



# The International Gazette

The International Gazette is an annual newsletter which aims to capture some of our international community at HWS and the people whose goals are to provide a global perspective on campus.

## What is the “IC”?



The Intercultural Affairs Center (IC) is a place that creates an environment where students find support, challenges, and grounding for their personal growth, academic success and the development of their leadership skills. Students are encouraged to become leaders, mentors and to excel academically. Our programs promote cross-cultural opportunities and also support students and other campus community members.

### INTERCULTURAL AFFAIRS CENTER HOURS

Monday 8:30am-12am

Tuesday 8:30am-12am

Wednesday 8:30am-12am

Thursday 8:30am-12am

Friday 8:30am-10pm

Saturday 2pm-7pm

Sunday 2pm-12am

### Contact Information

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Be sure to check out our blog:  
hwsinterculturalaf-  
fairscenter.wordpress.com/

## From a Graduating Senior By Pamela Icyeza '19



HWS has been a place of immense intellectual, personal and emotional growth for me in many ways. Not only has it been the place I discovered what I believe to be my life's career path, but it was also the place I met several of my life long friends. The IC specifically has been the bridge that made this institution feel like home for me. The personal support from both the staff and students at the IC has helped make this place feel like home, while the race and socioeconomic centered economic conversations have facilitated my ability to bridge the gap between theory and real life.

### What advice do you have for the incoming class?

I would tell them to study what they love. Not only does it make what seems to be too big to conquer more feasible, but the passion born out of learning what you love increases the likelihood that you will use it to contribute to your community— be it on or off campus.

### What lessons have you learned since you first arrived at HWS?

I have learned the value of asking for help. There are so many resources and I can't tell you how valuable they have been to me. One of the main one's being the IC itself. More than just being a welcoming place for students of color, the staff/students at the IC are a great resource and asking them for help has made my time here significantly less stressful.

### What are your plans after HWS?

After HWS, I will be entering a PhD program in Political Science at Boston University.

## Featured Club: French and Francophone Club (FFC)

The French and Francophone Club is a way for students to explore and appreciate the cultures of both France and the numerous Francophone countries around the world. Our events often involve traditional cuisine including crêpes and cheeses and activities such as films and celebrations. You do not need to speak French to be a part of the club. Our goal is simply to immerse ourselves in Francophone culture as much as possible.

- Julia Stockwin



FFC Board: Erika Ireland, Delaney Hoodak, Davida Eyam-Ozung, Emma Hobika, Katherine Vangaever, Shreeya Desai, Gretty Hollister



Crepe Night Spring 2019



## Our Campus Community: A Note From Jennifer O’Neil, Global Education

As Pre-departure and Re-entry Programming Coordinator for the Center of Global Education, I am fortunate enough to be involved in the “full circle” student transformation that often happens during study abroad. I myself studied abroad while in college, followed by conservation work in Australia and then a move to southern Spain where I taught English for about six years. In the end, I not only brought a Spanish husband and puppy back to the USA, but also an extreme desire to help others engage in international and cultural experiences!

Here at HWS, I have the privilege of overseeing pre-departure programs that better prepare students to make the most of their international experiences – one such program is the Goal Setting Workshop (where students map out what they want to accomplish abroad and discuss how study abroad can be applied to their future). Pre-departure programming is vital to making the most of the international experience and we are certainly lucky that HWS has invested in such programming.

I am also responsible for developing innovative programs and activities to encourage students returning from abroad to reflect on and remain engaged with their international experiences. Students are

encouraged to “unpack” their international experience by brainstorming ways in which they can incorporate study abroad into their future personal, academic and professional lives.

The “unpacking” of the international experience can happen through the participation of our Global Ambassador Program (this year we had 25 wonderful ambassadors!), attending the annual ROC Your Global Future Conference (where students can network and learn how to market their international experience), being part of our Global Cafes (which are brand new this year and ranged from Kenyan Crafts to French Cheese to Hong Kong Photography and more!), submitting material to our professional publication, *the Aleph*: a journal of global perspectives (the next volume will be published soon!), partaking in the annual HWSabroad Photo Contest, or earning a ½ credit in our reader’s college, *Continuing the Journey: From Study Abroad to a Life of Global Engagement*.

Apart from the programming above, I am also available for students who walk into my office and say “Ok, I studied abroad, now what???” We tell students that study abroad is a life-changing experience, which it often is, but expressing this life-changing experience

in a meaningful way does not always come easily. I love these discussions, “... maybe study abroad helped you gain a global perspective or maybe you’ve gained independence or problem-solving skills? What do you want to do with those skills? How can you stay connected to your abroad experience? Etc.” Taking the time to talk about these questions in depth can help students figure out how the study abroad experience fits into their future. After many years of living as an expat abroad, I was surprised how quickly HWS felt like home. We are lucky to have such an internationally-minded community who support CGE programming. And for me personally, I am honored and extremely lucky to be part of the HWS Center for Global Education Team – I look forward to helping many more HWS students have an impactful and transformative study abroad experience!



Jennifer O’Neil, Pre-Departure and Re-Entry Programming Coordinator for the Center for Global Education

## Reflections from our Foreign Language Teaching Assistants!



Anna Belykh (Russian FLTA), Tatjana Broeker (German FLTA), Emila Gilly-Grellier (French FLTA), Haithem Mbarka (Arabic FLTA), Sara Monti (Italian FLTA)

nationalities and McGuire House felt like home right from the beginning. Also thanks to the people’s warm welcome and help on campus, we had a great start into the first semester.

Throughout the year we have always felt included and part of the HWS community. We participated in many events offered by different clubs and departments on campus and tried to support our students at different sports competitions whenever possible. Besides, we were happy to contribute to the variety of events. While getting to know the students and the American culture better we also tried to offer insights into our cultures and languages and were always delighted by everybody’s interest. Teaching such bright and enthusiastic students was a real pleasure for us. Not only were the students interested in the languages, but they were also always willing to learn more about our cultures, traditions and ways of life. Vivid discussions always gave us an opportunity to explore cultural differences and similarities and led to the broadening of our horizons and many laughs in the classroom.

Over the two semesters we were also lucky to experience the students’ perspective of college life. We attended different classes on American history, sociology and education. It was a privilege to learn from such inspiring professors. This year also allowed us to explore the US. Together we went on many trips and we were able to see the diversity of the country. We are very grateful for our time at HWS and we are leaving Geneva full of wonderful memories.

Your FLTAs  
Anna Belykh, Tatjana Broeker, Emila Gilly-Grellier, Haithem Mbarka, Sara Monti

One year ago, when we got our acceptance letters from Fulbright, none of us knew what to expect, but we were looking forward to an exciting year. Our adventure as FLTAs started at the Summer Orientation in Fayetteville, Arkansas where we finally got to know each other. As soon as we met, we knew the next ten months would be a great experience. We were excited about living with four people from different

