UB Professors’ Robert Riggs and Mohammed Al-Azdee to Lecture on “10-year anniversary of the U.S.-led war in Iraq and the lessons learned”

Professor Robert Riggs and Professor Mohammed Al-Azdee both faculty in the University of Bridgeport’s College of Public and International Affairs will give a lecture in UB about “Lessons of the Iraq War” on March 19, 2013—the 10th Anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

The lecture will consider lessons we have learned and ask if Iraq has been democratized the decade that followed the U.S. military assault in view of “securing Iraq’s alleged weapons of mass destruction and building democracy in the country”

Professor Robert Riggs is a Middle East expert who has traveled widely in the region and is a specialist in Shi’ite history in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq. His publications appear in the Journal of Arabic Literature, the Journal of Shi’ite Islamic Studies, Religion Compass and the Review of Middle East Studies and he has contributed chapters to several collected volumes. His research has been presented at the annual meetings of the Middle East Studies Association, the American Academy of Religion and the American Oriental Society as well as a variety of international conferences such as the World Congress on Middle East Studies.

Professor Mohammed Al-Azdee is from Iraq and worked as an imbedded reporter in the Iraq War for USA Today and Newsweek. His research has been presented at varied academic conferences in the United States, receiving awards from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), the International Communication Association (ICA); the Center for the Study of the Middle East (CSME), and US Department of State.

The program is sponsored by the College of Public and International Affairs and the Global Affairs Society.

Robert Riggs, Assistant Professor of World Religions & M.A. program in Global Development and Peace

Mohammed Al-Azdee, Assistant Professor of Mass Communications
Professor Thomas J. Ward, Dean of the College of Public and International Affairs and Professor Yanmin Yu, Chair of the Department of Mass Communication, will conduct a Symposium entitled “Between the Dragon and the Bear: The Emerging Mongolia Economy” on March 21, 2013 in the Art Gallery at the University of Bridgeport.

Professor Thomas J. Ward and Professor Yanmin Yu will present about the current investment business climate of Mongolia and its fastest growing economy. The World Bank has forecasted Mongolia to grow at a double digit GDP rate over the period from 2013 to 2017.

Professor Thomas Ward has served as a lecturer and researcher on comparative political systems for over a decade, doing presentations for legislators and for other government officials in the United States and abroad. He has lived and studied in Asia and has been invited to conduct programs for political leaders in a number of East Asia countries.

Professor Yanmin Yu, a three-time Fulbright scholar, earned her Ph.D. from the Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University. Currently she teaches Media Law, International Journalism, Intercultural Communication, and Communication Theory in the University of Bridgeport. Professor Yanmin Yu has contributed articles, book chapters, and a book in various publications. She chairs the graduate and undergraduate Communication Studies Program at UB.

The Symposium, which is intended for a general audience, is sponsored by the College of Public and International Affairs.
Lecture on “The Eurozone Crisis and its Implications for the European Union” at UB

Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society will host a Symposium on “The Eurozone Crisis and its Implications for the European Union” at the University of Bridgeport on April 10, 2013.

Dr. Pingfan Hong, Chief of Global Economic Monitoring Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations; Dr. Paul Adam, Political Science Professor at the University of Pittsburgh; Adelphi University’s Dr. Katie Verlin Laatikainen and Dr. Dave Benjamin, Global Development Professor at the University of Bridgeport will be keynote speakers.

The Symposium which is intended for a general audience will explore the nature of the Eurozone crisis and its impact on the European Union, other major trading partners and the developing world.

Dr. Paul Adams specializes in comparative politics and international relations, specifically the study of the politics of Europe, the European Union, corporatism, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, as well as American foreign policy and international organizations. He is also faculty advisor to the Pitt-Greensburg Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

Dr. Katie Verlin Laatikainen specializes in International Studies, and currently teaching in Adelphi University’s broad array of courses in international relations, from Theories and Practice to US Foreign Policy and International Law and Organization.

Dr. Dave Benjamin specializes in Global Development, specifically in International Human Rights, Diplomacy & Foreign Policy, Political Economy of North-South Relations, and Issues in Economic Development. He is also faculty adviser to the UB chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science Honor Society, which has been among the winners of the national activity grant competition in each of the last four consecutive years.

This Symposium is sponsored by Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science Honor Society.

UB Professor Stephen Hess to give Lecture on “The Peril and the Hope of Sino-African Relations”

Dr. Stephen Hess, Professor of Political Science and East Asian Studies at the College of Public and International Affairs will deliver a lecture about China’s growing interest in Africa entitled “The Peril and the Hope of Sino-African Relations” on April 19, 2013 at the University of Bridgeport.

As China’s engagement with African countries continues to grow, policy analysts are carefully monitoring the dynamics that could change the continent for the better—and for the worse. Dr. Steve Hess, whose article “Why Wasn’t There a Chinese Spring?” recently appeared on Atlantic Wire as one of the “Five Best” columns of “ideas that matter most”. In this talk, Dr. Hess will examine the growing Chinese engagement with African countries and its impact.

Dr. Stephen Hess specializes in political science and East Asian studies. He spent two years in China with the U.S. Peace Corps. Over the past year, he has continued with an active research agenda centered on investigating the role of popular protest movements in nondemocratic countries. Dr. Hess has recently completed a book-length manuscript on the sources of resilience and breakdown in authoritarian regimes, including China, Taiwan, the Philippines and Kazakhstan.

The Lecture Program, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the College of Public and International Affairs.
ALUMNI SUCCESS

YUKARI ENOMOTO: SALES REPRESENTATIVE AT KIRIN BREWERY COMPANY

Yukari Enomoto
Class of 2007
Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication
UB, College of Public and International Affairs
Employer: Kirin Brewery Company
Job Title: Sales Representative

“UB taught me to apply myself and work hard at everything that I do in Kirin Brewery Company as a Sales Representative.” Yukari Enomoto.

Yukari Enomoto is working as a sales representative for Kirin Brewery Company, and her responsibilities include building, developing and managing relationships with customers through direct motivation and implementation of creative programs.

“I love my job at Kirin Brewery Company as a Sales Representative. It is highly engaging and our customers feel so passionately about our product.” Yukari says that she is currently working on some exciting projects to develop customer’s relations to achieve established sales goals. “Since the Kirin group has been going through an increasing pace of globalization of business in recent years, my future goal is to work in Kirin group companies outside Japan.”

Yukari explains that her memories as a student in UB are both exciting and challenging because of cultural difference and social barriers that present personal and professional challenges in academics. However, she says “I really enjoyed studying in UB with many students around the world and a diverse range of culture, because the experience gave me a truly global perspective, one that I had never had before.”

Yukari, who in 2007 earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication from the College of Public and International Affairs, believes that her education prepared her for her career. “UB taught me to apply myself and work hard at everything that I do in Kirin Brewery Company as a Sales Representative.”