticity: (Re)formulating Agency and Subjecthood in Rabindranath Tagore’s ‘Stir Patra’ or ‘The Wife’s Letter.’.” The award is named in memory of Eliana Berg, who taught for Women’s Studies and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese for many years at UWM and UW-Madison. Her husband, Craig, continues to support the UWM Women’s Studies Program.

Congratulations **Drew Zoromski** (Ph.D. student in Communication)! Drew received a 2012-13 US Student Fulbright award. Based partially on his experiences teaching in Indonesia and at UWM, he will be appointed to an English Teaching Assistantship position to teach English as a foreign language in a Malaysian high school or university.

Congratulations to the members of the Letters and Science community who were awarded a certificate for their Online and Blended Teaching. The certificate recognizes successful course redesign, peer evaluation and delivery, demonstrating pedagogical change to adapt to an online and blended format.

- Jasmine Alinder: Public History
- Mary Brehm: English
- Andrew Cole: Communication
- Yuri Kitov: Foreign Languages and Linguistics
- Mariann Maris: English
- Alexis (Lexi) Pegram: English
- Estrella Sotomayor: Spanish and Portuguese
- Lindsay Timmerman: Communication
- Elaine Wong: Communication

Newsletters from around L&S


Colleen Hickman counts herself among the most fortunate people she knows, because her office window opens to awe-inspiring views of deep green Rocky Mountains sprinkled with white and lavender Columbine and capped with snow. She may have traded a flashy, highly-paid advertising gig in Los Angeles for the small spa town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, but every day, instead of staring at skyscrapers, this Spa of the Rockies marketing and sales assistant breathes fresh mountain air and mingles poolside with clients from around the world.

Living in Colorado wasn’t originally in her plans. “Many people think you have to go to the three big cities – New York, Los Angeles and Chicago – to find marketing jobs, but that isn’t true,” she said. “Marketing jobs exist everywhere, including the Rockies. I’m in the tourism and hospitality business – it’s new and challenging, and I’m learning a lot.”

Global promotion of the world’s largest outdoor mineral hot springs pool, with the resort’s spa, lodge, athletic club, restaurant, shops and activities, is an intense experience that provides full days of assisting in the development and implementation of a strategic marketing plan, handling group inquiries, facilitating sales efforts, and managing the resort’s social media presence.

Not so long ago, this 2010 UWM grad was trying to find the niche that would use her skills, satisfy her interests, provide meaningful work and fulfill her quest for challenges. Since childhood, the world of business fascinated her; while other girls were playing house, she was playing business. But it was a tug of war between “my numbers side and my creative side.” The path she chose didn’t seem quite right, so Colleen took a slight detour and thought carefully about her education. “I realized I could continue on a business course, but I was also fascinated with how the media influence people through products, design and advertising. When I realized I could take an interdisciplinary approach, it sparked my interest and ignited my enthusiasm.”

Taking control and charting her own course, Colleen double-majored in Marketing at the Lubar School of Business and Journalism in the College of Letters and Science, then added a Certificate in Digital Arts and Culture. As a participant in the Business Scholars Program, she moved along the Marketing track with a cohort of other Business Scholars who participated in a variety of meaningful activities – touring Harley Davidson with the company’s president, attending stockholders meetings, and working on real-life projects and presentations. These relationships and activities forged a strong connection with peers and to UWM.

“There are so many ways to feel connected to UWM, so many groups and activities,” Ms. Hickman emphasized. “There is something for everyone; you just have to take your own steps to get involved.”

Taking the initiative, Colleen accepted an unpaid summer internship at TBWA/Chiat/Day, a widely-known Los Angeles advertising firm. It was her “WOW” moment. “It was scary. I took out loans in order to take the internship and live in L.A., but it’s the best decision I ever made.”

Several internships later and with diploma in hand, she nabbed her dream job at another high-powered L.A. firm. Still, she felt something was missing, so she “refreshed” her life and found the resort position in an industry that was totally new to her. But Colleen easily adapted to the new work environment. “I’m very grateful I went to UWM, because I found the right resources to help shape my course of study, I had a college and educational experience tailored to me, which was invaluable and made me a well-rounded marketing professional. Knowing I have the tools to make myself an asset anywhere, I was able and excited to step into the tourism and hospitality industry.”

Spending her workdays in the company of the magnificent Rockies is an added bonus.
UWM launches summer program in Morocco
by Kathy Quirk, University Relations

The Middle Eastern Studies program in the College of Letters & Science and UWM’s Zilber School of Public Health are collaborating on a summer program in Morocco for graduate and undergraduate students.

The six-credit program in Global Health, the first of its kind at UWM, will focus on maternal and infant health in Morocco while giving students an in-depth exposure to Arabic language and Moroccan history and culture. Global Health is an emerging interdisciplinary field at UWM, and this is the first international offering for the Zilber School of Public Health.

Ellen Amster, assistant professor of Middle East history who spent 15 years working in Morocco, and Karla Bartholomew, assistant professor of public health policy, are co-leaders. Morocco offers students the opportunity to study a developing country and experience both modern cities and remote rural regions, says Amster. The students will spend three weeks in the cities of Rabat, Fez and Marrakesh, and one week in the remote rural villages of Zawiya Ahansal in the High Atlas Mountains. The students will live with local families, experiencing regional foods and learning about both Berber and Arab culture.

In Rabat, students will learn Moroccan colloquial Arabic, study the impact of rapid urbanization in a developing country and consider social factors that impact maternal and infant health such as poverty, urbanization, law and gender. In the mountainous rural area, students will have fieldwork experiences exploring community health needs, development programs, traditional healing practices and environmental issues.

**Working within an Islamic framework**

“Morocco is an Islamic country in both religion and culture,” says Amster, which means that public health organizations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) must provide services within that cultural and religious framework.

For example, because the Moroccan legal system interprets sex outside of marriage as adultery, unwed mothers are criminalized and stigmatized, which often leads to child abandonment. Students will meet with Aicha Ech-Channa, who won the 2009 Opus prize for her NGO Solidarité Féminine, which provides unwed mothers with job training, housing stipends, child care and medical support to allow them to keep and support their babies.

Health organizations in Morocco have learned to work within this religious framework, says Bartholomew. While Islamic authorities condemn homosexuality and drug use, the NGO Association de Lutte Contre le Sida (Association Fighting Against AIDS) has recruited imams to act as peer AIDS educators. “Imams in Morocco support AIDS education under the philosophy of minimizing harm and damage, which is an Islamic concept,” says Amster.

**Modern housing to rural health**

Students will see modern housing solutions built to replace shantytowns in the colonial (1912-1956) and postcolonial industrial city of Casablanca, and experience medieval Islamic architecture in the ninth-century city of Fez. In addition to research and fieldwork, students will meet with women’s rights groups, feminist lawyers, the National Institute of Hygiene (the Moroccan equivalent of the CDC) and American programs for women and children from the Peace Corps and USAID.

Morocco is currently experiencing an influx of illegal immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa, which exacerbates underlying public health issues such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and maternal-infant health, according to Bartholomew. The Moroccan state is struggling to meet the health needs of these immigrants, and already provides healthcare to illegal, HIV-infected immigrants.

In rural areas, a minority, mostly Berber population has less access to state services and basic needs like food, clean water, adequate shelter, education and healthcare services. The students will spend time assessing community health needs and learning about community solutions and rural health by working with a local association that coordinates with national and international groups.

[continued on page 9]
30–3 April-May
9:00 PM – STARGAZING. Weather permitting, the Planetarium will host free stargazing, April 30th through May 3rd. http://bit.ly/Ia4cRy

2 May

3–5 May

4 May
2:00 PM – ECONOMICS SEMINAR: WOULD A CURRENCY UNION BY ANY OTHER NAME BE AS INTEGRATED. Presented by Greg Whittent, University of Pittsburgh, in Lubar Hall, Room N110.

2:00 PM – NEUROSCIENCE SEMINAR: AQUAPORIN-3B IN NEURAL FOLDS AND IN NEURAL TUBE CLOSURE. Dr. Christa Merzdorf, Montana State University, will speak in Lapham Hall, Room 101.

3:00 PM – PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM: NANOPORES: PORTALS TO THE MOLECULAR WORLD. Dr. Jason Dwyer, University of Rhode Island, discusses nanopores, the nanometer-diameter holes in insulating membranes that divide electrochemical cells in half. Physics Building, Room 135. http://bit.ly/IhY89O

3:30 PM – PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM: MEREOLOGY AND MODALITY. Gabriel Uzquiano from the University of Southern California presents in Curtin Hall, Room 124.

8:00 PM – PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM: RISK OF EXPOSURE TO RADIATION FROM AIRPORT WHOLE-BODY SCANNERS. Dr. John E. Moulder from the Medical College of Wisconsin will discuss this timely topic as we approach the summer travel season. Physics Building, Room 137. http://bit.ly/IEnL6B

6 & 8 May
STAGED READING OF KADYA MOLODOWSKY’S AFTER THE DESERT GOD. Inspired by true events in the life of Doña Gracia Mendes Nasi (1510-69), Molodowsky brings history to life. The world premiere of Joel Berkowitz’s (Center for Jewish Studies) English translation will be performed by the Vanity Theatre Company at the UWM Music Building on May 6th at 3 pm. An encore performance occurs on May 8th at 7 pm at the Jewish Community Center.

9 May

16 May

22 May
7:00 PM – LOVE AT THE ZERO HOUR: JEWISH WAR BRIDES IN WWII. Historian Robin Judd tells the story of Jewish female survivors in postwar Europe who married American military personnel. Sponsored by the Sam and Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies and held at the UWM Library.

This third annual benefit event is a partnership between the Planetarium and the Peck School of the Arts. Space-themed artwork created by staff, students and community members is featured and available for purchase along with other gift baskets. The proceeds support UWM’s Manfred Olson Planetarium. Tickets are $30 or $15 with a UWM-student ID. http://bit.ly/la1rQh

Saturday, April 28, 2012, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Manfred Olson Planetarium, 1900 E. Kenwood Blvd.
Forecast continued from page 4

Broadcast skills and duties are another IW service and student training opportunity. Along with Westendorf, the staff offers weather broadcasts for radio station clients. In the Milwaukee area, listeners can hear the broadcasts every hour on WUWM-FM 89.7, or listen to them on the Innovative Weather website, www.innovativeweather.com.

In March, Zach Uttech became the third IW student staffer to accept a position with the National Weather Service, which rarely hires new graduates. Professor Roebber says, “It’s great knowing that Zach’s hard work at his studies and the experience he gained in Innovative Weather helped him achieve his dream.”

Satisfied clients and premier student placements show exactly why Innovative Weather is a valuable complement to the academic program in atmospheric science.

Morocco continued from page 7

Co-leaders bring a wealth of experience

Both Amster and Bartholomew bring extensive experience to the summer program. Amster spent several years in Morocco for fieldwork, Arabic study and medical research. Her interest in medical issues grew out of her work as a simultaneous Arabic-English-French translator for ORBIS, which led an eye surgery mission to Morocco in 1999. Her forthcoming book, “Medicine and the Saints: Science, Islam, and the Colonial Encounter in Morocco” (University of Texas Press, 2013), is a history of medicine in Morocco.

Bartholomew, who specializes in infant and maternal health, has worked in community health programs in locations ranging from rural areas in the United States, including remote bush Alaska, to Central and South America. She trained and worked as a physician assistant, and earned her master of public health in internal health, a law degree with a specialization in health law, a master of public health in international law and a doctorate in policy development and program evaluation in health policy.

At this point, 13 students have been accepted into the summer program from a variety of areas, including Public Health, Religious Studies, Global Studies, Anthropology, Women’s Studies, Arabic, Nursing and other areas.

Amster and Bartholomew made a site visit to Morocco in January with funding from a U.S. Department of Education grant (UISFL) awarded to UWM for 2009-12. That grant also provides $8,000 in support for running the program in the summer of 2012. They’re looking forward to introducing students to Morocco and hoping to build relationships that will lead to ongoing collaborations and future field placements for students.

“We are delighted to offer this summer experience as part of our commitment to global health and improving health outcomes for women here at home and around the world,” says Magda Peck, dean of the School of Public Health. The Morocco summer program can serve as a template for both the School of Public Health and UWM for creating relevant global health experiences grounded in cultural immersion and current events, she adds.

“The Arab Spring is motivated by the failures of the welfare state in the Islamic world,” says Amster. “It’s a good time to think about health and healthcare in a place like Morocco.”

Mother and child in Zawiya Ahansal. Photo Credit: Karla Bartholomew.
L&S People in Print


http://amzn.to/H6IUGS


New Videos and Web Sites

The Art History Gallery Acquires Chagall Prints

I AM UWM: Erin Nordloh is a Journalism and Documentary student who participates in the Broadcast Club.

womensstudies.uwm.edu
Check out the new web site for the Women’s Studies Program.

writingcenter.uwm.edu
The new Writing Center web site features “The Tutors” (full-length video) and a “Video Shortcuts” web wall (1-3 minute clips) where current and alum tutors discuss the long/short term effects of their Writing Center work.
In the Media and Around the Community

Mark Schwartz (Geography) told WUWM’s Mitch Teich that the early spring this year is just the tip of the (melting) iceberg. [http://www.wuwm.com/programs/lake_effect/lake_effect_segment.php?segmentid=9015](http://www.wuwm.com/programs/lake_effect/lake_effect_segment.php?segmentid=9015)

Jeffrey Sommers (Africology) traveled to Latvia over spring break where he spoke at regional and national development meetings with Latvian government and political representatives, gave an interview to Radio Naba at the University of Latvia on the topic of austerity and the global economy, and guest lectured at the Baltic International Academy on debt and the global economic crisis.

Rudi Strickler (Biological Sciences) was a co-author on recently published news that obtained significant media attention. The project, documented on high-speed video, shows how tiny marine crustacean called copepods launch themselves into the air to avoid being eaten by a predator. Rudi helped Principal Investigator Brad Gemmell at UT-Austin with the video technology, capturing copepod behavior for the first time on film. The story ran in *Science*, *Discover*, and *COSMOS*, and on the BBC. See “Flying plankton take to the air to flee from fish” from *Discover* for a great summary. [http://bit.ly/H7no6n](http://bit.ly/H7no6n)

An excavation project in Baden-Württemberg, Germany, led by Bettina Arnold (Anthropology), was written about in Der Spiegel, a German magazine with a weekly circulation of over one million people. The project involves the use of CT-scan technology to reconstruct artifacts and clothing from the early Iron Age (700-400 BC) that may be too fragile to recover using conventional methods. Featured last month in UWM’s news feed and in UWM’s annual research report, Bettina’s work has generated much buzz around the world. [http://bit.ly/I0xt3K](http://bit.ly/I0xt3K)

Joyce Kirk and Erin Winkler (Africology) presented papers and served as panelists at Northwestern University’s “A Beautiful Struggle: Transformative Black Studies in Shifting Political Landscapes – A Summit of Doctoral Programs” conference. The conference brought together all eleven PhD programs in Black Studies. UWM is in good company amongst this group that includes Harvard, Yale, UC-Berkeley, Northwestern, Temple, UMass-Amherst, Michigan State, Brown, Indiana, and Penn. Five UWM graduate students also attended: Michael Berkley, Crystal Edwards, Charmane Perry, A. J. Rice, and Cami Thomas.

Amanda Seligman (History and Urban Studies) spoke on *Midday with Dan Rodricks*, the afternoon show on Baltimore’s NPR station, discussing her new book, *Is Graduate School Really for You?: The Whos, Whats, Hows and Whys of Pursuing a Master’s or Ph.D.* [http://www.wypr.org/stationprogram/midday-dan-rodricks](http://www.wypr.org/stationprogram/midday-dan-rodricks) (scroll to April 16, 1 pm)

Brittany Ahuja, Kiersten Berggren, and Rodney Swain (Psychology) presented “Exercise and hypoxia in the rat hippocampus” at the Chicago Chapter Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting.

NASA referenced Mark Schwartz’s (Geography) research in their article, “Spring Paints the Piedmont Green.” [http://1.usa.gov/Jj7gMm](http://1.usa.gov/Jj7gMm)

Jean Creighton (Planetarium) presented “Organizational Schemes as Aids for Understanding Astronomical Content” on March 28th at the National Association of Research on Science Teaching (NARST) in Indianapolis.

Bonnie Klein-Tasman (Psychology) presented three posters with her collaborators at the 40th Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society held in Montreal in February:
- “Relations between Cognitive Functioning and Early Academic Skills in Preschool-Aged Children with NF1” with K. M. Janke, M. J. Schuett and others.

Luca Ferrero (Philosophy) presented “The Stability of Intentions” at the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, in Seattle in April.

Faye van der Fluit and Bonnie Klein-Tasman (Psychology) presented “A Case Study of Co-occurring 15q13.3 deletion and Williams syndrome” at the Gatlinburg Conference on Research and Theory in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The conference took place in March in Annapolis, Maryland.

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In the Media and Around the Community

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Karyn Frick (Psychology) gave a Neuroscience Program Colloquium at Florida State University on March 14th on “Building a better hormone therapy? How understanding rapid effects of estrogens could lead to new therapies for age-related memory decline.”

Fred Helmstetter (Psychology) gave a lecture on memory and the brain sponsored by the Biology Department at St. Norbert’s College in DePere, Wisconsin, on March 23rd. It was the featured address to kick off their national Brain Awareness Week activities.

Several individuals from the Department of Communication made presentations at the Central States Communication Association Conference held in Cleveland in March:
• Mike Allen – “Deserving stigma”
• Andrew W. Cole – “Beware the witching hour: ‘Dark times’ & rhetoric as magic” and “Women, audience and enthymeme in responses to Kinsey’s ‘Sexual Behavior in the Human Female’”
• Melissa Maier, Katie L. Turkiewicz, and Phil F. Rippke – “Relational maintenance strategies in the stepmother-stepdaughter dyad”
• Kim Omachinski – “Intercultural challenges working overseas”
• Debby DeCloedt Pinçon – “Autism: A visual ethnography”
• Kelly Tenzek, Emily Cramer, and Mike Allen – “Hospice chaplains: An examination of communication issues”
• Katie L. Turkiewicz – “Cyberchondria scale construction: The Cyberchondria Assessment Measure (CYCAM).” Katie’s paper also won awards for Top Division Paper and Top Student Paper, Health Communication Interest Group.
• Katie L. Turkiewicz – “Existing theoretical frameworks of interpersonal forgiveness: A critical review”

An article on austerity written by Jeffrey Sommers (Africology) was picked up by the New York Times and listed on the portion of their website that compiles articles of note connected to the University of Wisconsin.

Bergtrom, G., Russell, M.R., Aycock, A., Stoerger, S., Cole, A.W. (Communication), Barth, D., and Mangrich, A. presented “Future faculty development: How do we prepare them for distance teaching and learning?” at the 2012 Sloan-C Blended Learning Conference and Workshop in Milwaukee in April. This year’s conference theme was Perfecting the Blend.

Kim Omachinski (Communication) made six presentations with various collaborators at the Wisconsin Association for International Educators Conference in Appleton, Wisconsin, in April.
• F-1 case studies
• Orientation burnout: Recharging your batteries for a new and improved international student orientation
• Immigration open dialogue
• Challenges and benefits of working with faith based organizations
• F-1 basics workshop
• Creating a living learning community that increases global engagement

Vidoloff, K. G., Becker, K. A. (Communication), and Freberg, K. presented “Analysis of media framing across traditional and social media during the Japan radiation emergency: Implications for emergency risk communication practitioners” at the 12th biennial Kentucky Conference on Health Communication in Lexington in April.

Elaine Wong (Communication) spoke at the Women Leaders Conference in Milwaukee in March on “A Race to the Finish: Decision Making in Groups and Teams.”

Elaine Wong’s (Communication) research titled, “The Gleam of the Double-Edged Sword: The Benefits of Subgroups for Organizational Ethics” was cited by the Huffington Post on April 12th in an article titled “The Surprising Benefits of Corporate Disunity.”

Ruth Beerman (Communication) presented “Big and beautiful? Using Drop Dead Diva to interrogate bodily intersections of gender, beauty, and fatness” at the Gender Matters Conference held at Governors State University in University Park, Illinois, in April.

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