

Ambassador and
National Security Advisor
Susan Rice
gave the Spring 2016 commencement
address for the Green School.

Leading the way in discourse and analysis of global issues



When Florida International University established the School of International and Public Affairs in Summer 2008, it fulfilled the promise of its founders to prepare globally engaged citizens.

In his opening address at the groundbreaking in 1971, United Nations Secretary General U. Thant noted the critical role universities play in creating future global leaders:

"In order to develop the fully-integrated human being, it is the responsibility of institutions of higher learning to see to it that our young men and women of today are fully integrated in their moral, intellectual and spiritual development," he said. *"Only then will we be able to fashion the kind of society we want."*

Today, the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs is helping to fashion that society by bringing together many of FIU's internationally oriented disciplines to provide the cutting-edge research, first-rate teaching, and innovative training necessary for the globalized world of the 21st century.

In 2016 – a year when the nation and the world faced considerable change and turmoil – the Green School once again proved itself to be at the forefront of leading critical dialogue and analysis of major global issues.

As Nelson Mandela said, *"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."* I believe that is precisely what we have been doing here at the Green School.

The accolades our students, faculty and alumni received in 2016 are extensive.

Our Model UN team is ranked second in North America, ahead of every Ivy League school in the country, including Harvard and Yale.

The nationally recognized Latino Public Opinion Forum is the only university initiative in Florida that systematically tracks the impact of Hispanic opinion on U.S. politics.

Our faculty experts are sought after daily for their insight into major world events, including the historic 2016 presidential election and the death of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

We are recognized internationally for our preeminence in Latin American studies, through the work of our Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, one of only 18 National Resource Centers on Latin America in the country.

The FIU Cuba Poll – which has tracked Cuban-American attitudes in South Florida for more than two decades - is the longest running research project measuring Cuban-American public opinion in the country. Our Cuban Research Institute is the nation's premier center for academic research on Cuban and Cuban-American issues.

The Green School's flagship speaker series, the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, continues to attract the world's leading scholars, writers, dignitaries and artists, including a former senior director on the National Security Council, Mark Medish, and award-winning author and commentator Andrew Solomon.



Our faculty continue to be nationally and internationally recognized in their fields – scholars like Victor Uribe, chair of the Department of History, who won the 2016 Murdo J. Macleod Book Prize in Latin American and Caribbean Studies for his book, *Fatal Love*.

Our students have received prestigious awards, scholarships and fellowships this year, including the Fulbright, the Boren and the Truman. They have gone on to top postdoctoral programs, as well as jobs and internships in major organizations and agencies like the United Nations, U.S. Department of State, Library of Congress and the National Security Agency.

In speaking to our graduates at our Spring 2016 Commencement ceremony, U.S. Ambassador and National Security Advisor Susan Rice praised the “brilliant mosaic” of experience students receive at the Green School and urged them to consider a career in public service.

“Your country needs you,” she said.

The students and faculty of the Green School are answering that call here in the U.S. and around the world, making a difference in places like Haiti, the Dominican Republic, India, Africa and many, many more.

The year 2016 was also one of loss for the Green School, as we said goodbye to two individuals who played a major role in our success and development.

Rebecca “Becky” Salokar lost her brave battle with cancer in December 2016, following a career in the Department of

Politics and International Relations that spanned more than three decades. In her memory, we have created the Rebecca M. Salokar Scholarship Endowment to benefit political science students who wish to enroll in the College of Law.

We also lost one of our greatest supporters and benefactors, Morris N. Broad, whose life was defined by generosity and unselfishness. With his sister Ann Bussel, he created both the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series in honor of his late parents and became the first major donor towards the Green School’s new building, naming the 500-seat auditorium for his parents.

As one the largest schools of its kind in the world, the Green School supports scholarship that seeks to understand the transcendence of the human experience, the connectedness of our shared histories and the challenges we face as one human family. We continue to be grateful to the Green Family Foundation for its transformative gift in 2015, further cementing FIU’s place as an institution of international import.

I invite you to explore in these pages some of the unparalleled *Worlds Ahead* achievements and stories from the FIU’s Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs.

Best,

John F. Stack, Jr., Ph.D.
Founding Dean and Professor of Politics and International Relations and Law

National Security Advisor urges students to put their “higher education to a higher purpose”

AMBASSADOR SUSAN RICE TELLS GREEN SCHOOL GRADS, “YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU.”



When Ambassador Susan Rice came to FIU to deliver the 2016 Spring Commencement address for the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, she had a serious message for graduates.

She urged them to consider a “higher purpose” by pursuing a career in public service – whether to their community, their country or the world.

“Your country needs you,” said Rice, one of the longest-serving U.S. ambassadors to the United Nations. “We need the global approach you’ve honed at [the Green School]. We need your smarts, your skills and, yes, the brilliant mosaic of experiences you carry with you.”

“There is no work more rewarding, no field more exhilarating, no way to have a greater impact than public service,” she added.

Rice also spoke about the importance of diverse perspectives in the nation’s foreign policy and security decisions – and how the Green School encourages those diverse perspectives.

“Without tapping into America’s full range of races, religions, ethnicities, language skills, and social and economic experiences, we’re leading in a complex world with one hand tied behind our back,” she said.

She urged students to disregard the “loud voices” that disparage diversity.

Her remarks at FIU were picked up by media around the world, including CNN, the *Washington Post* and *Politico*. Rice continued to speak about the importance of diversity in the days after her visit to FIU.

“Ambassador Susan Rice, in speaking at the Green School Commencement, urged our students to commit their higher education to a higher purpose,” said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School. “She praised the diversity of our students, the global approach they’d honed here. We will never forget her inspiring words: ‘We need you,’ she said, ‘to help make the 202 a little more like the 305.’ ”

From drill sergeant to **beloved professor**

Green School honors political science professor Rebecca “Becky” Salokar

In 1985, Amaryllis Garcia remembers taking her first upper level political science course.

She remembers a young woman sitting at an empty desk, talking to everyone. The woman walked to the front of the room and wrote the course name on the board. Garcia, now an attorney and adjunct professor at FIU, realized the young woman she thought was another student was in fact the professor.

“She said she had just started teaching at FIU and had been a drill sergeant in the military. I thought to myself, she’s going to be really strict, maybe I should drop,” Garcia said. “She then told us her name was Rebecca Salokar and told us ‘You can call me Becky.’ Then I said to myself, she seems like a good person. It’s going to be okay.”

Salokar, associate professor and former chair of the Department of Politics and International Relations, died Dec. 19, 2016 after a long battle with cancer. She had been with the university for more than three decades. Faculty, staff and students from the Green School and throughout the university joined Salokar’s family and friends for a celebration of life in her honor.

“Determined, engaged, committed, energetic and wise, Becky was – as her Ph.D. major professor Marie Provine wrote – a “force of nature,” said John F. Stack, founding dean of the Green School. “Becky not only thrived in her own life – she helped others to thrive in theirs. Because she was so comfortable in her own skin, she made people feel more comfortable in theirs.”

Prior to her academic career, Salokar was a drill sergeant at the U.S Army Training Center in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Retired Circuit Judge

Judith Rubenstein, Salokar’s wife, said Salokar’s goal for herself was to be the best that she could be and encourage that in every person she met.

“When Becky joined the Army, she became everything she could be by becoming a drill sergeant,” Rubenstein said. “Her job was to make every single soldier under her command be the best that they could be.”

Salokar began her academic career in 1979 at FIU, where she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in political science and later earned a master’s degree and Ph.D. in political science from Syracuse University.

“Teaching was a natural choice for Becky. It was a job where she could feed her thirst for knowledge and fulfill her desire to be a role model,” Rubenstein said. “It was a way where she could take young minds and empower them.”

Salokar was known as a professor who inspired and motivated her students.

“What she loved most was teaching students and motivating them to reach their full potential. Every opportunity with her was an opportunity for learning and self-realization,” Garcia said. “She was a constant cheerleader and was always confident that her students, young or old, could achieve anything if they worked hard. She believed in us more than we believed in ourselves.”

In 2009, Salokar fulfilled her dream to earn a law degree, graduating from FIU’s College of Law, finishing second in her class. This was followed by a federal clerkship with one of her former classmates, U.S. District Judge Cecilia Altonaga.

“She seamlessly changed our roles from colleague and university professor, to a trusted member of my team,” Altonaga



Rebecca Salokar with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at a Green School event

said. “Over the years, she became one of my closest and dearest friends.”

With her newfound law degree, Salokar established and directed FIU’s Pre-Law Advising and Training Office (PLATO), an advising center for students interested in law school.

“She was always there for our FIU,” said FIU President Mark B. Rosenberg. “She was conscientious, responsible, frank, candid and authentic.”

In memory of Salokar, FIU has created the Rebecca M. Salokar Scholarship Endowment, a legacy of her generosity and commitment to students. The scholarship will benefit students in the department of political science and international relations who plan to enroll in the College of Law.

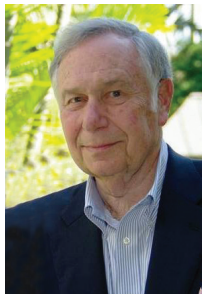
“It is so hard to believe that someone so large and vibrant is gone,” Rosenberg said. “But nothing can rob us of the sustaining impact of her authenticity as a human being, a friend, a coach, a mentor and a colleague. We will miss her dearly.”

“For me, a great teacher gives a little bit of their soul and leaves a part of their soul in their students,” Stack added. “Becky fit that description in every possible way.”

Remembering Morris N. Broad



Recognizing his unflinching generosity and commitment to the Green School, Dean John F. Stack in November 2016 dedicated a lecture by author Andrew Solomon to the memory of philanthropist Morris N. Broad.



Credit photo: Miami Herald

Broad, who created the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series in honor of his late parents, died in September 2016 at 81.

“Morris Broad’s life was defined by his generosity and unselfishness,” Stack said. “More than just his monetary gifts, Morris gave the gift of himself to so many people, including me. He saw in our students hope for the future and the power of education to transform the world.”

An admirer of Solomon’s work, Morris Broad had specifically requested that he be invited to speak at FIU. During his talk, Solomon thanked the Broad family and expressed disappointment that he hadn’t been able to meet Morris personally. Solomon is a professor of psychology at Columbia University and a regular contributor to *The New Yorker* and the *New York Times*.

The lecture was attended by Morris Broad’s wife Anita and his stepson Anthony. Dean Stack presented the family with an inscribed globe in Morris Broad’s memory.

Along with his sister, Ann Bussel, Morris spearheaded the establishment of the Green School’s distinguished lecture series – a series that has attracted leading thinkers from politics, literature and academia to FIU.

He and Ann were also the first major donors towards the school’s new building, naming the 500-seat auditorium for their parents, Ruth and Shepard Broad.

Morris and Anita Broad also established a fellowship supporting faculty and graduate student research. The fellowship has provided research opportunities for 33 faculty members and 60 Ph.D. students totaling \$80,000.

The life of Morris Broad embodies the mission of the Green School to create a just, peaceful and prosperous world through education and dialogue. FIU will be forever grateful to Morris Broad for his steadfast support.



Professor Eduardo Gamarra is interviewed about the impact of Hispanic voters on the 2016 election.

Latino Public Opinion Forum spotlights impact of Hispanic vote

With the number of Hispanic voters in the U.S. topping 27 million – and immigration playing a pivotal role in the national debate – the impact of this rapidly growing demographic on U.S. politics has been significant.

To better assess public opinion of the Latino population – and its impact on the 2016 presidential election – the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs launched the Latino Public Opinion Forum in March 2016.

Led by the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, the initiative is the first in Florida to study systematically and scientifically the growth and impact of the Latino population.

Eduardo Gamarra, professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations, founded the initiative in collaboration with Adsmovil, a mobile advertising company that specializes in reaching the Hispanic population in the U.S.

More than 200,000 voters participated in the online mobile survey over the course of the year – offering their opinions on the political candidates, as well as the issues that mattered most to them.

“Hispanics are historically an elusive population to reach,” said Gamarra. “They are also a very complex demographic. Using this technology, we are able to reach Hispanics at scale.”

The Latino Public Opinion Forum reaches

Hispanics through social media, online forums and mobile technology, as well as traditional survey methods such as focus groups, face to face and telephone interviews.

Media outlets throughout the country, including NBC Nightly News and CNN en Espanol, reported on the poll and covered FIU’s focus groups of Latino voters. A debate night focus group with FIU students was covered by NBC 6 and the public opinion forum was featured in the station’s annual College Week coverage.

The initiative builds upon FIU’s long-running Cuba Poll by broadening the scope of inquiry to other rapidly growing Latino populations, including Central Americans, Mexicans and Puerto Ricans.

“Over the past two decades, the size of these other Latino populations in Florida has grown significantly,” Gamarra said. “**The Latino Public Opinion Forum is aimed at building on the strength of our research in public opinions of Cuban Americans and closing the knowledge gap about other Latinos.**”

In addition to the Gordon Institute, the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, Cuban Research Institute, Metropolitan Center, Department of Politics and International Relations and Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies assisted in the development of the project.

Model UN team ranked second in North America



In 2016, FIU's award-winning Model United Nations team achieved its highest ranking ever, landing second place in North America and beating out every Ivy League team in the country.

The ranking places FIU ahead of prestigious national universities such as Georgetown, Harvard and Yale. It is the highest ranked team in Florida and the highest from any public university.

"I continue to be inspired by the exceptional skill and leadership exhibited by our Model UN team," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School, which oversees the Model UN program. "Our students have worked so hard to get to this point. I could not be more proud."

The FIU team has advanced steadily in recent years, as noted in Best Delegate, the organization that ranks Model UN teams based on performance.

"If any Ivy League ceiling ever existed, FIU would have smashed it by now," the organization noted in its Fall 2016 recognition. "Now, the only team FIU has ever yet to rank ahead is the University of Chicago, the #1 team for the past three years."

Model UN is an international relations program that provides an interactive environment for students in political and international affairs.

The program brings together colleges and universities across the United States, with the goal of furthering international awareness and building

consensus. It is designed to build students' public speaking, analytical writing, negotiations, critical analysis and research skills.

To be part of Model UN, students are required to go through an extensive process, which entails an application and two interviews, in which the student is tested and screened.

"A big part of being part of Model UN is members knowing their strengths and weaknesses," said FIU's former Model UN program director Ethan Roberts. "I think you've got to be self-critical. When students are a part of a team like this, they have to be open to improving their speaking, writing, the way they research and think about certain things."

Christian Gonzalez, a freshman majoring in international relations, is a new delegate who says he's learned a lot from being part of the Model UN team but that he still has more to learn.

"I've gained so many qualities through my experiences at Model UN. I've improved my public speaking abilities and my capacity to work under pressure. But, it's also ironic that I've learned that I have a lot to learn," said Gonzalez.

For Hatim Bukhari, a senior majoring in international relations, the most important quality he has gained from FIU MUN is confidence.

"I've learned that I can do anything I set my mind to. I learned how to walk into a room, make my opinions heard, negotiate and build consensus and move things forward, all qualities needed for my professional life," Bukhari said.

FIU Model UN members say they hope to prove that the university is a powerful global institution that continues to break barriers.

"In this country, we have these notions about universities," Roberts said. "If you go to Harvard, you expect to win because it's considered an 'Ivy League' or a 'top university.' And the fact that we can overcome those expectations and prove that we can do what they do too, means so much to me."

Also in 2016, FIU's Model UN program brought the largest high school conference in its history to the university.

Nearly 400 middle and high school students from more than 20 schools competed at an annual conference, hosted by FIU.

"This was the most successful FIU High School Model United Nations conference in more than 20 years," said Dean Stack. "Hundreds of students came from all over the state to compete here at FIU. They were bright, motivated, and determined to succeed in their respective committees."

U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen '75, '86, the first Hispanic woman elected to Congress and an FIU alumna, attended the conference and addressed students about the importance of the United Nations and her take on recent actions by the Human Rights Council.

"We need young people who really care to step up to the plate and make a difference," she said. "And right here, in this room, I am very sure is the next generation of those folks."

A HISTORIC WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Green School helps launch FIU in D.C.

In June 2016, FIU inaugurated its dynamic new hub in the nation's capital with a series of events and activities attended by hundreds of students, alumni, friends and partners of the university and of the Green School.

The university's greater presence in the nation's capital has already advanced faculty research and established a point of convergence for students, alumni and governmental partners on Capitol Hill.

The Green School is playing an important role in D.C., encouraging a more engaged academic presence there by faculty, students and alumni, as well as immersive experiences with D.C. partners such as internships and experiential learning.

"The establishment of a stronger FIU presence in D.C. has already enabled us to expand the global experience we offer at the Green School," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School.

"We have deepened our collaboration with places like the Washington Center, the Department of State and numerous other agencies, think tanks and D.C. based NGOs, allowing us to offer students greater access to internships, jobs and immersive experiences."

"The faculty and students at the Green School are concerned with global issues and committed to create a better world," Stack added. "FIU in D.C. further opens that world to all of us – for research and public policy in areas of vital concern to our increasingly globalized world."

The Green School is answering the call to create even more of the global-minded leaders the nation needs, with more and more students participating in intensive learning experiences in the capital.

"FIU's presence in D.C. is a reflection of a truly proactive community of diverse students, faculty and staff dedicated to creating positive change for not only our own communities, but for the nation as a whole," said Galina Abdelaziz, a student at the Green School who attended the D.C. launch.

"Through the connections, space and opportunities the D.C. office will offer, there's no doubt in my mind we'll be nothing short of extraordinary."

During the 2016 launch, the Green School hosted two important events – one focused on Hispanic voters and the 2016 presidential election and a second on the critical issue of cybersecurity.

"By helping expand our footprint in Washington, D.C., the Green School is enabling our students, our faculty and our alumni to leave a legacy of service to their community, their nation and their world," Stack said.

"An Insider's View: Hispanics and the 2016 Presidential Election" featured a bi-partisan analysis of Latino voting patterns during the election. The event was hosted by the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and its Latino Public Opinion Forum - the first university initiative in Florida to systematically examine the growth and impact of Latino voters in the U.S.

"The Dark Side of the Web: Cyber Threats in the 21st Century" – also hosted by the Gordon Institute - featured experts on cyber threats discussing high-profile breaches and the policies and strategies needed to mitigate them and defend national security and financial interests.

Dean Stack spoke at several of the inaugural events, including the formal ribbon cutting and a celebration of those who "turned the impossible into the inevitable" – honoring alumni chapter founders, former FIU interns and various employment partners.



Turmoil in Europe

In the wake of the United Kingdom's vote to leave the European Union, many political and socioeconomic questions remained, including what the development would mean for the U.S., the global economy and international relations.



History professor Gwyn Davies, economics professor Cem Karayalcin, British Consul General David Prodder and Markus Thiel, director of the European and Eurasian Studies Program, discuss Brexit and the EU.

he said, adding that more than 33 million people voted on the issue – an impressive voter turnout – and nearly 52 percent said the U.K. should leave the EU.

Markus Thiel, director of the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and the European and Eurasian Studies Program; Cem Karayalcin, chairman and professor in the Department of Economics; and history professor Gwyn Davies also took part in the discussion, which was streamed live online.

To answer the questions swirling around "Brexit," the Green School brought together a panel of experts at a faculty teach-in called *"Turmoil in Europe: Britain, Brexit and the EU – What's Next?"*

A presentation of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, the panel included special guest, the Hon. David Prodder, British Consul General of Miami.

Prodder said the referendum asking U.K. citizens if they wanted to remain or leave the EU may have been long overdue. He described the decision as a "massive exercise in democracy."

"It was the first time that we had consulted the U.K. population on our relationship with the EU since 1975,"

Trouble in Turkey



With tensions rising in Turkey following a failed coup attempt in the summer of 2016, Green School faculty from the Middle East Studies Program and the Department of Politics and International Affairs joined two leading experts on U.S.-Turkish relations – both Green School alum - to discuss the implications of the uprising on the U.S. and its allies.

Gonul Tol, director of Turkish Studies at the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C. and a graduate of the Green School, joined the discussion via

Skype, along with Mustafa Gokhan Sahin, director of academic affairs at the Atlantic Institute of Atlanta, also an alum.

Eric Lob, assistant professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations, Mohammad Homayounvash, a research fellow in the Middle East Studies Program, and Orcun Selcuk, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Politics and International Relations, also took part in the event, which was co-sponsored by the Muslim World Studies Initiative.

Rebellion at the RNC

Though ultimately successful, President Donald Trump faced a counter-offensive from Republican delegates leading up to the Republican National Convention in July 2016. The so-called “Dump Trump” movement threatened to derail the convention by allowing “rebel delegates” to vote for a candidate other than Trump.

On the eve of the convention, Green School faculty experts from the Department of Politics and International Relations joined former Republican Rep. Marcelo Llorente for a lively discussion about the historic 2016 presidential election.

The event was attended by *Miami Herald* political reporter Patricia Mazzei, who interviewed Green School graduate and RNC delegate Rey

Anthony Lastre about the convention and Trump’s candidacy. More than 4,700 people viewed the event live online and nearly 60 shared it on their social media pages.

During the event, Green School experts concluded “Dump Trump” was unlikely to be successful.

“You don’t want to underestimate the power of partisanship,” said political science professor Kevin Evans, whose research focuses on the U.S. presidency, Congress and inter-branch relations. “Even if people in the Republican Party have to hold their nose to vote for Donald Trump, they might still do it over feeling like they’re throwing their vote away.”



State Rep. Marcelo Llorente

2016 Cuba Poll reveals major shift in Cuban-American attitudes

Majority of respondents opposed U.S. embargo, supported increased investment in the island



FIU's Cuba Poll received extensive media coverage in 2016, including ABC News, MSN.com, Fox News Latino, the Miami Herald and the Sun-Sentinel, valued at an estimated \$3.9 million in advertising for the Green School.

The results of the 2016 Cuba Poll – the longest running research project measuring Cuban American public opinion – revealed a major shift in Cuban-American attitudes toward U.S.-Cuba relations.

Nearly 70 percent of Cuban Americans in Miami-Dade County supported the U.S. decision to open diplomatic relations with Cuba and a strong majority (63 percent) opposed the U.S. embargo of the island nation, the poll found.

Support for the embargo has steadily declined among Cuban Americans in the Miami area – from an average of 84 percent in the 1990s to just 37 percent in 2016.

The Cuban Research Institute – a part of the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs – began the Cuba Poll in 1991 to record a snapshot of the Cuban-American community at a time of major geopolitical change, including the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The 2016 Cuba Poll was the first conducted since President Obama's historic decision to reestablish diplomatic ties with Cuba in 2015 and his visit to the island in 2016.

"2016 was a year of extraordinary change in U.S.-Cuba relations," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School. "We witnessed history unfold as a sitting U.S. president visited Havana for the first time in 90 years."

"Our role – as a school of international relations and public affairs – has been to look at these changes and make sense of them," he added. "This work is the product of months of exhaustive research and analysis by our incredible team that has been doing this work for more than two decades.

"This poll shows that members of the Cuban diaspora in Miami-Dade have diverse views about how they would like the U.S. government to deal with the Cuban state," said Guillermo J. Grenier, one of the poll's principal investigators, along with Hugh Gladwin, both professors in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies in the Green School. "The majority support at least some elements of the new course now being charted."

The shift reflects the changing demographics of the Cuban American community in Miami-Dade, with younger and second-generation Cuban-Americans and more recent arrivals to the U.S. more likely to express a pro-engagement attitude than older exiles and those arriving before 1980.

"Cubans who left the island in the last two decades and those born in the United States are more supportive of increasing U.S.-Cuba engagement than those who left immediately after the revolution," said Jorge Duany, director of CRI, which cosponsored the polling initiative with the Green School and its Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center.

In addition to supporting increased diplomatic ties with Cuba, a large majority of Cuban-Americans favor lifting travel restrictions to Cuba, while more than half support increased economic activity between the two nations, including liberalization of private investment in Cuba.



Photo credit: Metro.co.uk

Green School responds to Fidel Castro's death

In the wake of the death of Cuban president Fidel Castro, the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs hosted a series of interactive discussions for students and the Miami community on the impact of the revolutionary leader's life – and death.

While Cubans in Havana mourned and Cuban exiles in Miami cheered, FIU's leading scholars on the island nation led informal roundtable discussions focused on Cuba's transition in the post-Fidel and Trump era.

Moderated by Eduardo Gamarra, professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations, the sessions featured analysis of the future of U.S.-Cuba relations following Castro's death and under President Donald Trump.

Other discussions tackled the impact on the Cuban people and the island's economic, social and political future. The reaction of the Cuban-American community in Miami, including possible effects on immigration and intergenerational relations, was another major topic.

Through its Cuban Research Institute and Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, the Green School is home to the largest number of professors of Cuban origin in the United States, as well as many of the nation's top scholars on Cuban and Cuban-American issues.

In the weeks following Castro's death, many of the Green School's experts on Cuba were called upon to comment on Castro's legacy in local and national media, including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *U.S. News & World Report*, ABC News and CNN.

In all, more than 300 articles and segments in newspapers, magazines, television and radio featured interviews with Green School faculty.

Among the Green School's leading experts on Cuba are Jorge Duany, director of the Cuban Research Institute; Frank Mora, director of LACC; Guillermo Grenier and Hugh Gladwin, both professors in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies and lead researchers on the Cuba Poll; and Sebastian Arcos, assistant director of the Cuban Research Institute.

Several others have authored books on Castro's legacy, including Jonathan Rosen and Brian Latell, both from the Gordon Institute.

"We have always known that the Green School has the most distinguished faculty on Cuban and Cuban-American issues in the country," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School. "It is rewarding to know that the rest of the world has taken notice as well."

InCubando@FIU offers ideas and possibilities to young Cuban entrepreneurs

A group of 15 small business owners from Cuba came to FIU in the summer of 2016 as the inaugural cohort of InCubando@FIU, FIU's first-ever customized program designed to sharpen the managerial skills and business savvy of young entrepreneurs from the island.

A partnership between the Cuban Research Institute, College of Business and English Language Institute, InCubando@FIU was organized with the help of StartUp Cuba, part of the non-profit group Roots of Hope.

"A strong entrepreneurial community is vital to the well-being of any country," said Jorge Duany, director of the Cuban Research Institute and one of the organizers of the program. "In StartUp Cuba we have found the ideal partner that shares our interest in building bridges to Cuba in a way that is concrete and empowering to Cubans on the island."

Duany said InCubando@FIU aims to bolster the Cuban entrepreneurial spirit with practical skills in areas such as finance, accounting, business plan writing, marketing and sales. Program participants also have several hours a day of English language instruction and are exposed to concepts in micro and macroeconomics, free markets, leadership, management and team building.

InCubando's participants are all under the age of 40, have a self-employed (cuentapropista) license issued by the Cuban government and have been operating a business on the island for at least one year.

The students were selected from a pool of more than a hundred applicants from all over the island. They represented a broad spectrum of the micro-enterprises that have sprouted in Cuba in the last few years, in the spaces of media, fashion design, apparel manufacturing, financial services and hospitality.

Participants lived in student housing on the FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus and had opportunities to visit and interact with local entrepreneurs, some of whom served as mentors to members of the group. The cohort received privately funded scholarships to cover their academic and living expenses.

"This program was designed specifically to meet the needs of entrepreneurs who have not had the support or the instruction and yet are running very promising enterprises under difficult conditions in Cuba," Duany said. "At FIU and in Miami we have resources and know-how that can be instrumental in supporting Cubans on the island as they make their way in this new environment."

Gordon Institute unveils cybersecurity certificate program with College of Business

With sophisticated hackers targeting everyone from Sony and Target to the Pentagon and State Department, the demand for skilled workers in cybersecurity has skyrocketed in recent years.

The jobs are not only plentiful, they are high paying, offering a median salary of \$116,000 – nearly three times the nation’s median full-time wage.

To meet the growing demand for skilled cybersecurity professionals in the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy has collaborated with the College of Business to create an executive certificate program in cybersecurity leadership and strategy.

The two-day course, offers two tracks – private and public sector – targeting professionals in law, government, healthcare and other industries, as well as leaders and policymakers in national security, looking to defend their networks and secure their data against attack.

The cybersecurity program has the endorsement of the Organization of American States, which has been helping to build cybersecurity capacity throughout Latin America and the Caribbean for more than 10 years.

“We have enlisted the support of top experts from OAS, Verizon, Microsoft and United Data Technologies, along with our FIU faculty, to create cybersecurity leaders in South Florida and among our partners in Latin America and the Caribbean,” said Brian Fonseca, director of the Gordon Institute, an expert in national security who oversaw development of the course .

“In this time of growing global concern surrounding cybercrime, it is essential that we strengthen our resilience to the cyber threats of tomorrow.”

FIU’s response to the demand for skilled cybersecurity workers is part of a larger national trend targeting cybercrime.

“For businesses, the magnitude of cybersecurity threats has never been greater,” said Monica Chiarini Tremblay, associate professor and chair of the Information Systems and Business Analytics department at the College of Business and co-author of a MOOC focusing on cybersecurity for businesses.

Training in cybersecurity will enable professionals to take on roles of increasing importance in a profession where demand for trained workers is at an all-time high.





Green School conferences tackle global threats and cybersecurity

National security experts from FIU and throughout the Western Hemisphere shared their views on global terrorism, violent extremism and other emerging threats in the region during a day-long conference sponsored by the Green School's Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center.

The first annual Hemispheric Security Conference in March 2016 brought together a diverse group of panelists from the United States, Canada and Central America, as well as representatives of the U.S. Southern Command, the U.S. Army War College and two former deputy assistant secretaries of defense for the Western Hemisphere under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

"I had the honor of sharing the stage with two of the greatest U.S. defense policy makers for the Western Hemisphere," said Brian Fonseca, director of the Gordon Institute and a former defense intelligence analyst for the U.S. Southern Command.

Fonseca was joined by Stephen Johnson and Frank Mora, both former deputy assistant secretaries of defense. Mora, who served under President Obama, is director of the Latin American and Caribbean Center. The pair discussed the threats they dealt with during their tenure, as well as the policy options available to them during their respective administrations.

At another conference hosted by the Green School in March 2016, thought leaders from government, business, academia and law discussed policies and strategies to mitigate cyber threats and defend national security and financial interests.

FIU's fifth annual Geopolitical Summit – The Dark Side of the Web: Challenges to Security, Prosperity and Privacy – featured leading experts on cyber terrorism and national security, as well as emerging threats to business and health care and the protection of civil liberties against intrusive governmental policies.

Speakers included the former undersecretary of defense for policy, James Miller, and former assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense and America's security affairs, Paul Stockton. Others included security specialists from Intel, Mount Sinai Medical Center and Jackson Health System and NPR National Security Correspondent Dina Temple-Raston.

"These attacks have become increasingly sophisticated and destructive," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School. "We are facing major threats to our national infrastructure and financial systems. Safeguarding these areas is one of the top challenges of our time."



Hundreds of Latin American officials attend 2016 Inter-American Conference of Mayors

"We want to learn from your cities and to share big ideas and innovations on what worked in your country. No matter where you are from, local governments get things done. We are problem solvers."

– Antoinette Samuel, executive director of the National League of Cities

In June 2016, Miami welcomed more than 600 mayors and officials from around Latin America for the 22nd Annual Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities.

The largest annual gathering of local leaders from throughout the hemisphere, the conference focuses on ways to strengthen local government, public services and democracies.

For nearly two decades, Allan Rosenbaum, director of the Green School's Institute for Public Management and Community Service, has organized the event.

"Miami's geographic location makes us the gateway to the Americas," said Rosenbaum, who is also a professor in the Department of Public Administration. "Our airport and seaport are products of decentralized government and serve as examples of what strong, localized governments can accomplish."

"Beyond location, few universities in the country can mobilize the depth of expertise on Latin America and the Caribbean as FIU's faculty can," he added.

Almost every country in the hemisphere is typically

represented at the conference. The Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau awarded the conference the Miami Magnet Award for contributions to the local economy. The event is estimated to generate about \$1 million in revenue for the county each year.

The first Inter-American Conference of Mayors was held in Washington, D.C. in 1994, attended by about 100 people and co-sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank and the Organization of American States.

The conference moved to Miami the following year and in 1996, FIU started organizing the event.

Antoinette Samuel, executive director of the National League of Cities, told *Miami Today* that the conference is a vital platform for leaders to share ideas and learn from each other's success.

"Gatherings like this are so important," she said. "No one nation has a monopoly on innovation. We want to learn from your cities and to share big ideas and innovations on what worked in your country. No matter where you are from, local governments get things done. We are problem solvers."

Metropolitan Center unveils prosperity plan for Miami-Dade

Plan offers solutions to address prosperity gap revealed in Prosperity Initiatives Feasibility Study



In response to the growing disparity in income and prosperity among Miami-Dade County residents, FIU's Metropolitan Center and Citi Community Development launched a "Prosperity Agenda for Miami-Dade," a groundbreaking research-based community action plan that identifies specific wealth-building strategies to improve economic opportunity and self-sufficiency.

A two-year pilot program, the plan would directly impact as many as 2,300 low-income families, as well as the broader economy and residents across the income spectrum. The plan's recommendations – to be implemented by a collaborative of private, public and non-profit partners – include the creation of three social enterprise incubators and accelerators, providing \$20,000 in seed capital for 32 businesses per year over two years.

The plan also calls for the use of community land trusts to develop 100 units of affordable workforce housing, the creation 2,000 children's savings accounts, and funding to develop five employee-owned business cooperatives. Additionally, the plan recommends the establishment of a community benefits agreement policy to require

developers and business owners to provide specific benefits as part of their expansion or relocation.

The recommendations emanate from the Miami-Dade County Prosperity Initiatives Feasibility Study, a landmark report by FIU's Metropolitan Center and Miami-Dade County with funding from Citi Community Development. The study, authored by senior research fellow Kevin T. Greiner and contributing author Edward Murray, identified for the first time a growing "prosperity gap" affecting not just the county's lowest income earners but also workers, households and families across all income and occupational spectrums.

"Our FIU Metropolitan Center has created a set of very specific, data-driven recommendations that we know can have a tremendous positive impact on our entire community," said John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs. **"I am grateful for the support of Citi Community Development, Miami-Dade County and so many others that have united to put these real-life strategies into action."**

Havel program produces documentary on friendship between dissidents

The island nation of Cuba may seem a world away from the Czech Republic. But the two nations share a long history of democratic opposition to Communist regimes.

That shared history laid the foundation for a somewhat unlikely friendship between former Czech president and political dissident Václav Havel and Oswaldo Payá, a leading Cuban dissident and founder of the pro-democracy movement, the Varela Project.

To explore that friendship – and the parallels between the two countries’ struggles for freedom and democracy – FIU’s Václav Havel Program for Human Rights & Diplomacy created a short film, *An Unfinished Dialogue between Václav Havel and Oswaldo Payá*.

Written and produced by Martin Palouš, director of the Havel program and former ambassador for the Czech Republic to the United Nations, the film was screened for the first time at a conference in Prague.

It made its Miami debut during an event commemorating Human Rights Day at the Coral Gables Museum.

“The goal of this project is to bring attention to this unique relationship and build a bridge between the past and the future,” said Palouš. “Their story continues today.”

Until their deaths – just a few months apart in 2012 – Havel and Payá exchanged long letters, phone calls and even videos, meeting just once when Payá traveled to Prague to receive the European Parliament’s Andrei Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought.

Payá, one of Cuba’s most outspoken and prominent dissidents, was killed in an automobile accident in Cuba. The circumstances surrounding his death have been the source of considerable speculation and controversy.



Oswaldo Payá

In the film, Payá’s daughter Rosa says her father “gave his life for the cause,” echoing a common belief among many Cubans that Payá was murdered.

Filmed partly in Prague with additional footage from Havana, the film shows Rosa Payá visiting Havel’s summer home and placing a photo of her father on Havel’s grave.



Photo credit: Hana Jakrlova

“My father was a great admirer of Havel. Their fates were intertwined and they maintained a substantive dialogue.”

– Cuban activist Rosa Payá

Funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the film includes archival material of Havel and Payá, as well as interviews with world renowned Cuban jazz musician and former FIU faculty member Arturo Sandoval and Cuban dissident musicians. The film was produced in collaboration with the Vaclav Havel Library in Prague and the International Platform for Human Rights in Cuba.

Presentation by Former President of Poland and Solidarnosc Leader

LECH WAŁĘSA

Eastern Europe

Between the Past and the Future



Former Polish president Lech Wałęsa speaks on globalization, power of democracy



Sponsored by the Green School in collaboration with the American Institute of Polish Culture, the event was a highlight of the year's Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland, which has brought leading thinkers, politicians, artists and performers to Miami since it began in 2010.

The Polish president drew a large crowd of students, faculty, members of the Polish community and the media. It was his second visit to FIU, the first taking place in 2011 on the same day that protests forced Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to step down.

Lady Blanka, the Honorary Consul of Poland and President of the American Institute of Polish Culture, joined John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School, in welcoming the Polish president.

In his opening remarks, Dean Stack noted that "the courage of Lech Wałęsa and his followers altered the course of history."

"The struggles he and his followers faced resonate with what we are seeing in Eastern Europe today. His message about the transcendent need all

people have for freedom is increasingly relevant as we ponder the future of Eastern Europe."

Acknowledging the size of the audience, Wałęsa joked that he "must draw the conclusion that I did not bore you the last time I visited. I hope I will not bore you today so you will allow me to visit again."

He then spoke passionately about the challenges facing Eastern Europe and the world today.

"Our generation was able to remove many divisions but today new problems have arisen and they are very different," he said. "We must continue to work together to build a foundation of global cooperation."

Wałęsa remains a renowned advocate for the Polish cause in the international arena, noted Dean Stack.

"Lech Wałęsa is a passionate spokesperson for human rights around the world," Stack said. "He reminds us to be vigilant about the erosion of freedom and civil liberties. As FIU President Mark B. Rosenberg, has said, "Universities are communities of memory and hope." As a community of hope, we are so pleased to have Wałęsa visit FIU."

At a time when the struggle for democracy around the world continues, Nobel Prize Laureate and Solidarity leader Lech Wałęsa visited FIU in February 2016 to share his message of non-violence and the movement to build a world founded on universal values.

The Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series

The Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series is the flagship speaker series of the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs. Generously supported by a gift from the Shepard Broad Foundation, the series provides students, faculty and the community with insights into the events and forces shaping contemporary global affairs.

Taking inspiration from the legacy of Ruth and Shepard Broad, whose lives and works transcended the boundaries of states and societies, the Green School strives to be a premier institution for research, education and training in the fields of international and public affairs. The Broad series provides students, faculty and the community with unique perspectives on global issues.

By enriching the school's academic programs and strengthening its outreach initiatives, the series supports the Green School's mission to create a just, peaceful and prosperous world.

Notable speakers have included author and scholar Reza Aslan; U.S. Ambassador to Singapore Kirk Wagar; and Yuri Sergeyev, Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations.

Highlights of the 2016 series include:

Discovery and Recovery: Preserving Iraqi Jewish Heritage, lecture by Tudor Parfitt, director of the Global Jewish Studies Program

Towards Democratic Success in Tunisia and the Vision of the Tunisian Quartet, lecture by Nobel Laureate Abdessattar Ben Moussa

Diplomacy in the 21st Century, lecture by Ambassador Gentry O. Smith, director of the Office of Foreign Missions

The Changing Character of Rebel Fragmentation in Civil War, lecture Will Reno, Northwestern University

The Ambiguity of the Sacred: How Abrahamic Religions Can Be Peaceful and Violent at the Same Time, lecture by Robert Eisen, George Washington University

Israel and the United Nations, presentation by Ambassador Danny Danon, permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations

By the Rivers of Babylon: Music of the Iraqi and Indian Jewish Diasporas, performance by George Mordecai, Temple Israel Center, White Plains, New York

Annual Interfaith Lecture: Protecting Our Religions from Extremism, with Rabbi Moshe Thomas Heyn, Temple Israel of Greater Miami

Innovating a Security Paradigm for the 21st Century, a conversation with Ian McPherson and Bill Zizic, KPMG

Turmoil in Europe: Britain, Brexit and the EU – What's Next? A teach-in with FIU faculty experts and special guest, the Hon. David Proddger, British Consul General of Miami

Rebellion at the RNC? What the dispute over Donald Trump means for the 2016 Presidential Election – A teach-in with FIU faculty experts and special guest, former Rep. Marcelo Llorente

Gentrification and the Magic City – Changes and Challenges, lecture by Paul George, Miami Dade College and HistoryMiami

Conversations over the Prison Wall – Intellectual Freedom and the Dawn of Democracy, lecture by Ivan M. Havel, Charles University, Prague

The EU, Eastern Europe and Russia, panel discussion with FIU faculty experts and Mark Medish, former Senior Director for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian Affairs on the National Security Council

West Africa: Development Challenges of Fragile States, lecture by Oscar Melhado, Resident Representative for Guinea-Bissau, International Monetary Fund

Gun Control: International Perspectives, panel discussion with Australian Federal Police Commander Grant Edwards and FIU College of Law faculty experts

Post-Election Analysis, panel discussion with FIU faculty experts and national leaders

Far and Away: Reporting from the Brink of Change, lecture by Andrew Solomon, Columbia University

The Cuban Transition in the Post-Fidel and Trump Era, series of three roundtable discussions with FIU faculty experts on the impact of Castro's death

THE BROAD SERIES ALSO CO-SPONSORED A NUMBER OF PRESENTATIONS INCLUDING:

Photographing War in the 20th Century, lecture by Jay Winter, Yale University

Ghosts of the Holocaust, an Exploration of Memory and the Holocaust presented by the Florida Grand Opera

The Future of Democracy in a Turbulent World: Perspectives from the Heart of Europe, a discussion by Deputy Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Pavel Bělobrádek.

The 18th Annual Eric Williams Memorial Lecture, The Caribbean and American Presidential Power: A Donald Trump Ascendancy, lecture by the Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, former president of Guyana.

Election Town Hall, interactive discussion of the 2016 election with FIU faculty experts



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON GUN CONTROL

Few issues divide the American people more than gun control. On one side, there are those who believe more regulation would save lives. On the other are those who say any restrictions on gun ownership would violate the Second Amendment of the Constitution.

To broaden the debate and gain a new perspective, the Green School invited a top law enforcement official from the Australian Federal Police to discuss “Gun Control: International Perspectives.”

Commander Grant Edwards of the Australian Federal Police joined FIU faculty experts in law for a discussion on the differences between the United States’ approach to gun control and Australian law, as well as the rates of gun violence in both countries. In Australia, a massacre that killed 35 people in 1996 transformed gun control legislation and the public’s attitudes toward guns. Immediately after the mass

shooting, the government enacted stricter gun control, including a ban on all semi-automatic weapons and tighter restrictions on licensing and ownership.

Manuel A. Gómez, associate dean of international and graduate studies at the College of Law, moderated the discussion. Panelists included Charles C. Jalloh and Noah Weisbord, both professors in the College of Law who provided perspectives from Canada and the European Union. A collaboration with the College of Law and the International Law Students Association, the event was part of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series and co-sponsored by the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, the European and Eurasian Studies Program and the Embassy of Australia in Washington, D.C.

Israeli ambassador, FIU alumnus discusses UN and Israel

Danny Danon, permanent Israeli representative to the United Nations, looked around Rafael Diaz-Balart Hall and said it was good to be back at Florida International University.

“This time, I have no exams and no papers to submit,” joked Danon ‘96, who earned his degree in international relations at FIU before returning to Jerusalem, where he earned a master’s in public policy at Hebrew University.

Danon – on campus as part of the Green School’s Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series – acknowledged his former professor, faculty emeritus Charles MacDonald of the Department of Politics and International Relations. He said his experience at FIU helped prepare him for a career in international politics.

“What I learned at FIU gave me the understanding I needed to promote the ideas and values of the only democracy in the Middle East,” said Danon. “I was here more than 20 years ago but unfortunately many of the issues and conflicts in the Middle East have not changed.”

Danon has served as Israel’s ambassador to the U.N. since October 2015. Before that, he was deputy minister of defense and a member of the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, among other positions in the Israeli government.



FIU President Mark B. Rosenberg speaks with Israeli ambassador and FIU alumnus Danny Dannon.



Author urges students to speak against injustice

Award-winning author Andrew Solomon spoke at FIU less than two weeks after the U.S. presidential election. A native New Yorker who has dual citizenship in the United States and the U.K., Solomon said he did not vote for Republican Donald Trump but he remained hopeful about the future.

“Resistance is powerful,” he said. “And giving up is not an option.”

A professor of psychology at Columbia University and a regular contributor to *The New Yorker* and the *New York Times*, Solomon spoke as part of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series.

Solomon’s recent book, *Far & Away: Reporting from the Brink of Change*, chronicles his travels to regions around the world undergoing profound social and political change. After visits to more than 80 countries, Solomon said he was “deeply worried” about the movement toward isolationism and closing of borders in the U.S. since 9/11.

“We are not making the world safer,” he said. “Engagement not isolationism, inclusion rather than exclusion is the only way to live peacefully in this world.”

DISCOVERY AND RECOVERY

Preserving Iraqi Jewish Heritage

Detailing the dramatic recovery of historic materials relating to the Jewish community in Iraq from a flooded basement in Saddam Hussein’s headquarters, *Discovery and Recovery: Preserving Iraqi Jewish Heritage* was one of the most compelling exhibitions at the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU in 2016.

Through its Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, the Green School sponsored an in-depth presentation and tour of the exhibition by Tudor Parfitt, director of the Global Jewish Studies Program. The collection includes more than 2,700 Jewish books and tens of thousands of documents dating from 1524 to the 1970s.

The exhibit provided the opportunity to display the rich cultural heritage of this now-extinct community and was created by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, with support from the U.S. Department of State. Local exhibition sponsors included Congregation Beth Jacob.

The program was co-sponsored by the Global Jewish Studies Program; Middle East Studies Program; Initiative for Muslim World Studies; Department of Religious Studies; and the Office of Global Learning Initiatives.

Celebrating the Iraqi and Indian Jewish diasporas

George Mordecai brought a bit of his Middle Eastern roots to Miami in a special performance called “By the Rivers of Babylon – Music of the Iraqi and Indian Jewish Diasporas” in March 2016.

Mordecai, the cantor at Temple Israel Center of White Plains, NY, performed with four accompanying musicians playing indigenous instruments: Sam Thomas, Rajneesh Bandhari, Eylem Basaldi and John Murchison.

Sponsored by the Global Jewish Studies Program, Program in Spirituality, Middle East Studies Program, Initiative for Muslim World Studies and Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, the event was held at Coral Gables Congregational Church – United Church of Christ.

Mordecai has performed Ashkenazic, Sephardic and Middle Eastern liturgical music at concert halls and synagogues in cities throughout the U.S., as well as in England, France and Israel. He previously worked as cantor at Temple Emanu-El in Miami and has performed with Miami’s own Seraphic Fire.



NATIONAL SECURITY EXPERT LEADS DISCUSSION ON U.S.-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

With the challenges facing the U.S. in its relationship with Russia, Mark Medish, former senior director on the National Security Council for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian Affairs under Bill Clinton, predicted the possibility of a second Cold War between the two nations.

"There's a lot of discussion about a new Cold War and what that could mean but it's not inevitable," said Medish, who spoke at FIU as part of the Green School's premier lecture series, the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series.

"The rest of the world has been changing since Cold War I ended. It has changed in radical and in important ways," he said. "But Cold War II is going to be played out on an entirely different global canvas."

Patrick Bell, a professor who specializes in Eurasian studies, and Markus Thiel, director of the European and Eurasian Studies Program and the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, joined Medish for a discussion that spanned the European Union, Eastern Europe and Russian politics. The lecture was co-sponsored by the European and Eurasian Studies Program.

Ultimately, with the U.S. and Russia facing worsening relations, Medish advised U.S. foreign policymakers to be more amenable to change.

"We need a long vision and a staying power and it's that image of America that the United States needs to project."



Mark Medish, former senior director on the National Security Council

Exploring Holocaust survivors' testimonies

For Oren Baruch Stier, the phrase "Arbeit Macht Frei" (work makes you free) has become a large part of his life and work.

The slogan, displayed in concentration and death camps during the Holocaust, paved the way for Stier's research on Holocaust testimonies—supported by a \$2,500 grant in 2016 from Targum Shlishi, a Raquel and Aryeh Rubin Foundation.

"There was a gateway in Auschwitz that said Arbeit Macht Frei and it was this really cruel irony of the Nazi system because, for Jews, it was never possible for work to make them free. It only killed them," said Stier, professor in the Department of Religious Studies and director of the Holocaust Studies Initiative, a part of the Green School's Global Jewish Studies Program.

Keeping the lessons of the Holocaust alive is one of the primary goals of the Holocaust Studies Initiative, which engages students and the community through invited speakers, educational performances, exhibitions, course development and more.

One of the most stirring programs of 2016 was The Mitzvah Project, a performance and lecture with Scholar-in-Residence Roger Grunwald, who created the project in honor of his mother, a survivor of Auschwitz and his aunt, who survived Bergen-Belsen.

A combination of theater, history lesson and conversation, the one-person play explored one of the most shocking aspects of the Jewish experience during the Second World War – the tens of thousands of German men of Jewish descent who served in Hitler's army. Presented with the support of Dr. Lawrence and Suzanne Fishman, the program was co-sponsored by the Global Jewish Studies Program and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU.

Moving toward democracy in Tunisia

At the epicenter of the Arab Spring, Tunisia and its fragile post-revolution democracy was strengthened by the work of a civil society group made up of the Tunisian League of Human Rights, the Tunisian Order of Lawyers, the Tunisian Labor Union and the Tunisian Trades Association. Known collectively as the National Dialogue Quartet, the group was awarded the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize "for its decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia."

In a talk about the movement toward democracy in Tunisia, Nobel Laureate Abdessattar Ben Moussa discussed the strategies used by the group to mediate between politicians and members of civil society organizations.

A leader of the Quartet's successful mediation efforts, Ben Moussa spoke as part of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series. The program was co-sponsored by the Middle East Studies Program, Initiative for Muslim World Studies, Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy, Office of Global Learning Initiatives and the Honors College.

Earthly Reflections of Paradise



To celebrate the Islamic heritage of Spain and the wider Mediterranean Basin, the Green School joined TotalBank and the Spanish and Mediterranean Studies Program to host an evening of music and reflection exploring one of the highest forms of visual expression in Muslim civilization – the Islamic garden.

Presented in collaboration with the Coral Gables Museum, “Earthly Reflections of Paradise” was a highlight of the 2016 TotalBank Distinguished Speaker Series.

Speakers and musical performers led the audience on a fascinating journey to discover not only the exquisite beauty of the Islamic garden, but also its deep spiritual symbolism and its place in the history of sacred art. And like all sacred art, the Islamic garden invites the visitor to enter an inner space of reflection, contemplation and transcendence.

Islamic gardens began from the practical need to organize the surrounding space of human habitation and enhance the Earth’s yield in a harsh environment. From early

agricultural endeavors, the Islamic garden evolved to its refined apex in the iconic formal gardens of al-Andalus, Ottoman Turkey, Persia and Mughal India.

Karen Mathews, assistant professor of art history at the University of Miami, was a special guest speaker, along with FIU professors – Iqbal Akhtar, assistant professor of religious studies and politics and international relations; Juan Antonio Bueno, professor of landscape architecture; and Aurora Morcillo, professor of history and director of Spanish and Mediterranean Studies.

Musical performances included Jorge Alfano on the oud, a string instrument, and Fernando Moraes on the doumbek drum, both ancient Middle Eastern instruments.

The event was co-sponsored by the Initiative for Muslim World Studies; Middle East Studies Program; European and Eurasian Studies Program; the Consulate General of Spain; Department of History; Department of Religious Studies; and Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts.

Exploring the Sephardic experience through art and music

Adio Kerida: Goodbye my Dear Love is an award-winning 2002 documentary by American anthropologist Ruth Behar that follows her trip to Cuba, which her family left when she was four. She searches for memories from her past and investigates the dwindling Sephardic Jewish community that remains, estimated at less than 800 in 2011.

To explore the Sephardic experience more deeply, the Green School and its Spanish and Mediterranean Studies Program brought together a distinguished group of artists and musicians to host an evening of art, music

and personal reflection in the Green School Gallery. Both Spain and Portugal recently passed legislation awarding citizenship to descendants of Jews who were expelled from the Iberian Peninsula during the Inquisition.

“**Adio Kerida Sefarad,**” an exhibition and performance, was part of the TotalBank Distinguished Lecture Series, presented in collaboration with the Consulate General of Spain, Global Jewish Studies Program, Department of History, Department of Religious Studies, Cuban Research Institute and the College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts.

Artists and performers included:

Jônatas Chimen Dias DaSilva-Benayon, a Brazilian-American Symbolist painter, sculptor, performance artist, writer and lecturer whose work explores personal and collective identity amidst a complicated and ever-changing cultural landscape. Chimen holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Florida International University.

Susana Behar was born in Havana to a Cuban/Jewish family and grew up listening to the traditional music of her homeland as well as the evocative music of her Sephardic ancestors. Her music has been featured in the documentary *Adio Kerida*, of anthropologist Ruth Behar. Her second CD, *At the Crossroads*, is a compilation of a live concert featuring Sephardic and Latin American songs.

Jose Luis de la Paz is a flamenco guitarist and co-founder of Nu Flamenco Collaborative. He has performed throughout the world and has won numerous prizes for his work, including the Premio Jóvenes Interpretes-Bienal de Sevilla. In 1995, he appeared in Felix Grande's book *Agenda Flamenca* as one of the 20 best guitarists in Spain.

Reza Filsoofi was born in Tehran, Iran. A multi-instrumentalist, he plays santoor, setar, tombak and daf. For many years, Reza had the privilege of refining his talents in Iran with master musicians such as Zarrabian, Shoaari and Arash Farhangfar. The knowledge gained from these masters has opened doors for him to perform before live audiences in Iran and the U.S.



Creating a Just, Peaceful and Prosperous World



Celebrating Shakespeare and Cervantes

William Shakespeare and Miguel de Cervantes could not have imagined their writing would still touch the lives of millions 400 years after their deaths. But the two great European storytellers, who likely never crossed paths but died on the same day, are immortalized through their words.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's and Cervantes' deaths, the Green School and its Spanish and Mediterranean Studies Program presented a program featuring live Renaissance music, spoken word performances and a discussion on why their work remains noteworthy.

The event, "Shakespeare and Cervantes – Timeless Commentators on the Human Condition," was a highlight of the 2016 TotalBank Distinguished Speaker Series. It was presented in collaboration with the Consulate General of Spain in Miami, the British Consulate General in Miami, the Coral Gables Museum and Centro Cultural Español.

Aurora Morcillo, director of Spanish and Mediterranean Studies, moderated the program, which drew more than 125 dignitaries, university faculty and staff, high school students and other community members.

The event featured live performances, including a dramatic reading of the first chapter of *Don Quixote* by FIU student Alfonso Vieites, who dressed as Cervantes; a theatrical interpretation of a passage from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, performed by FIU student Adele Robinson; and a Renaissance music interlude performed by FIU choral students.

Modern Languages Professor Ricardo Castells spoke about Cervantes' famous novel *Don Quixote*, saying it continues to capture readers' imaginations because it is a classic tale of Renaissance self-fashioning.

Cándido Creis Estrada, Consul General of Spain in Miami, said *Don Quixote* "reflects very well not just the spirit of Spanish culture, but of all of us. We all have dreams. We all want to enjoy life.

"Cervantes gave us a wonderful lesson on how to be brave in life."

Shakespeare's work remains relevant in popular culture because of his ability to convey the human condition through his characters, according to Paul Smith, the director of the British Council USA.

"Four hundred years later, groups all over the world are gathering to think about these two great writers," said Smith. "In a year of intense engagement of Shakespeare and Cervantes, this weekend is the peak of celebration. There is probably not a country or major city in the world that is not celebrating."



EXAMINING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

Former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry shakes hands with Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif following successful negotiations of the Iran Nuclear Deal.

Following the signing of the historic agreement to curb Iran's nuclear program, the Green School responded with a series of lectures and roundtables to explore what the Iran nuclear deal aims to accomplish – and how it might impact the international community.

Shortly after the deal was approved in January 2016, the Green School invited the director of the Iran Project, Ambassador William H. Luers, to give a talk on "The Back Story on the Iran Nuclear Deal: What Happened and Where it is Headed."

Luers, who previously served as U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia and whose career in the Foreign Service spans more than three decades, spoke about his experiences during negotiations about the nuclear deal.

As a non-governmental organization, the Iran Project supports a bipartisan approach to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

During negotiations, the Iran Project issued Congressional briefings, policy statements and op-ed columns on its own ongoing dialogue with Iranian counterparts. Its work was used to inform senior U.S. officials and members of Congress about possible paths to a peaceful resolution to the nuclear standoff.

Following Ambassador Luers' visit, the Green School hosted a lecture and roundtable discussion with Trita Parsi, founder and president of the National Iranian American Council.

Parsi, a nationally and internationally recognized expert on U.S.-Iranian relations and Iranian foreign policy, spoke about "The Geopolitics of the Middle East After the Iran Nuclear Deal: Prospects and Challenges."

After his lecture, Parsi participated in a roundtable discussion with FIU faculty experts on the origins of the nuclear deal and its impacts on the U.S., Europe and the world.

FIU faculty included Eric Lob, an expert on the Middle East and assistant professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations; Mohammad Homayounvash, research fellow in the Middle East Studies Program; and Francesco Ortoleva, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Politics and International Relations.

The events were each sponsored by the Middle East Studies Program and the Initiative for Muslim World Studies. The Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy co-sponsored the roundtable with FIU faculty experts.

Muslims and the election in the age of Islamophobia

In recent years, Muslims have experienced a wave of Islamophobic attacks in the U.S. During the 2016 presidential election, Muslim Americans were frequently targeted in the public discourse.

To discuss these issues – and assess the role of Muslims in the election – the Green School invited award-winning commentator and journalist Mehdi Hasan to examine the importance of the Muslim vote and why it matters in this age of rising Islamophobic hysteria in the U.S.



“Islamophobia in the United States, whether it’s on television or on Capitol Hill, is morally wrong and it’s dangerous and it isolates people,” said Hasan, the presenter of UpFront and Head to Head on Al Jazeera English.

“Nothing does more to lose Muslim hearts and minds than the negative headlines, disparaging generalizations, lazy serotypes and made up stories that we see about Muslims, not only in the press but in presidential campaigns.”

Hasan’s lecture was sponsored by the Middle East Studies Program through the Mohsin & Fauzia Jaffer Foundation Fund and co-sponsored by the Initiative for Muslim World Studies, Department of Politics and International Relations and the Department of Religious Studies.

Born and raised in the U.K., Hasan was the former political director of The Huffington Post U.K. and is a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and *The Guardian*. He is the author of two books and has been included in an annual list of the “500 most influential Muslims” in the world.

In his talk, Hasan said American media coverage of Muslim countries and people are often full of misconceptions. He suggested the best way to combat bigotry against Muslims is by standing together to improve perceptions of Muslims.

“What’s absolutely necessary is building relationships, alliances, friendships and personal contact with “the other,” in this case Muslims, and anti-Muslim feelings will fall away and be disregarded over time,” he said.



Unraveling the roles of women in Islam

Over the past several decades, many myths have arisen surrounding the lives of Muslim women.

Do they live in fear? Are they oppressed in their own countries? Do they have any rights?

To help answer these and other questions, the Green School hosted a roundtable discussion with a panel of faculty and community experts to explore the role of women in Islam – and dispel some of the myths that persist.

Sponsored by the Initiative for Muslim World Studies, Middle East Studies Program and Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, the panel included community leaders, as well as Green School faculty experts.

Karen Shah, vice president of the Broward Interfaith Council, and Rabia Khan, a resident scholar at the Islamic Foundation of South Florida and principal of the Islamic School in Sunrise, spoke of their personal experiences as Muslim women in America.

FIU participants on the panel included Isra Yahya Amin Ibrahim, secretary of the Muslim Student Association; Seema Pissaris, clinical professor of management at the FIU College of Business and an active member of the Shi’a Ismaili Muslim community; and Aslihan Akkaya, instructor in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies.

In addition to their own experiences, the women discussed the traditions of Islamic faith with a focus on the role of women, the significant diversity of culture and practice, and the levels of gender equality within different paths of Islam.

The evening event was a moving testimony to the power, strength and diversity of Muslim women in America.

HOW DO GLOBAL BLACK LIVES MATTER?

Whether in São Paulo, Toronto, London or Accra, the Black Lives Matter movement has gone global. Crossing continental boundaries, the movement created solidarity among those on the receiving end of anti-black violence, poverty, economic inequality and mass incarceration.

“How Do Global Black Lives Matter? Art, Activism and the Academy” was the focus of the African and African Diaspora Studies (AADS) Humanities Afternoon in November 2016 that explored challenges to racism and state-sponsored violence as it has been articulated across nations and within the overlapping spheres of intellectual, artistic, academic and activist voices.

A multi-sensory experience that included academic papers, poetry, musical performances and visual artists, the event began with presentations by scholar and poet Cheryl Boyce Taylor of the Calypso Muse Reading Series, anthropologist Luciane de Oliveira Rocha of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and Miriam “Duchess” Harris, professor of American studies at Macalester College.

A discussion with Christen Smith of the University of Texas at Austin was moderated by M.A./Ph.D. student and Black Lives Matter activist Sharlia Gulley. About 50 faculty, students, staff and community members engaged the panelists in a powerful question and answer session about the challenges associated with state-sanctioned violence and other forms of injustice.

The event included a musical performance by Addi Casseus, a.k.a. Empress Addi, a Haitian-born, Miami-based singer and performer, as well as an art exhibition featuring the work of Rodney Jackson, Carol Brown, Robert McKnight and Valerie Patterson, professor in the Department of Public Administration.

With a focus on the European experience of Black Lives Matter, the Green School’s European and Eurasian Studies Program through its Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence grant hosted another event on the topic as part of its “Conversations on Europe” series.

As in other countries, Black Lives Matter struck a strong chord in Europe, with marches and protests throughout the continent. Issues of procedural inequalities and police violence captured the public’s attention.



In 2016, the Green School hosted two events focused on the impact of Black Lives Matter on the world stage.



Photo credit: Jennifer Veilleux ©2017

Tackling issues of native rights

Global Indigenous Forum hosts panel on Standing Rock protests

In response to ongoing protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline project in North Dakota, the Green School and its Global Indigenous Forum hosted a discussion in December 2016 between faculty experts in water security and native rights and local members of the Seminole nation.

The event, co-sponsored by the Program in the Study of Spirituality and the Global Water Security Forum, was filled with students who wanted to understand the controversial project and find out how they could get involved in Standing Rock or other water security issues closer to home.

“The goal of the Global Indigenous Forum has always been to bring indigenous voices to campus,” said Dennis Wiedman, director of the forum and professor in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies. “These are people who are being dispossessed from their land and resources. This is a critical moment in world history. The earth is something we need to protect. The water is

something we need to protect.”

The mission of the Global Indigenous Forum is to bring global indigenous issues and awareness to FIU and the community through activities and academic programs.

Standing Rock is an American Indian Reservation encompassing more than 3,500 square miles and 8,200 residents in North Dakota and South Dakota. It is the sixth largest reservation in the country and home to members of the Sioux Tribe.

“This is sacred water and sacred land,” said Jennifer Veilleux, a postdoctoral associate at the Green School who helped organize the event. Veilleux traveled to Standing Rock several times and worked with native people on water security issues related to DAPL.

“The people fighting to protect this land and this water need our help,” she added. “The first thing is to educate yourself. We have a lot of power as people to stand with the indigenous people.”

Pattern from the traditional style of the Dakota Sioux



TRACKING THE EU'S INFLUENCE AROUND THE GLOBE

With the goals of poverty eradication and sustainable development, the European Union's development policy focuses on its external actions and support for developing countries around the world.

As the first-ever European Year for Development ended in 2015, the annual two-day European Union Conference hosted in February 2016 by the Green School's European and Eurasian Studies Program and Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence also focused on EU development policy.

"Where is the European Union's Development Policy Heading?" was the theme of the conference, which featured a keynote address by Renate Hahlen, the Minister Counselor for Development at the European Union delegation in Washington, D.C.

The EU created its development policy to help members promote good governance, human and economic development and tackle universal issues, such as fighting hunger and preserving natural resources, around the world.

Hahlen spoke about the importance of fostering political partnerships based on common interest and shared goals, rather than a simple donor-recipient relationship. In particular, Hahlen told conference attendees she was hopeful about building and rejuvenating partnerships with the ACP, which denotes Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific.

In addition to Hahlen's keynote, panels at the conference focused on the need to fight corruption and money laundering in developing countries and how the relationship between energy and climate change is essential to development strategy. The EU's partnerships in Africa, its cooperation with China and its efforts to promote gender equality in Afghanistan were other topics of discussion.

In addition to the Green School, the EU conference was co-sponsored by the Department of Politics and International Relations and the University of Miami European Union Center & Jean Monnet Chair.



FRAGILE HABITAT

Conversations for Miami's future

HELPING TO ADDRESS SEA LEVEL RISE

"With this NEH grant, we are able to share another view of some of today's most pressing issues and engage our community in important conversations."

Environmental history professor April Merleaux

The National Endowment for the Humanities selected the Department of History as the only Florida recipient of a Humanities in the Public Square grant in March 2016.

The grant funds a series of public events, programs and conversations showing how the humanities can help us come to terms with the threats to Miami from climate change.

"We need more than science and policy right now," said project director and environmental history professor April Merleaux. "With this NEH grant, we are able to share another view of some of today's most pressing issues and engage our community in important conversations."

Led by Merleaux and professor Rebecca Friedman, Fragile Habitat: Conversations for Miami's Future included faculty experts from the Green School, the College of Architecture + the Arts and the College of Arts, Sciences & Education.

It was also a collaboration with HistoryMiami Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, The Kampong, Vizcaya Museum & Gardens, Miami Dade County Public Schools, Catalyst Miami, and the FIU Green Library Digital Collections Center.

Events throughout the year featured literary and religious studies experts, historians, philosophers, geographers and other scholars sharing their perspectives on risk, fear, hope and resilience, among other themes related to sea level rise and climate change.

The program kicked off with a symposium in April at HistoryMiami Museum, featuring a discussion on diversity in environmentalism and a gallery tour.

Other events explored topics ranging from mango trees to art and took place across Miami-Dade County. The project included museum exhibits, an online archive, a professional development session for Miami Dade County Public Schools high school teachers, and a course for graduate history students.



GREEN SCHOOL GALLERY HOSTS EXHIBITION OF ARTIST COLLABORATIVE

One of the exciting exhibitions hosted in 2016 by the Green School Gallery was a reunion of sorts – for an artistic collaborative from Havana called Espacio 08.

The group began in Havana at the prestigious Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) by four professors as a collaboration between the academic and the artistic. A vision of interaction and participation, the project and its exhibitions revealed art at the forefront of the most global trends. Today, two of the artists remain at ISA and two live in Miami.

At FIU, the artists reunited to share their experiences with students and faculty and introduce the teaching strategies that have made ISA one of the most important schools of art and creativity.

During a week-long workshop, the artists provided critiques and portfolio reviews. In addition, the artists presented an exhibition of new works produced in collaboration with FIU students. A “Conversation with the Artists” was held at FIU’s Miami Beach Urban Studios.

The collaborative included:

Ruslán Torres Leyva – Artist, ISA director & professor of painting, Havana

Abel Barreto Olivera – Artist, ISA professor of sculpture, Havana

Jorge Wellesley – Artist and former ISA professor of painting, Miami

Douglas Argüelles Cruz – Artist and former ISA professor of painting, Miami

Sponsored by the Green School’s *100 Years of Cuban Art Initiative*, the exhibition and workshop were organized by FIU professor of art history Carol Damian and co-sponsored by the Department of Art and Art History, College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts, Cuban Research Institute, and Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center.

Czech photographer displays “Cuban reality” at Green School

Hana Jakrlova never planned to go to Cuba, let alone to use her profession and passion as a photographer to document the realities of a communist island.

“I think Cuba is somewhat forgotten,” she said. “Everyone is always talking about it... But I noticed that I never really saw images of Cubans’ realities, and I was curious about it, so I went to Cuba and I traveled around the country by myself.”

On the island, Jakrlova – an internationally-exhibited and published Czech artist – took photographs of native Cubans, showcasing the unique stories of citizens living beyond the view of tourists or visitors.

Upon her return to the United States, she compiled a collection of her best works.

The exhibition, *La Otra Cuba [The Other Cuba]*, was exhibited at the Green School Gallery in May 2016.

Jakrlova spoke at the opening of her exhibition during an event hosted by the Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy.

“This is the first time we have used the Green School building in this way, as an exhibition space for powerful images that tell a unique story,” said John F. Stack, Jr., dean of the Green School, at the presentation.

“I would like to acknowledge the Knight Foundation for their generous support of the exhibit. We are a new school and we are constantly pursuing new ideas and ways of looking at the world. The Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy is just one example of this.”

Jacques Rupnik, a European scholar and former advisor to Václav Havel, the first president of liberated Czechoslovakia, and Martin Palous, director of the Green School’s Václav Havel Program and former ambassador for the Czech Republic to the United States and to the United Nations, also participated in the exhibition opening event.



Asian Studies brings the rising sun to campus

Japanese history and heritage was an important focus of the Asian Studies Program in 2016, with a number of artistic and cultural events hosted for students and the community throughout the year.

In spring 2016, Asian Studies hosted Cool Japan @ FIU, a two-day event dedicated to celebrating Japanese traditional and popular culture.

Students and community members came to campus for a weekend of fun and games, including a cosplay fashion show and contest. The grand prize winner of the fashion contest received passes to the Florida SuperCon held in Miami.

Attendees sipped Japanese tea while enjoying taiko drum performances by Fushu Daiko and other traditional and popular music. There were martial arts performances and demonstrations, specifically kendo and karate. Among the numerous craft making sessions, attendees could join in making bracelets, chopstick design, hachimaki, calligraphy and origami.

Cool Japan @ FIU was a collaboration of Asian Studies, the Department of Modern Languages, JapaNetwork, Japan Club and Geek Club. The Consulate General of Japan in Miami co-sponsored the event.

Later in the year, participants in a summer institute on Tokyo immersed themselves in the traditions, history and heritage of Japan through events and excursions. A program for college and university teachers, Tokyo: High City and Low City was funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Designed to lead participants on an in-depth exploration of the literary, religious and philosophical movements that have contributed to the construction of modern Japan, the theme was "Find my Tokyo." Researchers and teachers were encouraged to focus on a specific part of Tokyo to include in their research or curriculum.



Preparing students for global careers

In 2016, nearly all of the graduates of the Green School's Professional Master of Arts in Global Affairs – about 90 percent – secured employment following completion of the program.

Emphasizing career and talent development, MAGA provides students with the opportunity to meet and interview with leading employers who provide first-hand information on their organizations, as well as career and internship opportunities. MAGA alumni also are invited to connect with current students and discuss their career paths after graduation.

In 2016, representatives from KPMG, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the FBI and U.S. Department of State, as well as program alumni now working at the Beacon Council and the Cuban American National Foundation, visited the program.

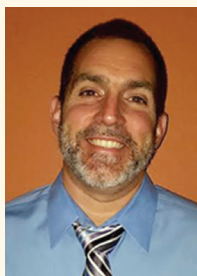
Recent graduates have found employment with organizations such as Hewlett Packard, the U.S. Department of Justice, Defense Intelligence Agency and U.S. Southern Command, among others.

Here are a few of the MAGA program success stories from 2016.



"The FIU MAGA program was as challenging as it was rewarding. With highly reputable professors and top of the line facilities, I was able to learn various topics of global affairs and gain experience in how to apply what I've learned into the workplace. Apart from allowing me to present my research at three different conferences, MAGA also referred me to the Cuban American National Foundation where I am currently employed. This professional program has given me the opportunity to grow as both a professional and a future scholar."

Felix Jorge Reynoso, MAGA '16
The Cuban American National Foundation



"Graduating from the Professional Master of Arts in Global Affairs program is a great source of pride for me. The MAGA program covers a host of relevant topics including globalization, cybersecurity and international law. The variety of disciplines makes the program very challenging while the faculty are knowledgeable and world class. Whether it is a future in government or the private sector the opportunities for maximizing your understanding of international relations is ever-present. Most if not all of what was covered in the MAGA program is relevant to my current work with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Overall, I have no doubt that the experience with MAGA has only made me a more skilled professional."

Donald Dinehart, MAGA '16
Skyline Ultd Inc.

Applying Jainism's ancient religious tenets to modern life



The Jain Studies Program's Fourth Mahavir Nirvan Lecture explored the ethics of dairy consumption.

Two of the central tenets of Jainism are non-violence and respect toward all living creatures. These principles have relevance to many present day issues, including economic crises, environmental degradation and consumerism.

Revealing how the concepts of Jainism connect to modern life, the Green School's Jain Studies Program hosted several conversations on contemporary topics in 2016, including animal rights and rituals of death and dying.

Whitney Kelting, a specialist on Jainism and religious studies professor from Northeastern University, spoke on the emergence of "Jainism in Maharashtra" – revealing the transformation of the western Indian state into a modern Jain site not linked to any spaces of historic significance to Jains. Her talk was the Sixth Annual Mahavir Jayanti Lecture at FIU.

In a compelling talk, Gary L. Francione of Rutgers University addressed the issues of Jainism and animal rights, specifically whether a commitment to non-violence must include veganism.

A noted animal rights activist and legal scholar, Francione – whose presentation was the Fourth Annual Mahavir Nirvan Lecture on Applied Jain Ethics – argued that animal products inflict pain and suffering on five-sensed beings. He reviewed the belief that the Jains' enshrinement of "ahimsa" – non-harm – requires non-violence in all actions, leading one to conclude it is morally wrong to eat meat, consume dairy or wear leather.

In another provocative presentation, Jain Studies screened the short documentary film, *Santhara*, about the traditional Jain ritual in which a person who can no longer live a proper Jain life, either due to terminal illness or disability, gives up food and drink, eventually dying of starvation and dehydration.

The film examines the spiritual, ethical, medical and legal aspects of the controversial practice, banned in India, and depicts the final moments of a Jain nun's life.

Following the film, a panel that included the FIU Jain Studies faculty, Steven Vose, director of the program and Samanis Rohini and Satya Pragma, led by its Mumbai-based filmmaker, Shekhar Hattangadi, discussed how religion, law and secularism intersect in the ongoing controversy.

The Green School's Jain Studies Program is the first of its kind in the western hemisphere.

Rooted in scholarship on the history, scriptures, doctrines, art, practices and literature, the program includes the key Jain concepts of *Ahimsa (non-harm)*, *Aparigraha (non-possession)* and *Anekantavada (non-absolutism.)*





Searching for spiritual meaning in everyday life

In keeping with its mission to cultivate consciousness through diverse educational programs and dialogue, the Green School's Program in the Study of Spirituality provided a unique platform for practitioners and scholars on campus and in the community throughout 2016.

Through its Dianne Collins and Alan K. Collins Distinguished Speaker Series, the program hosted several community conversations focused on the search for meaning and higher consciousness.

The first of these, a town hall on *"Spirituality in the Quantum Age,"* focused on practical wisdom and spiritual practices to incorporate into daily life – from the mundane to the magical. Dianne Collins and Alan K. Collins led the discussion and moderated audience participation to encourage a lively dialogue on personal and collective spirituality.

Dianne Collins, the award-winning author of *QuantumThink*, discussed how the "old world view" is based on assumptions and beliefs of the Industrial Age and a "new world view," based on the discoveries of quantum physics, can help shape new insights.

Alan K. Collins, a life coach and consultant to executives and entrepreneurs around the world, led the group in consciously creating an intent to develop their spiritual natures.

In another provocative discussion, the Collins Series presented a lecture by Paul J. Canali on *"The Unified Theory of Everything Human*

– the New Biopsychosocial Model of Disease, Suffering and Mankind's Search for Purpose and Meaning."

Canali, a physician and healer who leads the Evolutionary Healing Institute in Miami, spoke on his new approach to health and disease, which has led to unprecedented healing of unexplained illnesses, including post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic pain, anxiety and trauma.

The Program in the Study of Spirituality also cultivates community collaborations, supporting events that expand spiritual awareness and understanding beyond the FIU campus.

In September and October 2016, the program co-sponsored *"Journey to Mutum,"* a cultural encounter with the Yawanawá of the Brazilian Amazon.

The events, held at the Miami Theater Company and The Kampong Botanical Garden, offered a full immersion into the vibrant culture of a people living in true harmony with nature.

Encouraging the sharing of ideas and knowledge about the practices of spirituality and their relationship to planetary and individual well-being is one of the chief goals of the Program in the Study of Spirituality.

By promoting community participation in multi-faith, multi-spiritual dialogue, the program supports the Green School's mission of inspiring the global community to create a just, peaceful and prosperous world.

Helping young scholars **advance their research**

2016-2017 Morris and Anita Broad Fellows

Each year, the Morris and Anita Broad Fellowship Award offers both junior faculty and doctoral students an opportunity to advance and develop their academic research at early stages in their careers. The fellowship provides funds for diverse projects and allows recipients to supplement other resources to advance their research.

FACULTY AWARDS



IQBAL AKHTAR

Department of Religious Studies

This award will be used to lay the groundwork for a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) application to create the first English-Kacchī dictionary and the development of the first freely downloadable Kacchī font as part of a multi-member effort to preserve the endangered Kacchī language.



CAN CHEN

Department of Public Administration

This award will be used for travel to China to collect data from a variety of Chinese official statistics and to interview Chinese transportation and planning officials about the selection of appropriate urban transportation sustainability indicators.



ERIC LOB

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used for research for a second book project on the Islamic Republic of Iran's overall history and activities in Africa. Research will be conducted at the Library of Congress and National Archives.



TODD MAKSE

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used to conduct a study using spatial analysis to explore how variations in social spaces impact political behavior and communication.



JOHN OATES

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used to hire a research assistant to assist in collection and analysis of data on the authority of international organizations.

STUDENT AWARDS



SEBAWIT BISHU

Department of Public Administration

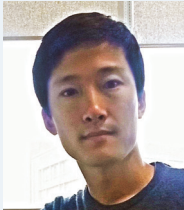
This award will be used to cover costs associated with focus group interviews at a professional conference, the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) annual conference in Kansas City, Missouri.



BIBEK CHAND

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used towards travel expenses associated with data collection to analyze how increasing competition between India and China during critical historical junctures affect Nepal's role as a buffer. The quantitative and qualitative data collection requires archival visits to the three countries: United Kingdom, India and Nepal.



NAKHYEOK CHOI

Department of Public Administration

This award will be used to attend the 2016 annual conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM) in Seattle WA, as well as to conduct surveys and purchase books to further research.



NIKOLOZ ESITASHVILI

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used for travel expenses to conduct research at the Library of Congress and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to study the threat perceptions of the U.S. government and its EU allies immediately after WWI, WWII and the Cold War as well as at the George Bush Presidential Library in College State, TX to access the quantitative data for statistical analysis of market imperfections in the military production.



MARIAMA JAITEH

Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies

This award will be used to cover travel expenses to conduct field research in The Gambia. Research aims to disentangle and examine The Gambia's tourism-based sexual economies by exploring the various ways Gambian men and women maneuver to meet Global North (mostly European) tourists to make a living and sometimes dramatically improve their life conditions following, eventually, migration to Europe.



JACQUELINE LYON

Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies

The award will be used for transcription services by a bilingual FIU undergraduate student to transcribe approximately 15.5 hours of audio recordings for research on the impact of policy changes by the Dominican Republic's Constitutional Tribunal that links its denationalization of generations of Haitian migrants to deep-seated racial self-hatred.



JEFFREY MASLANIK

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used for travel expenses to Sweden to conduct interviews and collect data on the labor market integration of refugees in Sweden since the 1990s.

SEYED MOUSAVI

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used for travel expenses to Cuba and Iran to conduct interviews/archival work and to access available scholarly materials in libraries with departments dedicated to the international affairs of Cuba/Iran. The research aims to explore 'Anti-Americanism,' its evolution and its effects on the international system focusing on two concepts of 'independence' and 'anti-hegemonic spaces' by triangulating the foreign policies of the U.S., Iran and Cuba.



YONAS MULAT

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used to cover travel expenses to conduct field research in Washington D.C., in the summer of 2016, to identify the conditions under which a country's regional and international influence grows, or a country emerges as a regional power or hegemon, by using Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa as a case. Archival research will be based on books and manuscripts at the Library of Congress.



ROSS NEDERVELT

Department of History

This award will be used toward travel expenses to the British National Archives, British Library, and the National Maritime Museum in London during the summer 2016 semester. Additionally, will allow for the collection of digital images of documents detailing the North American colonies' political and economic connections to Bermuda and the Bahamas prior to the American Revolution.



ORÇUN SELÇUK

Department of Politics & International Relations

This award will be used to cover travel expenses to conduct field research in Ecuador and Venezuela to study public opinion polarization in Ecuador, Venezuela and Turkey.



AUZEEN SHARIATI

Department of Criminal Justice

This award will be used to cover travel expenses to conduct field research in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for a case study at a college campus to investigate the real-life situations of implementing crime prevention methods through environmental design (CPTED) and to gather data through interviews, focus groups and participant observations.



RICARDO TABOADA

Department of History

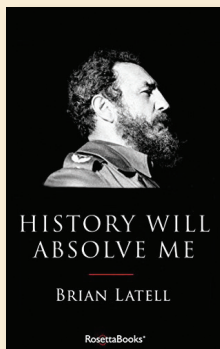
This award will be used to cover travel expenses to conduct field research in Cuba on the social, political and intellectual history of Cuban lawyers from 1860 to 1920, a period when Cuba experienced a crucial political transition from colony to republic, and being one of the first historical accounts on Cuba's legal profession.

Green School authors tackle current issues and events in **published work**

In 2016, Green School faculty and researchers from various disciplines put pen to paper to address some of the leading topics and issues in the world today.

From the death of Fidel Castro to the impacts of globalization and American sugar consumption, our esteemed scholars published well-received texts in a variety of fields.

While this list is not comprehensive, it does offer some of our faculty publishing highlights from 2016.



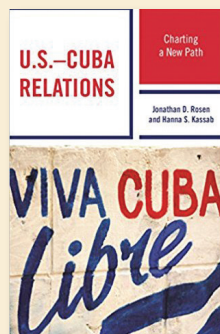
History Will Absolve Me: Fidel Castro: Life and Legacy

Just hours after Cuban dictator Fidel Castro died, Brian Latell, a former CIA analyst who tracked Castro for decades, released his book, *History Will Absolve Me: Fidel Castro: Life and Legacy*.

"History will absolve me" was Castro's own line," said Latell, referring to the title of his book. "He used it in his trial defense back in 1953.

In his book, Latell, a senior research associate with the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, reveals the motivations of one of the most complex leaders of the 20th century, including his own thoughts on Castro over the years.

"Certainly here in Miami he will not be absolved," he added. "I do not provide an unequivocal answer in the book. I leave it to readers to come to their own conclusions, based on the evidence I present."



U.S.-Cuba Relations: Charting a New Path

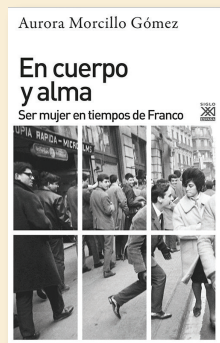
When President Obama and Raul Castro announced a new course to normalize diplomatic and trade relations between the United States and Cuba in 2014, Jonathan Rosen, a research scientist at the Gordon Institute, began writing his own book on Cuba.

A collaboration with Hanna Kassab, visiting professor at Northern Michigan University, *U.S.-Cuba Relations: Charting a New Path* was released shortly before Castro's death and examines the history of U.S. policy toward Cuba.

"We wanted to be one of the first books released on this new topic," he added. "We initially were going to wait to see how things played out, but we decided to continue working and updating the book."

For Rosen, this is his first book on Cuba.

"Most of my books are on drugs, organized crime and national security," he said. "I have focused on U.S. foreign policy in much of my work. I think Cuba is a fascinating and timely topic."

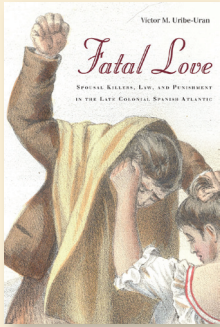


En cuerpo y alma: Ser mujer en tiempos de Franco

In 2016, Aurora Morcillo celebrated the release of the Spanish language version of her book *The Seduction of Modern Spain: The Female Body and the Francoist Body Politic*. *En cuerpo y alma: Ser mujer en tiempos de Franco* debuted earlier this year at Books & Books in Coral Gables, as part of the TotalBank Distinguished Speaker Series.

In this searching analysis of the role of gender in Francoist Spain, Morcillo, director of the Spanish and Mediterranean Studies Program, discusses the symbolic relationship between the dictatorial rule of Franco and the female body as an allegory of the nation. It details the metaphorical use of sexual imagery in political discourse, beginning with the first period of autocratic rule in the 1940s and ending with the years of "consumerism" and "openness" of the 1950s and 1960s.

Morcillo is professor of history of Spain and gender studies in the Department of History. She is a specialist in the history of gender during the dictatorship of Franco.

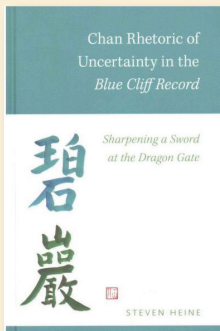


Fatal Love

For legal historians, spousal murders are significant not only for what they reveal about social and family history, in particular the hidden history of day-to-day gender relations, but also for the ways in which conflicts, crimes and punishments play out.

In his new book *Fatal Love*, Professor Victor Uribe examines this phenomenon in the late colonial Spanish Atlantic, focusing on incidents occurring in New Spain (colonial Mexico), New Granada (colonial Colombia) and Spain from the 1740s to the 1820s. In the more than 200 cases consulted, the book considers not only the social features of the murders, but also the legal discourses and judicial practices guiding the historical treatment of spousal murders, helping us understand the historical intersection of domestic violence, private and state/church patriarchy and the law.

Uribe's book won the 2016 Murdo J. MacLeod Book Prize, sponsored by the Southern Historical Association, Latin American and Caribbean Section, and received an honorable mention in the 2016 Alfred B. Thomas Book Award, sponsored by the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies.

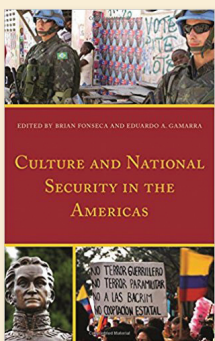


Chan Rhetoric of Uncertainty in the Blue Cliff Record: Sharpening a Sword at the Dragon Gate

The latest book by religious studies professor Steven Heine provides an in-depth textual and literary analysis of the Blue Cliff Record, a seminal Chan/Zen Buddhist collection of commentaries on 100 gongan/koan cases, considered in light of historical, cultural and intellectual trends.

Heine, founding director of the Asian Studies Program, examines the diverse ideological connections and disconnections behind subsequent commentaries and translations of the Blue Cliff Record, shedding light on the broad range of gongan literature produced in the 11th to 13th centuries and beyond.

Christopher Ives, author of *Imperial-Way Zen*, described Heine's book as a "tour de force" and an "innovative and groundbreaking achievement." Heine is an authority on East Asian religion and society, especially the history of Zen Buddhism and its relation to culture in China and Japan. He has published two dozen books on this topic and lectures extensively.



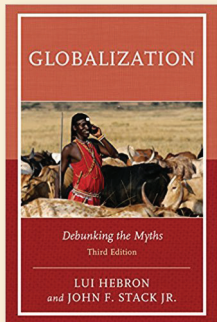
Culture and National Security in the Americas

Edited by Brian Fonseca and Eduardo A. Gamarra and featuring contributions from several Green School faculty, *Culture and National Security in the Americas* examines the most influential historical, geographic, cultural, political, economic and military considerations shaping national security policies throughout the Americas.

In a review of the text, Gregory Weeks of the University of North Carolina wrote: "Fonseca and Gamarra's focus on strategic culture provides a useful analytic guide for understanding what drives Latin American security policy. Scholars and practitioners alike will find the authors' insights valuable."

Fonseca is director of the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy. Gamarra is professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations and founder of the Latino Public Opinion Forum.

Other Green School contributors include Frank O. Mora, director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center; Astrid Arrarás, senior lecturer in the Department of Politics and International Relations; José Miguel Cruz; director of research at LACC; Anthony Maingot; professor emeritus of sociology and anthropology in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies; Félix E. Martín, associate professor in PIR; and Victor Uribe, professor and chair of the Department of History.



Globalization - Debunking the Myths, Third Edition

As a hot-button term, globalization is used to describe any number of changes within, among and between societies and states.

In a fully revised and updated edition of *Globalization – Debunking the Myths*, John F. Stack, Jr., founding dean of the Green School, and his co-author Lui Hebron note that their goal is to reduce the noise engulfing debates and interpretations of one of the most dynamic, contested, applauded and disparaged phenomena of the 21st century.

The book explores globalization and its impact from economic, political, social, environmental and cultural perspectives. Providing a framework and platform for student learning, the book gives readers the tools to unravel the complexities of globalization in all its facets.

Making sense of a world seemingly smaller and incomprehensibly larger, simultaneously centralizing and fragmenting, *Globalization: Debunking the Myths* offers both an indispensable introduction for undergraduates and a concise review for more advanced students.



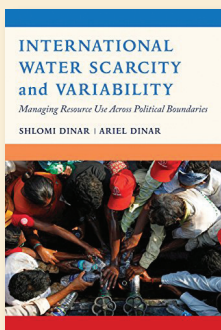
Sugar and Civilization: American Empire and the Cultural Politics of Sweetness

In the weeks and months after the end of the Spanish-American War, Americans celebrated their nation's triumph by eating sugar. Each of the nation's new imperial possessions, from Puerto Rico to the Philippines, had the potential for vastly expanding sugar production. As victory parties and commemorations prominently featured candy and other sweets, Americans saw sugar as the reward for their global ambitions.

History professor April Merleaux demonstrates that trade policies and consumer cultures are as crucial to understanding the U.S. empire as military or diplomatic interventions. As the nation's sweet tooth grew, people debated tariffs, immigration and empire, all of which hastened the nation's rise as an international power. These dynamics played out in the bureaucracies of Washington, D.C., in the pages of local newspapers, and at local candy counters.

Connecting the history of sugar to its producers, consumers and policy makers, Merleaux shows that the modern American sugar habit took shape in the shadow of a growing empire.

American Historical Review noted that Merleaux's book is "an exceptionally rich work... Through the lens of sugar, April Merleaux examines some of the deepest tensions in U.S. history."



International Water Scarcity and Variability: Managing Resource Use Across Political Boundaries

Although media coverage and some scholars tend to cast natural resource shortages as leading toward armed conflict and war, Shlomi Dinar and Ariel Dinar demonstrate that there are many examples of and mechanisms for more peaceful resolution regarding natural resources, even in the face of water scarcity and climate change. Shlomi Dinar is an associate professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Innovation at the Green School. He and Ariel Dinar, a professor at the University of California, Riverside, base their arguments on both global empirical analyses and case studies. Using numerous examples from North America, Europe, Central Asia, and the Middle East, this book considers strategies and incentives that help lessen conflict and motivate cooperation under scarcity and increased variability of water resources.

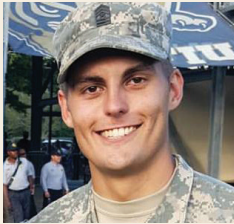
"The authors set out to explore the conditions under which water scarcity may lead to cooperation," said Nils Petter Gleditsch, research professor at the Peace Research Institute in Oslo. "This novel theory relating scarcity to treaty formation is buttressed by an impressive array of statistical analyses and evidence from cases. A must-read for scholars as well as policymakers."

Green School's *Worlds Ahead* Graduates



CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ-ACOSTA – Ph.D. in Public Affairs

When her father became ill with cancer, Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta considered giving up her studies as a Ph.D. student at FIU to spend more time with him. While raising three children and working full-time as deputy director of FIU's Institute for Public Management and Community Service, Cristina not only completed her doctorate in public affairs, she has since emerged as one of the top scholars in North America in the field of Latin American government. During more than 20 years at FIU, Cristina has overseen one of the largest annual gatherings of Latin American leaders in the region, the Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities.



JOSHUA PHILLIPS – Bachelor of Arts in History

Although he had to work two jobs to pay for school, Joshua Phillips never let anything get in the way of his dream to fly helicopters for the U.S. Army. In addition to his classes as a history major, Joshua took ROTC courses on leadership and military science, as well as mandatory tactical training. Each day, Joshua rose at 4:30 a.m. to get to campus in time for physical training at 5:45 a.m. He traveled twice to Fort Knox in Kentucky to attend leadership training, writing his term papers during down time. In spite of his many commitments, Joshua made the dean's list several times and maintained a GPA of 3.49.



SARAH CASTELLANOS – Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/ Bachelor of Arts in International Relations

A passion for human rights led Sarah Castellanos to look for ways to "travel with a purpose." Over two years at FIU, she did just that – traveling to 24 countries and four continents, volunteering at a slum school in India, teaching English at a Bedouin Tribe Camp in Jerusalem and raising money for hospitals in Africa. Sarah came to FIU specifically for its human rights and study abroad programs. Starting with a semester at sea in Fall 2014, she completed three study abroad courses, covering the cost with scholarships and working full time. An award-winning member of FIU's Model UN program, Sarah plans to either pursue a master's degree in human rights and development or work at a non-profit in Washington, D.C.



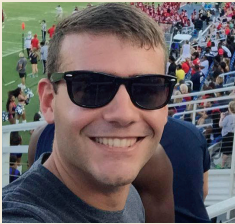
JASON RECIO – Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

A decorated veteran of the Iraqi war, Jason Recio has had to overcome more challenges than most to complete his education. Severely injured when his vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, Jason has undergone more than 20 surgeries to repair damage to both legs. He spent three years learning to walk again at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Jason's bravery earned him a Purple Heart. Determined not to let his injuries stop him from returning to public service, he joined the Coral Gables Police Department in 2008. In 2013 – still working full time – Jason, a father of four, decided to return to school to complete his bachelor's degree in criminal justice.



JUDITH MANSILLA – Ph.D. in History

Judith Mansilla's humble beginnings in Lima, Peru, gave no indication that she would become the first woman in her family to earn a doctorate – or produce groundbreaking research on the devastating earthquake that shook her hometown in the 1600s. For Judith, no obstacle would prevent her from becoming a historical researcher. She went on to complete her master's in history and entered FIU's Ph.D. program in 2012. Since then, Judith has published six articles and book chapters and presented her research at 16 international conferences. She was awarded the prestigious History Project Research Award from Harvard University's Joint Center for History and Economics.



JULIEN TUYA – Bachelor of Arts in International Relations/Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Julien Tuya believes that as global citizens, all individuals have an obligation to help create a better and more peaceful world. Julien made the most of his time at FIU to do just that. During his freshman and sophomore years, Julien worked full-time and carried a full course load. He also served as a member of the Army National Guard for two years and led a battalion of more than 180 cadets as FIU's Army ROTC operations officer and later as the personnel officer. Julien juggled many activities, but still earned a 3.51 GPA. In addition to his bachelor's degree, he earned a minor in military science and a certificate in national security studies.



CLAIRE SCOTT-BACON – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

After raising two sons and running her own photography business, Claire Scott-Bacon entered college at the age of 48 to study law. Along with her two bachelor's degrees – one in psychology and one in criminal justice – Claire has earned three certificates, in pre-law, crime scene investigation and professional writing. She was named a Student Life Outstanding Scholar and received the College of Arts, Sciences & Education Award for Excellence in Academics and Research in psychology. A member of the Honors College, Claire worked 20 hours a week in two psychology labs and volunteered at the College of Law's death penalty clinic.



SERENA CRUZ – Ph.D. in International Relations

During 14 months researching the lives of female commercial sex workers in the slums of Uganda, Serena Cruz faced challenges that might have deterred other students. She was threatened by pimps, former female sex workers, even the local police. Serena persisted, eventually gaining the trust of sex workers to complete groundbreaking research into how the women manage the difficulties in their lives – including physical abuse, risk of HIV infection, severe depression and exploitation by police. Serena's work, which has implications for the fight against AIDS in Africa, earned her a research fellowship at The Netherlands Institute of International Relations. She was also selected for a Global Health Equity Scholars fellowship managed by UC Berkeley, Yale, Stanford, and FIU.

The Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs equips our students to think about the world in unique ways, generating policy-relevant dialogue and research on critical global issues, including the following strategic themes:

- Migration, Diasporas & Transient Communities
- Poverty & Global Inequalities
- Economic Development, Sustainability & Environment
- Religion, Society & Interfaith Engagement
- Human Rights & Democratization
- Security, Foreign Policy & Governance
- Nationalism, Identity & Language
- Historical Inquiry, Memory & Reconciliation

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