



International Relations Program Updates

The IR Program had a great end of the school year.

During the spring semester, we welcomed 5 new majors from other parts of the campus. We also added 5 new minors. In the Fall, we expect to have 17 incoming frosh students.

In this Summer edition, we once again highlight Sigma Iota Rho (SIR). SIR President, Caley Rolt ('16), explicates how SIR leadership successfully expanded on a number of new programs.

Also in this edition, Molly Ledbetter ('17) shares with us her experience as an intern for the European Parliament. She also shares her insights on the terrorist attack that occurred at Brussels Airport during her stay in March.

We continuously strive to develop our sense of academic community among our students, alumni, and faculty members.

Kazuya Fukuoka
Director, IR Program

Congratulations, Graduates!

The International Relations Program proudly recognizes the accomplishments of this year's graduates:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Rafael Abreu Santana | Andrew D Cheadle | Constantina Price |
| Anita R Aub | Matthew R. Kent | Tatiana J. Pulido |
| Kimberly E. Bielous | Mary E Korchak | Brian T. Radermacher |
| Brandon V. Bonair | Elizabeth J. Lanzilotti | Caley J. Rolt |
| Matthew E. Burdsall | Bailey M. McIntyre | Gabriela A. Rosazza |
| Anthony J Cerra | | |

Academic Achievement

IR students had many academic achievements the past academic year. Congratulations!

International Relations Award: Caley Rolt

Phi Beta Kappa: Caley Rolt (inducted as a junior), Kimberly Bielous, Mary Korchak, Tatiana Pulido, Adam Richwine

Alpha Sigma Nu: Caley Rolt (inducted as a junior), Bailey McIntyre, Adam Richwine, Ashley Gerald

Summa Cum Laude: Caley Rolt

Magna Cum Laude : Kimberly Bielous, Mary Korchak, Tatiana Pulido, Adam Richwine

Cum Laude : Anthony John Cerra, Bailey McIntyre

University Honors (Completed General Honors Curriculum): Mary Korchak, Tatiana Pulido, Adam Richwine, Caley Rolt

Northeast Conference Award in French: Matthew Kent (French minor)

Departmental Honors Thesis: Tatiana Pulido (supervised by Richard Gioioso, POL), Caley Rolt (supervised by Drs. Gioioso and Lisa Baglione, POL)

Summer Scholars 2015: Bailey McIntyre: project (supervised by Dr. Chakars)

Monmouth University's Undergraduate Research Conference Best Paper Award: Matt Kent (supervised by Dr. Lisa Baglione)

SJU Asian Studies Annual Essay Competition Best Paper Award: Daniel Socey (supervised by Dr. Kazuya Fukuoka)

St. Andrew's Scholarship: John McGrath ('18)

U.S. State Department Gilman Scholarship: Ashley Gerald ('17)



Sigma Iota Rho

The International Relations Honor Society, Sigma Iota Rho, expanded on a number of our new programs in Spring semester.

By Caley Rolt ('16)
SIR President, 2015-16

SIR Induction Ceremony

Our new members of Sigma Iota Rho were inducted on April 8 in a wonderful joint ceremony with the Political Science Honors Society (PSA). SIR seniors also received cords for graduation at the ceremony.

Congratulations to:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Kierra Dolton | Adam Richwine |
| Ashley Gerald | Daniel Soucy |
| Christopher Heiniman | Kasey Trapp |
| Matthew Kent | Nicholas Turadian |
| Molly Ledbetter | |



Mentorship:

Our senior IR mentors kept in contact with their freshman and sophomore mentees throughout this semester. Freshman received advice on classes for the fall, preparation for future study abroad or other plans, and double majoring or minoring. Sophomores heard from their mentor about various fields for internships (from international trade to refugee resettlement) and networked with seniors who had completed similar internships to land one for the summer. Thank you to the seniors who gave advice or reached out to their network on behalf of other IR majors!! Also congrats to our sophomores who have found summer internships!

Midterm & Finals Study Nights:

SIR continued our very successful midterm and finals study nights. We partnered with PSA (the political science honors society) for both events, and we had high turnout! Professors have noted the benefit these study nights have had for students of all majors in IR or POL classes. Our finals study night will be Reading Day (May 3) from 7-10pm in Doyle Banquet Hall South, for all those interested.



International Relations Class of 2020:

Members of SIR represented the IR department at two Admitted Students Days in April and an Open House event in May. Students shared their experiences in the IR department, at SJU, while abroad, and in internships with prospective students and parents in both a classroom session and at the Community Fair. Additionally, SIR members hand-wrote letters to admitted Class of 2020 students who were interested in declaring IR as a major.

End of the Year Meet and Greet:

The IR and POL departments hosted an end of the year celebration for all majors and minors at Landmark Americana on the final day of classes. Our seniors have expressed how this event is their favorite night of the semester. It's a great time to be with other majors and minors as well as our favorite faculty members!

Hawks Abroad

In this issue, we feature a student recently back from a semester abroad in Leuven, Belgium

“EU Internship and the March Terrorist Attack in Belgium”

By Molly Ledbetter ('17)

This past semester I had the incredible opportunity to study abroad in Leuven, Belgium. I applied through Saint Joe's for this particular program as it fit my International Relations major and my interests to a "T". The program was two-fold. Half of the work week I took classes on European politics, history, economics, art and culture; the other half I interned at the European Parliament for a socialist democratic representative from the island of Malta. The entire experience was unbelievably enriching and eye-opening. I gained so much from my internship, classes, and weekend travel throughout Europe. I used these weekends to the fullest visiting ten different countries throughout the duration of my time abroad: Amsterdam (Netherlands), Vienna (Austria), Berlin (Germany), London (UK), Lisbon (Portugal), Barcelona (Spain), Madrid (Spain), Budapest (Hungary), Dublin (Ireland), and Paris (France). It was truly the trip of a lifetime, and I learned so much about both myself and the greater world around me.

All that being said, there was a pretty scary occurrence during my time abroad. The morning of Tuesday, March 22nd Brussels was attacked in two different locations: Zaventem, the airport, and a metro stop near Brussels Scheuman. The following recounts my experience:

I was on my normal commute to work, but had left a little later than I usually do. I have to connect trains once in order to get to parliament from where I live. Three other students from the program and I boarded the second train on our way to work in Brussels when on came an announcement (in all French I might add) that there had been a "terrorist attack" and that this train was cancelled as it would pass through the area of the metro attack--near Brussels Schuman and Brussels Luxembourg (I would have gotten off at the latter). Mind you, I don't speak French. I figured that there must have been a cancellation for some reason because that was the only reason they'd ever make an announcement on the train. As I looked around for context clues as to what this French message might have said, for people to start getting up, for someone to translate for me, everyone remained completely calm. My roommate, who's taken French for a while, had a very perplexed look on her face: "I think they said...'terrorist attack'?"

"Terrorist attack?" It couldn't be. Why was no one panicking? What was the full message? As people started to get up and off the train and make some phone calls, the woman in front of me calmly confirmed that "there had been an accident at the airport and this train was cancelled."

It still didn't make sense. This train didn't even go to the airport.

We went down stairs where people started to walk with more urgency and military personnel filled in the gaps, but still there was no overwhelming pang of hysteria or panic. This certainly helped me to remain calm or at least contain my fear as we ran around to ask someone the questions we still didn't have the answers to. One of the ticket booth tellers let us no that no more trains would be running to Brussels Luxembourg for the time being and explained the situation in more detail to the best of her knowledge. We decided to head back to Leuven, where I'm living, and try to get in contact with the others from the program who had left earlier.

I would later find out that there had been three explosions that morning: two at the Brussels Zaventem airport--where I was the day before--and one at the metro stop near Brussels Schuman--near where I was heading. Everyone in my program is accounted for, though about 3/4 of us had already made it to work--minutes before the attack at the metro station some of them-- and were locked in the parliament building for the rest of the day. We're all back in Leuven safely now, and parliament is closed for the day.

I spent the whole day assuring Loved ones that I was alright and contacting friends and family back Home. I cannot express how much my heart goes out to the families and friends whose Loved ones are lost or injured. My thoughts and prayers are with them and all victims of terrorism

and violence in Belgium, in Turkey, and around the world.

It was a sad and confusing day, but everyone's warm remarks and concerns helped a little to distract me from the sadness and the confusion.

Such tragedies occur every single day in our world. It was disconcerting being so close in proximity to an attack, but I think that shouldn't distract from the larger implications this has for our

world as a whole. There is a lot of hate in our world today. We hear about a lot of it through popular media outlets, but we also don't hear about a lot of it through popular media outlets. A gunshot always rings louder the closer it is to your ear, of course, and these days some ring around the world. But I fear there are more that go unheard that most people even realize went off. It's time for a change. I am proud that students from an International Relations background may go on to further

diplomatic discussion and spark peace talks in an effort to finally ameliorate our current global state. It is a powerful field that has the potential to really make a difference in this world. This potential perpetuates throughout many other disciplinary fields as well when accompanied by passion and unrelenting determination in the long push for a better world. It was and is very scary, but I have hope for a brighter tomorrow, for more understanding, for less violence.

IR Co-Sponsored Events

In Spring 2016, the IR Program co-sponsored the following events.

- Panel Discussion, "MLK Alternative Narratives" (January 20)
- United Nations Day Trip (February 22)
- Panel Discussion, "'Falling Oil Prices, Falling Stock Markets, and the End of Central Bank Magic: National & Global Implications of Current Economic Volatility" (February 26)
- Midterm Study Night (IR Honor Society, Sigma Iota Rho, with Political Science Honor Society Pi Sigma Alpha) (March 1)
- Panel Discussion, "Spring Break in Russia with American Home, Students Bailey McIntyre, '16 and Anna Atkinson, '18 Presenting" (March 16)
- Panel Discussion, "Eastern Europe, Russia, and Relations with the West: Attraction, Repulsion, and Alliance" (March 30)
- Northeast East European, Eurasian, and Slavic Studies Conference (New York, NY)(April 2)
- "My Life in Journalism" by Brad Pearson ('06) (April 7)
- IR Honor Society, Sigma Iota Rho, induction ceremony (with Political Science Honor Society Pi Sigma Alpha) (April 8)
- Panel Discussion, "Dulling or Sharpening the Horn" (April 21)
- Final Study Night (IR Honor Society, Sigma Iota Rho, with Political Science Honor Society Pi Sigma Alpha)
- Commencement Party (with History and Political Science departments)(May 14)

IR Social Media

IR Twitter @SJUIR

With 200 followers, our IR twitter keeps students, faculty, and alumni up to date on breaking news both in the world and in the IR program.

IR Facebook

The IR Facebook is an indispensable tool for the program to communicate with students, alumni, and the outside world. Keeping students informed about upcoming on-campus lectures and events, sharing exciting news about faculty and student achievement, and providing breaking news coverage, the IR Facebook brings together the SJU campus with the global community. We have over 225 followers, who have kept up-to-date on important issues including Brexit, the Belgium attacks, the Syrian Refugee Crisis, Putin's power plays, and developments and setbacks globally in terms of gender equality.

International Relations Faculty

IR Committee

Lisa Baglione (POL)
 Divya Balasubramaniam (ECN)
 Melissa Chakars (HIS)
 Kazuya Fukuoka (POL), Director
 Richard Gioioso (POL)
 Cristian Pardo (ECN)
 Brian Yates (HIS)

Affiliated Faculty

Amber Abbas (HIS)
 Milica Bookman (ECN)
 James Carter (HIS)
 Susan Liebell (POL)
 Benjamin Liebman (ECN)
 Katherine Sibley (HIS)

Newsletter Editor

Caley Rolt '16

International Relations Courses Fall 2016

Economics

ECN 101 Introductory Economics (MICRO) / MULTIPLE SECTIONS
 ECN 102 Introductory Economics (MACRO) / MULTIPLE SECTIONS

History

HIS 208 Historical Intro to Asian Civilizaion / MWF 11:15-12:05
 HIS 348 Religious Thought & Philosophy in African Communities / Yates
 TR 2:00-3:15
 HIS 346 Philadelphia-Area Internship / Chakars

International Relations

IRT 250 Research and Writing in IR / Baglione TR 2:00-3:15
 IRT 495 Senior Seminar Nations and Nationalism / Fukuoka TR 2:00-3:15

Political Science

POL 113 Intro to Comparative Politics / Baglione TR 12:30-1:45
 POL 115 Intro to Global Politics / Gioioso TR 8:00-9:15 or 9:30-10:45
 POL 333 Asian Political Systems / Fukuoka TR 5:00-6:15
 POL 351 International Human Rights / Devon T 6:30-9:15
 POL 339 Contemporary International Migration / Gioioso TR 12:30-1:45
 POL 368 Women, Gender, and World Politics / Baglione TR 9:30-10:45

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<http://www.sju.edu/int/academics/cas/internationalrelations/index.html>