ISSS NEWSLETTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYEES

November 5, 2014

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
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GLOBAL CONFLICTS INFOCUS: THE COMPLEXITY OF GEOPOLITICS, EXTREMIST GROUPS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
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You are invited to InFocus, a monthly conversation on today’s hot topics. This month’s conversation will use recent events such as the expansion of ISIS, the abduction of girls in Nigeria, and the Russian/Ukrainian border dispute as a springboard for a broader conversation about human rights and geopolitics. Dr. Claude Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Political Science, and Mehwish Sarwari, Department of Political Science, will serve as moderators.

Date:  Friday, November 7
Time:  12:00-1:00
Place:  Capen Hall 107, North Campus

Sponsored by Student Life, the Honors College and International Student & Scholar Services

https://www.facebook.com/transcendingbordersUB
GLOBAL CINEMASPECTIVES FILM & DISCUSSION SERIES: “THE LIVES OF OTHERS”

In 1984 East Berlin, an agent of the secret police is conducting surveillance on a writer and his lover. Emotionally drawn to the subjects of his surveillance, he becomes increasingly absorbed by their lives and his loyalties begin to shift.

Prof. David Fertig, Department of Linguistics, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.

Date: Friday, November 7
Time: 5:00-7:30 p.m.
Place: Knox Hall 4, North Campus

Co-sponsored by International Student & Scholar Services and the Undergraduate Academies

UPCOMING EVENTS

“COMICS, THE VIETNAM WAR AND A REFUGEE FAMILY: DRAWING MY PAST TO WRITE MY FUTURE”

GB Tran is a young Vietnamese American artist who grew up distant from (and largely indifferent to) his family's history. Born and raised in South Carolina as a son of immigrants, he knew that his parents had fled Vietnam during the fall of Saigon. But, even as they struggled to adapt to life in America, they preferred to forget the past—and to focus on their children's future. When his last surviving grandparents die within months of each other, GB visits Vietnam for the first time and begins to learn the tragic history of his family and the homeland they left behind. In telling his family's story, GB finds his own place in this saga of hardship and heroism. *Vietnamerica* is a visually stunning portrait of survival, escape, and reinvention—and of the gift of the American immigrants’ dream passed on to their children.

Presenter: GB Tran, author of the graphic novel *Vietnamerica: A Family’s Journey*

Date: Tuesday, November 5
Time: 2:00-3:00
Place: Student Union 330

Cosponsored by the Asian Studies Program, Humanities Institute, Honors College, the Asian American Student Union, and the Departments of Art, Anthropology and Transnational Studies
The reason we encounter new construction designed to memorialize the past is that we focus on a future shaped by contemporary responses to memorialization. In this context, remembering can manipulate perception, either toward action or inaction (amnesia). The fundamental danger is when memorialization becomes propaganda or a redemptive tool deployed by authority. The two divided Koreas have exemplified these problematic functions of memorialization. Slanted Memorial is a proposal to build housing on the site of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Korea for families separated by the Korean War (1950-53). It is intended to serve as a memorial to provoke action toward reconciliation beyond mere stimulating and sensational expression.

Presenter: Jin Young Song, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, UB

Date: Friday, November 7
Time: 12:00-1:00
Place: Park Hall 280, North Campus