



Global Awareness Society International Newsletter

Fall 2007

Editor, photographer, and publisher Dr. Madhav P. Sharma, Executive Director, GASI, Director, International Education Office, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

The 16th GASI Seoul Conference A Success!

The 16th GASI annual international Conference was held in Seoul, Korea from May 19-27, 2007. The theme of the conference was **Globalization: Promoting Equality or Perpetuating Inequality**. The conference opened with keynote speeches by Dr. Jessica S. Kozloff, President, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Bae Yong Lee, President of Ewha Woman's University. Each discussed their unique perspectives on the challenge and opportunities for higher education in a Global Society. Students, scholars, and international professionals from around the globe presented their papers on various aspects of globalization. The topics discussed cover a broad range including Equality, Social Problems, Gender Issues, Literature and Language, Global Economy, Educational Issues, Terrorism, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Issues and other topics related to globalization.



Dr. Jessica S. Kozloff, President, Bloomsburg University,
Dr. Bae Yong Lee, President, Ewha Woman's University
Dr. Chang Shub Roh, Founder
Ms. Ja Hei Kim, President, GASI Korea



Keynote speakers with Korean representatives



GASI members with performers in Seoul, Korea

Welcome letter from the Korea Board Chair

Welcome!

Although I was not able to meet you personally due to my health, on behalf of the GASI, Korea Chapter, we would like to extend our welcome greetings to each of you who attended the 16th annual conference in Seoul, Korea. We are indeed honored to host you from all around the globe. Please have a wonderful visit to our country and have a very successful and meaningful annual conference. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Young Shub Roh, M.D.
Board Chair, GASI/Korea.

Message from Dr. Michael M. Seipel, President, GASI:
The GASI/Korea conference was a great success! The participants felt that globalization of ideas brought the world community together and increased understanding and unity among professionals from all disciplines. Participants also acknowledged that there are still misunderstandings, suspicions, frustrations, and hostility among people and nations. At the conclusion of the conference, all the participants pledged that each will endeavor to work toward building greater understanding, harmony, and equity among all people.





Laura Buffone of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania



Raeesa S. Khan of Bloomsburg University, Pennsylvania, USA

Student Scholarship recipients recognized at Seoul Conference

Students receiving scholarships to participate in the Sixteenth Annual International Conference held in Seoul, Korea were **Laura Buffone** of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania; she received the **Roh Family Scholarship** for her paper presentation, "American Children and Their Need for Global Education,"

Raeesa S. Khan of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania received the first **Leland Stanford McKeeman Scholarship** for her presentation, "Redefining the Role of Women in the Global Community," and **Eunjoo Choi** of Doshisha University, Japan, received a special scholarship made possible through the generosity of **Dr. Midori Yamanouchi**, Academic Vice President of Lackawanna College, Scranton Pennsylvania for the paper presentation, "Beyond the Welfare State: Focused on NPO/NGO and Social Capital."

Professionals recognized at Seoul Conference for Contribution to Global Understanding

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Dr. Jessica S. Kozloff
President of Bloomsburg University



Ms. Ja Hei Kim
President GASI/ Korea



Dr. Madhav P. Sharma
Executive Director



Dr. Ronald Meyers
Professor, East Stroudsburg University



Ms. Sook Young Oh,
Executive Director
GASI Korea



Dr. Jay Nathan
Editor of the Journal

Journal: Dr. Jay Nathan from St. John's University, Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Global Awareness has published recently, Volume 1, Number 4, Autumn 2006. The journal is the refereed, peer reviewed journal listed in Cabells' directory. Our society is grateful for his diligence in publishing a high quality of renewed publication.



The GASI Korean Chapter Officers

Submit manuscripts for review to:

Dr. Jay Nathan, Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Global Awareness
Tobin College of Business
St. John's University
Queens, New York 11439, USA





Challenges and Opportunities for US Higher Education in a Global Society

Jessica S. Kozloff, Ph.D.
President, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

Good afternoon. It is indeed my pleasure to speak at this opening session of the Global Awareness Society. I am delighted to be sharing this honor with President BaeYong Lee, as we share our perspectives as an American and Korean university president. I suspect that we will touch on some similar themes as well as pointing out some unique challenges facing our respective higher education systems.

And yet, there are storm clouds hovering over the American system of higher education. Simply put, there are more and more governmental pressures on what has traditionally been a system of education known for its autonomy as well as its diversity.

Why have these pressures intensified? For the past nine years, the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges has issued a public policy report entitled the "Ten Public Policy Issues for Higher Education in 2007 and 2008." This report, which was just issued in May 2007, provides an excellent overview for our discussions today.

The AGB report notes that this year, higher education has been very much in the news because of the report of the Spellings Report, named for the current Secretary of Education. Today, more than ever, there is a strong possibility of federal regulations or laws in dealing with these policy issues. Let me briefly touch upon each of them, in the order presented in the AGB report, and then conclude with a summary of the broader implications.

1. Price of Tuition

One of the major points of the Spellings Commission Report was that educational access for families with low incomes is declining. As reported by the College Board, average tuition at public colleges and universities increased by 51 percent over the ten year period since 1996. As tuition levels continue to rise, the price of a college education is receiving greater attention from the press, the public and elected officials. The Spellings Report suggested "a focused program of cost-cutting and productivity improvements in U.S. postsecondary institutions."

2. Student Aid Policy

This issue is closely related to the previous one. The federal government plays a big part in student aid policy, being the largest source of financing for low and middle income students. This year, Congress is debating whether to increase the amount awarded to students so families can reduce their reliance on private lenders. After five years of being frozen at \$4,050, the maximum grant was increased to \$4,310 and there is discussion about raising that figure to \$5,400 over the next five years. Congress is also looking at simplifying the application process. Another heated debate relates to whether the government should directly give loans, or whether loans should flow through banks. Up to this point, higher education institutions have been able to choose which method they want, but recent scandals related to college "kickbacks" from lending authorities is putting this issue back on the front burner. There is a growing debate about whether aid should be distributed on the basis of MERIT or NEED.

3. Access and Success

As a college degree has become more and more necessary, not only for personal success, but for economic competitiveness, colleges and universities are asked to ensure that students successfully complete the college curriculum. The old concept that college is a "sink or swim" proposition is being replaced with an emphasis on the universities' responsibility to help students be successful. The demographic shifts in the United States – increasing numbers of minority and low-income students in the college pipeline – put even more pressure on universities to examine their student retention policies. It is predicted that by 2015, college enrollment in the United States will have increased by 25 percent, but most of this increase will be from minority families who are often low-income. Many of these students begin their education at community colleges, and in fact, 37 percent of all undergraduates are enrolled in community colleges, so transfer policies between the four year and two year sectors of higher education have become matters of federal and state legislation.

4. Accountability for Student Learning

Higher education is being challenged to define educational goals more clearly and to measure and improve student performance. Policy makers are increasingly interested in "performance measures" such as "graduation rates" or other measures of student learning, in order to hold higher education accountable for student success. Currently, there is a very serious debate going on about the role of accrediting agencies in basing accreditation decisions on how well institutions measure student learning outcomes, or how well institutions provide information about what they do and how they do it. This links to the issue of student financial aid policy, because only institutions that are accredited have access to federal financial aid dollars.

5. Consumer Information

As we see more demands for institutional accountability, we are also seeing calls for more public information about what colleges do and how well we do it. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings has used her own example as a parent trying to decide which college is best for her child. She has compared shopping for a college to that of shopping for a car, asking why parents cannot compare colleges on a series of performance measures such as graduation rates or employment placement rates as well as comparing the cost of an education at various institutions. The call seems to be for comparable data, which brings up the topic of standardized testing or national benchmarks. Despite calls for colleges and universities to publish more and better information, no consensus exists about what information to collect, how to make it available, or its utility in measuring academic quality.

6. Board Accountability

Congress and state legislatures are examining ways to make sure nonprofit boards are more carefully monitored. For example, IRS guidelines about codes of ethics, whistleblower policies, executive compensation and conflict of interest policies are currently under discussion. The same questions that have been raised about non-profit boards in the philanthropic world and for-profit boards in the free market sector are now being considered for higher education boards. While new legislation is unlikely, attention to compliance of existing rules will certainly intensify.



The GASI group enjoyed Tae Kwondo

Tae Kwondo is Korean unique marshal art used as self-defense, character building and mental discipline. This has been practiced for decades. Here are three generations of a family (William Weiter, Shi Young Roh, Myung Ja Roh and Manager Chang Shub Roh (center) giving a Black Belt Tae Kwondo demonstration along with Traditional Folk Dance Performance for the GASI members.



Three Generations Black Belt Demonstration Tae Kwondo and Korean Traditional Folk Dance Performers

At the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) they were permitted to enter a tunnel which at one time led to North Korea. Originally, the North Koreans had secretly constructed it for the purpose of invading the south.



Visiting the DMZ Museum



**GASI members at DMZ
DMZ provides testimony to Korea's recent past**



GASI members working for Korean unification

“The 16th Annual conference was held in Seoul, Korea, from May 19-27 in the Korean Centennial Christian Memorial Conference Center to hear papers on various subjects related to globalization as it affects various regions of the world. Keynote speeches were offered by Dr. Jessica S. Kozloff, President of Bloomsburg University and Dr. Bae Yong Lee, President of the Ewha Woman's University in Seoul Korea, on the subject of “Challenges and Opportunities for Higher Education in the Face of Globalization.” ... People from various continents, race and religions met and enjoyed touring the nation of Korea including the DMZ.”





Gate of the Buddha Kingdom

This Gate was newly built in 1973 during the restoration of the temple. The architectural style of this gate is modeled on that of the Choson period (1392~1910). The gate is known as the biggest of the extant gates of its kind in the nation.



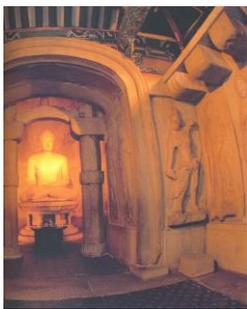
The GASI Group after Crossing the Gate of Heaven



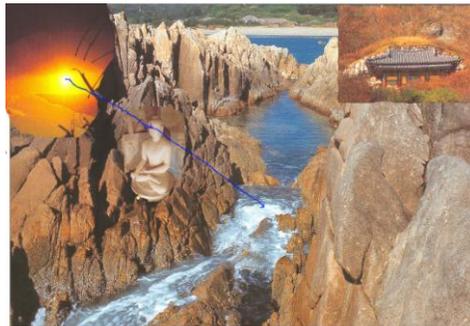
Bongeun-sa Temple

Underwater tomb of King Munmu

This large rock called Taewantam (Great King's Rock), submerged in the East Sea, is known as the underwater mausoleum of Silla's King Munmu, who unified the Korean army of Tang China in 676. The king died in 680 and his body was cremated. This granite rock on the sea is said to have been the place where his remains were preserved in accordance with the will of the king. The tomb, 20 meters away from the shore, is known as the world's only undersea mausoleum. It is interesting that every morning when the sun rises, sunlight is radiated by the diamond on the Buddha's forehead to the water where the tomb lies. It is said the tomb is protected. In addition, Avalokitesvara and smiling Buddhas are the added attractions. Buddhist followers believe that by visiting all these shrines they could feel eternal peace.



The First Sunlight shines on Buddha.



The Sunlight Radiates the Diamond & Protects the Tomb under the Sea.



Avalokitesvara Buddha



The Smiling Buddha

Purposes of the Global Awareness Society International

1. To promote awareness of the diversity of cultures within our global community.
2. To enhance our understanding of the political, economic, social, demographic, technological, and environmental issues among members of the global community.
3. To increase sensitivity to issues related to rapid globalization.
4. To develop a mutual support network of scholars, professionals, interested people and organizations.
5. To provide multiple forums for the exchange of research, knowledge, and expertise on people oriented issues related to globalization.
6. To help people recognize the diversity and interdependence of the globe's peoples and the process of globalization.
7. To develop and expand the members of national or regional Global Awareness Societies under the direction of the GASI to pursue our common goals.

*Please send your story and pictures for the next newsletter to:
msharma@bloomu.edu*





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Highlights of the Korean Cultural Pre-conference Programs

Eternal Peace ---Experiencing Buddhist Culture in South Korea by Dr. Madhav P. Sharma

During the eight day conference, the GASI members participated directly in the South Korean culture. They visited traditional architectures, cultural sites, as well as the modern Korean cities and villages. It provided them vivid and direct view of Korean society past and present. The Conference offered rare opportunities for members to communicate ideas, improve mutual understandings and to promote global peace.

South Korea with breathtaking landscape and ancient temples has maintained distinct and homogenous identity that has been highly influenced by its religious beliefs. According to 2006 statistics compiled by the South Korean government, Wonbulgyo, Taoism, Confucianism, Christianity, and Buddhism are the main religions of South Korea. Of these, Buddhism comprises the majority. Buddhism was introduced in Korea around 372 A.D. However, it is blended with the local religion "Shamanism." An example of this is the acceptance and absorption of Sanshin (the mountain spirit), Toksong (the recluse), and Chilsong (the spirit of the seven stars) of Shamanism spirits by the Korean Buddhism and as a result one finds special shrines set aside for them in many Buddhist temples in Korea. The Korean Buddhism is the blend of Buddhism and Shamanism and because of this blend the mountains in Korea became the sites of many Buddhist shrines and temples. **GASI members visited the following sites:**

Pulguksa

Pulguksa, Kingdom of Buddha or the land of Happiness, is the number one historic site in Kyungju, located on the southwestern slope of Mt. Tohamsan. The temple was first built in 528 AD. The temple is beautiful, providing eloquent testimony to the great skill of Silla artisans. The GASI participants spent hours in Pulguksa and were deeply attracted by the brilliant Buddhist culture of the Unified Silla Kingdom.

Sokkuram Grotto

Sokkuram Grotto, situated higher up on Mt. Tohamsan, is the No. 24 National treasure. The temple was constructed in 751 as a worship place to pray for national prosperity, reincarnation of royal family and realization of one's wishes. It is believed that visiting this temple and praying can fulfill his or her wishes.

The Main Buddha

The main Buddha sits at a place that is slightly behind the center of the room. It is sitting on a pedestal that is decorated in beautiful flowers. The position of its hand is called "Ch'okjihangmain" or "Bhumimudra" peace and tranquility of Buddha that destroys the seduction of the evil and the evidence of learning of Buddhism.



The Main Hall



Inside The Main Hall





Leland Stanford McKeeman Scholarship Fund Established

Long-time Global Awareness Society Board of Consultants member, Leland Stanford McKeeman, passed away on September 7, 2006. Stan McKeeman, originally from Fort Wayne, Indiana, was a life-long friend of GASI founder, Chang Shub Roh. Mr. McKeeman and Dr. Roh served together in the Korean War and remained close friends. Then Dr. Roh came to the States to study social work and sociology at LSU. Stan McKeeman's sisters, and other friends and family members have helped GASI establish the **Leland Stanford McKeeman Scholarship Fund** which is aimed at encouraging student participation in GASI activities by providing travel grants to highly qualified students participating in the Annual International Conference. The scholarship fund is currently endowed with \$20,000 with annual interest going to support student activities.



*Mr. Leland Stanford
McKeeman with Dr. Roh
(Photo 1955)*

Individual Gifts that Make a Difference, Since 2006

Gifts to GASI go to support student participation in our conferences, general conference facilities, the Society's Publication, and other activities of GASI. Donations can be designated for the Chang Shub and Myung Ja Roh Global Awareness Scholarship Fund, the Leland Stanford McKeeman Memorial Scholarship Fund, or to GASI in general. Individuals, families, and organizations that have made special cash contributions to GASI include:

Crown Products
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*Please send checks to:
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 Attention:
 Dr. James C. Pomfret,
 Treasurer, GASI
 Bloomsburg University
 400 East Second Street
 Bloomsburg, PA 17815*

*Please specify whether
 the contribution should
 be dedicated to one of
 the scholarship funds.*

*GASI is a 501 C-3 tax
 exempt organization.*





Other Cultural Activities of GASI members included “Riding a Bullet train to Pusan,” ringing the historical “bell,” tasting Korean “cuisine,” walking around the “fish market, visiting the “Korean zodiac,” “Witnessing the traditional Korean Wedding,” enjoying the Korean traditional dance,” watching “Korean rope walking,” drinking famous “Korean ginseng tea,” crossing the “Gate of Heaven,” walking on the “Seoul Midtown River,” and piling up Spiritual Stones for “Korean unification and world peace .”



GASI Members Take a Bullet Train to Pusan



Ringing the Bell



Visiting the Korean Zodiac



Tasting Korean Ginseng Tea



Watching the Rope Walking



Enjoying Korean Cuisine



Crossing the Gate of Heaven



Walking on the Seoul Midtown River



Observing Traditional Korean Wedding



Lighting the Spiritual Candle



Piling Spiritual Stones



7. Tax Policy

Congress is considering an array of tax benefits that may reduce the cost of education. For example, in 1997 Congress approved a tax deduction for interest paid on student loans. Should the current cap of \$2,500 be raised? Should Congress increase it to \$4,000? At what income levels should these tax relief measures be phased out? Is tax policy really the best way to help families pay for a college education, or should the federal government increase its direct subsidies to students?

8. Scientific Research

There is a growing concern that the United States is falling behind other countries in its investment in higher education, especially in the area of federal research dollars. Recent reports show that other countries are producing more graduates in scientific and engineering fields. Along with debates about insufficient funding for research, there is also a growing debate about the "politicization of science," for example ideological arguments about global warming or stem-cell research.

9. Global Competitiveness

Publication of Tom Friedman's "The World is Flat" has brought this topic to the forefront and it is closely related to the issues around investments for scientific research. Some studies have put America as 12th in the major industrialized countries in higher education attainment, other studies have stated that China and India award many more degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that 90 percent of the fastest growing job categories will require at least some postsecondary education. Colleges and universities are finding it more difficult to recruit faculty to teach in the "stem" disciplines. Likewise, how can the United States attract and retain international students and faculty? Strengthening America's position in the global economy poses challenges and opportunities in the areas of workforce development, science and technology education, and cross-cultural education.

10. Aligning the P-20 Education System

There is more and more discussion that all of the issues discussed previously require much more coordination between higher education and the K-12 system. There is indeed, now discussion about referring to the American educational system as a P-20 system, preschool to graduate school. Colleges and Universities are being asked to clearly define expectations for college readiness, establishing English and mathematics benchmarks that describe specific content and skills. Again, the issue of how students move from one sector to another becomes relevant as dual enrollment programs in high school and higher education become more common, and articulation agreements between community colleges and higher education are mandated by legislatures. There is currently discussion in Washington about federal legislation that will either require more articulation agreements in order to receive federal funds, or to grant federal financial incentives to those who voluntarily make ease of transfer. Higher education is under increasing pressure to help foster better curricular integration of grade levels on the entire preschool-to-graduate school ladder.

It's clear that all ten of these issues are very interrelated and fall within the broad themes of the three A's: Access, Affordability and Accountability. It's also clear that the landscape for American Higher Education is changing, moving from a very autonomous model to one that is more subjected to external policies. In many ways these pressures are quite understandable given global competitiveness and changing demographics in the United States

But these pressures have made many U.S. educators uneasy. There is concern that the Department of Education seeks to put more and more pressure on higher education to change. The recent appointment of Anne D. Neal, executive director of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, is one of several that department officials have made in recent months to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, known as NACIQI.

NACIQI is the governmental agency that certifies accrediting agencies. Department officials have come to view accreditation, higher education's system of self-regulation and quality control, as an important pressure point for carrying out many of the recommendations of the Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education. That's because accrediting agencies have influence over the vast majority of colleges and programs, and because the department, through the NACIQI panel, has the ability to judge the performance of accreditors. That approval is crucial, because without it, an accreditor's stamp of approval of a college does not carry with it the all-important right for the institution's students to receive federal financial aid.

When I leave Korea in a few days, I will be flying to Washington, D.C. in my capacity as Chair of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Middle States is the regional accrediting body for Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, New Jersey and Puerto Rico. The Middle States president and I will respond to questions from this panel about how strongly our commission is monitoring the quality of the institutions we accredit.

Over the past year, the department panel has already begun altering the standards it uses to judge accreditors, urging them to set "bright line" minimum standards for the colleges they oversee to meet, to prove how successfully they are educating their students. College leaders and accreditors have criticized that push, accusing the department of prodding the advisory committee to change its standards before the department has proposed or instituted regulations that would formally enact such changes. A federal negotiating session aimed at reaching agreement on possible new accrediting regulations ended without consensus on key issues last week, although negotiators plan to meet one final day next month to try to resolve their differences.

It's interesting to note that it's not only American higher education that is facing pressures for more accountability. Begun in 1999, The Bologna Process is an intergovernmental initiative of 45 countries which aims to create a European Higher Education Area (EHEA) by 2010 and to promote the European system of higher education worldwide. The broad objectives of the Bologna Process sounds very similar to the policy issues I've discussed in relationship to the United States; to remove the obstacles to student mobility across Europe; to enhance the attractiveness of European higher education worldwide; to establish a common structure of higher education systems across Europe, and; for this common structure to be based on two main cycles, undergraduate and graduate. Interestingly, higher education officials are now raising concerns about loss of autonomy, as in a recent report from the British Parliament that warned the Bologna Process may be taking away too much autonomy from British universities.

Well, where does this leave us? It's clear that in this highly competitive global environment, higher education is more important than ever in terms of personal mobility and economic development. It is precisely because of its importance that external pressures will continue to increase. The challenge for all of us will be to find ways to balance the historical autonomy of higher education along with the traditional standards for quality, with the pressures for more accountability for what we do, and more pressure for us to do it in ways that allow more and more citizens to be educated.





Bloomsburg University Student Chapter Undertake Multicultural Event

GASI community organized an interesting picnic with a tour to a local farm on October, 2006, right before Thanksgiving. Many Bloomsburg University GASI members and international students participated in the activity. They spent the whole afternoon at the farm carving pumpkins, driving big trucks, making hotdogs and hamburgers, playing volleyball, and having dinner together. The food was prepared by the local members and international participants.

The tour provided a very good opportunity for international students to experience local American culture of Halloween and Thanksgiving to promote their understanding of diversity and global awareness.



Visiting scholar enjoying a big tractor



The group enjoying the farm trip



Dr. Sharma carving a pumpkin ☺



International students enjoying the local and international cuisine!



What a nice Halloween pumpkin!



Too heavy



Chicago Conference, 2006

The 15th GASI Conference was held in Chicago, Illinois U.S. from May 25 - 28th, 2006. Students, professors and international professionals presented papers and exchange ideas concerning global awareness and the cultural diversity all over the world. The academic community in the US was exposed to more ideas and world views by having international students from all over the world. These students not only share their cultural values with US students and communities but also diffuse what they have learned in the United States when they return to their respective cultures. The paper prepared by students examined cultural adjustment issues faced by international students. Identifying problems of socialization and trying to lessen the obstacles for social adjustment for international students are major concerns for academic administrators as well as for international students. Solutions to these problems have special interest not only for sociologists, psychologists, social scientists but also for administrators who enroll international students on their campus in the USA.



Student participants at the conference



International students with Dr. James Mackin, Dr. George Agbango, Dr. Jonathan Lincoln, Dr. Yang Xia and Dr. Madhav Sharma at Chicago GASI conference.



Tour of University of Chicago



GASI members enjoying the break



GASI members at the Chicago conference

- ✚ **GASI**, a non-profit organization established in 1991, aims to explore the exciting potential that globalization of the world's cultures and societies presents to each and every one planet.
- ✚ **Our vision:** A vital step toward achieving peace, harmony, and cooperation among the diverse peoples of our globe is to promote mutual understanding and appreciation for one another. Global Awareness Society International strives to turn a global vision into reality.



Student Profile

Judy Steinhilper
President of Bloomsburg University of GASI Student Chapter

Judy Steinhilper, a senior Anthropology major from Williamsport and graduate of Bishop Neumann High School, received invited status from the National Association of Student Anthropologists for a research poster on the "Phenomenon of Christian Rock" to be presented at the 106th American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in late November. The research was conducted in Dr. Faith Warner's ethnographic methods class. She also recently returned from a summer project as excavation site supervisor at the 7,000-year-old Tel Mendes site in Egypt in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State University. Named as the top junior anthropology major in the United States, she chose BU because of its proximity to home and its academic reputation, and plans on graduate study in paleoethnobotany or Middle Eastern studies. (From Bloomsburg University Homepage)





GLOBAL AWARENESS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
CALL FOR PAPERS
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
---2008---

One Globe: Many Voices, Many Challenges

San Francisco, California USA
Sheraton-Fisherman's Wharf
May 22 – May 25, 2008

SESSION PROPOSALS:

Please send a listing of all session information: (1) title of the session, (2) name and academic affiliation of the chair/president for the session, (3) titles of all papers, names and academic affiliations of all presenters, and (4) email addresses of all session participants. (Sessions typically include three or four papers.) Please send proposals to Dr. Lewis A. Mennerick, Department of Sociology, University of Kansas, at the following email address: mennerick@ku.edu. Please type the phrase, GASI, in the subject line of your email. **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL PROPOSALS IS MARCH 3, 2008.**

HOTEL: The Sheraton – Fisherman's Wharf has provided the following link to make reservations at the special conference rate:

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=070966740&key=42E40>

The number of rooms available at the conference site is limited so it is suggested that reservations be made by **March 15, 2008**. Conference site rooms may not be available after that date.

GASI Chapters and Liaisons

GASI has recognized chapters and Liaison in Cameroon, Ghana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, China, Iran, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan, Guyana, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, U.S.A, Turkey, Australia and New Zealand. In addition, it has student chapters in over forty countries of the world. The following is a group picture including international students attending Bloomsburg University.



The GASI Student group at Bloomsburg University

GASI
Fall 2007

