

Emerging Ideas

The Newsletter of The International
Development Studies Program

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES WELCOMES 1ST YEAR AND RETURNING 2ND YEAR STUDENTS TO OHIO UNIVERSITY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the director	Pg. 1
1st Year Students	Pgs.2-4
Tips for 1st year students	Pg. 5
2nd Year Students	Pgs. 5-9
Intl. Recipe + Guess Who?	Pg. 10

EMERGING IDEAS

EDITORS:
Scott Kreps
Ezki Widianti
Lisa Smith

Please send your contributions, comments, and/or suggestions to:
develpr@www.ohiou.edu
Or, by mail to:
International Development Studies Program
Center for International Studies
Yamada House
Ohio University
Athens, OH 45701

From Central Asia to Central America and almost all points in between the International Development Studies Program is happy to welcome a very diverse group of students to the Center for International Studies at Ohio University. Read their biographies inside on Pages 2 through 4. Also, IDS welcomes back 2nd year students from summer break. From Washington DC to Tanzania, Belize to Russia, 2nd year students spent the summer doing a variety of activities ranging from research, internships, and traveling, to hanging out with friends. Read more about their summer experiences on Pages 5– 9.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR...

After a year on leave, it is both disconcerting and reassuring to return to the familiar rhythms of the academic calendar and the particular satisfactions of the International Development Studies Program. During this special year I traveled, read, wrote, collected data, and generally recharged intellectual batteries. Highlights of the year include three trips to Indonesia during which I met with representatives of women’s organizations, investigated social welfare provision at various levels of government and nongovernmental sources, visited rural villages in South Sumatra and Yogyakarta, and participated in workshops on civic education, including one that I conducted on qualitative and feminist methods at UIN, the Islamic University of Indonesia in Jakarta. I learned an immense amount and came away with reinforced admiration for the work being done on a variety of fronts. In addition there were conferences and workshops in Trondheim, Norway, Washington, DC, Sacramento and San Francisco, California, on issues of social exclusion, rural child poverty, and welfare reform. Finally, there was a semi-disastrous foray into the Grand Canyon, from which I emerged with a broken foot but an unbroken appreciation of the healing powers of wilderness pursuits.



The return to IDS has been greatly facilitated by the welcome and assistance of Center for International Studies personnel and enlivened by becoming acquainted with program students new and old. It has been a great pleasure to meet returning students, welcome the new cohort, and generally become re-immersed in the process of learning and doing development work. I look forward to a productive and enjoyable year for all.

-Ann R. Tickamyer



WELCOME 1ST YEAR IDS STUDENTS!

Takashi Kashima , Japan

Takashi graduated from Chubu University in Japan this March. He studied British and American culture. His research interests center on education and communication in the context of international development. Takashi was previously involved in cross-cultural training for elementary school children and their parents as an assistant worker for his University. These opportunities made him “realize the need to cultivate cultural understanding individually in order to solve conflict, maximize education efficiency, and enrich morality”.



Bruce Voss, Iowa, U.S.

After working as an international travel consultant, Bruce is returning to school as an International Development Studies student to prepare for a second career. His desire for studying International Development is to prepare for work in the area of international relief: organizing, administering and delivering life essential relief supplies through a nongovernmental organization in areas of war, famine or natural disaster. His heart would like to be working in the areas where peoples lives are on the very edge of being lost. His undergraduate degree is in elementary education with a concentration in geography.



Young Joon Lim, Korea

Young Joon completed his undergraduate degree in journalism at Utah State University. His main academic interest is world power. He is a self-proclaimed “couch potato”.



Troy Johnson , Davenport, Iowa, U.S.

Troy attended St. Ambrose University in Davenport Iowa where he studied history education and moral philosophy. Following his studies at the University he joined the Peace Corps where he served as a volunteer in Kazakhstan. Most recently he had been working with a youth development organization in Colorado.



Anna Gabritchidze, Georgia

Anna holds a BA in intl. business and foreign economic relations, and a master’s degree in public administration from the Georgian American Institute of Public Affaires. She did an internship in the Parliamentary Committee of Foreign Affaires of Georgia. She began work at the Georgian Investment Centre (under the Ministry of Foreign Affaires of Georgia), though her most recent work was with an NGO called the Georgian Employers’ Association, working on different ILO projects.



Neelam Singh, India

Neelam's undergraduate degree is in physics, although she states that she and the subject of physics have since parted ways. Her last position was with an NGO called the Centre for Science and Environment, based in Delhi, India. She spent four years there campaigning, researching and reporting on various issues like global warming, ozone depletion, and conservation policies related to resources like forests. She hopes to learn more about the complex linkages between the environment and development, particularly in the context of natural resources in developing countries.

*June Ginther, Chillicothe, Ohio, U.S.*

June began her undergraduate studies at Ohio State University as a pre-pharmacy major, before she says she "wised up" and joined their International Studies program. Soon thereafter, she was given a Peace Corps assignment in Ecuador working as an Alternative Agriculture Volunteer. As a volunteer, she had the opportunity to work with a women's group developing an integrated farm and numerous side projects. She has also managed study abroad programs and was a Peace Corps Trainer. The focus of her studies at Ohio University will be gender issues and economic development.

Patrick Coonan, Fort Wayne, Indiana, U.S.

Patrick graduated from the University of Dayton with a B.A. in philosophy and Spanish in 2001. Patrick joined the Peace Corps and was sent to the Cape Verde Islands where he taught computers and carried out an extensive teacher training. Upon returning to the U.S., he worked for Lutheran Social Services working as a case manager for parents suffering from substance abuse and who had lost custody of their children to the Court. Patrick hopes that a MAIA from OU will help him to return to West Africa to support educational initiatives in the field of development.

*Reiko Kiyohara, Japan*

Reiko completed her undergraduate degree in British and American culture this March. Her main area of academic interest for the international development studies program at OU is the African continent and HIV/AIDS.

Ysabel Bombardiere, Caracas, Venezuela

Ysabel graduated from West Virginia University in industrial engineering. She worked for 3 1/2 years for NGK Spark Plugs MFG as a Quality Engineer and most recently, worked at West Virginia State University in an EPSCOR project. She is interested in projects that will enhance the competitiveness of developing countries and increase their living standard. She hopes to complement her engineering background with knowledge of the economic and social issues that affect developing countries. She has a husband and 14 month old baby, Jeannette. Ysabel tells us that besides being cute and smart, Jeanette is also bilingual.



Dan Rooney, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.

Dan earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in history with an emphasis on world religions, and a minor in anthropology. From 2000 to 2002, he served in the Peace Corps in Niger, doing natural resource management and AIDS-related work. Dan returned to Niger with the Carter Center in late 2002 to— in his words— “chase nomads around the desert and look for guinea worm”. Dan was married in August of this year to Tanja Englberger, who he met in Niger.

*Winnie Edward Terry, Tanzania*

Winnie holds a BA in botany from the University of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. She then worked with the Street Children Work Program, serving 13-18 year old youth. The program aim was to develop skills and build capacity so that the youth could lead normal and responsible lives. Winnie has also worked with an organization which provides small loans to women with small businesses. She is now concentrating her studies on development because she would like to see her people, particularly women, be empowered economically. Most of all, she says she loves working with the community.

*Nodira Karimzoda, Dushanbe, Tajikistan*

Nodira graduated from the Technological University of Tajikistan in 1997 as an “engender-technologist in food production”. She had practical training in Israel in 1995 and in Norway in 1996. Nodira worked for four years for the Tajikistan Social Investment Fund (the first World Bank pilot project on poverty reduction in Tajikistan) as an interpreter. She has worked for the UNDP as a program assistant, on projects to provide internet access to students, technical assistance to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan, strengthening human rights, and on the “Silk Road Area Development Project”.

*Janelle Lewis, St. Kitts and Nevis*

Janelle graduated from the University of the West Indies in 2001 with a BSc in sociology and a minor in gender studies. She was employed in the Ministry of Social Development, Community and Gender Affairs from September 2001 to August 2004 as a Community Development Officer. She is a proud member of the St. Kitts Leo Club and former chairperson of the steering committee to establish a national youth council in her country.

Ezki Widiarti, Indonesia

Ezki is a journalist, who used to cover conflict areas like East Timor, Aceh, Ambon, and Poso. Though she liked her work, she also felt sad, angry and hopeless witnessing “humanitarian problems”. She is a member of several organizations which focus on freedom of press. She and a colleague established the Safety Office Media in East Timor in 1999 to protect journalists. She did an internship at Human Rights Watch in 1998 as a researcher. Her dream consists of seeing the day when there is no conflict in Indonesia. Her area of focus for her studies at OU will be social change related to conflict between government, military, and society.



Tips for 1st Year IDS Students From 2nd Year IDS Students...

- Try to incorporate your final graduate work ideas (or country you want to work in) into your regular research papers you write for classes. This way you will build pieces of your final thesis/project work. Also, if you can't afford some books, ask to borrow books from students who have taken the same class before. Also, don't forget to have fun sometimes, it helps to take off school pressure. (Mohira Kurbanova)
- If you plan to do a thesis on a topic which is relevant to your home country then it is important that you start a dialogue with as many relevant institutions ASAP, so getting contact information is your first priority. Second, be persistent. Don't wait for them to respond to your emails, hound them as much as you can. Remember that you are contacting working individuals. You need them they don't necessarily need you. (Jose Trejo)
- If you are interested in gender studies, you can earn a graduate certificate in women's studies, by taking 17 credit hours. I recommend the Gender and Development class in the winter, with Dr. Nation. This counts as a development course and a gender course. (Heather Arney)
- Take a break from studying every now and then and relax. (Paige Miller)
- Saturday morning breakfasts at Big Chimney. A must. (Bryan Morris)
- Take advantage of all the quest speakers who come and present their recent research. Even if you have a lot of homework, guest speakers are an easy way to learn about a variety of subjects. (Laura Mack)
- Get off campus and out of town. Southeastern Ohio has some beautiful caverns, streams, and lakes. Hocking Hills State Park, Lake Hope State Park, and Strouds Run are great. Support your bioregion and get to the Athens Farmers Market. Held on Wed. and Sat. at the Athens Mall. Great selection of fresh goodies and economically benefits local farmers!! Also, go to the Smiling Skull. A slice of Americana with a splash of hippies, ex-convicts, and bikers -- if a band isn't playing your ears off strike up a conversation at the bar...it is a place where storytelling is still alive and well. Stay in Athens part of the summer. The students are mostly gone, the townies come out from their hiding places, and relaxing on porches with a drink becomes an art form. The smash up derby at the fair is a must see but the best is traipsing down to the river and lying beneath the thousands of lightning bugs in mid-June. (Scott Kreps)

2ND YEAR IDS STUDENTS' SUMMER EXPERIENCES

Collins Annin, Ghana

This summer, Collins attended orientation for the Department of Residence Life at OU, which challenged him to read: *Nickel and Dimed* and *Educating Citizens: Preparing America's undergraduates for lives of Moral and Civic Responsibility*. These books exposed him to the issues confronting the working poor in America and the potential role higher education plays in preparing students to become responsible citizens. Collins says his relationship with Residence Life is more than work; it is an opportunity to gain practical experiences in living/learning, human development, community building and tolerance.



Paige Miller, Appleton, Wisconsin, U.S.

Paige traveled to Samoa to conduct research and collect data for her thesis on the accessibility of health care services and its affect on women's healthcare-seeking decisions. It was a fabulous adventure filled with learning, enlightenment, a lot of sun, and new friends. Paige also managed to spend some quality time with family in both Wisconsin and Hawaii and helped welcome her third nephew, Lucas Patrick, into the world. She is looking forward to another year of graduate school in good old Athens and the many, many hours she will spend writing her thesis.



Bryan Morris, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.

Bryan Morris received a grant to participate in the United States-Indonesia Society's (USINDO) Summer Studies Program- a language and cultural studies program at Gadja Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Bryan also began research for his thesis this summer, focusing on organizational evaluation of NGOs in Jakarta and Yogyakarta. He also worked with Nurani Dunia, an NGO closely tied with Dr. Collins and Ohio University. Additionally, Bryan studied Balinese dancing and gamelan during his time in Yogyakarta. He is available for private parties.

Heather Arney, Kansas City, Missouri, U.S.

Heather studied Sudanese Arabic through the SCALI program at OU. She generally had her afternoons free so she spent a lot of time pondering what to do after graduation and enjoying Athens with most of the students gone- which she says was "really really nice". She then went to visit her parents in Kansas City, Missouri and spent time relaxing and working on a Fulbright application.



Mohira Kurbanova, Uzbekistan

This summer I interned with the first and only exchange program administered by the legislative branch of the U.S. government – Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. During my internship, I had full exposure to the program operations and projects. I participated in the on-going trainings, and conferences, assisted in the development of pilot project for Uzbekistan. Above all, I had a great opportunity to build network of contacts with representatives of local and international organizations.

Molly Steinbauer, Clyde, Ohio, U.S.

Molly Steinbauer spent this past summer as an intern at the Education Development Center (EDC) in Tanzania. EDC is a U.S. based NGO working in Tanzania on the issue of child labor with assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor and working in conjunction with the Tanzanian Ministry of Education. EDC's project in Tanzania focuses on educating child laborers through Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) within informal schools throughout Tanzania. Molly's work included developing and coordinating an evaluation of EDC's 60 informal schools within the Dar Es Salaam region of Tanzania.

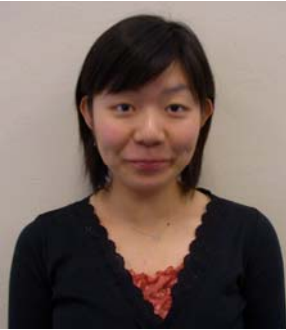


Patrick Asante, Ghana

Being his first summer in the United States, Patrick decided to familiarize himself with the country and also try to gather information for his grant proposal. He therefore traveled with his wife to Atlanta, Lexington, West Virginia, New Jersey, New York City and Silver Spring, Maryland. In Silver Spring Maryland he met with a director of World Vision International, Mr. Emmanuel Opong, who is responsible for three African countries: Ghana, Mali and Senegal. They discussed his grant proposal topic "Micro-finance and Empowerment of Rural Women in the Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana" and Mr. Opong offered his future support to Patrick.

Hector Addison, Ghana

We regret to report that Hector registered to take summer classes but had to cancel them to travel to Ghana to attend the funeral of his father and beloved aunt. Needless to say it was not a pleasant experience, but he says he took advantage of the unfortunate situation to oversee his non-profit organization there after a long absence. He also discussed his final project proposal with the directorship of the organization that will ultimately implement it and came up with some wonderful ideas that will certainly enrich his funding project proposal. Hector reports that he “managed to kill two birds with a stone and that alone gave me joy and sort of soothed my bleeding heart”.

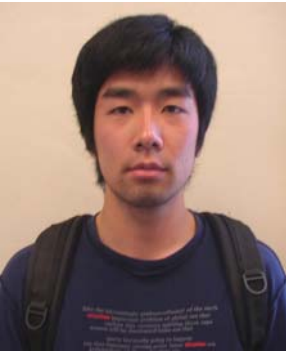


Yumiko Harada, Japan

Yumiko worked at a Peace Education Center (PEC) in Mae Sot, Thailand this summer. She lived with refugee students who studied English at PEC. She did research for her grant proposal, and group work for teaching students how to do presentations. She taught the listening section of the class. In the refugee camps, she went to the post-ten school and participated in classes and home-stayed at the refugee students' houses.

Laura Mack, Los Angeles, California, U.S.

Laura spent her summer in Tanzania working with Education Development Center (EDC) and its sub-organization Research Triangle Institute (RTI) of Tanzania. These organizations work on the issue of child labor at the same time as producing an educational radio program called Mambo Elimu for child laborers who were unable to attend primary school. Laura's main project was to help RTI analyze the data collected from their attitudinal survey, which was circulated through Tanzania to gauge people's attitudes on issues ranging from child labor to child rights.



Kosuke Tamura, Japan

Kosuke interned at the Waste Management Department (WMD) of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) as well as conducted research on his thesis which is solid waste disposal in Accra, Ghana. His duties at the WMD/AMA consisted of data collection and correction, data analysis, data organization, investigation of landfills, and environmental monitoring. He visited many places and met many people to receive information on his thesis topic.

Oumar Diallo, Guinea

Oumar conducted research on Guinean immigrant women and youth in the U.S. to determine the impact of immigration on their social, cultural and economic development. Assisted by Emily Osborn, a History professor at Notre Dame University, he did his research from Athens to Indiana, Chicago and California. He participated in a Guinean community picnic in Chicago where he spoke with prominent members of the Guineans' association. There, they made plans to have an organization linked to the women back in Guinea and to help the Guinean youth in the U.S.





Tae Ito, Japan

Tae took part in a summer program in Hawaii which was offered by the University of California, Santa Barbara. She spent 45 days on Oahu and other islands. She had the chance to do some camping. The program enabled her to explore Hawaiian natural history, culture, and to study environmental sustainability, while interacting with the spectacular natural environment. She was also involved in a research project conducted by the United States Geological Survey. She participated in surveys on Feral Pigs and Argentine Ants.

Kana Tamano, Japan

Kana spent the first part of her summer taking the class "Poverty, Education, and International Development" at OU. She says she learned a lot not only about poverty in Africa, but also about poverty in the U.S. She also traveled to Los Angeles, the Grand Canyon, and San Francisco. She visited many places and met various people. She says that "it was a really nice experience to see big cities and beautiful nature in the Western part of the U.S."



Scott Kreps, Athens, Ohio, U.S.

Aside from a few camping trips Scott spent summer here in beautiful Athens. He hung out with his son Keaton as much as possible, played in the garden, and enjoyed his cats. Scott says— working at Respite handling crisis calls and helping clients work through tough times was as rewarding as it was tiring. He also became an Independent Service Provider in order to assist an autistic man with daily living and learning. Interviewing folks connected to bio-region sustainability informed his grant proposal: "Increasing sales of small and medium farms to the local market". In addition, he developed a huge interest in the successes and ecological sensitivity of Cuba's farming techniques.

Francisco Perez, Nicaragua

Francisco performed research in Guatemala with the University Rafael Landivar and FON-TIERRAS (Land Fund). The main aim of the initiative was to identify the effects of the land legalization in terms of access to productive services and income. The main hypothesis was that the rural families have not changed their situation, and that the negative consequences of selling their land are greater. If the hypothesis is true, this means that support programs (credit, technology, commerce, or productive infrastructure) are required.



Milton Koroma, Sierra Leone

After a week long break in Columbus with his Sierra Leonean friends, Milton returned to Athens to take the Disease and Development, Comparative Concepts of Child Development and Disability in Africa, and Agricultural Development in Africa classes at OU. Besides his summer sessions, he got a chance to see Athens outside the classroom environment. He also moved to a new house in Clarke. Milton says that, overall his summer break was a rich and rewarding experience not only for the academic knowledge he gained but for his closer interaction with the Athens community.

Lisa Smith, Los Angeles, California, U.S.

Lisa spent the summer doing an internship at Co-op America in Washington DC. Co-op America is a nonprofit organization which strives to harness the economic power of individuals and corporations for use in creating ecological balance and social justice. Lisa helped organize Co-op America's annual Green Festival. She thoroughly enjoyed being back in a big city this summer, where she could take advantage of diverse cuisines and flamenco dance classes and shows. Lisa spent a few weeks in California this summer visiting friends and family as well. Her jet-setting little white chihuahua enjoyed all of the summer travels also.



Jose Trejo, Belize

Jose spent his summer home in Belize where he worked on his thesis, titled "Using Contingent Valuation Methodology to determine the Willingness To Pay for the use of a Natural Resource". A critical component of this methodology required face to face interviews. He spent time at the Hol Chan (Mayan for "Little Channel") Marine Reserve interviewing tourists. Jose says it was a wonderful and thrilling experience; he got to swim with sting rays, nurse sharks, sea turtles and various species of aquatic fish. He says it was quite a rewarding experience.

Kwame Boakye-Agyei, Ghana

Kwame describes his summer as refreshing, as he spent it traveling around the U. S.. He went to Atlanta Georgia, Birmingham Alabama, the Bronx in New York, Sunset in New Jersey, Manassas Virginia, and Washington DC. He had his first experience with a hurricane—hurricane Charlie in Tampa Bay Florida. He says this experience was “terrific but frightening”, and he flew out just in time to avoid any “unanticipated mishaps”.

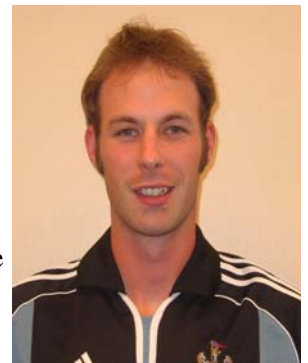


Maria Alexeiko, Russia

Maria went home and saw her family this summer. After this rest period, she started her internship, as a research assistant for the Moscow Center for Gender Studies (MCGS). MCGS cooperates with many international governmental and non-governmental agencies on best practices of research on gender related issues in Russia. Maria gathered and processed statistical and historical information for the purposes of future research. She met with representatives from USAID working in the Russian Far East on gender assessment as a required stage of any future strategy.

Matt Korn, Athens, Ohio, U.S.

Matt spent July in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, doing research for his thesis: “The Rise of the Garment Industry in Honduras”. Matt says that his research was more difficult than he had anticipated, since “the directors of the garment manufacturing firms located in and around San Pedro don't get very excited when a student from the US comes sniffing around for information”. However, with the help of a local connection he was able to access the Woong Chun textile manufacturing plant, the Honduras Apparel Manufacturing Association, and the Foundation for Investment and the Development of Exports.



This Quarter's International Recipe...

Pirojki (yes this is the potato dish everyone loved at our welcome party!)

from Anna Gabritchidze of the Republic of Georgia

Ingredients:

2-3 glasses of bakery flour
 2 tablespoons of oil
 2 eggs
 1 glass of warm milk
 1 teaspoon of yeast
 1 tablespoon of sugar
 1/2 teaspoon of salt
 Vegetable oil (1-3 table spoons)
 Pepper (to taste)
 1kg. Of potatoes
 1 onion

For the filling: Boil the potatoes. Fry the onion in vegetable oil. Mix together the potatoes, onion, and some salt and pepper (like making mashed potatoes). For the pastry: Mix the yeast into the glass of warm milk. Let it sit for 15 minutes. Then add the sugar, 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil, 2 eggs, some salt, and 2 glasses of flour. Mix all ingredients and let it sit for 2-3 hours. Divide the pastry dough into small balls. These ball must be rolled out into small flat circles. In each circle put one tablespoon of filling. Close them by sealing the edges together. Fry them in oil, with the seams faced down in the frying pan.

Can You Guess Which IDS Student...

- Was voted best dancer in the peace corps?
- Was theater director in college?
- Has a private pilot's license?
- Loves driving cars?
- Once started a forest fire in Canada?
- Goes to the zoo to talk with monkeys, elephants, or lions when angry or upset?
- Likes Serge Gainsbourg?
- Speaks German?
- Is addicted to hand lotion?
- Owns a cat named Jerry Garcia?
- Is in love with Maria Alexeiko?
- Is in love with Bryan Morris, and claims NOT to be a spokesperson for the IMF?
- Has a brand new baby?
- Dances flamenco?
- Once jumped into the ocean from a three-story high cliff?
- Used to compete barrel racing horses?
- Once threw \$100,000 at a girl he liked while working at a bank?
- Has nothing interesting whatsoever about himself?
- Loves to watch baseball and football (hint– this is a female)
- Takes an hour each morning to shower?
- Spent years training for modern pentathlon?

Answers in next quarter's newsletter...