

International Studies Newsletter

Rowan University Spring 2017



First Sigma Iota Rho Initiation

The first initiation ceremony for Zeta Rho, Rowan's chapter of Sigma Iota Rho, the honor society for International Studies, was held on April 9 in Hollybush Mansion. Seventeen students (6 IS majors and 11 IS minors) and 4 faculty members were initiated into the society. Congratulations to all new initiates!



Student News

• **Marisa Ditkoff** (IS/Sociology; CUGS in Japanese) was selected for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences "Senior of Distinction" Award for excellence in International Studies.



• **Ian Abernethy** (Poly Sci/IS minor, SIR initiate) was accepted into the Peace Corps. He will be teaching English in South Africa next year.

• **Rachel Barton** (English/Writing Arts/Honors/Women and Gender Studies) won a Fulbright US-UK award to attend a summer institute at the University of Sussex in the UK.

• **Carmen Chen** and **Christopher Cruz** (both IS majors with CUGS in Japanese) won scholarships from Rowan's Asian Studies program.

• **Olivia Grasso** (History/ IS minor) won Rowan's "International Study Scholarship" to study abroad in Germany next year.

• **Tyler Jiang** (IS/History/Honors), who is in Beijing on a Boren Scholarship, had two more editorials published in Sigma Iota Rho's online journal, <http://www.sirjournal.org/>.

• **Justin Rechel** (Poly Sci/ IS minor, SIR initiate) will attend law school at William and Mary in the fall.

• **Amy Ribinsky** (Communication/Honors/ IS minor) won a Fulbright US-UK award to attend a summer institute in Glasgow, Scotland.

• **Nicole Wyglendowski** (English/Elementary Education) won a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship grant to Taiwan.

UN Trip

Sigma Iota Rho worked with Honors and Phi Alpha Theta to organize a trip to the United Nations for two briefings on March 30. Twelve International Studies majors/minors participated in the trip.



For information about requirements for the IS major and concentration, including suggested sequences for a number of double majors, go to https://academics.rowan.edu/chss/inter_majors/internationalstudies/Acad/

International Studies Faculty News

• Dr. Corinne Blake has accepted the position of Associate Dean for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. While she will continue to serve as the advisor for national scholarships such as Fulbright, Boren, and the Critical Language Scholarship, **from September 1**, Dr. Kelly Duke Bryant, who specializes in African history and is currently on sabbatical, will serve as the coordinator of International Studies.

• Congratulations to Dr. Christy Thornton, who teaches the International Studies core courses, for winning a fellowship at Harvard University for 2017-2018 to work on revising her doctoral dissertation into a book. While she is on leave, James Schrader, who will earn his PhD in Latin American history from U.C. San Diego this summer and currently teaches *Introduction to International Studies* at Rowan, will teach the core courses in International Studies as well as courses on Latin American history.



Scholarship Applications You Could Develop this Summer!

Undergraduates with strong academic records could develop applications for programs such as the State Department's Virtual Foreign Service Internship (due July 22) and the Critical Language and PPIA Foreign Policy summer scholarships, which will be due Nov 1. Outstanding graduating seniors could write applications for programs such as Fulbright and JET (to teach English in Japan).

Study Abroad

A number of International Studies majors will be studying abroad next year including [Kiera Delaney](#), who will be studying for the year in Spain, and [Cheyenne Marion](#), who will be study for a year in Amman, Jordan.

The deadline to apply to study abroad in spring 2018 will be September 26, 2017, so you may want to start your application in late summer. Information about program options may be found at <http://www.rowan.edu/home/education-abroad/program-options>.

Strong students who are Pell Grant eligible should apply for a Gilman Scholarship, which pays up to \$5000 towards Study Abroad for a semester—up to \$8000 if you're studying a "critical language." The deadline to apply for a spring Gilman will be Oct. 3. For information about this and other study abroad scholarships, go to the International Studies Study Abroad scholarships page, https://academics.rowan.edu/chss/inter_majors/internationalstudies/scholarships/undergrad.html.

Information about these and many other programs for undergraduates and graduates may be found on the International Studies Scholarships page, https://academics.rowan.edu/chs/inter_majors/internationalstudies/scholarships/index.html; more programs will be added to the page by the end of May.

Sigma Iota Rho

Many thanks to [Morgan Sichel](#), who served as president of Zeta Rho, Rowan's chapter of Sigma Iota Rho this year, as well as the other officers: [Miriam Kontoh](#) (VP); [Sasha Refinski](#) (secretary); [Falone Tapsoba](#) (treasurer); and [Cheyenne Merion](#) (SGA senator). In addition to the initiation ceremony and trip to the United Nations, Zeta Rho completed four service projects and was successfully chartered by the SGA. Dr. Blake was honored to have received the Faculty Advisor award from Sigma Iota Rho's national organization.

At the last meeting, [Miriam Kontoh](#) was elected president of Zeta Rho for 2017-2018. Miriam has a lot of great ideas and hopes to broaden participation in the society. Elections



for other board positions will be held in the fall. **If you're willing to be an active member of the society and board, please consider running!**

A few of the Spring 2017 Talks Related to International Studies

REFLECTIONS ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIX-DAY WAR

A screening of The 50 Years War: Israel and the Arabs Part 2, The Six Day War and panel discussion.

The Six Day War, fought in June 1967 between Israel and three Arab states—Egypt, Jordan, and Syria—was the main catalyst for the summit between President Jimmy D. Johnson and Premier Menachem Begin held at Glendon College, about two weeks after the end of the war.

This event is part of the Hebrew 50th Anniversary Celebration and is sponsored by CISI, International Studies, Political Science & Economics and History. A light lunch will be served.

Wednesday, March 29
11:00-12:15
Chamberlain Student Center 221 A-B

"Russia Confronts the World: What does it Mean for Us?"

In recent years, Russia has experienced new conflicts with the United States, Europe, and many of its neighbors. Please join us for a panel discussion about the complicated state of Russian-American relations, past and present.

The panel will include:
Dr. Mark Schrad, Villanova University
Dr. Lawrence Markovitz, Boston University
and Dr. Janet Hanson, Rowan University

This event is part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Hebrew 50th Anniversary Celebration and is sponsored by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the International Studies Program, the Department of Political Science, and the Department of History.

Wednesday, March 22
11:00 am -12:15 pm
Student Center, Room 221

Rowan in the World
an International Studies Lecture Series Presents:

Operation Pied Piper
The WWII Evacuation of British Children

Operation Pied Piper evacuated over 3.5 million British children during the Second World War and was astutely designed to save young innocents from the perils of German aerial bombing. Educational writers and diaries shed light on how the young were important citizens who "let their feet" for the nation and were seen observers of great politics. These materials further reveal how children and young adults authored themselves in remarkable and subversive acts of narrative self-fashioning, providing us, in turn, with new ways of apprehending the Second World War.

Lecture and discussion by Dr. Lee Telfer,
Professor and Dean of Thomas S. Brantley Hall

Thursday, March 30
5pm
Robinson 324

Rowan in the World, an International Studies lecture series presents:

MEXICO TODAY:
Dollars, Drugs, and Democracy
by Dr. Christy Thornton
Assistant Professor, History Department

Over the last few decades, significant changes in the Mexican economy and political system have coincided with a rise in the power and reach of the drug trade. What is the relationship between economic reforms, the democratic opening, and narco-trafficking? Dr. Thornton will argue that we have to understand these phenomena together to make sense of Mexico today.

Monday April 17
6:30-7:45 p.m.
Robinson 212