Week of March 20

Tuesday, March 22

Global Business Club of Mid-Michigan—“Export 101: Opportunities in Exporting for Small Businesses and Start-ups”

Sponsors: Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce; Lansing Community College; MSU Center for Advanced Study of International Development; the Center for Gender in Global Context; Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C., The Greater Lansing Business Monthly
8:30–1:30 p.m., MSU Henry Center

This event will cover the basic concepts in exporting—from doing research to select your target market, how to best take advantage of international trade shows, and method of entry to the logistics and legalities of shipping your product overseas and getting paid. This session will offer a wealth of information to those considering or new to exporting, as well as some tips and ideas for those already in the export game. A portion of the morning will include group discussion, as well as time for questions and answers. Our luncheon keynote will be provided by Zara Smith, an export program manager at the Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Zara will focus on the export assistance offered by SBDC to its clients, most notably the search engine optimization services and other helpful information for selling online. The cost of the event is $35.00 or $15.00 for students. Register at http://gbclub.msu.edu.

Round Table Discussion With David Grossman

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center; College of Arts and Letters; Department of English; Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; James Madison College; Lansing Jewish Federation; MSU Hillel Jewish Student Center; and the Residential College of Arts and Humanities
3:00–5:00 p.m., B342 Wells Hall

David Grossman is the leading Israeli writer of his generation and his work has been translated into more than thirty languages. He is the author of eight internationally acclaimed novels and two powerful journalistic accounts, as well as a number of children's books and a play. This panel discussion will include a Q & A session with panelists and audience members about Grossman's work and life.

Arabic Tea and Conversation Hour

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center

In This Issue

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Announcements

Center for Advanced Study of International Development
427 North Shaw Lane
International Center Room 202
East Lansing, MI 48824-1035
517/353-5925
www.casid.msu.edu
4:00–5:30 p.m., 302 International Center

Arabic Diwan is a gathering of Arabic students in the Arabic program where they can practice speaking the language while learning about the culture in a relaxed environment. Students from all Arabic levels are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Amr Rabie at rabieamr@msu.edu.

**Film Screening: Garam Hawa (Winds of Fire)**

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center and Muslim Studies
6:00–8:00 p.m., 201 International Center

This film is part of the 2016 Muslim Cultures in South Asian Cinema series. The series is presented by Jyotsna Singh, a professor in the Department of English, Swarnavel Pillai, an assistant professor in the Film Studies Program, Karin Zitzewitz, an associate professor in the Department of Art, Art History and Design, Sean Pue, the director of the Digital Humanities Program, and Rajiv Ranjan, an instructor in the Department of Linguistics and German, Slavic, Asian and African Languages.

**Korean Coffee House**

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
6:30 p.m., 303 International Center

Learn about Korean culture, music, food, and more. This event is free and open to everyone.

**Film Screening: Spring Cactus**

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
7:00 p.m., 107 South Kedzie

This film is part of the 2016 Annual Taiwan Film Festival. Director Huang Yu-shan will attend the film screening and answer questions.

“An Evening With David Grossman”

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center, College of Arts and Letters, Department of English, James Madison College, Lansing Jewish Federation, MSU Hillel Jewish Student Center, and the Residential College of Arts and Humanities
7:00 p.m., RCAH Theater, Snyder Hall

Grossman’s latest book, *Falling Out of Time*, was released in March 2014 to wide critical and reader acclaim. The genre-defying drama tells the story of bereaved parents setting out to reach their lost children. Concise and elemental, *Falling Out of Time* is a powerfully distilled experience of understanding and acceptance, and of art’s triumph over death. Grossman will read from and discuss his latest work.

Wednesday, March 23

“Helping Students Optimize International Learning Experiences”

Sponsor: Office of Study Abroad
11:30–1:00 p.m., MSU Union, Lake Superior Room

This session, moderated by Inge Steglitz, the acting director of the Office of Study Abroad, will provide participants with tools and models for designing pre-departure, on-site and post-return sessions that optimize
Study Abroad Information Sessions
Sponsor: Office of Study Abroad

Information meetings are an opportunity to learn about a program from the program leader, find out about applying to study abroad, ask questions and meet with fellow study abroad participants.

Comparative Law and Legal Systems in the Caribbean
Tuesday, March 22
4:40–5:40 p.m. and 6:30–7:30 p.m., C202 Syder-Phillips

“Sufism, Politics, and Interfaith Relations in Contemporary Egypt”

Sponsors: Department of Religious Studies, James Madison College, and African Studies Center
2:00–3:00 p.m., 303 International Center

Valerie Hoffman, a professor and the head of department at the University of Illinois, will speak as part of the Muslim Studies Program seminar series.

26th Annual International Awards Ceremony

Sponsor: International Studies and Programs
3:00–4:30 p.m., Huntington Club on the 4th floor of Spartan Stadium

Each year, International Studies and Programs presents a series of distinguished awards to recognize individuals who are solving the world's greatest problems, making the world a better place, internationalizing the student experience, advancing knowledge and transforming lives around the world. Awards are given to nominated faculty, staff, alumni, and students. Reception will follow the program. RSVP is appreciated but not required at riel@msu.edu.

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Graduate Student Panel: “From Police Archives to Artistic Installation: Truth Telling in Postwar Guatemala” and “Cuba and the Atlantic Slave Trade”

Sponsor: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
3:00–4:30 p.m., 201 International Center

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Graduate Student Research Panel will include the presentations “From Police Archives to Artistic Installation: Truth Telling in Postwar Guatemala” by Andrew Bentley, a doctoral student in the Department of Romance and Classical Studies, and “Cuba and the Atlantic Slave Trade” by Jorge Felipe Gonzalez, a doctoral student in the Department of History.

Sushi Making Workshop

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center an the MSU Japan Council
5:30–7:00 p.m., 303 International Center

Experience traditional Japanese culture and cuisine. You will learn how to roll your own sushi and use chopsticks. All supplies and Japanese green tea will be provided. Registration is required; to register, email the Asian
Studies Center at asiansc@msu.edu. Space is limited so apply soon.

**Film Screening: The Taste of Life**

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
7:00 p.m., 105 South Kedzie

This film is part of the 2016 Annual Taiwan Film Festival. Director Huang Yu-shan will attend the film screening and answer questions.

**Thursday, March 24**

**“UN Targeted Sanctions in Africa”**

Sponsor: African Studies Center
12:00–1:30 p.m., 201 International Center

Thomas Biersteker, a professor of international security and conflict studies at the Graduated Institute of International Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, will speak as part of the African Studies Center Eye on Africa weekly seminar series.


Sponsor: Geography
1:00 p.m., 105 Geography Building

Susie Wu will present and defend her dissertation proposal. Two hours will be allowed for the presentation and subsequent questioning. An initial uninterrupted presentation of the proposed research should be 20–30 minutes in length. Anyone, including faculty, students, and staff, is welcome to attend the presentation. The question session that follows will be moderated by the student’s advisor, and all guidance committee members will actively participate. However, all persons attending may ask questions and offer comments.

**“Leveraging a Spartan Education to Found a Nonprofit in Guatemala: One Alumnus’s Story”**

Sponsors: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and James Madison College
4:00–5:30 p.m., James Madison College Library

Kody M. Gerkin is a James Madison College alumnus who earned his bachelor’s degree in international relations in 2006 with a minor in Latin American and Caribbean studies. He then served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala from 2006 to 2008. He later attended the Josef Korbel School for International Studies at the University of Denver, earning a MA in international human rights in 2011. His passion for the plight of indigenous women inspired him to return to Guatemala, and in 2015 he founded the nonprofit organization Mujerave. Kody will discuss James Madison College’s and CLACS’ role in shaping and coloring Mujerave’s work in Guatemala, and offer a first-hand perspective on the challenges and rewards of founding a nonprofit organization in the developing world.

**“3.11: Disaster and Change in Japan”**

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center and the Japan Foundation
4:00–7:00 p.m., 303 International Center

Richard Samuels, the Ford International Professor of Political Science and the director of the Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak. Japanese political entrepreneurs used the March 2011 catastrophe in Tohoku (3.11) to nudge national policy in the direction of their own choosing. Still others declared that 3.11 taught that Japan must return to an idealized past and rebuild what was lost to modernity and globalization. Battles among these perspectives on change—and contested appeals to leadership, community, and risk—defined post 3.11 politics and public policy in Japan. Five years later, too little has changed. Reception to follow.
“Safety Traps in the Global Economy”

Sponsor: Economics
7:30 p.m., 107 South Kedzie Hall

Ricardo J. Caballero, the Ford International Professor of Economics at the Michigan Institute of Technology, will present his work as the Dunaway Lecture keynote speaker. The global economy has experienced a chronic shortage of safe assets for the last three decades, and to some extent the subprime crisis can be attributed to such shortage through its persistent downward pressure on interest rate. In turn, this situation was exacerbated by the subprime and European sovereign debt crises, as we entered a world of unprecedented low natural interest rates across the developed world and in many emerging market economies. Global nominal interest rates have remained at the Zero Lower Bound since 2009. With nominal rates so low, they can no longer absorb the global imbalance in safe asset markets, yet this imbalance remains. How does this global mismatch play out and shapes global economic outcomes? In this talk, Dr. Caballero will address this question and connect it with current developments in the global economy.

Friday, March 25

“Them Damned Pictures’ Explorations in African and Middle Eastern Political Cartoons”

Sponsors: Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; Department of Art, Art History, and Design; Muslim Studies Center; Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities; African Studies Center; and the Asian Studies Center

Tejumola Olaniyan, the Louise Durham Mead Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will speak. A stylistic and historical exploration of one of the most ubiquitous features of African political cartoons—the use of corporeal heft as marker of power and status. Dr. Olaniyan analyzes the formal varieties of its use and traces its historical origins and cultural provenance. He also reveals the centuries-old unanswered challenge that corporeal heft, as a visual device, has posed to cartoonists in the representation of power, class, gender, and actual clinical corporeal mass.

“Women Abroad: What Every Woman Should Know About Traveling Abroad”

Sponsor: Office of Study Abroad
12:00–1:00 p.m., 115 International Center

The Office of Study Abroad will deliver an informational presentation and discussion designed to prepare female students for their studies abroad.

“Them Damned Picture”: First Round Table Session

Sponsors: Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; Department of Art, Art History, and Design; Muslim Studies Program; Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities; African Studies Program; MSU Libraries; and the Asian Studies Center
Explore African and Middle Eastern political cartoons during a round table discussion. Salah Hassan, an associate professor in the Department of English, will discuss “Illustrated War: Lamia Ziade’s Bye Bye Babylon, the Lebanese Civil War and the Art of Remembering,” and Peter Limb, an adjunct associate professor in the Department of History, who will discuss “Old Gags, New Directions: African Cartoonists Drawing a Line between Play and Power.”

“Them Damned Pictures”: Second Round Table Session

Sponsors: Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; Department of Art, Art History, and Design; Muslim Studies Program; Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities; African Studies Program; MSU Libraries; and the Asian Studies Center
3:30–5:00 p.m., B310 Wells Hall

Explore African and Middle Eastern political cartoons during a round table discussion. Ayman Mohammad, an assistant professor in the Department of Linguistics, will discuss “The Egyptian Revolution in Five Years: Youth Against Military Rule,” Leila Tarakji, a doctoral student in the Department of English, will discuss “Super Moozlim vs. Islamophobia,” and Sadam Issa, an assistant professor in the Department of Linguistics, will discuss “Picturing the Charlie Hebdo Affair in Arabic Political Cartoons.”

“Giov vs. the Volcano: Itinerant Cinema, Gendered Ecologies, and the Aeolian islands”

Sponsors: Romance and Classical Studies; Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies; Film Studies; English; and the Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities Program
4:00 p.m., B243 Wells Hall

Elena Past, an associate professor of Italian at Wayne State University, will speak. Her research interests encompass modern and contemporary Italian literature and film, and in particular crime fiction, the eco-noir, and ecocinema studies.

“Ang Lee’s Family Values: Reconsidering ‘Chinese-ness’ in Eat, Drink, Man, Woman”

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center and the Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages
4:00–7:00 p.m., 303 International Center

This will be a serious talk on an irresistibly funny and light-hearted movie. Looking at Ang Lee’s “Father Knows Best” trilogy—Pushing Hands and the Wedding Banquet—before examining Eat, Drink, Man, Woman in detail. Professor Li throws new light on the Taiwanese director's thinking on the Chinese family in transformation. The result is an enhanced understanding of culture as daily practice and film aesthetics in the era of global capitalism.

African American and African Studies Student Book Launch

Sponsor: African Studies Center
7:00–8:30 p.m., 303 International Center

The Sankofa Graduate Student Union is hosting their AAAS Student Book Launch. True to the mission of Black Studies scholars, they celebrate those whose work is both situated within the academy as well as Black and African communities. They will recognize the recent book publications of AAAS graduate students Shingi Mavima and Tiffany Caesar. Shingi has recently published his book The Mirage of Days Old, a collection of poetry about the world in transition. This book tells the story about the intersection of an African childhood and an American adulthood (http://sugarrunpublishing.com/products/the-mirage-of-days-old). Tiffany has recently published her book Where is Bobby?—an African-centered children's book about police brutality and how it affects families. Tiffany's website, Griot Tales, is a hub for African-centered children stories from Africa and the African Diaspora (http://griottales.weebly.com).

Opera: The Savage Land and Bernstein Sings America

Sponsor: School of Music
8:00–10:00 p.m., Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium

The spring opera presentation marks the 10th anniversary of MSU/China Vocal Arts Collaboration with a double bill of theatrical music from both
A mix of classical music and Chinese folk music, *A Savage Land* (sung in Chinese), by Jin Xiang, is set in northern China in the 1920s and centers on a wrongfully imprisoned man who wreaks vengeance on those responsible for his fate. Next, a rollicking revue of the music of Leonard Bernstein follows, featuring pieces from On the Town, Wonderful Town, West Side Story, and Trouble in Tahiti. Both shows will include Chinese and MSU students, and will be performed in Beijing and on MSU’s campus. Conductors will be Youqing Yang and David Rayl, with Melanie Helton acting as director.

**Week of March 27**

**Sunday, March 27**

**Opera: The Savage Land and Bernstein Sings America**

Sponsor: School of Music  
3:00–5:00 p.m., Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium

The spring opera presentation marks the 10th anniversary of MSU/China Vocal Arts Collaboration with a double bill of theatrical music from both worlds. A mix of classical music and Chinese folk music, *A Savage Land* (sung in Chinese), by Jin Xiang, is set in northern China in the 1920s and centers on a wrongfully imprisoned man who wreaks vengeance on those responsible for his fate. Next, a rollicking revue of the music of Leonard Bernstein follows, featuring pieces from On the Town, Wonderful Town, West Side Story, and Trouble in Tahiti. Both shows will include Chinese and MSU students, and will be performed in Beijing and on MSU’s campus. Conductors will be Youqing Yang and David Rayl, with Melanie Helton acting as director.

**Monday, March 28**

**Film Screening: The Assassin**

Sponsor: Asian Studies  
7:00 p.m., B122 Wells Hall

This film, directed by Hou Hsiao-hsien, is part of the 2016 Annual Taiwan Film Festival.
Tuesday, March 29

Arabic Tea and Conversation Hour

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
4:00–5:30 p.m., 302 International Center

Arabic Diwan is a gathering of Arabic students in the Arabic program where they can practice speaking the language while learning about the culture in a relaxed environment. Students from all Arabic levels are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Amr Rabie at rabieamr@msu.edu.

Wednesday, March 30

Origami Workshop

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center and MSU Japan Council
3:00–5:00 p.m., 302 International Center

Join us for a relaxed crafting session where you can learn basic origami folding skills that help you create book marks, candy dishes, room decorations, and more. Tea and snacks will be provided. Registration is required; to register, email the Asian Studies Center at asiansc@msu.edu with “Origami Workshop” as the subject. Space is limited, so sign up soon.

Korean Coffee House

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
6:30 p.m., 303 International Center

Learn about Korean culture, music, food, and more. This event is free and open to everyone.

Hindi-Urdu Chai and Chat

Sponsor: Asian Studies
5:30–6:30 p.m., 302 International Center

Experience and discuss Indian and South Asian cultures and languages, especially Hindi/Urdu, while sipping spiced tea (chai) and tasting delicious desi snacks. This event is free and open to everyone. For more information, email Rajiv Ranjan, MSU’s Hindi lecturer and resident chaivala, at ranjan@msu.edu.

Thursday, March 31

Zarqa Nawaz Visit

Sponsor: Muslim Studies and Canadian Studies

3:00–5:00 p.m., C20 Snyder Hall

Zarqa Nawaz has written her best selling comedic memoir Laughing All the Way to the Mosque about growing up as a Canadian of Muslim faith. In 2005, she made a ground-breaking documentary named Me and the Mosque for the National Film Board of Canada about Muslim women’s battle with patriarchy in the mosque. This ultimately inspired the television series Little Mosque on the Prairie, which aired for 6 seasons on (CBDC) 2007–2012 and can still be viewed on YouTube.

Film Screening: “Nuclear Nation”

Sponsor: Asian Studies Center
7:00 p.m., 303 International Center

This is a powerful documentary, directed by Atsushi Funahashi, chronicling the lives of Japanese refugees displaced by the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant crisis and exposing the hypocrisy of government leaders.

African Tea

Sponsor: African Studies Center
4:00–6:00 p.m., 303 International Center

African Tea is an opportunity to learn and share about first-hand experiences on the African Continent. Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania will be discussed at this tea.
MSU Tanzania Partnership Project (TPP) Short-term Curriculum Development Project

Qualified graduate students are being sought to assist with a short-term curriculum development project for the Tanzania Partnership Project (TPP) (http://casid.isp.msu.edu/pscd/programs/tanzania). TPP has recently constructed playgrounds and sports fields at each of our project sites in rural Tanzania. The goal is for these to be educational spaces to be used by teachers to enhance student learning and meet the government’s requirements for the use of active and participatory teaching methods. Working collaboratively with one or more colleagues, you will develop a set of curriculum modules (5-10, exact number to be determined) for one of the target subject areas (English, math, or science). These curriculum modules will be lesson plans and ideas for how teachers can use the playground and sports fields to teach content required by the national syllabus to primary school students (grade 1-7, with a probable focus on the early grades). Teams will ideally be composed of one graduate student with subject area expertise and one with expertise in kinesiology or sport and education. We anticipate awarding four to six fellowships total.

Qualifications: Successful candidates will have expertise and previous teaching experience in one of the focal content areas (English, math, science) or kinesiology. Curriculum development experience and interest or experience in developing country contexts is preferred. The majority of this work will be unsupervised, with student teams checking in periodically to provide updates on their progress; as such, candidates should demonstrate an ability and willingness to work with minimal supervision while being committed to delivering a high-quality product.

Timeline: Applications are due Sunday, March 20, 2016 by 5:00 p.m. This is a 1.5 month summer fellowship. There will be a required initial meeting of all fellows during the week of May 9 and a follow-up meeting the week of June 6. With the exception of these face-to-face meetings, fellows will be expected to work independently (in teams) to develop curriculum modules. There will be additional check-in dates when you will share your progress and receive feedback on your work. The deadline for completing curriculum modules is June 24.

Compensation: This is a short-term fellowship that comes with a $2,000 stipend to be paid upon successful completion of curriculum modules. To apply for this position, please send a cover letter and CV to Bethany Wilinski (bethanyw@msu.edu). In your cover letter, please indicate why you are interested in this position, any previous experience working in a developing country context, and other relevant qualifications. Please also indicate the name and contact information for your current advisor.
Announcements

MSU ESPP: Fate of the Earth Symposium on Climate-Food-Energy-Water Nexus

The Environmental Science and Policy Program has launched a symposium series to explore the challenges and opportunities we face in enhancing human well-being while protecting the environment. This symposium will bring distinguished thinkers from around the world to explore what we know, what we need to know, and what we must do as we move into a century of unprecedented environmental change, technological advancement, and scale of human activity.

The event will include research-focused seminars and discussion but will emphasize events and presentations that will speak to the broader MSU and Michigan community. In addition to live events and webcasts, the symposium will generate educational materials that can be used in classes and non-traditional education in the spring and beyond. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 and Thursday, April 7, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Kellogg Center. Registration is free, however all persons must sign-up online prior to the event.

Save the Date for the 2016 S.C. Lee Dinner

The Asian Studies Center will host its annual S.C. Lee Dinner to recognize award recipients of the S.C. Lee Scholarship and the S.C. Lee Paper Competition. Professor Shao Chang Lee was a noted authority on Chinese history and religion. He worked tirelessly to promote further understanding between East Asia and the United States. If you would like to attend the S.C. Lee dinner, please RSVP to the Asian Studies Center by calling 517-353-1680 or email asiansc@msu.edu and include your name, phone, and email address. The S.C. Lee Dinner will take place:

Wednesday, April 13, 2016
5:00 p.m.
Swagath Restaurant
1060 Trowbridge Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823

MSU ESPP- AgBioResearch: Interdisciplinary Team Building Initiative (ITBI)

The ITBI grants support the formation and operation of workgroups focused on strategically important research areas including, but not limited to, antimicrobials, bioeconomy, food systems, global climate change, invasive species, and water. A workgroup consists of a small number (e.g., 3-5) of core faculty members from multiple disciplines who interact regularly with the goal of developing grant proposals, designing an interdisciplinary curriculum, or working on major multidisciplinary publications. Workgroup members are expected to maintain regular interactions towards clearly specified workgroup goals, and should budget to spend their funds evenly throughout the two year cycle. For this cycle only, applications which focus on the Food-Energy-Water nexus will be given preferential treatment. All other foci are still welcome. The application deadline will be April 15 and December 1, annually, with awards up to $10,000.
Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO) Workshop: Practical Tech Tools for Arabic Language Teachers

This workshop, presented by the Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO), will help teachers respond to the pressure to innovate using technology and overcome common difficulties of working with Arabic on the Internet. Participants will become familiar with tools such as language exchange apps, in-class response systems, language games, and CLEAR’s Rich Internet Applications. Teachers with a great deal of technological experience and those with little experience will all benefit from working with two knowledgeable teacher-trainers with expertise in computer-assisted language teaching and Arabic language teaching. Presenters will include Betsy Lavolette, the director of the Language Resource Center at Gettysburg College, as well as Ayman Mohamed, an Arabic instructor at Michigan State University. The workshop will take place on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 from 9 a.m.–12 p.m. in room B125 of Wells Hall. Cost of registration is $50 if registering via CALICO or contact clear@msu.edu for information on the possibility of a stipend.

2016 Summer Frugal Innovation Practicum—Global Center for Food Systems Innovation(GCFSI)

Recruitment for the 2016 Summer Frugal Innovation Practicum has begun. In this practicum, students will collaborate with students from the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources and urban retailers to solve some of the most pressing problems in urban retail food markets. In this summer's session, students will crowdfund ahead of the practicum so that retailers will be able to plan and design solutions that will actually be implemented. This is a summer experiential learning opportunity designed to improve skills in community engagement in the context of urban food systems in Lilongwe, Malawi. To apply, students must be an advanced, full-time undergraduate or full/part-time graduate student in good academic standing. There are a limited number of positions available for this practicum. This is NOT an academic credit-bearing program. In-country costs for program participants will be covered, including meals and lodging, but students will be responsible for a portion of their plane ticket. All participants will be expected to participate in pre-planning activities either online through hybrid learning or on campus from June to August. In addition, participants will be expected to provide feedback and interviews that will 1.) improve future iterations of the course, and 2.) share your learning experience with the wider MSU and GCFSI community. Without exception, participants are required to be in Malawi August 5-20, 2016, and need to have all immigration requirements to travel internationally (such as a passport, visa, or immigration permit for travel if needed for foreign citizens).

Applications should be submitted by Friday, April 8, 2016, to Dr. Stephanie White at whites25@anr.msu.edu with the subject heading “Frugal Innovation Practicum Application.” For more information go to the Global Center for Food Systems Innovation website at http://gcfsi.isp.msu.edu/fip.htm.
The TROPOS Conference

The TROPOS Conference welcomes interdisciplinary papers and presentations in literary studies, cultural studies, visual arts, film and media studies, gender studies, and linguistics related to the Romance-speaking world. Papers may be presented in Spanish, French, or English. Presentations and/or papers may not exceed twenty minutes (eight pages approximately) in order to allow time for discussion. Selected papers may be considered for publication in the forthcoming issue of the TROPOS journal. Abstracts of proposed papers (200-250 words) should be submitted by the deadline announced in the “call for papers.” Specify the language (English, French, Spanish) of presentation. Presentation title and abstract should be accompanied by complete contact information: complete name, mailing address, email address, institutional affiliation (graduate program, department, and institution). Acceptance of paper proposal is sent by email within two weeks of the deadline noted in the “call for papers.” Information on programming, lodging, and conference fees is sent with acceptance. The 16th TROPOS Graduate Conference will take place October 21-22, 2016 with the topic “Sickening Discourses: Bodies, Diseases, and Violence in the Romance World.” Keynote speakers include Jean Franco, a professor emerita of English and comparative literature at Columbia University, and Adriana Gárriga-López, a professor of anthropology and performance at Kalamazoo College. Conference fee: $20.00. For more information see: http://www.rcs.msu.edu/graduate/tropos/xv-annual-graduate-conference/. Applications are due April 1, 2016.

Call for Nominations for the 2016 CLASP Teaching Award for Junior Faculty

The Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) calls for nominations for its fourth annual CLASP Teaching Award for Junior Faculty. The award recognizes excellence in teaching Latin American Studies-designated courses. Tenured faculty members are not eligible. Nominees in a tenure-track position are preferred, but visiting or adjunct professors and instructors are eligible. Nominees must have a PhD and they must be currently teaching at a CLASP member institution. Nominations should come from senior faculty members or administrators. The nominator should provide clear and convincing evidence of the following in a letter of no more than 600 words:

1. Outstanding teaching effectiveness, including pedagogical style and student success stories.
2. Contributions to the Latin American Studies program and/or the department.
3. Involvement in the larger community, including professional associations and participation in service activities.
4. Incorporation of own academic research and field experiences into the classroom.

The nominees will be asked to provide a statement of teaching philosophy and a current CV. The CLASP Teaching Committee will evaluate the nominations and will recommend three finalists to the CLASP Executive Committee. The finalists will then be asked to provide the names and contact information of two current or former students, and these students will be asked to provide evidence of teaching effectiveness in a short recommendation letter. Nominations will be accepted through April 1, 2016. Simply email the nomination letter to: vgawrons@bsc.edu. The winner will be announced at the CLASP Business Meeting at the Latin American Studies Association 2016 International Congress and an engraved trophy and a check for $500 will be awarded.
Kody M. Gerkin is a James Madison College alumnus who earned his bachelor's degree in international relations in 2006 with a minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He then served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala from 2006 to 2008. He later attended the Josef Korbel School for International Studies at the University of Denver, earning a MA in international human rights in 2011. His passion for the plight of indigenous women inspired him to return to Guatemala, and in 2015 he founded the nonprofit organization Mujerave.

Kody will discuss James Madison College's and CLACS' role in shaping and coloring Mujerave's work in Guatemala, and offer a first-hand perspective on the challenges and rewards of founding a nonprofit organization in the developing world.
Come Take a Visual Tour of Japan

This exhibition consists of a selection of 24 photo panels showcasing the extraordinary natural and cultural scenes from UNESCO's World Heritage Site List of Japan. Come experience the beauty of Japan through amazing photographs.

The exhibit is open from March 15 - April 15, 2016 in the Lansing City Hall lobby (124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing). The exhibit is free and open to the public.