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Professor Lee Gilbertson, Skype student Tyler Lawson, pictured on the screen, into class twice a week.

Studying while deployed

After ending his St. Cloud State swimming career, Tyler Lawson decided to join the National Guard during his sophomore year in 2013. "I wanted to learn more skills that could help me with my future career and I wanted to be a part of something, team camaraderie is important to me," stated Lawson.

Lawson is deployed to Sinai Peninsula, Egypt as part of UN Peacekeeping Forces. "My mission here is to supervise the implementation of the security provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty of Peace and employ best efforts to prevent any violation of its terms. The Multinational Force and Observers is a collaboration of different contingents. I work alongside soldiers from Colombia, Fiji, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, and Australia."

A typical day for Lawson starts at 4 a.m. when he wakes up for work. He then works until 1 p.m. and does physical training for another hour. For the following seven hours, he is on-call which usually includes tower or machine gun maintenance. During his free time he studies for class. Lawson states, "It is very difficult to find time for school here. I work 12-14 hours a day, 7 days a week. I study in the little free time I have."

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School of Public Affairs convenes first Advisory Council

The School of Public Affairs at St. Cloud State University convened its inaugural external advisory council. The group of industry leaders will provide direction and advise the school about changes and needs of the public affairs sector including input about curriculum, careers, professional development, funding and research opportunities.

"I am proud to stand with this very distinguished group of leaders who have volunteered their time and talent to our school," said King Banaian, dean of the School of Public Affairs. "They provide a wide range of expertise in areas of public service as expert practitioners."

The council will meet twice a year. The school intends to add another 10-15 members to the council throughout the next year. At its initial meeting the group named Jim Graves as its chair and Debra Yerigan as its vice-chair. "I'm excited about being part of this new board at St. Cloud State University," Graves said. "A new board for a relatively new school gives us a great chance to build the School of Public Affairs' presence and profile in our professions and communities."

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School of Public Affairs inaugural advisory council.

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Studying while deployed (continued from cover)

Twice a week, Lawson Skypes into Criminal Justice Professor Gilbertson's Critical Issues in Law Enforcement course. He is also in the process of writing his thesis. "Initially, I thought Skyping into class would be awkward, but the other students were very welcoming and overall the discussions in class have run smoothly. Dr. Gilbertson did a great job setting up everything. It has been easy to present information and participate, it feels almost like I am actually in the classroom," said Lawson.



Professor Lee Gilbertson, Skypes deployed student Tyler Lawson, pictured on the monitor, into class twice a week.

When asked what advice Lawson would give to students in the military he stated, "Visit the Veteran Services Center on campus. They have helped me numerous times with educational benefits. Don't be afraid to ask professors for help. I had many people go out of their way to help me for a whole semester. The professors and staff at St. Cloud State truly care about their students' future. They will go great lengths to see any of their students succeed."

Lawson plans to go into law enforcement and would like to become a police officer in the St. Cloud area.

School of Public Affairs announces first advisory council (continued from cover)

The School of Public Affairs Advisory Council members play a vital role in ensuring the ongoing success, growth and vitality of the school by supporting the mission in empowering student-centered success, innovative and integrated curriculum, adaptability and promoting internal and external collaboration. "I am happy to have an opportunity to give something back to the School of Public Affairs," Yerigan said. "I look forward to sharing some of my experiences and contacts with its students and faculty."

Founded in 2011, the School of Public Affairs at St. Cloud State currently has 50 faculty members, 110 graduate and 940 undergraduate majors studying in the areas of criminal justice, economics, geography, planning and community development, political science and public administration. The school prepares students to be stewards of the public interest, practitioners and leaders in the public and private sectors.

Advisory Council members

- Chas Anderson '96, co-founder and partner, MZA+Co, St. Paul
- David Borgert, director, community and government relations, CentraCare Health, St. Cloud
- James Bullard '84, president, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri
- John Campbell, professor emeritus in Criminal Justice Studies, St. Cloud State
- Patti Gartland '80, president, Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation, St. Cloud
- Jim Graves '74, CEO, Graves Hospitality Corp, Minneapolis
- Don Hickman, vice president of workforce and economic development, The Initiative Foundation, Little Falls
- Shaunna Johnson, city administrator, City of Waite Park
- Jermaine Ogaja '07, economist, The International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C.
- Dan Rogan '00 senior assistant Hennepin County Attorney, Minneapolis
- William Schramm '04, senior VP, Logan Circle Partners, Summit, New Jersey
- Steven S. Smith '75, Kate M. Gregg Distinguished Professor of Social Science and Director of the Weidenbaum Center, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri
- Chris Thiebaut '05, AVP, Corporate Actions Manager, RBC Wealth Management, Minneapolis
- Dale Trippler '69, consultant, Landmark Environmental, LLC, St. Paul
- Debra Yerigan '82, attorney, Messerli & Kramer, Minneapolis

Election Night Extravaganza event draws hundreds

The Election Night Extravaganza held on November 8 was a huge success with over 300 attendees. Attendees filled the Alumni Room to hear the election results while enjoying food, prize giveaways and fellowship with fellow Huskies.

The event was co-sponsored by the Political Science Department and Pi Sigma Alpha (the national political science honor society). Pi Sigma Alpha awarded the event a grant of nearly \$700.00 to purchase food and Viking Coca-Cola provided beverages.





WINTER INSTITUTE

Innovative Economics

Thursday, February 23 & Friday, February 24 St. Cloud State University & 912 Regency Plaza, St. Cloud, MN Theme: Ideas and Innovation

The Winter Institute is a two-day conference celebrating economic education. It offers high quality educational programming featuring nationally recognized speakers and stimulating ideas. The Winter Institute is unique in its ability to attract students, faculty, staff, community members, and business leaders. By bringing together this diverse audience, the event fosters idea creation and innovation. You can expect invaluable networking opportunities, concurrent sessions featuring practical issues of interest, and nationally recognized speakers.



Deirdre McCloskey, Keynote Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics, History, English and Communication



Corey Tollefson, Featured Speaker Senior Vice President and General Manager of Retail, Infor

Keynote Topic: Free Market Ideas, Not Capital, Made Us Rich

Schedule at a glance:

Thursday, Feb. 23 (evening): Economic Outlook, featured speaker and networking reception (cash bar)
Friday, Feb. 24 (day): Keynote address, concurrent sessions including a Cybersecurity session

Schedule, Registration & Sponsoship Info: stcloudstate.edu/winterinstitute/ ALUMNI DISCOUNT 10% off with code: Alumni

If you would like more information or would like to get involved, contact Cindy Fitzthum or Lynn MacDonald at: winterinstitute@stcloudstate.edu. Stay in the know--like Winter Institute on Facebook: www.facebook.com/winterinstitute/

Winter Institute Sponsors

St. Cloud State University

Visionary:

- Foundation for Teaching Economics
- John Templeton Foundation

Pioneer:

- Microbiologics
- St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce
- Times Media

Innovator:

- Anonymous Donor
- Granite Equity Partners

Entrepreneur:

- Executive Express
- Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation
- MFP, Inc.
- Mike Helgeson
- Minnesota Council on Economic Education
- Small Business Development Center
- Xcel Energy

Advocate:

- American Heritage National Bank
- Arctic Cat
- Central MN Community Foundation
- Falcon National Bank
- Great River Federal Credit Union
- Minnwest Bank
- Sandler Training

School of Public Affairs sponsored spring events

Career/Job Fair Prep Party

January 18

11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Employers say the key to success is “preparation”. Learn what you need to know to impress employers and stand out from the thousands of other college graduates. Get your resume reviewed and practice your introduction with actual employers!

Education Abroad Fair

January 25

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Atwood Main Lounge

Explore the world! Learn about SCSU education abroad opportunities as well as about the School of Public Affairs Alnwick, England fall 2017 opportunity.

Power in Diversity Conference

January 26-28

Atwood Memorial Center

The 8th annual Power in Diversity Leadership Conference will offer opportunities for personal growth and leadership development to college students of color and underrepresented students through a variety of workshops, keynote addresses and programs. The conference theme, Social and Emotional Leadership Tools, will provide a framework for conversations that explore power, privilege, discrimination, and systems of oppression as they relate to the numerous identities an individual or group may have. For more info and to register: stcloudstate.edu/powerindiversity

Career, Fellowship and Internship Opportunities within the State Department

January 27

10-11:15 a.m. Atwood Theatre

Learn how to land a job/internship/fellowship with the U.S. Department of State. The U.S. Department of State is the lead institution for the conduct of American diplomacy. The U.S. Department of State employs adventurous, adaptable, well-rounded strategic problem-solvers, from diverse educational, geographic and cultural backgrounds and perspectives, with a desire to make a contribution to our global society.

Diversity Job and Internship Fair

January 27

1 to 4 p.m. Atwood Second Floor

Many of Minnesota's largest business, technical, healthcare, government, non-profit and education employers will be in attendance. View employers attending and info: scsucareers.com

55th Economics Winter Institute

February 23 & 24

Atwood and 912 Regency Plaza

The Winter Institute is a two-day conference celebrating economic education. It offers high quality educational programming featuring nationally recognized speakers and stimulating ideas. “Ideas and Innovation” is this year's theme and Deirdre McCloskey will be the keynote speaker. Visit for updated info and to register: stcloudstate.edu/winterinstitute.

Speaking for Ourselves: A study with and for immigrant and refugee communities in the Twin Cities

March 2

3:30-4:15 p.m. Atwood Theatre

Learn more about the experiences of the newest Minnesotans, their needs, strengths, and preferences for services, amenities, and community experiences. Interviewed were 459 members of Hmong, Karen, Latino, Liberian, and Somali cultural communities who live in the Twin Cities. They worked with representatives of these communities along with other stakeholders to develop action steps that will improve service delivery or access, change public policy, debunk stereotypes, or otherwise improve the lives of immigrants and refugees.

MN Heartland Economics Challenge

March 3

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Atwood

Over 100 students from across the state will come to compete in tests about microeconomics, macroeconomics, international economics and current events

Huskies Internship and Job Fair

March 22

Noon to 3:30 p.m. Atwood Ballroom

Organizations with summer and fall internships & job opportunities will be in attendance. View employers attending and info: scsucareers.com

St. Cloud Talent Summit

April 6

All Day St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center

This FREE full day event is designed to provide a structured environment for businesses, education institutions and job seekers/students to interact around talent related topics and opportunities for Greater St. Cloud.

More info at: greaterstcloud.com/2016-talent-summit/

Talent Summit Alumni & Student Networking Event

April 6

4-6:30 p.m. Red Carpet Martini Lounge

Network with St. Cloud State graduates and community members at this informal gathering. Bring a guest and build your network! Complimentary appetizer buffet with a two drink minimum (non-alcoholic drinks also available). This event is in conjunction with the Talent Summit, however, we welcome you to attend even if you did not attend the Summit. More info at: greaterstcloud.com/2016-talent-summit/

Student Research Colloquium

April 18

8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Atwood

Students can further their understanding of their field of study, gain experience researching and presenting, receive academic recognition and add an excellent complement to their resume. All students who would like to present their research or creative works, must register by February 15: stcloudstate.edu/src

Spring Engagement Celebration

April 19

9 to 11 a.m. Atwood Ballroom

Students will showcase their service learning, internship, or community project.

Students launch OptIntoAction to combat violent extremism

Twelve students designed the campaign as part of Linda Butenhoff's combating violent extremism through social media political science class. The students come from diverse cultural backgrounds and have worked together to gather stories from community members. The campaign targets individuals ages 11 to 36. "The students designed it all," Butenhoff said. "It's all their creativity."

recent immigrants and others, including social alienation, ethnic and racial discrimination, negative media coverage and issues of identity," Kabore said. "These issues negatively affect social cohesion and community building."

To combat alienation and discrimination, OptIntoAction aims to build a sense of community, trust, empathy and cohesion



Rachel Roiger, Rebecca David, Rachel White, Miranda Towey, Michelle Hengel and Ashley Konz present on OptIntoAction at the Community Engagement Celebration.

The group is committed to tackling violent extremism online through education, conversation, information and connection to offer a positive alternative for the future so that no one feels isolated from their community, said Landry Kabore, OptIntoAction's public relations campaign manager.

OptIntoAction runs a website, YouTube channel and social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to share videos of the stories that spread the vision of a future without violent extremism. The students are also gauging the public on the sense of community, trust and acceptance in Central Minnesota through an online survey.

They developed the campaign after six weeks of research, which included a look at work being done by the Community Anti-Racism Education Initiative on campus, The Boys and Girls Club, District 742 and Unitecloud and hearing from guest speakers on campus and in the community. "Our research found key tensions between

through discussion building, positive stories and role models, he said. The students worked to share their message with the community through kiosk locations on campus and participating in Passport to the World, a cultural sharing event on campus. They are working with children from the Boys and Girls Club of Central Minnesota to design a game as a way of building community, Butenhoff said.

OptIntoAction plans to submit the Boys and Girls Club game design to the Apogee Student Game Design Competition to further that community building effort. The campaign is part of the Peer 2 Peer: Challenging Extremism, an initiative by Facebook and the U.S. Department of State to engage university students from throughout the world to develop and execute campaigns and social media strategies against extremism that resonate with their peers and communities. The challenge gave the students a \$2,000 budget to run their campaign and \$400 in Facebook ad credits to fund the campaign.

School of Public Affairs hosts *Who are the Refugees* presentation

Emily Hipps discussed displaced persons who flee to Minnesota on November 1 at St. Cloud State to about 150 attendees. Hipps is the development and communications coordinator for International Institute of Minnesota, a nonprofit, refugee-resettlement agency in St. Paul.

In 2015, the Institute resettled 465 refugees from 13 nations of origin: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, Congo-Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Liberia, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The Institute's definition of a refugee: A person who has fled his or her home nation, and who cannot return due to a well-founded fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. Institute programming includes job training, language classes, refugee resettlement, and immigration, citizenship and anti-trafficking services.

Hipps previously worked as a Fulbright Fellow in central Turkey and served as an AmeriCorps VISTA workers at the Institute. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Her remarks were sponsored by the Faculty Research Group on Immigrant Workers, the School of Public Affairs and the College of Liberal Arts.

Donate today

Support the School of Public Affairs by making a gift.

Please visit: stcloudstate.edu/foundation/ for more information.

School of Public Affairs Research Institute News

Now in its 4th year of operations, the School of Public Affairs Research Institute (SOPARI) continues to grow. In addition to signature programs and products (such as the St. Cloud Area Quarterly Business Report, six Regional Minnesota Quarterly Economic and Business Conditions Reports, and the Winter Institute), SOPARI's applied research activities extend into new projects. Among these projects is research by SCSU criminal justice professors in collaboration with the Casper, Wyoming police department and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). Over the past several months, current criminal justice professors Mary Clifford, Stewart Wirth, Lindsey Vigessaa, and emeritus professor John Campbell have been working on an initiative titled Service, Support & Justice: A Strategy to Enhance Law Enforcement Response to Victims Technical Assistance with key Casper police department stakeholders. Activities have included focus group meetings, stakeholder surveys, conference presentations, etc. in this first year of a 3-year, \$100,000 contract with the IACP. Readers can look for updates on this project in future newsletters.

SOPARI recently joined faculty from the SCSU departments of Computing & Information Technology and Mathematics & Statistics in a grant writing effort to create a regional consortium on cybersecurity and workforce development. Despite our unsuccessful funding request, we have decided to move forward with community partners to establish this regional consortium. Along with the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation, St. Cloud Technical & Community College, the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development, several area businesses, and a handful of K-12 schools, we are in the early stages of consortium design. This project will ultimately connect area schools, colleges, and universities to economic development organizations and regional firms to better align the knowledge, skills, and abilities of students to the future regional workforce demands in the St. Cloud area.

Should you require any additional information about SOPARI projects, please reach out to Rich MacDonald, SOPARI interim director at ramacdonald@stcloudstate.edu.

Students to examine maritime industrial pasts and postindustrial Futures on UK Summer study abroad experience

With support of a School of Public Affairs Internationalization Grant, this past summer Gareth John, professor, Geography and Planning traveled to four of UK's major industrial port cities on two separate trips to explore various sites, gather materials, and develop detailed itineraries in preparation for the 2017 short-term education abroad program touring the British Isles (UK and Ireland).

Based in Cardiff following a successful program to Wales, he took a two-day trip by bus to London followed by a separate 6-day trip by car to the Northwest cities of Liverpool and Manchester, and (as a foot passenger by ferry from Liverpool) to Belfast, Northern Ireland. John's goal was to explore the maritime industrial history of these cities and how they have adapted to the current postindustrial phase, including how they use preserved sites to tell stories about and in some cases strive to move beyond the contexts that defined and determined their 'gloried' (if not entirely glorious) pasts. In London, this included visits to places like Camden Lock and Market on the Regent's Canal, built to transport raw materials for processing and goods to market before the dawn of the railway which is now a cultural center, and Greenwich, which was once the heart of naval power for the British Empire, which is now dominated by museums, such as the state-of-the-art Maritime Museum and Cutty Sark. North Greenwich, by contrast, looks forward with brown-site redevelopment of abandoned quays and warehouses into modern condominiums and entertainment complexes centered on the innovative O2 Arena servicing the ever-expanding financial sector and skyline of Canary Wharf (pre-Brexit in any case).

Travel to Liverpool, Manchester and Belfast explored similar contexts with the added dimensions of Anglo-Irish relations, the role of Liverpool in the Transatlantic Slave Trade (with an impressive and moving museum on slavery in the docklands quarter), and the

reframing of Liverpool as Beatles City, with various memorials and museums dedicated to the Fab Four. With plans to visit these sites, along with others including Titanic Belfast, Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry (with working demonstrations of various machines from its former cotton-milling industry), Liverpool FC and Manchester United's Premier League football stadia, and The Lowry and Media City in Salford Quays, students on the 2017 British Isles Program will benefit enormously from reconnaissance made possible with greatly appreciated support from the School of Public Affairs Internationalization Grant.



Beatles statue, Fab Four stepping out with the Three Graces buildings. Testament to Liverpool's Maritime industrial past.

Alumni/Student Highlights

Randika De Mel '13 (economics) was accepted into the 2016-17 Princeton Africa Fellowship in International Development at Princeton University. He will be working with the Sustainable Health Finance Team at Clinton Health Access Initiative in Pretoria, South Africa. Previously, De Mel was a research intern for the Amhest H. Wilder Foundation.

Keith Hovland '16 (economics) is coordinator of vocational services at Rise. Rise is a private, nonprofit organization which supports people who have disabilities and other barriers to employment and housing in attaining their personal measure of safe and affordable housing, vocational achievement, self-sufficiency, and belonging in their communities.

Jaylani Hussein '11 (geography and planning) was honored as an outstanding young Minnesotan, an award shared with former Vice President Walter Mondale, baseball Hall of Fame member Dave Winfield and 14-term U.S. Representative, the late Martin Sabo. The awards are given annually by Minnesota Jaycees, a chapter of the United States Junior Chamber, a leadership training and civic organization.

Bryce Offord '12 (geography and planning) is district executive for the Central Minnesota Council Board of the Boy Scouts of America. Oxford will be serving the Gateway District, which includes the communities of Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Foley, Milaca, Mora, Ogilvie, Otsego, Princeton and Zimmerman.

Brynne Rist '16 (criminal justice) started her first job with the South Dakota Highway Patrol a month before graduation. An internship in patrol peaked her interest. Beyond the internship, Rist said it was her professors at St. Cloud State University who prepared her most for a career in law enforcement. Her goal is to one day specialize in crash reconstruction or drug interdiction and become a mentor to younger troopers and officers.



December 2016 graduate Brynne Rist started her first job with the South Dakota Highway Patrol a month before graduation.

Faculty/Staff Highlights

Moncia Garcia-Perez (economics) was featured on C-SPAN2 on August 10, 2016 for her involvement with the National Economic Association AFL/CIO Economic Conference which covered a range of issues concerning minority populations. Topics addressed included the impact of the minimum wage on immigrant and minority workers, economic inequality in Nigeria, and the effects of the 2008 financial crisis on minority households.

Barry Schreiber (criminal justice) serves as president of the Mille Lacs County Historical Society. The Society has created an exhibit called "Brinkton: Mysteries Revealed." The exhibit chronicles the 40-year history of the brick-making community that put Princeton on the map. It's the first exhibit in the history of the Mille Lacs Historical Society.

Students attend CruiseWorld Conference

Travel and Tourism students along with Geography and Planning Professor, Bel Kambach traveled to Fort Lauderdale, Florida for CruiseWorld conference in November 2016. This conference connects travel professionals and supplier partners through educational workshops, networking events, and a trademark Exhibitor Showcase.

Students connected with industry professionals from airlines, attractions, business tools, car rental, cruise, destinations, hotels and resorts, professional services, tour operators and packaged vacations. Highlights of the conference included touring various ships and sampling cuisine from diverse cruise providers and meeting Andy Stuart, president and CEO of Norwegian Cruise Lines. Students attended a viewing launch party and naming ceremony on the Royal Caribbean International's "Harmony of the Seas," the world's biggest cruise ship.



CruiseWorld Attendees - Front row left to right: Fernanda Santos, Sophia Stewart and Professor Bel Kambach. Back row left to right: Samantha King, Caitlynn Schumacher, Sonia Tauer, Myles Witcher, Trisha Pylkas and Yaser Alnafesah.

St. Cloud State students to study at the Harry Potter Hogwarts School, obtain a British Studies minor in a semester and tour the British Isles this fall

For almost 40 years, St. Cloud State students have been given the opportunity to study and live abroad in the Alnwick Castle in northern England. Alnwick Castle is home to the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland. To many, it is also known as “the Harry Potter Castle.” Students take classes while living inside the castle in order to get a better understanding of British Culture. A few of the places students can visit include Hadrian’s Wall, The Lake District, London, and Edinburgh. This program offers students a unique opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the British culture.

The castle in itself is an attraction during tourist season with broomstick flying lessons, archery lessons, and tours of the castle area that the Duke and Duchess live in. Alnwick also supports a rugby team that plays on the outskirts of the town. Hulne Park or Duke’s Park both offer multiple walking trails. If students are looking to see something outside the precinct, however, Newcastle, England and Edinburgh, Scotland are only a train ride away for weekend getaways!

This fall the School of Public Affairs is hosting the Alnwick program. The program is open to all St. Cloud State students and will include a variety of economics, geography and business courses. The courses offered are tailored to all students regardless of where they are in their studies.

Unique opportunities of the fall program include the ability for students to take all courses needed to earn a British Studies minor in one semester as well as being able to participate in a special tour of the British Isles.



Deadline to apply is March 1, 2017. For more information contact Kristy Modrow, experiential learning and outreach director at kkmodrow@stcloudstate.edu or visit: stcloudstate.edu/educationabroad/



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The School of Public Affairs wants to hear from our alumni and friends, through newsletters like this and emails. If you would like to receive information, or you wish to contribute a story or update, contact us at **(320) 308-6080** or kkmodrow@stcloudstate.edu.



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