Our Advisory Board convened at Georgia Tech last fall and again in the spring in Washington, D.C. We also hosted two very successful receptions in Washington, D.C. for alumni and friends, attended by more than 100 graduates and hosted by David Cooper, INTA 1996. In addition to our larger alumni events, the Nunn School hosted 4 small gatherings in Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, providing alumni with the opportunity to network, meet with faculty, and participate in discussions about various issues relevant to international security and policy. We are greatly encouraged by the energy from our alumni, their passion for the Nunn School, and their willingness to engage with current students.

I am sometimes asked: “Why study International Affairs.” My answer is that in this global world the “groves” of career, professions and life are disappearing. Learning how to deal with global change and diversity is a full contact sport. It requires learning and living in diverse cultures and understanding the impact that policy, history, and culture have on technology in creating and addressing the world’s challenges. The study of International Affairs is one way of putting these challenges in context and preparing to thrive and lead. This underlies the mission of the Sam Nunn School that bears the name of a former Senator whose continued leadership provides a clear demonstration as why someone seeking to be useful in the 21st Century might study international affairs.

We appreciate your help in raising the role and visibility of the School as we focus on the interfaces of science, technology and international relations. It is an exciting time to be a part of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

Sincerely,

Joe Bankoff
The European Commission has awarded Georgia Tech as a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. The three-year, €100,000 ($125,000) award was one of only fourteen awarded world-wide in 2014. The Centre will pool expertise from across the Ivan Allen College, as well as from the Scheller College of Business, to analyze Europe’s place in a changing world with an American reference point, but a broader focus. Named after one of the founding fathers of European integration, the Jean Monnet program aims to promote excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies and to foster the dialogue between the academic world and policy-makers. The Centre will be housed in the Nunn School’s Center for European and Transatlantic Studies and directed by Dr. Alasdair Young.

The activities of the Centre will include public talks, academic workshops, an international symposium and a working paper series. The main research activities will be structured around three work packages focusing on: Triangular Diplomacy, 21st Century Trade Politics, and Protecting Privacy.

In addition, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and in conjunction with the Peace Laureates World Summit in Atlanta in November 2015, the Centre is proud to host an international symposium on the EU as Peacemaker and the Centre is proud to host an international World Summit in Atlanta in November 2015, in conjunction with the Peace Laureates anniversary of the end of World War II and In addition, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and in conjunction with the Peace Laureates World Summit in Atlanta in November 2015, the Centre is proud to host an international symposium on the EU as Peacemaker and the Centre is proud to host an international World Summit in Atlanta in November 2015, in conjunction with the Peace Laureates anniversary of the end of World War II and

Other participating faculty include: Vicki Birchfield (Nunn School); Mikulaj Fabry (Nunn School); Jarrod Hayes (Nunn School); Dina Khapaeva (Modern Languages); Nikolay Koposov (History, Technology and Society); John Krije (History, Technology and Society); John McIntyre (Scheller); Peter Sutie (Scheller); and Katja Weber (Nunn School).

More info: contact Alasdair Young (Alasdair.young@gatech.edu) or visit the Centre’s website at inta.gatech.edu/jmce

Undergraduate Spotlight

Dillon Roseen - EIA 2015

The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs sat down with Dillon Roseen to discuss his recent internship in the Office of Management and Administration in the White House.

One of Roseen’s primary responsibilities over the summer was to serve as a liaison between the Internship Office and the entire class of White House interns. In this way, Roseen served as a leader within his internship class. Roseen reflects, “It is always challenging to lead a group of peers, especially when one of your goals is to build lasting friendships, but I think I did a pretty good job! Some of my closest friends are now the interns that I worked with at the White House.”

“An important quality for being a successful White House intern is the ability to think quickly on your feet while juggling several, often unrelated projects,” says Roseen. “As students in the Nunn School, our professors regularly present us with complex, seemingly intractable issues, and ask us to solve them in a short amount of time. The same is true at the White House. One course that specifically helped me prepare for this type of environment was my Global Issues and Leadership course taught jointly by Professor Bankoff and Professor Knoespel.”

The most enjoyable part of Roseen’s internship was being surrounded by bright, hardworking, and compassionate people who worked long hours every day to make the United States a little better. Roseen constantly found conversations shifting back to focus on the big picture—how can we best work to further the Administration’s goal to improve the lives of the American people?

Roseen’s advice for students interested in pursuing a Washington, DC internship: “I would encourage other students to seek advice and input from everyone who is willing to listen to you and has your best interest at heart. Be open to opportunities you wouldn’t have otherwise considered. Then at the end of the day, make the decision that is going to be right for you.”

Nunn School Associate Professor Brian Woodall was the recipient of a Fulbright Scholar award to research in Japan for the 2014-15 academic year. This prestigious award enabled Dr. Woodall to spend the year in Japan as a Visiting Scholar at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. Tokyo Tech is one of the top five universities in Japan, and it is one of the country’s leading centers of energy-related research, which was the focus of his project. Specifically, Woodall conducted research on the topic of Japanese energy policy, with a focus on policies to promote the development and use of renewable energy.

Dr. Woodall held a busy calendar throughout his year in Asia, including participating in the US-Japan academia-industry research collaboration sponsored by Kobe University; delivering a speech at the commencement ceremony for participants in Tokyo Tech’s “International Research Opportunities” and “Campus Asia” programs; interviewing former Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who was Japan’s premier at the time of the cascading disasters of 2011; attending a reception held at the residence of Ambassador Caroline Kennedy; and completing “Japanese Political Finance and Its Dark Side,” book chapter in Parties and Politics in Contemporary Japan: Political Chaos and Stalemate in the 21st Century (Ronald J. Hrebenar and Akira Nakamura, Editors). London: Routledge, 2014. Pp. 56-79.

Founded in 1946 under the leadership of Senator J. William Fulbright, the Fulbright Scholar Program provides highly competitive, merit-based grants for scholarly research overseas, with the additional aim of increasing mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The Fulbright Program is one of the most prestigious awards programs worldwide, operating in over 155 countries. Fifty-three Fulbright alumni have won Nobel Prizes, seventy-eight have won Pulitzer Prizes, and more Nobel laureates are former Fulbright recipients than any other award program.
Michael L. Best, associate professor of international affairs and computing, has been appointed as director of the newly formed United Nations University Institute on Computing and Society (UNU-CS) based in Macau, China.

Best brings to the UNU-CS expertise in merging international affairs, technology, and global development. Under his leadership, the UNU-CS will develop the next generation of computer and social scientists who will shape the global information society. He will enhance capacities in computing and the application of information technology through policy research programs as well as doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships.

Commenting on his appointment Best said, “I am honored to have been selected to lead the UNU Computing and Society Institute. My goal is to develop the Institute as a center of excellence in the United Nation’s system effectively responding to the needs of the developing world in the crucially important areas of computing and information technologies.”

An example of Best’s work and its far-reaching potential for the United Nations was his project using social media to monitor national elections in African nations enabling real-time response to issues such as fraud, intimidation, and violence.

The Rector of the UNU, Professor David M. Malone said, “I am very pleased to welcome Professor Best to the UNU system. “I am confident that with his background in information technologies and international development, he will make a very significant contribution to the research of UNU and to policymaking of the United Nations as a whole.”

Best’s appointment began on January 17, 2015, and he continued to teach and work on campus through the spring semester. Best is now based out of Macau, China where the UNU-CS is headquartered.

The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs expresses its deepest gratitude to longtime faculty members John Garver and Robert Kennedy as they transition from full-time professors to Professor Emeriti following their retirement last spring. With 56 years of combined service to the Nunn School, Professors Garver and Kennedy are regarded fondly by many.

Garver, a leading scholar in Asian international relations with a specific focus on the foreign relations of China, is an accomplished author, presenter, and served as an invited member of the National Committee on U.S.–China Relations for eighteen years. He has received grants from the Fulbright Foundation, the Smith Richardson Foundation, the US National Academy of Science, the US Department of Education, the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, and the US Institute for Pakistan Studies.

Dr. Garver has directed Study Abroad programs in East Asia, and was greatly appreciated for the high quality of his classroom engagement, as evidenced by his receiving the “Thanks for Being a Great Teacher” award from Georgia Tech’s Center for Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

Kennedy’s research focuses on American foreign and defense policy, national intelligence, European security issues, and decision-making and crisis management. His tenure at the Nunn School has alternated with distinguished positions that he has held in national and international security in both the United States and Europe. An author of numerous books, he has also been a Fulbright Scholar in Peru, and a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council of the United States.

Kennedy is a recipient of the Joint Distinguished Civilian Service Award from the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff and a doctorate honoris causa from the Bulgarian National Defense College. He was elected a permanent member of the Academy of Security, Defense, and Law Enforcement of the Russian Federation. For Kennedy’s efforts in helping Romania meet the requirements for NATO membership, the President of Romania awarded him the title of Commander.

The Sam Nunn School and the Ivan Allen College has benefitted in multiple ways from Dr. Garver’s and Dr. Kennedy’s professionalism and commitment to excellence. Their commitment to scholarship, to national and international service, and to academic excellence has been a wonderful value added for the Nunn School, the Ivan Allen College, and the Georgia Tech community.
Scott W. Bray was honored as the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs’s first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award on April 7, 2015 in a College-wide ceremony with other exemplary alumni of the Ivan Allen College.

Scott Bray became the National Intelligence Manager for East Asia in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in November 2012. He oversees all aspects of the intelligence community’s collection and analytic efforts regarding East Asia.

Bray is the personal representative of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) on East Asian matters and serves as the DNI’s focal point for the integration of all activities in the region. Prior to this, Bray was the deputy national intelligence manager and principal deputy national intelligence officer for military issues. Bray also served as the United States Navy’s senior intelligence officer for China, where he advised senior defense department and naval officials. His responsibilities included overseeing China-related efforts at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) as well as major intelligence community initiatives pertaining to China’s navy.

For his service, Bray was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award, the highest award the Chief of Naval Operations can bestow upon a civilian. While serving as submarine operations and readiness analyst in the Submarine Warfare Operations Research Division (SWORD), he was awarded the Joint Civilian Service Commendation.

In Bray’s remarks on April 7th, he thanked the Nunn School faculty for pushing him to work hard and recognizing his potential. In particular, Bray acknowledged Professors Garver and Kennedy for their motivation and mentorship.

Bray earned a B.S. of International Affairs from Georgia Tech in 1996, and a Master of International Affairs at Columbia University in 1998.
For Nunn School Students and Faculty

Students
Camilo Caballero, INTA 2015, National Thomas R. Pickering Fellow
Lizzie Clark, IAML 2016, Boren Scholarship recipient
Shaudie Fassih, IAML 2015, Best Oral Presentation Award at Georgia Tech’s Undergraduate Research Spring Symposium
Amanda Meng, IAST First Place in the Ivan Allen College Competition at the Career, Research, and Innovation Development Conference (CRIDC)
Dillon Roseen, EIA 2015, received the Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Award for an undergraduate student

Faculty
Joe Bankoff, appointed Chair of the Midtown Alliance (Atlanta)
Joe Bankoff, inducted into the Morehouse Collegium of Scholars
Michael L. Best, Director, United Nations University-Institute on Computing and Society
Michael L. Best, Steven A. Denning Award for Global Engagement
Kirk Bowman, Jon R. Wilcox Term Professorship in Soccer, Global Politics, and Society
Mikulas Fabry, Faculty Appreciation Award, International Affairs Graduate Student Organization, Georgia Tech
Robert Kennedy, President of the Atlanta Council on Foreign Relations
Margaret Kosal, received the Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award from Georgia Tech’s Center for Enhancement of Teaching and Learning
Jennie Lincoln, Acting Director of Carter Center’s America Program
Michael Salomone, Ivan Allen College Undergraduate Student Advisory Board Teacher of the Year
Alasdair Young, European Union Studies Association Chair
Alasdair Young, EU Commission Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
Alasdair Young, Ivan Allen College Distinguished Faculty Researcher Award
Katja Weber, Thanks for Being a Great Teacher Award
Katja Weber, Ivan Allen College Dean’s Gold Star 2
Brian Woodall, Fulbright Scholarship, Visiting Research Scholar, School of Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology

To support the Nunn School’s students, faculty, or programs, you may give online via the Alumni Association or make a check payable to the Georgia Tech Foundation. Please make sure to designate your gift for the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. For more information on how to support the Nunn School, visit www.inta.gatech.edu/give.
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For more information on Nunn School events for alumni and friends, please contact Meredith Schnepp (meredith.schnepp@iac.gatech.edu, 404-894-5260).