



DICKEY STUDENT GROUP: WORLD OUTLOOK BY GRACE AFSARI-MAMAGANI '13

Each Monday night, the chalkboard on the south wall of the Dickey Center for International Understanding's Haldeman Straus conference room comes to life. The students present — representing majors ranging from chemistry to economics and all four class years — gather to discuss multiethnic states, environmental policy, and the role of social media in violent rebellions, among other “international” issues.

The latest issue of *World Outlook Journal of International Affairs* seeks to explore shifts in international power and the shortcomings of the current international system. Published this month, the journal features original undergraduate research such as an analysis of the trade creation and diversion effects of currency unions by Wills Begor, valedictorian of Dartmouth's Class of 2012.

In addition to works by Daniel Bornstein '14, Michelle Lee '13, Michael Schwartz '12, and Kelly Tropin '13, the issue includes an interview with Government and Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies Professor Lisa Baldez on the international state of women's rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It closes with a striking photo essay from Tangier, Morocco, by Elena Zinski '15 and staff editorials on Israeli politics and oil in South Sudan.

Founded in 1984, World Outlook operates under a mission drawn from the famous words of President John Sloan Dickey. “Too often in speaking of such things as the world food problem, the world health problem, world trade, world peace, and world government, we disregard the fact that ‘the world’ is a totality which in the domain of human problems constitutes the ultimate in degree of magnitude and

degree of complexity,” Dickey stated in his 1947 convocation address, underscoring the need for an “introduction to humility in curing the world's ills.”

Now, as student staff members assemble to review and edit submissions, coordinate events, and outline budgets, they operate under the understanding that “almost every large problem today is, in truth, a world problem,” pregnant with contextual nuance but relevant beyond the scope of national or cultural borders.

According to staff editor Feyaad Allie '16, “reviewing papers for publication ... allows me to learn about topics that I am interested in.” The process of developing and publishing an opinion piece exploring South Sudan's oil practices has also permitted “me to work closely with other staff members, which was a very helpful experience,” he said.

“The very fact that I was able to publish an op-ed in a peer-reviewed journal as a freshman shows just how much Dartmouth College and the Dickey Center care about undergraduate education and involvement,” Axel Hufford '16 said. “Working on *World Outlook* has been a tremendous experience so far this year.”

The recent launch of *World Outlook's* blog and social media initiatives has facilitated direct interaction between the organization and the Dartmouth community, with Facebook updates reaching hundreds of students and interested readers. Blog entries — accessible via a recently redesigned website — provide a less formal outlet for staff members and contributing writers to unpack the concept of “international relations” through thoughtful analysis and personal anecdotes from campus and abroad.

The organization's close internal ties with faculty members and Dickey Center representatives have made possible events like a panel on Iran's future that featured War and Peace Studies Professor Daryl Press, History Professor Emeritus Gene Garthwaite and Sociology Professor Misagh Parsa, as well as a staff luncheon with *New York Times* correspondents. Looking beyond Hanover, staff editor Ryan Smith '14 has recently led the organization in soliciting content and building relationships with institutions worldwide; the result is a rich body of work from young scholars at universities like Georgetown, Oxford, and the National University of Singapore.

The organization looks ultimately to engage Dartmouth students, faculty, and visiting scholars in an ongoing dialogue by encouraging debate and the juxtaposition of distinct perspectives. As the senior staff states in its Editors' Note, the 42nd issue represents an outstanding collection of original scholarship and provides a window into up-and-coming research regarding the state of global affairs. ■



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