

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

UAE: THE INTERSECTION OF ANCIENT AND MODERN WORLDS CAROL BURNS **E104**

This presentation explores the ways in which ancient Arab and Islamic traditions intersect with the modern world. You will learn how these very different worlds coexist for women in the United Arab Emirates.

Carol Burns taught students with special education needs in southern Minnesota school districts for thirty three years. She joined the Department of Special Education at Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2007 where she taught methods courses and supervised teacher candidates. In 2010, Carol became the Assistant Director in the Center for Mentoring & Induction at MSU, Mankato. Training education leaders to support beginning teachers with the goal of accelerating teaching effectiveness is the heart of her work. In this role, she accompanied student teachers to the United Arab Emirates for two years.

SOUTH CENTRAL COLLEGE TO SOUTH AFRICA AND BACK BECKY FJELLAND (DAVIS) BROOKS **E106**

In 2013 and in 2015, South Central College students spent two weeks traveling through South Africa. After a semester studying the history and culture of South Africa, this trip was a life-changing experience. Students visited impoverished townships—left over from the harsh Apartheid era (legalized, strict racial segregation), visited Nelson Mandela's birthplace and his prison cell, spent time in a tiny mountain college with African students, went on safari, waded in the Indian Ocean, and came to understand what it means to be citizens of the world. Come hear about this journey and see dozens of pictures of this experience in the beautiful country of South Africa.

Becky Fjelland (Davis) Brooks has been an English and Humanities instructor at South Central College since 2005. In 2013 and 2015, she taught a semester-long course "The History and Culture of South Africa." She has led overseas travel groups to South Africa three times and has led student groups to Europe four times. She is the author of two young adult novels, a screenplay of her novel Chasing AllieCat, anthologized short stories, and ten children's books.

BREAKOUT SESSION FIVE 2:00-2:50PM

BUDDHISM IN THAILAND AND CAMBODIA

DR. KURT DERSHEM **E119**
Siddharta Gautama lived over 2500 years ago, but his teachings and example continue to inspire millions of Buddhists in Southeast Asia today. What did Siddharta -- who became known as the Buddha, "one who is awake" -- teach his followers? How do contemporary believers in the deeply Buddhist countries of Thailand and Cambodia interpret and apply his insights? How does the life of a Buddhist monk differ from that of lay Buddhists? What other religious practices do the latter follow, and how do these beliefs and rituals relate to Buddhism? How has Buddhism helped the Cambodian people recover from the genocidal reign of Pol Pot? Come and explore these questions with Dr. Dershem, who visited Thailand and Cambodia in March of 2016.

Dr. Kurt Dershem has an M.A. in Philosophy and a Ph. D. in American Culture Studies from Bowling Green State University. He has taught at South Central College for 12 years, and is also the co-coordinator of the SCC Seminars Abroad. Last spring, Dr. Dershem spent two weeks in Thailand.

TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA

LYNDA ERNST **E123**
Join Lynda Ernst as she and her husband, Bo, discuss their travels to Costa Rica. They'll share pictures and stories of their many adventures.

Lynda Ernst taught at South Central College for 30 years in the Office Administration and Technology department in the Legal Administrative Assistant program. Bo is an energy auditor who works to teach people how to save money by making their homes more energy efficient. Bo and Lynda enjoy all outdoor activities including canoeing, kayaking, hiking, hunting, and fishing.

GLOBAL COLLABORATION IN BUSINESS

JEROD SMITHBACK **E106**
MTU Onsite Energy designs and manufactures engine generator sets and controls systems. This equipment is shipped all over the world

in order to provide electricity. This power may be used to back up other electrical sources or to provide the main source of power for remote locations where utility power may be unavailable. MTU Onsite Energy is a part of Rolls Royce Power Systems with sales, design and manufacturing all over the world. Cultural differences consistently impact our global interactions as we go about our daily business. Understanding and becoming aware of these differences greatly impact the efficiency and effectiveness one has in a large scale global business.

Jerod Smithback has worked in the power industry for two different global companies during the past 16 years. He is currently the Senior Manager of Electrical Engineering at MTU Onsite Energy. He has a B.A. in Electrical Engineering from MSU, Mankato and an M.A. in Power Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

LEARN DAKOTA!

NAOMI ANYWAUSH **E108**
Join Upper Sioux Tribal Member Naomi Anywaush and learn to speak some Dakota! Participate in fun games and other activities as you learn a bit about the Dakota language and the tribe of Minnesota.

Naomi Anywaush is an enrolled member of the Sisseton Tribe of Minnesota. She is a Dakota Language intern at the upper Sioux community, as well as a Tribal Historic Preservation officer and surveyor. A former SCC student, Naomi is now working on her degree in Political Science at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

EMPOWERING THAILAND: WORLD FILM PREMIER

3:00-3:50PM **CONF CENTER**

In November 2015, a young couple from Minnesota made a life-changing move to Thailand with only backpacks and dreams in tow. Thomas Keller and Yesenia Garza, along with a local filmmaker, traveled to the northern hill regions of Thailand to document traditional methods of production for their newly formed social enterprise, As I Wood. As I Wood supports local Thai artisans who create sustainable goods that are then sold here in Minnesota.

Thomas Keller is a graduate of Communications from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and Founder of As I Wood. Thomas taught elementary English in Thailand in 2013, during which time he conceived the idea of creating a social enterprise. Thomas is a world traveler and philanthropist at heart. He currently lives and works out of Minneapolis.

Yesenia Garza is a graduate of Finance from Minnesota State University, Mankato, and Creative Director of As I Wood. Until recently, Yesenia worked at a financial services firm where she acquired her license as a stockbroker and insurance agent. She's ecstatic that she is able to use her creativity and no longer misses crunching numbers.

BOARDING SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

4:00-4:50PM

MARGINALIZATION AND MISCONCEPTIONS

STANLEY CHARGING AND VERDELL THUNDERHOUSE **CONF CENTER**
In this presentation, Stanley Charging (White Buffalo) and Verdell Thunderhouse, enrolled members of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, will share their experiences growing up on the reservation, attending boarding school, and educating others about the misconceptions and marginalization of Native Americans.

Mr. Charging will discuss his years of abuse in the Wahpeton Indian School. Mr. Thunderhouse will discuss how United States government policies have created stereotypes and misconceptions about Native Americans. He believes these negative images and beliefs have caused people to fear and marginalize Native Americans. The mission of the presentation is to inform and educate people on "not what's wrong with Native Americans, but what happened to them."

Stanley George Charging (White Buffalo) was born to a Catholic family of 11 brothers and sisters. They were spread over at least

5 different boarding schools in two different states. He went to Wahpeton Indian School where he was abused there by the people running the institution. He graduated from a non-boarding high school with honors, and lived with his father and worked on the family ranch. He went on to work in North Dakota on the oil fields. He worked for a construction company for 22 years. He was married for 19 years and had four daughters. He spends his retirement making Native American flutes and medicine pipes and going to garage sales.

Verdell Thunderhorse lived on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation for 51 years. Years ago he came out to do a presentation for a cultural studies class at Hazelden, where his step daughter was attending college to become an addiction counselor. He and his wife fell in love with the town, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, and decided to live there and finish their educational goals.

Educated at Mandaree High School, he then attended Fort Berthold Community College from 1997-2000. He received a Vocational Education Teaching Certificate from Valley City State University; a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Mary in 2015, and is currently enrolled in the Communication Leadership Master's Program at Gonzaga University

PERFORMER

SOMALI MUSEUM DANCE TROUPE
SCC CONFERENCE CENTER
STARTING AT 7:00 PM

ADVANCED TICKETS IN THE SCC BOOKSTORE
STUDENT PRICE: \$5.00
NON-STUDENT/ADULT PRICE: \$6.00
CHILDREN UNDER 12: FREE



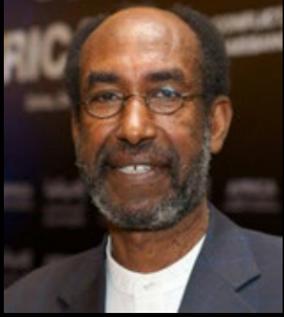
The Somali Museum Dance Troupe studies and performs traditional dances from around Somalia. The Somali Museum Dance Troupe performs traditional Somali dances called Shirib, Dhaanto, Jaandheer, and Saylici. Most of these dances represent love and are dances that are danced at weddings and holiday events. Thanks to a dedicated team of talented cultural dancers who have a true passion for the arts, the Somali Museum Dance Troupe has gone from strength to strength since the summer of 2015. The Somali Museum Dance Troupe has worked for countless corporate, private, and public events, taking place all across Minnesota. Their impressive list of events includes the Somali Independence Day Festival, the re-opening of the Somali Embassy in Washington DC, the campaign kickoff for State Senator Foung Hawj, the 1st Annual Somali Hero Awards, the Minneapolis Sister City Celebration, and many more. The Somali Museum Dance Troupe has earned its reputation as one of the top Somali dance crews in Minnesota.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

"AFRICA'S DEMOCRATS"

8:45-9:50AM

DR. ABDI SAMATAR | CONFERENCE CENTER



Samatar's lecture, based on a book with the same title, examines an earlier time in African history when Somali leaders led the African continent in democratic practice. Here is how the American Ambassador in Mogadishu portrayed the democratic system of government in the country in the 1960s: "In the arena of African politics, Somalia has fared well. No coups, no civil wars, no internecine splits have marred its nine-year history. Its people – united by language, culture, and religion- form a national state which will ...remain intact for the foreseeable future. Elections for the presidency and parliament have demonstrated the system's ability to transfer power democratically. The country's ex-president and two former prime ministers are today all in parliament –not imprisoned, exiled, or dead..." That history of pioneering democratic governance offers many positive lessons for contemporary Somalia as well many others in Africa and more broadly, the developing world.

Dr. Ahmed I. Samatar is James Wallace Professor and Dean of the Institute for Global Citizenship at Macalester College. Professor Samatar has lectured at many universities and colleges, including Cornell, Harvard, Iowa, London School of Economics and Political Science, Somali National University, Toronto, University of Amsterdam, York, University of Otago, and Wellesley College. Samatar, whose expertise is in the areas of global political economy, political and social thought, and Somali affairs, is the author/ editor of five books and over thirty articles, including *The African State: Reconsiderations* (Heinemann, 2002) and *Somalia: State Collapse, Multilateral Intervention, and Strategies for Political Reconstruction* (Brookings Institution, 1995). Professor Samatar is the founding editor-in-chief of *Bildhaan: An International Journal of Somali Studies*. He is also the editor of 24 Volumes of *Macalester International*, a journal of undergraduate education and internationalism. His current research focusses on leadership and the state in Somalia, and globalization and the rise of Islamic consciousness. South Central College is thrilled to have Dr. Samatar back on our campus, as he was the keynote at our very first Global Conference in 2007.

BREAKOUT SESSION ONE

10:00-10:50AM

GROWING UP UNDOCUMENTED

ANTONIO GOMEZ

E121

Join South Central alum and Gustavus graduate Antonio Gomez as he discusses undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children and grew up as Americans. Through this personal story, he shares the struggles of living in a country he calls home, but a country that does not accept him on paper.

Born in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico, Gomez immigrated to the United States at the young age of six. After graduating from Le Sueur Henderson High School, he went on to South Central Community College. Gomez then attended Gustavus Adolphus College where he graduated with a minor in Spanish and a major in International Business. After graduation Gomez took a position at Taylor Corporation as a Sourcing Analyst. He has since moved into a Supply Chain Analyst position for several of the Taylor companies where he manages close to a million dollars a month in transportation expenses and assists company leaders with data driven solutions.

BUILDING BETTER COOKSTOVES FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN ETHIOPIA

TSEGAYE NEGA

E128A

Over 90% of Ethiopia's energy needs are derived from solid biomass (i.e., wood, crop residue, and animal dung). 88% of this energy is consumed at the household level for cooking and heating using open fire or traditional stoves. The health and environmental toll of this activity has been tremendous. More than 50,000 people (mostly women and children) in the country die every year because of indoor air pollution and another 5 million suffer from respiratory diseases. Globally, indoor air pollution is the 4th leading cause of death. Similarly, the use of solid biomass as a fuel source has led to serious deforestation, soil degradation, and air and water pollution. This presentation will focus on the efforts of Carleton faculty, staff, and students in developing, evaluating, and introducing cleaner cookstoves into urban and rural households in Ethiopia.

Tsegaye Nega is an Associate Professor of Environment Studies at Carleton College. He holds a B.S. and an M.S. from the Centro Universitario de Pinar del Rio, Cuba, and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He has been at Carleton since 2002.

LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS AROUND THE WORLD

DR. KIRSTIN CRONN-MILLS

E123

Curious to know how LGBTQIA+ individuals are treated in other countries? Are these individuals treated with respect or scorn? Come hear members of SCC's PRIDE group (People Really Interested in Diversity Education) discuss laws, protections, and discrimination around the world for this population.

Dr. Kirstin Cronn-Mills teaches literature and writing classes and is in her eighteenth year of teaching at South Central College. She is the faculty advisor for SCC PRIDE (People Really Interested in Diversity Education), and the students facilitating the panel with her are either current or alumni members of PRIDE.

"LITERATURE OF DIASPORA"

LISA LAMOR

E104

Diaspora is the migration, movement, or dispersal of people away from their ancestral homeland. As people navigate the movement and then live in diaspora, they often turn to story-telling to share with others, process their experience, or document events. The stories are sometimes presented as poignant fiction containing combined elements of powerful allegory, rich realism, and interwoven personal narratives.

In this session, we will look at examples of the literature written by people in diaspora, and discuss some of the literary elements commonly found in diasporic fiction (e.g. identity struggles, definition of 'home,' historical/social context, etc.). Recognition and exploration of these elements can help enhance the way we as readers identify with, or learn about, others... and ourselves.

During her studies in the Master's Degree program in English Studies at Minnesota State University, Mankato, much of Lisa Lamor's academic time was focused on multicultural literature, culminating in a thesis that focused on the writings of SE Asian-American women writing about their experiences living in diaspora. Lisa has also taught college courses for several years, and has continued to expand her educational knowledge and skills in the areas of teaching, learning, and technology. Currently, Lisa is the Faculty Development Specialist at South Central College.

ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET

SCC CROSSROADS CAFE

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | \$8.00

BREAKOUT SESSION TWO

11:00-11:50AM

Lunch in SCC CROSSROADS CAFE | ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET | \$8

AGRICULTURAL GROWTH IN VIETNAM

SARA HEWITT

E123

Vietnam, a country of 93 million, was divided a mere 41 years ago. The US fought with South Vietnam as their principal ally, but ultimately South Vietnam fell on April 30, 1975 to North Vietnam. Now, 41 years later, as a country united, get a glimpse into where this country has gone and their vision for the future. Sara Hewitt, a MARL Class VIII graduate and SCC employee, was able to travel throughout Vietnam on an agricultural and economics study trip in February. This presentation will cover some of the issues Vietnam is facing, but also the amazing ways Vietnam is thriving since the Vietnam War. From the 45 million motorbikes in the country, to the need for more dairy, to the farm families growing pineapple, this country is looking to the future through trade, partnerships and tourism.

Sara Hewitt works as project coordinator for the Southern MN Center of Agriculture at South Central College. She is a 2016 graduate of MARL (MN Agriculture and Rural Leadership) Class VIII, and is currently completing her Masters at Kansas State University. Growing up on a Century Farm, she now farms with her husband, Mark, where they raise crops, beef cattle, chickens, and honeybees. She blogs at hewittfarmsinc.wordpress.com, and has been featured in River Valley Woman, Pink Tractor and Farm Futures magazine.

HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN: PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND THE HOLOCAUST

DR. WAYNE WHITMORE

E119

This presentation will look at the Holocaust and Nazi Germany prior to the Holocaust utilizing psychological theory and terminology to show how atrocities such as this can and do occur. Why did it occur? How did it occur? How could millions of citizens implicitly support the murder of millions of other citizens? Could it happen again?

Dr. Wayne Whitmore teaches in the Community Social Service program at South Central College. He earned his Master's degree in Rehabilitation Psychology from the University of Wisconsin and his doctorate in Educational Leadership from Minnesota State University-Mankato. His research interests include intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, plagiarism, and persons with disabilities.

A BRIDGE TO UNDERSTANDING SOMALI CULTURE

FANAH ADAM

E108

This session will give you an opportunity to learn more about Somali cultures. Fanah Adam will discuss such topics as forms of traditional dress, cultural foods, family values, and marriage. Also, you will discover more about the geographical location of Somali, and the style of nomadic life in Somalia.

Fanah Adam was born and raised in Somalia. He has been in the education field since 1974. He holds a B.A. from the College of Education Somalia (languages), a B.S. from Minnesota State University, Mankato (Ethnic Studies and Geography), and a M.S. from MSU Mankato (Educational Leadership and Geography Information Science/GIS). Currently, Fanah is an advisor at South Central College.

DIVERSITY IN AFRICA: PANEL

CONNIE MILLER

E104

Join Connie Miller, SCC English and Readiness instructor, as she moderates a panel of women from Africa. This breakout will be a question and answer session, focusing on these women's experiences in Mankato. With panelists from Somalia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Gambia, Gabon, and Ghana, this presentation hopes to demonstrate the wide diversity that Africa encompasses.

Connie Miller is one of South Central College's Readiness/English instructors. She is a writer, editor, and instructor who has written over 90 books for young children. She lives in Mankato, Minnesota, with her partner and six busy, vibrant children.

BREAKOUT SESSION THREE

12:00-12:50PM

Lunch in SCC CROSSROADS CAFE | ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET | \$8

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL UAV (DRONE) APPLICATIONS AND DEMONSTRATION

WILLY MEKEEL

E123

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) aka Drones provide a versatile, efficient, and effective means for gathering Remote Sensing data (i.e. aerial photos and videos). This session will demonstrate flight planning, sensors, data transfer, and data processing. Domestic and international regulations and data applications will also be discussed.

Willy Mekeel's education background includes a B.S. in Aviation Management and Business Administration, as well as M.S. degrees in Geography and GIS from Minnesota State University, Mankato. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities' Remote Sensing and Geospatial Analysis Lab. He is a Precision Agriculture instructor at Riverland College and owner/Precision Ag Specialist for TacAero, Inc., a tech and service start-up providing aerial imaging and other geospatial services to commodity crop producers and specialty farms in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest. He is a licensed pilot and FAA certified Advanced Ground Instructor (AGI) who has completed Predator-B UAV training with the US Air Force.

DIVERSITY, COMMUNITY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

JENN MELBY-KELLEY

E104

Join Jenn Melby-Kelley as she shares personal lessons, experiences and takeaways regarding leadership in general, and specifically within the community of Mankato. She will focus on themes of diversity, community, feminism, and entrepreneurship.

Jennifer A. Melby-Kelley is a Mankato native, a graduate of the Minnesota State University Women's Studies program, a second-generation entrepreneur, one of the area's most visible LGBT business owners, and a well-known local advocate for arts, music, entrepreneurship and positive social change. For the past ten years, Jenn has worked tirelessly to grow her business, The Coffee Hag, into the successful coffee shop and cultural force that it is today.

INTERCULTURAL SIMULATION: BAFABA BAFABA

TRACY MURPHY AND DAVE EDWARDS

E110

Join your presenters for a fun and challenging cultural simulation, Bafa Bafa. (Shirts 1974). This intercultural simulation mimics the exhilarating and often frustrating experience of cultural immersion. Participants experience a heightened awareness of their own assumptions, cultural expectations, and resulting behaviors as they navigate through unfamiliar intercultural interactions. Participants will learn about themselves as they problem-solve to operate effectively in a new culture. Debriefing about the experience will follow the simulation.

Tracy Murphy, South Central College faculty member since 2000, teaches mostly communication studies courses, but is looking forward to teaching a humanities class on Chinese culture in the near future. She serves as Chair of the English department and serves as an active member of the Global Committee, which seeks to bring intercultural competence to the campus community.

Dave Edwards has been a South Central College faculty member since 2000, teaching mass communication and communication studies courses, including intercultural communication. One thing Dave believes strongly in is SCC's commitment to cultural diversity and global citizenship. He tries to incorporate some element of diversity and/or globalization into most of his classes.

BREAKOUT SESSION FOUR

1:00-1:50PM

IMMIGRATION ISSUES IN THE COURT SYSTEM

JUDGE GREG ANDERSON

E123

Join Judge Greg Anderson as he discusses immigration issues as they relate to the local justice system, with emphasis on the Padilla issues. He will focus specifically on ICE holds and local jails (mentioning Watonwan County) and how the system works for local facilities. Hopefully participants will leave this session having a better understanding of the relationship between immigration and political policies, and the local community.

Judge Greg Anderson is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, CLA 1984. After graduation, Anderson attended the University of Minnesota Law School in 1987. He worked as a law clerk from 1987-1989; a prosecutor from 1989-1994; a public defender from 1994-2008; and he became a District Court Judge in 2008 when he was appointed by Governor Pawlenty and sworn in August 1, 2008. He was then re-elected in November of 2010. Judge Anderson presently serves on the State Psychological Services Committee and the District Labor Management Committee.