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# ***SOCIAL THOUGHT AND POLITICAL ECONOMY NEWSLETTER***



***MARCH/APRIL 2011***

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## **MAKING CONNECTIONS:**

### **Jobs, Internships and Social Change**

***Featuring STPEC, Afro-Am,  
Labor Center, and  
Women's Studies Alumni/ae***

**Thursday, April 7**

**5:30-7:00 pm**

**Cape Cod Lounge, Student Union Bldg**

*Brought to you by STPEC, Women, Gender, and Sexual-  
ity Studies, the Labor Center, and Afro-American Studies.*

*Co-sponsored by the UMass Career Center*

***This will be a wonderful fun and informative  
social event with our extremely cool alums!***

Our participants include a wide array of STPEC,  
Women's Studies, Labor Center and Afro-American  
Studies graduates who now have careers in law,  
medicine, publishing, social services, union/commu-  
nity organizing, education, politics and art.

**Light food and refreshments will be served**

***Everyone is welcome to attend!***

## **MEETING TIMES FOR NEW STPEC MAJORS**

We will be holding meetings for new STPEC majors on  
Monday April 4 through Monday April 11. Please come  
into the STPEC office to sign up for a meeting time (the  
sign up sheet will be posted next to the main desk) and  
obtain a STPEC Application Form. If you cannot make  
any of these times please speak to either the Program  
Coordinator or the Program Director so that they may  
arrange an alternate time for you.

**As always, we're looking for current STPEC students  
to volunteer to help with the new student meetings -  
it's fun and easy and a good way to meet new STPEC  
students! Please see Deborah in the STPEC Office if you'd  
like to help - or just show up.**

## **Fall 2011 Registration and Advising Notes**

***ALL STPEC students will need to come to the  
STPEC office for advising before they will be  
able to register on SPIRE.***

***Don't wait until it's your day to start  
registering - come in early!!!***

**Students who will be SENIORS in 2011-2012 must  
see Katherine Mallory or Danielle Nelson for advising**

**Appointments for senior advising will begin**

**Friday, March 25**

**FOR ALL OTHER STPEC STUDENTS  
Official STPEC pre-registration advising begins  
MONDAY March 28**

**Sign up sheets for advising times will be available on  
the door of the STPEC Office.**

Access to the SPIRE system for registration for  
Fall 2011 courses begins MONDAY, MARCH 28  
***Students are ramped on to the system based on seniority  
Check SPIRE for your personal access date and time***

**Please see page 2 for more advising details**

## **Welcome to New Students**

We are pleased to welcome the following new students to  
the STPEC Program as of February 2011:

Natalie Bruck, Christine Chung, Joshua Colbert,  
Dan Fennell, Andrew Ferreira, Eric Gilmour, Talia  
Laster, Finn Melanson, Mike Minafo, John Oliver,  
and Becky Palermo.

**Many thanks to all the STPEC students and staff  
who helped with these meetings.**

## **STPEC ON FACEBOOK**

Just a reminder that STPEC has a facebook page titled:  
STPEC: Social Thought Political Economy. URL is [http://  
www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35014851280](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35014851280)  
We hope you'll use this site to connect with other STPEC  
students and alumni/ae.

## Advising Details

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- ★ The STPEC Recommended Course List will not be published until March 28th at the earliest. The fall 2011 STPEC course description sheet is available now on the STPEC website or from the STPEC Office. *If you have any suggestions for courses you would like to see - or not see - put on our lists, please let us know!*
- ★ **All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until Thursday, May 5th.** Please be sure to register before May 5th for the classes you want - after May 5th we reserve the right to take classes off-line if they are full or almost full. Once a STPEC seminar is taken off-line you will need to fill out a STPEC add request form and wait until September to find out if you are in the class!
- ★ Sophomores may add themselves to a request list for Junior Writing by filling out a STPEC course add request form in the STPEC Office. The add request form may also be used to request a STPEC course which you have been unable to add on SPIRE for other reasons. On May 5th we will review these written requests and add additional students to courses based on course enrollment size and special student needs. Our goal is to put as many STPEC students as possible into the seminars of their choice. If you do not receive the STPEC course you have put in a written request for, you may attempt to add the course again by filling out an add request form in the STPEC office during the first week of the Fall 2011 semester.

### **NOTE ON COMPLETION OF STPEC 391H**

You must have completed (turned in the work and officially received a final grade of C or better for) STPEC 391H by Monday, August 15th in order to remain on the registration lists for STPEC 392H or any STPEC Senior Seminars. After this date you will be dropped from the roster(s). You will not be able to take STPEC 392H or any Senior Seminars unless you have completed STPEC 391H before the beginning of the fall semester.

**STPEC student phone and e-address lists are now available from the mailboxes in the STPEC office.** If your information is missing or incorrect please contact Deborah at 545-0043 or [stpec@sbs.umass.edu](mailto:stpec@sbs.umass.edu).

## **College of Social and Behavioral Sciences** **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences has a wide range of scholarships available including:

### ***Ansin Study Abroad Fellowships***

\$500-\$2,000 awards

### ***Alan L. and Carol S. LeBovidge Undergraduate Research Scholarship***

Supports students doing research with a UMass Amherst SBS faculty member - up to \$2,000.

### ***Merriam Internship Scholarship***

Provides support to undergraduates who take unpaid internships in public policy, law, ecological conservation and/or real estate development. Awards of up to \$2,000 for summer or fall semester internships.

**Application deadline for most scholarships is  
Thursday, April 14, 2011**

Please go to: <http://www.umass.edu/sbs/academics/undergraduate/scholarships.htm> for full details.

### **Summer Research Seminar on the Middle East Global Approaches to National Political Change in the Contemporary Middle East and North Africa**

Run by David Mednicoff (STPEC Acting Program Director), Sohail Hashmi and Greg White. This Five College Mellon Faculty-Student Research Seminar will be held from June 6 through July 15. A total of six students from throughout the Five Colleges will receive room and board and \$400 weekly stipends to pursue a research project and work with these professors on research related to this broad theme. Student proposals are due to Sue Dickman ([scdickman@amherst.edu](mailto:scdickman@amherst.edu)) no later than March 28. To see the full call for proposals and application guidelines please contact Deborah in the STPEC Office or David Mednicoff at [mednic@legal.umass.edu](mailto:mednic@legal.umass.edu).

### **Studying Peace & Social Justice in Kibbutz Lotan**

Living Routes, in partnership with UMass Amherst, offers college students of all majors a transformative semester-long exploration of Environmental and Social Justice issues and opportunities for Peace in Israel. Kibbutz Lotan, a Reform Jewish community located in the southern Arava Valley, is well known for its focus on equality, economic cooperation, and sustainable ecology.

To review the syllabus or read student blogs, please visit the Living Routes website. For registration assistance contact the International Programs Office at UMass Amherst.

## **JOIN THE STPEC HIRING COMMITTEE!**

We'd like YOU to help us choose our new STPEC Seminar instructor for the 2011-2012 academic year. All current STPEC students are welcome to participate. **If you'd like to be on the hiring committee for this position please contact Deborah in the STPEC office as soon as possible.**

Participating in the hiring committee will involve a time commitment of approximately 10-15 hours spent reviewing applications, interviewing applicants and debating our possible choices. Hiring committee members are expected to attend ALL meetings and interview sessions, which we will schedule based on participants' free times. We will begin reviewing applications during the week of March 21st and expect to begin interviews in early April.

## **STPEC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

STPEC policy is set by the STPEC Executive Committee, whose voting members consist of STPEC paid staff, UMass faculty close to STPEC, and one student spokesperson from each regularly scheduled STPEC course.

Student executive committee members are accountable to the students they represent. If you have STPEC related concerns that you'd like the Executive Committee to address, please talk to your student representative about them. **Student reps for Spring 2011 are:**

**Sophomore Class:** Joe Brennan

**Intro to STPEC:** Talia Laster, Sam Lunny, London Tatum

**STPEC 392H:** Nate Richardson and Walker Dunn

**Junior Writing:** Jonathan Allen

**Senior 491H:** Tori Zopf

**Senior 492H:** Liz Maynard

**Senior 493H:** Christiana McDougal and Alex Baker

Note that STPEC 391H currently has no representation. If you are presently in STPEC 391H and would be willing to join the Executive Committee please contact Tyler Rocco-Chaffee at [tylerrocco@gmail.com](mailto:tylerrocco@gmail.com).

All STPEC students are welcome to attend the final full Executive Committee meeting which will be held Friday, April 29 from 3:30-5:30 pm, place tba.

## **SPRING CLEANING! STPEC mailbox purge!**

Please come and check the initial boxes in the STPEC Office for any papers or other items which may have been left for you. Look under the first initial of your last name. On April 1st we will be cleaning out these boxes and recycling all items which are not from Spring 2011.

## **GRADUATING SENIORS: BIG CHANGES FOR 2011 COMMENCEMENT**

This year, Undergraduate Commencement, at which degrees will be conferred, has been divided into two parts. The full university commencement will take place on Friday, May 13 from 5:00-6:30 pm in Warren McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

**The College Social and Behavioral Sciences' Senior Celebration ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 12:30-2:00 pm in the Mullins Center. This will be a more personalized ceremony where each senior will be individually recognized.**

Each graduate will have his or her name announced and will receive a Commemorative UMass Medal. Graduates will also be photographed while shaking hands with College leaders. STPEC staff will be present to greet graduates and their families and STPEC graduates will be seated together.

Please see the SBS website for more details

[http://www.umass.edu/sbs/news\\_events/commencement/index\\_2011.htm](http://www.umass.edu/sbs/news_events/commencement/index_2011.htm).

Immediately following Saturday's commencement ceremony we will have a reception in the STPEC Program Office for STPEC seniors and their friends and families.

### **Student Assistants needed for commencement:**

**STPEC will need to have one or two seniors who have volunteered to be "student leaders."** What this means is that you will be fully informed about the logistics of the day in advance and will help to guide other students through the ceremony. If you are willing to serve in this capacity please speak to Deborah in the STPEC Office.

**We will also need one student speaker who will give some short remarks before STPEC seniors are called to the front.** If you are interested in taking on this role please speak to Katherine in the STPEC Office.

Both UMass and SBS are also looking for non-senior student volunteers to provide assistance during both commencement events. Student volunteers are allowed to stay in their dorm rooms until Sunday May 15 at noon. If you would like to volunteer to help with Saturday's ceremony please contact Jackie Brousseau-Pereira at [jackie@sbs.umass.edu](mailto:jackie@sbs.umass.edu). If you would like to volunteer for Friday's ceremony please go to <http://www.umass.edu/commencement/2011/news.html#volunteer> for more details.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*For STPEC students...*

### March 24 - STPEC Movie Night

*Invisible Children* In the STPEC Office 7:00 pm  
In the spring of 2003, three young filmmakers traveled to Africa in search of a story. What started out as a filmmaking adventure transformed into much more when these boys from Southern California discovered a tragedy that disgusted and inspired them, a tragedy where children are both the weapons and the victims. After returning to the States, they created the documentary "Invisible Children: Rough Cut," a film that exposes the tragic realities of northern Uganda's night commuters and child soldiers. See this film and you will be forever changed.

### March 25 - Spring Solstice Potluck

5:00-8:00 pm in Sunderland  
Contact the STPEC office for details!

### March 31 - STPEC Night Out

*The Contestado - Mortal Remains*  
Amherst Cinema 7:30 pm  
Free tickets for 5 college students -  
Pick up before 3/30 at Amherst Cinema Box Office  
Articulating testimonies from specialists and historians, survivor statements, remaining oral memory, in addition to the participation of thirty psychics in a seance, this documentary recovers one of the country's biggest epics, the Contestado War (1912-1916). Involving thousands of civilians and soldiers, this episode ignited conflicts in the states of Paraná and Santa Catarina due to border and land disputes, mixed with a messianic uprising of huge proportions. Despite the legacy that this uprising left, mobilizing consecutive waves of thousands of soldiers and even planes, this dramatic moment in Brazilian history remains unknown and absent from the national memory.

### April 14 - STPEC Movie Night - tba

*STPEC Presents...*

### April 7 - Career Networking Event

**Making Connections:**  
**Jobs, Internships and Social Change**  
Cape Cod Lounge 5:30-7:00 pm  
**Open to all.** See page 1 for details

### April 7 - Community College Information Day

An info session for Community College students considering transferring to UMass as STPEC, WGSS or AfroAm majors  
Campus Center 905-09 4:30-6:00 pm

### April 7 - The Anti-Immigrant Movement and Attacks on Women

Cloe Cooper and Becca Poswolsky, STPEC alumnae and National Field Organizers for the Center for New Community  
Campus Center 905-09 7:30 pm

### More on the Anti-Immigrant Movement and

**Attacks on Women:** We will be looking at the intersection between attacks on immigrants and attacks on Women's bodies. This talk will be through the lens of identifying the influence of a network of anti-immigrant organizations with roots in Eugenics on mainstream debates and policies regarding immigration, the environment and women's bodies.  
For more information visit [www.imagine2050.net](http://www.imagine2050.net) or [www.youtube.com/nativismwatchtv](http://www.youtube.com/nativismwatchtv)

*STPEC co-sponsored events...*

### March 21 - A Look Inside SB1070

Place and time tba  
A 15-minute documentary film released by the Center for New Community, supported by comments and context by Agustin Lao Montes.

### March 28 - Joe R. Feagin

**Racism on College Campuses: Neither Dead Nor Dying**  
Campus Center 101 4:00-5:30 pm  
Joe Feagin is an Ella McFadden Professor at Texas A & M University.  
co-sponsored with Sociology and SADRI

### March 28 - Malalai Joya

**A Woman Among Warlords**  
4:00 pm Thompson 106 UMass Amherst  
7:30 pm Neilson Browsing Room Smith College  
At the Loya Jirga (grand parliamentary assembly), which had convened to consider the proposed Afghan constitution, Joya spoke out against the domination of warlords in ruling committees of Afghanistan which spurred a series of ongoing violent threats. In May 2007, Joya was suspended from the parliament on the grounds that she had insulted fellow representatives in a television interview.  
Because of her fearless commitment to shed light on injustice, she has since survived five attempted assassinations and numerous death threats in Afghanistan. Staying true to her well-known quote, "I don't fear death, I fear remaining silent in the face of injustice", she has remained in Afghanistan despite constant threats against her life. Joya continues to speak out against the gender inequality and injustice within her country.  
Joya was awarded the "Women of Peace award 2006" by the Women's Peacepower Foundation in 2006 and most recently, in November 2010, Foreign Policy magazine listed Malalai Joya in its annual list of the Top 100 Global Thinkers.

### April 5 & 6 - Peggy Shaw in MUST

Bartlett 65 8:00 pm  
*2nd Annual UMass Edinburgh After-Festival Event*  
Peggy Shaw is most well known as one of the partners of Split Britches, undeniably the most influential lesbian performance group of the past 25 years. This play was developed in the UK and part of the Clod Ensemble's "Performing Medicine" series. MUST is a sophisticated, poetic, autobiographical meditation.  
Tickets \$5.00 each available from the Fine Arts Center Box Office.  
See [www.5perform.com](http://www.5perform.com) or [www.2000plays.com](http://www.2000plays.com) for more info.

## All About the STPEC Internship Requirement (STPEC 498Y)

All STPEC majors are required to complete a 3 or more credit graded internship with a grade of C or better.

If you have not yet completed this requirement, you can do so by registering for STPEC 498Y, section 1. Your faculty sponsor will be Katherine Mallory, STPEC's Internship Advisor. *You are responsible for finding your own internship placement, and having it approved by Katherine prior to registering for the course.*

Grades for the STPEC Internship requirement are based on your written analysis of your experience and observations. We therefore recommend that you complete at least one semester in the STPEC program before registering for an internship, so that you have an analytical framework to use as the basis of your written work.

*Occasionally* we accept prior internships or internships completed through other departments for the required internship. In order for such a course to count, it must be graded, worth three or more credits, and involve at least 100 hours of work. In addition you must have written an analytical paper of at least 12 pages based on your experience, which you must submit to Katherine for approval.

Regardless of how you plan to fulfill your internship requirement, **you must have Katherine's prior approval. Please don't wait until your final semester** to talk to Katherine, or you may find that you have to stick around for an extra semester!

*Want to get more out of your Internship experience?*

*Want some extra help writing your Internship paper?*

We strongly recommend **STPEC 494A: Praxis**.

This is a two credit graded optional course offered to help students further explore the relationship between theory and practice. This class is intended for students currently fulfilling their STPEC Internship requirement and offers practical guidance on writing the Internship papers. Progressive critical theory is applied to the internship experience generating insight into the structure of our institutions, and supporting student development into constructive change agents in those settings. Race, gender, sexuality, and class are examined in terms of their intersections. To register please speak with Katherine.

***Planning to do an Internship during Summer***

***Session or Fall 2011?*** Are you planning to do your STPEC internship requirement over summer session or during the fall semester? If so, you should discuss your plans with Katherine Mallory, STPEC Internship Advisor, before the end of this semester.

## Internships as Electives

We welcome and encourage STPEC students to do internships beyond the 3 credits required for the major. The University allows you to count up to 15 internship credits toward graduation. You can earn up to 15 credits in one placement, or you can complete two or more smaller internships. Students doing elective internships may work with the Faculty Sponsor of their choice.

### **NEW YORK UNION SEMESTER at The City University of New York (CUNY)**

An Academic Internship Program that  
makes a Difference

***Live, work, study and be a part of the  
New York City labor movement!***

Union semester is a unique "semester away" program offered by Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies/CUNY which gives students the opportunity to take courses in labor studies and intern with a labor union in New York City. As interns at unions and affiliated organizations in New York City, students gain an understanding of the inner workings of organized labor while they make a real contribution to the work of the movement. In the classroom, students analyze the experience they are gaining in the field, by studying the labor movement, both past and present.

This program is designed for students with a commitment to social justice and a strong interest in the labor movement. Students who successfully complete their internship and a full Union Semester course load are awarded a Certificate in Labor Studies by the School of Professional Studies (SPS), CUNY.

For more information and application instructions, please visit: [www.unionsemester.org](http://www.unionsemester.org) or email to [info@unionsemester.org](mailto:info@unionsemester.org).

### **UNITE HERE - 2011 Internships and Jobs**

Want to fight for economic and social justice? Want to learn union organizing skills with one of North America's most progressive and successful unions? Paid Internships and jobs available at: <http://jobs.unitehere.org/>

### **Paid LGBT Internships for Undergraduates and Post-Graduates R. Scott Hitt Foundation, US**

The R. Scott Hitt Foundation is offering funding for qualified candidates with the vision to be future leaders in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) movement. Applicants do not need to identify as LGBT in order to apply. Application deadlines: April 15, 2011 and May 13, 2011. Visit [www.scotthittfoundation.org](http://www.scotthittfoundation.org) for details. Crossposted from [www.awid.org](http://www.awid.org)

**UPCOMING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STUDENT EVENTS**

More details at <http://www.umassalumni.com/students/index.html>

March 24: Economics Career Networking Night  
March 29: ULead Alumni Speaker Series  
March 30: Ultimate Money Skills  
March 31: Job Club - Reinventing Your Career in the  
Green Economy  
March 31: Dinner with Strangers  
April 4: SAA Spring Open House

April 11: Isenberg ExCEL Etiquette Dinner  
April 11-14: Career Boot Camp  
April 16: Look Park Opening Day Cleanup!  
April 20: Spring Etiquette Dinner  
April 2011: Senior Week  
May 6: Commencement Ball- SAVE THE DATE!  
Summer: Take a Classic Tour of Europe

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