Fulbright Arctic Initiative Joins President Obama in Alaska

The Fulbright Arctic Initiative, co-led by Institute of Arctic Studies Director Ross Virginia, has put Dartmouth in a leadership role in Arctic and polar science and policy. This was apparent last August when Virginia and Co-Lead Scholar from University of Alaska Fairbanks Michael Sfraga, and the 16 Fulbright Arctic Scholars, were invited to an important meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, attended by Secretary of State John Kerry and President Obama.

Only approximately 350 people were invited to participate in the Global Leadership in the Arctic: Cooperation, Innovation, Engagement and Resilience (GLACIER) meeting, organized by the State Department. Foreign ministers from the eight Arctic Council countries (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia and the U.S.), delegates from more than a dozen Arctic Council observer states, and scientists, policymakers, and other stakeholders attended. They discussed issues affecting their communities and heard about the U.S. agenda for its two-year chairmanship of the Arctic Council, which began in April.

The purpose of GLACIER was also to create momentum on addressing critical issues facing the Arctic. Virginia hopes the meeting will help prepare for the COP21 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris this December. He and the Arctic Scholars who attended GLACIER were able to share their research with President Obama’s science advisor and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy John Holdren and Ambassador Mark Brzezinski ’87, executive director of the U.S. Government’s Arctic Executive Steering Committee.

Speaking of Holdren, Virginia said, “I hope that he will see that the Arctic can be an ally in advancing a global agenda in science politics and policies. I think he will learn some things from this trip to Alaska that will make him even more effective.”

Virginia calls the Arctic Scholars “ambassadors for research” and believes their scholarship on the problems facing Arctic nations can also promote international and interdisciplinary collaboration.

In early January 2016, six Arctic Scholars who are studying health and infrastructure issues will convene a workshop of scholars and stakeholders from the circumpolar region at Dartmouth to discuss issues related to the advancement of health and wellness in the region, including resiliency, mental health, suicide prevention, traditional knowledge, perceptions of wellness, and ways to measure wellness. The meeting will be a natural follow on to the Arctic health meeting held at Dartmouth in 2011, sponsored by the Institute of Arctic Studies and the UArctic Institute for Arctic Policy.

Another Dartmouth ambassador to attend GLACIER was Leehi Yona ’16. She obtained a press credential to write about the Fulbright Arctic Initiative and youth engagement in climate change issues. She live tweeted the meetings, and her commentary was published in numerous online publications. She is doing her senior fellowship project on Arctic climate policy with Professor Virginia (see page 9).
Among the questions I’m confronted with most often are why jihadist terrorism has proven so durable, and, relatedly, why it has been so difficult to defeat the Islamic State forces in Iraq and Syria. The visit of King Salman of Saudi Arabia to Washington in September provided a good opportunity to try to address these questions. The following article presents some partial answers. It appeared in Foreign Policy on September 10.

The King and ISIS by Daniel Benjamin

When Saudi Arabia’s King Salman made his first visit to Washington since ascending the throne in January, his goals were simple. The 79-year-old ruler wanted to paper over the disputes that have eroded the U.S.-Saudi relationship for years and extract from President Barack Obama’s administration a payoff for Riyadh’s tepid support of the nuclear deal with Iran. With the White House eager to maintain momentum on the nuclear agreement after securing the Senate votes to block the Republican rejection of the deal, King Salman’s timing was excellent—all but erasing memories of his no-show at a Camp David conference of Gulf leaders in May.

Papery over differences is one of diplomacy’s finer and more useful arts. With the Saudis anxious about a possible warming in the U.S. relationship with Iran and sharp disagreements regarding Syria, Egypt, Iraq, and the broader sectarian blood bath in the Middle East, the visit was a solid piece of work in the service of Washington’s ever more schizophrenic bilateral partnership with Riyadh—perhaps the most convoluted relationship the United States has had with any country. The atmospherics around the visit were sufficiently positive that few mentioned the contradictions that seem to be fraying ties between the United States and its longtime friend in the Gulf.

One commentator who did dwell on the deep dissonance in the relationship was Thomas Friedman, in a New York Times column published just before King Salman’s arrival. Tearing off on some benighted retired Air Force general who opposed the nuclear deal on the grounds that Iran was the leading sponsor of Islamic radicalism in the world, Friedman exclaimed: “Nothing has been more corrosive to the stability and modernization of the Arab world, and the Muslim world at large, than the billions and billions of dollars the Saudis have invested since the 1970s into wiping out the pluralism of Islam…and imposing in its place the puritanical, anti-modern, anti-women, anti-Western, anti-pluralistic Wahhabi Salafist brand of Islam.”

Friedman is on target in arguing that Saudi Arabia’s contribution to Islamist extremism has far outsriped Iran’s. Indeed, Tehran’s effort to transcend sect and become the leader of the Muslim world’s radical rejectionist stream has been in tatters since the Arab Spring and the heightening of sectarian tensions because of the Syrian civil war. Although systemic misgovernment is the Arab world’s deadliest disease, Saudi Arabia’s energetic propagation of Wahhabism—which began as a response to Iran’s Islamic Revolution in 1979—has been central to the rise of violent extremism, from Indonesia to Mali.

Wahhabism has been a devastating invasive species in Islam’s enormous ecosystem—it’s the zebra mussel, the Asian Tiger mosquito, and the emerald ash borer wrapped into one. The consequences have been fateful: A solid line of causation from the slaughter in Islamic State-controlled Iraq and the tragedy of 9/11 traces back directly to Saudi evangelization and the many radical mosques and extremist NGOs it spawned.

Friedman’s explanation for why the United States has never challenged Riyadh is crude—in both senses of the word. “We’re addicted to their oil and addicts never tell the truth to their pushers,” he wrote.

This is too easy; if oil were the only vital U.S. interest binding it to the kingdom, dealing with the export of extremism would be vastly easier. What Friedman and almost everyone else misses is the increasingly pivotal importance of counterterrorism cooperation in the U.S.-Saudi relationship. That may set heads spinning, but when it comes to tactical counterterrorism—uncovering conspiracies and disrupting them—Saudi Arabia has become an invaluable partner, one of the very best Washington has.

Following Saudi Arabia’s apparent epiphany after the May 2003 bombings in Riyadh, which killed 39 people, ties between U.S. counterterrorism authorities and their Saudi counterparts have grown close, collegial, and effective. There is a reason why Interior Minister Mohammed bin Nayef, now second in line to the throne and the architect of Saudi counterterrorism strategy, is far and away Washington’s favorite leader in Riyadh.

The golden age of this cooperation began in 2009, when the terrorist threat was developing most dangerously in the kingdom’s backyard: Yemen. Saudi counterterrorism cooperation at the time prevented hundreds of American deaths, possibly more. Some of the cases are well-known, like the plot to hide bombs in printer cartridges aboard U.S.-bound planes. Without these tips, one or more aircraft would have gone down. Other operations have helped the United States defend against a new class of undetectable bombs that might also be used against aviation. Wherever else one might find fault with them, the Saudis did superb work in these cases.

The cooperation extends beyond the cloak and dagger stuff. Since 2003, the Saudi government’s work on counterterrorism finance has improved considerably, and its efforts in the area of rehabilitating extremists have been recognized internationally.

Still, there is an extraordinary paradox here. Because of the large sums that flow from the country’s religious establishment and huge NGOs to institutions that promote Wahhabi-style Islam—with its malignant views of Shiites, Jews, Christians, and the West—Saudi Arabia remains the fountainhead for Islamist extremism. These funds, together with curricular materials, preachers, television broadcasters, religious literature, and the like stoke radicalism in scores of countries, even if they are typically not directly implicated in violent acts. At the same time, Saudi intelligence services are active around the world trying to prevent the terrorism that grows from this activity.
MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE: 
The Life and Career of Keith Martin, PC, MD by Alexander Lopez ’15

Crossroads writer and Dickey Center student intern, Alexander Lopez ’15, sat down with Keith Martin, Executive Director of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health, during Martin’s visit to Hanover for Dartmouth’s Annual Global Health Day. The two discussed Martin’s career, motivations, and advice for current students.

Campus Visit

The first thing you might notice about Keith Martin is his charm. He exudes a warm presence. It is no doubt his genial nature and upbeat personality that has guided him throughout his work on both the practice and policy side of global health. Martin has dedicated his life to addressing challenges such as homelessness, domestic social issues, disease and international conflict. He has been a guiding voice both in policy revision and program implementation, having worked around the world for positive change (notably in South Africa during the apartheid era).

Martin, who was born in the United Kingdom, grew up in Canada and currently serves at the Executive Director of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health and previously spent time as a member of the Canadian parliament for Esquimalt–Juan de Fuca in British Columbia from 1993 to 2011. His early interests in medicine formed in his collegiate years, and it was that interest and a passion for helping others that led Martin to South Africa, where he worked as a practicing clinician during the Mozambique War. Later, embracing his political inclinations and desire to see large-scale policies help the most individuals possible, Martin served as the elected member to the parliament for the Reform Party of Canada. During this time, he led many initiatives in the House of Commons, including legislation to ban landmines in 1995 after his truly horrific encounters with victims of landmine related tragedies.

Global Health Day

This spring, Martin came to Hanover as the keynote speaker for Dartmouth’s 2015 Global Health Day, an event sponsored by the Dickey Center’s Global Health Initiative. Global Health Day featured a series of events such as poster sessions, photo competitions, receptions and campus talks. The event brings students, faculty, and practitioners in the field together to discuss emerging global health issues, giving students insight into career paths in the field.

Martin praised Dartmouth’s Global Health Initiative, noting, “It’s been wonderful being here at Dartmouth. It’s an extraordinary university, doing extraordinary things with extraordinary faculty and students. You have a lot to share with other universities here in the United States and you have been able to overcome a number of challenges. And you are providing opportunities for students to deal with challenges in the 21st century, such as your Master of Healthcare Delivery Science, an important skillset regardless of what you do, be it internationally or here in the U.S.”

Martin was especially impressed by the approach to global health at Dartmouth. “One of the striking things about Dartmouth is the interdisciplinary nature that permeates a number of fields. Breaking down silos is an ongoing process, and no one does it perfectly, but Dartmouth has gone a long way in overcoming obstruction and silos presented to faculty and students. This global health diplomacy toolbox is going to be necessary and useful. Regardless of your position internationally, or domestically, those skillsets are powerful and transferrable.”

Work on Landmines

One specific issue that remains incredibly important to Martin is the issue of landmines. When he was visiting one of his old bosses in South Africa, after a brief fifteen minutes, his host received a call that someone had stepped on a landmine. Martin offered to rush to the ER to assist.

“I saw this young guy who was about 18-years old and one leg had been blown off below the knee. The other one was almost completely gone and he had significant shrapnel injuries. He was sitting up looking at what was remaining of his legs and sweat poured from his body. He was just an 18-year-old guy trying to survive. I thought this guy’s life is changed forever. He’s just a kid. It’s not right. These things should be banned. So I went into politics to ban land mines.”

Martin also worked on conservation programs in South Africa with the anti-poaching units, supporting programs to provide healthy alternatives to these practices in order for people to sustainably use their ecosystems.

“Being able to use ecosystems sustainably can improve lives of the people who live in abject poverty in rural areas . . . I went into politics to be able to share, identify and promote initiatives that allow opportunities for people to use ecosystems sustainably for their own needs and generate the resources they need to improve their access to healthcare, education and infrastructure.”

Advice to Students

When asked what advice Martin would give to students with interests in working on these types of issues, he replied, “Join an organization that’s doing good work now and secondly, pay attention to local issues. There are huge issues within the Unites States and other countries that are domestic in nature. Identify these programs and build a constituency of like-minded individuals. Follow your interests.”
Welcome Anne

It is with great pleasure that we announce the recent hire of Anne Sosin '02 as the new program manager for the Global Health Initiative (GHI) at the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding.

A Dartmouth alumna with over 10 years of experience working in global health and international development, Anne earned her B.A. in English with Honors at Dartmouth and a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins’ Bloomberg School of Public Health. An advocate for strong health systems, human rights, and the status of women, she has designed and led multiple public and private nonprofit partnerships including a $4 million project strengthening health systems in rural Rwanda and concept development of a South-South Cooperation platform between the governments of Rwanda and Haiti. Anne has also spoken at international conferences on issues of violence against women, and consulted on global health projects for a range of clients, including Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and Columbia University.

Anne began her new role at the Dickey Center in late May 2015, taking on GHI seamlessly from previous program manager, Jessica Friedman, who left to pursue continued studies of global health at the University of Minnesota. Anne hit the ground running, developing campus networks and working closely with Dickey Center leadership and our GHI faculty lead, Dr. Lisa Adams, Associate Professor of Medicine who also serves as Director of the Dartmouth Center for Health Equity (CHE) and Associate Dean for Global Health in the Geisel School of Medicine.

Please join us in welcoming Anne Sosin back to Dartmouth as our newest colleague in the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding.

The Human Development Program: Fostering leadership in global poverty alleviation

In the last issue of Crossroads we highlighted the founding and growth of the Center’s Human Development Program. In this issue, we provide an update on the program’s continued growth and some examples of the impact it’s having on campus through direct student involvement and by collaborating with other College global poverty alleviation initiatives.

In coordination with the Dickey Center’s other pillars, the Human Development Program advances research and training through faculty and student grants, campus programming with distinguished visitors, and advising and mentoring. The Human Development Program supports a number of Dartmouth students each year for internships, research, and experiential learning projects.

A core objective of the program is to help create more pathways for Dartmouth students and alumni to access engaging careers in international development. As such, the Dickey Center regularly hosts information and recruitment sessions and we are developing alumni networks through which students access these kinds of opportunities.

A centerpiece of the program is the Human Development Fellowship, a two-year apprenticeship that trains undergraduates for analytical and field-based careers in international development. The Fellowship selects a group of Dartmouth’s top students to train in analytical skills and help attain leadership positions in poverty alleviation. Fellows are paired with faculty mentors to act as research assistants for three terms on a specific project; there is also funding for a term-long international internship.

The Fellowship helps realize one of the Dickey Center’s strategic goals: to reverse “brain drain” from the developing world and to enable social entrepreneurs to catalyze change in their countries. Take Kripa Dongol, a Nepali student who interned with a non-profit One Heart World-Wide in their Kathmandu office as part of her Fellowship. One Heart’s mission is to ensure that women and babies in rural Nepal can access lifesaving healthcare by equipping birthing centers and training local providers in maternal care. Kripa worked with local staff to collect baseline data on maternal and neonatal mortality. Because of her fluency in Nepali and English, Kripa was able to produce training materials and facilitate workshops on survey methodologies and statistical sampling. Months later, Kripa made her way back to Nepal to work on the frontlines of earthquake relief. Kripa hopes to leverage her Dartmouth education for a life’s work fighting poverty and improving public health in her mountainous homeland.

The Human Development Program also is taking the lead on this year’s Leila and Melville Straus 1960 Family Symposium. The Symposium was established in 2014 through a very generous gift by late Dickey Board of Visitor member Melville “Mickey” Straus. The annual event is focused on topics including: war and peace studies, conflict resolution, international governance, and human rights. This year, the Straus Symposium is focused on the response to the Nepal earthquake. In February 2016, the Dickey Center, led by the Human Development Program, will host a summit that advances research on the consequences of the April 2015 earthquake and current conditions there. The summit will include a faculty workshop and student panels, an image exhibition and conversation with James achtwey and Kevin Bubriski, and a keynote speech by Swarnim Wagle, a member of Nepal’s National Planning Commission. More information will be available in the coming months.
The Dickey Center and Dean of the Faculty’s U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security Postdoctoral Fellows program has been awarded a $1.2 Million grant by the Carnegie Corporation. The grant is helping to fund eight Fellows annually for the next three years. The fellowship provides each Fellow with a research budget and facilitates links between practitioners and academics through workshops at Dartmouth and in Washington, DC, and through a network of fellowship alumni.

The eight Fellows selected for the 2015–2016 academic year and their research areas of interest follow. More detailed bios for each Fellow can be found on the Dickey Center’s website.

Daniel Altman’s research interests include coercion, deterrence, causes of war, misperception and war, and nuclear proliferation. He is working on a book project examining how states make unilateral gains by exploiting gray areas in deterrent red lines.


Kate Geoghegan’s research is focused on US-Soviet relations, the role of non-governmental actors in US foreign policy and the rise of democracy assistance as a tool of US influence abroad.

Mauro Gilli is researching the challenges of imitating military technology and, in particular, how the “advantage of backwardness” has changed since the Second Industrial Revolution.

Alexander Lanoszka will complete a book about security guarantees and nuclear proliferation, and begin a new research project on the Warsaw Pact and nuclear balance in the last decade of the Cold War.

Kathleen Powers’ research considers the intersection of international conflict and cooperation, foreign policy, political attitudes, and social identity. She is developing her dissertation, which focuses on social relations at the foundation of national and transnational identities and their implications for foreign policy preferences, into a book manuscript.

Joshua Shifrinson is completing a book that analyzes how states respond to the decline of other great powers. His research focuses on power transitions, American grand strategy and the intersection of IR theory and diplomatic history.

Simon Toner is continuing research on the development vision and policies of the South Vietnamese state during Nguyen Van Thieu’s presidency. He is also beginning a new project exploring American perceptions of and response to urbanization in the Global South during the Cold War.

The Dickey Center is also hosting a number of Visiting Fellows. The Institute of Arctic Studies is hosting fellows Bruce Forbes from the University of Lapland (Finland), Jeff Kerby from Penn State, Llyd Wells from St. John’s College (Santa Fe, NM), and Fulbright Scholar Leah Sarson from Queens University (Ontario). Former National Security Council staff member Steven Simon also is in residence this year and teaching three classes. Bios for all visiting fellows can be found on the Dickey Center website.
Four New Members of the Board of Visitors by Victoria Hicks

This year we welcomed four new members to the Dickey Center’s Board of Visitors. CAPT Marty Cetron ’81, Wendy Becker ’87, Sharon Lee Cowan ’78, and Scott Straus ’92 joined the Board in 2015. All bring a wealth of international experience and expertise to the Board.

Wendy Becker ’87 is a director of a number of organizations in the UK. She is a Non-Executive Director at Whitbread, PLC as well as the Deputy Chairman of Cancer Research UK, the largest non-governmental cancer research organization outside of the US. In addition she serves as a Trustee of the Prince’s Trust and a member of the Business Advisory Council at Said Business School at Oxford University.

In her executive career, Wendy was the CEO of Jack Wills, the UK based “hot-brand” fashion retailer, Group Chief Marketing Officer at Vodafone and CEO of TalkTalk’s Residential Division. Wendy spent 15 years at McKinsey & Co, leaving as partner in 2008 to join TalkTalk. Before attending Stanford Business School, where she received her MBA in 1993, Wendy was a Brand Manager for Procter and Gamble.

Wendy has a long history of supporting the College, as Class President, Treasurer, Secretary, Class Agent, interviewer and a myriad of other roles. She is keen to raise Dartmouth’s international profile.

CAPT Martin (Marty) Cetron, MD, ’81 is director of the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) at the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID). He previously served as director of DGMQ when it was within the National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases. DGMQ’s mission is to prevent the introduction and spread of infectious diseases into the United States and to prevent morbidity and mortality among immigrants, refugees, migrant workers, and international travelers. Dr. Cetron’s primary research interest is international health and global migration with a focus on emerging infections, tropical diseases, and vaccine-preventable diseases in mobile populations. Since coming to CDC in 1992, Dr. Cetron led a number of domestic and international outbreak investigations, conducted epidemiologic research, and been involved in domestic and international emergency responses to provide medical screening and disease prevention programs to refugees prior to U.S. resettlement. He played a leadership role in CDC responses to intentional and naturally acquired emerging infectious disease outbreaks, including the anthrax bioterrorism incident, the global SARS epidemic, the U.S. monkeypox outbreak, and the H1N1 pandemic. Dr. Cetron also is part of CDC’s Pandemic Influenza Planning and Preparedness Team. He holds faculty appointments in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Emory University School of Medicine and the Department of Epidemiology at Rollins School of Public Health. Dr. Cetron received his bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College in 1981 and his MD from Tufts University in 1985. He trained in internal medicine at the University of Virginia and infectious diseases at the University of Washington before becoming a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service in 1992.

Sharon Lee Cowan ’78 is head of corporate communication in Europe and Central Asia for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). A U.S. national, Sharon Lee worked several years as a journalist in Boston and San Francisco before joining FAO’s communication team. At the Organization’s Rome, Italy, headquarters, she led a team of creative people with expertise in writing, editing, design, Web management, social media, events, fundraising, exhibitions, celebrity involvement and more. The team developed the award-winning “1billionhungry project”—a campaign that directed public attention to the prevalence of chronic hunger in developing countries. In 2014, Sharon Lee moved to FAO’s regional office for Europe and Central Asia, in Budapest, where she now leads the effort to raise visibility and mobilize resources for FAO’s field program in the region. At Dartmouth, Sharon Lee studied Russian Language and Literature, was a Rassias drill instructor in Russian, and participated in Language Study Abroad at the University of Leningrad in 1979. She was a member of Russian Club and wrote for the Jack-O-Lantern.

Scott Straus ’92 is Professor of Political Science and International Studies at University of Wisconsin, Madison. Scott specializes in the study of genocide, political violence, human rights, and African politics. His most recent book publication is Making and Unmaking Nations: War, Leadership, and Genocide in Modern Africa (Cornell University Press, 2015). Before starting in academia, Scott was a freelance journalist based in Nairobi, Kenya. Scott Straus is the son of former Dickey Board of Visitors member Melville “Mickey” Straus ’60. He participated both as a representative of his family and as a scholar of genocide in the fall 2014 inaugural Melville Straus Symposium, which dealt with early warning of genocide.

We look forward to working with these new members of the Board and benefitting from their advice and networks.

There are many ways in which Dartmouth classes can support the Dickey Center and help perpetuate John Sloan Dickey’s legacy. If you are interested in learning more about what we do, please be in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you!
**Investing in Faculty** by Melody B. Burkins

When asked why The John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding is so important to Dartmouth students and alumni, many immediately note the Dickey Center’s unwavering support of opportunities for students to spend a term abroad, immersed in intensive and transformative projects around the world. From Nunavut to Nepal, Dartmouth students work with the Dickey Center to create, design, and pursue international projects engaged with non-profits, NGOs, governments, and entrepreneurs in order to develop their skills as global citizens and as leaders.

Perhaps less widely recognized are the significant investments made each year by the Dickey Center to advance the global reach, and voice, of Dartmouth faculty around the world through programming and research grants. In 2014-15, this included working to develop the international engagement in each of our five areas of research and scholarship—global health, the environment, security, gender, and human development—and awarding grants for international research, conference travel, and classroom enhancement to over 40 faculty doing work in 22 different countries.

In 2014-15, the Dickey Center also facilitated a diversity of faculty involvement in international scholarship closer to home, supporting the development of four internationally-themed books through the faculty Manuscript Review program, hosting 14 International Relations and Foreign Policy seminars on issues of global security, and bringing dozens of international visitors from academe and policy to Hanover to speak on global issues ranging from women’s rights and development to security and the environment. During their visits, the Dickey Center extended personal invitations to Dartmouth faculty to engage in private discussions, luncheons, and dinners with these guests around global issues in research, policy, and practice.

The Dickey Center looks forward to continued investments in faculty research and programming in 2015-16, focusing additional support in programs aligned with our five areas of research and scholarship and working to create new opportunities for international collaboration, knowledge sharing, and outreach for Dartmouth faculty engaged in global scholarship and committed to international understanding.

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**The Continued Generosity of the Class of 1950**

The Class of 1950 Senior Foreign Affairs Fellowship is made possible by the generosity of the Class of 1950, the first class to have John Sloan Dickey as president for their entire Dartmouth career and who have been inspired by him to lead lives engaged in world affairs.

The public talk is typically the highlight of the visit to campus during which the Fellow meets with student and faculty groups and guest lectures in classes. Classmates, wives and guests of the Class of 1950 are invited to a reception preceding the keynote talk. Our most recent Senior Foreign Affairs Fellow was Michael T. Flynn, Lieutenant General, United States Army (Retired), who spoke on April 29, 2015, on "A World Without Order: Threats and Challenges in the 21st Century."
The Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) grant wrapped up this summer having inspired 26 Ph.D. graduate students in earth sciences, ecology and evolutionary biology, and engineering to study polar environmental change at Dartmouth. Some students have graduated and are now postdoctoral fellows in research institutions and universities worldwide: the Center for Ice and Climate at the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen, Yale University, Michigan State University, and Aarhus University in Denmark. One Fellow is continuing her studies at the French Snow Research Center, near Grenoble. Two were awarded prestigious Congressional Science Fellowships and are in Washington, D.C., working with members of Congress on environmental policy.

The IGERT grant may have come to a close but the Polar Environmental Change Program is far from over. In the past few years, while working in Greenland, Dartmouth IGERT students have been contributing informally to the Joint Science Education Project (JSEP), a collaborative program of the Joint Committee, a high-level forum involving the Greenlandic, Danish and American governments. Since 2008, JSEP has brought together high school students and teachers from the U.S., Greenland, and Denmark in Greenland for field-based science studies. IGERT students have been leading fun activities for the students, like impersonating carbon dioxide molecules and photosynthesis by doing the “carbon cycle dance,” a unique way of understanding a fundamental process that maintains life on earth.

In spring of 2015, Dartmouth and the Institute of Arctic Studies were awarded a three-year, $500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to assume full responsibility for the U.S. portion of the JSEP program. Dartmouth jointly funds and leads the program with the government of Greenland. Their JSEP Lead Educator is Kasper Busk, who coordinates Greenlandic high school reform.

The Dartmouth portion of JSEP is a field experience that brings students and teachers together on the Greenland Ice Sheet to study glaciers, arctic plants, permafrost, and climate change, and develop independent research projects. Ross Virginia is Principal Investigator of the JSEP grant along with co-PIs Professor of Engineering Mary Albert and Professor of Biological Sciences Matthew Ayres. Co-Principal Investigator Lauren Culler, a former IGERT fellow, is also a Postdoctoral Fellow and Science Outreach Coordinator at the Institute of Arctic Studies. “The overall goal was getting the students to learn to ask testable scientific questions and work with the graduate students to design and complete a project,” Culler explained in an August 12, 2015, article in Dartmouth Now.

In June 2015, Culler, Virginia, U.S. JSEP Lead Educator Erica Wallstrom, from Rutland, Vermont, and the five U.S. students selected to participate in JSEP, departed the Air National Guard Base in Scotia, New York, on a C-130 cargo plane bound for Greenland. The group met up with students and teachers from Greenland and Denmark in Kangerlussuaq, near the edge of the Greenland Ice Sheet. Working in the field with Dartmouth graduate students Alden Adolph, Amber Whelsky, Ruth Heindel, Christine Urbanowicz, Jessica Trout-Haney and Rebecca Finger, the 15 high school students learned about polar science. A former exchange student from the University of Greenland who had spent a term at Dartmouth, Miilla Lennert, helped the group bridge three languages (English, Danish and Greenlandic). “What is really great is that this became a cross-cultural experience for everyone involved,” said Culler.

Elizabeth Rom, Program Director for NSF’s Division of Polar Programs, was also on hand in Greenland to evaluate the program. She told Dartmouth Now: “The Dartmouth graduate students inspired the JSEP students to think about the Arctic environment as a scientist would.”

On October 5, the Institute of Arctic Studies will host a workshop for teachers in New Hampshire and Vermont to share what was learned in Greenland. Each JSEP graduate student will be paired with two teachers to develop classroom activities on polar science.

In many ways JSEP is a natural extension of the outreach activities of the IGERT program. IGERT and JSEP share the goal of inspiring the next generation of polar scientists.
A Passion for the Arctic Has Taken Her Around the World by Leehi Yona ’16

Leehi Yona ’16 has been a Great Issues Scholar, a GIS Mentor, and an intern with the Institute of Arctic Studies. She has received a Stamps Scholar Award and a Presidential Scholar Award. This year, she is a War & Peace Fellow with the Dickey Center and a Dartmouth Senior Fellow.

I was passionate about Arctic issues before I came to Dartmouth, but when I met Professor Ross Virginia, I was able to learn firsthand just how important this region is on a global scale. My freshman spring, Professor Virginia, a faculty member in Environmental Studies, gave me permission to enroll in his graduate course “Polar Science, Policy, and Ethics,” which culminated in an offer to serve as a field assistant in Greenland, working with graduate student Julia Bradley-Cook.

With Professor Virginia’s guidance, I subsequently applied for and received an inaugural Penelope W. and E. Roe Stamps IV Leadership Scholar Award to pursue a self-designed, experiential Arctic issues research project. My Stamps Award made it possible for me to attend conferences on three continents in the past year: an Arctic Transitions summit in Washington, D.C. (where I was the youngest person in attendance); the Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland; the COP20 U.N. Climate Negotiations in Lima, Peru; and the SB42 United Nations Climate Conference in Bonn, Germany. My research abstract, “A Seat at the Table: Youth, Women, and Indigenous Participation in Arctic and Climate Change Decision-Making Processes,” was accepted to the American Graduate School in Paris annual academic conference, where I was also asked to serve as a panelist. And I attended the U.S. State Department’s recent GLACIER meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, which included President Obama.

Although my initial goal was to continue work that I had undertaken as a Presidential Scholar with Professor Virginia—looking at the Arctic Council leadership transition from Canada to the U.S. and the intersection of science and policy—it evolved to also encompass stakeholder participation. I realized through the conferences that the people who are affected by decision-making processes (e.g., young people and indigenous peoples) are almost never given proper seats at the table, and that this must change in order to make effective and just policies. I also learned that, oftentimes, the most productive way to change things is to shift the paradigm of how we see the world.

This past summer, with the help of a Dickey Center Internship, I was a Climate and Energy Intern at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) in Washington, DC. I focused heavily on UCS’s Arctic engagement, a responsibility I would not have been able to take on without the experiences of the past year.

A second year of a Stamps Scholar Award now allows me to address the issue of access to decision-making. I intend to build relationships with communities on the front lines of climate change and use art—photography and other media—to bring stakeholder stories to the forefront. I plan to travel to a hamlet in Northern Canada that is fighting for a ban on seismic testing for oil and gas exploration; I want to highlight the community’s concerns over the impact of the testing on walruses, whales, seals, and other mammals, and the threat to subsistence living.

I am deeply grateful for the support I’ve received from the Stamps Family Foundation and the Institute of Arctic Studies. They have allowed me to follow my passion!

Follow Leehi as she live-tweets her experiences: @LeehiYona

(PHOTO, LEEHI YONA)
After six weeks of intensive growth, learning and engagement, 25 Mandela Washington Fellows drove away from Dartmouth’s residence “The Lodge” in the early morning hours of August 1st, coffee and tea in hand, of course. They were headed for a week in Washington, D.C., the final leg of their Fellowships.

For the second year in a row, the College hosted the flagship program of President Obama’s Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). Out of an applicant pool of tens of thousands, the Mandela Washington Fellowship brings 500 leaders to 20 universities throughout the U.S. The universities host Institutes focused on Civic Leadership, Public Management and Business and Entrepreneurship. Dartmouth’s was one of the seven Business & Entrepreneurship institutes. The curriculum focused on human-centered design, design driven entrepreneurship, and leadership. Professor Peter Robbie of the Thayer School of Engineering taught a course on human-centered design which participants described as “life changing,” while Dartmouth Alumnus Rich Nadworny led a program on design-driven entrepreneurship, which many Fellows listed as a highlight of the Fellowship. Along with these classes, the 25 Fellows participated in a thought-provoking leadership seminar run by the Rockefeller Center.

Though overseen by the Dickey Center, the integrated curriculum synthesized activities and programs from: the Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network; the Dartmouth Center for Service; the Outdoor Programs Office; the Thayer School of Engineering; the Rockefeller Center, and many others. Classroom experiences were combined with regional site visits to inspirational businesses, community engagement activities across the Upper Valley, and cross-cultural learning opportunities between the Fellows and the members of our Dartmouth community.

As part of the site visits and experiential learning opportunities, the Fellows and YALI staff traveled everywhere from Boston to Burlington, learning about sustainable development and innovative entrepreneurship. In addition to businesses such as Seventh Generation, Ben & Jerry’s, Simon Pearce, and Timberland, the Fellows explored many of the delights that New England has to offer: the lively energy of Church Street in Burlington, the sandy beaches of Hampton, and, of course, the White Mountains of New Hampshire during a weekend visit to the Moosilauke Ravine Lodge. The curriculum drew on Dartmouth’s strongest skills and pulled together a dynamic, impactful, and engaging program thanks to the collaborative nature of Dartmouth’s faculty and staff.

Upon conclusion of the institute, the Fellows and a few staff members headed to Washington, D.C., for the YALI Presidential Summit. For five days the Fellows attended lectures and participated in panel discussions, networking events, and a simulation exercise. The Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network sponsored a networking event specifically for the Dartmouth YALI Fellows, which proved a great opportunity for them to meet with Dartmouth’s DC area alumni. Seven of Dartmouth’s Fellows also attended a celebratory luncheon hosted by the U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF), which awarded them $25,000 each to help grow their businesses back home. Surely the highlight of the Summit for all was the Town Hall hosted by President Obama. His inspirational message included a specific reference to one of Dartmouth’s own Fellows, Jamila Mayanja of Uganda. The President highlighted her work and engaged in a light-hearted interaction, which can be seen at http://dartgo.org/jamila.

Though they were here for only six weeks, each of the 25 Fellows connected with students, faculty, staff, alumni, politicians, corporate leaders and local community members. These connections, forged through everything from classwork to networking nights, community service, barbecues, spiritual services, and relaxing on the Green, will extend beyond Dartmouth and continue to resonate in the years to come.

Several 2014 Dartmouth Mandela Washington Fellows have hosted Dartmouth students abroad as interns for their businesses, and our 2015 Fellows are sure to do the same.

The Dartmouth YALI program benefited from a generous $100,000 gift from Tom and Gina Russo, both members of Dartmouth Class of ’77.
The winter and spring terms of 2015 were filled with a wide range of events, including: talks by former Assistant Secretary of State Kerri-Ann Jones, Senior Advisor to the US Government on the Iranian nuclear negotiations Jake Sullivan, and India’s Ambassador to the UN Asoke Kumar Mukerji; and Global Health Day which was keynoted by Dr. Keith Martin the Executive Director of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health. If you missed the events in person, no problem, you can watch them all on the Dickey Center’s YouTube Channel. https://www.youtube.com/user/dickeycenterevents

**The King and ISIS cont.**

Crazy? Absolutely, but it is an insanity borne of the kingdom’s original political compact between Muhammad ibn Saud, progenitor of the House of Saud, and Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab, the original Wahhabi, a charismatic preacher—who joined forces to wrest control of the Arabian Peninsula in the mid-18th century. The royal family could rule Arabia so long as it promoted Wahhabism, and the monarchy has relied on Wahhabi clerics to validate its legitimacy as Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques ever since. Whenever the monarchy has faced challenges to its rule, it has pumped even more money to the clerical establishment, some of which went abroad. Not surprisingly, the prospect of a democratic wave sweeping the region during the Arab Spring led to billions being disbursed.

So why hasn’t the United States pressed Riyadh more effectively to dial back the support for extremism that so clearly affects our security and global interests?

There are several reasons. To begin with, counterterrorism cooperation of the kind that Riyadh has supplied is hard to argue with. No president wants to risk alienating a government that is helping safeguard American lives. While some officials have pushed for engaging the Saudis on the export of extremism, many others are averse to starting a tough discussion that could go nowhere. The Saudis, after all, are unlikely to reconcile their polity on our account.

Further complicating matters has been what might be called the “Politburo syndrome.” As with the Soviet Union in the 1980s, the small handful of Saudi gerontocrats who are authorized to do anything—either the king or a few of the senior-most princes—are either dying or too intellectually ossified to persuade anyone to adopt a radically different approach.

So for all the advances after 9/11 and the kiss-and-make-up atmosphere of the moment, the prognosis for the U.S.-Saudi relationship is not encouraging. The two countries’ priorities are simply too far apart.

For the United States, the imperatives are to implement the nuclear deal with Iran and halt the rise of Islamist extremism—above all, contain and diminish the Islamic State without dispatching American combat troops to the region. For the Saudis, the paramount goal is to check and roll back what they see as Iranian advances, especially in Yemen and Syria.

In Yemen, the Saudi campaign against the Houthi insurgents has become the signature initiative for Riyadh’s new and emboldened foreign policy. The United States has voiced hedged support for the Saudi effort—primarily an effort at alliance maintenance, which was a necessity against the backdrop of the nuclear negotiations.

But behind the scenes, Washington has gnawing concerns about the Saudi war effort. The bombing runs are killing civilians in appalling numbers, and a country that hovers on desperation has been plunged into a humanitarian disaster. The United States is trying to refine Saudi targeting, but the carnage remains ghastly, and the Saudi claim that the Houthis are nothing more than an Iranian proxy has also worn thin.

This isn’t just bad for the Yemenis. It’s also bad for the United States because terrorist groups thrive in conflict zones and Yemen’s jihadi—especially al Qaeda—are gaining territory and influence, since they face no pressure except from the occasional U.S. drone shot.

Meanwhile in Syria, the Saudis are not supporting the Islamic State, but they would be quite happy to see other Islamist topple Bashar al-Assad and make Damascus again a Sunni capital. Plenty of money is now flowing from the Persian Gulf to al-Nusra Front, the al Qaeda affiliate in Syria. Again, extremists are benefiting from the chaos.

As for the U.S.-led coalition fighting against the Islamic State, the Saudi contribution has been minimal. It hasn’t flown a mission in Iraq yet, according to the accounting on the Pentagon’s website. Exactly why is not clear: Perhaps the Saudis can’t ask for permission from the Shiite-dominated Iraqi government because they don’t have an embassy in Baghdad, or perhaps they just can’t bring themselves to support the Baghdad government. In Syria, it has flown a scant few of the 119 airstrikes not carried out by the United States. In short, Riyadh believes that the extremist problem can be cleaned up later—after it wins the wars in Yemen and Syria and puts Iran back in its place.

Can any of this be fixed? Will our partners of seven decades, as U.S. officials like to refer to the Saudis, join in the fight against extremism and not just its terrorist end-product? Don’t count on it: Saudi Arabia has avoided taking such steps for decades, and there is no reason to think the kingdom can’t stay on its current course for decades more.

As for the United States, it will remain saddled with tactical imperatives that prevent it from addressing the bigger mess. And so Washington will muddle forward against the jihadi threat.
Sketches from the Poles
A collection of drawings by graduate student Ruth Heindel from field research trips to Greenland and Antarctica from 2012-2015 are on display in the Russo Gallery of the Haldeman Center until mid-October.

Governig the Arctic Seas: Fisheries, Oil and Environment
Panel Discussion: Oran Young, UC Santa Barbara; Niels Einarssson, Stefansson Arctic Institute, Iceland; Fiona McCormack, University of Waikato, New Zealand; Moderator, Ross Virginia, Dartmouth
Sept 23, 4:30pm | 041 Haldeman Center

Rabbi Marshall Meyer Great Issues Lecture on Social Justice
The Honorable Aharon Barak, President of the Supreme Court of Israel (1995-2006)
Human Dignity: A Constitutional Value and Constitutional Right
Sept 28, 4:30pm | Filene Auditorium, Moore Hall

Iffat Al Thunayan: An Arabian Queen
Joseph Kéchichian, Senior Fellow at the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies
Oct 5, 4:30pm | 041 Haldeman Center

Humanity Uprooted: The Brutal Causes and Devastating Consequences of Europe’s Refugee Crisis
Oct 12, 4:30pm | Cook Auditorium, Murdough Hall

Defying Convention: US Resistance to the UN Treaty on Women’s Rights
Lisa Baldez, Director, Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning, Professor of Government and Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Studies at Dartmouth
Oct 22, 4:30pm | 041 Haldeman Center

In Conversation with Wendy Sherman
The Hon. Wendy Sherman was Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and lead negotiator for the Iran nuclear deal;
Daniel Benjamin, Director, Dickey Center
Oct 27, 4:30pm | Filene Auditorium, Moore Hall

EPIC MEASURES: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients
Jeremy Smith, Author
Oct 28, 4:30pm | 041 Haldeman Center

The Challenges of Communicating Climate Change
Angela Posada-Swafford, US correspondent for Muy Interesante
Nov 4, 4:30pm | 041 Haldeman Center