

The Center for Global Studies can now be found on Twitter @CGSPennState



We will be using Twitter in an effort to reach a wider audience when publicizing upcoming CGS events and to share photos and updates as they happen. Also be sure to "Like" us on Facebook!

APRIL EVENTS

4/12

Payment for Ecosystem Services in Malaysia: The Way Forward

Awang Noor Abd. Ghani, Universiti Putra Malaysia
402 Burrowes, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

4/12-4/13

Maritime Frontiers in Asia

Foster Auditorium, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday & Saturday

4/13

World Stories Alive: Russian

Schlow Library, 11:00 a.m.

4/16

Smeal International Night

College of Business
110 Business Building 6-9 p.m.

4/16

Fighting Health Care Privatization in El Salvador

Ivonne Olmedo, Executive Board member of the Bloom Hospital Workers' Union
Room 502, Keller Building, 12:45-2:00 p.m.

4/18-4/19

The Human Cost of India's Race Towards Becoming a Developed Nation

Priyanka Borpujari, independent journalist and photographer

Thursday at 5:00 p.m. - Room 201, State College Borough (243 S. Allen St) and **Friday** at 6:00 p.m. - Room 321, the HUB-Robeson Center

4/26-4/27

Geographies of Power:

Justice, Revolution, and the Cultural Imagination

The Nittany Lion Inn

Full event listing can be found on the CGS website:
<http://cgs.psu.edu>

The Aces in your Hand: Career Advice from Dr. Tineke Cunning

By Katie Black

After a brief interview with Dr. Cunning, a director at the School of International Affairs, and the two fellow CGS interns, I had a newfound sense of hope, and yet bewilderment, about my future. The interns had spoken about where we saw ourselves after graduation and how to achieve those goals. One of the most important parts of our discussion was learning how to effectively market the study-abroad experiences that we have all had, or in intern Kate Milliken's case, will have next year. Dr. Cunning gave us great advice when she told us to examine the "aces in your hand".

By this, she meant to focus on the skills and experiences that have put us ahead of the competition, specifically, foreign-language proficiency, international experience, and education. Going to Penn State gives us an ace as well, because of its great academic reputation. Dr. Cunning advised that we focus on a specialty as much as possible. She told us to pick a focus within our major, examine the skills we have honed that others may not have, and then use them to our advantage. She also encouraged us to showcase our skills and experiences on a resume and in interviews.

Dr. Cunning mentioned that while we should create our own resume within the normal formats, we should make sure we emphasize the areas to which an employer's eyes are drawn and maximize the space used on the resume to describe the things at which we excel. Another piece of resume advice was to include a writing sample if the position requires extensive writing even when a job application does not ask for one and to make sure the resume does not have any errors, since it is a reflection of you. A resume with mistakes does not reflect a positive work product. We left our interview with Dr. Cunning having gained great insights about new ways to push our career trajectories higher and, perhaps most important, realized that people like Dr. Cunning are willing to help and instill confidence in the uncertainty of our future careers.

Geographies of Power

By Casey McAlpin

During the last weekend of April, the Center for Global Studies will host the "Geographies of Power: Justice, Revolution, and Cultural Imagination" conference at the Nittany Lion Inn. The object of the conference is to examine the shifts in global power between the attacks on September 11th and the 2011 Arab Spring. Cross-cultural perspectives and multi-disciplinary methodologies will be used to analyze the current state of political and cultural conflicts. Dr. Sophia McClennen, CGS Director and Professor of International Affairs and Comparative Literature, shared her thoughts with this intern about the conference.

Continued under "Geographies of Power" on Page 2



“Geographies of Power” continued from Page 1

Dr. McClennen said, “This conference is an excellent opportunity for scholars at Penn State to work with a global team on some of the most pressing questions that face us today. We are looking forward to a dynamic and engaged series of debates and dialogues that we hope will continue well after the end of the conference.”



The conference will feature two keynote speakers:

Friday morning, Dr. John Esposito, pictured above, of Georgetown University, will kick off the day with his presentation. “Changing Geographies of Power: New Roadmaps Needed.” Esposito is the founding director of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding in the Walsh School of Foreign Service.

Friday evening, the second keynote speaker, Dr. Wendy Brown of the University of California at Berkeley, will present “Austerity Politics and the Inversion of Neoliberal Freedom.” Brown’s current research focuses on the relationship between religion, secularism, and capital in Marx’s work, as well as on predicaments of democratic citizenship under contemporary neoliberal government.

Throughout the weekend, panel discussions will examine such topics as the role of constitutional law and democracy during revolution; empire and revolution since 9/11; and cultural representation during times of terror and transition. Academics from eminent universities across the United States, as well as South Africa and Canada, will participate in this event. “Geographies of Power” is open to the public, but space is limited, so pre-registration is preferred.

Conference website:

<http://cgs.psu.edu/wunconference.shtml>

General Wisdom from Michael Emery

By Kate Milliken

The students of Penn State are enabled access to the global work force, especially through engagement with and lessons from members of that community. In the past month, I have had the chance to attend several talks related to my studies in International Politics, and to the career search that has led me to CGS. This one was by the United Nations Population Fund Director for the Division of Human Resources, Michael Emery. Mr. Emery’s talk was held in the Katz Building auditorium on Tuesday, March 26.

Emery’s discussion focused on careers in the UN, and how one might go about entering this massive organization. His approach to the topic was not the sales pitch that I had anticipated; rather, he mapped out a plan of “Managing Your Career Holistically.” Emery’s roadmap highlighted many facets, including qualifications, documents, networking, reputation management, competencies, job satisfiers, values, emotional intelligence and more. As is generally the case at career information sessions, the speaker emphasized the applicants’ presentation of themselves—the “packaging.” In this case, Emery made sure to draw attention to the importance of first impressions and presentation details when applying for a job, particularly in an organization as large as the United Nations. He strongly recommended practicing interview skills—particularly for competency-based interviews—and impressed the importance of active networking.

Emery, citing several research studies, said an applicant is significantly more likely to obtain a desired position if he or she interviews in person. As testimony to that fact, Emery mentioned the inevitable, feeble networking emails that he receives following presentations such as this one and the speed with which they are deleted.

Face-to-face conversation is becoming rarer in the professional world, but its traditional value remains. As an intern, this means that the skills of the social and digital workplaces must be melded in order to thrive in the evolving world of business.



Our Mission	Our Staff
<p>The Center for Global Studies (CGS) has been designated a Title VI National Resource Center by the Department of Education. Working in collaboration with Penn State’s many excellent international initiatives, faculty and students from multiple disciplines, and K-12 schools in the region, the CGS is dedicated to the growth and support of global studies.</p>	<p>Dr. Sophia McClennen, Director Sarah Lyall-Combs, Associate Director April Cole, Administrative Support Assistant Jeff Resta, Graduate Assistant Matthew S. Hoffman, Lead Intern Kathryn C. Black, Intern Casey M. McAlpin, Intern Katherine I. Milliken, Intern</p>