

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



Colorado
State
University

NEWSLETTER

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Director's Address:

Thinking Beyond College



On March 4th, 2015, International Studies hosted its annual career fair. This year, we partnered with the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, the International Development Minor, and the Career Center. With 100 students in attendance, the event was a great success.

The panelists shared their own professional paths and offered career advice to students. Here are a few of their words of wisdom:

Rick Sallinger, CBS News in Denver

- Never underestimate the power of networking.
- Be ready to seize opportunities, if and when they come your way.

Jess Harig, Posner Center for International Development

- Always be open to learning in your academic and professional career.
- Work on developing marketable skills as well as a degree.

Susan Reinert, US Foreign Service

- Foreign languages are essential for overseas work, and knowledge of "critical languages" is a plus.

Geoff Norby, Global Accent Translation

- For translation-type jobs, focus on perfecting one foreign language instead of (or in addition to) sampling many.

Katy Williams, Poudre Valley School District

- When you apply for international teaching jobs, "you apply for a lifestyle" — teaching at international schools is a great way to live and travel abroad.

David Bartecchi, Village Earth

- Volunteering and internships are the best path to non-profit employment.
- As an volunteer or intern, take initiative and get noticed.

The International Studies Major will help prepare you for these and many other careers. Get out there and good luck!

—Andrea Williams, PhD

Andrea.Williams@Colostate.EDU

Q & A WITH STATE DEPARTMENT INTERN HALLIE GARDNER, '15

Name: Hallie Gardner
Birthplace: Denver, Colorado
Class: 2015
Major: International Studies
Double Minor: Business Administration and Spanish
Concentration Area: Latin American Studies



How did you find out about this opportunity?

I attended a GAIA session a few semesters back, led by former State intern, Kiera Jackson. She spoke about her time with the State Department, and I realized this was something I was interested in. I followed her instructions and applied online via USAJobs.

What features do you think made your application successful? I am lucky enough to have a well-built

resume for someone who has yet to even graduate. I balance a full-time school schedule, two jobs, and several volunteer activities. My work experience has helped me grow and to learn about the professional environment, which was definitely something the Department was looking for. I also felt that I met all of the criteria on the application and my application essay was



well put together. In addition, I think my major made a difference. People always ask what I am studying and when I say International Studies they respond with, "Oh, you're in the right place."

Describe your daily schedule as a State Department Intern. My daily schedule really varies each day. I have my own desk, my own computer, and laptop as I am on the go most of the time. I help my supervisors with regular projects, sit in on meetings, run errands, and attend events.

What is the hardest and/or most challenging part of your job? The most challenging part of the job is obviously the fact that it's not paid. Three months with no income isn't exactly easy to swing, but I figured the payoff would be getting my foot in the door. With the help from my parents and extra hours at work before I left, I was able to make this all come together.

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CONGRATULATIONS!
The following INST Majors have successfully applied for State Department Internships this year:

- * **Hallie Gardner, '15**
⇒ Appointment: Washington, D.C.
- * **Jenna Hamilton, '16**
⇒ Appointment: Moscow
- * **Aley Schweigert, '17**
⇒ Appointment: Geneva

Q&A with Hallie Gardner—Continued from Page 2



What is the best part of your job? The best part about this job is the amount of freedom I am given in my work. Prior to coming to Washington, I wasn't quite sure what I would be doing. For some reason, I had this picture in my head of myself running to the nearest Starbucks to fetch coffee for my boss (I have probably watched *The Devil Wears Prada* one too many times...). However, upon my arrival and speaking with my supervisor, I realized that this internship was about me; I have the freedom to choose what projects I want to work on regarding my interests. During my first week here, my supervisor encouraged me to sit down and meet with several different people from our Bureau and take note about what they are working on. Then, loaded with that information, I was able to pick and choose my assignments. I am also encouraged to attend events! A presentation about Digital Humanitarians? Women's History Month Event? Help assisting the Chiefs of Mission Conference? You name it, they let me go. It's awesome!

How has this experience impacted you? Moving to a city by yourself and learning to work in an office surrounded by professionals has been quite the journey. I have learned so much about myself, my work, my learning styles, and about the real world. As an intern, I am constantly learning and taking on new assignments, forcing me to step outside of my comfort zone. I come to work each day and I am excited to see what will be on the agenda and I know that these aspects will impact me both professionally and personally as I continue to grow and take on more responsibility in the workplace.

What is your advice for students interested in obtaining such an internship? Apply! USAJobs is a great resource for government internships. Get your application out there. Landing jobs/internships is all about selling yourself.



Reflections on Education Abroad:

AN AMERICAN IN JAPAN

By Laquesh Matthews

I remember the very first time that I met my host mom like it was yesterday. We'd emailed each other about two weeks before my arrival, but the actual meeting in person was far better than I expected it to be. Up till that point I was super excited to finally meet the woman who would be taking care of me for the next year. Her name is Aiko Yamamoto. I called her "Aiko-san." She is a widow with one daughter who is married with two sons. Before we could meet, I had to wait outside the school's lobby until my name was called. When my name was finally called I suddenly became really nervous as I walked into the lobby. She came running up to me with a big smile on her face. She was so tiny. I'm 5'7 and she was about 4'8. So I was towering over her, but it was ok. Aiko-san didn't speak English very well, so 90 percent of our conversations were in Japanese. She grabbed my hands and welcomed me to Nagasaki. I was so nervous and excited that I temporarily forgot how to speak Japanese. Aiko-san then showed me to her car which was just as tiny as she was! I didn't think that I would be able to fit, but somehow I did.



Getting my suitcase into her car was an issue though. It was bigger than she was, but she insisted that I not help her put it in the car. We both laughed about how hard of a time she had. After getting settled in, my speaking abilities returned. When we got to the house she prepared a HUGE dinner and it was all for me. I didn't eat as much as she thought I would, and she asked me if I was on a diet. Apparently at the host family meetings, they told her that all Americans eat a lot and

to be sure to prepare a big meal for them. The Japanese can easily be offended, so I ate everything she put in front of me. She was a great cook, so I had no complaints.

Please believe me when I say that Aiko-san was the sweetest and most caring person I've ever met. This woman took me in and treated me as if I were her biological daughter. Even when she introduced me to people, she would tell them that I was her *musume* (Japanese for daughter). I got the feeling that she really enjoyed showing me off to her friends. She'd always have this big smile on her face when she introduced me. Aiko-san showed me all the things Nagasaki had to offer. We went to Buddhist temples and shrines to pray for her deceased family members.

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Laquesh is a senior in International Studies. She studied at Nagasaki University, Japan, in 2012-2013.



An American in Japan—Continued from Page 4

We went for long drives just to see the scenery. It was great. When Aiko-san got sick and I had to live in the girl's dorm for a bit, she still took care of me. She'd buy me groceries or take me to beautiful flower gardens. Because of her I was able to meet a lot of nice people. We visited her older sister and her family a few times. They lived about an hour or so away. They also treated me like one of the family. We did a lot of things together such as going to see fireworks, fields of flowers, and many festivals. I remember I won three goldfish at festival. I put them in a bowl in the dining room. One morning I was getting ready for school, and I noticed that the fish were in little cups for cupcakes. They died over night and Aiko-san left me a note expressing how sad she was that my fish had died, and that she was going to bury them in her garden. When I got home from school there was a newly planted flower in the garden. Aiko-san told me that she buried my fish there and that flower will always remind her of me. Not going to lie, I was touched by her gesture. I would have just flushed the fish down the toilet, but this was very sweet of her to do for me. There are many other instances where she did nice things for me. She even bought me a kotatsu! A kotatsu is a small table with a blan-



ket and a heater underneath. Japanese houses are very cold in the winter, so a kotatsu was a must.

Aiko-san and I were and still are very close. We even bathed together at an onsen on a day trip we took to the mountains. We were that close. My friends would often tell me how "cute we are together" and how well we got along. She taught me how to cook simple Japanese dishes and how to be a "proper" Japanese woman. I'll never forget about her. Aiko-san had a major role in making my time in Japan unforgettable. Not a day goes by that I don't think of her and returning to Japan again someday.

INST Events, Spring 2015

PAST EVENTS:

- ◆ **Bangladeshi Garment Workers Speak Out!**
6:30pm, Thursday, February 26th
Clark A-205
- ◆ **International Careers: A Panel / Networking Event**
3-5pm, Wednesday, March 4th
Lory Student Center North Ballroom
- ◆ **Meet the Real Isatou Ceesay, Award-Winning Grassroots Environmentalist**
5pm, Monday, March 30th
Clark A-204
- ◆ **International Language Café**
6pm, Wednesday, April 1st
Lory Student Center, Room 312

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ **United Nations Networking**
3-5pm, Friday, April 10th
Hellems 251, UC-Boulder Campus
- ◆ **Two Views on Working in the Middle East**
3:30-5pm, Monday, April 20th
Morgan Library Event Hall



Alumni Corner

LIVING AND WORKING ABROAD

By Charlie Vest, '11

Living abroad after you graduate is a great way to make the most out of your degree. You can continue to hone your language skills and move forward in your career, all while having the time of your life. As you get closer to graduating, you should take some time to considering the possibility of living abroad, and how to plan your next move.

There are many funding opportunities available for recent graduates ready to live, work, or continue studying outside the US. Fellowships such as Fulbright and Princeton in Asia sponsor graduates to do research projects, study, intern, or teach English. Programs like these look good on a resume or applications for graduate programs, and they're a great way to start your career while living abroad. The application dates for these programs usually come far in advance, so it's wise to look into them early. Even if funding doesn't come through, studying at a language program based out of a local university is often very cheap, letting you build confidence in a foreign language without breaking the bank.

Volunteering abroad is also something to consider. Peace Corps is one option, though applicants don't always get to go to their country of choice. Country-specific programs like Teach for China are another option for graduates who want to leverage the language skills they picked up from their major. Teach for China fellows receive training and placement in rural schools for two years. It's an intense experience: big classes, low pay, and near-total immersion in isolated communities with only a hand-

"After being abroad for some time, maybe you'll find that you're ready to head home. When you do, you'll bring with you new outlooks on the world and stronger language skills."

ful of other Americans. That said, the rewards can be substantial. A friend of mine began the program with only a smattering of Chinese. When I visited him a year into his stay in rural Yunnan province, I found him speaking fluent Chinese with his students' parents in their farmhouse over a table of stir-fried fresh garden vegetables, salted pork, and small cups of moonshine poured out of a gas

can. I chose to teach English at a private school, and it was a good fit for me, as well as for the thousands of expats who do the same. In China and Korea in particular, there's a high demand for native English-speaking teachers. Salaries are quite high compared to the cost of living, so teachers often save money to travel during the holidays.

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LIVING AND WORKING ABROAD—*Continued from Page 6*



You'll find that working abroad makes once-in-a-lifetime destinations suddenly easy to visit due to their proximity and low regional airfare. Even if teaching isn't what you want as a career, it's still a great way to get your bearings in a new country while you keep an eye out for other opportunities.

Lastly, get in touch with classmates or alumni also living abroad. If you studied abroad (or are

thinking about it), reaching out to classmates or teachers from your program is a great first step to finding a job overseas. Your adviser and language professors can also put you in touch with alumni currently abroad. These connections can give you the resources to take care of some of the nitty-gritty of living in a new country, like finding a place to live or scoping out jobs.

After being abroad for some time, maybe you'll find that you're ready to head home. When you do, you'll bring with you new outlooks on the world and stronger language skills. You'll have great memories and stories to share with friends and family. Most of all, you'll have friends from all over the world you can go visit when you're ready to hit the road again.

Charlie graduated from CSU with a degree in International Studies in 2011. Since then, he has taught English in China and traveled extensively. He can be reached at charleswbvest@gmail.com.

INST COURSE LISTINGS, FALL 2015*

AUCC: CO150, ECON202, GR100, HIST100-101, HIST120, HIST170-171, MATH117, POLS241

INST Track 3D, 4A&B: AM460, ANTH200, ANTH415, ANTH479, AREC240, AREC415, ECON204, ECON240, ECON332, ECON442, ECON442, FIN475, HIST470, IE470, IE472, IE479, INST 300, INST 492, JTC415, MGT475, MKT365, NRRT320, POLS332, POLS433, POLS437, SPCM434

Asian Studies: **(1)** HIST115, HIST431, HIST450, HIST452, HIST465, POLS445, POLS449; **(2)** LCHI496, LJPN404, LJPN496, PHIL172, PHIL349

European Studies: **(1)** ECON376, HIST300, HIST301, HIST315, HIST317, HIST324, HIST329, HIST331, HIST333, HIST336, HIST339, HIST461, POLS341, POLS345, POLS 420, POLS421; **(2)** ART110, ART212, ART411, ART414, ART415, ART417, E276, E277, E337, E342, E343, E427, E432, LFRE310, LFRE313, LFRE452, LFRE433A, LGEN465C, LGER310, LGER313, LGER335, LGER454, LSPA310, LSPA313, LSPA335, LSPA345, LSPA437, LSPA453, MU334, MU335, PHIL300, PHIL302

Latin American Studies: **(1)** HIST410, HIST412, POLS331, POLS446, POLS447; **(2)** ANTH 452, ART312, LSPA310, LSPA313, LSPA335, LSPA345, LSPA435, LSPA436, LSPA437, LSPA449, LSPA453

MENA: **(1)** HIST431, POLS449; **(2)** LARA250, PHIL173, PHIL335

* Schedule and availability subject to change. Listings do not include online courses or substitutions approved by advisor. Many courses count only toward certain concentrations. Consult your advisor for course requirements specific to your concentration.

INST MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES



LB 487: International Studies Internship

One credit. Fall 2015.

International Studies is seeking an advanced undergraduate student to provide administrative support for the program. Responsibilities may include: compiling and analyzing data, editing newsletters and mailings, coordinating events, research, development, marketing, and recruitment, according to the student's interest and experience. Workload will average three hours per week.

Desired skills and qualifications: Writing, editing, interpersonal relations, time management, willingness to learn. Experience with graphic editing preferred. International Studies majors preferred.

INST 495: Independent Study—Commodities

One credit. Fall 2015.

The International Studies Program is seeking an advanced undergraduate student to conduct research on the subject of global commodities. This independent study aims to develop new International Studies curriculum. It will be overseen by Program Director Andrea Williams.

The ideal candidate is an International Studies major with a strong academic record and demonstrated research and writing skills, who is self-motivated, interested in pedagogy, and keen to learn more about this subject.

To apply for either of these opportunities: Please send your resume and a brief cover letter stating your interest and relevant skills to Dr. Andrea Williams: Andrea.Williams@Colostate.EDU.

Congratulations INST Graduates, Spring & Summer 2015!

Rosaura Arellano	Lula Gebregirgios	Anna Isernia	Madeline Nirschl	Rachel Schillinger
William Aten	Olga Gladkova	Carter Kennedy	Hilda Nucete	Connor Schmidt
Sara Beliveau	Nathan Gonzales	Curtis Kovacs	William Odom	Steven Sepesy
Emmanuel Bol	Sina Good	Kelsey Landry	Renee Ormond	Tamlyn Shimizu
Rebekah Butler	Marika Gorman	Stephanie Larsen	Brandon Parent	Bryana Starbuck
Chantal Chicoine	Joseph Gulley	Kendall Lloyd	Tyler Pinner	Lindsay Stevenson
Straun Conway	Christopher Haley	Danyal Lodhi	Conner Pullen	Amanda Thomas
Kelcy Davis	Sarah Hamilton	Jennifer Lukas	Seamus Quinn	Elise Troxell
Kayla Dewald	Ana Harris	Maddie Lundgren	Samantha Renner	Benjamin Wible
Eric Differding	Kasey Heusdens	Emma Marion	Casey Richards	Torre Wilkinson
Christie Dong	Patrick Hoehne	Nadia Marrakchi	Alex Roan	
Caleb Downs	Michelle Holder	Laquesh Matthews	Karina Robles	
Brooke Fiemann	Michael Hottman	Sierra McGowan	Maria Rodriguez	
Hallie Gardner	Mitchell Hursh	Zahra Mohamed Ali	Darion Schakel	