

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ALUMNI

We are proud to share profiles of our established and successful alumni and current students.

BRUCE PURDY



I have a Bachelor's degree in Russian and International Studies and a Master's Degree in Public Administration, both from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Prior to my tenure in Washington, I served in a dual role as the President of the Williams County Economic Development Corporation in Ohio and the Community Economic Development Agent for Ohio State University Extension. I also previously worked as a counselor at a Procurement Technical Assistance Center in Toledo, Ohio.

Beginning in January 2005, I served as the Acting Chief of the Microenterprise Development Branch until June 2006, when I took a leave of absence to participate in the Alfa Fellowship Program in Moscow, Russia.

As part of that Fellowship, I worked for OPORA Russia, primarily holding round tables and seminars in Moscow, Volgograd, and Vladivostok on various small business development topics. I currently serve as a Senior Program Manager for the SBA in the Office of Entrepreneurial Development (OED) since 2007. In my capacity, I manage the data system in which we collect information on all counseling and training provided to entrepreneurs under our 3 major grant programs. I also am responsible for performance management within our office and am the liaison to our Office of International Trade. In 2009, I was selected to participate in the Annenberg Leadership Institute.

CYNTHIA MORRIS



President, Original Impulse, Inc: Coach, Author, Speaker helping creative people bring their great ideas to reality.
Contact: www.originalimpulse.com
Year Graduated: 1991,
French, West European Studies
Study Abroad: AYA France 1985; 1988 two semesters
Foreign Language Skills: Fluent French; Beginner Italian, Portuguese and Spanish
Foreign Language Skills Used: French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish

"I'd always hoped my French and European Studies degree would allow me to live and work abroad. It took ten years to re-connect with France. Since then, I've been to France eight times and have traveled extensively in Western Europe. I lead creativity excursions in France and lived and worked in Europe for the last year (2008-2009) researching and developing a new offering for my business. I consider my travels in Europe to be an extension of my IS studies. The AYA France program at BGSU gave me an early

opportunity to develop a global perspective. My French studies make it easy to travel in France and to learn additional languages. I encourage IS majors to have faith that you will use your degree, perhaps in ways you never imagined.”

GAIL MORRIS



Contact: gmorris@edinboro.edu

“As an international studies student at BGSU I gained an appreciation of the linkages between political science, economics, and history. As an international consultant with the US Agency for International Development for over 10 years I have been able to put my BGSU education into practice as I worked on interdisciplinary teams in Africa and Latin America to facilitate economic development. Currently I strive to encourage the same appreciation of these linkages in undergraduate

International Studies Program
103 Shatzel Hall

students at Edinboro University. So I have come full circle...”

NICOLE SAAD



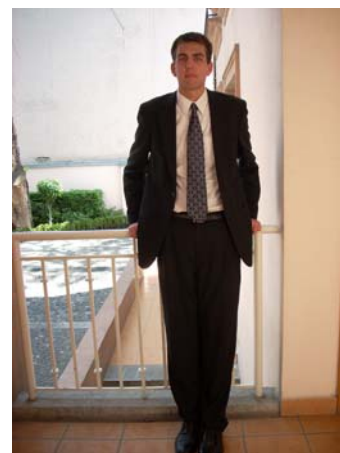
Organization: Pioneers Baccalaureate School, Nablus, West Bank, Palestine
Title: Volunteer Program Manager/3rd grade teacher
 “I am responsible for teaching and developing the curriculum for 3rd grade using the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program and the existing Palestinian curriculum standards. Apart from this, I am also responsible for developing orientation materials for international staff, hiring (recruiting, interviews, etc.), and am in the process of developing a new international volunteer program for next summer. Those who might be interested in volunteering for an international summer camp in the West Bank during the summer of 2009 can email me for more information.

I love working at PBS. My co-workers are so great, and this is a really great opportunity for me. I

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
419-372-7814

am helping to build a new school from the ground up and introducing new programs such as a community wide recycling center. I think my education at Bowling Green, including my year studying abroad in China helped me to prepare for this position. My previous experience working as International Programs intern at Conserve School in Land O’lakes, WI was also integral to my ability to take on this work. At Conserve School I gained project management experience, and became familiar with working for an independent school. I believe education and development go hand in hand, so I really love what I do and believe that the kids that I’m teaching will go on to do amazing things in the world.”

JOHN MOCZADLO



“The State Department internship allowed me to gain a first-hand look at

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work in the Foreign Service and Diplomacy. While working for the Consular section at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, I drastically improved my language skills (at the same time using previous language experience), improved my computer skills, as well as learned a great deal about the working world in an international setting. The internship challenged me in a way different from what I have experienced in the academic world. I was able to put into practice what I have learned in language and culture classes at the University as well as build onto this knowledge through working with Spanish speakers from not only Mexico, but throughout Latin America.

On a more personal level, interning abroad allowed me to become more independent and helped to improve my confidence. Being the only intern for the first five weeks (and the only consular intern overall), I felt overwhelmed upon arriving in such a large metropolis! Being in a city of over 20 million people allowed me to go out of my comfort zone and experience life in a different culture and distinct settings from the working life back home. The U.S. State Department was an effective way of gaining professional working experience that allowed me to help Americans abroad while at the same time

interacting with foreign nationals to increase cross-cultural awareness and language skills.”

CURRENT STUDENTS

PAIGE CLEMENS



“In the summer of 2008, I had an internship at the Sandusky County Department of Jobs and Family Services. I was hired as bilingual summer staff who would be working with the Spanish-speaking migrant families who came in to the office applying for public assistance benefits. On a daily basis I interviewed our customers to find out what their living situations were: who was in the household, who met citizenship requirements, where they were coming from, where they had worked, where they were going to be working here in Ohio, and how much they thought they were going to be making. Based on their responses it was my job to determine what programs they were eligible for—Food Stamps, Medicaid, or Cash Assistance—and process their case.

This internship was a valuable learning opportunity that complimented my past State Department internship with the Passport Agency in Houston, TX, and my work throughout Mexico. It gave me a better understanding of the “Immigration Debate,” and the way that our state and federal policies work with and against each other. Social work usually isn’t the first career that comes to mind when people think of an International Studies major’s job, yet this internship has shown me that you do not have to go far from you to have a truly international experience.”