Meet the newest programs and global research initiatives at the Buffett Institute for 2016-2017

The Buffett Institute continues to rapidly expand its research groups, funding, and activities thanks to Bertie Buffett’s transformative gift to Northwestern in 2015. This past spring, the Institute chose the 2016 winners of its “Big Ideas” grants program, which will begin their research and event programs this fall. In addition, four scholars were chosen as the inaugural cohort of Buffett Institute Faculty Fellows. Get to know the newest members of the Buffett Institute:

New research group: Global Climate Change Governance

Global Climate Change Governance is co-led by David Dana (law), Kimberly Gray (civil and environmental engineering), and Klaus Weber (management).

Building on Northwestern’s existing research strengths in fields like law, engineering, business, energy and the environment, and the social sciences, this group will examine the most pressing questions in climate change governance, including climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as geoengineering. By supporting and strengthening existing research efforts in a collaborative, interdisciplinary setting, the group hopes to establish Northwestern as a university at the forefront of climate change policy analysis and debate.

The group will address topics such as how

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MISSION

The Buffett Institute addresses critical global issues through collaborative research, public dialogue, and engaged scholarship.

Learn more at buffett.northwestern.edu

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NEWSLETTER

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Pictured in cover photo: Maria Elena Perez (McCormick 2018) walks around Kumbhalgarh Fort in Rajasthan, India during her summer abroad with GESI. Photo taken by Odette Zero (WCAS 2017).
A Message from the Director of the Buffett Institute

Last academic year was about as eventful as any I’ve witnessed since joining Northwestern University in 1990. As many people know, controversy surrounded the appointment of a new executive director, and the eventual outcome was that Ambassador Karl Eikenberry decided not to come to Northwestern. I won’t rehash the debate, but I do want people to know that despite all the heated discussion and in the midst of fierce argumentation, the Buffett Institute, its staff and affiliated faculty and students, enjoyed an outstanding year in which we were able to take full advantage of Bertie Buffett’s transformational gift. And our rapid forward momentum will continue this year as well.

Three new faculty research groups began their work, building new intellectual communities and undertaking innovative academic programming. Consequently, the Institute has been able to take a big step forward in research activity. This coming year, two more groups will bring together researchers from different disciplines, and schools, on the important topics of global climate change and global medical cultures. Our global partnership awards have sustained academic ties between Northwestern and the London School of Economics, Sciences Po in Paris, the Max Planck Institute in Cologne, the European University Institute in Florence, and various African universities. We recruited three more Buffett postdoctoral fellows (Erin Moore, Başak Taraktaş, and Hollian Wint) from three fine universities (University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, and New York University, respectively) who will join our three current post-docs, and a new Modern Turkish Studies post-doc Sinan Erensü, from the University of Minnesota, to create a critical mass of exciting young researchers affiliated with the Institute. We partnered with the Institute for Policy Research to host a highly successful international conference on global inequality last May, and awarded our first Buffett Emerging Global Leader award to Khalida Brohi, a remarkable young woman from Pakistan. We also appointed four Northwestern researchers (professors Karen Alter, Elizabeth Hurd, Wendy Pearlman, and Helen Tilley) to join the Institute as our first faculty fellows, and we are planning to appoint four more in 2017.

Another exciting development this summer was the appointment of Daniel Spulber (the Elinor Hobbs Professor of International Business at the Kellogg School of Management) as Director of the Center on Global Technological Change. This new Center carries forward the mission of CTIM, and I am very pleased to welcome Spulber’s energy and leadership. And our other featured centers and programs go from strength to strength: in her first year directing the Keyman Modern Turkish Studies program, Ayça Alemdaroğlu provided remarkable energy and creativity, and her ambitious plans for this year will produce some exciting events. Galya Ruffer continues to energize the Center for Forced Migration Studies, and the Center continues to receive national and international recognition for its activities. Patrick Eccles and his team staged another highly successful GESI program this summer, and are on track to do the same for the fall program.

This past summer, longtime Buffett Institute member Brian Hanson left to become the Vice President of Studies at the Chicago Council for Global Affairs. Over many years, Brian made numerous contributions to the Buffett Institute and its predecessors, so news of his departure was met with a mixture of gratitude and sorrow, combined with very best wishes for his future. We’ll miss his energy and passion, but the good news is that we’ll have a good friend at the Chicago Council.

Finally, Bertie’s gift allows the Buffett Institute to partner with other academic units to bring leading researchers to Northwestern, and this has already born fruit: I am delighted to announce that Professor Christopher Udry (currently at Yale University), a highly accomplished senior figure in development economics, has accepted an offer from the economics department and will be affiliated with the Buffett Institute when he comes to Northwestern. Chris is a superstar, and his arrival in the fall of 2017 will catalyze an energetic and growing group of development economists, and provide tremendous research and teaching opportunities for the Buffett Institute.

I am looking forward to an exciting year, and will be pleased to see you at one (or more) of our many events.

Bruce G. Carruthers
John D. MacArthur Professor of Sociology
Director of the Buffett Institute
Buffett Institute faculty recognition

Stay up to date with all the latest news on Buffett faculty affiliate awards, honors, and media mentions by following the Buffett Institute Twitter account @BuffettInst

Honors & Awards

Nathalie Bouzaglo (Spanish and Portuguese) received the 2016 Fernando Coronil Book Award from the Latin American Studies Association for her book *Ficción adulterada: pasiones ilícitas del entresiglo venezolano*.

Héctor Carrillo (gender and sexuality studies) received the Distinguished Teaching Award from Weinberg College this past spring.

Bruce G. Carruthers (sociology) served as the Cary and Ann Maguire Chair in Ethics and American History at the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.

Daniel Galvin (political science) won the American Political Science Association’s Best Paper in Public Policy Award for his paper “Deterring Wage Theft: Alt-Labor, State Politics, and the Policy Determinants of Minimum Wage Compliance.”

Mark Hauser (anthropology) was named a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Daniel Immerwahr (history) received the prestigious 2016 Merle Curti Award from the Organization of American Historians for his book *Thinking Small: The United States and the Lure of Community Development*. The award is given annually for the best books published in American intellectual and social history.

Dan Krcmaric (political science) has won the American Political Science Association’s Kenneth Waltz Dissertation Award for the best dissertation in the field of international security submitted in 2015. The dissertation is entitled: “The Justice Dilemma: International Criminal Accountability, Mass Atrocities, and Civil Conflict.”

The British Academy has elected Joel Mokyr (economics, history), the Robert H. Strotz Professor of Arts and Sciences, a corresponding fellow for 2016.

Noelle Sullivan (anthropology, global health studies) received an Alumnae of Northwestern University Grant. She will use the grant to bring the Canadian aboriginal artist Sonny Assu to campus in 2017.

Publications & Mentions

Caitlin Fitz (history) wrote an opinion piece for *The LA Times* titled “What the baby Bolivar boom tells us about how we used to view South America,” which outlined the relationship between the US and Latin American countries in the 1800s.

Karen Hansen (anthropology) was quoted in the *Newsweek* article “Fast fashion is creating an environmental crisis,” discussing the negative global impact of cheaply made, mass-produced clothing.

Ian Hurd (political science) wrote an opinion piece for *The Hill* titled “End the UN’s legal immunity,” where he argued that ending immunity will curb improper behavior by UN peacekeepers.

Richard Joseph (political science, African studies) was on WBEZ’s *Worldview* to discuss Boko Haram and John Kerry’s August visit to Nigeria.

Juliet Sorensen (law) was quoted in the *Ozy* article “A compelling reason to behave in Nigeria,” where she discussed the country’s criminal justice system. Much like the United States, about 70 percent of people in jail in Nigeria haven’t been convicted of a crime.

Shalini Shankar (anthropology, Asian American studies) wrote “Is the spelling bee success of Indian-Americans a legacy of British colonialism?” for *The Conversation*, where she argues that Indian American parents’ fluency developed in English-medium schools – a legacy of British colonialism – makes them ideal spelling tutors for their children. ♦
Since 1912, social scientists have used the Gini coefficient as the most common measure of global inequality. The coefficient uses the income distribution of a nation as a key indicator of economic and social disparity.

More than a century after its creation, however, this model can no longer offer a complete and accurate picture of how wealth and power are distributed. In a world where global financial markets operate outside national borders, wealth concealment is a multi-billion dollar international industry, and one percent of people own half the world’s wealth, it’s clear that newer, more advanced methods are needed to properly study and solve global inequality.

Seeking to go beyond the Gini coefficient to find a more nuanced and multifaceted understanding of inequality in the world, the Buffett Institute for Global Studies and the Institute for Policy Research (IPR) co-organized the Global Inequality Workshop on May 12-13, 2016. Both research institutes stand to benefit from one another’s strengths—Buffett from IPR’s more policy-relevant mindset, and IPR from Buffett’s wider global focus.

The 19 faculty presenters from Canada, Denmark, Singapore, the United States, and other countries constituted an interdisciplinary, “academic dream team,” said Bruce Carruthers, director of the Buffett Institute and John D. MacArthur Chair of Sociology.

“Global inequality is, of course, much bigger than we can tackle in a workshop like this,” Carruthers said. “But there are pieces that we can focus on and attempt to create solutions.”

Six panels covered varying perspectives of inequality, starting with a global overview that was followed by discussions of education, health, organizations, labor and compensation, and innovative ways to measure inequality.

“It’s important to be thinking not just about what’s going on in the United States for solutions to the problems plaguing the country, but to also look around the world,” said David Figlio, director of IPR and Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy and of Economics. “At the same time, there are US domestic policies that are relevant in other countries.”

Organizers hope that the intimate workshop environment set the stage for a more comprehensive joint event in the future. Panelists converged around the idea that rigorous social science research was key to addressing the many issues—and more is needed.

Research highlights from the workshop

Here is a small sampling of what was presented at the workshop:

Max Planck anthropologist Chris Hann called for caution in linking social inequality to increasing social complexity, asking scholars to rethink the idea that “when you open up to markets, you are bound to wind up with a democracy.” He recounted the transition of some socialist countries to open-market
programs & groups

regulation of emerging technologies might impact the earth and its climate, addressing climate change at the local versus international level of government, social perceptions and public opinions regarding climate change, and the relationship between climate change and social justice.

Like Buffett’s other research groups, the Global Climate Change Governance group will create a community of scholars and students that will pursue university-wide research projects. Future plans include a reading group and graduate student seminar, research roundtables, and eventually a research conference. Given the interdisciplinary nature of the topic of climate change and climate change governance, the group hopes to develop exchanges and co-programming with other relevant groups at Buffett and the greater Northwestern community.

New research group:
Global Medical Cultures and Law

Global Medical Cultures and Law is led by Helen Tilley (history), Jeannette Colyvas (SESP), Carol Heimer (sociology), Ian Hurd (political science), Laura Pedraza-Farina (law), and Rebecca Seligman (anthropology).

All societies have healing systems. Yet over the last 150 years, one system has become dominant globally: biomedicine. While it might be tempting to attribute biomedicine’s successes to its effectiveness in curing diseases and extending lives, the historical reality has been less clear-cut. The resurgence of interest in traditional medicine in the second half of the twentieth century arguably grew out of critiques of biomedicine’s limits and a burgeoning awareness that different healing practices, long stifled or marginalized, deserved closer scrutiny.

In response to these issues, Global Medical Cultures and Law will examine the globalization of biomedicine and the recent rise of traditional medicine through an interdisciplinary lens. Until now, few scholars have attempted to study them together or unravel their connections on a global scale and assess their impact on global health programs.

Group members bring a variety of regional and disciplinary expertise. They hope to appeal to a broad cross-section of scholars and students who work in global studies, medical humanities and anthropology, global health, and legal studies.

The group will look at research questions such as:

- To what extent and through what legal, institutional, and political instruments has biomedicine been globalized?
- In what ways did different disciplinary, geopolitical, economic, and legal phenomena play a role in codifying “traditional medicine”?
- What kinds of ideas about culture, heritage, and ancestry operate in controversies over patenting traditional knowledge and medicine?
- How are these conflicts different from those surrounding access to drugs and patent-protected versus generic options?

The group is planning on hosting several incubator seminars this year, kicking off November 8 with a presentation from Mark Harrison, medical historian Oxford University and director of the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine. The group also plans on hosting a conference on medical cultures and law in May 2017.

Graduate Student Organized Conference: Science, Technology, and the Politics of Knowledge in Global Affairs

Northwestern graduate students Kevin Baker (history), Savina Balasubramanian (sociology), Omri Tubi (sociology) have been selected to lead the 2017 Graduate Student Organized Conference,
which awards graduate students up to $30,000 to host a conference centered on an interdisciplinary theme. The 2017 conference will investigate expert knowledge in global affairs, looking at the ways this knowledge is created, invoked, circulated, and contested in the international political arena.

Scientists, state actors, international institutions, and lay activists vie for credibility and legitimacy to both frame and control global issues. Science and technology experts are routinely cast into a supporting role to bolster their claims. From nuclear weapons in war, to nuclear energy in the battle against climate change; from new information technologies in surveillance regimes, to the use of randomized controlled trials in international development research – scientific and technological expertise operate as instruments of power and authority, which can serve to legitimate or contest new policies and regimes of global governance.

The conference will provide a platform for answering questions such as:

- How do various international actors attempt to position themselves as credible participants in global politics?
- Under what conditions does expert knowledge come to be seen as legitimate?
- In what ways do international actors frame global issues and what must be done about them?
- How do global problems become understood as primarily technical, rather than political?

The conference will take place in the spring of 2017. Conference details will be posted on the Buffett website later this year. Learn more at buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/grad-conference.

The 2016-2017 Buffett Institute Faculty Fellows

Starting this fall, the Buffett Institute is supporting four tenured Northwestern faculty with core research interests in global, interdisciplinary, and/or comparative research. Buffett Institute Faculty Fellows will be devoting significant time to building sustained, collaborative, world-class research programs within the Institute, and will also engage in their own research that contributes to Buffett programs and groups. Here are our 2016-2017 fellows:

Karen Alter (political science, law); co-director, Global Capitalism & Law research group

Elizabeth Shakman Hurd (political science, religious studies); co-director, Global Politics and Religion research group

Wendy Pearlman (political science); MENA working group at the Buffett Institute

Helen Tilley (history); co-leader, Global Medical Cultures and Law

Faculty fellows receive a one-course teaching reduction per year and are expected to spend a large portion of their time working on collaborative research on campus and participate in Institute activities. Visit buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/faculty-fellows for award details and application/eligibility information.

New funding for faculty: The Scholars in Israel Collaboration Fund

Open to full-time Northwestern faculty from any discipline, the Scholars in Israel Collaboration Fund provides support for project collaborations between Northwestern faculty, scholars, and artists and their counterparts at any of the nine accredited research universities in Israel: Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Weizmann Institute of Science, Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv University, University of Haifa, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Open University of Israel, or Ariel University. This grant supports individual or group projects in collaboration with faculty and scholars who will advance durable partnerships with colleagues and institutions in Israel. Application deadlines are October 15, February 15, and April 15.
Over 30 undergraduates did work and research abroad this summer thanks to Buffett Institute grants

This past summer, over 30 Northwestern undergraduates conducted research and/or completed internships in 16 countries with help from grants from the Buffett Institute. This is in addition to the dozens of GESI students who study abroad every year thanks to full and partial scholarships from Buffett. See the map at right for what (and where) they were up to.

Buffett International SIGP awards

International internships are an excellent opportunity for students to explore career options and facilitate experiential learning and research. However, for most students these internships come with a significant and discouraging financial burden. The Buffett Institute has partnered with the Summer Internship Grant Program (SIGP) to create the Buffett International SIGP Award, which provides up to $6,000 in funding so students don’t have to turn down a life-changing summer opportunity for financial reasons.

The eight recipients of the 2016 Buffett International SIGP awards worked in a wide range of positions and industries:


Lucero Flores (WCAS 2018) Bangkok, Thailand: Science and engineering intern for Global Nomadic

Michelle Kim (Medill 2019) Buenos Aires, Argentina: Intern for CNN

Victoria Koin (WCAS 2017) Nairobi, Kenya: Intern for Danamax Investments

Ann Ku (McCormick 2017) Hong Kong, China: Human trafficking intern for 852 Freedom Campaign

Coretta Lemaitre (WCAS 2017) Freiburg, Germany: Intern for Evangelische Stadtmission’s refugee assistance program

Parker Levinson (WCAS 2018) Poconé, Brazil: Ecotourism intern for Southwild Pantanal

Timothy Mwiti (McCormick 2019) Nairobi, Kenya: Coding tutor at NaiCode for PACemaker International

Buffett supplemental grants

The Buffett supplemental grant was created to support Northwestern undergraduates who pursue research, internships, project work, or other non-traditional experiences that focus on global issues. Up to $2,000 in supplemental funding is available for each student.

This year, 22 students received a supplemental grant from Buffett. Their projects and internships are co-funded by programs such as the Undergraduate Research Grant program, Weinberg Research Grants, and other non-Northwestern funding sources.

A few examples of the undergraduate research projects being funded in part or in full by the Buffett Institute this summer:

- Cultural assimilation of British Pakistanis
- The rise of surfing in Senegal
- What can the Yangtze River Delta learn from London: a historical approach to modern urban air pollution in China
- Quantitative analysis of Palestinian-Jordanian identity and opinions toward refugees
- The effects of fair trade on Peruvian coffee farmers
- Performance and politics in Beijing’s queer cultures

Community-Based Research (CBR) Fellowship

The CBR Fellowship is a special opportunity for alums of the GESI study abroad program to return to GESI locations and conduct research on past and current student work. This year, CBR fellows
Heather Budimulia (Medill 2017) and Jackie Tang (Medill 2018, pictured at left on the far left) conducted research in Jinja, Uganda, in partnership with the Foundation for Sustainable Development.

**Davis Projects for Peace**

The Davis Projects for Peace program awards a $10,000 grant that enables undergraduates around the country to design grassroots “projects for peace” that use a summer to address global social issues. The program is run through the University of California-Davis. At Northwestern, the Buffett Institute and the Office of Fellowships work together to facilitate the grant process.

2016 Davis grant recipient Lena Elmeligy (SoC 2018) recently returned from Amman, Jordan, where she helped run a camp for refugee girls. Here’s the project in her own words:

“This summer I created a camp in partnership with UNRWA’s center located in Jabal Hussein, Amman, Jordan. The program included 8 girls between the ages of 10-16 years old. The camp, named ‘Camp Eaish,’ focused on utilizing tools, theories, and samples of media to inspire leadership, creative and critical thinking, and group as well as individual empowerment. In addition to engaging media, the girls were encouraged and enabled to experience the local Jordanian art scene, engage members of Jordan’s creative community, and learn of available resources. The camp concluded with a community event in which the girls presented their final films and discussed their experience developing ideas and putting them into production.

Despite some obstacles, Camp Eaish thrived and demonstrated on a small-scale the tremendous impact had from providing creative spaces, proper materials, and dedicated mentorship to individuals generally, and most particularly young females. The lessons I learned from this summer make me feel more equipped and inspire me to create more sustainable programs like this on a larger scale and for a longer duration.

Interested in learning more about Buffett’s funding and program opportunities for undergraduates? Visit buffett.northwestern.edu/global-engagement.
GESI 2016: Students participate in community development projects on three continents this summer

After taking courses at Northwestern in June, Global Engagement Studies Institute (GESI) students traveled from Chicago to Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, India, Kenya, and Uganda. Once in country, they were placed as interns in grassroots NGOs. In collaboration with local staff, they worked in small teams to complete community development projects that focused on themes such as global health, education, environment, youth, women’s empowerment, social enterprise development, and microfinance. Here are some of the projects they worked on this summer:

Marketing and Fundraising for Traditional Systems of Medicine
GESI team: Cheryl Chen, Sophia Olmos, Odette Zero
Location: Udaipur, India
NGO: Jagran Jan Vikas Samiti (JJVS)

Despite medical advancements in urban India, many rural communities lack access to modern healthcare. In drought-plagued Rajasthan, farming is physically demanding and leads to debilitating health issues without providing the necessary income to pay for medical expenses. Allopathic care is far too expensive for villagers, making traditional medicine the most affordable and accessible form of healthcare. Traditional healers, or Gunis, provide cheap and effective treatment for common rural diseases. JJVS has formalized and trained a network of over 1,000 gunis, often the only accessible and sustainable health care system available. By partnering with gunis, JJVS has made many strides towards improving rural healthcare access. However, the NGO lacked materials highlighting their recent achievements and the community members they work with.

The GESI team created marketing materials that will increase public recognition of gunis and facilitate the fundraising efforts for JJVS’s traditional medicine program. To spread awareness about traditional medicine in India, they created a booklet on the life histories of 12 gunis and launched a crowdfunding campaign for a traditional health training center. GESI students also redesigned and updated the JJVS website and created a crowdfunding manual for future fundraising efforts.

“Sewing” Seeds and Cultivating Skills for Success
GESI team: Erika Carter, Hannah Whitehouse, Jessica Saffold
Location: Kakamega, Kenya
NGO: Mahiakalo Child Development Centre

Mahiakalo Child Development Centre serves low-income children and young adults aged 3-22 in Kakamega, Kenya. The team’s project involved the implementation of a vocational sewing skills class to assist alumni of the program, especially women, in order to gain financial independence while pursuing a career field that interests them. After gaining these skills, the women will have the ability to produce uniforms for children in local schools in order to earn a profit for themselves and practical, real-world experience in sewing and tailoring. After six months, the students will have acquired the level of skills necessary to take and pass the Kenyan examination for a Grade 3 tailoring certification. Additionally, the participants will be able to produce uniforms that will allow them to earn a profit, while also putting a percentage of their income back into the program to purchase more materials.
Building capacity of local artisans in Bolivia
GESI team: Lisa Chen, Dashiell Ridolfi-Starr, Bryan Wood
Location: Cochabamba, Bolivia
NGO: CADEPIA

Bolivia is the poorest country in Latin America. Cochabamba, its fourth largest city, is characterized by a wealth of artisanship and small-scale entrepreneurship, but the complications of governmental regulation leave the vast majority of these businesses informal. In fact, according to a study from the World Bank, roughly 80 percent of employment in Bolivia is informal. Formalization offers benefits that can strengthen small businesses and it helps to unify the struggling Bolivian economy.

The GESI team was assigned to work with a local NGO in Cochabamba called the Cámara Departamental de la Pequeña y Artesanía Productiva (CADEPIA). Their task was to develop a sustainable project that aligns with CADEPIA’s mission of supporting artisans and small businesses there. Through preliminary interviews, they learned that most entrepreneurs and artisans do not have formal businesses—many are not familiar with the concept at all—so they designed a simple guide to the formalization of small businesses. Each team member partnered with a small business owner to create marketing and business plans that were specific to the needs of each business.

Jjaja Sack Gardening Initiative
GESI team: Pooja Kanthawar, Eric Kim, Cassandra Masters, and Katherine Tierney
Location: Jinja, Uganda
NGO: St. Francis Health Care Services

The GESI team and St. Francis’ social welfare office sought to address the issues of poverty, poor nutrition, and limited access to land by teaching grandmothers (jjajas) farming techniques to increase their income. The team began the community assessment process by speaking with two communities of jjajas about specific challenges they faced in their day-to-day lives. One challenge they continued on next page
repeatedly discussed was the *jjajas’* struggle to afford school fees and meet nutritional needs for their grandchildren, some of whom were HIV positive. Due to their age and limited land, the *jjajas* could not grow enough crops to sustain their families or to sell for profit, so the intern team sought alternative methods of farming that could be financially viable. Through their research, the team found that sack-gardening has been highly effective in urban areas in Kenya.

The team hired a St. Francis Community Based Facilitator (CBF) to instruct how to make sack gardens, kitchen gardens, organic pesticide, and liquid manure, all of which can be utilized to grow vegetables and improve crop yield. Each community underwent a two-day training session and elected leaders to oversee the *jjajas’* progress and continue the spread of trainings. In the following weeks, the CBF performed home-to-home visits to ensure correct implementation, and the Social Welfare Office has vowed to monitor and expand the project beyond the original two communities.

**Udaipur Youth Council Campaign**
*GESI team: Kyle Lawrence Durango, Carmen Hines, Lorna Sánchez, Jackson Walker*
*Location: Udaipur, India*
*NGO: ALFA Educational Society*

ALFA Educational Society has a vision of a prosperous, peaceful Udaipur district, and to be successful they need the hearts of the youth. Currently, over half of India’s population is under the age of 25. The GESI team arrived to ALFA with a clear mission presented to them: create a campaign to advertise the formation of a functioning Youth Council in Udaipur and promote awareness of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

ALFA asked the GESI intern team to plan a campaign to promote the formation of a youth council, design advertising to accompany the campaign, and attract potential members through a variety of events and informational sessions at local universities. Capacity training was given to ALFA staff and community volunteers to ensure sustainability of the project.

According to the GESI students, “In the foreseeable future, we anticipate ALFA’s popularity will increase in Udaipur city due to our advertising, the recruitment of potential Youth Council members will create a cohort of potential volunteers, interns, and resources, and that the hiring of more staff and the successes of our stay will encourage ALFA staff to take a more organized approach to their future work.”
economies, whose citizens today “hold deep regrets” about some of their lost socialist benefits, offering lessons for other countries that are on the cusp of transition, such as Cuba.

Jeffrey Winters, director of the Buffett Institute’s Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) program asked, “Why does wealth inequality continue to increase despite having more freedom and democracy in the world?” While governments closely track pay, he explained, very few track wealth data, and “that’s no accident.” Globally, wealth concentration is high, durable, and accelerating thanks to a highly paid “wealth-defense” industry of lawyers and accountants. “Secrecy is the best friend of wealth concentration,” Winters said, suggesting that its elimination would be one way to help drive concentration down.

Olivier Godechot, co-director of MaxPo, a joint Max Planck/Sciences Po center that studies economic instability, discussed the trend of “financialization,” where nonfinancial firms and even households adopt and engage in risky financial practices common to the finance industry, such as acquiring more credit and debt. He described how when households engage in such practices, it affects those at the top end of the income distribution, too. However, he explained that increasing activity of financial markets is the main contributor to inequality’s rise.

Kellogg sociologist and IPR associate Lauren Rivera explained how companies perpetuate workplace inequality through hiring based on social class. Through a randomized resume audit, she found that companies are “the gatekeepers to social brackets” and were more likely to call back an upper-class male for an interview over equally qualified males from more disadvantaged backgrounds.

IPR economist Kirabo Jackson upended decades of thinking that school spending does not matter for outcomes. Using new and more rigorous research methods, Jackson and his colleagues exploited the variation in court-ordered reforms in US states to capture changes in school spending. They revealed that a 10 percent increase in spending leads to an additional three months of education and nearly 8 percent increase in adult wages—and the effects were even more pronounced for lower-income students, raising their additional amount of learning by six months.

“SES [socioeconomic status] is the single most powerful determinant of health outcomes,” explained pediatrician Tom Boyce of the University of California, San Francisco. He highlighted how early poverty-related adversity affects long-term developmental and health outcomes by becoming biologically embedded in the body and brain.

According to INSEAD economist Mark Stabile, one way to improve child health is through cash benefits. He described how paying out cash benefits for children has had positive effects in Canada. His study shows that the low-income families receiving them have been found to spend the money wisely, allocating funds to food and childcare and investing in education. This additional income was also correlated with strong, positive effects on the children’s mental health and some physical health outcomes, as well as on mothers’ health. ♦
New Faculty, Staff, and Visiting Scholars

Please welcome the following faculty, staff, and scholars in global studies to the Buffett Institute and to the Northwestern community.

Asma Ben Romdhane, assistant professor of instruction in Arabic, has a PhD in foreign language and ESL education from the University of Iowa and is a Fulbright teaching assistant alumna. Her current dissertation is entitled, “Impact of Social Interaction on the Acquisition of Spoken Arabic: Short-Term Study Abroad Context.” Her research interests include language and program assessment, multimedia and SLA, study abroad and intercultural competence, and teaching methods in L2 classroom learning. In 2015, Ben Romdhane received a Stanley Grant for International Research and a university-wide Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the University of Iowa. Her mission is to engage more people in learning Arabic language and help them develop their Middle Eastern and North African cross-cultural awareness.

Olivier Borraz, FIG visiting scholar, is a CNRS research professor at Sciences Po (Paris) and director of the Center for the Sociology of Organizations (CSO), a joint CNRS-Sciences Po research unit founded by Michel Crozier in 1964. After working on local government, his research has moved on to issues related to risk: first as a problem to be governed (mostly in environmental health), later as a mode of governing (analyzing the spread of risk-based regulation in Europe). He has recently moved on to the study of emergency management in the field of nuclear safety and how states prepare for crises. Throughout his research, his larger interests relate to state transformations in Europe.

Umayyah Cable, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, earned a PhD in American Studies & Ethnicity and a certificate in visual studies from the University of Southern California. Her research and teaching interests span the fields of ethnic studies, film and media studies, and queer theory, with a particular focus on how marginalized or underrepresented identity-based and cause-based groups leverage film culture in order to foment social, cultural, or political change. She is currently conducting new research for a manuscript based on her dissertation: “Cinematic Activism: Film Festivals and the Exhibition of Palestinian Cultural Politics in the United States.” At Northwestern, Umayyah will develop courses in Arab American studies, including “Introduction to Arab American Studies” and “Arab American Arts and Cinema.” She is also a board member for the Arab American Studies Association.

Silvia Cristofori, PAS visiting scholar, is assistant professor of cultural anthropology at Link Campus University (Rome) and Researcher at the Foundation of Religious Sciences (Fscire, Bologna, Italy), National Research Infrastructure for Historical Religious Studies. She has carried out field and archive research in Rwanda, Italy, and France on religious and political Christian movements in modern and contemporary Africa, which continues to be her main research subject. Her publications include a book on the Pentecostal movement in post-genocide Rwanda (L’Harmattan 2011).
Sarah Dees, Luce Postdoctoral Fellow in Religion, Politics, and Global Affairs, received her PhD in religious studies in 2015 from Indiana University, Bloomington. In 2014-15, Dees was a lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is a scholar of American and indigenous religious history with a focus on the history of the intersection of American state governance and Native American religions and cultures in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her dissertation, “The Scientific Study of Native American Religions, 1879-1903,” is a study of the relationship between US governmental and scholarly production of knowledge about Native American religions and federal Indian policies governing those traditions. During the course of her two-year fellowship, Dees is expanding and revising her dissertation into a book manuscript, preliminarily entitled The Materialization of Native American Religions: Cultural Science in an Era of Assimilation.

Lea Elsässer, CHSS visiting scholar, is a doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne. She is interested in the relationship between social inequality and political representation. In her dissertation, she examines to what extent political preferences of constituencies get reflected in the decisions of German legislative bodies. The primary objective of the project is to empirically assess whether German decision-makers respond selectively to different social groups and how overall responsiveness has changed since the 1980s. By comparing the results to findings for the US case, she will explore potential mechanisms of unequal responsiveness. She received a MS in Economics and Sociology from the University of Cologne and holds a PhD scholarship from the German Academic Scholarship Foundation.

Sinan Erensü, Keyman Postdoctoral Fellow, is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Minnesota and a graduate fellow at the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change. He holds an M.Phil degree in sociology from Cambridge University and a BA degree in Social and Political Sciences program from Sabanci University, Turkey. His interests lie in the fields of critical development studies, political economy, urban and rural theory, and political ecology with a particular focus on landscapes and infrastructures of energy. His regional focus is the Turkish Black Sea coast. His dissertation, “Fragile Energy: Power, Nature and Politics of Infrastructure in the ‘New Turkey,’” provides a reading of political power, consent, and dissent in Turkey in the 21st century through the lens of energy.

Hi‘ilei Julia Kawehipuaakahaoopulani Hobart is a postdoctoral fellow in Native American and indigenous studies, with a joint appointment in the Kaplan Institute, Program in Science in Human Culture, and Asian American studies. Her work looks at the points of intersection between foodscape and indigeneity. Hi‘ilei’s doctoral dissertation applies the framework of settler colonialism to food culture, and shows how taste qualities and food temperature index territorial power in Hawai’i. She is especially interested in the history of commodity ice and refrigeration in the Pacific, the development of new technology in the 19th century, the affective registers of comfort and home-making, and indigenous embodiment and environmental knowledge. Before joining Northwestern, Hi‘ilei taught a number of undergraduate classes at NYU where she developed syllabi on topics including critical food studies, material culture, and cuisine. She has recently published on frozen meat, localism and ‘local’ food in Hawai‘i, and guest edited for the journal Food, Culture, and Society.

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Ririn Kusuma, Arryman Fellow, received her bachelor’s degree from Universitas Islam Indonesia studying culture and psychology. As a 2013 recipient of the prestigious Li Ka Shing Scholarship, she pursued her master’s degree at the National University of Singapore’s Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. Her thesis examined solid waste management efforts in The Philippines. She remained at NUS where she did research for the Asia Competitiveness Institute. She plans to study political science at Northwestern, with a focus on the intersection of new information technologies, new freedoms in emerging democracies, and rising intolerance.

Erin Moore, Buffett Postdoctoral Fellow, received her PhD from the University of Chicago in 2016. She is a sociocultural anthropologist interested in transnational processes, international development and global health, and the study of gender, sexuality, and youth. Her geographic focus is urban Uganda, and sub-Saharan Africa more broadly. Her doctoral research explores the global movement to “empower” adolescent girls as it unfolded through the transnational channels of a major NGO and into the lives of teenage women living in Kampala, Uganda’s capital city.

Bahram Naderil, Arryman Fellow, completed his bachelor’s degree at the University of Jember, writing a thesis focused on women’s rights in the United States and the 2013 repeal of the Pentagon’s combat exclusion policy. Major honors Bahram has received include being named the “National Best Speaker” in the 2013 National University Debating Championship, hosted by the Indonesian Ministry of Education. He was also the commencement valedictorian at the 2014 graduation ceremony of the Faculty of Social and Political Science at the University of Jember. He plans to study anthropology with a focus on women’s struggles against male domination in Indonesian Islam and Christianity.

Mirna Nadia, Arryman Fellow, attained her bachelor’s degree at Bandung’s Institute of Technology, where she achieved distinction on the Dean’s List at the School of Life Science and Technology. Mirna continued her studies at the master’s level at Uppsala University’s International Health Program in the Department of Women’s and Children’s Health. She did an internship with Uppsala’s “Volunteer on War against Rape Project,” participating in the rape prevention campaign in Jaipur, India. She plans to study in sociology with a focus on sexual reproductive health and rights, and the state’s efforts to regulate sexuality particularly among women and adolescents.

Aulia Nastiti, Arryman Fellow, earned her bachelor’s degree in the department of communication at the University of Indonesia, where she is currently a researcher and junior lecturer in media studies. She completed her master’s entitled, “Culture and Cultural Polity in a Globalized Context: The Case of Indonesia,” at the Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3 in the Faculté des Langues et Cultures Étrangères. Aulia pursued these studies in France as a winner of prestigious scholarships from the Boursiers du Gouvernement Français (BGF) and Beasiswa Unggulan from the Indonesian Ministry of Education. She intends to study political science, focusing her research on how new “digital middleman” technologies such as Uber are changing the political economy of commodification, labor, and power across a range of societies.
Sari Ratri, Arryman Fellow, pursued her master’s degree in medical anthropology and sociology at the University of Amsterdam. Her thesis was entitled, “Productivity Promises, Precarious Realities: An Ethnographic Study of Harm Reduction Implementation In Indonesia.” Sari was the first prize winner of ISRSF’s national women’s essay competition in 2014. Currently she is an associate researcher at the University of Indonesia’s Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies, where she works on reproductive health and Indonesian youth. She plans to continue her studies at Northwestern in anthropology.

Elizabeth Schwall, Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Dance Studies and the Humanities, holds a PhD in History from Columbia University. Her interdisciplinary research and teaching combines History and Dance Studies to examine politics and the social relations of class, race, gender, and sexuality in Latin America and the Caribbean. Her book manuscript is a social and cultural history of staged dance performance in 20th-century Cuba. Her broader research interests include modern Brazilian and Mexican History, Latin American performance, Cold War cultural diplomacy, and the histories of migration and community building through art.

Lauren Stokes joins the history department this year as a college fellow. She received her PhD from the University of Chicago and is a historian of modern Germany with a particular focus on migration and race since 1945. Her current project, “Fear of the Family: Migration and Integration in West Germany, 1955-2000” examines the division between family and labor that marked West German migration policy and is based on research in German, Turkish, Spanish, and Italian. As migrants attempted to claim space as both family members and workers, the state’s attempts to uphold a boundary between the concepts of labor and family led to harsher restrictions on migration. A second project examines the history of the airport as a border in Cold War Germany. Her work has been funded by organizations including the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Fulbright Foundation, and the Council on European Studies. Besides migration, she also maintains an active interest in the history of capitalism, the history of sexuality and gender identity, and public history.

Başak Taraktas, Buffett Postdoctoral Fellow, earned her PhD in political science at the University of Pennsylvania in 2016. Her dissertation investigates the effect of preference diversity and preference compatibility on cooperation for regime change among organized challengers to authoritarian regimes. This work fills the gap in regime literature by explaining the conditions under which challengers are able to form a coherent united oppositional coalition capable of changing the regime. Her work has been published in Contemporary European Studies, Journal of Contemporary European Studies, and Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change. Her research interests include political regimes, social movements, and financial and sovereign debt crises. Başak’s co-authored work on the 2013 Gezi protests won the Sidney Tarrow Best Article Prize. She is also the recipient of several fellowships and grants, including Penn Democracy, Constitution, and Citizenship Fellowship, UPenn’s Teece Dissertation Fellowship, The European Commission Jean Monnet Fellowship, and The National Agency of Turkey Fellowship (Ulusal Ajans).
Mitali Thakor, postdoctoral fellow in sexuality studies and anthropology, completed her PhD from MIT’s Program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology & Society (HASTS). Her dissertation research covers the design and use of new digital techniques to locate child pornography online, from 3D avatars to image recognition software. Mitali’s ethnographic fieldwork in the Netherlands, Thailand, and the U.S. explores partnerships and tensions between international police, border control, computer scientists, UN bureaucrats, and activists as they develop algorithmic solutions to cases of exploitation and trafficking. Mitali is broadly interested in feminist STS, queer studies of punishment, digital anthropology, critical race studies on borders and migration, and public discourses around technology, software design, sex work, sexual exploitation, and civic empowerment. Mitali works for East Coast Solidarity Summer, an educational program for radical South Asian American youth, and also organizes on issues of sexual violence and prison abolition.

Tiffany Williams-Cobleigh joins the Program of African Studies as a program assistant. She has worked the past five years in community development domestically in Illinois and Missouri as well as internationally in the country of Rwanda in East Africa with the US Peace Corps. Most recently, she was working as a community development specialist with the University of Missouri Extension. Williams-Cobleigh earned her master’s degree in sociology as part of the Peace Corps Fellows Program at Western Illinois University and has undergraduate degrees in international studies and religious studies from Elon University in North Carolina.

Hollian Wint, Buffett Postdoctoral Fellow, received her PhD from New York University in 2016. She specializes in the socio-financial history of East Africa, western India, and the Indian Ocean. Her current project charts the transformations of regional financial and familial networks in the aftermath of the abolition of slavery and the consolidation of British imperial rule in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Her research has received support from the American Institute of American Studies, the Fulbright-Hays, and the NYU-Abu Dhabi Humanities Institute. Hollian is a contributor to Perspectives of Female Researchers: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Gujarati Identities, ed. Sharmina Mawani and Anjoom A. Mukadam. In spring, she will be offering a seminar in Indian Ocean history and the politics of regional analysis.

Emrah Yildiz joins MENA studies and anthropology as an assistant professor. His work is a historical anthropology of routes of mobility in the tri-border area among Iran, Turkey and Syria. His research lies at the intersection of historiography and ethnography of borders and their states; ritual practice, visitation and pilgrimage in Islam as well as smuggling and contraband commerce in global political economy. Emrah’s dissertation project, “The Ways of Zainab: Visitations and Valuations between Iran and Syria via Turkey,” brings these areas of scholarship into conversation as it follows the palimpsestuous pathways of a ziyarat (visitation) route, often referred to as Hajj-e Fuqara’ (pilgrimage of the poor) from bus stations in Iran, through informal bazaars in Turkey, to shrines in Syria. He is also interested in studies of gender and sexuality in the MENA region. Emrah recently completed his joint doctoral program in social anthropology and Middle Eastern studies at Harvard University. He is co-editor of Jadaliyya’s Turkey Page, and co-editor of the collection ‘Resistance Everywhere:’ The Gezi Protests and Dissident Visions of Turkey (Tadween, 2014).
Upcoming funding & program opportunities at Buffett

indicates the opportunity is for undergraduates, for graduate students, for faculty.

All grants, funding, and program opportunities at the Buffett Institute are listed at buffett.northwestern.edu

**Fall Quarter 2016 Application Deadlines**

**October 1  ▢  ▢  ▢**  
Crown Family Middle East Research Travel Grants
Funds travel for research projects in the Middle East.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/crown-middle-east-travel

**October 1  ▢  ▢  ▢**  
Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Research Grants
Funds individual or group research projects in modern Turkish studies. Projects collaborating with Turkish institutions and colleagues will be given priority.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/keyman-turkish-studies

**October 1  ▢**  
Graduate Dissertation Research Grants
Funds fieldwork outside the US for Northwestern doctoral students writing dissertations on comparative and international topics.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/graduate-dissertation-research-travel

**October 1  ▢**  
Manuscript Revision Conference Grants
Funds up to $7,000 and provides logistical support for a small conference to give junior, tenure-line faculty the opportunity to gain exposure to experts in their field, to receive pre-publication comments and feedback on late-stage book manuscripts, or to improve their research with input from leading figures.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/manuscript-revision

**November 1  ▢**  
Edited Volume Conference Grants
Designed to produce significant publications on cutting edge, interdisciplinary research. Proposals must be interdisciplinary and include a plan for a significant publication at project end.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/edited-volume-conference

**November 15  ▢**  
Supplemental Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant
Provides supplemental funding of up to $2,000 to complete or enhance research, internships, project work, or other non-traditional experiences that are relevant to contemporary global issues. Applicants who have already been awarded grants offered by Northwestern will be given priority.
buffett.northwestern.edu/global-engagement/funding/supplemental-grants.html

**December 15  ▢**  
Undergraduate Student Group Funding
We mentor co-curricular student groups that think critically and act responsibly with regard to the international issues they care about. Groups seeking outside funding for yearly activities need to apply by this date.
buffett.northwestern.edu/global-engagement/professional-development/student-groups

**December 15  ▢**  
Scholarships for GESI 2017 programs
For students who are seeking financial aid to be able to participate in the GESI study abroad program in summer or fall 2017.
gesi.northwestern.edu

**December 15  ▢**  
One Acre Fund Post-Graduate Fellowship
In partnership with the Buffett Institute, the One Acre Fund is offering a two-year paid post-grad fellowship in Africa that supports in-country leadership.
buffett.northwestern.edu/global-engagement/professional-development/alums/post-graduate-fellowship.html

**January 3**  
Buffett Postdoctoral Fellowship
Two year fellowship for scholars whose research addresses global, international, or transnational issues from social science or interdisciplinary perspectives. Must have received PhD between November 30, 2014 and August 31, 2017.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/buffett-postdocs.html
The Kurds are one of the world’s largest ethnic groups without a state, constituting sizable minorities in Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria. They have recently become prominent in world politics due to their fight against the Islamic State in the midst of Syria’s civil war. Yet their history until now has largely been one of marginalization, oppression and resistance across borders. It is estimated that about half of the over 30 million Kurds in the world live in Turkey, where they have carried on a struggle for self-governance through parliamentarian politics and armed conflict for over thirty years. Hundred of civilian casualties, thousands of displaced Kurds and once again terrified Kurdish and Turkish societies thus joined the long history of violence and deprivation in Turkey.

Keyman Modern Turkish Studies at the Buffett Institute will be hosting an interdisciplinary conference at Northwestern this fall that aims to bring together cutting edge research examining the last hundred years of Kurdish existence in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic in a historical and comparative perspective. Learn more at buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/turkish-studies.