Over the last year we’ve seen great changes at UW and within the Center for Global Studies (CGS). While budget cuts have garnered many headlines, CGS has emerged from the last year positioned to move forward on solid footing. For CGS, the old adage that “with great challenges come great opportunities” has proven true. With the support of President Laurie Nichols and Provost Kate Miller, UW has invested in the Center, its programming, and its people. This fall the Center welcomed some new faces in key roles. Dr. Robert Field has stepped into the associate director role previously held by Dr. Stephanie Anderson. I’d like to thank Stephanie for all her hard work and congratulate her on her appointment as the head of the new School of Politics, Public Affairs, and International Studies. Robert comes to us with extensive expertise in the field of environment and natural resources. He holds a Ph.D. from Imperial College, London with an expertise in air pollution and measuring air quality. He has extensive background measuring population exposure to air pollution with the UK government and EU Commission, and has been at the forefront of measuring ozone levels in Wyoming as related to oil and gas production. We also welcome the help of two new staff members; Erika Helgeson, project coordinator for CGS; and Lori Gonzales who works on event planning for CGS and the Office of Global Engagement. Erika comes to us from the Global and Area Studies Program and Lori most recently worked with the former Outreach School. With a new CGS team in place and completion of the CGS strategic plan, which closely ties to the goals in UW’s strategic plan, *Breaking Through: 2017-2022*, we have a roadmap for where we’d like to be in five years and the means to get there (available at www.uwyo.edu/globalcenter). Please partner with us as we work to bring the world to Wyoming and Wyoming to the world!

**From the Associate Director - Robert Field**

I am excited to become part of the CGS team at a time when internationalization is a key part of the new “Breaking Through” strategic plan for our University. Our team includes highly motivated students and it is exciting to engage with such a dynamic and diverse group of people. I believe wholeheartedly in the benefits of international experiences. I have been fortunate to live and work in the US, UK, and Italy. Through my role at CGS, I will be a strong advocate for interdisciplinary learning and collaborative research. I aim to help students and faculty, in every college, benefit from funding to support their international research. Global engagement brings wide ranging perspectives that develop our understanding of the complex world we share.

**Partnership Profile – A Commitment to Engagement**

CGS is known for its statewide engagement efforts. We believe that bringing speakers to communities, who provide diverse perspectives on global issues, is critical to improving the knowledge base of our communities, encourages our constituents to become proactive in the global community, builds relationships, and showcases what UW has to offer to the world. Signature programs such as World to Wyoming with Mark Jenkins, a senior fellow with CGS and correspondent for *National Geographic*, continue, and we have initiated two new series. First, the CGS-US Senator Malcolm Wallop “Conversations on Democracy” program (a partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences and the American Heritage Center) featured Ambassador Gary Grappo (former US Ambassador to Oman) and CGS-funded students in presentations in Sheridan, Cheyenne, and Casper. This fall, we also hosted Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen (NATO Secretary General, 2009-14 & Danish Prime Minister, 2001-2009) for a public talk on November 13 at UW on “America’s Willingness to Lead: Transatlantic Relations and the Future of US-European Relations.” Second, CGS took its World to Wyoming Program outside the state to Washington, DC with the partnership of the UW Foundation, Alumni Association, President’s Office, College of Arts & Sciences, and School of Energy Resources. With the help of CGS board members, Chris and Michelle Spear, along with the American Trucking Associations and other corporate partners, CGS hosted over 200 alumni and friends as Mark Jenkins talked about “Burma’s Resurrection.”
Studies on Women’s International Migration in Serbia

Nina Radovanovic (MA, American Studies) from Lukicevo, Serbia was given our Centennial Fellowship and CGS World to Wyoming Grant to travel to the Balkans to investigate ‘exchange programs’ of the US State Department, such as the one-year long Au Pair program. Participants in this program spend one year with an American family for the cultural exchange opportunity and receive a small stipend. She interviewed participants before their departure to understand their pre-departure expectations and decision making about participating in the program. She found that the more information and first-hand experience of au pairing that is available, the less attractive these programs become. The ‘cultural exchange’ story does not work that well anymore.

Graduate Research on the Environment in Germany & China

Danielle Peck (MA, International Studies/Environment and Natural Resources) from Lovell, WY was awarded our CGS-SER Nielson International Fieldwork Grant to conduct research in Germany. Danielle’s research focused on the former East Germany and its environmentally hazardous landfills before German reunification. She investigated policy changes that have occurred since reunification on how these spaces are managed. Danielle noted, “[t]his opportunity provided me with vital experience in the real world. With the results obtained from my research in Germany, I will complete my MA and be positioned to seek domestic or international work in the area of environment and natural resources.

Paul Bonifas (MBA and MS in Engineering) from Casper, WY received our CGS-SER Nielson International Fieldwork Grant and travelled to China in order to research how companies are using new technologies to overcome burdensome pollution challenges that affect how they conduct their business. Paul visited the RESEM Pyrolysis plant and the Huayin Renewable Energy Equipment Company to see how these eco-friendly transformations are taking place.

The Study of Trafficking in Georgia & Human History in Peru

Misty Springer (Master’s in Public Administration) from Las Vegas, Nevada was awarded the Christopher & Michelle Spear Grant Award and the Centennial Fellowship to travel to Georgia to study the prevalence of human trafficking in this post-Soviet country. Misty looked at the early causes of the sex-trafficking industry and researched how Georgia is handling the situation through new policy initiatives to prevent its spread.

Alexander Garcia-Putnam (PhD, Anthropology) from Laramie, WY was awarded our CGS World to Wyoming Grant to travel to Peru to study pottery remains. His work included assisting Anthropology faculty members, Dr. Jason Toohey and Dr. Melissa Murphy, in their field school for UW undergraduates. The work consisted of labeling and cataloging ceramic shards and exploratory surveying of possible architectural features and rock art in the Peruvian mountains. Alexander told us, “[t]his summers fieldwork and travel allowed me to get to know the country (past and present) that I will be devoting considerable energy and time to in the years to come for my PhD. I want to thank CGS and its supporters for making this research possible. I have now found the site for my dissertation research.”

Undergraduate Research in Africa

Brittany Nordberg (BS, Wildlife and Fisheries Biology & Management) from Cody, WY was awarded our Harris International Research Grant to conduct research in Tanzania. Working with a UW team, she investigated the evolutionary history of the Nile Perch Fish found in Lake Tanganyika, which is an important local food source and the major source of income for local residents. Brittany gained important experience in how to conduct scientific fieldwork.

2017 CGS-SER Nielson Graduate Fellowship Grant

This year’s CGS-SER Nielson Graduate Fellowship award winner is Ramesh Sapkota. Ramesh is a PhD candidate in the interdisciplinary Program in Ecology (PiE) coming from the Department of Ecosystem Science & Management. He is interested in observing the nexus between plant community assemblage and anthropogenic disturbances in the forests. For his PhD dissertation, he is investigating human use of lowland forests in Nepal and the effectiveness of (passive) restoration efforts. This fellowship award offers a $10,000.00 grant to help a student finish their thesis or dissertation project.
2017 Faculty Project Highlights

Transitional Justice in Ireland

Associate Professor Nevin Aiken (School of Politics, Public Affairs & International Studies), with money from a 2017 CGS-Senator Malcolm Wallop Research Grant, has been exploring the casual relationships in transitional justice in societies deeply divided by past human rights violations. Aiken travelled to Northern Ireland in the summer of 2017 to carry out his project titled, “Socioeconomic Depreciation and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland.” The findings from more than fifty interviews he conducted suggest that high levels of prejudice, sectarianism and divisive political polarization threaten the stability of the current peace process and democratic government in Northern Ireland. In addition to Dr. Aiken’s own research, the Wallop research grant also allowed him the ability to carry out a number of activities designed to advance internationalization at the University of Wyoming. In conjunction with staff from UW’s Global Engagement Office, Queen’s University Belfast, and the QUB Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security, and Justice, he was able to work on opening the opportunity for University of Wyoming students to participate in the Mitchell Institute’s world-renowned International Summer School on Conflict Transformation and Social Justice.

Health & Nutrition in Ghana

University of Wyoming Extension Educator Laura Balis (UW Extension Nutrition Program in Lander, WY) examined public health issues in the African country of Ghana with the CGS Faculty Fieldwork grant. Ghana, like many developing countries, is experiencing an epidemiologic shift in public health issues. Her project titled, “Older Ghanaian Adults’ Perceptions of Physical Activity: An Exploratory Study,” focused on determining older Ghanaian adult’s perceptions of physical activity in order to assess the feasibility of adapting and delivering an older adult physical activity program in the country.

Sustainable Energy in Scotland

Professors Sarah Strauss (Anthropology) and Carrick Eggleston (Geology and Geophysics) were awarded funding from the CGS-SER Nielson Faculty Fieldwork grant. With this funding, both professors were able to conduct research in Scotland during the summer of 2017 as well as gather material for two new courses to offer at UW; each will have a study abroad component. Their research titled, “From Abbotsford to Aberdeen: Scotland’s Energyscape in Transition,” looked at the different ways communities in Scotland have been transitioning to renewable and sustainable energy. This grant has helped establish an MOU relationship between the University of Aberdeen and the University of Wyoming. Their work in Scotland was part of UW at Abbotsford: A Multidisciplinary Research Group, a project that included faculty from across the university who plan to continue to deepen the collaboration between UW faculty, students, and colleagues in Scotland.
Giving to the Center for Global Studies

We hope you will consider a contribution to the Center for Global Studies at UW to support international work for our students and faculty. Here is my/our gift to make a difference: $ ____________

ONLINE: Make a payment using the donate button on the CGS website at www.uwyo.edu/globalcenter
PHONE: Call the University of Wyoming Foundation during normal business hours: (307) 766-6300 or (888) 831-7795.
MAIL: Return this stub with your contribution.*

Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for the Center for Global Studies (Appeal Code N18GS)

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Thankyou!

* Please make your check payable to the UW Foundation and indicate Center for Global Studies in the memo line.

Your gift is tax deductible as provided by law.