

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" The Center for Global Studies at Penn State on Facebook!

UNIVERSITY PARK EVENTS

11/4 and every Monday, 12:15 p.m., 102 Kern
Comparative Literature Luncheon lecture series

11/13
Creating the Self and Artistic Production in Immigration: Les Films Albatros in Montreuil and Association CRICAO in Toulouse
Anna Navrotskaya, French and Francophone Studies, Penn State
101 Botany Building, 1:30 pm

OUTREACH EVENTS

11/5 and 11/19 5:30-7:30p.m., Discovery Space
of Central PA, 112 W. Foster Ave
America Reads /CGS Family Nights

11/9
World on Trial: 2004 Headscarf Law
K-12 Teacher's Workshop
114 Katz, 1:30 pm

11/11
Film Screening: *Girl Rising*
Foster Auditorium, 6pm

Full event listings can be found at
<http://cgs.psu.edu>

Mehndi at the Fall Festival (photos on p. 6)

By Kelly Diaz

On Saturday, October 5th, the Center for Global Studies paired with the Association for India's Development to host a henna booth at the 14th annual State College Fall Festival located on South Allen Street. We began at 10 am and had a crowd of interested children and families until the event ended at 3 pm. It was an uncharacteristically warm October day, which led to an extremely high turnout. Five henna artists from the Association for India's Development volunteered to draw *mehndi* (henna tattoos) on participant's hands and arms.

Tattoos were offered free of charge to all participants making the booth appealing to both children and adults. At the booth, children were able to draw their own designs on construction paper hands created by the interns from the Center for Global Studies. The henna artists would then replicate the kids' patterns on their hands, arms, and even feet. Original designs included pumpkins, ghosts, flowers, initials/names, "I love Mom," and a turtle. Participants also had the option of choosing from a wide selection of henna design samples. Many of the Center for Global Studies interns took advantage of the opportunity and received tattoos after their shifts.

The festival served as a great opportunity for us to talk to people in the Penn State and greater State College community about the events organized and sponsored by the Center as well as the funding available for other organizations and projects. Overall, this was a highly successful event and something the Center for Global Studies looks forward to participating in annually.

Engineering the Border: Imagining America

By Molly Appel

The little room in the Penn State Pasquerilla Center was packed. Students, faculty, and community members came to hear Peruvian-American filmmaker Alex Rivera give his talk, "Engineering the Border: Imagining America." Rivera has been a Sundance Fellow, a Rockefeller Fellow, a USA Artist Fellow, a Creative Capital grantee and was named one of *Variety* Magazine's "10 Directors to Watch."

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THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

The Pennsylvania State University ■ 427 Burrowes Building ■
University Park, PA 16802

Family Night: Pumpkins

By Matthew Bloss

Despite its commercialization in recent decades, our modern holiday of Halloween is actually a celebration with a rich history that spans multiple centuries, cultures, and creeds. The official "start" of Halloween can be traced back to the tenure of the Catholic Pope Gregory III (731-741) who dedicated a part of St. Peter's Basilica to honor "all the saints" on the first of November. The name "Halloween" comes from October 31st being "All Hallows Eve," the day before the All Saints Feast and ensuing All Souls Day (Nov. 2nd). The first people to embrace this tradition were the Germanic peoples and those of the British Isles, whose pre-Christian traditions already allotted for celebrations and feasts around that time of the year. The French recently adopted Halloween in the early 1990s but still view it as an "American" holiday. Today it largely serves as an excuse for young French people to dress up in costume and attend social gatherings. From its roots in the early Christian Church, Halloween has grown to become a largely secular holiday that has spread to the shores of the new world and back across parts of Europe.

On Tuesday, October 29th, The Center for Global Studies did its part to educate the youth of Center County on Halloween's rich history by setting up a booth at the Discovery Place in downtown State College. Young children were invited to learn something about Halloween's history and the various ways it is celebrated in other countries. After a brief lesson, the kids were encouraged to decorate small oranges in the style of little jack-o'-lanterns. This event represents just one of the many ways that CGS practices outreach not just at Penn State, but across the entire community to provide a better understanding of the various cultures that share our planet.

Did you know that the name "pumpkin" comes from the Greek word "pepon," meaning a large melon?

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CGS cosponsored Rivera's talk, in which he demonstrated how his work explores the contradictions of the digitalization of "the border," the proliferation of drone technology, and the de-humanization of migrants as global commodities. Rivera showed how his work, which includes both documentary film and his successful commercial release *Sleep Dealer*, explores the possibilities for migrants to use the same network that de-humanizes them in order to reclaim social and political power. He has recently worked with chart-topping artists to create music videos in collaboration with the National Day Laborer Organizing Network. Each of these videos takes up the human rights crisis facing migrants in the United States today. Notably, he casts actors in these films that have lived the roles they are performing. Rivera's compelling talk revealed his concern with an even more ubiquitous and fundamental border-traversing technology - that of storytelling itself.



Photo of Alex Rivera, courtesy of
AlexRivera.com

A Teacher's Eyes

By: Sheryl-Amber B. Edmondson

"Now I know how to write my name in two languages, English and Egyptian," said little Sofia as she smiled while holding up her work. The joy on Sophia's face made my heart smile that day, as it does every Monday when I walk into the classroom. By this time my Ancient Civilizations club is well under way and going much better than I had expected two months ago. When I first began the internship at the Center for Global Studies I was unsure and to be honest, quite nervous about leading an after school program. After the first day I was able to get a sense of what the children liked and what they knew in order to figure out what was the best way for them to learn. I decided to go the route of arts and crafts, and as expected, the kids love it. Each session we review the activity we did in the previous week to ensure that what is learned is not lost. There are always more than a few students willing to joyfully remind us of what was done. As a future educator, it brings me the utmost delight knowing that what I teach is being retained. We've built things from sailboats and wheels to dragons and puppets, all either symbols, characteristics or inventions of the civilizations we study. This way, the activities not only prove to be exciting, but also memorable. Allowing these children to let their inner creativity become tangible will have significant positive effects for future learning. Teaching is a heartfelt, rewarding experience, and this internship allows me to harness my passion on the road to my career while still leading my academic life.



Sheryl's students as they work on dragons as part of the lesson on ancient Chinese civilization.

Memory and Theatre in Francoist Spain: *Fuente Ovejuna* to the tune of "Cara al sol"

By: Annie Goodrich

Christopher Oechler, a graduate student in the Spanish, Italian and Portuguese Department, hosted the first Brown Bag Lecture of the semester on October 2nd. The Brown Bag Lecture Series allows graduate students to present research to their peers and faculty advisors in order to consult feedback for the revision process. Oechler's research focused on Lope de Vega's seventeenth-century play *Fuente Ovejuna* and how it has been portrayed throughout history. *Fuente Ovejuna* is a Spanish play based on a historic event in which a feudal overlord goes on a tyrannical rage, leading to an uprising among peasants. A complimentary storyline deals with the consolidation of Aragon and Castille into a unified Spain as a result of the marriage between Ferdinand and Isabella. In the end, the Monarchs pardon the villagers for the uprising so the sovereigns are the only ones who rule over them.

This past summer, Oechler spent two weeks in Madrid combing through archives to gain a better understanding of how *Fuente Ovejuna* has been portrayed throughout history, specifically during the Second Republic, Civil War and General Francisco Franco's 39-year rule. During the Second Republic, which began in 1931, directors of the play focused on the overthrow of the feudal lord and deemphasized the role of the Catholic Church.

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This portrayal was consistent with the Republican's objectives of severing ties between the church and state in both government and education. The Civil War began in 1936 between the Nationalists and the Republicans. General Francisco Franco led the Nationalists to victory in 1939 and ruled as a dictator until 1975. Throughout his reign, Franco consistently tried to nationalize Spain and used theatre and plays, such as *Fuente Ovejuna*, to carry out his message. Franco used the play as propaganda to sell himself as the Monarch by replacing himself for Ferdinand and Isabella. During the presentation, Oechler stated that, "political turmoil in Spain has been reflected in *Fuente Ovejuna*." What was emphasized in different productions of the play depended on who was in power and what they wanted to accomplish politically. Overall, Christopher Oechler's presentation on his graduate work was very interesting because it provided me with insight into a topic I do not know much about.



Christopher Oechler preparing for his Brown Bag Lecture.

"World on Trial: Headscarf Law"

For K-12 teachers interested in taking a creative approach to incorporating global issues into their curricula, Penn State's Center for Global Studies (CGS) will be offering a workshop based on the "World on Trial: Headscarf Law" episode developed by the Law School in conjunction with WPSU. This episode debates the 2004 French law that bans conspicuous displays of religion in public schools. The law is most notable for banning the use of traditional headscarves (hijab) worn by Muslim girls and women.

The workshop will take place on November 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in 114 Katz Building on the University Park campus and will be simulcast to the University of Pittsburgh. This event marks the first collaborative effort between the two universities' Title VI National Resource Centers. "We are excited to expand our outreach to teachers in the Pittsburgh area via the simulcast. One of the missions of our National Resource Centers is to enhance global perspectives in classrooms across Pennsylvania and the head scarf law debate has relevance for our increasingly diverse student bodies," said Sarah Lyall-Combs, Associate Director at the Center. "We look forward to future collaborations with the University of Pittsburgh."

Attendees at both locations will watch the "World on Trial" and listen to a series of talks that discuss the history of the law as well as the cultural traditions and perspectives – French and Islamic – surrounding the hijab. The workshop will also introduce the curriculum developed by the CGS. Workshop participants will be able to receive six Act 48 hours. K-12 educators, as well as graduate and undergraduate students in the College of Education are welcome to attend.

Featured Penn State speakers include Sandra Rousseau, a doctoral candidate in the Department of French and Francophone Studies; Courtney Restemayer, a joint-degree candidate (juris doctor/master of international affairs); and Penn State graduate Dustin Lee Yenser, middle schoolteacher and author of the "World on Trial" curriculum. Melek Yazici, a Strategic Sourcing Analyst at the University of Pittsburgh, will explain the Islamic perspective governing the headscarf based on the Quran and the hadith, two primary sources of Islamic law.

Screening of the film *Girl Rising*

The film *Girl Rising* aims to raise awareness and advocate for eliminating the barriers to education for girls in developing countries. When a girl is educated, the cycle of poverty can be broken in just one generation, however, millions of girls around the world face barriers to education that boys do not. When these barriers are removed-such as early and forced marriage, domestic slavery, sex trafficking, and gender violence- a girl has access to a better life for herself, her family, her community, and creates a safer and more prosperous world for all.

The film follows nine girls in developing countries who have faced a number of barriers to their education, such as bond labor, sexual assault, and early marriage. Most of the girls featured in the film are currently obtaining an education while a few are among the 66 million girls currently out of school (2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report). Their stories are told through the words of an acclaimed writer from her native country. All of the stories are true although the writer had some liberty when deciding what she wanted to highlight. *Girl Rising* captures each girl's dreams, their voices, and their remarkable lives despite being born into unforgivable circumstances.

This film is at the center of the "Girl Rising" campaign of the same name, which has traveled around the world to witness strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world. When one girl in a developing country is educated, she is able to build a strong foundation for generations to come. The campaign is a grassroots global action movement that has established relationships with nonprofit organizations that drive donations to programs that help girls get in school and stay in school. They work together to change minds, lives, and policy so all girls receive what they deserve: an education and a better life.

DO YOU
KNOW THAT...?

**14 million girls under
18 will be married this
year. That's 38
thousand today - or 13
girls in the last 30
seconds.**

Source: UNFPA, 2012.

Help us change this by attending
the screening of *Girl Rising* to raise
awareness about the importance of
education for all.

**Monday, November 11th
6-9 p.m., Foster Auditorium**

Our Mission

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.

Our Staff

Dr. Sophia McClennen, Director
Sarah Lyall-Combs, Associate Director
Cortnie Showers, Administrative Support Assistant
Molly Appel, Graduate Assistant
Kathryn C. Black, Lead Intern
Matthew Bloss, Intern
Kelly Diaz, Intern
Sheryl-Amber Edmondson, Intern
Annie Goodrich, Intern



STATE COLLEGE FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 5TH, ALLEN STREET

