Mershon supports 11 students with study abroad scholarships

Some hope to have a career in the State Department, U.S. Military, or intelligence community. Others want to work for the World Health Organization or in economic development. Some seek positions in international law and public policy.

These are a few of the winners of the 2009-10 Ralph D. Mershon Study Abroad Scholarship awarded by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. The scholarship supports students who aspire to careers related to international security. Two awards were given to students researching issues related to peace and conflict resolution.

**Valerie Hendrickson**, one student winner, is a sophomore majoring in East Asian Studies with a focus on Chinese. She will attend the Chinese Language Flagship Program in Qingdao for two months, studying Chinese to pursue her ambition of working in the intelligence community.

Another winner, **John Bolam**, will complete courses at Yonsei University’s Korean Language Institute and take classes in political science and international relations in South Korea. He hopes to pursue a career in the U.S. Foreign Service.

**Dustin Koenig**, a senior majoring in political science, will attend an intensive Russian language and culture program in Tomsk, Russia. He will live with a host family and develop the language skills needed to pursue a future position in international public policy.

**Logan West**, a freshman international studies major, is in the Air Force ROTC. He will study Arabic at an intensive language program in Amman, Jordan, as part of his preparation for a career as an officer. Other scholarship winners will be studying for an academic quarter or longer in countries around the globe — including Syria, Spain, Russia, Brazil, France, and India.

**Lowell Howard**, a junior majoring in International Studies, will spend nine months taking courses in a Portuguese language program in São Paulo, Brazil. He has completed internships at the Ohio Environmental Council and the Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce, working on fuel policy and commerce issues. During his time abroad, he plans to take economic policy courses, gaining skills for a career in international development.

**Surili Sheth** is a sophomore majoring in economics, political science, and philosophy who is pursuing research in peace and conflict resolution. She will participate in the Minnesota Studies International Development program in Jaipur, India.

See **Visitors on back page**

See **Study Abroad on back page**
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Fall 2009 Calendar of Events

Friday, September 25, 2009
Robert Pape
Professor of Political Science
University of Chicago
“America’s Relative Decline and Its Consequences”
Noon, Mershon Center Room 120

Friday, October 9, 2009
Susan Stokes
John S. Saden Professor of Political Science
Yale University
“Vote Buying in Democratic Systems”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Wednesday, September 30, 2009
Mark Stewart
Director, Centre for Infrastructure Performance and Reliability, University of New Castle
“Critical Infrastructure Protection: Are We Spending Too Much on Counter-Terrorism?”
Noon, Mershon Center Room 120

Friday, October 2-3 2009
The 2008 U.S. Presidential Election: The Election That Rebranded the U.S. Abroad
Organized by Herb Weisberg
Chair, Department of Political Science
Mershon Center Room 120

Wednesday, October 14, 2009
Lisa Stampnitzky
Postdoctoral Fellow
Mershon Center for International Security Studies
“Disciplining an Unruly Field: Terrorism Studies and the State, 1972-2001”
Noon, Mershon Center Room 120

Wednesday, October 21, 2009
Mark Beissinger
Professor of Politics, Princeton University
“Imperial Reputations: How Sovereignty and Self-Determination Norms Have Altered the Politics of Empire”
Noon, Mershon Center Room 120

Wednesday, November 4, 2009
Nicholas Rankin
Former Documentary Producer
BBC World Service
“Secrets and Lies: How the British Used Camouflage and Deception in Two World Wars”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Thursday, November 5, 2009
Catherine Weaver
Associate Professor of International Relations
University of Texas-Austin
“The Politics of I/O Accountability: Transparency and Evaluation in the International Monetary Fund”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Friday, November 6, 2009
Janice Bially Mattern
Associate Professor of International Relations
Lehigh University
“The Emotional Politics of Transnational Crime”
Noon, Mershon Center Room 120

Wednesday, November 18, 2009
Elizabeth Borgwardt
Associate Professor of History
Washington University, St. Louis
“The Mad Pursuit of a World Bill of Rights: International Legal Norms and the Senate after Nuremberg”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

For more information and to reserve your spot, please see the Mershon Center web site at mershoncenter.osu.edu
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210  (614) 292-1681
Study Abroad

Continued from Page 1

Her time abroad will contribute to her honors thesis on NGOs and public development projects in Ramapir No Tekro, the largest slum in the state of Gujarat. She will participate in an internship with an Indian NGO and take Hindi, preparing herself for future development work.

Ravi Gupta is also working in the field of peace and conflict resolution. He is a senior majoring in political science and molecular genetics who will spend two months interviewing government health officials and collecting data on the role of health information in Rajasthan, India. He hopes to pursue a career in public health.

The scholarship competition had more than 80 applicants this year. Unfortunately, the Mershon Center could fund only 11 applicants and had to make difficult choices among the growing number of Ohio State students recognizing the tremendous value of studying abroad. The Mershon Center will fund another competition in 2010 and hopes students from across campus will apply.

Visitors

Continued from Page 1

Australian Research Council grants to develop cost-benefit assessments of counter-terrorism protective measures for critical infrastructure.

Stewart will present “Critical Infrastructure Protection: Are We Spending Too Much on Counter-Terrorism?” at noon on Wednesday, September 30.

Also visiting is Saiful Mujani, founder of the Lemnaga Survei Indonesia (Indonesian Survey Institute). He will be working with Bill Liddle on the Indonesian National Election Project, a social scientific survey conducted in the wake of this year’s national parliamentary elections in Indonesia.

Research foci include perceptions of Indonesian voters about political parties and leaders, as well as channels through which voters received information during the campaign.

Sangeeta Mahapatra, a Ph.D. student in International Relations at Jadavpur University in Kolkata, India, is visiting on a Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship to work on “Counterterrorism Strategies of India, Israel and the United States.”

The aim of the study is to expand the scope of counterterrorism decision-making by studying how the three countries use their political, legal, civilian and economic structures to deal with an outlier event.

In addition, visiting Fulbright scholar Jean-François Juneau, a Ph.D. student in history at University of Montreal, will work with Carole Fink on “Egon Bahr et l’Ostpolitik de la République fédérale d’Allemagne, 1945-1975.”

Finally, Jeffrey Hornung, a postdoctoral fellow at the East Asian Studies Center, will spend this year working to turn his dissertation, “Learning How to Sweat: Explaining the Dispatch of Japan’s Self-Defense Forces in the Gulf War and Iraq War,” into a book.