When the CGS board met this March just before the Wyoming Goes Global Conference, we were able to reflect on some new initiatives across the 2017-2018 academic year that have broadened the scope of our work. For a second year, CGS was integral in bringing UW to DC, with the help of board members Chris and Michelle Spear. Chris Spear, who serves as President and CEO of the American Trucking Associations (ATA), hosted a UW alumni reception in Washington, DC, which featured an update on the university by President Laurie S. Nichols, some highlights of the work CGS is doing, and an update from three CGS-funded students talking about their research on waste policy in Germany, Cambodian identity, and the Pathway’s State Department internship. Our trip to DC also included visits with Ambassador Dr. Arjun Karki from Nepal (pictured left with President Laurie Nichols & Director Jean Garrison), Ambassador Faycal Gouia from Tunisia, and officials from the Canadian Embassy as well as Wyoming’s congressional delegation. CGS board members, Dr. Tanja Börzel and Dr. Thomas Risse from the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB), have helped us develop a new faculty and student exchange relationship between our institutions. UW and FUB now have a joint funding arrangement to foster faculty research, which will support an interdisciplinary sustainable energy transitions workshop to be hosted at the AMK in Jackson in September, a comparative prisons project, and a fuel cells project. Each funded proposal includes faculty from both institutions. In June 2018, Stephanie Anderson, head of the School of Politics, Public Affairs, and International Studies, and I accompany President Nichols on a follow up visit to Berlin to sign a formal MOU and hold discussions to deepen our research and exchange opportunities. We then proceed to Strasbourg, France for a visit to the University of Strasbourg to engage in a discussion with its business college, language program, and to expand the relationship with Sciences Po – one of Europe’s top schools of politics and international relations. Expanding research and exchange opportunities in cooperation with UW’s Global Engagement Office is a core part of the CGS mission. To learn more, please check out the CGS strategic plan which provides a roadmap for our priorities through 2022 (see www.uwyo.edu/globalcenter/cgs-strategic-plan).

Misty Springer joined the Public Administration program at UW in 2016. She notes that “through a stroke of luck, an insightful advisor, and a lot of hard work” she found herself in Laramie returning to school for a master’s degree that had preoccupied her for many years, but somehow life keep getting in the way. Some say that life is a great and wondrous journey, surely, hers has not been conventional, but then nor has it been dull. Misty has worked in municipal government, in the theatre as an actress and a playwright, and spent time as a teacher, a traveler, a reporter, and a waitress. In summer 2017, through generous funding from CGS and her program, she spent two months in the Republic of Georgia as a research fellow experiencing a place unlike anywhere she had been before. In her time there, she became enchanted by the ancient culture and the warmth of the people. Through her research, she became keenly aware of the societal growing-pains Georgia has experienced since the fall of the Soviet Union as it stretches toward Western style democracy. This change was most palpable in the lives of the women she investigated. For some, their personal aspirations are strictly confined by cultural barriers, while many others are torn between their mother’s definition of womanhood and the personal freedoms they associate with the new Georgia. This duality inspired Misty to apply for the Fulbright scholarship to more fully explore the rifts between women in Georgian society today. Her research next year will focus on multiple generations of women in Georgia, their changing role in society, and the violence and oppression, a lingering vestige of a patriarchal history, which still permeates their lives today. This work will explore whether the progressive models of social legislation Georgia has adopted from the West have cultural resonance with its people and what kind of change it has wrought. Misty notes, “I am very grateful to the professors who have guided and inspired me during my time at UW and to those UW supporters who made my research possible. Lastly, I could not have come so far without the support of my dear father. Thank you!” Misty’s Fulbright Student Award is the only one being given out for Georgia. (Pictured left are Misty Springer with fellow student Marco Polo during a radio interview at the Buffalo Bill Center Center of the West in Cody as part of the “What in the World?” lecture series where she shared her research.)
In March, Center for Global Studies student and faculty fellows reported back on their CGS-supported research trips in 2017 at the Wyoming Goes Global Conference in Laramie. Having these fellows present their research on campus and around Wyoming is a key part of our mission and central to our strategic plan that advances internationally focused research at UW.

This year’s conference started with a panel on international careers including several UW alumni and affiliates. The panel, moderated by Mark Jenkins, who is a writer-in-residence at UW, included Megan Degenfelder, the Chief Policy Advisor for the Wyoming Department of Education and former government affairs liaison with Cloud Peak Energy, Mathias Jung, the CEO of Rocky Mountain International (a small business specializing in international travel and tourism promotion), Sara Robinson, an Education Abroad Advisor for UW, Berry Allen Sears, Managing Director of Global Functions and Data Governance Technology Audit at Citi, and Laurent Roux, founder & CEO of Gallatin Wealth Management and member of the CGS advisory board. The panelists showed what a great breadth of career possibilities come through international engagement. Next, Dr. Stephanie Anderson, head of the School of Politics, Public Affairs, & International Studies, chaired a panel on American foreign policy in the Trump era featuring former Ambassador to Oman, Gary Grappo, former Ambassador to Chad, Marc Wall, Major General Donald Alston, Senior Fellow at the Potomac Foundation and former Commander of the 20th Air Force, and CGS Director, Dr. Jean Garrison. The speakers used their foreign policy expertise to discuss key challenges the United States faces in the world today. The evening events, moderated by CGS Associate Director, Dr. Robert Field, highlighted the research of CGS faculty and student fellows, whose international research was funded in 2017. There were presentations from four students and one faculty member. Jessica Rick (PhD Botany) shared her on-going research on Lake Tanganyika’s fishery. Danielle Peck (MA International Studies) explored the impact of German reunification upon landfill waste management. Haylee Gobert (MS Agricultural and Applied Economics) showed the importance of exposure to music and storytelling on childhood development using evidence from New Zealand. Cecile Gleizes (MA International Studies) outlined major shifts in the internationalization of Chinese higher education. The faculty presentation, by Dr. Nevin Aiken of the School of Politics, Public Affairs, and International Studies, covered his research on socioeconomic marginalization and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. The final event was a poster session highlighting the breadth of research performed by our CGS student and faculty fellows. Posters included research such as sex trafficking in the country of Georgia, the immigration of au pairs, the behavior of golden-winged manakin birds in Peru, and counseling education in other countries.

CGS FELLOW PROFILE - JERRY STOTT

Wyoming has always been Jerry’s home. Born and raised in Green River, after he graduated from high school he headed to Powell to attend Northwest College, from which he matriculated to UW to get his undergraduate political science degree. He was then accepted to the Master’s in Public Administration program, which he saw as a means to gain the tools to give back to the state that has given him so much. As a requirement for his degree, he had to complete an internship in the public sector. Thanks to the generous funding from the CGS-U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop Conversations in Democracy Fund partnership and other sources he did this in the Republic of Georgia. In Georgia, he was placed in the Ministry of Environment’s Department of Internal Management and tasked with creating Georgia’s first federal risk management policy. In his words, “I was able to travel abroad for this internship – making it a far more exciting and meaningful experience than getting coffee or making copies.” Next year Jerry will be pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Utah in Political Science-Public Administration where he will be able to continue to do research on public policy issues. In Utah, he hopes to use his overseas experience and the life he’s lived in Wyoming to conduct research that betters the lives of citizens in states in the Mountain West.
University of Wyoming recognized student organization, European Horizons, hosted the European Horizon’s Western Regional Conference April 6th and 7th, bringing together students from other western chapters (Stanford University and the University of British Columbia) to explore issues facing Europe today. European Horizons is a transatlantic think tank based at Yale University, which brings together a network of students, professors, and European decision makers committed to forging a vision for the future of the European Union. European Union Ambassador David O’Sullivan inaugurated the conference with a well-attended keynote speech on the future of EU – U.S. relations. A career Irish civil servant, O’Sullivan was also the former chief operating officer of the European Union’s diplomatic corps, the European External Action Service, and held a number of high-level positions in the European Commission. O’Sullivan spoke about how important it is for students to add their voices to current policy discussions. The conference included an expert roundtable session focused on current challenges in the transatlantic relationship and three panels on energy and EU policy, culture and identity, and security. More than forty students participated, presenting briefing papers with specific policy recommendations followed by a robust public discussion. This student-organized research conference demonstrates the commitment of UW students and faculty to promote applied international research to foster solutions to complex international problems. This conference was supported by CGS and the School of Politics, Public Affairs, and International Studies.

Thanks to a Center for Global Studies faculty research grant, Susan Dewey, an Associate Professor in the School of Culture, Gender, and Social Justice, was able to complete two residencies, four books, a number of high impact articles, numerous talks, and provide international insights to improve the college-in-prison program, Wyoming Pathways from Prison. CGS funds supported Dewey’s residence at the University of Essex, where she worked with criminologist Isabel Crowhurst to develop concepts for many of the publications mentioned here; a subsequent visit to Nairobi, funded by an International Travel Grant, allowed her to be a visiting scholar at the African Population and Health Research Center where she worked with Chimaraoke Izugbara. Most of her four lead-authored or edited books supported by ideas generated during her CGS-funded research will be published in 2019, although one—Women on the Street: How the Criminal Justice-Social Services Alliance Fails Women in Prostitution (New York University Press)—appeared shortly after she received the grant. Her two books forthcoming in 2019 are: Outlaw Women: On Prison, Rural Violence, and Poverty on the New American Frontier (New York University Press, co-authored with UW colleagues, graduate student, and community activists B. Zare, C. Connolly, R. Epler, and R. Bratton), the Routledge International Handbook of Sex Industry Research (Routledge, co-edited with Chimaraoke Izugbara and Isabel Crowhurst). She is currently working with Izugbara and Crowhurst on the fourth book, which is under contract with Routledge and titled Sex for Sale and the Role of Third Sector Organizations: Africa, Europe, and North America. CGS funds also allowed Dewey time to process ideas that feature in articles that have or will soon be published in the following journals or books: Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Social Justice, Ethnos: Journal of the Society for Psychological Anthropology, Psychology of Women Quarterly, Wagadu: Journal of Transnational Women’s & Gender Studies, Pol./AIR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review, Sexuality & Culture, and Reworking Stigma Through Sex Work Studies?. Dewey also expanded on the ideas developed during her CGS-funded work in talks she gave at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, the American Society of Criminology, and the Correctional Education Association, among others. Dewey is very grateful to CGS for their support of her work.
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