The GESI study abroad program wins Ashoka U award for innovation in higher education

The Buffett Institute’s Global Engagement Studies Institute (GESI) study abroad program has won an award from Ashoka U for its innovative educational approach to social entrepreneurship in higher education.

Patrick Eccles, associate director of global engagement programs at the Buffett Institute, accepted the Ashoka U-Cordes Innovation Award on behalf of GESI on February 26, 2016. The award was presented during the Ashoka U Exchange in New Orleans to an audience of more than 700 leaders in social innovation in higher education.

“The Ashoka U-Cordes Innovation Award casts a broad net and identifies the best and brightest innovations that are really affecting the ability of our students to be change makers,” says Ron Cordes, co-founder of the Cordes Foundation, in a press release.

GESI is a credit-bearing program that combines rigorous academic training and hands-on international fieldwork. Teams of GESI students partner with local grassroots organizations in six countries to help design and implement community-based development projects. One of the program’s core values is a commitment to diversity and inclusion: In 2015, over 70% of GESI students were from underrepresented groups.

Over the past six years, the Ashoka U-Cordes Innovation Awards have recognized 35 top educational approaches in social...
MISSION

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NEWSLETTER

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Cover photo taken at the Buffett Institute by Laura Hayes.
In fall 2015, the Buffett Institute launched three interdisciplinary research groups after putting out a call for new, “big ideas” in global research. In this issue, we focus on the Global Capitalism & Law group, another intellectually diverse research community at the Buffett Institute that brings Northwestern scholars together to tackle critical global issues in new, exciting ways.

Co-led by Karen Alter (political science, law), Bruce Carruthers (sociology), and Cristina Lafont (philosophy), the Global Capitalism & Law research group investigates how capitalism shapes the law and how law shapes capitalism at the local, regional, and global level. Members include faculty and graduate students in law, political science, sociology, economics, management, history, philosophy, and human development and social policy.

Studying the world’s most productive economic and political system

“Binding our research group together is an appreciation that capitalism is the most productive economic and political organizing system in world history,” Lafont says. “Capitalism can create great prosperity, but also great inequality, and a level of consumption that is environmentally unsustainable. The conspiratorial perspective of capitalism imagines a smoke filled room of economic titans plotting to enrich themselves at the expense of others. Were this true, the problems generated by capitalism would be much more easily addressed.”

Driving the group’s research focus is a deep appreciation that there is no one-size-fits-all solution, no one set of rules or institutions that can guarantee economic prosperity for all. Members have already observed in their individual research of governments and markets around the world that similar legal rules and policies give rise to varied outcomes depending on context.

This perspective puts Global Capitalism and Law at odds with traditional economic and legal scholarship that seeks an idealized set of rules to create the most productive market economies. The group takes both an empirical and a normative approach to the idea that there are multiple forms of politically sustainable capitalism.

Addressing critical global issues

The group emerges at Northwestern at an extremely auspicious time to rethink these issues: “The highly expensive and failed US efforts to transform national economic, political and legal systems in Afghanistan and Iraq have reinforced the sense that we must better understand local context if external investments are to be helpful in promoting desired political change,” Lafont says. “Financial crises, concerns about inequality, a spreading political instability that is at times coupled with a rejection of neo-liberal economic ideas have created a space which calls for imagining a capitalist system that...
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

Krista Thompson (art history) won the 2016 Charles Rufus Morey Book Award by the College Art Association for her book *Shine: The Visual Economy of Light in African Diasporic Aesthetic Practice* (Duke University Press).

The Reva & David Logan Foundation awarded a $50,000 social justice grant to Brent Huffman (journalism) to help raise awareness about the plight of an ancient archeology site featured in his documentary film *Saving Mes Aynak*.

Provost Dan Linzer and the Faculty Distance Learning Workgroup awarded funding to Mei-Ling Hopgood (journalism) for her online project, “The Chinese Student Diaspora in America: A Multicultural, Multilingual and Multimedia Storytelling Project” which will bring together a team of domestic and international students at Northwestern to study, investigate and tell the stories of Chinese students who leave their families, homes, jobs and country to study in the US.

Publications & Mentions

Chad Achenbach (medicine) was interviewed in *The Atlantic* article “The Past, Present, and Future of Zika” to discuss the panic behind the spread of Zika and the neurological conditions associated with the virus.

Ana Aparicio (anthropology) wrote “Flint’s undocumented immigrants are having trouble accessing clean water” for *Quartz* to discuss how fear and language barriers have made Latino immigrants in Flint among the hardest-hit of the city’s population during the water crisis.

Brian Edwards (English, MENA studies) wrote an opinion piece for *Salon* titled “They’ve destroyed us worldwide: Donald Trump, George W. Bush and the destruction of the American century” arguing that Republican politicians have made the US look hostile, weak and fearful on the global stage.

Elizabeth Shakman Hurd’s (political science, religious studies) book *Beyond Religious Freedom* was reviewed in *The Nation* article “Is religious freedom a bad idea?”

Bill Hurst (political science) was quoted in the *PRI* story “Is global democracy in trouble? Or does it just feel like it?” to weigh in on the future political climate of China.

Stephen Nelson (political science) co-wrote an article with David Steinberg for the *Washington Post* titled “Here’s why Argentina’s new president Macri let the peso crash,” where they explain how campaign promises and public opinion motivated the drastic move.

Wendy Pearman (political science) described her experiences teaching refugee children for *PBS NewsHour* in the article “Syrian children heal through storytelling.”

Özge Samanci (R/TV/F) wrote an opinion piece for *The Daily Beast* titled “Being an immigrant is now even harder,” describing her journey from Turkey to the US and how the Syrian crisis and public perceptions has made it harder for immigrants to feel welcome in the US.

Shalini Shankar’s (anthropology) research was mentioned in the *Tech Insider* article “Why Indian kids keep winning the National Spelling Bee,” which suggests the trend of Indian winners involves the strong community involvement an Indian-American love of so-called “brain sports.”

Noelle Sullivan’s (anthropology, global health) guest column for the *Orlando Sentinel* “Global poor’s medical care would be unethical in U.S.” discussed the problems that arise when foreign volunteers crowd health facilities and orphanages in the name of “doing good,” often becoming more burden than boon to the communities that host them.

Jeffrey Winters (political science, EDGS) was quoted in *The New York Times* article “For the Wealthiest, a Private Tax System That Saves Them Billions” for his expertise on oligarchs and the ultra-wealthy. ♦
entrepreneurship within higher education. Innovation awardees are selected based on three criteria:

- **Innovation** – Does this model address a clear challenge or opportunity for advancing an entrepreneurial or socially impactful mindset for the university context?
- **Replication** – Can the model be easily adapted without losing quality and impact?
- **Maturity** – Is there evidence of refinement and iteration of the model over time?

GESI’s commitment to global partnerships and community-based learning has helped it stand out from other study abroad programs.

“We place a high value on the role of our local partners as co-educators,” Eccles says. “Several years ago, we were seeing that the traditional power dynamics of the classroom were sometimes following us into the field; students were too often deferring to faculty as the experts rather than the local people they lived and worked with. So instead, students work directly with in-country partners who supervise and advise their work and guide their overall integration with the community.”

Forging effective campus partnerships has also been a key to GESI’s success.

“Our program has become strongly identified with shared efforts at Northwestern to make our campus and programs more inclusive,” Eccles says. “We’ve collaborated with students, staff, faculty, donors, and other offices on campus to organize support for scholarships, intentional recruitment practices, and a peer education model that examines how identity, power and privilege shape our experiences at home and abroad.”

This is GESI’s second award in less than a year. In March 2015, GESI received the Excellence in Diversifying International Education (EDIE) award from the Diversity Abroad Network. GESI is the second Northwestern-based program to receive the Ashoka U-Cordes Innovation Award. Design for America, which was founded by faculty and students at the McCormick School of Engineering, won the award in 2013.

For more information on the GESI program, visit gesi.northwestern.edu.
For the winter quarter, the Buffett Institute hosted a series of events on climate change with the intention of breaking free from the traditional discussions in the news or even in the classroom. Coming just a few months after the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, the series allowed students and other members of the Northwestern community to hear from international experts on a topic that is often dismissed as too depressing, too complicated, or too far down the list of the world’s problems to pay attention. The series showed there is no one right discipline or language to tackle the topic of climate change, and that solving global problems like these needs to be a collaborative, multifaceted effort.

Daniel Crawford and Scott St. George from the University of Minnesota kicked the series off with the event “Making Climate Data Sing.” As a scientist and professor of geography, St. George is far from indifferent towards the issue of climate change, but he and Crawford, his former student, understand that apathy is a huge obstacle for many people who have been inundated with charts and timetables whenever the topic is discussed. Through sonification, which simply means turning numerical data into acoustic sounds, Crawford and St. George hope to harness the emotional power of music to translate distressing data into a powerful call to action. Crawford wrote the musical piece “A Song of Our Warming Planet” as a musical narrative of climate change from 1880 to the present. A string quartet of Northwestern student musicians performed the song at the event.

Climate change as an intersectional issue

In March, author Naomi Klein presented arguments from her 2014 book *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate* to an audience of over 600 people. A few days later Buffett hosted a lecture by Sheila Watt-Cloutier, world-renowned environmental advocate and political representative for Canadian Inuit people.

Both women spoke about climate change as a profoundly intersectional issue that will require participation from groups well beyond climate scientists, lawmakers, and politicians.

“We have to get out of our silos and see how climate change, racism, economic inequality, mass incarceration, austerity are all interconnected and how the road we’re on leads to the deepening of all of these crises,” said Klein. They both stressed that climate change is deeply intertwined with human rights, and ignoring it will have (and already has had) tremendous and devastating impact on cultures and nations around the world.

For Klein, Hurricane Katrina was the moment that helped her see climate change and its effects as a collision of all sorts of social issues. Weather, weak infrastructure, and institutionalized racism played off of each other to help create an unprecedented catastrophe. Watt-Cloutier talked at length about climate change’s destructive effects on the indigenous peoples of the Arctic, whose food sources and livelihoods are profoundly dependent on the continued existence of Arctic ice and snow.
Abandoning our "throwaway culture"

Klein and Watt-Cloutier emphasized the consequences of what Pope Francis famously called our “throwaway culture.”

“Climate change is not just about things getting hotter and wetter, it’s about things getting meaner and uglier,” according to Klein. They argued that when our planet’s resources are treated as both infinite and infinitely disposable, that attitude starts to extend to human life, which Klein said can be seen in the way our society deals with the Syrian refugee crisis or with black Americans being shot and killed in large numbers by police officers.

Both women advocated for modern society as a whole to adopt a more caring, nurturing attitude and sustainable way of life that reflects how many indigenous people have lived for centuries.

Klein’s advice to those passionate about fighting to stop climate change was not to ignore other social movements or prioritize environmentalism above the fight for human rights or racial and economic equality. These movements, she argued, will have greater chances for success against powerful global systems when they work together.

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Buffett alums' interactive documentary "Beyond the Seal" reveals the hidden costs of 40 cent bananas

Katherine Nagasawa (Medill 2015) and Leah Varjacques (Medill 2015) are returning to Northwestern this spring to screen their multimedia documentary Beyond the Seal, which takes a deep dive into the past, present, and future of America’s favorite fruit.

The documentary, which is part video and part interactive website, profiles the lives of banana farmers in Ecuador, whose struggle with poverty and the hazardous health conditions of banana farming inspired Katherine and Leah to make the film.

Over the course of 2015 and with funding from the Buffett Institute, they produced Beyond the Seal to tell the farmers’ stories and to reveal the conflicts and hidden consequences of the US public’s ongoing demand for cheap bananas.

Leah became interested in the ethics of banana farming after living in Guatemala, where she saw the difficult lives of banana farmers first hand. After some further investigation about the banana trade and the virtual monopoly on bananas held by US fruit companies, she learned about farmers and vendors who were trying to start a more just supply chain by selling bananas through a fair trade model.

Leah and Katherine met while studying journalism at Northwestern, where Leah got Katherine involved in her advocacy for fair trade bananas. They were also both involved in Buffett programs: Leah was a member of the Northwestern University Community for Human Rights (NUCHR) and Katherine was a participant in GESI Bolivia.

Both alums will present their film along with a panel discussion on fair trade fruit on April 19 at the Buffett Institute. Their hope is to get current students interested in the fight for fair fruit. You can watch the documentary and learn more at beyondtheseal.com.
At the end of 2015, the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) celebrated a major research milestone with the publication of the final volume of its Arabic Literature of Africa (ALA) series, *Arabic Literature of Africa Volume V: Mauritania and the Western Sahara* (Brill 2015), a collection of manuscripts compiled by ISITA-affiliated scholars, completes the geographic sweep for the ALA book series launched by the late Northwestern professor John O. Hunwick and historian Rex Sean O’Fahey in 1994. Developed at Northwestern over the last two decades, the five ALA volumes each contain biographical entries on the major authors’ writing in Arabic in a particular African region and a list of their writings. This comprehensive and groundbreaking body of work by ISITA scholars is the foundation upon which a whole new field of study has been built.

As the largest publication in the series, *ALA Volume V* draws from more than 1,800 authors of more than 10,000 titles covering 350 years of scholarship. Its compilation was a six-year project under the direction of ISITA visiting scholar Charles C. Stewart and was supported by ISITA’s Ford Foundation grant, “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge.” It’s also the result of substantial international and interdisciplinary collaboration: the six contributing scholars of *ALA Volume V* are based on four different continents and include faculty members from Northwestern, University of Illinois at Chicago, DePaul, and Duke University.

Although almost a third of the world’s Muslims call Africa home, the Middle East is still perceived as the heartland of Islam and Islamic scholarship, with North Africa also playing a secondary role. For centuries, sub-Saharan Africa was marginalized in academic discussions on Africa and Islam because it was assumed the region lacked written scholarly records. Through the recent work of ISITA scholars like Hunwick and the publication of the ALA series, Islamic scholarship in sub-Saharan and West Africa has become recognized globally for its significant intellectual outputs and historic contributions to both Islamic and African studies.

**Dispelling the myth of the Islamic manuscripts of Timbuktu**

*ALA Volume V* also addresses the long-held belief that Timbuktu, famous center of trade and home to a large number of precious Islamic manuscripts, was historically the only hub for African Islamic intellectual activity outside of North Africa. The volume contains documents from nomadic schools.
in Mauritania and the Western Sahara region that continued and expanded upon Timbuktu’s academic legacy, challenging assumptions that people in this region had nothing new to add to the discourse on Islam. During his March 9 lecture on the texts found in *ALA Volume V*, Charles Stewart argued that “both the libraries and the literary output in the Timbuktu region do not compare to what is found in the nomadic societies [in Mauritania and the Western Sahara]. The highly-vaunted reputation of Timbuktu as a center of Islamic learning may be misplaced.”

ISITA will continue to lead the discussion on Islamic scholarship in Mauritania and the Western Sahara at its upcoming symposium April 17-18. “Sacred Word: The Changing Meanings in Textual Cultures of Islamic Africa” will be dedicated to the memory of ISITA cofounder and professor John Hunwick, who passed away in April 2015. ISITA, the Program of African Studies, and the Buffett Institute will cosponsor the symposium with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s Center for African Studies. The event is the first in a series of collaborative programs on Islam in Africa organized under the newly established UIUC-Northwestern Consortium for African Studies, which is funded by a US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grant.

To learn more about ISITA, visit www.isita.northwestern.edu.

*At left: source manuscripts from *ALA Volume V*

CAPITALISM & LAW

Dani Rodrik of the Harvard Kennedy School kicked off the group’s first class (pictured at left), exploring debates about institutions and economic performance. This winter they drew on the expertise of Joel Mokyr, an award-winning economic historian at Northwestern, to explore the ideational underpinnings of European economic prosperity during the industrial revolution. In April, Mitu Gulati, Professor of Law at Duke Law School and Lee Buchheit, a senior partner at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton and advisor of governments in financial crisis, will lead a master class based on their work on sovereign debt and the legal foundations of international financial markets. Plans for 2016-2017 include offering a co-taught graduate seminar where faculty and students explore different topics under global capitalism and law.

Interested in learning more about the global capitalism and law research group? Visit buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/global-capitalism-law.
New publications from Buffett Institute faculty affiliates

**BOOKS**

William Hurst, Political Science, et al. (Ed.)  

Despite a centralized formal structure, Chinese politics has long been marked by local variation and experimentation. Based on extensive fieldwork, this book explores how policies diffuse across China, the mechanisms through which local governments arrive at solutions, and the implications for China’s political development. The chapters examine how local-level institutions solve governance challenges, such as rural development, enterprise reform, and social service provision. Focusing on diverse policy areas, the contributors all address the question, how do local policymakers innovate in each issue area to address a governance challenges and how, if at all, do these innovations diffuse into national politics?

Henri Lauzière, History.  

Some scholars hold that Salafism is an innovative and rationalist effort at Islamic reform, while others argue the opposite. Introducing a third, empirically based genealogy, this book understands Salafism as a recent phenomenon projected back onto the past, and it sees its purist evolution as a direct result of decolonization. The author builds his history on the transnational networks of Moroccan Sufi Taqi al-Din al-Hilali (1894–1987). Today, Salafis tend to claim a monopoly on religious truth and freely confront other Muslims. Lauzière’s pathbreaking history recognizes the social forces behind this purist turn, uncovering the origins of a global phenomenon.

**ARTICLES**

Karen J. Alter, Political Science, et al.  

This article provides a framework to assess the varied authority of international courts (ICs). The authors generate practicable metric that assesses de facto IC authority. They identify five possible types of IC authority that correspond to different audiences for IC rulings. The goal of this metric is to help the contributors to a symposium on ICs assess how contextual factors beyond the control of judges affect IC authority. The final section considers the relationship of IC authority to IC power. Powerful ICs have intermediate and extensive authority that extends across a broad range of issue areas and types of cases.

Lina Britto, History.  

This essay, based in large part on local oral history, uncovers the lived experience of participants in the 1970s marijuana boom along the Colombian coast. It narrates how the country’s first illegal drugs merchants (marimberos) helped shape a key element of modern Colombian nationalism by promoting vallenato music. Soon marimberos constituted a new entrepreneurial class with a regional masculine identity. That process helped marimberos to open space for themselves and turn vallenato into an expression of Colombian popular culture. This essay examines that process and explains why the marimberos’ role in vallenato’s history has been largely erased from memory.

Hector Carrillo, et al., Sociology.  

This article examines the logics of self-identification among men who have same-sex desires and behaviors and consider themselves to be straight. Drawing
from interviews conducted in the USA with 100 straight-identified men who have same-sex desires and 40 partners of their partners, we argue that these men see themselves as straight and therefore it is important to understand what specifically they mean by that. The authors propose that health educators must acknowledge flexibilities in the definition of heterosexuality and use an expanded definition to envision, with these men, how to more effectively engage them in HIV prevention and health promotion.

Bruce G. Carruthers, Sociology, et al.

An important chapter in the history of consumer credit market regulation came 1909-1941, when experts at the Russell Sage Foundation (RSF) campaigned to transform small loans in the US. Concentrating on passage of the Uniform Small Loan Law, the foundation’s success hinged upon an alliance with the American Association of Personal Finance Companies. While most scholarship portrays experts as being dominated by industry, this case provides a countervailing example. The article explains how RSF built its expert reputation through reputational entrepreneurship, and traces how RSF experts deployed this reputation as a power resource in their negotiations with small loan lenders.

Ian Hurd, Political Science.

Scholars and activists commonly see international law in a privileged normative and political position in world politics, where international legal institutions are assumed to advance important goals such as international stability, human justice and even global order as a whole. Hurd explores this attitude toward international law, which he calls an “enchanted” view, and contrasts it to the ‘disenchanted’ alternative. Where the enchanted attitude presumes the normative valence and political wisdom of following international law, the disenchanted approach treats these as open questions for inquiry and discussion. The disenchanted approach is more empirically minded, and more politically open, than the enchanted, and leads to a distinct research program on legalization in international affairs – one that is attentive to the politics of law, the connections between law and power, the ambiguity that exists between legality and policy wisdom.

Seema Jayachandran, Economics.

Is the high degree of gender inequality in developing countries explained by underdevelopment itself? Or do the societies that are poor today hold cultural views leading to gender inequality? This article discusses mechanisms through which gender gaps narrow as countries grow. Although much of the GDP/gender-inequality relationship can be explained by the development process, society-specific factors are also at play. Norms such as patriarchy and concern for women’s “purity” help explain the male-skewed sex ratio and low female employment in some countries. The article also discusses why the sex ratio has become more male-skewed with development, and suggests policy implications.

Rebecca C. Johnson, English.

Taking as a case study the first known novel to be originally written in Arabic, this essay addresses the centrality of translation to the Arabic novel. Early original Arabic novels were serialized alongside translations, incorporated translated excerpts into their narratives, or were prefaced by comments that situated them in a literary marketplace dominated by translated fiction. This essay reads one such novel within larger debates surrounding the importation of foreign objects. It shows how these novels engender transformations in form, how they create but also destabilize imagined communities, and how they provoke new assessments of literary, cultural, and commercial value.

Rajeev Kinra, History.

This article surveys comparative philology in the Indo-Persian world, and situates it within debates about global forms of intel-
lectual modernity. From its early beginnings, comparative philology in Asia developed into a scholarly discipline in which a host of concerns relating to Indo-Persian intellectual life was negotiated. These developments took place over many centuries. But in their increasingly sophisticated scholarship, as well as their increasing cognizance of their own scholarly disciplinarity, we find several distinctly “modernizing” tendencies among many of the Indo-Persian philologists discussed here, long before the supposed “invention” of the discipline by western scholars.

Viorica Marian, Communication Sciences & Disorders, et al.

Most of the world’s population has knowledge of at least two languages. Many bilinguals identify with at least two cultures. Because language enables participation in cultural practices and expression, bilingual experience and cultural identity are interconnected. However, specific links remain largely unidentified. This study examines which aspects of bilingualism relate to identification with first- and second-language cultures. Results indicate that cultural identification is predicted by age of language acquisition, language proficiency, foreign accentedness, and contexts of long-term language immersion and current language exposure. Language–culture relations are mediated by the age and manner in which the second language was acquired.

Stephen C. Nelson, Political Science.

How to manage sovereign debt has become a key question in the problems that developed after the financial crisis. This author maintains that Keynes, who thought about this deeply between the wars, provides some critical lessons.

William Reno, Political Science.

The article offers information on the transitions and ending of civil war in sub-Saharan Africa. Topics discussed include transition from goal-oriented war of liberation narrative toward a criminal war narrative, granting rebels for national liberation movements by United Nations (UN) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and political violence and effect on community by civil war.

Rachel Beatty Riedl, Political Science.

Pentecostal and Charismatic churches are growing rapidly in many parts of Africa and the developing world. This article presents new evidence on these churches, based on sermon texts and interview data gathered from a random sample of churches in Nairobi, Kenya. It finds that Pentecostal churches in Nairobi are remarkably consistent in the messages they disseminate, despite great variation in church and membership characteristics across congregations. In contrast to literature on civil society and ethnicity, which sees religious groups as potential collective agents or as cohesive interest groups, this article suggests that churches are leading members to prioritize the individual.

Bruce Spencer, Statistics, et al.

Following the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, Geller argued that “all of Japan is at risk from earthquakes, and the present state of seismological science does not allow us to reliably differentiate the risk level in particular geographic areas,” so a map showing uniform hazard would be preferable to the existing map. The authors explore this by comparing how well a 510-year long record of Japanese earthquakes is described by three types of map. Surprisingly, uniform and randomized maps do better than actual maps. However, under an alternative specification, Japanese national hazard maps perform better than the others. ♦
New Faculty, Staff, and Visiting Scholars

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


Olivier Borraz, FIG Visiting Scholar, is a CNRS research professor at Sciences Po in Paris. He is the current director of the Center for the Sociology of Organizations (CSO), a joint Sciences Po-CNRS research center founded in 1964 by Michel Crozier. A sociologist and political scientist, his work is related to risk and crisis, and more generally the transformation of the state. His current research focuses on the introduction of risk-based approaches to regulation in four European countries (with a particular interest in inspections), contingency plans and exercises in preparation for a nuclear accident, and how states govern crises in Europe.

Alexandru Grigorescu, IO/IL Visiting Scholar, is an associate professor of political science at Loyola University Chicago. His research has primarily analyzed the relationship between changes in international organizations and those in the domestic realm. His work was published in journals such as International Studies Quarterly, the Review of International Organizations, the Journal of Conflict Resolution, and Ethics and International Affairs. He is the author of Democratic Intergovernmental Organizations? Normative Pressures and Decision-Making Rules (Cambridge University Press, 2015). Prior to his academic career, he served as a diplomat in the Romanian Foreign Ministry and was posted to the Romanian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Sophie Lemercier-Goddard, FIG Visiting Scholar, is an associate professor in the English department at École Normale Supérieure Lyon. Her areas of research are early modern English literature, particularly Shakespeare and other writings from the period. She published several articles on repetition and the figure of the double in Shakespeare’s plays, edited a collection of essays on King Lear (2008) and co-edited an online collection on Love’s Labour’s Lost (2015). Her current research interests involve English narratives of exploration. In her latest articles, she examines the English voyages in search of the Northwest passage (Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Martin Frobisher, Henry Hudson), focusing on rhetoric, identity, knowledge exchange, nationalist discourse and the forming of self and nation in the early modern English Atlantic world.

continued on next page
Paul Naylor, ISITA Visiting Scholar, is a doctoral researcher at the University of Birmingham (UK). His dissertation is titled, Islamic Pluralism in the Political History of the Central Sahel: A Critical Study of Arabic Sources for West African History. His research concerns the Arabic writings produced by the leaders of the Muslim theocratic state founded in Sokoto (northern Nigeria) in 1804 by Sheikh Uthman dan Fodio, popularly known as the Sokoto Caliphate. At its height, the Caliphate included much of present-day northern Nigeria, southern Niger and parts of Cameroon and lasted as an independent state entity until 1903. In addition, he has been cataloguing the British Library’s collection of Arabic manuscripts from West Africa and assisting in the curation of their major exhibition West Africa: Word, Symbol, Song.

Pippa Skotnes, Buffett Visiting Professor, is a professor of fine art and director of the Centre for Curating the Archive at the University of Cape Town. She has produced a considerable amount of visual work, books, and articles on early Cape archives and San culture. These include: Miscast: negotiating the presence of the Bushmen (1996), accompanied by a major exhibition on the colonial history of the San at the South African National Gallery in Cape Town; Heaven’s Things (1999); and Claim to the Country (2007). Skotnes is especially intrigued by the nature of the book and archive, with exhibitions such as the Lamb of God (2004-2010) exploring histories of sacrifice and redemption, with inscriptions gilded into three mounted horse skeletons, expanding cabinets of curiosity, decorated skulls, found and made objects, photographs and prints.

Timothy K. Stanton, Buffett Visiting Professor, is Senior Associate/Engaged Scholar for Ravensong Associates, through which he consults in service-learning design, development, and research in the US, Africa, and Asia. He is director emeritus of Stanford University’s Bing Overseas Studies Program in Cape Town, South Africa where he established the Community-Based Partnership Research Programme. While at Stanford Tim founded and directed the scholarly concentration in community health and public service at the School of Medicine. He helped found and served as associate director and director of the Haas Center for Public Service from 1985-1999. He has taught in African studies, American studies, education, medicine, public policy, and urban studies. As Engaged Scholar for Campus Compact, Tim helped organize and coordinate a national US initiative on community engagement and research universities, The Research Universities Civic Engagement Network (TRUCEN). He has published numerous articles on service-learning and engaged scholarship, including a book, Service-Learning: A Movement’s Pioneers Reflect on its Origins, Practice, and Future.

Nisbert Taisekwa Taringa, ISITA Visiting Scholar, holds a PhD in Religious Studies, (University of Zimbabwe) and is an associate professor and head of the Department of Religious Studies, Classics and Philosophy, University of Zimbabwe in Harare. In 2006 he participated in The Study of the United States Institute on Religious Pluralism in the United States, University of California at Santa Barbara. He is a DAAD (Germany Academic Exchange) alumni and has participated in the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies Fellowship (Germany). His areas of interests are in phenomenology of religion, world religions, African traditional religions and systematic theology. His research interest is in methods and theories in the study of religion and in religions and contemporary ethical issues such as ecology and climate change, animals in religions, human rights, religions and international relations, gender and sexuality, religious pluralism, and religions and health and well-being. Currently he has been awarded the Fulbright African Research Scholar Award, Professional Development 2015-2016 researching on religions and human rights. ♦
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

### Spring Quarter 2016 Application Deadlines

#### April 1
Graduate Student Organized Conference Grant
Funds a multi-disciplinary conference initiated and organized by a group of graduate students.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/graduate-student-organized-conference-grant

#### April 1
Grants for Working Groups
Funds working groups to establish and maintain communities of scholars engaged in sustained scholarly activities around shared research interests.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/working-group

#### April 1
“Big Ideas” Grants
Funds “big ideas” in global research that have the potential to transform scholarly activity at Northwestern and beyond. Proposals will ideally be interdisciplinary, and are encouraged to integrate and engage the full range of resources that the Buffett Institute can provide.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/big-ideas

#### April 1
Global Partnerships Grants
Supports partnerships and collaborations between Buffett-affiliated groups and foreign universities and academic research institutes.
buffett.northwestern.edu/funding-grants/global-partnership-funds

#### April 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

#### April 5
Buffett International SIGP Award
Buffett is partnering with the Summer Internship Grant Program (SIGP) to fund international internships for undergraduates that facilitate career exploration, experiential learning, and research, regardless of financial resources. Awards for international internships provide up to $6,000 in funding for travel and living expenses.
northwestern.edu/careers/about-us/sigp

#### April 25
Global Engagement Fellowship Program
In this pre-professional program, Global Engagement Fellows assist Buffett Institute staff with implementation of its undergraduate programs and support the Institute through office administration and outreach. Up to seven fellowships are available.
buffett.northwestern.edu/global-engagement/career-support/fellows-program

#### May 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

#### May 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

#### May 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

#### May 5
Supplemental Undergraduate Research 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/funding-grants/buffett-institute-summer-grants

#### May 15
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
The Buffett Institute is hosting a graduate student conference that examines how modern states exist in tension with the practices, institutions, and sensibilities associated with Islam. This interdisciplinary conference will draw together advanced graduate students and senior scholars to probe the enduring entanglement of religion and modernity, and to understand how this entanglement bears on contemporary debates about modern statehood.

The keynote address will be given by Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of Islamic Studies at the University of Notre Dame with appointments in the Department of History and the Kroc Institute for International Studies in the Keough School of Global Affairs.

The conference is open to the public and will take place on Evanston campus all day April 7 and April 8. Visit the conference website for more information: buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/grad-conference. For inquiries regarding this event, please contact buffettgradconference@northwestern.edu.