

Alumni Newsletter

School of International Relations, University of Southern California ☞ Spring 1994

FEATURES

Director's Report

BY ROBERT FRIEDHEIM

This year's report on faculty and student accomplishments as well as news from IR alumni from their varied assignments locally and globally. **1**

School of IR Alumni Association

BY BRETT KELLY

Thanks to the encouragement of the School of IR faculty and staff, this last year saw the inception of a very dynamic alumni organization—The School of International Relations Alumni Association (SIRAA). **3**

Beware the Superpower Syndrome

BY RONALD STEEL

"This is the world, Mr. Clinton, after the cold war . . . Tread cautiously, because you are on shifting ground." **6**

Report from Nicaragua

BY JULIA HAVELIN

A Bannerman Fellowship provided a summer trip to El Salvador and Nicaragua in 1993—it renewed my tremendous love for the Central America, my awe of the the Nicaraguan spirit, and my conviction that my current career path is the right one. **8**

Latin America's New Face

BY PAMELA STARR

Policymakers in Washington and in Latin America must consider that free market economic policies may not be the answer for Latin America's development problems. **12**

1994 IR/POSC Commencement Address

BY EDWIN SMITH

"Leadership, Law and Politics in Global Society." **15**

Ireland Unfree will Never be at Peace

BY ANDREW MANNING

The brutality and tyranny of the British rulers in Northern Ireland has often times equalled the worst dictators that America has fought against. **21**

High School Leadership Conference

BY LINDA COLE

Professor Lamy began his governance discussion by tossing one apple in the air: "One apple, fifty students. What do you think I should do with it?" 300 greater L.A. area high school students and their teachers gathered for I.R. lessons. **24**

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by Kathy Matthes

With the advent of electronic communications, the Internet and the coming information superhighway, as well as new interactive media, traditional methods of education are being challenged and revised. Computer literacy for students and faculty no longer means adequate wordprocessing skills; course requirements are no longer limited to traditional tests and term papers (see sidebar); and passive, lecture-based instruction delivery is rapidly being replaced by interactive methods, such as case studies, Internet-based simulation games, and interactive multimedia courseware. The School of International Relations has made rapid progress toward investing in these technological and educational advancements this year.

Thanks to the insight and efforts of the Dean of Social Sciences & Communications, Carol Nagy Jacklin, and successful proposals from the School of IR and Department of Political Science, our new joint IR/Political Science Computer Lab opened in February 1994. The lab has sixteen 486 PCs running on a Novell network; each computer has an Ethernet connection to the USCnet, which provides access to the campus computing facilities, USCInfo, USCgopher and the Internet. The lab provides free printing to its IR/POSC users as well as access to a full-page image and text scanner, recently donated by the Political Science Department.

The lab is specifically designed for teaching. IR and Political Science classes that require the use of computer programs are now held in the lab where the overhead projector can be used to demonstrate and train students on spreadsheet, statistical, simulation and graphics presentation programs. Several faculty members have begun to modify their syllabi to include lab usage and computer projects. IR graduate students took their core and field exams on lab computers this summer.

In addition, the lab will host a series of training sessions for IR faculty, staff, and students this fall. Topics will include basic email usage (Kathy Matthes, IR), Gopher and Internet resources (Rick Lacy, Center of Scholarly Technology), USCInfo and Internet library resources (Janice Hanks, VKC Librarian), and Microsoft Excel, SimStat, and Lotus Freelance Graphics (Adjunct Professor David Andrus, IR).

We have been encouraging all faculty, staff and students to obtain a university email account and have provided individual and group training sessions on basic email usage as well as a simple training manual and information about the Internet and its resources. We have published our first School of IR Email Directory this summer and continue to build a network of enthusiastic IR students who are exploring the resources of the Internet and sharing the information with their colleagues. Professor Aronson now requires all of his students to have email accounts for communication in addition to office hours.

The School was one of the first departments on campus to have a section on the University's new Campus-Wide Information System (CWIS)—more affectionally known as the USCgopher. Anyone who has access to the Internet or Gopher can now obtain on-line information about the School, such as news and announcements, phone directories, faculty profiles, degree programs and curriculum, schedule of classes, admissions and financial aid, student organizations and CIS seminar announcements.

This next academic year we look forward to exploring new technologies, developing innovative teaching methods, and training our students to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving electronic community. I will be working with two graduate students who are currently developing project proposals for this fall: Dave Judson wants to design an interactive multimedia project on an IR topic, and Tom Vest wants to create "SIR On-Line," a system that will provide IR forums, papers and academic work exchange, fellowship/career information, event announcements and links to IR-relevant resources for the APSIA schools. We'll keep you informed of our progress! ☺

Kathy Matthes is the Technical Consultant for the School of IR and a graduate student in the School of Education, where she is pursuing a MSED in Instructional Technology, with an emphasis in electronic communications and interactive multimedia. She can be reached at (213) 740-2130 or by email at matthes@bcf.usc.edu.

IR Classes and New Media

by Dave Judson

In the spring 1994 semester, I utilized the new IR/POSC Computer Lab to illustrate how new technologies might be incorporated into IR student projects. The final project in Professor Aronson's graduate seminar, "The Political Economy of World Information," was to develop a strategic plan for a multinational corporation with a major role in the development of information technology. I chose the American Express Company, and I developed "American Express On-Line," which is similar to services like America On-Line, but especially designed for American Express members and their travel, banking and business information needs.


Although the majority of the project design was in paper form, I also wanted to demonstrate how the on-line service might look, how it would work, and what information it would provide. I enlisted the help of Kathy Matthes, who taught me how to use Lotus Freelance Graphics software and guided me through multimedia design issues.

Since Freelance is a presentation program, not a multimedia authoring program, we had to simulate the on-line service's interactive capabilities. We created a series of menus that were hyperlinked to information on travel arrangements, personal banking, Michelin maps, IDS financial services, *International Herald Tribune* articles, email, and on-line forums. The information in each section was either text or scanned images.

Using Freelance Graphics not only helped to make the project visually presentable and enabled me to design the interactive example, but it helped me to organize and structure the whole project. It encouraged creativity, made information accessible, and taught me valuable new technology skills, which I will immediately put to use at my summer internship with the Press and Communications Office of the World Tourism Organization in Madrid. I am excited about the options that new media provide for the fields of IR/IPE and look forward to working on another project this fall—unless the Madrid project is too good to leave! ☺



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The Historical Imagination in IR

BY HAYWARD ALKER

On the occasion of Hayward Alker's installation as the first John A. McCone Professor of International Relations. **10**

Temptations of a Superpower

BY RONALD STEEL

New York Times Book Reviewer, Alan Tonelson, reviews Ronald Steel's new book. "Mr. Steel poses the seminal question that no national leader seems capable of answering without retreating into cliché . . ." **12**

70th Anniversary Celebration

BY GENTA HAWKINS HOLMES

"Dr. Berkes, I have a terrible confession to make. I remember little, if anything, from that year long study of Hans J. Morgenthau's *Politics Among Nations*, but let me tell you what I do remember . . ." **15**

"An American in Bonn:

BY CONRAD TRIBBLE

Thoughts After a Year in the Foreign Office." **18**

1995 IR Commencement Address

BY MICHELLE LADD

"Education is a gift, and with it comes a tremendous responsibility." **24**

High School Leadership Conference II

BY PIA HAHN

300 greater L.A. area high school students and their teachers gathered for I.R. lessons. **26**

IRUA Editorial: Ecuador and Peru

BY CESAR C. CARBAJAL

Many factors explain why, on the eve of the 21st century, two democratic neighbors—Andean Pact members with ambitions integration policies—engage in an anachronistic conflict only a month and a half after committing to a new partnership in the Summit of the Americas. **28**

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Faculty OpEd **25**

by Kathy Matthes

Last year at this time, we had recently opened the new IR/POSC Computer Lab and were grappling with how to integrate new technology into the IR curriculum and how best to prepare our students for international relations in a rapidly expanding cyberworld. Consequently, the Internet became a major focus of interest for the School during the 1994-95 academic year.

First on the agenda was to develop Internet training sessions for IR students. A series of three two-hour sessions were offered, which provided both lecture/discussion of the Internet (i.e., what it is, how it has evolved, how it will be used in the future) and hands-on training on how to use basic email and Internet tools such as telnet and file transfer (FTP), Gopher, Veronica, Archie, Jughead, WAIS, USEnet and Listservs, and, of course, the World Wide Web. Additional training sessions were provided by VKC Librarian Janice Hanks on USC's on-line library resource, USCInfo, and Adjunct Professor **David Andrus** (Ph.D. '76) on Microsoft Excel.

As a follow-up to these sessions, an *IR Internet Handbook* is being developed this summer which will provide step-by-step instructions for how to use email and the Internet tools. Ph.D. student, **Surupa Gupta**, our student lab consultant last academic year, was assigned the task of compiling on-line IR resources. This information will be available this fall in the *IR Internet Resource Directory*.

Since many of our students use Macintosh computers, we expanded the Lab's resources through a successful grant proposal to the USC Apple Grant Program. Out of 65 proposals, and 10 available Apple computers, the School won two Macintosh Performa computers for the IR/POSC Computer Lab! The School provided funds for a Apple printer and Ethernet connections to the USCnet.

Second on the agenda was to integrate the Internet into the IR curriculum. We offered a new IR 499 class as a pilot project in Fall 1994 with Professor Joyce Kaufman, Director of Immaculate Heart College Center's International Negotiation Project (INP). The International Communications and Negotiation Simulation (ICONS) Project, created and run by the University of Maryland, is a computer-assisted simulation of international negotiations and foreign policy decisionmaking. Participating high schools represented countries (the IR 499 class was the U.S. team), who then negotiated on a range of important global issues such as the environment, human rights, international trade and debt, and nuclear weapons proliferation and security. Negotiation took place between country teams using a combination of email and on-line, real-time conferences as well as a final face-to-face conference at Whittier College. USC students also received hands-on training for email, telnet, FTP, Gopher and Polnet II simulation software. The ICONS class was offered again in Spring 1995 and will continue this next academic year. We are in the process of developing a Community College-level ICONS simulation and a graduate-level simulation with the APSIA schools.

A great deal of this year's progress was due to Director Robert Friedheim's willingness to upgrade the School's equipment and support the use of new technologies. 486 computers with direct USCnet connections for Windows-based access to the Internet are quickly becoming the standard—a few faculty members even have Pentium's with CDROM drives! Our old computers have been donated to local high schools and the INP for ICONS participants. Staff computers are now networked to provide software, file and print sharing capabilities as well as Internet access. We have come a long way from our 8088 computers with 1200 baud modems!

The last item on our agenda will be to launch the School's World Wide Web Home Page this summer. Look for us soon in Cyberspace! ☞



Kathy Matthes is the Technical Consultant for the School of IR. She received her Masters of Science in Education (MSED) in Instructional Technology, with an emphasis in the academic uses of the Internet and interactive multimedia, from the USC School of Education. Our resident computer wiz, lab manager, desktop publisher, technical writer, computer instructor, and Web/Gopher designer/maintainer, can be reached at matthes@bcf.usc.edu.

ICONS Quotes

"ICONS offers a unique opportunity of experience to anyone interested in learning first-hand about international conferences . . . This class demonstrated the importance of working in groups (especially in the international community), more than any other class that I have taken. Working within groups and depending on separate individuals to accomplish their work . . . simulates real situations in international relations."

Erica Hoshek

"ICONS was a very rewarding experience in the sense that it gets one thinking about international relations. The frustrations one feels at the inability to reach a consensus on important matters such as nuclear proliferation, human rights and environmental degradation is symbolic of the frustrations nations feel towards setting the international agenda. It is also symbolic of the kind of 'wheeling and dealing' that goes on in the General Assembly of the United Nations."

West Headington

"The Face-to-Face Conference was the most interesting experience, for it helped us understand how difficult cooperating and bargaining really is . . . Sitting at a conference table with the other countries made me realize how realism—the struggle for nations to serve their national interests—works and how hard it is to overcome it and replace it with multilateral cooperation that would serve the interests of all. It was only a game, but a very real one."

Gonzalo Del Castillo

"The knowledge and skill of the School of IR's Technical Consultant (Kathy) must be mentioned here, as this is one of the many strong points of the course. Her help was instrumental to this student's acquisition of much of the research material needed for the successful and consistent formulation of U.S. foreign policy. In addition, her knowledge of the technical skills required to discover and retrieve the information (Internet surfing) was indispensable."

James O. Brewer, II