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Kristy Modrow
kkmodrow@stcloudstate.edu

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Patricia Bodelson meets with Vicki Kouskouna, professor of geophysics and geometrics at University of Athens, Greece.

Experiential pedagogy disaster class goes global

Political Science Professor Patricia Bodelson travelled to Athens, Greece this summer to research the country's disaster preparedness status. During her stay she attended several professional Colloquiums, research round tables and met with influential leaders involved in national disaster planning efforts. Instrumental to her work was the assistance she received from Vicki Kouskouna, professor at the University of Athens, Greece in the Geophysics and Geometrics Department. Kouskouna is an E.U. Hazard Mitigation grant recipient working in collaboration with other E.U. members and the community of Athens. Kouskouna introduced Bodelson to instrumental decision makers in all three areas of the disaster cycle.

Bodelson attended a graduation ceremony where surgeons received advanced training in post-earthquake treatment plans. This was the first of its kind and was directed by Bernd Domes, national director of disaster emergency medicine in Germany. An honorary degree was conferred on him from the school in appreciation of his work with the School of Medicine. Future plans include collaboration with Bodelson and Theophilos Rosenberg, associate professor of surgery at the University

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School of Public Affairs announces interim dean and interim research director

The School of Public Affairs is pleased to announce the appointment of King Banaian as interim dean for the school and Richard MacDonald as interim director for the School of Public Affairs Research Institute.

Banaian has 30 years of experience at St. Cloud State and has many accomplishments on campus and in the community. He was the director of the recently-created School of Public Affairs Research Institute, which is committed to answering questions and developing solutions for area communities and the region. He is co-author of the highly-respected St. Cloud Area Quarterly Business Report published in the St. Cloud Times. His teaching experience includes monetary and macroeconomic theory, forecasting, public finance, law and economics, economics of sports, introduction to Soviet studies and economics of developing countries. From 2011-2013, he was state representative for Minnesota House District 15B.

Banaian's proven track record and experience will continue to keep the School of Public Affairs on the successful path that has been established by departing Dean Orn Bodvarsson. The search for a permanent dean will begin in fall.

MacDonald brings a wealth of experience and knowledge about regional economic conditions, economic policy, public policy in general, economic education, financial literacy and other topics that are very aligned with the mission and vision of School of Public Affairs Research Institute. His experience as a long-time coauthor of the St. Cloud Area Quarterly Business Report, which is one of the components of School of Public Affairs Research Institute, and his very recent success with Banaian in developing a regional economic information product, commissioned by the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, exemplify the skills he brings to this assignment. MacDonald also served on the task force that worked on the creation of School of Public Affairs Research Institute, a task force he made substantial contributions to.

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Experiential pedagogy disaster class goes global (continued)

of Athens to develop a curriculum to be implemented in conjunction with a multinational disaster response plan. Another component of the trip was

collaboration with Drosos Makris, city inspector and infrastructure coordinator and the city of Athens and International Affairs Director Elini Tsipoura. Future collaboration includes creating a disaster template that could be readily implemented in the event of a disaster (primarily earthquakes).

This research trip sets the stage for creation, implementation and evaluation of a disaster plan based on experiential pedagogy and service learning during Bodelson's upcoming spring 2015 sabbatical.

Fall School of Public Affairs Events

Constitution Day Trivia

Sept. 17 – 10 a.m. to noon

Atwood Memorial Center, Mall

Come and test your knowledge of the U.S. Constitution!

Social Studies Fall Social and Constitution Day Celebration

Sept. 17 – 5 to 8 p.m.

Stearns History Museum, St. Cloud

Come and learn about new opportunities and resources in social studies education.

Please RSVP to Cindy Fitzthum at cjfitzthum@stcloudstate.edu

Career Day

Oct. 1 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Ballroom

This is the largest on campus job and internship fair! It brings a variety of employers to campus to promote their opportunities and recruit for internships and full time positions.

Careers with the State Department

Oct. 7 – 4 p.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Alumni Room

Ambassador Kelly will discuss how to apply and land a job with the State Department.

The Arts of Pleasure: Searching for the Place of Leisure in Culture

Oct. 7 – 2 p.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Alumni Room

Garry Chick, chairperson Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism, Penn State will chronicle his personal odyssey as an anthropologist in the field of leisure studies over the last 30+ years. He will discuss the significance of leisure as an integral part of human culture and a subject matter that should attract far greater attention from anthropologists and leisure researchers alike.

Deceit, Lies and Embezzlement

Oct. 22 – 4 p.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Ballroom

Amy Wilson, a wife, mother, accountant and ex-convict, was incarcerated in an Indiana correctional facility for two years for embezzling nearly \$350,000 from her employer. Since her 2011 release, she has turned her life around and has dedicated her free time to speaking openly and educating others on white-collar crime, fraud prevention and victim impact through her personal story.

Government and Non-Profit Career Fair

Oct. 24 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

University of Minnesota, Coffman Union

Free job fair for St. Cloud State University students or alumni interested in internships and jobs in government agencies. For more information and online registration, visit <http://www.togpartners.com/govnonprofitfair/>

Experience the UN in NYC

Nov. 6 – 11 a.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Glacier North

Are you interested in learning more about global issues and the United Nations system? Have you ever thought of attending U.N. staff briefings on important global issues at the United Nations? Come and listen to students who have attended this week long trip.

Business Etiquette and Networking Program

Nov. 7 – Noon to 3:30 p.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Cascade Room

Cost: Early Bird \$15; after October 27, \$20 (cash or check only)

Meet employers and Professor Mary Soroko, a certified etiquette coach, will demonstrate how to conduct yourself at a business meal. The first hour of the program is dedicated to networking — don't worry, we'll show you how! The remainder of the program will be taught over a four-course meal. To register, contact Mary Soroko at mpsoroko@stcloudstate.edu.

Black and Blue: Race Relations in Minnesota Law Enforcement and Its Effects

Nov. 19 – 11 a.m.

Atwood Memorial Center, Alumni Room

St. Cloud Police Chief William Blair Anderson will discuss Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) standards, law enforcement agency demographics and the barriers to effectively diversify. Chief Anderson will share his personal journey beginning as an intern, rising through the ranks and being appointed police chief and how his career has affected him personally, relationships, struggles and methodology for coping with job stress and managing people in the profession.

Greetings from the Interim Dean



King Banaian, interim dean School of Public Affairs

Dear friends of the School of Public Affairs:

I write this note a day after more than 80 people attended Orn Bodvarsson's, School of Public Affairs founding dean's farewell celebration. As many of you are aware, Bodvarsson has taken a new position as dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies at California State University, Sacramento. Many folks attended the farewell celebration including: fellow faculty

and staff, community members and St. Cloud State University retirees. It was a great way to celebrate 26 years of service to St. Cloud State.

Coincidentally, when I went to Bodvarsson's office to learn about the dean's position, he had a whiteboard on which he had 26 projects he had moved forward during his three years as dean. Over three weeks we reviewed the projects, and I realized how much he had built. These are very big shoes to fill, but there is a firm foundation.

School of Public Affairs has a strategic plan built not by one person but by a whole faculty and staff, and we are here to move that plan forward. The plan has 28 items; we have much to do. Atop the list is our application for the master's in public administration, which is now ready for university and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system approval.

We are committed to growing the School of Public Affairs Research Institute over the next year. One new partner is the Faculty Research Group on Immigrant Workers in Minnesota. We are excited to add their work to the various parts of research for community partners in Central Minnesota.

We live in challenging times, with competition for enrollment as strong as ever and the number of people in Minnesota of traditional college age stagnating, we will be discussing enrollment projections and finding the combination of faculty, curriculum and delivery that best matches our students' discovery of the public world around them. We are prepared for this with the strategic plan we have put in place, and I am looking forward to seeing the next chapter in School of Public Affairs.



King Banaian
Interim Dean, School of Public Affairs

School of Public Affairs Research Institute updates

With the appointment of King Banaian as the interim dean of the St. Cloud State University School of Public Affairs, the School of Public Affairs Research Institute is undergoing a leadership change for the upcoming academic year. Rich MacDonald, associate professor in the Department of Economics, has agreed to step in as interim director of the School of Public Affairs Research Institute while Banaian serves as the school's interim dean. MacDonald was a member of the faculty work group that helped form School of Public Affairs Research Institute and is an active contributor to a number of the institute's research programs, including the St. Cloud Area Quarterly Business Report and the Quarterly Economic and Business Conditions Reports published (in partnership with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State) for each of the state's six planning regions.

The Faculty Research Group on Immigrant Workers in Minnesota has now joined the Spatial Analysis Research Institute (SARC), the Center for Economic Education, and the St. Cloud State University Survey in School of Public Affairs Research Institute. In addition to sponsoring a number of research programs, the Faculty Research Group on Immigrant Workers in Minnesota organizes the annual "Global goes Local" conference on the St. Cloud State campus. Look for more information about the work of this group in an upcoming newsletter.

School of Public Affairs Research Institute recently partnered with University of Minnesota Extension to produce Economic Emergency Report: St. Cloud Quad/Graphics Plant Closure which highlighted the estimated economic impact of the announced August 2014 closure of Quad/Graphics in St. Cloud. In addition to the loss of 280 jobs at the Quad/Graphics facility, the report estimates an overall loss of sales in the St. Cloud area totaling \$72.7 million and a drop in area labor income of \$24.6 million. An additional 195 local jobs are expected to be lost in industries that are indirectly impacted by the closure. Banaian represented School of Public Affairs Research Institute as a member of a discussion panel in a community presentation on the Quad/Graphics closure (hosted by the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation) held on Aug. 1. The report is available on the School of Public Affairs Research Institute website.

See <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/sopa/research-institute/default.aspx> to learn more about School of Public Affairs Research Institute.

School of Public Affairs welcomes new faculty members



Jim Cottrill (political science) teaches courses in American government with an emphasis on American political institutions and processes. His research examines electoral competition in congressional races with special emphasis on the impact of redistricting on outcomes, and his work has appeared in journals such as *Polity*, *Justice System Journal*, and *Election Law Journal*. He has also served as a political analyst for local and national news media, making frequent appearances on NBC Bay Area and has been quoted in print articles for the Associated Press, the San Francisco Chronicle, the McClatchy Tribune News Service and the San Jose Mercury News. Before joining the political science department at St. Cloud State University, Cottrill taught courses at Santa Clara University and Texas A&M University, receiving teaching awards at both institutions. In his spare time, Dr. Cottrill enjoys writing and playing music, hiking, basketball and spending time with his wife, Emily, and son, JJ.



Judge Roger Klaphake (criminal justice) been appointed to serve as a fixed term assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice. He previously served as an adjunct in the department. Klaphake was an associate judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals for 24 years and currently is a senior judge of the court. For a number of years he served as the court's representative on the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission. Prior to his service on the Court of Appeals he was a trial judge and a prosecuting attorney. Klaphake holds a bachelor's degree from St. Cloud State University and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Minnesota Law School. He will be teaching law-related courses including criminal procedure, Minnesota criminal law, juvenile legal process, senior thesis and a seminar titled "From the Guilty Mind to the Insanity Defense."



Kyunghye Lee (geography and planning) is a fixed term assistant professor in the Department of Geography & Planning. Lee will complement and support the travel and tourism program. He will especially support both tourism development and recreation planning offerings of the program, especially courses such as geography of outdoor recreation, tourism development and geography of travel and tourism. Previously, Lee taught at Texas A&M's Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences. Former experience includes research associate of Center for Socioeconomic Research & Education. He was involved in several research projects supported by National Park Service, Outdoor Industry Association and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. He is broadly interested in the human dimensions of natural resources and strives to integrate multiple disciplines in order to examine how people interact with nature. Another key area of his research is exploring social disparities from a regional spatial perspective. Lee earned his doctoral degree in recreation, park and tourism studies from Texas A&M University. In addition, he holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning from Seoul National University.



Nimantha Manamperi (economics) is a tenure track assistant professor in the Department of Economics. He will be teaching both graduate and undergraduate economics and business forecasting and other macroeconomic courses. Nimantha earned his Bachelor of Science degree in statistics from University of Colombo in Sri Lanka and both his masters and Ph.D. in economics from Texas Tech University. His primary research interests include monetary macroeconomics, central banking, financial crisis and economic growth. His research also focuses on economic education and development economics. Most of his research focuses on BRICS nations and south Asia. Prior to St. Cloud State University, he worked as an assistant professor in economics at Berea College, Kentucky and as a business analyst at Roomsnet International (Pvt) Ltd in London. He lives with his wife, Chathurada, and daughter, Aakya.



Mitchell Weinzetl (criminal justice) is retiring from full-time police service to join the Department of Criminal Justice in a tenure track position where he will be the director of the Public Safety Executive Leadership Master's Degree program. He holds an Associate of Applied Science Degree in law enforcement, a Bachelor of Arts in organizational management and communication, a Master of Arts in organizational management, and a Doctor of Education in higher education and adult learning. His 26-year law enforcement career includes more than 17 years as a police chief in three different departments and numerous other instructor assignments and certifications. He is the author of "Acting Out – Outlining Specific Behaviors and Actions for Effective Leadership," as well as several journal articles. Weinzetl will be teaching policing a diverse society, criminal justice seminar - use of force in law enforcement and will oversee several students who will be completing their thesis work.

St. Cloud State University to host fall Minnesota civic summit

Ten years ago, St. Cloud State University hosted one of the first collaborative regional conferences of the American Democracy Project (ADP) and Minnesota Campus Compact. Today, civic engagement is more widely recognized as a strategy for supporting students' academic success and preparation for work, life and citizenship. Yet our work is not finished, and our campuses continue to seek deeper integration of civic learning and engagement into the student experience and campus culture, as well as a greater sense of the public and educational value of civic work.

On Sept. 28 – 29, St. Cloud State will host another collaborative regional civic engagement conference, designed by two partner organizations, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' American Democracy Project (ADP) and Minnesota Campus Compact, and now joined by a new community college civic education organization, The Democracy Commitment (TDC). The conference will bring together administrators, faculty, staff, students and community partners to further discuss civic learning and engagement.

Attendees will:

- Listen to presentations from local and national leaders
- Share their own experiences, knowledge, questions and results
- Build connections across the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to advance civic learning and work
- Develop next steps for their campuses with feedback from colleagues
- Increase their awareness of resources and initiatives available through state and national networks

Participation is open to anyone interested. For more information or to register for the conference, please visit <http://www.aascu.org/meetings/adptdregional14/>.

2014 Geography and Planning Scholarships

Student Recipient

Erick Bullock
Shreeja Basnet
Keri Steinmetz
Suleyman Nor
Jeffrey Page
Rebecca George
Damon Nelton
Belinda Lee
Kevin Sparks
Kristine Kahler
Jonathan Vang
Abdi Osman
Rebecca George
Damon Nelton
Damon Nelton

Scholarship Awarded

Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Kent Robertson Community Development Scholarship
Dale Trippler Geography and Planning Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Kent Robertson Community Development Scholarship
Melvin and Shirley Kazeck Geography Scholarship
Neil B. Thompson Scholarship
Robert O. Bixby Memorial Scholarship (GIS)
Robert O. Bixby Memorial Scholarship (GIS)
Ruben Parson Geography Scholarship

Professor debates outdoor public pools are a valuable and necessary function of a city

“Sartell Says” is a town hall debate series that asks questions that directly affect citizens. It's a way to have polite and informed disagreement. On June 24, the debate topic was “Resolved: Outdoor public pools are a valuable and necessary function of a city.”

Arguing in support of the motion was David Wall, professor of the Department of Geography and Planning. He argued that public pools are like public libraries, a necessary service that, within reasonable budgetary considerations, should be provided by any local community. Also arguing in support of the motion was Dan Eckberg, head swimming and diving coach at the College of Saint Benedict.

Arguing against the motion were Bill Glahn, former commerce commissioner in the Pawlenty administration and Jim Mosher, retired director of parks and recreation for the city of Foley. Of the citizens who attended the debate, 75 percent voted at the end in support of the motion.

Submit your ideas

School of Public Affairs is always looking to add speakers and events to the Colloquia. Submit your ideas for speakers and events to Kristy Modrow, experiential learning and outreach director, at kkmodrow@stcloudstate.edu or (320) 308-6080.

School of Public Affairs strengthens connections with Russian institutions of higher education

As part of Provost Action Grant to strengthen connections with Russian institutions, Mikhail Blinnikov (geography and planning) and Jason Lindsey (political science) visited Kazan Federal University (KFU) in Kazan, Tatarstan, Russia in late June to meet with colleagues from political science, geography and ecology programs to discuss possible future exchanges of students and faculty between St. Cloud State University and KFU. Located on the Volga River about 800 km east of Moscow, Kazan is the capital of Tatarstan, a dynamically developing region of Russia with strong multicultural traditions and excellent opportunities for academic research. The colleagues at KFU were excited to share their ideas with their St. Cloud State colleagues. In addition to that, Blinnikov made a separate trip to Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University (NSPU), located in Novosibirsk, Russia in Central Siberia where he likewise initiated contacts with colleagues from the botany and ecology program and met with the director of the Center for International Studies. Unlike federal research level KFU, NSPU is a close counterpart to St. Cloud State because it was originally a teacher's college and is now a regional comprehensive school with about 16,000 students. Again, opportunities exist for both faculty and student exchanges between St. Cloud State and NSPU.



Mikhail Blinnikov, professor of geography and planning, Jason Lindsey, professor of political science, meet colleagues in Russia to discuss future student exchange.

School of Public Affairs offers upcoming study abroad opportunities



Mikhail Blinnikov, professor of geography and planning, in Costa Rica

Enjoy beautiful weather and learn about conservation in Costa Rica in January 2015

Mikhail Blinnikov (geography and planning) is leading a study abroad opportunity to Costa Rica in January 2015 during the winter break. The class GEOG 410/GLST 410 will focus on Landscapes and Conservation in Costa Rica.

This opportunity is suitable to a wide range of majors. The deadline to register

with the Center for International Studies is Oct. 1.

Analyze key British public policy perspectives while living in a castle in Fall 2015

This opportunity is great for students in the School of Public Affairs to study at St. Cloud State University's site in Alnwick, Northumberland, England.

Michelle Kukoleca Hammes (political science) will direct the program and Rich MacDonald (economics) will be teaching. Students also will take classes from British faculty on British history and contemporary Britain.

Students from across campus are encouraged to apply for the program. The focus of the semester allows School of Public Affairs students to take courses toward their majors and minors, to continue fulfilling liberal education program requirements, to apply courses to the British Studies minor and to spend time analyzing issues from key public policy perspectives.

Kukoleca Hammes and MacDonald look forward to integrating the students' experiences across all courses and applying a common public affairs perspective to their teaching. The program is recruiting for all upcoming semesters. Questions about the program can be directed to Kukoleca Hammes, MacDonald or the Center for International Studies.

Faculty/Staff Highlights

Dick Andzenge (criminal justice) and **D. Lee Gilbertson** (criminal justice) published two chapters in the book, "Establishing Victimology." Andzenge's chapter was entitled, "Domestic Violence: Exploring the Impacts and Implications of Preferred Arrest Policies" and Gilbertson's chapter was, "A Victimological History of Dubrovnik." The book was published by Hochschule Niederrhein (a social sciences university) in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

Misha Blinnikov (geography and planning) took students to Moscow Kremlin, Russia as a part of a summer education abroad course.

Misha Blinnikov (geography and planning) and **Garrick Grace '13** (geography and planning) published a paper on "Potential sites for ski resorts: A comparative analysis between Colorado, USA and the Altay, Russia" in the proceedings of the 13th Russian-Mongolian Scientific Conference of young scientists and students that took place in April at the Altay State Academy of Education in Biysk, Russia.

Pat Bodelson (political science) and **Aspasia Rigopoulou-Melcher** (geography and planning) conducted research in Athens, Greece this summer for a Provost Action Grant regarding earthquake emergency response and community rebuilding.

Linda Butenhoff (political science) taught a POL 440: Leadership in International Public Affairs over the summer. Students attended briefings in the power centers of New York City, including the United Nations and the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

Mana Komai (economics) was named Faculty Member of the Year by the student Economics Association at its yearly banquet in April.

Alumni/Student Highlights

Aubree Eid and **Sohrob Razavi** (social studies) attended Colonial Williamsburg Teachers Institute this summer. They examined interactive teaching techniques and developed instructional materials to bring history to life in their future classrooms.

Alfredo Oliveira '14 worked in Washington D.C. as a government affairs intern for the Human Rights Campaign, the largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans. The former Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) trustee earned numerous honors at St. Cloud State, including the Deann Griebel Honors Student Scholarship and the Nick Begich Endowed Scholarship.

Marie Pflipsen '14 (geography and planning) is the executive director of the Lake City Economic Development Authority. Previously, she was employed by the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation and her father's machinery repair business. Pflipsen has been very involved in the community. She was co-director of the Sauk Rapids Parade, a director on the Benton County Fair Board, treasurer of the Lions Club and treasurer of the local township board.

Mark Wiese '11 (social studies), was one of 21 teachers selected nationwide to attend an "once-in-a-lifetime" trip to the Supreme Court. He will share what he has learned with his students at Mankato West High School.

Sam Wanous (economics and political science) interned in Washington D.C., with Congressman Rick Nolan. He will continue his internship activity interning for Nolan's campaign this fall.



Nino Sakvarelidze, a political science student, attends the Harvard Model United Nations Conference in spring 2014.

Nino Sakvarelidze, (political science) an exchange student from Georgia, was chosen by the U.S. State Department to spend an academic year at St. Cloud State University. Little did she know her opportunities at St. Cloud State would lead her to the University of Harvard. Earlier this year, Sakvarelidze along with 15 other St. Cloud students attended the Harvard University Model United Nations (MUN) Conference. She received a scholarship from the School of Public Affairs and the Political Science Department to attend. Her gratitude toward St. Cloud State culminated as she visited some of the best U.S. universities and met other student leaders from Harvard, MIT, and Columbia University. This fall, Sakvarelidze will be graduating from Tbilisi State University, Georgia with a degree in international relations. Her future career path will be closely linked to her MUN Conference experience, international law, as well as to the exploration of global studies.



St. Cloud State University students attend briefings in the United Nations and U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Front row: Sahur Hussein, left, Michelle Hengel, Nicolette Naumann, Robyn Selby, Amanda Scharber, Eric Petersen, Molly English and Linda Butenhoff (professor). Back row: Matthew Kessler, left, Adam Holte, Jack Pegg, Abdi Daisane, Matthew Crouse and Damon Nelton.



The School of Public Affairs co-sponsors ‘The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: Neighbors, Dialogue and Conflict Resolution’ event on September 10

The College of Liberal Arts, President’s Office, School of Education and the School of Public Affairs co-sponsored, “The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: Neighbors, Dialogue and Conflict Resolution,” presented by Nizar Farsakh, Lior Frankienstajn and Walid Issa, on Sept. 10 on campus.

This event presented an opportunity to hear from two young men, an Israeli and a Palestinian, about their very different backgrounds, their journey through dialogue and their plans for influencing the future of the region. The discussion was a moderated conversation emphasizing critical thinking, collaborative reasoning and practical deliberation in a spirit of respect and dialogue.

Featured presenters included:

Nizar Farsakh: program director for civil society partnerships at Project on Middle

East Democracy (POMED). Before joining POMED, he served for two years as the general director of the General Delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United States. Nizar has 10 years of experience working in Palestine — first as a research assistant in a Bethlehem-based NGO and then as the policy advisor to Palestinian negotiators on border-related issues from 2003 to 2008. In his last year in Ramallah, he was seconded to the Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad. Nizar is also a leadership trainer focusing on public narrative, community organizing and adaptive leadership and is affiliated to the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Lior Frankienstajn: co-founder and executive director of Shades Negotiation Program. Shades Negotiation Program aims at supporting emerging leaders in the Middle East, starting with Israelis and

Palestinians, by providing them with the precious tools of negotiation, constructive problem-solving, collaborative action and coalition building. In order for them to capitalize on their leadership potential and lead the region toward its untapped potential.

Walid Issa: co-founder and U.S. development director of Shades Negotiation program. Originally from Dehesha Refugee Camp, Palestine, Walid is a graduate student at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota studying applied economics. An alumnus of New Story Leadership, a Washington, D.C.-based program for emerging Israeli and Palestinian leaders, Walid consults with various governmental officials and members of the Palestinian community on different economic, health and education initiatives.



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Whitney House 101
720 4th Ave S.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

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