NEW GENERATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Today’s global problems are complex, requiring knowledge of various perspectives and approaches. This simple fact underpins Brown University’s International Relations and Development Studies Programs – for the students graduating in 2011 and for generations to come.

Brown undergrads are drawn to complexity and driven to solve world problems. These traits are evident in the sheer numbers of IR concentrators, as one of the University’s most popular majors, and in the determination of every DS concentrator to produce a senior thesis requiring months of research and analysis.

As 130 Brown seniors are handed their diplomas in IR this year and another 30 receive DS degrees, they enter a world that has shifted in their four short years at college. Just two examples: In 2007, when they began their studies, George W. Bush was president and relations with Libya were being normalized. Recent violence in Libya stands in contrast, as does the current presidency of President Barrack Obama.

The IR and DS Programs have been changing with the times and with a new commitment “to make these concentrations more streamlined, integrated, and better-suited to current student interests,” according to Professor Mark Blyth, who was appointed director of both programs in 2010.

Going forward, the IR curriculum will have two tracks: Security and Society, and Political Economy and Society. Both tracks have a common core of five requirements drawn from courses designed with IR concentrators in mind by the History Department, Anthropology Department, and others. “What we are trying to do with the core is to introduce students to how different

Continued on page 10.
Leading Afghani Figure Plots Route to Sovereignty

The key to modern sovereignty is the rule of law – not the use of force, according to Ashraf Ghani, a leading figure in Afghani national affairs. Introduced by President Ruth Simmons for the keynote speech of the recent “Engaging Afghanistan” conference at Brown, Ghani laid out steps his country must take in determining its future – and emphasized the engagement of its citizens in defining that future.

Currently serving as chairman of the Institute for State Effectiveness, Ghani has held several senior positions at the World Bank and acted as special advisor to the United Nations, chancellor of Kabul University, chief advisor to President Karzai, and finance minister of Afghanistan. He was a contender in the 2009 Afghani presidential elections.

An essential characteristic of sovereignty is that it is bound by rules. Power unbounded is power that is corrupt and is unaccountable,” Ghani said in his speech, one of the ongoing Peter Green Lectures on the Modern Middle East.

In the 21st century, sovereignty should be viewed as a claim, not a structural reality, according to Ghani. “Domestically, [sovereignty] is a claim to legitimacy by a government from the citizens; internationally, it is a claim to voice and representation in an interdependent world,” he said.

Legitimacy is a constant symbolic “process of give and take between the citizens and the government,” Ghani said, similar to a stock and flow model. “The stock diminishes or increases, but the flow is constant… if [they] do not connect, it is a disruption,” he said. Until now, a state-centered view of politics has dominated the political arena; “we need to shift focus to… a citizen-centered view of the state.”

Ghani stressed the importance of maintaining a synchronized view of the functions of a state, by measuring citizens’ expectations and their satisfaction with the given reality. “A state is what the people want it to be,” he said, as “legitimacy is judged by those whose lives are impacted by the exercise of power.” The public, therefore, must be involved in planning for the future of a state.

Describing that public, Ghani pointed out that Afghanistan’s “global image and local experience are in conflict.” The images of the region that dominate modern media are those of the 1980s and 1990s, according to Ghani. Contrary to popular media portrayal in the West, “over 50 percent of Afghans
are under 22… [and] at least 30 percent of the population is now living in cities,” he said. The demographic makeup of the Afghan society has radically changed in recent years.

A multifunctional view of the state is key to modern politics, he added. Unlike in the 18th and 19th centuries, modern sovereignty requires more than the “claim to the legitimate monopoly of force,” Ghani said. The other realms of sovereignty to which states can lay claim include the interdependent nature of voice and representation, the space of flows, and resources.

Internationally, it is “the power of cooperation in rulemaking,” Ghani said, that makes flows of travel and trade possible. While sovereignty involves some inherent rights, it is “equally a regime of obligations.” An imbalance between these rights and obligations puts the world at risk of an international crisis.

To that end, Afghanistan is an “illustration of the hijacking of sovereignty, by Al Qaeda,” Ghani said. “It was in the failure of fulfilling the obligations of sovereignty that the international use of force was justified in 2001,” he said.

For Afghanistan to match his expanded view of sovereignty, its government must manage partnerships of security, development, trade and investment, and regional development and security, according to Ghani.

He put forth a multifaceted view of statecraft: as design, leadership and management, accountability, and vocation. “If we harness moral imagination to design and to leadership and management, and hold ourselves accountable,” Ghani concluded, “we’ll be able not only to get Afghanistan right, but the whole world right.”

The “Engaging Afghanistan” conference, film screening, and art exhibition was co-organized by Shiva Balaghi and Michael Kennedy and was supported by the Social Science Research Council and Peter Green Lectures.

By Watson Institute Student Rapporteur Anna Andreeva ’12

Framing Afghanistan

An Institute exhibition of photography of Afghanistan includes vivid images captured by Thomas J. Watson Jr. ’37 on a trip there in 1975. Also featured are works by Abbas, Iftikhar and Elizabeth Dadi, Mariam Ghani, and Jamal Elias.

Thomas Watson visited Afghanistan in the time between his work as chairman of IBM and as ambassador to the former Soviet Union.

At his namesake Institute, the recent Engaging Afghanistan conference continued his legacy of gathering academics and policymakers at Brown to address pressing global issues.

The exhibition, curated by Shiva Balaghi as part of the conference, will be on view through May. The ambassador’s photos will be on permanent display, a gift from his family.

Visit the engagingafghanistan.org website to sample more artworks and view forthcoming videos of conference panels and speakers.
Next Left: World Leaders Chart Global Finance

Three former leaders of Italy, Austria, and Chile, who have all led progressive parties and movements in their long public careers, discussed the future of the “Next Left” at the Watson Institute this semester.

Former Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi was joined on a public panel by former president of Chile, Ricardo Lagos, and ex-chancellor of Austria, Alfred Gusenbauer. All three hold professorships at Brown.

The policymakers shared their views on the economic and political challenges faced by the next generation of the left – focusing on the global conceptions of inequality, income re-distribution, and taxation, as well as on the shifting axes of world power and the implications of the most recent global financial crisis.

In his remarks to open the panel, Prodi highlighted, among other things, the political challenges of using taxation as an instrument for income distribution.

“I paid the price when I became severe with taxes,” said Prodi, describing events that led to a Senate vote of no confidence against him and, consequently, his resignation in 2008.

Lagos emphasized the need to place more importance on equality, noting that in the United States, for instance, the wealthiest one percent of the population earns about 25 percent of total income.

Inequality is a fundamental determinant of social outcomes and health, according to Lagos, who cited findings from the recent book *Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone*.

According to Lagos, the book’s findings show that there is no rise in life expectancy and level of happiness above a threshold level of income per capita (roughly $20,000); furthermore, the book also established a strong correlation between high levels of inequality and social/health challenges of societal mobility, life expectancy, education, crime, and imprisonment.

In Latin America, Lagos said, levels of per-capita income are rising though the region has yet to reach the “mythical” $20,000 threshold.

Lagos also emphasized the importance of regulation and the critical role that international organizations like the World Bank have to play in restoring global financial health; for Latin America, the former Chilean president said it is important for countries to speak with one voice.

“‘For the first time, we had a global financial crisis which Latin America had nothing to do with,’” he said.

Gusenbauer criticized the “populist extreme right,” among other influences, for causing a global political crisis; such a crisis, Gusenbauer said, has
undermined the “notion of nation” in different ways – including the transfer of power away from the nation-state because of European Union integration, and in Europe, the dilution caused by immigration.

Gusenbauer also suggested that taxpayers are bearing the cost of bailing out banks and other financial institutions during the crisis, while at the same time facing government austerity policies that reduce their public services.

“There is enormous expropriation of ordinary people,” he said, “because the banks were able to convince governments to bail them out.” He also added that allowing self-regulation in the financial sector was pointless and ineffective.

“Self-regulation is just a sophisticated way of saying ‘no regulation.’ It’s like asking a dog to be a guard over sausage,” Gusenbauer said.

Gusenbauer concluded by emphasizing that in an era of rising financial capitalism, the “Next Left” has to clearly decide which agenda it should pursue: “Either an agenda that serves Wall Street or one that serves Main Street.”

The panel was the most recent in an ongoing series of Next Left events at the Watson Institute focusing on the future of progressive policy.

**Political Economy Analyzed in Time of Uncertainty**

Research on the international political economy was analyzed in conferences and publications over the course of the academic year, on subjects ranging from the fate of neoliberal policy in the developing world to the economic welfare implications of modern finance.

It was a year that started off with such major developments as the appointment of renowned international financial diplomat William R. Rhodes ’57 LHD’05 (hon.) to a five-year appointment as a Brown professor at large based at the Watson Institute (see page 27), quickly followed by Rhodes’ hosting of a major lecture at the University on international trade by South Korean Ambassador Han Duk-soo.

With global flows of trade and power in flux worldwide, scholars of and from Brazil, Russia, India, and China gathered at the Institute in late September for a workshop on “Dreaming with the BRICs: Neoliberal Ideas and Policy Change Outside the Core.”

The workshop explored the rise and ambiguous denouement of the Washington Consensus from an interdisciplinary perspective, with a special focus on the BRIC countries. It brought together sociologists and political scientists who have studied the history of neoliberalism over time.

Said Institute Faculty Fellow Mark Blyth, “These papers are the stories of the BRICs themselves – of 20 years of transformation and crisis.”

Final papers are now being submitted for review for potential publication as a 2012 special issue of the Review of International Political Economy, which is published at the Institute.


The event gathered practitioners and professors of economics, political economy, finance, and other disciplines to discuss the impact of financial innovations on economic welfare and the role of financial regulation in shaping this relationship.

And throughout the year, Institute Professor Barbara Stallings took her research findings, on the relatively minor role of East Asian financial institutions in the global crisis, to academic centers across Asia. Her “Tale of Two Crises: The Political Economy of East Asian Finance in the 1990s and 2000s” was published as a working paper at the East Asia Institute and then presented in Korea, at EAI and Korea University; in China, at Fudan and Peking universities; and in Japan, at Keio University.
Presenting New Perspectives on Urban Violence Worldwide

Sergio Fajardo Valderrama served as the mayor of Medellín in Antioquia, Colombia, from 2003 to 2007. During this time, he set about changing the landscape of one of the world’s most violent cities through the “Medellín, the most educated” program.

The program’s tenets include incorporating transparency in politics, encouraging participation from citizens and communities, expanding a social urbanism program, working with vulnerable youth, and creating opportunities with funds for education and innovation. Fajardo also erected public buildings in the city’s poorest areas.

Fajardo presented his policy and its results as one of a multidisciplinary group of scholars and practitioners who recently gathered at Brown for a major international conference to present fresh perspectives on violent cities from across the Global South.

According to Fajardo, inequality opens the door to the narcotrafficking world. “We are opening other doors,” he said. “We built the most beautiful buildings that we have ever built in the poorest part of town,” he said, including libraries and open spaces for small-scale entrepreneurs to sell their goods. These spaces have served to eliminate the fear connected with poor areas, “connect pieces of the city,” and help people “build their talent,” Fajardo said.

Medellín has risen to the top of the transparency list of Colombian cities. “We learned from our experiences and we found our path…but we are not finished at all,” Fajardo said. “There are plenty of problems ahead,” such as inequality, violence, and corruption.

The conference, “Violent Cities: Challenges of Democracy, Development, and Governance in the Urban Global South,” was hosted by Brown’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies with support from the Watson Institute, Office of International Affairs, Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, and Starr Lectureship Fund.

By Watson Institute Student Rapporteur Anna Andreeva ’12

South Asia Series Focuses on Politics

Over the past two years, the Joint Seminar on South Asian Politics has brought many perspectives to bear on the region. Among them:

- Pakistani journalist Najam Sethi recalled a time when Pakistanis looked positively toward the US.
- “Social exclusion is not a residue of the past; it is alive and well even in modern, high-tech India,” reported Paul Attewell of the City University of New York Graduate Center.
- And Chatham House Associate Fellow Farzana Shaikh presented her view that much of Pakistan’s political instability can be traced to its contested notions of Islam.

The series is co-sponsored by the Watson Institute, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, and MIT Center for International Studies. Paul Dupee Faculty Fellow Ashutosh Varshney is chair.

Ashutosh Varshney and Farzana Shaikh discuss Pakistani identity as part of the Joint Seminar on South Asian Politics.
Watching the World Change with Shifting Global Migration

A recent high-level panel explored the social, political, and economic implications of the increasingly fluid wave of global migration, as part of the Transatlantic Dialogues at Brown. Moderated by Ignacio Polanco, president of the Madrid-based PRISA Group of media companies, the speakers discussed the flow of peoples between the Global South and Global North, and also within the regions.

“What we need now is a ‘New Deal’ for Mexico,” said Carlos Fuentes, Mexican writer and Brown professor-at-large, opening the panel discussion. In the US, Mexican immigrants fill a particular demand for “workers left behind in the post-industrial economy,” he said. However, tension persists between migrants and US natives. But “they are workers, not criminals,” Fuentes said, and a more humanitarian approach to Mexican migration is needed – one that does not involve installing a $13 billion wall between Mexico and the US.

Moreover, Fuentes illuminated the other side of the issue of Mexican workers in Mexico, “which is not touched upon as much as it should be.” Mexico has three sources of foreign income: oil, tourism, and funds sent back from the US by migrant workers, said Fuentes. However, these industries are too unpredictable. Mexico has a vibrant, strong labor force capable of fueling the development of the country. Mexico just needs to create its own sources of employment and growth based on its own resources or “we will be in trouble soon,” concluded Fuentes.

Cesar Conde, president of the Univision media company, described the dynamics occurring in the United States regarding the Hispanic demographic his company serves. “Ten to 15 years ago, this business was a niche,” but now Univision is one of the largest media companies in the US. As evidenced by this change, the Hispanic demographic is still growing exponentially, said Conde.

Still, Hispanics continue to lag behind in the US education system and in the voting bloc, with 50 percent graduation rates from high school, and Hispanics composing “probably 7 to 8 percent of the electorate,” despite being 16 percent of the US population. Something needs to be done, he said. “This is the population which will be driving our competitive strength for the next 10, 20, and 50 years. We have an American, not a Hispanic issue,” said Conde.

Drawing the discussion out to a broader context, Romano Prodi, former prime minister of Italy, applied the European immigration case, in order to interpret the dynamics of global migration. “Europe has always been a land of immigrants,” said Prodi. However, high levels of unemployment have coexisted with the extra-European and intra-European – although mostly intra-European – migration. Due to this factor, a fear of immigrants developed, which has fostered a transition of Europe from “a sort of mixture, into a touchy situation,” said Prodi. As a result, notions of “multiculturalism” often give way to ideas of cultural superiority and ethnocentrism. Global labor, such as the 58,000 Chinese workers working in Tripoli, poses threats to identity. Similarly, the large Islamic wave, and significant unemployed labor forces, such as Africa’s many unemployed and underused youth, have continued to fuel fears about immigration, he said.

Brazilian journalist Robert Teixeira discussed how the changes in immigration might affect domestic matters in Brazil. Due to current events, such as the recent earthquake in Japan, the revolutions in northern Africa, and Brazil’s successful economy, the flow of immigration to and from Brazil has been altered. Many Brazilians who went to work elsewhere are now coming back to Brazil, said Teixeira. “The consequences have yet to be seen.”

This panel was part of the Transatlantic Dialogues series, sponsored by the Transatlantic Project at Brown.

By Watson Institute Student Rapporteur Kaori Ogawa ’12
"If one decided to get rid of all nuclear weapons in the world, the first question would be how to go about it. But a second, equally important but less frequently asked question, would be: what else would you then have to do to ensure the safety and security of citizens and the peace and stability of the global community? Ridding the world of nuclear weapons is desirable only if a safer world is actually brought into being. How can we do that?

In this project we took as a given that complete nuclear disarmament will happen and focused our attention on what that will imply. ... Thus, the chapters in the book do not debate whether going to zero is feasible or a good idea. Instead, they address in some detail what nuclear zero will mean for existing institutions, issues, and practices. What has to change for nuclear states to embrace nuclear disarmament as a pressing goal, not a far-distant vision to be disregarded in making policy today? How can countries chafing against, or even outside, the nonproliferation regime be persuaded to abandon their nuclear ambitions? ...

We believe these essays can provide some signposts to point policymakers in the right direction, and to bring attentive publics to a new appreciation of both the opportunities and the challenges involved in adopting this ambitious policy goal. More than anything, we hope that the volume will help the global community in taking the beginning steps to zero. ... ”

"... The consequences of non-state provision pose crucial political problems in the Global South. States do not provide or no longer provide essential health, education, and other welfare services to their citizens at the turn of the twenty-first century. Instead, a range of distinct non-state providers play increasingly important roles in delivering and/or facilitating access to vital social welfare around the world. Non-state provision is of course not entirely new, but the numbers and types of NSPs have increased dramatically in recent decades in most countries of Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. The consequences of non-state provision are not merely technocratic worries about the future capacity of the central or local government bureaucracy. These changes also profoundly affect the everyday lives of citizens. Non-state provision can be both a blessing and a curse: On the one hand, NSPs may offer services that are otherwise not provided by public agencies. On the other hand, with their limited mandates and, in some cases, exclusionary practices, non-state actors and networks may undercut or hinder equitable access to social services and even diminish the experience of membership in national political communities. ...”
'The Black Swan of Cairo: How Suppressing Volatility Makes the World Less Predictable and More Dangerous,' in *Foreign Affairs Magazine*, May-June 2011, by Faculty Fellow Mark Blyth

"Why is surprise the permanent condition of the US political and economic elite? In 2007-8, when the global financial system imploded, the cry that no one could have seen this coming was heard everywhere, despite the existence of numerous analyses showing that a crisis was unavoidable. It is no surprise that one hears precisely the same response today regarding the current turmoil in the Middle East. The critical issue in both cases is the artificial suppression of volatility – the ups and downs of life – in the name of stability. It is both misguided and dangerous to push unobserved risks further into the statistical tails of the probability distribution of outcomes and allow these high-impact, low-probability “tail risks” to disappear from policymakers’ fields of observation. What the world is witnessing in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya is simply what happens when highly constrained systems explode.

Complex systems that have artificially suppressed volatility tend to become extremely fragile, while at the same time exhibiting no visible risks. In fact, they tend to be too calm and exhibit minimal variability as silent risks accumulate beneath the surface. Although the stated intention of political leaders and economic policymakers is to stabilize the system by inhibiting fluctuations, the result tends to be the opposite. These artificially constrained systems become prone to “Black Swans” – that is, they become extremely vulnerable to large-scale events that lie far from the statistical norm and were largely unpredictable to a given set of observers.

Such environments eventually experience massive blowups, catching everyone off-guard and undoing years of stability or, in some cases, ending up far worse than they were in their initial volatile state. Indeed, the longer it takes for the blowup to occur, the worse the resulting harm in both economic and political systems. Seeking to restrict variability seems to be good policy (who does not prefer stability to chaos?), so it is with very good intentions that policymakers unwittingly increase the risk of major blowups. And it is the same misperception of the properties of natural systems that led to both the economic crisis of 2007-8 and the current turmoil in the Arab world. The policy implications are identical: to make systems robust, all risks must be visible and out in the open – *fluctuat nec mergitur* (it fluctuates but does not sink) goes the Latin saying.

Just as a robust economic system is one that encourages early failures (the concepts of “fail small” and “fail fast”), the US government should stop supporting dictatorial regimes for the sake of pseudostability and instead allow political noise to rise to the surface. Making an economy robust in the face of business swings requires allowing risk to be visible; the same is true in politics. ..."
TEACHING AND TRAINING

IR Program Presents 2011 Graduating Class

Some 130 seniors will graduate this year with international relations degrees.

One of the University’s largest academic concentrations, the IR concentration is a rigorous program that combines student choice with cross-disciplinary training in international and comparative perspective. The IR curriculum emphasizes:

- a solid grounding in the methods of analysis used in the social sciences and humanities to help students think critically about international phenomena.
- the exploration of the empirical and normative domains of the subject, and
- student flexibility to customize their concentration.

The aim is to foster creative thinking about pressing global problems and equip students with the analytic tools,

Excelling in IR
Prizes for academic excellence in IR go to:

- Samura Atallah
- Paula Armstrong
- Andrew Berg
- Huong Dang
- Julien Gaertner
- Chelsea Harris
- Benjamin Hyman
- Huan Ting Lee
- Ambika Natesh
- Michelle Ulrich
- Christopher Wichmann
- Janet Zong

NEW GENERATIONS
Continued from page 1

fields think about ‘the international,’” Blyth says. Additional requirements build upon this core, as do language requirements and capstone learning experiences.

The new DS curriculum will also provide more choice in core courses and in the capstone experience, including such innovations as video documentaries.

The IR and DS enhancements were announced during the spring semester, following months of consultation with students and faculty and the deliberations of a committee – including students, faculty, and administrators – convened by the Dean of the College.

“This structure is more demanding, but it is also more rewarding. We truly believe that building upon our strengths at Brown we can create the very best, and uniquely so, IR and DS concentrations in the country,” Blyth says.

Audience follows IR thesis presentations.
language expertise, and cross-cultural understanding to guide them in that process. To this end, the concentration draws on such departments as political science, history, economics, anthropology, sociology, psychology, religion, and environmental studies, and has a three-year language requirement.

The IR concentration is organized around a multidisciplinary core and two sub-themes: security and society, and political economy and society. It offers a quality honors program in which students undertake thesis research on an international topic. The concentration is located within and draws upon the expertise of the Watson Institute, as a research and policy center whose faculty come from many different countries and international agencies.

IR Associate Director Claudia Elliott PhD ’99 designed the current honors program, now in its ninth year, taught the thesis preparation seminar, and worked with 15 other faculty members from across campus in advising the students.

This year’s honors recipients and their theses are:

- **Samura Atallah**: “Education, Critical Thinking, and Terrorism: The Reproduction of Global Salafi Jihad in Contemporary Egypt”
- **Huong (Alicia) Dang**: “Determinants of Postcolonial Migrants’ Transnational Participation in Countries of Origin: Vietnam and Algeria in France”
- **Jacob Friedman**: “Counternarratives in the War on Terror: Jihadi and Western Media in the 21st Century”
- **Julien Philipp Sebastian Gaertner**: “Modeling Energy Regimes: A Quantitative and Qualitative Study of Energy Choice across Countries”
- **Evan Rolfe**: “Statehood for Whom? A Great Powers Model for Changes in Statehood Criteria”
- **Ambika Roos**: “Privatization and Protest: Water Activism across Urban India”
- **Shanoor Seervai**: “Explaining the Persistence and Decline of Separatist Movements: The Case of India”
- **Katerina Wright**: “Eyeing Prestige, Eluding Risk: Explaining European Union Security Missions and Operations”

**IR Honors**

IR honors degrees go to:

- Samura Atallah
- Chantal Berman ’10.5
- Huong Dang
- Jacob Friedman
- Julien Gaertner
- Evan Rolfe
- Ambika Roos
- Shanoor Seervai
- Jenna Stark
- Katerina Wright

**IR Students Win Thesis Prizes**

The following prizes have been awarded for international relations theses:

Shanoor Seervai has won the Mark and Betty Garrison Prize for best thesis in international relations, foreign policy analysis, or diplomatic history.
Continued from preceding page

Seervai’s thesis, “Explaining the Persistence and Decline of Separatist Movements: The Case of India,” cites differences in the practical functioning of institutions as key to the different outcomes of separatist movements in federal democracies. Her methodology, she says, can be used to predict outcomes of separatist movements in other states, as well.

Julien Philipp Sebastian Gaertner has won the Samuel C. Lamport Prize for best thesis on international understanding with an emphasis on cooperation and tolerance.

For his thesis, “Modeling Energy Regimes: A Quantitative and Qualitative Study of Energy Choice Across Countries,” Gaertner aimed to explain the determinants of energy supply and usage on a cross-country level. He designed a meta-model of energy choice that considers energy prices, geographic conditions, government composition, public opinion, and cross-country peer effects as determinants of energy regimes. His findings emphasized pricing, government composition, and peer effects as the strongest influences.

Ambika Natesh won the Anthony Riccio Prize in International Relations, awarded each year to a student who “has demonstrated an unquenchable curiosity about another part of the world, a commitment to the rigorous learning of a foreign language, an intrepid pursuit of study abroad, and a pride in her university and her country.”

Natesh studied Arabic for eight semesters at Brown, through the advanced level plus two semesters of an independent study on Arabic media and translation. She studied abroad in Jordan, including a global independent study project on women in the Middle East. She is a double concentrator in Middle East studies and has taken eight courses on the region, including a group independent study project on terrorism and an independent study on weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. Her service to the University included leadership in the IR Departmental Undergraduate Group (IR DUG) and work as an IR student assistant.

Three students have received the International Relations Concentration Service and Leadership Award, celebrating graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to the IR concentration and fellow concentrators. They are: Ambika Natesh, Emily Atwood, and Eric Shu.

All three are leaders of the IR DUG, The IR DUG is a student-run organization that creates opportunities for IR concentrators to interact with each other and with professors. It provides a peer advising system, organizes casual meetings with Watson-affiliated faculty, and holds information sessions on internship/career opportunities, among other activities.
Development Studies Seniors Explore Range of Issues

Thirty students will graduate this year with degrees in development studies.

The Development Studies Program at Brown is designed to provide undergraduates with a comparative perspective on the long-term social, political, and economic changes that have accompanied industrialization and the growth of the modern state in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and in the historical experience of European countries.

Directed by Professor Mark Blyth and Deputy Director Cornel Ban, the program includes a particular concern with understanding how processes of change impact the distribution of wealth and opportunity both within and among nations.

Every student of development studies at Brown is required to write a senior thesis. This year’s honors students in DS are:

- **Elizabeth C. Adler**: “Practicing Good Medicine: A Community-based Diagnosis and Prognosis for Promoting Obstetric Care Access and Use in Rural Nepal”
- **Arielle M. Balbus**: “¿Pachamama, o Muerte? Understanding the World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth”
- **Emily Crubaugh**: “Economic Theory and Financial Crisis: A Systematic Analysis of the Financial Times”
- **Colette C. DeJong**: “Bridging the Gaps in HIV Care: The Translation of PACT in New York City and the Politics of Scaling Up”

Excellence in Development Studies

Three DS students were recognized for thesis excellence:

- Elizabeth C. Adler
- Sophie M. Fuchs
- Isaac R. Jabola-Carolus

continued on next page

Cara Mones presents her DS thesis.
New Romantan Prize Awarded

A new prize is being awarded by the Development Studies Program this year. The Anca Romantan Award for Development Research is dedicated to the memory of Anca (1975-2008).

A professor of international communication at University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Anca received her doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania and focused her research on media and society, cultures of protest, and political radicalism in developing countries. Inspired by the intellectual tradition of Central Europe and the broader Francophone world, Anca was above all a humanist intellectual committed to using social science research to uncover both mechanisms of socio-cultural domination and the modes of emancipation from that domination. It is to this intellectual legacy that this award is dedicated.

Kirstin E. Krusell is the first recipient of the Romantan Award.

Continued from preceding page

• **Susanna D. Evarts:** “Translating the Translators: Following the Development of Actor-Network Theory”

• **Sophie M. Fuchs:** “Return to Pachamama?: The Diffusion of Organic Agriculture in Ecuador”

• **Katherine R. Gannett:** “Bridging National and Cultural Differences through Sport: The Case of the Football for Hope Festival 2010”

• **Francis R. Gonzalez:** “Reinscribing Dominant Narratives of the ‘Other’: A Case Study of the Attempt to Re-Brand (South) Africa during the 2010 FIFA World Cup”

• **Isaac R. Jabola-Carolus:** “An Analysis of the Contemporary Anarchist Movement: The Discourses and Ideology of Anarchists in the Providence Area”


• **Kim (Luna) Dong-Eun:** “The Power and Legitimacy Game: A Case Study on the Government and NGOs in South Korea’s Refugee Protection Regime”

• **Stephanie C. Koh:** “Navigating Post-colonial Ipoh: Perceptions to Changes in Street Names”

• **Kirstin E. Krusell:** “The International Politics of Heritage: Translating UNESCO in Brazil”

• **Kyle M. Lemle:** “The Translation of Traditional and Scientific Environmental Epistemologies: A Case Study on Community Forestry in Bhutan”

• **Sophia R. Manuel:** “Elite Interests or Immigrant Interests? A Case Study of the Peruvian American Lobby and Its Political Agenda”

• **Geoffrey C. Martin:** “When Orthodoxy Survives: The Washington Consensus in the World Bank from 1990-2011”

• **Cara A. Mones:** “Domestic Sex Trafficking: The Struggle to Connect Girls to Services”

• **Joelle A. Murphy:** “The Nationalist Neoliberalism of Your Desires: The Case of Egypt”

• **Julia K. Schuster:** “Cultural Transitions: The Experiences of Incorporation of Immigrant Professionals in Providence, RI”

• **Rebecca I. Stern:** “Narratives of Intimate Partner Violence in Cato Manor, South Africa: Gender Roles, Norms, Social Context, and HIV Preventative Behavior”

• **Brianna N. Williamson:** “The Importance of Networks within the Field of Sport and Development”

• **Jordan H. Worthington:** “‘Good Health, Strong Nation’: A Case Study of Religious Actors in the Capacity-Building Process in Timor-Leste”
**Students Specialize in Area Studies**

Nineteen undergraduates will this year receive degrees in area studies concentrations located at the Institute.

The graduating class of nine students of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) has developed an interdisciplinary understanding of culture, history, and contemporary issues in Latin America.

The concentration in Latin American and Caribbean studies provides the opportunity to use the methods of various disciplines and integrate different ways of knowing. It is led by CLACS Director Richard Snyder.

Ten seniors will graduate in Middle East studies, an interdisciplinary undergraduate concentration that has expanded its curriculum in recent years to include more courses addressing contemporary political and societal issues in the region. Melani Cammett is the Middle East Studies Program director.

**Summer Fellowships Awarded**

The Institute has awarded summer fellowships to 10 Brown undergraduates, under its ongoing McKinney, Ringer, Ruzicka, and Smoke programs.

The McKinney Family Fellowship recognizes excellence in international studies, as encouraged by Watson Institute Board of Overseers Chair David E. McKinney and his family. The 2011 awardee is:

- **Joshua Rowe '12**, a development studies and Portuguese and Brazilian studies concentrator, working as a research intern with Conectas in Brazil

The Jack Ringer ’52 Summer Fellowship in Southeast Asia is made possible by this alumnus who served in Burma after graduating. Recipients are:

- **Michael Chua ’13**, a neuroscience concentrator, interning with the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in the Philippines conducting schistosomiasis research in rural villages
- **Quyen Ngo ’12**, a development studies concentrator, researching young Vietnamese internet users and cyber activists in Vietnam and the Philippines
- **Daniel Sherrel ’13**, a human biology and international relations concentrator, at Cambodia’s Phnom Penh Post
- **Julia Streuli ’12**, an international relations and gender and sexuality studies concentrator, teaching English and instituting a culturally sensitive sex-education course for teenagers in Thailand with Learning Enterprises

The Marla Ruzicka International Public Service Fellowship, supported by Watson Board of Overseers Member Lucinda B. Watson in memory of this human rights activist, funds a Brown undergraduate pursuing international human rights, post-conflict rehabilitation, or international public service. The awardee is:

- **Ana Bermudez ’12**, a pre-med student concentrating in international relations, working with the African Alliance of Rhode Island to develop an intensive summer program to support refugees in Providence with English skills, job readiness, and acculturation

Richard Smoke Fellowships, named in memory of an Institute scholar, support research, advocacy, or service on contemporary global problems. This year’s recipients are:

- **Rachel Baker ’12**, an education studies concentrator, teaching skills in English and technology in Colombia with the Marina Orth Foundation
- **Lisa Berdie ’12**, a development studies concentrator, interning with Medlife to improve low income families’ access to medicine, education, and development in Panama
- **Maia Chao ’13**, a modern culture and media concentrator, tutoring low-income students at the Semillero Mi Ángel Guardian in Guatemala
- **Natalie Ring ’13**, a neuroscience concentrator, interning in Nepal with Family Health International on an HIV/AIDS program for children
AT&T New Media Fellows Launch Global Conversation

AT&T New Media Fellows pursue innovative international research projects and document the experience with new media to engage an online global audience on the Global Conversation website. The site was launched at the Watson Institute with AT&T funding last year as a media platform for Brown students, faculty, and alums.

Summer 2011 AT&T Fellows

• Jonah David ’13 and Madelynn Johnston ’13, a sociology and a human biology concentrator respectively, making a documentary film in Bolivia on the socio-economic and environmental effects associated with the development of soybean farms

• Michela Fitten ’11.5, an international relations and modern culture and media (MCM) concentrator, documenting the rise of new media in Peruvian culture

• Melanie Garunay ’11, an international relations and ethnic studies concentrator, studying the producers of artisanal goods in Manila and their efforts in global marketing and worker empowerment

• Alice Hines ’11, a comparative literature and French concentrator, producing a series of video interviews with members of the Congolese subculture la Sape in France

• Ariel Hudes ’11, a performance studies concentrator, creating a web documentary of the 2011 Venice Biennale in Italy

• Emily Kirkland ’13, an economics and Latin American Studies concentrator, documenting the efforts of Peruvian communities to prepare for the predicted effects of climate change such as floods, droughts, severe storms, and heat waves

• Dylan Nelson ’11, a music concentrator, presenting the work of the Daniel Barenboim Foundation in Israel and Berlin to bring Israelis and Arabs together through music

• Claudia Norton ’13, a Middle East studies and MCM concentrator, traveling to Jordan to produce a documentary addressing the impact of new media in current events in the Middle East and North Africa

• Natasha Pradhan ’12, an anthropology of aesthetics concentrator, studying the aesthetic and religious practices of the Gnawa musicians in rural and urban Morocco to examine shifting attitudes in the contemporary Moroccan imagination

• Meara Sharma ’11, a comparative literature concentrator, examining freedom of expression in Rwanda

Visit globalconversation.org.
Latin American Undergrads Learn Leadership at Brown

The recent global financial crisis has made public service more important than ever, former Chilean President Ricardo Lagos told 40 university students visiting Brown University from across Latin America last fall.

The Botín Scholars were part of a new 10-week program, “Leadership, Liberal Arts and Public Service in Democracy’s Extension,” that seeks to generate a network of university students from the region who are committed to public service and reform of civic organizations. After a week of study at Brown, the Botín Scholars traveled on to Europe to continue the program. The program, led by Fundación Marcelino Botín, in association with the Watson Institute and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown, will be repeated in the coming fall.

“Through public service, you can return to society what society has been able to give to you,” said Lagos, a Brown professor at large. He talked about challenges facing the next generation of public servants in Latin America, from income distribution to harnessing information technology to the rules and regulations of international labor.

Lagos spoke about finding a balance between markets and policy. “In any democratic society, are markets alone going to shape our entire society?” he asked the students.

The 40 students were chosen from over 600 applicants, and, as Saenz de Miera told students, “We think we have found talent, and we are betting on you.”

Watson Institute Deputy Director Geoffrey S. Kirkman ’91, faculty coordinator of the program at Brown, summed it up this way: “This first cohort of Botín Scholars at Brown was truly an impressive group. I have been struck by their passion to give back to their countries and their shared dedication to a better future for Latin America.”

By Watson Institute Student Rapporteur Brittaney Check ’12
Graduate Focus on Inequality Addresses Global Events

From the fallout of the global financial crisis to popular protests across the Middle East and North Africa, inequality has increasingly been the watchword this year for global leaders and local activists alike. In this time of growing emphasis, the Watson Institute’s six-year-old strategic focus on inequality represents the vanguard of academic research and training, producing new analysis and next-generation leadership to address this pressing problem.

Next month marks a milestone in this work, as faculty complete the first year of training for doctoral students under a five-year NSF-funded IGERT (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship) program on development and inequality. The IGERT program is a complement to the Graduate Program in Development (GPD) at Brown.

While the GPD-IGERT program supports research in the general area of development studies, it is especially focused on one of the most crucial—but intractable—problems of the 21st century: the persistence of old and the production of new forms of inequality in the developing world.

The program, co-directed by Professors Patrick Heller and Barbara Stallings, is home to 30 trainees, including 11 IGERT fellows. All are pursuing PhDs in economics, political science, anthropology, or sociology, while also receiving interdisciplinary training in the area of development and inequality.

This year the GPD-IGERT program has seen the creation of a new series of workshops and lectures by visiting scholars and an advanced training module on comparative and multi-sited ethnographic methods, providing an uncommon combination of these two social scientific approaches.

Visitors have included Fulong Wu, director of the Urban China Research Center at Cardiff University; Juan Pablo Luna, a political science professor at Catholic University of Chile; Pratap Bhanu Mehta, president of the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi; and Pranab Bardhan, professor of economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Fengyan Dai, of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and Mariana Chudnovsky, of the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Argentina, are visiting PhD students in economics and political science, respectively.

These visitors’ contributions have included Mehta’s three-lecture series on equality in India and Wu’s workshop on how globalization and economic change shape social space and urban governance in the developing world.

Ongoing programmatic activities have also involved students in foundational interdisciplinary training, field work, and the six-year-old Colloquium on Comparative Research.

Conducting fieldwork on GPD grants this summer will be:

- Carla Alberti (political science): Radicals after victory: when challengers become government, in Bolivia
Inequality Institute Draws Developing World Scholars

Institute faculty will again this summer provide academic and administrative leadership for the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI).

Now in its third year, BIARI provides a platform for promising young faculty from the developing world to engage in intellectual and policy dialogue with each other and with leading scholars in their fields.

In June, BIARI will host 150 participants and visiting faculty from 40 countries. The four institutes include Development and Inequality in the Global South, Critical Global Humanities, Climate Change and its Impacts, and Global Health.

BIARI is sponsored by Brown’s Office of International Affairs and Santander Universities. Institute Associate Professor Keith Brown is director.

- Ga Young Chung (sociology): Emerging democracy and its economic consequences in the post-socialist state, in Mongolia
- David Ciplet (sociology): The extent and nature of Least Developed Country (LDC) influence in UNFCCC negotiations, in Germany
- Daniel Kushner (political science): How do politicians navigate the complicated ethnic, religious, and social diversities of India to promote development for the nation as a whole?
- Pellumb Kelmendi (political science): Variation in capacity among different bureaucratic institutions in post-conflict Kosovo
- Peter Klein (sociology): Local implementation of global and national policies and programs that seek to meet development needs while addressing environmental concerns, in Brazil
- Irene Pang (sociology): Challenges and constraints faced by internal migrants in India and China, and the ways their tactics and strategies in response to these challenges converge or diverge, in India
- Poulomi Chakrabarti (political science): Determinants of sub-national variation in social and economic development, in India
- Jazmin Sierra (political science): The winners and losers of open economy industrial policy, in Brazil
- Trina Vithayathil (sociology): Observation of the nationwide caste census, in India
- Mujun Zhou (sociology): Sharing education resources with migrant children, in China
- IGERT fellows conducting summer field research include:
  - Paul Christian (economics): On the public distribution system in India
  - Alex Eble (economics): On inequality caused by rural-urban disparities in education and health, focusing on China and South Asia
  - Megan Turnbull (political science): On inequality, ethnic conflict, and democratic consolidation in Africa, working in Nigeria

Additionally, among the program’s recent outputs, from a collaboration with Brown’s Sociology Department and the University’s Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences (S4) Initiative, is an interactive online mapping application on “Urban Transformation in South Africa,” including extensive reports produced with partner institutions in South Africa.
Choices Helps High Schools Track Democracy Protests

As pro-democracy demonstrations began sweeping across North Africa and the Middle East earlier this year, the Watson-affiliated Choices Program videotaped interviews with scholars and policymakers and rapidly produced free online teaching materials for secondary school classrooms – updating and expanding its coverage of events over time with a total of three new Teaching with the News offerings.

Demand for the resources proved particularly strong – with web statistics indicating over 10,000 classrooms accessing them in the one-week period leading up to the resignation of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and almost 40,000 to date.

The first set of materials, “Egypt’s Uprising,” provides students with fundamental information about the causes of the uprising, the role of new media, and the US response.

The second, “After Mubarak,” helps students consider the implications of a leadership change in Egypt on the protests for democracy throughout the Middle East and North Africa.

The latest, “Protests, Revolutions, and Democratic Change,” helps students further consider the potential effects of the various national protests on regional democracy and stability.

Each set includes lesson plans, video interviews with such notables as US Sen. Jack Reed, links to interactive maps of demonstrations, and more.

The Choices Program is an educational outreach program of Brown University. Through its curricular resources, professional development programs, and special projects, Choices reaches students and teachers in more than one-third of American high schools.

Teaching with the News lessons are available at choices.edu/twtn.

Teaching Teens about America’s Role in Afghanistan

Twenty-three secondary school teachers selected from across the country will learn about Afghanistan and Pakistan from university scholars and foreign policy experts in July, as participants in the Choices Program’s annual Summer Leadership Institute.

The teachers, who will be designated Choices Teaching Fellows, will return to their states to conduct professional development and outreach to other educators, using the new Choices curriculum unit The US in Afghanistan. The unit, one of Choices’ library of 40, explores the culture and history of the country as well as multiple options for US foreign policy in the region.

Global Security Matrix

The Choices Program has adapted the Institute’s Global Security Matrix, an online tool for assessing threats to security, for a new audience of secondary school students.

Enter the Matrix: choices.edu/gsm/
Covering ‘Invisible Wars’

In the first veterans memoir that journalist Monica Haller helped create, there is a photograph of a dark figure walking across a bridge. The photographer, an American soldier named Jessie, explains in the caption that he had considered shooting that dark figure. Instead, he shot him with his camera.

“Soldiers are the experts on their own experience,” said Haller in a recent panel on 21st century war journalism. Haller and her co-panelists, journalists Michael Otterman and Nick Turse, asserted the need to go beyond mainstream journalism’s preoccupation with body counts and military strategy. Mainstream media makes the personal experiences of soldiers and civilians invisible, they said.

The Veterans Book Project is Haller’s way to counter that invisibility. The project helps American veterans and their families create books about their personal experiences in combat. The project reflects a need to go beyond mainstream journalism’s preoccupation with body counts and military strategy. Mainstream media makes the personal experiences of soldiers and civilians invisible, they said.

Otterman also stressed the need to push beyond mainstream media accounts. His second book, Erasing Iraq, tells the stories of Iraqis affected by the American occupation, citing the end of an entire religious sect and the destruction of Baghdad’s museum. “The word carnage wasn’t enough to describe what we uncovered,” he said.

Turse explored another area of invisibility within American policy: foreign military bases. After many thwarted attempts to get accurate information from Pentagon officials, Turse discovered a problem not only of secrecy but of accountability.

The reality is that the Pentagon does not actually know how many military bases the US has, Turse said. “The US cares about building military bases, not counting them.”

This lack of accountability obscures consequences, Hurse said. The American military base in Bahrain played a role in preventing the US from supporting protesters there, he said.

Asserting the need for alternative narratives of war, Turse cautioned the audience, “You can’t turn on the TV and find out what’s happening.”

The “Covering Invisible Wars” panel was part of the new Eisenhower Farewell Speech Series, launched at the Institute to commemorate the 50th anniversary of President Eisenhower’s warning about a military-industrial complex gaining power in the US.

By Watson Institute Student Rapporteur Juliana Friend ’12

Remembering Tim Hetherington

Just weeks before he was killed in Libya in April, combat photographer Tim Hetherington presented his work at a collaborative event between the Rhode Island School of Design and the Institute’s Global Media Program.

From Liberia’s killing zones to Afghanistan’s isolated valleys, Hetherington has photographed the human side of the soldier. “I don’t mean to sound flippant but the fighting became a little boring to me,” he said. “I realized I was interested in men and masculinity in war.”

His shots, which include huddled American troops playfully chatting during a break in Afghanistan or a soldier with the tattoo “infidel” scrawled across his chest, present an intimate portrayal of war.

His documentary film, Restrepo, likewise focuses on the soldiers’ relationships with one another.

His visit “provoked reflection, and perhaps left those of us fortunate enough to meet him, however fleetingly, with clues on how he might want us to remember him,” wrote Associate Professor Keith Brown.
Director Shares Global View

*Babies* is a documentary that aims to challenge paradigms and cultural stereotypes across the world, French filmmaker Thomas Balmès told an audience at Brown this semester.

Known for using his lens to explore cultures over a 20-year career, Balmès was speaking after screening his film during a week-long visit on campus as the Lawton Wehle Fitt ’74 Artist-in-Residence.

*Babies* follows the early developmental stages of four children in different parts of the world: Japan, Mongolia, Namibia, and San Francisco. The film flows seamlessly from scenes of one baby to the next in a starkly different, distant part of the world.

One segment shows Namibian children lying in dust, drinking from a stagnant stream, licking a dog’s tongue, a mother breastfeeding two babies at once. Another shows the Mongolian baby fighting with a sibling, joining a father in a river bath, hanging out with a pair of young goats outdoors, and in the end, seeming to try to ride one of them. The scenes showing the baby in San Francisco are less animated – barely set outdoors – but the baby is often fixated with toys, muttering new words, making unintelligible conversation with her mother, or held by an adoring grandparent.

The movie took Balmès 400 days to shoot over two years, and he spent two weeks in each country at a time. Its lack of narration makes it “something that can stand on its own,” with the subjects doing the talking. Furthermore, in choosing to focus on the remote Imba community in Namibia, he showed a place whose people are “totally disconnected” from cities and the mainstream, while also being happy with their way of life.

During his visit at Brown, Balmès also screened a new film he has produced, *A Normal Life: Chronicles of a Young Sumo Wrestler*, taught a master class, and advised students planning documentary work for this coming summer as part of the AT&T New Media Fellowship Program. His visit was supported by the Creative Arts Council, Global Conversation, Global Media Project, and Watson Institute.

By Watson Institute Student
Rapporteur Dominic Mhiripiri ’12

Advancing Social Change through the Power of Sport

The Sport and Development Project, a new collaboration between the Watson Institute and Brown’s Swearer Center for Public Service, aims to advance policy and practice in this growing field. Emblematic of its work is a recent event featuring Kirk Friedrich, co-founder of Grassroot Soccer.

A simple soccer ball can be instrumental in helping youth tackle the devastating spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa, Friedrich said in a talk at the Institute. “Games-based learning is a really powerful way for kids to learn.”

His organization provides 10- to 15-hour-long educational programs using soccer to target youth—a demographic crucial in the rapidly growing continent.

And the model can easily be replicated, he said. Its spread from a small Zimbabwean project born in 2002 to a continent-wide organization supported by the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) is testament to its power.

Friedrich was just one of several speakers addressing the power of sport in development at the Institute this semester under the new collaborative project.

“Sport can be a tremendous force for positive social change in cultures and communities around the world,” said Watson Institute Deputy Director Geoffrey S. Kirkman ’91, who is developing the project with Institute
Visiting Fellow Eli A. Wolff ’00 and Kerrissa Heffernan, Swearer Center director of faculty engagement and Royce Fellowships. “We will work to imagine and envision how sport can be used for development, human rights, and social justice.”

With national and international organizations increasingly looking toward sport and physical activity as a way to approach humanitarian and development objectives, the project involves scholars, students, practitioners, policymakers, and athletes in inquiry and advocacy.

As such, the project is already coordinating the International Sport for Development and Peace Association, serving as an Olympic Studies Center of the International Olympic Committee, collaborating with the Muhammad Ali Center on an athletes for social change platform, working with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees on a sport for refugees curriculum, and partnering with Brown’s Royce Fellowship for Sport and Society, among other activities.

‘VLAST’ Screening Probes Russian Political System

Students and faculty gathered at the Stephen Robert ’62 Campus Center this semester for a special screening of director Cathryn Collins’s debut 2010 film, VLAST (POWER), a documentary on the arrest and trial of Mikhail Borisovich Khodorkovsky. The screening was followed by a panel discussion featuring Collins, Watson Institute Director Michael Kennedy, and Robert Legvold, political science professor emeritus at Columbia University and member of Watson’s board of overseers.

Mikhail Borisovich Khodorkovsky, formerly the wealthiest man in Russia, was arrested at gunpoint on a snowy Siberian runway on October 25, 2003. After challenging the power of Vladimir Putin in the name of an open society, his oil company, Yukos, was seized, followed by a controversial trial. He remains imprisoned following a recent conviction on embezzlement and money laundering charges in a second trial alleging that he stole a larger sum from Yukos than its annual gross receipts. In December 2010, Khodorkovsky was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

Collins’s VLAST “helps us understand not only the life imprisonment of a single man, but the character of a system that imprisons him and the role of film and art in helping us recognize the world as it is,” Kennedy said.

For Collins, one of the most poignant aspects of the documentary has been the involvement of people who have asked to be treated as anonymous in the film’s production, for fear of retribution, but then stepped forward to be included by name after seeing the film’s powerful story unfold. According to Legvold, key points within the film probe larger questions of “the Putin regime and the tandem partnership” between President Medvedev and Prime Minister Putin. Legvold highlighted that in focusing on Khodorkovsky’s personal goals and characteristics, the film does not touch upon his political involvement in 2002, including alleged buying of seats in the Duma. “Had Khodorkovsky never started his political actions in 2002, [his incarceration] probably would not have happened,” he said.

In the past year or so, Khodorkovsky’s persistence in asserting his innocence has begun to “resonate with the public,” Legvold added.

The screening was co-sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and Division of Campus Life, the Watson Institute, the Curricular Resource Center, and the Stephen Robert Film Series at the Campus Center.
‘Sex, Drugs, and Body Counts’ Stirs Debate over Numbers

Reporters and commentators on- and off-campus took note of Peter Andreas’s recently co-edited *Sex, Drugs, and Body Counts: The Politics of Numbers in Global Crime and Conflict* (Cornell University Press, 2010) throughout the fall semester, following a rave review in Slate and airing on NPR’s *On the Media*.

*Sex, Drugs, and Body Counts* addresses the Darfur genocide, armed conflict, terrorism, and more. In each case, it raises questions about numbers and their political origins and use.

As *Foreign Policy* commentator Daniel W. Drezner wrote, “Andreas and Greenhill’s edited volume takes a hard look at how some of these figures affect public policy debates.”

The book provoked a “fact or fiction?” treatment by *Brown Alumni Monthly*, in addition to citations in media including PBS’s *Regarding War blog*.

The authors encourage readers to question numbers in specific detail. “The best advice in the book comes in the editors’ concluding essay, which calls on everybody in the numbers racket – NGOs, government, academics, journalists – to confess humbly and honestly that they ‘don’t know’ rather than flinging dubious numbers,” according to Slate reviewer Jack Shafer.

Sandal Cites US Policy Lessons of Democracy Demonstrations

As change swept from Tunisia to Egypt and on to other parts of the Middle East and North Africa, Institute Visiting Fellow Nukhet A. Sandal wrote an op-ed in the *Providence Journal* of the “many lessons that are to be taken from this transformative experience. The most important is that we should reconsider the amount of money that is spent on military and individual leaders rather than on people.”

“Obama may or may not denounce Mubarak now, and this is not the real challenge. The real challenge is to redefine US strategic interests by including the mass of the people, rather than armies and individual leaders, in the investment equation from now on.”

Varshney Sees Parallels in India’s ‘Gilded Age’

India is coming to resemble America’s Gilded Age – both in its heady dynamism and scandalous corruption, according to Dupee Fellow Ashutosh Varshney, who co-authored an op-ed earlier this year in the *Financial Times*. The piece compared India’s billionaire class with the Vanderbitts, Rockefellers, and Morgans of America in the 1800s.

In modern India, for instance, “using access to power, families of ministers and heads of state governments, belonging to various political parties, have illegitimately bought land and houses at below-market prices and powerful business families have procured mining rights in a corrupt manner.”

The op-ed, titled “It is Time for India to Rein in its Robber Barons,” urged the Indian government to institute greater transparency and open bidding processes, while pressing India’s tycoons to consider how to generate legitimacy for their accumulation of wealth.

Varshney also focused on aspects of India’s struggle to reform century-old land policies in the face of rapid growth in interviews with the *Financial Times* and *New York Times*.

In a *Financial Times* article titled “India’s Business Titans are Losing their Luster,” for instance, he said that no enterprise involving land or mining rights can be free from suspicion of corruption. He compared these businesses to the relatively corruption-free sectors in IT, biotech, pharma, and consumer goods.
Video Takes Issue with Austerity Policy

With governments formulating policies of austerity as the global economic crisis receded, the Institute produced an animated video short in the fall describing the thinking behind such policies as inherently flawed. Austerity featured Faculty Fellow Mark Blyth, an international political economist whose views were captured by director Joe Posner ’07.

“As by bringing creative talent together with great academic work we think we can more effectively get our ideas out into mainstream public discourse,” said Institute Deputy Director Geoffrey S. Kirkman ’91.

Indeed, the video has been played on the web over 185,000 times since September and was featured on the homepage of NPR, where Blyth was interviewed about austerity policy. (Watch the video at http://bit.ly/bppuoj.)

As Blyth told NPR’s All Things Considered in the fall, the use of austerity policy is a dangerous idea that will ultimately lead to reducing the economy overall in Britain – in the United States, it is the average taxpayer who would suffer most.

Open Source Carries Ideas Across Campus and Beyond

Radio Open Source in April encapsulated a message that filmmaker Thomas Balmès would like educators to receive loud and clear: University education is at risk as it fails to involve students in making the forms of media they so readily consume in every other part of their lives.

Balmès, director of the documentary Babies, was doing his part at Brown this spring - saving one student at a time, so to speak, as an artist in residence. He met with students about their own documentaries, held a masterclass, and advised some of the more media-forward social science faculty members on campus, in addition to screening his films (see page 22).

Interviewing Balmès, Open Source host Christopher Lydon demonstrated yet again the power of expanding on the research and teaching done at Brown via the podcast series Lydon has been hosting at Watson since 2007.

Lydon conducts probing interviews on the arts, ideas, and politics with Brown guests and faculty and brings many more voices to Brown from around the world. Some of his most recent interviews on campus have included US Institute of Peace Vice President Steven Heydemann, on “The Family Business in Syria,” political theorist Pratap Bhanu Mehta, on “Pakistan’s Perpetual Identity Crisis,” and Institute Faculty Fellow Mark Blyth, on “The Black Swan of Cairo.”

Visit radioopensource.org.
Interim Director Appointed at Watson

Brown Provost David Kertzer ’69 P’95’98 has announced the one-year appointment of Carolyn J. Dean as interim director of the Watson Institute, to head a reorganization of the Institute’s strategy and operations as a leading center of research and teaching on international affairs.

Dean brings a strong record of both administrative leadership and scholarly distinction to the task.

As associate and then senior associate dean of the faculty since 2005, she has engaged in building excellence in Brown’s departments, instructional programs, and research activities.

The John Hay Professor of International Studies, she has received a number of important fellowships and other awards over her academic career. Her work as a historian of modern Europe has been considerable, including the recent publication of her fifth book *Aversion and Erasure: The Fate of the Victim after the Holocaust* (Cornell University Press, 2010).

A search is being launched for the Institute’s next director.

Dean’s appointment follows an earlier announcement that Michael Kennedy has decided to step down as the Institute’s current director at the end of June and will turn his full attention to research and teaching.

Kertzer issued a statement thanking Kennedy for his service: “Under Michael’s leadership, important reforms have taken place, including a redesign of the curricula in international relations and development studies to strengthen the quality of undergraduate learning. More funding has been provided for international undergraduate research. We have attracted a number of distinguished faculty and hosted symposia that brought Brown students and faculty into dialogue with diplomats and policymakers, artists and filmmakers, and scholars and journalists. Michael has worked tirelessly to strengthen the Watson Institute and Brown.”

In Memoriam: Jack Ringer ’52

The Institute commemorates the life and work of Jack Ringer ’52, who generously supported so many undergraduate students to do research and internships in Southeast Asia, where he served in Burma after graduating from Brown. The Jack Ringer Summer in Southeast Asia Fellowships continue this summer, in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Thailand (see page 15).

Lutz Awarded for Anthropology

Institute Professor Catherine Lutz was presented late last year with the Society for the Anthropology of North America’s prize for distinguished achievement in the critical study of North America.

The SANA Prize is awarded each year to a senior anthropologist “for broad-based contributions to research, teaching, and service related to the development of critical studies of North America. The award recognizes a distinguished long-term program of research and publication, and also takes into account contributions in other areas, such as teaching and training, SANA/AAA service, and community, activist, practice, or policy involvements outside academia.”

Lutz, who is chair of Brown’s Anthropology Department, is co-editing a new book on the human, economic, social, and political costs of America’s war on terror and is co-author most recently of *Carjacked: The Culture of the Automobile and Its Effects on Our Lives* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).

Rhodes Named Professor At Large

Early in the past academic year, William R. Rhodes ’57 LHD’05 (hon.) accepted a five-year appointment as a Brown professor at large based at the Watson Institute. An international financial diplomat known for leading the resolution of economic crises in Asia and Latin America, Rhodes is the recently retired senior vice chairman at Citigroup Inc. and Citibank, and an emeritus member of the Institute’s board of overseers.

“At a time when international economic turmoil dominates affairs among nations and commands the attention of scholars and financial executives, Bill Rhodes brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the understanding of these issues,” Brown President Ruth J. Simmons said upon his appointment. “His long career in international finance and his leadership role in the development of the Rhodes Center and the Watson Institute will make him an invaluable resource for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty colleagues.”

In 2007, the University established the William R. Rhodes Center for International Economics and Finance, associated with the Watson Institute, and the William R. Rhodes Professorship in International Economics.

Board Adds Officers, Members

The Watson Institute is benefiting from the generous guidance and outreach of preeminent international academic, business, and political figures on its 17-member board of overseers, which has installed new leaders and members over the past year.

David E. McKinney now chairs the Institute’s board, following his long tenure as vice chair, as the term of former Chair John P. Birkelund ended last year. McKinney, a former top executive at IBM who worked closely with Thomas J. Watson Jr., is joined at the helm by publishing executive Karen Elliott House, the new vice chair.

Overseers who have joined the board in this fiscal year are: Veena Das, Johns Hopkins University; James F. Hoge Jr., chair, Human Rights Watch; Philip Lader, WPP plc, former ambassador to UK; Saskia Sassen, Columbia University; and Stephen Walt, Harvard University.

Kirkman Named Commissioner

Geoffrey S. Kirkman ’91 has been appointed by Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee ’75 as a commissioner on the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, which is responsible for managing the state’s solid waste and recyclables. Kirkman is deputy director and a Watson fellow at the Institute, and he teaches an undergraduate course on social entrepreneurship and sustainable development as a lecturer in Brown’s School of Engineering.

Honoring Amb. Holbrooke

Watson holds enduringly the legacy of the late Richard Holbrooke ’62 LLD’97 – a consummate diplomat, man of peace, and, to the faculty and students who engaged with him here as professor at large, a scholar and teacher of the world.
SPOTLIGHT ON ENVIRONMENT

Conferences, Websites Convene Environmentalists

Two major conferences at the Institute analyzed issues of environment this academic year and extended the discussions well beyond on the web.

The first, “The Environment and Higher Education: Past, Present, and Future,” gathered the proponents of 30 environmental initiatives funded over several years by the Luce Foundation.

Projects included the Watson International Scholars of the Environment, a 2001-2009 mid-career training program; Johns Hopkins University’s International Environmental Policy Practicum, in which students consulted for “client” organizations on international environmental projects; and many more. A website documenting these initiatives aims to network them too.

The Institute also supported Brown’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies in hosting “Latin America and Climate Change: Regional Perspectives on a Global Problem,” featuring such leading figures as Marina Silva, Brazil’s former secretary of environment, and former Chilean President Ricardo Lagos, the UN Special Envoy for Climate Change in 2010.

Videos from the conference were disseminated across Latin America and beyond on the InterCambio Climático, a space that connects Latin American efforts to confront the challenges of climate change and influence public opinion and decisionmaking. The site is supported in part by Watson.

As Lagos described it, the InterCambio “presents an interesting case of how civil society organizations in Latin America can join forces and leverage information and communication technologies to contribute to the climate change debate, and engage with governments unable to cope with this complex challenge alone.”