



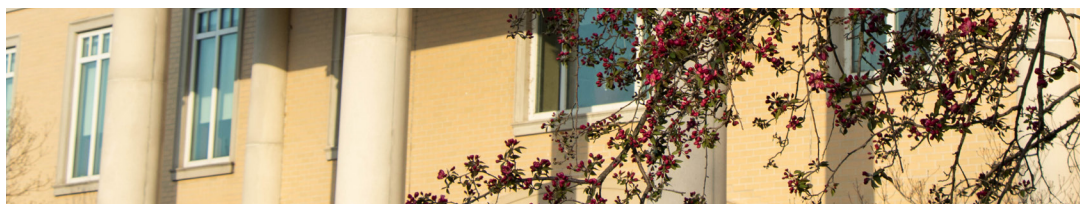
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Wrenna Dorrer hits the ground running!

by Emily Liu

Wrenna Dorrer was welcomed to the Shepherd campus in the fall of 2022 as the new International Admissions Counselor. In her brief time at Shepherd, she has become an integral and valued part of the international team, moving forward on international recruitment, building support systems for international students, and cultivating campus and community connections for international initiatives. She provided these responses to our questions:

What brought you to the field of international education? International student recruitment?

At several points in my life, I was an international student. I was a high school exchange student with Rotary International and completed two international academic internships during undergrad. As a child of an immigrant, I was always surrounded by diverse cultures and ideas, it's what led me to pursue my undergraduate degree in international development at WVU and a graduate degree in international peace and conflict resolution at American University. My time in Washington, D.C. was rewarding and allowed me to explore the public and private sectors, so continuing my early career with international students in the immigration field was a no-brainer.

What are your responsibilities in the Office of International Affairs?

In the Office of International Affairs I have two main roles: international recruitment and program development. As an international recruiter, I engage with prospective students and lead them through the application process. Our office answers questions about Shepherd's academic programs, campus community, and immigration processes. We are also focused on growing our international student services, expanding our campus collaboration for events and activities, and

offering support for our current international students.

What has been your focus so far in this position? What are your plans for the future in this position?

Since starting in November 2022, my main focus, and the overall focus of the Office of International Affairs, has been expanding our international community on campus. That means recruiting more students, establishing support systems for current students, and increasing spaces for cultural inclusion.

Why are international students important to a university campus?

International students bring so much to their college campuses! Some students love to share their culture with their classmates or initiate and lead international events on campus; others just enjoy being part of the campus community. They attend sporting events and show school pride or represent the school at conferences or through publishing research, all of which are uniquely American college experiences that they may not have in their home countries.

Any additional thoughts?

I think often times people forget that international students are just like any other student attending their university. They make mac & cheese in their dorm microwaves, worry about mid-terms, and stay up late bingeing Netflix. All students at Shepherd University have one end goal: to graduate. Some may face more challenges than others, but for our international students we hope that we can make the journey a bit easier by supporting them. ■





International student aims for career in human rights law

by Taylor Beam

Kady Sanogo is a senior at Shepherd University, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in psychology with a minor in crime and society. Kady is currently president of the Black Student Union, vice president of Global Shepherd Students, and a member of the Multicultural Leadership Team and Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars. Through these groups, Kady has enjoyed getting involved on campus and interacting with others in ways she hadn't before coming to Shepherd.

Kady was born and raised in Mali and then moved to the United States after her father was presented with a job opportunity. She moved to Senegal during her high school years and graduated there. An international recruiter from Shepherd actually knew Kady's father and suggested she come to Shepherd because of the strong international community here. Kady also wanted to study in a small town as she had lived in larger cities throughout her life and she has enjoyed the quiet of Shepherdstown.

When asked what surprised her about Shepherd, Kady responded, "Actually seeing how calm it is threw me off a bit, but not in a bad way." She was also taken aback by how welcoming Shepherd is. Prior to coming to Shepherd, Kady was worried about the atmosphere of a college in West Virginia, which is a primarily conservative state and she wasn't sure if it would be so welcoming. Kady said

that once she actually came to Shepherd, "Instantly, my worries just melted away."

Kady has found a sense of community at Shepherd. When asked about how her college experience has benefited her or changed her perspective, Kady said, "The more you get involved, the more you interact with people, and in a sense that helps you build people skills." Kady has been impacted by her professors as well, specifically mentioning Dr. Dobish, Dr. Holtslag, and Dr. Lovelace. She described the influence of her professors by saying, "They offer you a different perspective and advice that could help you with your future, so that also has been very beneficial."

After graduating from Shepherd this spring, Kady plans to take a gap year before applying to law school or pursuing a master's degree in international relations. She has a passion for upholding human rights and wants to pursue a law career in the field. This stems from Kady's upbringing in Mali where she witnessed many human rights violations, especially towards children. Kady recalls seeing many homeless children living on the streets in Mali. "Coming from that environment made me realize that this is something I want to do," she said. Aside from pursuing a career in human rights law, Kady hopes to start a nonprofit organization in Mali. She hopes to work to combat the issue of homelessness in children by helping them get off the streets and get an education. ■

Office of International Affairs—*On the move!*

by Wrenna Dorrer

During the spring 2023 semester, the Office of International Affairs (OIA) held multiple events and began traveling domestically and internationally for recruitment. The office celebrated Lunar New Year with a piano recital, connected students with career services, raised awareness about International Women's Day and the Indian festival, Holi, hosted a day trip to Washington, D.C., and sponsored a community bonfire. OIA will also host its first celebration for graduating seniors and will begin planning for incoming freshman orientation later in the summer.

OIA's Instagram account, @International.Shepherd, has grown significantly from its launch

on January 6. The account has highlighted international and study abroad students with the "Student Highlight" series, and promoted international coffee hours and events on campus. The account also features a virtual tour of campus and application Q&As.

Recruitment travel was in full swing during the month of March. Admissions Counselor Wrenna Dorrer traveled regionally—Washington D.C., Maryland, and West Virginia—and met with high school and transfer students. Director Emily Liu traveled to Vietnam, Thailand, and Japan to attend recruitment conferences and meet with OIA's international partners. ■

Dr. Rachel Krantz: Multilingualism yields multiple rewards

Dr. Rachel Krantz, associate professor of French, developed an early interest in cultures by traveling and living with her family outside of the United States. She began her study of languages in high school, completed her B.A. at Grinnell College in Iowa, and went on to earn her M.A. from the University of Munich in 1993, where she studied French, German, and Spanish. A great deal of her learning took place outside of the classroom, especially in the various student jobs she held, ranging from cashier at Burger King to translator/secretary with international patent attorneys. After returning to the U.S., Dr. Krantz completed her doctoral studies in French at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she wrote her dissertation on Marguerite Duras, a prominent 20th-century French woman author.

Dr. Krantz, what brought you to the field of languages? Language instruction?

I was attracted to languages because my parents were always interested in other cultures. My father was a professor of psychology, and every time he got sabbatical, we would travel to another country. When I was three, we spent a year in Amsterdam. And when I was eight, we spent a year in Nairobi. These international experiences made a big impression on me; the different landscapes, architectural styles, food, and languages.

However, I didn't start studying language until high school, when I took French. I fell in love with the language and Francophone culture and decided that I wanted to share my passion someday by teaching French to others. That's how I chose my college major. As I continued on to a Ph.D. in French, I also learned Spanish, Dutch, Latin, and German. Each new language was a challenge, but also a great adventure.

I feel that it is essential for Americans to be exposed to other cultures and, if possible, to learn another language. Because of the sheer size of our country, it is all too easy to be ethnocentric. We can drive for days and days, and everyone still speaks English. However, we are living in a global age, and we need to demonstrate intercultural competence rather than monolingual nationalism. But a broader outlook is not the only benefit of

language study. Learning a second language forces you to reflect on your own language and beliefs. It can also help you stand out among a group of job applicants who only speak English. Finally, and most importantly, language helps us connect with—and better understand—others, showing us similarities where we previously saw only differences.

What are your teaching and research specialties?

My teaching specialties are French, German, Spanish, and film studies. Last semester, I offered a film course focusing on utopia and dystopia. Previously, I did a course on international horror films, with an emphasis on zombies and vampires. These courses were well-received by students.

My research specialties include the works of Marguerite Duras, the works of French female directors (such as Anne Fontaine), and the New French Extreme film movement. I have also done pedagogy-related conference presentations on student motivation, the flipped classroom, intercultural competence, and perspective-taking tasks.

What project(s) are you working on currently?

I am currently wrapping up my sabbatical project, *iAprendemos cantando!* It is an online, multimedia resource for first-year Spanish courses that aligns with the textbook used by the Department of English and Modern Languages at Shepherd University. This resource contains a selection of Spanish language songs that follows the text's grammar sequence and offers not only more practice with the target structures but also a fun, active way of improving vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural knowledge.

There are two volumes available at this time: volume one for SPAN 101 and volume two for SPAN 102. Each volume contains seven modules, with each module featuring a different singer and focusing on a different grammar topic. The first volume is primarily in English with activities in Spanish for true beginners, whereas the second volume is entirely in Spanish for students with at least one semester of college Spanish.



What advice do you have for students seeking to learn a second language?

- **Start with your motivation.** Why do you want to learn this language? Why is it important to you? Having a clear motivation will help you stick with it and reach your goals, especially when things get difficult.
- **Realize that learning a language as an adult is hard and takes time.** So you have to have patience and persistence. Doing 15 minutes every day is much more effective than two hours once a week.
- **Make the language part of your life.** Listen to music and podcasts in that language. Watch TV shows and movies. Try cooking from a recipe in that language. Switch your video games to that language. Learning a language doesn't mean memorizing grammar rules. It means using the language and having fun with it.
- **If possible, travel to a country where the language is spoken.** This is truly the best way to learn. And try to go beyond tourism. Sign up for a language class in the country, live with a host family, or do volunteer work there.

Many people ask how I have learned so many languages. The answer is two-fold. I do have some natural talent, but most of it was hard work. For example, I am currently learning Italian and spend at least two hours a day working on my skills. I also spend six to eight weeks each summer in Italy, working remotely during the day and exploring the country on the weekends. So I believe that anyone can learn a language if they want to and put in the necessary effort. ■



Global Shepherd in Kenya

by Dr. LeAnn Johnson

In October and November, Shepherd and Kenyan students participated in two Zoom meet ups to learn about each other's college experiences. This was just one of the many events that are giving Shepherd students global experiences.

Dr. LeAnn Johnson, associate professor of education, returned this spring from a semester at Daystar University, in Athi River, Kenya. During her time there, she taught three courses to Kenyan students pursuing majors in education, psychology, community health, and social work; conducted faculty training workshops at both the Nairobi and Athi River campuses; was a plenary speaker at the second annual Leadership in Ethics Conference co-sponsored by UNESCO; and conducted research in the areas of ethics and teacher training.

In addition, she established close ties with the primary school that serves the community near campus. In a country where needs are many and great, education is a pathway out of poverty. Teachers face more than 50 children in their classes and must overcome great challenges in their efforts to provide that education. In the words of the school's headmaster, "you have to understand, most of these children have never held a book."

That statement is no longer true. Shepherd students are now continuing the Books and Balls for Kenya project through GoFundMe which has already raised more than \$2,000 to create a library for the school. Additionally, Shepherd students participating in a Kenyan study abroad experience this summer will be delivering school supplies currently being collected by the Shepherd chapter of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

The Kenyan Study Abroad will give Shepherd students an opportunity to work with teachers and children in the school, take a class with Kenyan students at Daystar University, and experience the many wonders of Kenya's cultures, people, and wildlife during three weeks in June.

In the true spirit of exchange, Sis. Dr. Lucy Lando, Head of Directorate of Research and Graduate Studies at Daystar University, will be visiting Shepherd University in April to learn more about our campus and how the two universities can collaborate in our global efforts. ■

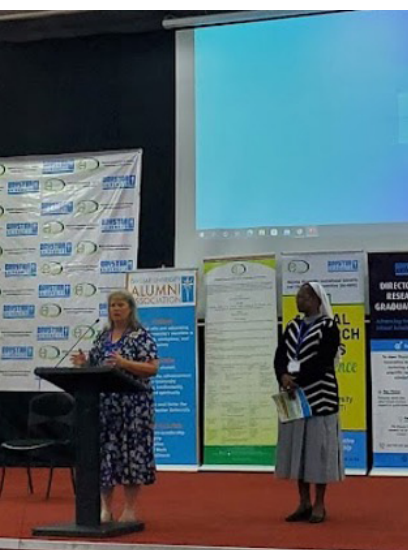




Photo credit: Sharon Carpenter

Phi Beta Delta inducts new members

Twenty-one nominees were inducted into Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars at a ceremony held in the Jefferson Room, White Hall, on April 6, 2023. Two honorary members are included in the new membership: Dr. Stephen Spencer, Shepherd provost emeritus, and keynote speaker, Dr. John Sedlins. Dr. Sedlins, retired from the U.S. Department of State, gave a presentation titled "Think Outside

the Box—Choose Study Abroad and International Scholarship." Phi Beta Delta Honor Society is open to students, staff, faculty, and community members who have demonstrated outstanding performance and/or support of international education, international exchange, and internationalization of the campus.

Pictured above l. to r. are (front row) Dr. Aart Holtslag (president), Yuanyan Liu, Kayla Landsberger, Victoria Asper, Ayanna Hyatte, Dalia Rodriguez, Ashley Carey, Virgie Moore; (back row) Youssouf Bakayoko, Dr. John Sedlins, Donna Miller, Dr. Erica Rumbley, Wrenna Dorner, Eli Hall, Dr. Sharon Mailey, James Rinker, Dr. Tracy Nichols, Dr. LeAnn Johnson, Andrew Hartman II. (Not pictured) Dr. Stephen Spencer, honorary member; Bianca Ison via Zoom from Scotland; Bryan Staggers in California.



Pictured above: Dr. John Sedlins, keynote speaker and Honorary member.

Mark Your Calendar: 37th Annual Phi Beta Delta conference *A web conference via Zoom*

May 23-24, 2023

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars will host a fully online conference with the theme "Global Learning and Scholarship: Cultivating Community, Connection, and Collaboration Across Disciplines and Institutions." Research paper and poster presentations will be shared online with videoconferencing and screen sharing technology. Presenters will discuss best practices in global teaching and learning

from a diverse array of academic disciplines and global perspectives. Program details are forthcoming on the society's website www.phibetadelta.org

Shepherd University is registered for the conference so interested persons may attend free of charge. Those wishing to participate should contact Dr. Ann Marie Legreid, campus coordinator, at alegreid@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5332/-5011. ■



Headed for youth exchange in Germany

In the year ahead, Chloe Bailey will be in a select group of Americans participating in the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals in Germany. The fellowship is funded by the German Bundestag and U.S. Department of State and annually provides 75 American and 75 German young professionals the opportunity to spend one year in each other's countries studying, interning, and living with hosts on a cultural immersion program. In addition to being a Truman Scholarship finalist this year, Chloe was awarded the Political Leadership, Activism, and Citizenship Award by the Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography. ■

On exchange in Japan

Lily Gross, a sophomore political science major, global studies minor, and Arabella McCloud, a junior business administration major, are currently on exchange at Shepherd's partner university in Japan, the Osaka University of Commerce. They will study in Osaka from April to July during the Japanese spring semester, with coursework in business, economics, Japanese language, and global studies. ■

Study Abroad *continues to grow*

by Dr. Sam Greene

Building on four students studying abroad in fall and one over winter break, eight students are undertaking study abroad in the spring of 2023. Destinations in academic year 2022-2023 include exchanges with partners in Scotland, Germany, and Japan, and direct enroll programs in Argentina, England, Greece, and Spain. Undergraduate programs represented include business administration, economics, elementary education, exercise science, global studies, political science, and Spanish, as well as graduate students in Appalachian studies.

Four faculty-led trips are planned for summer 2023: Guatemala, Ireland, Europe (multi-country), and Kenya from disciplines including Appalachian studies, history, political science, and education.

Students interested in individual study abroad opportunities can contact Dr. Greene at sgreene@shepherd.edu.

Faculty-led program details are available at <https://www.shepherd.edu/study-abroad/institutional-partnerships>.

Shepherd students succeed in national awards

Three students have received Gilman Scholarships to support funding their study abroad in summer and fall of 2023. Paris Kimbrell, a business administration major, will study in Italy in summer 2023. Rebecca Bevan, a psychology major and global studies minor, will study in London, England in summer 2023. Jasmine Hernandez, a psychology major and crime and society minor, will study in Japan in fall 2023.

Joanna Hernandez, a senior double major in political science and Spanish, is a Fulbright semi-finalist for graduate study in Mexico. Joanna interviewed with the commission in Mexico in March.

Students eligible for Pell Grants can apply for the Gilman Scholarship to fund study abroad; applications are open each fall and spring. The Gilman scholarship awards up to \$5,000 to support study abroad. Graduating seniors and recent graduates can apply for Fulbright awards to fund graduate study, research, or English teaching abroad. Students interested in these and other funding opportunities should contact Dr. Greene, the coordinator of the Welch Distinguished Awards Program, at sgreene@shepherd.edu.



Pictured: Virginia Mason, elementary education major, studying at the American College of Greece in fall 2022

For more pictures of recent trips, see: www.shepherd.edu/study-abroad/photo-gallery-recent-experiences

Shepherd deepens partnership with Hochschule Mittweida in Germany

Shepherd's new partnership with Hochschule Mittweida in the Saxony region of eastern Germany is growing thanks to reciprocal visits. In November, Dr. Samuel Greene, Shepherd's director of study abroad and associate professor in the Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography, visited Mittweida to present at the East-West Forum, an international conference. He also met with faculty and students in Mittweida to discuss the development of a partnership and encourage students to study on exchange at Shepherd.

In March, Dr. Serge Velesco, professor of industrial management and study dean for cooperation degree programs; Lars Melzer, head of faculty administration; and Jill Deschner-Warner, academic assistant for industrial management; visited Shepherd, holding meetings with students, faculty, and administrators.

Shepherd's first exchange student will attend Mittweida in spring 2023, and the first German students will come to Shepherd in the fall of 2023. Shepherd will have at least two exchange places in Germany each spring, open to students with majors or minors in communications, business, economics, political science, and global studies. Shepherd is also exploring additional possible collaborations.

Students interested in an exchange place in Germany or one of Shepherd's five other partners should contact Dr. Greene at sgreene@shepherd.edu. ■

Pictured left: (top) Dr. Greene speaking at the East-West Forum; (middle) Dr. Greene with students and faculty from Mittweida; (bottom) Faculty and staff from Mittweida at Shepherd.



Student Spotlight: Kaelyn Corun

Major: Political science

Minors: Global studies; crime and society

Destination: University of the West of Scotland, Paisley, Scotland

Reason for Studying Abroad: "I decided to study abroad because I have never lived anywhere but

West Virginia. As our world continues to become more connected and globalized than ever before, I have realized how important it is for me to experience as many places and cultures as I can. I chose Scotland because I have never traveled outside of the country before and I wanted somewhere I knew I could be comfortable. I also have Celtic ancestry from Scotland so it was important to me to connect to my roots."



Mariupol, Ukraine. Photo from Radio Free Europe.

Perspective-Taking: *Students write on the horrors of the Ukraine*

On February 24, 2022, Russian bombs rained down on Mariupol, Ukraine, bringing an abrupt end to routine, bustling life in a beautiful city. The bombs took away everything the people knew as normal and civilized. The film, “Mariupol. Lost Hope” tells the story of the Ukrainian people as they lived and died through those horrific days. The citizens of Mariupol want us to share their story by showing this film of destruction and victim interviews: vimeo.com/731046618

The film left an indelible impression on Shepherd students who viewed it this semester. Some students were asked to imagine themselves in the midst of this destruction and to share their thoughts and feelings as victims...dazed and living in the moment with diminishing hope.

“The Ghosts of Mariupol, Ukraine”

by Marshall Shanaberger

Marshall Shanaberger, an environmental sciences student at Shepherd, has written a stirring account as a ghost of this tragedy.

“My name is Bodgan and I’ve been dead for

twelve days. So much is different as a ghost, and nobody is around to tell you how it works, you just have to figure it out. I’ve figured out how to write things down and maybe this will help someone else. We ghosts can’t talk otherwise, not even to one another. One thing you need to know right now, if you try to remember too hard, or think too hard you’ll pass out. That’s not quite right, we don’t sleep anymore. Every day I sort of wake up in the same place though. I wake up in the house I died in with a pink towel on my face and holes in my down jacket. I think it’s pretty similar for everyone. I see many ghosts waking up on balconies, or sleeping in their front yards. When it was cold enough it was the only thing left to do with the bodies. There wasn’t really a system in place for taking them away. Another thing, we generally look like we did when we died.

Mom said rockets flutter and bombs whistle, unless they’re coming for you. She was right. You don’t hear anything until they explode. You hear that explosion with every part of your body. I was in the kitchen when the bomb went off. I passed out for a few seconds and reached back to touch my neck, it came away wet and

hot with blood. People say blood is coppery but it must be iron right? It’s metallic certainly. I’m thinking about this as I die. There are feathers everywhere, and I don’t know why. One settles on my lip and sticks to some blood. It tickles me as I breathe in, I don’t have the strength anymore to puff it away. Mom comes in and rushes over to me. My uncle and cousin were in the house, my cousin is fine, she’s only 14 years old and she is screaming. That’s how I’m sure she’s fine, there is vitality in that screaming. I can tell my uncle is not fine, his breath comes in wet wheezes. Mom puts her hand on my neck and it’s cold and soothing. It reminds me of when she would put a cold cloth on my head when I had a fever. In that moment, I feel like everything might be ok. She reaches up and grabs the feather from my lips. That’s the last time I tasted something. I’m sure I could taste sauerkraut as her finger brushed my lip. She was making Kapusniak and had just stepped outside when the bomb hit. We didn’t always have power so it would have been nice to have a hot meal before I died. Did you know Kapusniak used to be served for funerals? Seems appropriate, no? She covers my face with a pink towel and that’s the last

thing I see, just pink, and then darkness.

Sorry about that, I told you it was hard to remember things. If something comes to you, let it. Write it down like I just did. You might not remember it again. Cherish any memories that come back. My uncle wakes up in the kitchen with me too, he didn't die when I died, he died as the building burnt down around us. He's a burner, and I can't be around him.

I'd recommend you try to stay away from the burners. People that burned to death seem different; I think it drove them crazy. I once went down to the maternity ward. I won't do that again, the babies, there is no helping them.

I wanted to help people. Do you remember what you wanted to be when you grew up? What was the first job you dreamed of when you were a child? Was it realistic, did you still want to be that later? I remember wanting to do my obligatory military service and then go into medicine. I thought I could help people as a soldier and maybe a doctor later. When I was 12, I found out I had a medical condition and I couldn't join the military. I can't remember what it was. I think in those first few days of bombing, I was ashamed. People could tell that I was old enough, I'm sure they wondered why I wasn't fighting. I almost wish my illness was something visible. I wanted to shout at them that I wanted to help, I could fight. Instead, I spent my time helping people after the bombings. We would check buildings for survivors, get people to shelter. If things were quiet, I would run errands for the elderly. It was strange how quickly we all got used to not having cell phones. There was a real sense of community in the last few days.

We have a sense of community now, we ghosts, but it's different. Most of us just like to be near other ghosts. Ghosts don't sleep, I might have said that already, but when the sun goes down, we kind of fade away. That's how I know ghost stories are 'fihnya'. Ghosts can't be out at night it seems.

The Russian soldiers have occupied Mariupol now. I'm not mad at them, they seem sad, too. Other ghosts follow them around and try to mess with them. I can't really hear or understand anyone. It's not a language problem, it's a dead problem. I once tried to unplug my ears and kept pulling out bloody feathers. Weird stuff happens, and if it does, don't do whatever caused it again. I can't tell you why it's bad, but you'll get a pretty good sense of when you're doing something wrong.

I don't know how long this will last. It's hard to keep track of the days. I think I'm going to go back to trying to help people. I would have started university in the fall, pre-med. I'll keep

searching for survivors and maybe I can find a way to get help to them. I just have to try. I can't imagine waking up in the kitchen where I died every day and not doing anything. Nobody is telling me what any of this means, so I'm going to make my own meaning for it. Now let me teach you how ghosts write things down..."

"Mariupol will stay in my heart"

by Shenan Ragle

Shenan Ragle is a data analytics major in the advanced analytics concentration. She took the perspective of a new mother faced with the challenges of tending a newborn as the bombs fell.

"I am the new mother who was interviewed, the niece of Nadiya who wrote the famous diary. I was in the maternity ward of Mariupol when the war started. One moment I was beginning my labor, excited to have my first child, but also anxious, filled with the concerns of new motherhood, and the next moment I was in the middle of a war. I did not know if my child would have a chance to live, or if I would live to protect him. My predictable life was suddenly filled with the unknown, and the most important and basic necessities of life, even life itself, were suddenly a throw of the dice. I have never been more physically, mentally, and emotionally drained. Everything was focused on our survival. I was filled with anxiety, and my son became my only reason for living. We stayed in basements and he was so pale from never seeing sunlight. I became pale too, and thin. We were all thin because the food began to run out; there wasn't going to be enough for me or Nadiya or my son. Finally, we knew we would die if we stayed, so I had to take my son and leave my home. I don't know if I will ever return.

The war came to Mariupol, a beautiful and colorful city, and painted it gray. Anything that had been standing was demolished, regardless of its purpose. The trees in the parks were shattered and every open space was filled with rubble. Things like buildings and streets that were smooth, and anything that had been sleek or modern, was replaced with broken concrete and shell craters. I spent most of my time in a basement. It was dark and so crowded I couldn't breathe. The air felt dirty in my lungs and it was so rancid that my sense of smell nearly left me. Almost, because I could still smell the metallic scent of iron from the shells when they exploded near us and the dried blood that was everywhere. There weren't enough places for burials anymore so bodies laid everywhere outside. When I went outside, I saw that many people are just left where they fell. I used to know some of them but it feels like a lifetime ago. Even in the basement I could still hear

everything. The bombs whistle when they are falling, and then comes the explosion. Only the ones that fall close to us don't make a sound. There used to be sirens to warn us, but they have all been blown up. We could still tell when the shelling would start though, because my son would cry right before it began. Some of the worst things are scenes I cannot describe. There are no words for the horror in my own mind. You cannot understand until you, too, have lived through this.

In Mariupol we were modern and technology was important to us. But when the war came, so much of it was blown up and we really only had our small personal devices left. We would all charge our phones as much as we could, especially to use as flashlights in the dark basement. There was no internet and we couldn't communicate with the outside world, but the phones represented a hope that maybe we could connect, eventually. That we would go back to normal again. They also represented the hope of reconnecting with our missing relatives. My own husband was fighting in the Ukrainian army, and there was no way to reach him or even know if he was alive. I wondered if he would ever meet our son, but keeping my phone was a ray of hope. Still, we had to learn to live without our phones. We relied on the people around us for help and helped them in turn. Our eyes and hands adjusted to seeing and feeling in the dark, and we adapted to our new life because if we didn't, we would die. Now that I have escaped Mariupol, I have my phone working again, and I can use the internet. It is more important than ever because I can find my loved ones. Nadiya has found her husband, who also escaped the city. I hope I will see mine again, too.

People ask me what my future is, and the only answer I can give is 'I do not know'. My home is gone, most of my family and friends are dead or gone, and I have no idea where my husband is. It's like Nadiya says, 'the only place I want to be now is Mariupol,' but that place does not exist anymore and I do not know what to do with myself. Mariupol was part of my identity. Now, my remaining family is all that is left of my city and old life, so I will stay with Nadiya and her husband, and do my best to make a good life for my son. I think I will write my story, so that I can share it with him when he is old enough to understand. That way, it will be there for him to show his children, and their children, and so on. No matter where I go, Mariupol will stay in my heart and in the hearts of my family." ■

Collaboration builds synergy

The International Student Affairs Office and Phi Beta Delta-Theta Epsilon Chapter co-sponsored informational displays in the Student Center for International Women's Day and the Indian Holi Festival of Lights. The groups also collaborated in hosting Global Film Day, showing "Mariupol. Lost Hope" and sharing the link with all Shepherd students and employees.

Members of the Internationalization Advisory Council (IAC) have been engaged in internationalization strategic planning over the past year. The Internationalization Strategic Plan, 2023-2028, finalized in February 2023, includes a SWOT analysis and four basic goals with accompanying

objectives and strategies: Maintain a Shepherd University organizational structure that supports comprehensive internationalization; enhance international opportunities for students at Shepherd University; increase and maintain the number of international students at Shepherd University at the undergraduate and graduate levels; expand globally focused research and engagement at Shepherd University; and implement a campus-wide assessment program that systematically tracks for the quality, quantity, and efficacy of international and intercultural initiatives. The plan will be linked electronically to other planning documents at Shepherd, namely, those from Enrollment Management and the Office of International Affairs. ■



Noche Gauthier wins Study Abroad Travel Scholarship

Noche Gauthier is the 2023 recipient of the Study Abroad Travel Scholarship. Noche is a dual enrollment student, planning to pursue a B.A. in Appalachian studies and currently in the APST 430 Celtic Roots class. Noche will be traveling June 12-25, 2023, with the Celtic Roots travel abroad class. The class will visit James Joyce's Dublin, the Ring of Kerry, and Ulster, Ireland, along with Cornwall and Wales. Highlights of this Celtic Roots trip will be exploring Yeats country near Sligo, the Ulster Museum that tells the stories of Scots-Irish who immigrated to Appalachia, the Cornish coast and St. Michael's Mount, as well as Tintagel Castle ruins, Virginia Stephen Woolf's St. Ives, setting for *To the Lighthouse*, and Tintern Abbey, setting for Wordsworth's finest ode. To make the Celtic Roots Global Appalachia trip, Noche won the full travel scholarship, funded by Allies for Appalachia at the Shepherd University Foundation. Noche will become the Anthology of Appalachian Writers student editor in 2025. ■

Global Studies *update*

The Global Studies B.A. program has been revamped in response to last year's program review, with numerous revisions to the four concentrations: Global Governance and Peace, Global Economics and Development, Global Environments, and Culture and History in a Global Age. The proposed changes have been approved through the curricular

review process and the revised program goes into effect fall 2023. A 2+2 agreement has been developed with Laurel Ridge Community College and another 2+2 agreement is in development with Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. Dr. Marat Akopian, assistant professor of political science, is director of the Global Studies program. ■



Joanna Hernandez

Students cited for excellence

Daileesia Kellahan is the 2023 recipient of the Excellence in Geography Award. A sophomore elementary education major, Daileesia eventually intends to pursue a graduate degree in education and teach outside of the United States. She is a perceptive and energetic student who will take geography with her on her journey of lifelong learning.

Joanna Hernandez was named the 2023 Outstanding Student in Political Science at the recent capstone-awards event in the Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography. Her intent is to attend law school and become an immigration lawyer. Last year she was awarded the prestigious Gilman Award for study in Spain. ■



Tayler Sisk was named 2023 Outstanding Senior in Global Studies.