Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader:
The theme of International Education Week 2008, “Fostering Global Responsibility and Leadership”, challenges each of us to consider our role as individuals and our collective role as a country in the world community at a time of significant political and economic transition. International Affairs is pleased to sponsor a series of campus-wide programs and events during this week-long celebration that begins Monday, November 17. I encourage students, faculty and staff to take full advantage of the many opportunities for dialogue offered through departments and colleges across the campus. Topics will range from the geostrategic implications of the U.S. elections for the Middle East to the influences of Jewish migration to the U.S. elections for the Middle East to the 2008 U.S. Presidential Elections.

I would like to bring special attention to a key event that will take place on Friday, November 21, the raising and dedication of The University of Arizona Peace Pole. The UA Peace Corps Fellows are to be congratulated for sponsoring the design, construction and “planting” of the Peace Pole at a prominent location on the north side of Old Main. The Peace Pole will forever be a reminder to the University of our collective commitment to world peace and understanding.

Best wishes.
Sincerely,

Kirk Simmons, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Public Forum: The Middle East and the 2008 U.S. Presidential Elections

Tuesday, November 18, 2008 - 7 pm
Social Sciences Building, Room 100

This year’s U.S. presidential election campaign has drawn unprecedented interest around the world, especially in the Middle East. News media outlets and bloggers from the Middle East and North Africa have invested considerable amounts of time and money reporting on the process.

Key foreign policy issues on the campaign trail have been focused on Iran, Israel, and Iraq. Both presidential candidates declared they would reduce or eliminate U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil.

The Center for Middle Eastern Studies presents a panel of University of Arizona experts who will offer a critical analysis of the U.S. presidential elections and the geostrategic implications for the Middle East. The panel will examine how the new U.S. administration in Washington might affect U.S.-Middle East foreign policy. They will also discuss reactions in the Middle East to the elections and potential shifts in public perception in the region.

Panel includes:
- Dr. Shlomo Aronson, Schusterman Visiting Professor, AZ Center for Judaic Studies
- Ambassador David Dunford (ret.), Adjunct Instructor, Political Science/Near Eastern Studies
- Dr. Richard Eaton, Professor, History/Near Eastern Studies
- Dr. Shahira Fahmy, Associate Professor, Journalism/Near Eastern Studies
- Dr. Faten Ghosn, Associate Professor, Political Science
- Dr. David Gibbs, Associate Professor, Political Science

Panelists will speak from 7-8 pm followed by a one-hour question and answer session.

Guest Visitor Stephan J. Kramer, Secretary General of the Central Council of Jews in Germany

Taken from the website on Central Council of Jews in Germany, 2008

In the year 2000 the Central Council of Jews in Germany celebrated its 50th anniversary. Its foundation along with the Constituent Assembly took place in Frankfurt (Main) on July 19, 1950. The delegates were sent by Jewish communities that had already been established in the four occupied zones of Germany, which had been placed under American, British, French and Soviet administration.

At the time of foundation there were still some 15,000 Jews living in Germany. A Directorate of four people took charge of the affairs of this umbrella organization. 15 representatives of the communities formed a board known as the Council. Frankfurt became the first seat of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, although it later moved to Düsseldorf and then Bonn. Since April 1, 1999 the Central Council of Jews in Germany has maintained its headquarters in Berlin.

The principal task of the Central Council of Jews in Germany is to defend the interests of its members within society as a whole. It has faced many major challenges in the fifty years and more of its existence: the new beginning after the war, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the forging of links between Jewish communities in eastern and western Germany, and the integration of immigrants from the countries which formerly belonged to the Soviet Union. In addition to this, the Council is actively committed to promoting mutual understanding between Jews and non-Jews.

Mr. Kramer has held the position of Secretary General of the Central Council of Jews in Germany since April 2004 and heads the office of the European Jewish Congress in Berlin. Please join the Department of History in welcoming Mr. Kramer to our campus on Thursday, November 20 at 5:30 pm in the Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 490, as he addresses us on Jews in Germany Today: The Contradictions of History. A reception will follow his talk.

Jews in Germany Today: The Contradictions of History
November 20, 2008, 5:30 pm
Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 490
Events All Week:
The University of Arizona Museum Art Exhibit
Fernando Gallego and His Workshop: The Altarpiece from Ciudad Rodrigo
UA Museum of Art
Center for Middle Eastern Studies
18th Annual Middle East Photo Exhibition: Colors and Contrasts
Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 470
Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm
Angela Seidler, mideast@email.arizona.edu

Thursday November 13
Department of French and Italian
French Film Festival - Molière
A film by Laurent Tirard
Manuel Pacheco Integrated Learning Center Room 120
6 - 7 pm: Desserts and drinks for sale by the French and Francophone Undergraduate Clubs
7 pm: Feature presentation
Phone: (520) 621-7349

Friday November 14
Center for Latin American Studies
Photo Expo and Open House on Research and Study Abroad in Guatemala
Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 284
12 pm - 2 pm
Light refreshments will be served
Colin Deeds, colind@email.arizona.edu

Saturday November 15
Department of Campus Recreation Outdoor Adventures
Garwood Loop Day Hike in Saguaro National Park East
Meet at Outdoor Adventures, 1629 E. 7th Street
7:30 am - 1 pm
Kate Morley, kmorley@email.arizona.edu
*Advance registration required.

Monday November 17
International Affairs
International Affairs College Advisory Committee Luncheon and Business Meeting
By invitation only
12 pm - 2 pm
Emily Burrel, eburrel@email.arizona.edu
Office of Study Abroad and Student Exchange
Study Abroad Returning Student Orientation
Student Union Memorial Center Ventana Room
12 pm - 1:30 pm
Eric Deschamps, deschamp@email.arizona.edu

Center for Middle Eastern Studies
Foreign Language and Area Study (FLAS) graduate fellowship information session
Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 490
1:30 pm - 3 pm
Christian Sinclair, mideast@email.arizona.edu

Tuesday November 18
Department of French and Italian
Presentation and Information Session for Study Abroad Programs in France
Modern Languages Room 310
2 pm
Dava Jondall, davaj@email.arizona.edu

International Affairs and Center for English as a Second Language
International Excellence Reception
By invitation only
4 pm - 6 pm
Emily Burrel, eburrel@email.arizona.edu

Hillel Foundation
Information Session to Promote Study Abroad in Israel
A short movie and snacks are included.
At Hillel Foundation, 1245 E 2nd St.
6:30 pm - 8 pm
Liraz Arkin, liraz@email.arizona.edu
International Education: Fostering Global Responsibility and Leadership
A joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education

Erin Riley, Ghana – First Prize, People

Thursday November 20
Eller College of Management
Maximizing Your Abroad Experience through Professional Development
McClelland Hall Room 204
4 pm – 5 pm
Eric Ferguson, efergus@eller.arizona.edu

Department of History
Lecture: Jews in Germany Today: The Contradictions of History
Stephan J. Kramer, Secretary General of the Central Council of Jews in Germany
Louise Foucar Marshall Building Room 490
5:30 pm
Dr. John Heyl, jheyl@email.arizona.edu

Friday November 21
Hillel Foundation
Morning kaffeeklatsch with Stephan J. Kramer, Secretary General of the Central Council of Jews in Germany
By invitation only
Dr. John Heyl, jheyl@email.arizona.edu

Peace Corps Fellows / Graduate College
Peace Pole Dedication
North Side of Old Main
8:30 am – 9:30 am
Rebecca Cramer, rsilvers@email.arizona.edu

Center for Educational Resources in Culture Language and Literacy, Center for English as a Second Language, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and International Affairs present
Global Lens 2008
Luxury Car (Jiang Cheng Xia Ri), China 2006
A film by Wang Chao
7 pm
Henry Koffler Building Room 216
dlafleur@email.arizona.edu

Deserae Dias, Japan – Third Prize, People

Jennifer Henzler, Costa Rica – Second Prize, Icons

Emily Callahan, South Africa – Second Prize, Landscape

Campus Christian Center
Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for International Students
First United Methodist Church, (corner of 4th Street and Park Avenue)
100 FREE tickets available in advance at the International Center, 915 N. Tyndall Avenue, on a first-come first-served basis.
6 pm
Cosetti Durazo, (520) 621-4627

Center for Educational Resources in Culture Language and Literacy, Center for English as a Second Language, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and International Affairs present
Global Lens 2008
Kept & Dreamless (Las Mantenidas Sin Sueños), Argentina 2005
A film by Vera Fogwill and Martin Desalvo
Communications Building Room 206
2 pm – 4 pm
Colin Deeds, colind@email.arizona.edu

What is a Peace Pole?
Taken from the Peace Pole Project website, October 2008

A Peace Pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message and prayer May Peace Prevail on Earth on each of its four or six sides, usually in different languages. There are more than 200,000 Peace Poles in 180 countries all over the world dedicated as monuments to peace. They serve as constant reminders for us to visualize and pray for world peace.

Usually a Peace Pole is eight feet tall with the bottom “planted” in the ground, although many indoor Peace Poles are supported by stands. It may be constructed from any material that is environmentally sound. In the United States, most Peace Poles are made from western red cedar, a wood that is a renewable resource. Peace Poles may be made from any local hard wood, or from plastic or metal.

When you plant a Peace Pole in your community, you are linking with people all over the world who have planted their Poles in the same spirit of peace. Every Peace Pole proclaims the prayer May Peace Prevail on Earth in the language of the country and often several other languages as well.

The more than 200,000 Peace Poles around the world are on all continents, in every country you can think of: They are in simple places, such as churches and gardens, and extraordinary ones, such as at the Pyramids of El Giza, Egypt or the Magnetic North Pole in Canada. They are promoting healing of conflict in places like Sarajevo and the Allenby Bridge between Israel and Jordan.

Please join us on Friday, November 21, 2008 at 8:30 am as the Peace Corps Fellows along with President Robert N. Shelton, Chairman Ned Norris Jr. of the Tohono O’odham Nation, Dean Andrew Comrie, international students, and others will install a Peace Pole on the north side of Old Main representing the diversity of the University. Refreshments will be provided.

Photos courtesy of the 2008 Study Abroad and Student Exchange Photo Contest.
The Global Film Initiative comes to The University of Arizona

The Global Film Initiative was created to promote cross-cultural understanding through the medium of cinema. Although American film continues to thrive in the global marketplace, developing world filmmaking has suffered from shifting economic conditions in film financing and distribution. As a result, audiences in the United States have been denied the rich cultural lessons these films have to offer. The initiative has developed four complementary programs, all involving film from the developing world, to address this situation: Granting, Acquisitions, Education, and Distribution.

The division of International Affairs, along with The Center for Education Resources in Culture Language and Literacy, Center for English as a Second Language, Center for Latin American Studies, and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, has partnered with the Global Film Initiative to bring three films from Global Lens 2008 to campus this year; The Kite (Le Cerf-Volant) Lebanon 2004, Kept & Dreamless (Las Mantenidas Sin Sueños) Argentina 2005 and Luxury Car (Jiang Cheng Xia Ri), China 2006. These films will provide a deeper understanding of different cultural points of view and will be presented in the native language of the respective country of focus with English subtitles. Please see the calendar of events in this Update for detailed information on the date, time and location of the showing of each film.

These movies are free and open to the public, so please invite any and all who are interested in this unique opportunity. For movie teasers and trailers visit http://www.globalfilm.org/global_lens.htm.