

INTERDISCIPLINARY MAJOR IN

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



End of Year Wrap-Up

BY JOBEY CLARKE

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With final exams now complete, professors grading the last of your well-written and articulate papers (because you would never submit anything less), and preparation for Spring 2022 commencement in full swing, you can finally sit back and relax. You did it!

You survived another year of college, in a pandemic, with more than a handful of concerning newspaper headlines at home and abroad. While I usually use this newsletter to urge you to pursue every opportunity listed, I recommend the opposite this time around. If you can, slow down. Sit still. Turn down the noise and breathe. Knowing when to downshift is just as important as knowing when to blast "eye of the tiger" at full volume.

This newsletter will find each of you in a different state and transition. For some of our ROTC seniors, you are navigating your last week as a civilian before your commission into the U.S. military. For others, you're packing up and heading to DC to attend the Les Aspin Center over the summer. And many, many more are navigating the transition from school to work and the responsibilities that come with that. Whether you're joining us again in the fall or packing up your apartment for the last time, take stock of all that you've accomplished.

DR. JESSICA RICH HONORED WITH WAY KLINGER COLLEGE SABBATICAL AWARD

Our own INIA Director, Dr. Jessica Rich, was nominated and awarded The Way Klinger College Sabbatical Award by Marquette University. This recognition is one of the most prestigious awards within the university and, in addition to a financial award for research, Dr. Rich will receive a year-long sabbatical to pursue her areas of expertise.

Dr. Rich focuses on social movements and NGOs; often writing about government agencies where mission-driven bureaucrats fight to promote human rights from the inside. Over this next year she'll be in Brazil examining the policy consequences of social movements; particularly how social movements defend policies for marginalized groups from political attack.

In addition to the sabbatical award, Dr. Rich has also received a Fulbright award working with the Jesuit University in Rio. She shares, "I am really looking forward to the opportunity to build more bridges with activists in Brazil and activists in the United States connecting with scholars and policy makers alike."

This is the second straight year that the Way Klinger College Sabbatical Award has gone to a Political Science faculty member and the third time in four years. Dr. Amber Wichowsky won in 2019 and Dr. Noelle Brigden won the award in 2021. Congratulations once again!



DR. RISA BROOKS ANNOUNCED AS THE INTERIM DIRECTOR



With Dr. Rich on sabbatical for the duration of the 2022-2023 school year, Dr. Risa Brooks will be stepping in as the INIA Interim Director for the school year. Overseeing events, advising prospective majors, and revisions to the curriculum, Dr. Brooks is new to the position but not to administrative responsibilities or international scholarship.

In fact, Dr. Brooks' scholarship in international politics, international security, and terrorism has received recognition far and wide. Indeed, her work is particularly relevant to the war in Ukraine and escalation in Eastern Europe. As the previous Director of Undergraduate Studies within Marquette's Department of Political Science, Dr. Brooks is an experienced hand. Welcome aboard Dr. Brooks!

CONGRATULATIONS INIA GRADUATES OF 2022!

BRENNA CONLON

LILLI KENFIELD

ANDREA CONTRERAS

MICHAEL KNIGHT

HARRISON COVINGTON

JACQUELINE MENDOZA BERNAL

SAMMY FIELKOW

JACK MERTES

JENNY GODOY

ALLEN MOY

ROSITA HERNANDEZ

DANIELLE PERAZA

ROSE HETZ

LISSET PEREZ JARAMILLO

TESS INHELDER

XIMENA VERA MOLINA

ZAHRA JAZAYERI

KATHERINE WALSH

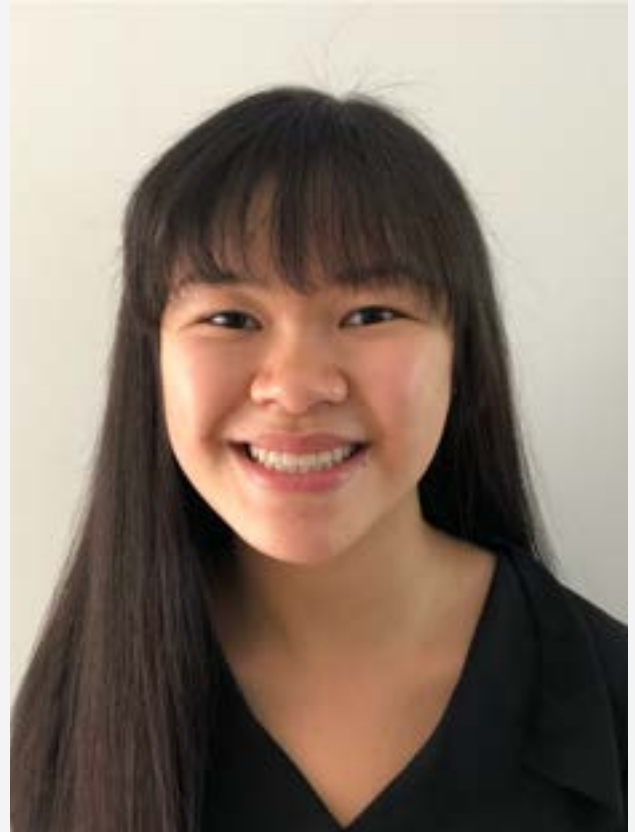
KYLE JUDGE

LILLI KENFIELD, RECIPIENT OF THE 2021-2022 INIA SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Every spring, since 1991, the INIA Scholar of the Year Award is given to the most outstanding senior graduating with an Interdisciplinary degree in International Affairs. The criteria for this award include academic achievements (both in-major GPA and cumulative GPA), international experience, service to the community, and work to advance the field of international affairs. The award recipient is voted upon by all International Affairs faculty. Current and past recipients are listed by graduation year.

The academic achievements of our International Affairs students were exceptional, yet again, this year. John Gunville, Danielle Peraza and Lilli Kenfield were all nominated as finalists for the 2021-2022 award. Nonetheless, only one student can receive this honor each year. Thus, a hearty congratulations to Ms. Lilli Kenfield, chosen as the 2022 award recipient.

Ms. Kenfield successfully pursued a double major in International Affairs and Political Science all while maintaining a 3.7 cumulative GPA and in-major GPA. What's more, she has excelled in areas of service, international experience and is already working within the international affairs field. Her commitment to the Cross-Cultural Concentration in INIA is reflected in the many volunteer, internship, and work experiences she has pursued.



Upon being considered, Kenfield shared, "I am honored and grateful for the 2021-2022 INIA Scholar of the Year nomination. I consider myself a citizen of the world, finding joy and fulfillment in learning about the many unique international cultures. I look for new opportunities to learn about international and domestic events in the past, present and future." During her studies at Marquette University, Ms. Kenfield found herself gravitating towards the intersection of international affairs studies and human resilience. This reoccurring theme consistently revealed itself in the volunteer, intern, and work opportunities she pursued; opportunities addressing "issues of proper representation, fair elections and employment. Although these experiences were on a domestic level, the lessons learned apply globally." She shares that she has had the good fortune to travel abroad and "witness firsthand the diverse cultures that shape a country's society and its people."

Despite being a double-major at Marquette, Kenfield still managed to make the time to tutor refugee youth. "My experience working with refugee students with Southeast Asian Literacy (SEAL) opened my eyes to the many difficulties of integrating into a new society. Through tutoring students and helping with their academic enrichment, I observed more regarding the plight of refugees. I am grateful for the opportunity to meet and support these young, resilient students and this experience piqued my interest in human perseverance."

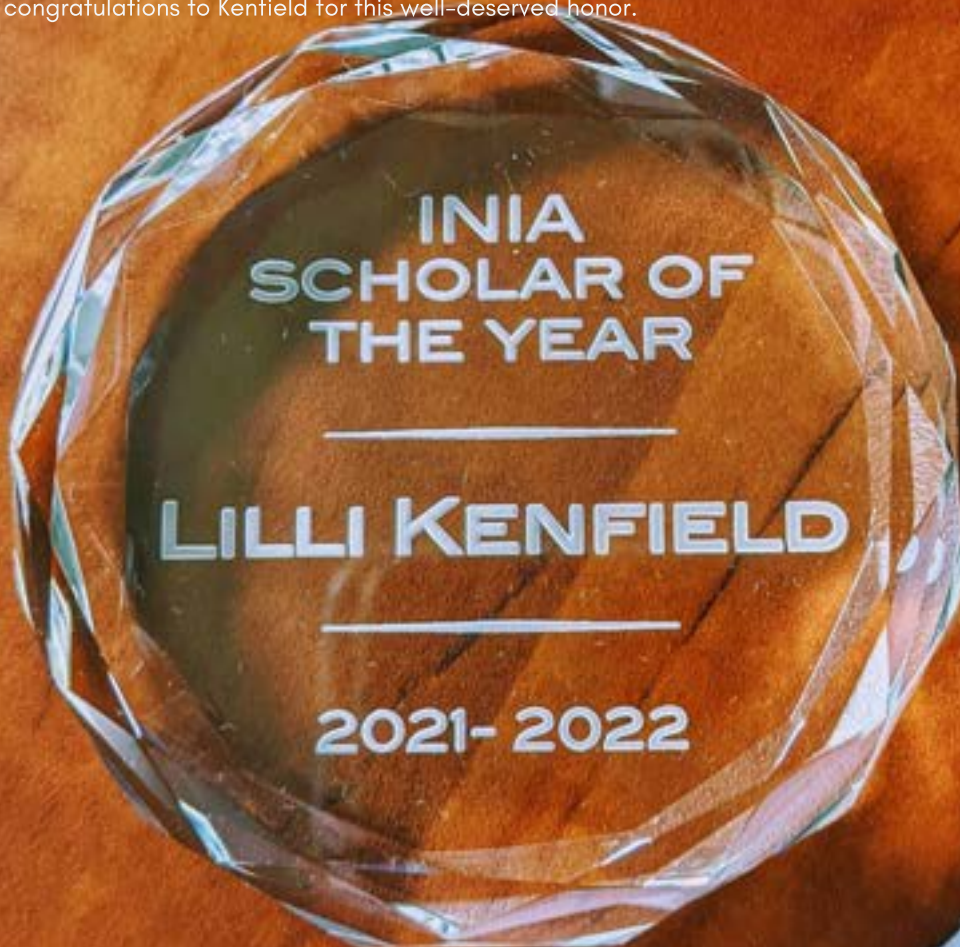
While Ms. Kenfield was unable to study abroad due to the pandemic, as was the case for many students, she was successful in landing an internship in Representative Gwen Moore's office (WI-4) in Washington, DC via the Les Aspin Center. "Through the internship, I learned about representatives' unique relationship with their constituents and their responsibilities to the public. Living and working in Washington brought me not only great joy and lifelong friendships, but also a tremendous amount of growth for me on personal, professional, and intellectual levels."

KENFIELD CONTINUED...

Ms. Kenfield went on to intern again; this time with the Milwaukee Common Council, City Clerk's Office of Workforce Development. She shares that this experience taught her "about job trends and patterns in the county. I also gained experience working with employers and local governments to assist job seekers. However, the most important thing I learned from this opportunity was the impact that local activism has on global policy and vice versa." As these internships and experiences have unfolded, Ms. Kenfield was able to identify her areas of academic interest, specifically "activism and policy on an international level, studying the dynamic relationships between individuals and groups within a cultural context of society."

Later working as a fellow with the Fair Elections Committee's Campus Vote Project, a nonpartisan organization advocating for free and fair elections, she was reminded of the importance that democracy ought never be taken for granted. Organizations like the Campus Vote Project help to ensure credible elections by college students to have their voices heard and exercise their right to vote. "Through this experience, I have observed how issues of inequality and inaccessibility can affect personal and community well-being."

After successfully pursuing so many opportunities, it is not surprising that Kenfield is already working part-time as a coordinator at the International Institute of Wisconsin (IIW) in Milwaukee, a nonprofit organization that provides services and support to refugees living and integrating into the greater-Milwaukee area. Immediately following graduation, Kenfield will transition to full-time work with IIW and will continue to work closely with refugees, "observing the unique connection of human resilience and cultural integration in America. I am grateful for the support of the department of International Affairs at Marquette, as I feel prepared to take on this new role with confidence. I am incredibly grateful and humbled for the opportunity to pursue my passions and will strive to use my experience at Marquette to contribute thoughtfully and meaningfully to communities on both a local and international scale." A hearty congratulations to Kenfield for this well-deserved honor.



RECOGNIZING OUR 2021-2022 STUDENT LEADERS



Marquette's Model United Nations Chapter, Engineers Without Borders, and the Honor Societies of Sigma Iota Rho and Pi Sigma Alpha benefitted a great deal from being able to gather together in person, once again. The chance to meet up, plan, and act on chapter missions outside of academia is essential to pursuing a purpose larger than oneself. It is only because of student leaders like Katherine Walsh (President of Sigma Iota Rho), Ava Hart (President of Model UN), and Cala Ohser (the VP of Model UN) that student organizations survive from one year to the next as the baton is handed off again and again. Student organizations offer something that nothing else on campus can provide, a chance to find your people and be of service. Each of these student organizations welcome students pursuing degrees in International Affairs; even EWB. In fact, many of their members aren't even engineering majors. Follow the links below for more information. Thank you to the student leaders stepping in and stepping up for the 2022-2023 school year!

NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORG LEADERS IN 2022-2023

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

PRESIDENT- Ava Hart

VICE PRESIDENT: Samantha Zingsheim

SECRETARY: Bella Betancourt

TREASURER: Jack Hammerton

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR: Will Eikenbary

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

PRESIDENT: Abby McGill

VICE PRESIDENT: Mia Ketelhohn

FUNDRAISING CHAIR: Danielle Dominy

TREASURER: Patrick O'Brien

PUBLICITY CHAIR: Ashley Tan

SECRETARY: Niko Dimitriou

DOMESTIC COORDINATOR: Veronica Bevan

EL TESORO PROJECT LEAD: Claire Connelly

EL TESORO PROJECT LEAD: Jordan Gatsos

SIGMA IOTA RHO

PRESIDENT: Jack Hammerton

VICE PRESIDENT: Kaley Gilbert

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: TBA

STUDENT ORG HIGHLIGHT: ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS



Engineers Without Borders USA (EWB-USA) is a nonprofit humanitarian organization established to support community-driven development programs worldwide through partnerships that design and implement sustainable engineering projects, while creating transformative experiences that enrich global perspectives and create responsible leaders. EWB-USA's vision is a world in which the communities we serve have the capacity to sustainably meet their basic human needs, and that our members have enriched global perspectives through the innovative professional educational opportunities that the EWB-USA program provides.

Nearly every year since 2006, the Marquette Chapter of EWB has raised funds and built sustainable engineering projects in Honduras and Guatemala. During the 2019-2020 school year, Marquette's EWB chapter completed the Guacamayas Hamaca Bridge. Even during the pandemic, the chapter managed to complete the El Aguacate Bathroom Project. This past semester, EWB raised \$15,000 during the 8th Annual Silent auction to pursue the El Tesoro Water Distribution Project over the next two years. As many members can attest, students need not be engineering majors to join EWB. To learn more about EWB follow the hyperlink below.

[ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS](#)

PRESIDENT: Abby McGill

VICE PRESIDENT: Mia Ketelhohn

FUNDRAISING CHAIR: Danielle Dominy

TREASURER: Patrick O'Brien

PUBLICITY CHAIR: Ashley Tan

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EL TESORO PROJECT LEAD: Claire Connelly

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RISING SENIORS CREATE INIA DIGITAL MEDIA PROJECT



In the last few weeks of this spring semester, rising seniors Erin Schmidt, Skyler Chun, Anna Nestler, and Aleema Haque began a two-part digital media project interviewing current INIA students and alumni; a project that will culminate in added material for their e-portfolios and, equally important, an assortment of promotional videos that Marquette will use to promote INIA and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Come late fall, the university will circulate the promos among high schools and college fairs.



As much as the project warrants recognition, so too do the students, themselves. Not only are all four students pursuing double majors, but they are active members and officers of honor societies, student publications and multiple-intern experiences. Among many of her accomplishments Erin Schmidt was just inducted into the Sigma Iota Rho Honor Society and is pursuing a double major in Digital Media and International Affairs with minors in Corporate Communications and History.

Skyler Chun is also a new inductee into the honor society, the Managing Editor of the Marquette Journal, an experienced intern and heading to DC's Les Aspin Center this summer as she pursues a double major in Journalism and International Affairs with a minor in Digital Media. Just returning from a study abroad with the University College Dublin is Anna Nestler, another experienced intern pursuing a double major in Corporate Communications and International Affairs with a minor in Marketing.

Last but certainly not least is Aleema Haque, also enrolled in the Les Aspin Center and accepted into the Graduate School ADP International Affairs along with a second major in Arabic and a minor in Digital Media. The individual achievements of these four students is remarkable. Their diverse skills and talents reflect a variety of interests and, above all, an exceptional work ethic. Being able to add the final product to their e-portfolios and network with alumni will serve them well. Still, their current achievements already deserve accolades. Year after year, INIA students are a



cut above the rest. A shared quality among INIA students is their recognition that a single discipline is best complimented by context. Moreover, that world events unfold in ways that impact and underscore intersecting fields of study.

Erin, Skyler, Anna, and Aleema embody that approach to education and scholarship. May the INIA program be worthy of their efforts in return.



WE ARE MARQUETTE!







