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**THE TWENTY-FIFTH SILVER ANNIVERSARY  
CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS IN  
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

*World Regions and the Globe: Past, Present, & Future*

*and*

*The FACDIS International Film Festival*

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**SPONSORED BY**



The West Virginia Consortium  
for Faculty and Course Development  
in International Studies

November 2-4, 2005

Lakeview Resort and Conference Center  
Morgantown, West Virginia

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*FACDIS Founding Director (1980-1997):* Sophia Peterson, Professor Emerita of Political Science,  
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*Assistant Director:* Gretchen Peterec  
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\*\* Institution whose Institutional Representative serves on the Steering Committee until 11/30/05

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Program Coordinator: Jack L. Hammersmith, Director, FACDIS  
Program Assistant: Gretchen Peterec, Assistant Director, FACDIS

#### *Workshop Chairpersons:*

Gerald Beller, West Virginia State University (Middle East)  
Hannah Geffert, Shepherd University (Europe)  
Charles Gruber, Marshall University (Latin America)  
James Natsis, West Virginia State University (Africa)  
Michael Smith, Glenville State College (Asia)

#### *International Film Festival Planners:*

Michael J. Strada, West Liberty State College, Coordinator of the FACDIS International  
Film Festival  
Art Barbeau, West Liberty State College (Asia)  
Gerald Beller, West Virginia State University (Middle East)  
Kwame Boateng, West Virginia Wesleyan College (Africa)  
Sandra Dixon, West Virginia University (Latin America)  
Pauline Nelson, Bethany College (Europe)

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## *World Regions and the Globe: Past, Present, & Future*

Focusing on:

**Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East**

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*November 2-4, 2005  
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### **SPONSORED BY FACDIS**

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The West Virginia Consortium for Faculty and Course Development  
in International Studies

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**PROGRAM**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

Guide to speakers/workshop leaders can be found at end of the Program.

<b>9:30 am - 1:00 pm</b>	<b>REGISTRATION: Library</b> <b>BOOK DISPLAY: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b> (As you face Lakeview's registration desk, turn left. First door on the right.)
<b>10:15 - 11:15 am</b>	<b>STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: Stewart Room</b>
<b>11:30 am - 1:30 pm</b>	<b>LUNCH: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b> (As you face Lakeview's registration desk, turn left. First door on the right.) <b>Welcome:</b> President David C. Hardesty, Jr., West Virginia University
<b>1:30 - 3:00 pm</b>	<b>FIRST SET OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b> Topic: <i>"The Past: Key events/issues/developments/trends: 1980-2004"</i> <i>Africa:</i> David Wiley, Michigan State University ( <b>Chestnut 1</b> ) <i>Asia:</i> Steven A. Leibo, Russell Sage College ( <b>Chestnut 2</b> ) <i>Europe:</i> Reinhard Heinisch, University of Pittsburgh ( <b>Training 1</b> ) <i>Latin America:</i> Jonathan Hartlyn, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ( <b>Training 4</b> ) <i>Middle East:</i> Andrew Winner, Naval War College ( <b>Oak Room</b> )
<b>3:00 pm-3:30 pm</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>3:30 - 5:00 pm</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b> Topic: <i>"The Past: How successful were area specialists and other academics in foreseeing or anticipating the major events/issues/developments/trends which occurred during 1980-2004?"</i> Participants: Five area specialists.
<b>5:30 - 6:30 pm</b>	<b>SOCIAL HOUR (cash bar): Library</b>
<b>6:30 - 9:00 pm</b>	<b>BANQUET &amp; FACDIS SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b>

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

<b>7:00 am</b>	<b>INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES BREAKFAST: Ward Christopher Room</b>
<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>GENERAL BREAKFAST: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b>
<b>8:30 - 10:00 am</b>	<b>SECOND SET OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS. Participants will stay in same track as Wednesday afternoon (1:30 pm-3:00 pm).</b> Topic: <i>"The Present: Key events/issues/developments/trends TODAY"</i> Participants: Five area specialists.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

<b>10:00 - 10:30 am</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>10:30 am - 12 noon</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b> Topic: <i>"The Present: What commonalities or differences are there today among the various world regions regarding major events/issues/developments/trends?"</i> Participants: Five area specialists.
<b>12 noon - 1:30 pm</b>	<b>LUNCHEON: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b>
<b>1:30 - 3:00 pm</b>	<b>THIRD SET OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b> Topic: <i>"The Future: Plausible futures: Emerging events/issues/developments/ trends over the next 25 years."</i> Participants: Five area specialists.
<b>3:00 - 3:30 pm</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>3:30 - 5:00 pm</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b> Topic: <i>"The Future: Which, if any, of the future challenges do you anticipate the various regions will be more or less successful in responding to and why (or why not)?"</i> Participants: Five area specialists.
<b>5:30 - 6:30 pm</b>	<b>SOCIAL HOUR (cash bar): Library</b>
<b>6:30 - 8:00 pm</b>	<b>BANQUET: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3</b>
<b>8:00 pm-9:00 pm</b>	<b>FACDIS 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER:</b> <b>Catherine M. Kelleher, Professor,</b> U.S. Naval War College and Senior Fellow, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University Title: <i>"Towards 2030: The Long View."</i> Dr. Kelleher will explore the set of expectations about the international order that we carry around in our heads, how unprepared we are to see or even recognize change, and the human tendency in the aftermath of 9/11 toward a somewhat pessimistic, even fearful view of the future.



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

FACDIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
(Please see pages 10-14 for FACDIS Film Festival Prologue and Film Reviews)

7:30 am	GENERAL BREAKFAST: Governor's Ballrooms 1-3
8:30 - 10:15 am	FACDIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL First Showing: <i>The Agronomist (Latin America)</i> with Sandra Dixon (West Virginia University) <i>The Rise of Nationalism in Africa (Africa)</i> with Kwame Boateng (West Virginia Wesleyan College) <i>Visions of Europe (Europe)</i> with Pauline Nelson (Bethany College)
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	Second Showing: <i>Control Room (Middle East)</i> with Gerald Beller (West Virginia State University) <i>The Story of Qiu Ju (Asia)</i> with Art Barbeau (West Liberty State College)
12:15 pm	CONFERENCE & WORKSHOPS ADJOURN

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

25th ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER

Catherine M. Kelleher  
Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Professor, U.S. Naval War College  
Senior Fellow, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University

Dr. Kelleher's remarkable contributions in the field of security studies show a clear interweaving of her academic and policy interests, and a commitment to both university and public service. Her extensive government service spanned the Carter, Reagan, and Clinton administrations. Most recently during the 1990s, Dr. Kelleher served in key defense positions such as the Special Representative of the Secretary of Defense in Europe and as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia. During the Reagan administration she taught as a Professor of Military Strategy at the National War College. With the Carter administration she served on the staff of the National Security Council and as a consultant to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Department of the Army.

The German government has recognized Dr. Kelleher's service with two distinguished awards. In 2002, she was awarded the German Bundeswehr's Golden Cross of Honor by Germany's State Secretary, Dr. Walker Stuetzle, for her contributions to transatlantic relations. In 2004 Dr. Kelleher received the German Ministry of Defense's highest defense civilian medal, the Manfred Worner Medal, for outstanding services to peace and freedom in Europe. As he bestowed this award, the German Minister of Defense, Peter Struck, said: "Through your wide-ranging activities in the academic field to keep the transatlantic debate going, books, articles, and your relentless research, you left your mark on the ongoing endeavor to keep NATO up to the job.

You rendered a great service to peace and freedom in Europe." The U.S. government has also recognized Dr. Kelleher's contributions with the U.S. Defense Department's Medal for Distinguished Public Service and the Director's Medal from the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Dr. Kelleher's academic career prior to her current appointments at the U.S. Naval War College and Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies included positions at Columbia, Illinois-Chicago, Michigan, the Graduate School of International Studies at Denver, and the Center for International Security Studies at the University of Maryland. She has also been a research fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies in London and a Kistiakowsky Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Finally, Dr. Kelleher was named an Honorary Professor at the Free University of Berlin and a Senior Faculty Associate for 2004-2006 at the Geneva Center for Security Policy in Switzerland.

Dr. Kelleher has published more than 60 books, monographs and articles on national and international security issues. Two of her more recent books are *Ethnic Conflict in the Post-Soviet World: Case Studies and Analysis* (ME Sharpe Inc., 1998) and *The Future of European Security: An Interim Assessment* (Brookings Institution Press, 1996). Her research has been funded by numerous foundations, including NATO, the Council on Foreign Relations, the German Marshall Fund, the Ford Foundation, the Pew Freedom Trust, the Carnegie Corporation of New York (supporting her current research on the German-American-Russian triangular relationship). Dr. Kelleher has just concluded a five-year term as Vice Chair of the Committee on International Security and Arms Control of the National Academies of Sciences, specializing in international dialogue. Currently, she is Editor of the Naval War College Press.

As an academic, Dr. Kelleher has been active in the design and implementation of programs to broaden education in security studies both in the U.S. and abroad. She founded the Women in International Studies Program, dedicated to developing career opportunities for women in the field.

In the private sector, Dr. Kelleher has served as the Director of the Aspen Institute in Berlin, an independent, non-profit and non-partisan organization committed to excellence and equity in transatlantic dialogue. She was also an Associate with the Brookings Institution and currently serves on a number of boards and commissions in the security studies field.

AREA SPECIALISTS

AFRICA

David Wiley  
Ph.D. Princeton University and Seminary  
Professor of Sociology and Director, African Studies Center  
Michigan State University

One of the premier Africanists in the United States, David Wiley has contributed as a teacher, researcher, activist, administrator, and advocate for better understanding of and assistance to Africa. For thirty years he participated in the decolonization and anti-apartheid movement in Southern Africa. Currently he is a member of the Higher Education Forum of the U.S./South Africa Bi-National Commission and was a Fulbright Scholar in Durban, South Africa, working on community organizations mobilizing for change in 1994-96.

Under his directorship since 1977, the Center for African Studies at Michigan State University, a National Resource Center on Africa and perhaps the most comprehensive center in the United States, links more than 130 faculty on campus who have conducted research, taught, and/or



provided development assistance in Africa. During the past decade Africanists at MSU have produced more doctorates on Africa than any other North American university.

In addition to teaching numerous courses at MSU such as International Social Research in Africa, Asia and Latin America and Social Science Integrative Studies of Africa, Dr. Wiley has also taught in Africa at the University of Zambia, worked in Zimbabwe on race relations and as a Fulbright Scholar in South Africa assisted community organizations mobilizing for change.

Dr. Wiley's wide-ranging research interests have led to numerous publications, including six books on Africa on topics as varied as environment, economic development and liberation, foreign policy, and audio-visual teaching resources in addition to numerous articles and chapters. Much of his research has derived from field experience in such African countries as Zambia, Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

Dr. Wiley has also made substantial contributions to the profession in such capacities as President of the African Studies Association, Chairperson of the National Science Foundation's Advisory Committee for International Programs, Co-Chairperson of the Council of Directors of Title VI National Resource Centers, and Co-Chairperson of the Association of Concerned Africa Scholars, a national organization seeking to influence United States policy.

## ASIA

### Steven A. Leibo

Ph.D. Washington State University  
Sherman David Spector Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Modern International History & Politics  
Russell Sage College

A former Fulbright Scholar, Steven A. Leibo's academic career has spanned more than two decades in which he has often experimented beyond the traditional classroom to educate both students and fellow academicians through the writing of historical fiction, the expansion of the internet for scholarly exchanges, the creation of documentaries and the organization of study abroad tours. Currently Sherman Spector Professor in the Humanities at the Russell Sage College, he has also held a number of administrative positions, including Director of International Studies Programs, Chair of the Department of History and Philosophy, and founding Director of the Sage-Shanghai Foreign Trade Institute Exchange Program.

A Chinese specialist, his publications include *Journal of the Chinese Civil War: 1864* (1985) and *Transferring Technology to China: Prosper Giquel and the Chinese Self-Strengthening Movement* (1985), he has been responsible since 1997 for revising and editing the annual editions version of *East, Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific*. To introduce undergraduate students to important issues in Chinese history, he also wrote a novel, *Tienkuo: The Heavenly Kingdom* (1994, 2001) and remains interested in the use of historical fiction for pedagogical purposes. His article and reviews have appeared in a wide variety of publications, including the *Journal of the Hong Kong Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, *Asian Profiles*, the *Journal of Asian Studies*, and the *American Historical Review*.

Active in H-NET, he was co-editor/founder of H-ASIA, an international forum for Asian studies professionals co-sponsored by Michigan State University and the NEH and served as its lead editor from 1994-2004. He has produced, edited, and directed documentaries on Vietnam and Cambodia and has organized and led four study tours to Vietnam from 2000-2004. He has also served as a commentator for a variety of radio and television outlets in the northeast, including service as an international affairs commentator for public radio.

## EUROPE

### Reinhard Heinisch

Doktor Phil. University of Vienna; Ph.D. Michigan State University  
Associate Professor and Director of International Studies  
University of Pittsburgh

In addition to teaching at the University of Pittsburgh and serving as Director of International Studies at its Johnstown branch, Dr. Heinisch has published extensively on issues involving contemporary Europe. His book, *Populism, Proporz, Pariah—Austria Turns Right: Austrian Political Change, Its Causes and Repercussions* (Nova, 2002) relates directly to the nation of his birth as do a number of recent articles such as "Success in Opposition—Failure in Government: Exploring the Performance of the Austrian Freedom Party and other European Right Wing Populist Parties in Public Office" which appeared in *West European Politics* (2003). Other articles and chapters have dealt with the EU, labor markets in transition, and human rights, all within the European context.

Awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1966 and named Instructor of the Year in 2002, he has extensive teaching experience with undergraduate and graduate courses in comparative European politics, Europe in transition, democratization and reform in Eastern and Central Europe, and European social policy.

A visiting professor at the University of Augsburg in 1999 and a professor with the Semester at Sea program in 2002, he has also led Pittsburgh's "Political Science in Bolivia" Service Learning Program on two occasions.

## LATIN AMERICA

### Jonathan Hartlyn

Ph.D. Yale University  
Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Before assuming his current position as Chair in 2000, Dr. Hartlyn held several administrative and teaching positions associated with Institutes or Centers of Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University and the University of North Carolina as well as directing the joint Duke-UNC Program in Latin American Studies. His broad experience in Latin America is demonstrated by his having taught, lectured, and conducted research in numerous Latin American countries such as Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Peru, Honduras, and Mexico.

Dr. Hartlyn's six books span both political, economic, and social arenas of Latin America. Among the most recent are his co-authorship of *Latin America in the Twenty-First Century: Toward a New Socio-Political Matrix* (North-South Center Press and Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2003) and *The Struggle for Democratic Politics in the Dominican Republic* (University of North Carolina Press, 1998; also translated into Spanish in 2003.) More than thirty scholarly articles and chapters demonstrate a breadth of research into specific topics such as security issues, U.S. relations with Latin America, democratic transition and civil strife. The most recent is "Contemporary Latin America: Global Changes and Democratic Disenchantment," *Asian Journal of Latin American Studies* (December 2003) and "Democracy and Consolidation in Contemporary Latin America: Current Thinking and Future Challenges," in *Democratic Governance and Social Inequality* (Lynne Rienner, 2003).

Dr. Hartlyn's contributions are not limited to research and administration; they also extend to instruction. In 2000 he received the Johnston Award for Teaching Excellence at UNC-Chapel Hill. Previously he has been successful in obtaining grants from private foundations and the U.S. Government in support of Latin American studies, graduate student field research and academic exchanges.



## MIDDLE EAST

### Andrew Winner

Ph.D. University of Maryland  
Associate Professor of Strategic Studies  
Naval War College

Dr. Winner, Associate Professor of Strategic Studies of the Naval War College, received his Ph.D from the University of Maryland. He also earned masters degrees from the School of Advanced Studies, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Maryland as well as a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College.

In addition to his current academic position, Professor Winner's career includes participation in a private research center, the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, an assignment as Foreign Affairs officer at the Department of Defense, and a decade of service with the U.S. Department of State primarily in Political-Military and International Security Affairs. At the Naval War College, Professor Winner specializes in the Middle East, U.S. foreign policy and the non-proliferation of WMD's. He has received numerous honors including teaching awards at the Naval War College and professional recognition for meritorious service at the State Department.

Dr. Winner has authored over twenty-five articles, chapters, and reports. Of special relevance to today's unstable events in the Middle East are his editorship of the quarterly publication *Security Issues in the Middle East* (Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis) and such recent publications as "The Proliferation Security Initiative: The New Face of Interdiction," *The Washington Quarterly* (2005); and "WMD, Interdicting the Gravest Danger," (co-author) *Proceedings of the Naval Institute Press* (2005).

Also, Dr. Winner was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations from 1994 to 1995, and is currently serving on the Council for Emerging National Security Affairs. In addition to his regular teaching assignments at the Naval War College, Dr. Winner has given numerous lectures at American and foreign universities on a broad array of foreign policy issues, especially related to the Middle East.

## FACDIS FILM FESTIVAL

### Prologue

Michael J. Strada, Meritorious Professor, West Liberty State College

Over many years of college teaching, I have thought, read, and written about ways in which film interfaces with the classroom experience. This inquiry has involved issues such as documentaries versus feature films; in-class versus out-of-class viewing assignments; edited short clips versus full-length viewing; film as course content versus film as a means to other ends.

Another key element consists of the inherent paradox associated with filmic pedagogy: doing a cost-benefit analysis pitting the allure of stunning visual imagery congenial to a generation of visual learners, against a significant body of literature showing that active learning strategies consistently trump passive ones. But just as straight lecture can be mitigated by active processing for students, so too can film. Post-film small group discussions, journal writing questions, or written critical thinking assignments all take students beyond description to synthesis and analysis.

Students sometimes enter international studies courses with a mind set assuming that the subject matter resides as an abstraction somewhere "out there," distant (thus irrelevant) to their concrete existence "in here." While the action on today's world stage affects us profoundly in ways unimaginable a generation ago, students are slow to buy into that insight because of what I call this "problem of physicality" (there versus here).

We all face this dilemma. Fortunately, film contributes not only riveting visual images, but also emotional richness, immediacy, and personalization. However, any time we bounce popular culture off of our classroom walls, concerns about quality control should arise. Just exactly how much fun is too much? We should think through this problem sufficiently to feel confident that our use of film does not lower standards.

Having used film variously in several courses, in 1998, a new supplementary text appeared: Robert Gregg's *International Relations on Film* (Lynne Rienner), which emboldened me to build not only films, but eight feature films into the very architecture of that course (features require more justification pedagogically than documentaries). Gregg cites several studies suggesting that while features entertain us, they also subtly affect our attitudes, filling in our experiential gaps with information about subjects not directly encountered directly in our lives.

Gregg stresses that the proper role of features in International Relations courses is "to augment the quest for knowledge, not to represent the lion's share of that quest." Properly used as an adjunct to education, he describes how they: 1) provide a change of pace; 2) illustrate points about key concepts essential to analyzing international affairs; 3) stretch our minds by filling in some of the blanks in our personal knowledge; 4) dramatize concepts by personalizing them in engaging stories; 5) build bridges to distant (but vital) times and events by imagining what is was like to have been someplace important; 6) serve as valuable history lessons for citizens in the a-historical U.S. of Amnesia; 7) stimulate further debate and further inquiry; 8) demonstrate that learning and enjoyment are not mutually exclusive.

## FILM REVIEWS

### AFRICA

#### "The Rise of African Nationalism"

Reviewer – Kwame Boateng, West Virginia Wesleyan College

At the partition of Africa conference under Bismarck, in 1884-1885, the European powers sliced up the continent. The Europeans later subjugated Africans, colonized Africa and undermined the traditional rule that existed on the continent. Africans were almost rendered "useless" as they saw their resources exploited by the Europeans. Africans protested against colonial bondage, demanded changes in the policies of colonial administrations, including participation in administration of their countries, and later, independence. It is the struggle for independence that Basil Davidson documents in this film.

Professor Davidson rightfully begins this documentary in Ghana, then moves to Gold Coast. Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first African to become the Head of Government business in Gold Coast in 1951, then, Prime Minister in 1957, and later the first President of the Republic of Ghana in 1960, was the pioneer of decolonization in sub-Saharan Africa. The film explores the contributions of soldiers from the colonies during the World War II, however post-war conditions proved no better in the colonies.

Educated people everywhere pressed for anti-colonial changes, and in the Gold Coast, veterans such as Dr. J.B. Danquah spoke out boldly. In 1947, he helped form the United Gold Coast Convention (UGCC) as an instrument of political pressure. Subsequently, Dr. Nkrumah became secretary of the UGCC and organized a country-wide campaign of pressure for change, including strikes and boycotts of imported goods. A peaceful march and petition to the colonial administration by ex-servicemen led to cascading events of violence. The consequence of this led to the arrest of the leadership of the UGCC. Disagreements within the leadership in 1949 led to Nkrumah's establishment of the Convention People's Party (CPP) and the call for a general strike the following year. In 1951 Nkrumah and his party won most of the seats in the legislature and formed a government.

Nkrumah's Ghana, which achieved independence on March 6, 1957, became a shining example for other African nations fighting for independence. Kenya's nationalism also succeeded after a protracted fight between the government and freedom fighters, "the Mau Mau." The Kenya



African Union, under Jomo Kenyatta's leadership, eventually won independence for Kenya in 1963. Many new political parties on the continent came together, as documented in the film. In Algeria's struggle for independence from France, intense, prolonged fighting by Algerian liberators, examined here, resulted in independence during 1962.

The film chronicles how poorly both the Belgian and Portuguese colonial masters treated their colonies. This produced nationalist leaders in the Belgian Congo (now the Democratic Republic of Congo), Mozambique, and Guinea Bissau who mobilized supporters to fight off the colonial administration. In the Congo, Patrice Lumumba formed the Congolese National Movement (CNM), obtaining independence in 1960. Confusion following Congolese independence resulted in the assassination of the Prime Minister, Patrice Lumumba, by separatists. The Belgian Congo became very entangled with international politics, as the Cold War took a large toll on the Congo. Nationalist leaders in Mozambique and Angola also fought for independence.

This documentary film concludes that in various countries the colonial masters did not treat their colonies well. The nationalists felt exploited, so they decided to lead their respective people to fight for independence. The film also emphasizes that almost all of the leaders of nationalist movements were imprisoned although eventually victorious.

## ASIA

### **"The Story of Qiu Ju"**

**Awards – Best Film of the 1992 Venice Film Festival; Best Actress for Gong Li**  
**Reviewer – Art Barbeau, West Liberty State College**

When a man is kicked by the village chief during an argument, his pregnant wife (Gong Li) is determined to achieve justice. Thus begins her trek through the legal system of China today. First, she goes through the traditional mediation system. While this results in a monetary payment from the chief to her husband, Qiu Ju is determined to get an apology.

Because of changes in the legal system, it is possible for her to pursue her quest through the courts. Thus, we find this woman from the countryside traveling, for the first time to the district town, and eventually to a major city. It is these visual details that I find at least as important as the story line. Students can see peasant houses, a school, workshop, a major festival, forms of transportation, etc.

In the market town, we can see street scenes, markets, a doctor's office and a police station. From here, we move up to even greater differences in styles, hotel types, courts and other features almost too numerous to mention.

When Qiu Ju goes into labor, her life is saved through the leadership and actions of the same village chief against whom she feels a grievance. This leads us into scenes of family and country customs. The film's ending will come as a surprise to most viewers and lead them to ponder the difference between the definition of justice and legality. A number of the reviews incorrectly describe it as comedy. To me, this is only true if one finds Kafka comedic.

It is most likely in this film that Gong Li first demonstrated herself as consummate actress. She is aided by an equally impressive work done by the girl who plays her sister-in-law. As usual, Zhang Yimou does not rush his direction; his eye for detail is unerring, and he takes the time to fully develop his main characters.

This film could be used in a variety of classes, including those focused on modern China or Asia. In addition, it could be useful to those who are dealing with the Chinese legal system or gender issues in their courses. The visual detail of the film could also be of aid to anthropology courses.

## EUROPE

### **"Visions of Europe"**

**Awards – Nominated for the Berlin Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival (2005)**

**Reviewer – Pauline Nelson, Bethany College**

Each of the twenty-five member states of the European Union was asked to select one of its film makers to create a five-minute film conveying a vision of present-day life in their country. "Visions of Europe" is the result.

To view one of these jewels is to witness a creative and powerful glimpse of one country in the process of change, but broad contemporary European themes emerge.

The web of anxieties and hopes related to European Union membership is the most common thread binding these films together, and fear of the loss of individual and national identity looms large as a common theme. New restrictive EU laws regarding livestock are troubling the Swedes, the British segment's European members crowd each other out, and an Estonian heroine is trapped in a nightmarish administrative morass.

Some countries like Germany explore their unique histories, but many are facing shared problems. Italy confronts industrial pollution. Hungary paints a powerful, wordless picture of poverty. But of special interest are the immigrants in Europe, both legal and illegal. They are Ireland's "human cargo," and they are lifeless bodies pulled from the sea in Portugal. More optimistic is the Spanish segment, with school children from many nations playing together as the "European Team." And viewers must not miss European officials working in the Czech Republic, who struggle with words and melody but ultimately and valiantly come together to sing in unison the Czech national anthem.

This unusual collection of short films, nominated for the Berlin Golden Bear at the Berlin International Festival (2005), is rich in potential material for classroom use. Its DVD format allows faculty to choose individual countries, topics, or cinematic styles, and its short but striking segments can hold the attention of the most distracted of our students.

## LATIN AMERICA

### **"The Agronomist"**

**Selected Honors - Official Selection of: 2004 Palm Springs Film Festival, 2004 Philadelphia Film Festival, 2004 Minneapolis/S. Paul Film Festival, 2003 Chicago Film Festival**

**Reviewer – Sandra Dixon, West Virginia University**

"The Agronomist," a 2004 documentary film by Jonathan Demme, traces the life of Haitian political activist and radio personality Jean Dominique. Through interviews with Dominique himself and his family, the repressive atmosphere of the Duvalier regime is recreated. With portrayals of violent clashes between government troops and citizens as well as scenes of machine gun attacks on Dominique's radio station, the hopelessness of the country's political situation is graphically highlighted. However these disheartening moments are counterbalanced by the sequence that depicts a joyful, triumphant Dominique returning from exile in New York City after the election of Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1991.

Although it is a documentary about a specific historical moment, "The Agronomist" effectively addresses the personal life of its subject. It is obvious that Jean Dominique and his wife Michele Montas share a deep love for each other and an unshakeable commitment to liberating their country by reporting accurate news stories to their compatriots. Braving government intimidation and death threats, the husband-and-wife broadcasting team is never deterred from their mission: delivering the truth to the people.

Winner of the 2004 Gotham Award for documentary film, "The Agronomist" is an excellent classroom resource. It can be used to give an historical perspective on a country that is known as the poorest nation in the Western hemisphere. Questions can be raised about how Haiti came to be characterized as such. The film lends itself to discussions on twentieth century Caribbean



politics, and can be very helpful when the themes of dictatorship, repressive military regimes, political activism, and human rights are the focus of a lesson plan. The unique linguistic nature of Haitian Creole also makes the film of interest to foreign language instructors since a great deal of its subtitled dialogue is in this language. An added attraction to this documentary is its soundtrack by Haitian-born Wyclef Jean. His music, laced with Creole rap lyrics, serves as a topical commentary on Haiti's current political situation.

#### MIDDLE EAST

##### **"Control Room"**

**Reviewer – Gerald Beller, West Virginia State University**

**Control Room** provides a candid, up close look at the methods and conflicting emotions that lay behind the broadcasts of Al Jazeera to 40 million Arabs. It is focused almost exclusively on the early stages of the Iraqi invasion (before U.S. authorities shut down the network in Iraq, despite the location of the network's headquarters next to Centcom in Qatar.) Journalism controlled by Al-Jazeera and other Arab satellite networks, U. S. or Arab officials, has dramatically challenged efforts to control the flow of information about the war. The film's producer, Jehane Noujaim, is an Egyptian-American who is intensely aware of the competing perspectives that Arabs and Americans have about the U. S. effort to forcibly transform an Arab state into a "democracy" that can serve its interests. Without this film, and others like it, most Americans would never begin to grasp why the assumption that U. S. soldiers would be greeted with flowers was such an absurdity.

The documentary never descends into mere cant; instead, it provides a close examination of the mixed motives and conflicting pressures that go into the effort to convey news in a tense environment to an audience that is already predisposed to accept only some kinds of "truths"—a problem that must face producers in CNN and Fox as well. One Al-Jazeera producer suggests the degree of opportunism that underlies his work when he mentions that he could as easily work for Fox. Another expresses admiration for U. S. efforts at twisting the news to its own advantage, suggesting that his efforts are intended to counter the U. S. with its form of bias. Yet it is clear that many Arab reporters are committed to a degree of objectivity and honesty comparable to the better U.S. journalists. Time and again, U. S. claims about the war are challenged, including the assertion that the bombing of Al-Jazeera and other news outlets in Afghanistan and Iraq was merely a mistake. No one who watches this film can fail to find their assumptions challenged. It provides a window into a world that most Americans never see.

## FACDIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

### SHOWING LOCATIONS

Friday, November 4

#### FIRST SHOWING: 8:30 - 10:15 am

*The Agronomist* (Latin America) with Sandra Dixon

ROOM: Chestnut 1

*The Rise of Nationalism in Africa* (Africa) with Kwame Boateng

ROOM: Chestnut 2

*Visions of Europe* (Europe) with Pauline Nelson

ROOM: Training Room 4

#### SECOND SHOWING: 10:30 am - 12:15 pm

*Control Room* (Middle East) with Gerald Beller

ROOM: Chestnut 1

*The Story of Qiu Ju* (Asia) with Art Barbeau

ROOM: Chestnut 2