

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



## Greetings, all!

Spring is always a time for celebrating academic success and distinctions. I write these lines on the heels of commencement, the celebratory day when faculty, staff, and students pause to mark the end of the Bucknell journal for our students and look forward with confidence to the days to come. This was Bucknell's 174th commencement ceremony. We got to send off the Class of 2024, a class that saw their high school graduations cancelled or moved online at the start of the pandemic in spring 2020. To say that this is a class made of grit and determination is an understatement. They thrived under unprecedented conditions and emerged as young adults forged by challenges who developed a resilience that was admirable. On May 12, they came through the Mathewson gates and across the Malesardi Quad, despite the unseasonably cold weather and the drizzle, and once again showed that they shine no matter the circumstance. Nadia Sasso '11, who uses media as a storytelling tool to connect people around the world, delivered the commencement address and spoke about tenacity and overcoming adversity, the very qualities that I have come to associate with the Class of 2024. We wish them well as they embark on their post-Bucknell journeys.

It has been a busy spring semester for us. We started the semester by welcoming 24 new majors in a luncheon. Our department interns, Anna Lajos '25, was instrumental in welcoming our new majors by serving as a peer mentor. At the end of the semester, we also gathered to celebrate IR Class of 2024 during our senior sendoff. Every year, the IR Department selects a student for the Bucknell Prize in International Relations, awarded to a student who demonstrates outstanding academic performance. This year, the prize went to Michaiah Augustine '24. You'll read her story in the following pages. Additionally, three IR majors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most respected academic society in the United States. We congratulate Lydia Hybels '24, Peter Patouhas '24, and Charlotte Woods '24. We congratulate all four on their achievements.

This semester, we bid farewell to Professor Joseph Jozwiak. Professor Jozwiak, who taught a number of interesting IR courses, is moving to Whitman College. He added so much to our curriculum with his classes and with the contagious enthusiasm with which he taught them. His students will certainly miss him, and so will all of us in IR. We are very grateful to have had him as our colleague and wish him the very best as he starts a new chapter. We also are saying goodbye to our academic assistant Lexi Coon. A supremely professional colleague, Lexi was instrumental in helping not one but three departments run smoothly. We could always count on her competence and good cheer as she made the complicated look easy. We will certainly miss her and wish her the very best as well.

IR faculty, students, and alumni have been busy, too. In the following pages, you will read pieces by Prof. Larrabure on Argentina's new president, and Prof. Zhu about the passing of Henry Kissinger. You will hear about Nina Limongelli's ('21) arc from IR + theater at Bucknell to Columbia's graduate school of journalism. You will read about Caroline Corbett's ('26) plans to study abroad in Jordan and the Scholarship she received to make that happen. Zoie Smith '24 will be getting a master's, studying conflict resolution in Malta, and Michaiah Augustine '24 will be interning with the State Department. These stories all speak to the wonderfully versatile and enterprising people that make up our cherished IR community. We hope you enjoy and are inspired by their stories.

As we reach the end of this academic year, we are looking forward to the next and hope that it will bring resolution to many ongoing conflicts in the world. As always, please stay in touch and send us your news and if you are ever in the area, we'd certainly love a visit. You can also follow us on Instagram [@bucknellinternationalrelations](https://www.instagram.com/bucknellinternationalrelations).

Professor and Chair, International Relations  
Department

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## JAVIER MILEI, ARGENTINA'S NEW STREET FIGHTING MAN?



*"Branding himself as an outsider and rebel, [Milei's] victory represents the continuation of a new type of authoritarian politics in the region, following the recent example of now former president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro."*

*Prof. Manuel Larrabure*

Countering most predictions, Javier Milei was elected president of Argentina in December 2023. Branding himself as an outsider and rebel, his victory represents the continuation of a new type of authoritarian politics in the region, following the recent example of now former president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro. Milei ran on a campaign of radical change that promised to revive Argentina's flailing economy by implementing a series of what he calls "libertarian" reforms, aimed at returning the country to its supposed glorious past of 100 years ago, a time when indeed Argentina appeared to be on the cusp of making the transition to an "advanced developed nation". Although branded as radically new, his libertarian ideas can be found in dusty old books at any university library. His economic ideas are pure free market ideology of the kind Frederick Hayek and Milton Friedman would have been proud of: let the market be the central institution regulating how wealth is generated and allocated. In practice, this means dismantling or destroying (after all Milei liked to attend campaign rallies with a chainsaw) state institutions meant to protect the most vulnerable members of society from the social inequities the market requires. Indeed, soon after taking office, Milei decreed a radical neoliberal package that essentially removes most of the safety nets that had been put in place by the previous Peronist administrations.

His economic ideas go hand-in-hand with a particular vision of the relationship between individual, society and nature. For him, there is in fact no such thing as society, as Margaret Thatcher once also posited. Take his views on drugs, for example. He believes in the legalization of drugs, but only if the state bears none of cost of the potential negative effects of such a policy. In other words, it is individuals that bear all of the responsibility and therefore education and harm reduction programs that would be implemented by more socially democratic minded governments in the area of drugs would be out of the question. What about his views on gender? Predictably, any kind of policies of affirmative action that look to correct historical biases and injustices against women are in fact, for him, sexist in nature, as they supposedly imply that women are inferior to men. This kind of logic is only possible if one understands society as a collection of individuals equally competing in the marketplace, the neoliberal fantasy. What about his views on the environment? No surprise here.

Climate change is a hoax and, according to him, man has the right to use as many natural resources as possible.

In my recent book, the Latin American Crisis and the New Authoritarian State, I argued that precisely the type of politics the Milei government represents is slowly but surely taking hold in the region. I called this type of politics part of an emerging "anti-bureaucratic authoritarian state". This is in some ways the reverse of the classic "bureaucratic authoritarian state" that emerged in the region in the form of dictatorships in the 1960s and 1970s, reverse because it does not use overt top-down control of society to achieve its goals, but rather relies on disorder and chaos to do so. While dictators like Pinochet (Chile), Videla (Argentina) and Castelo Branco (Brazil) disdained the popular classes and specifically the rebellious counterculture that had emerged within it, the new authoritarian politics of figures like Milei and Bolsonaro actively engage with the popular sector, offering often fantastical but nevertheless powerful explanations and solutions for a myriad of problems it faces. In the process, this new authoritarian politics ignites further polarization and confusion.

Are Milei's ideas likely to work in Argentina? We don't have to look very far back in history to know what the answer is likely to be. In the 1990s, former president Carlos Menem, indeed tried something similar. Menem, closely following the recommendations of the International Monetary fund and the World Bank, put Argentina up for sale to the highest bidder. In the short run, this neoliberal strategy seemed to work, attracting a flood of foreign capital into the country. But by the late 1990s, it had become clear that the country was nearly bankrupt, leading to the historic default of 2001 and soon the start of a protracted battle with American vulture funds that essentially blocked Argentina from participating normally in international capital markets. Milei is offering the same path. His plans to dollarize the economy and permanently close the central bank might once again attract capital from abroad. But we know from history that this money is highly volatile and predatory and does not have the best interest of Argentinian citizens in mind. Nevertheless, it seems like this is the path that Argentina is currently going in, and who better than Milei, a former lead singer in a Rolling Stones cover band, to provide the perfect sales pitch!

*Prof. Manuel Larrabure*

## ONE STEP FURTHER: GRADUATE SCHOOL

This fall, I will be continuing my education at George Mason University as a part of their accelerated dual degree program with the University of Malta. I will earn a Masters of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, and a Master of Arts in Mediterranean Security.

Going through my first three years of undergrad I was pretty unsure about attending graduate school. My junior spring I took a class with Professor Emma Banks on displacement – that really started the whole graduate school process for me. It was this class and our final project that spurred me to apply to a summer research fellowship through the Bucknell Institute of Public Policy to build off of my final and research post-conflict displacement and the impact it has on peace processes. By the end of the summer, I fell in love with the research process.

After meeting with multiple professors and the career center, I knew that graduate school would allow me to keep researching the topic while also preparing me for the workforce. After support and encouragement from my senior seminar professor, Prof. Cymone Fourshey, Marilynn Shull in the career center, and Prof. Emek Ucarer, I decided to apply to peace and conflict programs in the US and abroad. I wanted to focus on peace and conflict over general international affairs degrees because of the complex and sensitive nature of the post-conflict process.

I knew that a specialized education in this field would allow me to better serve communities impacted by conflict and promote long lasting peace and development.

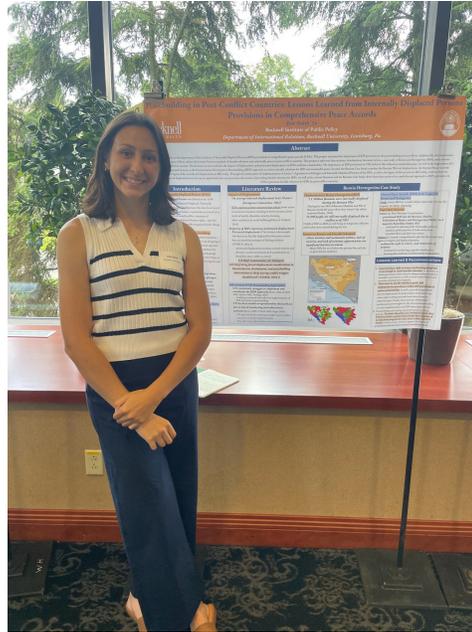


PHOTO COURTESY OF ZOE SMITH

I knew that attending an international affairs program would not allow me to specialize in the way the field of conflict resolution demands. After weighing all of my options, I ended up choosing George Mason's Carter School for Peace and Conflict Studies. Their resume speaks for itself, with world renowned professors in the field, the opportunity to earn a dual degree, and its focus on research. The Carter School was the perfect fit for me. For me, graduate school was the natural progression. It would allow me to build professional skills that would serve me in the field while also continuing to research a topic I am passionate about. The opportunities at Bucknell not only empowered me in this decision, but also thoroughly prepared me for graduate school.

*Zoie Smith '24*

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*Zoie Smith '24*

## FAREWELL TO DR. HENRY KISSINGER, AN ADVOCATE FOR PRODUCTIVE US-CHINA RELATIONS

*"In China, Dr. Henry Kissinger is a household name. Chinese leaders since Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai all developed close relationships with him. In July 2023, at the high age of 100, Kissinger was invited to Beijing and received an effusive welcome with a lavish birthday celebration from senior Chinese officials including President Xi Jinping."*

*Prof. Zhiquan Zhu*

Love him or hate him, Dr Kissinger played a pivotal role in history, teeing up President Richard Nixon's visit to China and the normalisation of US-China relations. Even when he left office, he continued to advocate for productive relations with China through engagement, and sought to explain Chinese diplomacy to Western audiences. Even as his admirers mourn the passing of a bygone era, it is now up to the young to take up the mantle of improving US-China relations.

With his extraordinary efforts to promote detente with the Soviet Union, engineer the opening to China, end the Vietnam War and advance peace in the Middle East, Henry Kissinger was undoubtedly one of the greatest diplomats of the 20th century and one of the few influential people who shaped the course of the Cold War and exerted long-lasting impact on world politics.

For some, Kissinger was a successful Jewish immigrant, a highly acclaimed international relations scholar, and a remarkable statesman; for others, he was an "unprincipled and amoral" diplomat who ignored human rights in his ruthless practice of realpolitik in American foreign policy. Few people have been both celebrated and reviled with such passion as Dr Kissinger.

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There has been an outpouring of nostalgia and eulogies for Kissinger in China's state and social media outlets since his passing. President Xi sent a message of condolence to President Joe Biden, calling Kissinger "a world-renowned strategist" and "a good and old friend of the Chinese people" who made "historic contributions" to the normalisation of China-US relations, benefiting both countries as well as changing the world. And Chinese ambassador in Washington Xie Feng wrote in his X account: Kissinger "will always remain alive in the hearts of the Chinese people as a most valued old friend."

### Shaping the history of US-China relations

Kissinger's official connections with China started in July 1971. During a publicly announced trip to Pakistan, he disappeared for a couple of days,

ostensibly to recover from poor health at a Pakistani mountain resort. Nobody knew at the time that he was trying to evade the travelling press corps by feigning illness so that he could fly secretly to Beijing to discuss with Chinese officials about a potential visit to China by President Richard Nixon.

That secret trip was fruitful and cemented his position in US diplomatic history as the man who paved the way for President Nixon's historic visit to China the following spring. The news that Nixon would travel to China astonished the world. Nixon was a diehard anti-communist Republican and the US still recognized Chiang Kai-shek's government in Taiwan as the representative of China while treating the People's Republic of China (PRC) as an enemy.

Indeed, Nixon's 21-28 February 1972 visit to China was "the week that changed the world". China became a critical player in the hitherto bipolar Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union. The establishment of US-PRC diplomatic relations in 1979 coincided with Deng Xiaoping's "reform and opening up" initiatives, both of which fundamentally changed world politics and China's future.

The Shanghai Communique was issued during Nixon's visit, in which the US acknowledged the position held by "all Chinese on either side of the Taiwan Strait" that "there is but one China" and "Taiwan is a part of China". Then and now, the status of Taiwan has remained the thorniest issue in US-China relations. Beijing and Washington have accused each other of undermining the status quo across the Taiwan Strait.

Understandably, Kissinger is not remembered fondly in Taiwan, where he had long been blamed for his central role in shifting America's diplomatic relations from Taipei to Beijing, and for failing to obtain a firm commitment from Beijing not to seize Taiwan by force. Since 1971, Kissinger had travelled to the Chinese mainland more than 100 times but had never been to Taiwan.

### Advocate for productive relations with China through engagement

"It's almost impossible to imagine what the American relationship with the world's most important rising power would look like today without Henry," said Professor Graham Allison of

*(cont.)*

Harvard University in an interview in 2016, who once worked for Kissinger. While the younger generations of Americans may not be familiar with Kissinger and his role in US foreign policy, he was remembered in China as the pioneer and champion for the normalization of US-China relations.

Kissinger's contribution to US-China relations went beyond his vigorous involvement in the US opening to China. After leaving office following his service in the Nixon and Gerald Ford administrations, he continued to advise US presidents from Jimmy Carter to Joe Biden on foreign policy and advocate productive relations with China through engagement, and he continued to serve as a bridge across the Pacific. His residence in New York City was a place that officials, scholars and businesspeople from both the US and China loved to frequent. Just a month before his death, Kissinger was honored at the 2023 [gala dinner](#) of the National Committee on United States-China Relations for his five decades of leadership in promoting US-China relations.

#### **Advocate for productive relations with China through engagement**

"It's almost impossible to imagine what the American relationship with the world's most important rising power would look like today without Henry," said Professor [Graham Allison](#) of Harvard University in an interview in 2016, who once worked for Kissinger. While the younger generations of Americans may not be familiar with Kissinger and his role in US foreign policy, he was remembered in China as the pioneer and champion for the normalization of US-China relations.

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#### **Symbol of a bygone era**

Dr Kissinger was a symbol of a bygone era when the US and China were willing to meet each other halfway to pursue common interests. Despite ups and downs in the bilateral relationship, Kissinger was the most significant and consistent voice on managing the complex and challenging relationship through engagement. Today, Kissinger's views on China are not well received by many in Washington, who favor zero-sum competition with China and countering its growing power and influence.

Kissinger left behind a US-China relationship that is experiencing the most difficult time since his first trip to China in 1971. It behooves both countries to heed Kissinger's warnings about the danger of a new Cold War between two nuclear powers.

#### **Now left to what future generations will do**

Kissinger set a great example in promoting US-China cooperation despite political, ideological and cultural differences between the two countries. The two governments today must learn to manage this vital relationship peacefully for the benefits of the two peoples as well as the international community.

The future of US-China relations lies in the young generation. Both China and the US must cultivate this relationship by promoting people-to-people exchanges. President Xi announced in San Francisco in November 2023 that China would welcome 50,000 American students to study in China in the next five years. Hopefully this plan will be fully implemented and will help form a group of young Americans who understand China and who are committed to managing the US-China relationship constructively. Meanwhile, the US government should immediately reinstate the Fulbright and other cultural and scientific programs in China to expand exchanges between the two peoples. Kissinger would be supportive of such actions.

For both Washington and Beijing, perhaps the best way to celebrate Kissinger's legendary life is to carry on his belief that cooperation is the only way to move the US-China relationship forward and upward.

*Prof. Zhiqun Zhu*

*Article first appeared in [Think China](#), Nov. 2023*

*"Kissinger set a great example in promoting US-China cooperation despite political, ideological and cultural differences between the two countries. The two governments today must learn to manage this vital relationship peacefully for the benefits of the two peoples as well as the international community."*

*Prof. Zhiqun  
Zhu*

## BECOMING PART OF THE NARRATIVE

I believe that I was always meant to tell stories.

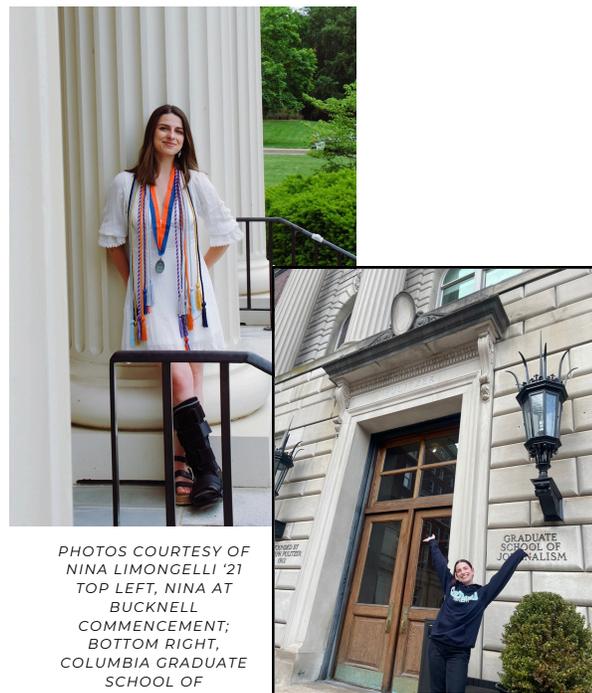
During my time at Bucknell, I was a double major in both International Relations and Theatre. What I initially loved so much about Bucknell was the flexibility and resources it provided to allow students to successfully explore more than just one of their interests. I have always loved performing: acting, dancing, singing. There is something so magical about throwing myself into an entirely different world where I can step into someone else's shoes, ascertain their voice, their tactics, their desires. I have also had a long-standing interest in politics, advocacy, and justice. My passion for leveling the scales (I am a libra, after all) led me down the path of International Relations, an increased knowledge surrounding human rights as well as the systems and institutions in place that make up the fabric of not only our society, but our world.

My experience juggling both majors was nothing short of extraordinary. I was involved in SpeakUp, Orientation, and Admissions, all while rehearsing hours each night for various performances and still somehow keeping up with my assignments. Five months after graduation, I started working at an education nonprofit called East Harlem Tutorial Program in Manhattan. I was interested in this work due to the organization's commitment to racial justice, fostering community, and decolonizing fundraising within the education space. Just a few months in, my supervisor left to pursue a position at Columbia University School of Social Work. She eventually invited me to interview to be a part of her team, and I have now worked there since April of 2022.

Columbia University has a tuition benefit program that allows its employees to pursue a graduate-level education for free, after two years of working at the University. When I was met with the prospect of a free education from an ivy league institution, I knew I couldn't pass it up. I began to reflect more on my time at Bucknell, the potential overlap in my two fields of study, and what I really want to accomplish, both personally and professionally. I was brought back to my love for telling stories and decided that journalism was the direction I wanted to go. I applied to the part-time M.S. program at Columbia Journalism School, and was accepted this past March.

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*Nina Limongelli '21*



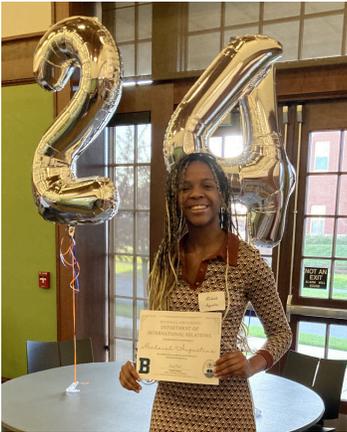
PHOTOS COURTESY OF NINA LIMONGELLI '21  
TOP LEFT, NINA AT BUCKNELL COMMENCEMENT;  
BOTTOM RIGHT, COLUMBIA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Journalism is vast in nature. What intrigues me the most about the field is the room for growth, opportunity, and creativity. As we continue to watch how storytelling evolves with the ever changing media landscape and strong technological influences, I feel compelled to become part of the narrative. I hope to use my storytelling abilities from theatre and global perspective from International Relations to spread access to truthful and empowering information, unveil injustices, foster community, and so much more. I can firmly say that my Bucknell education has strengthened my empathy, taught me to never shy away from a challenge, and provided me with the tools and confidence to lead in any situation. If you don't have a plan or even direction following graduation, you have time. Give yourself the grace: be patient, explore the world, and live your life authentically. No matter the career you choose to pursue, remain true to your passions and invest in yourself. Our paths are ever changing, and they reveal themselves when we least expect it.

*Nina Limongelli, class of 2021*

## MICHAIAH AUGUSTINE '24 AWARDED BUCKNELL PRIZE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

*Leading up to graduation, the IR department considers seniors to award the Bucknell Prize in International Relations to someone demonstrating outstanding academic performance in international relations. This year, the award went to Michaiah Augustine '24. Michaiah excelled in and beyond the classroom, as you will read in her own words below. We are very pleased to acknowledge her accomplishments with this award. Congratulations!*



### In her own words: Michaiah Augustine '24

During my time at Bucknell, I have engaged in global affairs outside of my major in International Relations by studying abroad in France and picking up not only another language but a double major in French and Francophone Studies. I applied to numerous Bucknell scholarships and secured the prestigious Benjamin Gilman Scholarship for Studying Abroad. The three Bucknell French major scholarships I was the recipient of were the Leanne Freas Trout Scholarship and Candice Coxe Scholarship. Once there in France, I honed my passion for language learning via immersion and practiced building foreign relations with French and African diaspora communities through summer research.

I ultimately became an alternate for the prestigious national United States Foreign Service Internship Program and the Rangel Summer Internship. After many months of waiting, I was then granted primary candidacy and became a USFSIP employee intern, beginning half of the two-summer internship by working at the Department of State in Washington DC. There, I became certified in Cable and Memo Writing at the Foreign Service Institute, attended several ambassador official

visits, explored Capitol Hill, and engaged with overseas diplomats stationed in the host countries in the Caucasus region.

In my post-Bucknell career, I will immediately start the second Summer Internship as a US Foreign Service Intern. This summer internship is overseas at the US Mission to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. I will essentially, act as a Foreign Service Officer and use all the skills I acquired from USFSIP training and our first Summer Internship in 2023 at the Department of State. I will be in the Executive section under the Ambassador and the Deputy Chief of Mission and tasked with a myriad of things, including coordinating official events, attending official visits, including the 4th of July event, note-taking during meetings, and interacting with local staff to learn more about the country. Overall, I will engage in global affairs by assisting the US in its mission to promulgate shared interests, including a common commitment to the rule of law and maintaining geographic operations in The Bahamas.

This summer I will also have a week-long orientation for the Pickering program. With the help of a Bucknell Sponsorship by Margaret Marr and the Global Education Department, several mentors and recommendation letters, and endless drafts, I was able to pursue and receive a government fellowship with the Thomas R Pickering Program. This program sponsors 45 finalists out of thousands of applicants around the nation through a Master's Degree program. As a Pickering, I will be deciding between a Master in International Affairs at Boston University and a Master in Global Affairs at New York University which has already granted me admission. This program also offers summer internships domestically and overseas. For the Summer of 2025, I will return to the Department of State to intern there for a second time and aid Washington in its goal of reporting and negotiating with overseas diplomatic partners. For the Summer of 2026, I will intern at an embassy, of my choosing, abroad. Upon successful completion of my Master's program, I will continue to be readily engaged with global affairs as I return to the government and the Pickering program my service as a US Foreign Service Officer for five years. Beyond my Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, my commitment to global affairs continues ever strong and my desire to make positive progress in the international community is unceasing.

*Michaiah Augustine '24*

*"In my post-Bucknell career, I will immediately start the second Summer Internship as a US Foreign Service Intern. This summer internship is overseas at the US Mission to the Bahamas. I will essentially, act as a Foreign Service Officer and use all the skills I acquired from USFSIP training and our first Summer Internship in 2023 at the Department of State."*

*Michaiah Augustine '24*

## BUCKNELLIAN ABROAD: CAROLINE CORBETT AWARDED BOREN SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDIES IN JORDAN

*"One of the central components of my application was an 800-word essay discussing the significance of Jordan to United States national security. Through numerous revisions, I delved deeper into topics such as the Jordanian refugee crisis stemming from neighboring countries like Syria and Palestine, the robust economic ties between Jordan and the U.S., and the historical context of U.S. defense involvement in Jordan."*

*Caroline Corbett '26*

My name is Caroline Corbett, class of 2026. I am double majoring in International Relations and Arabic here at Bucknell, and am a student-athlete on the Varsity Women's Rowing team. I am excited to announce that I earned the NESP David L. Boren Scholarship to study abroad in Amman, Jordan for the entire 2024-2025 academic year.

This past fall, I applied for the Bucknell nomination of the Boren Scholarship. My interest in this scholarship stemmed from my summer internship at Silicon Valley Defense Group, a nonprofit national defense technology advisory firm in Arlington, VA, where I gained some initial, albeit vague, knowledge about Boren. I eventually received Bucknell's nomination and met with my application advisor, Margaret Marr. As an Arabic major, I applied to supplement my pre-existing plans to study abroad in Amman, Jordan with this scholarship, which would extend my period abroad. I met with Ms. Marr at least once a week from November 29 to January 31st, when I finally submitted my application.

Ms. Marr played a pivotal role not only in guiding me through the application process but also in shaping the evolution of my writing, for which I am incredibly grateful. One of the central components of my application was an 800-word essay discussing the significance of Jordan to United States national security. Through numerous revisions, I delved deeper into topics such as the Jordanian refugee crisis stemming from neighboring countries like Syria and Palestine, the robust economic ties between Jordan and the U.S., and the historical context of U.S. defense involvement in Jordan. Furthermore, I had the unique opportunity to incorporate real-time analysis of an attack on Tower 22, a U.S. military base in northern Jordan, carried out by Iran-backed militants.

In addition to the essay on national security, I composed two other essays for my application.



PHOTO  
COURTESY OF  
CAROLINE  
CORBETT.

One outlined my plans to fulfill the Boren Scholarship's one-year government service requirement, where I expressed aspirations of becoming a Foreign Service Officer, combining my interests in facilitating dialogue and conflict analysis. The third essay detailed my academic agenda during my time abroad, which includes Arabic language courses, studies in Middle Eastern geopolitics, immersion in Jordanian culture through a homestay program, and the possibility of pursuing independent research or an internship.

As I embark on this next chapter, I carry with me a profound sense of gratitude for the unwavering support of my mentors, especially Ms. Marr. I am fueled by boundless curiosity and sense of duty, and honored to represent Bucknell in Jordan and as a recipient of the National Security Education Program's David L. Boren Scholarship. While it is bittersweet saying goodbye to Bucknell for a year, especially now with the cherry blossoms in full bloom, I am excited to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead in my future career path.

*Caroline Corbett, class of 2026*

## PRESENTING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLASS OF 2024

On May 12, we gathered on the Malesardi quad for commencement and to celebrate the class of 2024. Despite the unusually cold weather and the drizzle, our hearts were warm and swelling with pride as we watched the Class of 2024 walk across the stage with smiles on their faces.

And, now, we get to introduce you to IR Class of 2024. **Congratulations everyone!** In the words of Semisonic, "It's closing time.. It's time for you to go out to the places you will be from." It's been a privilege getting to know you and working with you as you made your way through the major. Please stay in touch!



### **Class of 2024: IR Majors**

Michaiah Augustine  
 Cameron Baravalle  
 Simone Billera  
 Brett Callahan  
 Claire Chao  
 Joyce Chen  
 Jack D/Ambrosio  
 Nicole Davis  
 Olivia dey  
 Caitie Eckna  
 Lucy Groover  
 Selim Guadagni  
 Lucas Hill  
 Spencer Howell  
 Lydia Hybels  
 Colleen Kelly  
 Aidan Lankler  
 Christine Markey  
 Viviane McMullen  
 Claire Meany  
 Lilly O'Connor  
 Avery O'Day  
 Jeff Odongo  
 Peter Patouhas  
 Ashley Santoro  
 Ben Sinins  
 Zoie Smith  
 Annabelle Veith  
 Grant Voytovich  
 Charlotte Woods  
 Lening Zhou

### **Class of 2024: IR Minors**

Hope Abel

*Wishing  
our newest  
alumni  
only the  
best for  
their next  
adventure.*

*'ray  
Bucknell!*



## ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS NEWS



*Welcome to the newest members of the IR community, and congratulations to members of the class of 2024 Lydia Hybels, Peter Patouhas, and Charlotte Woods for being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa!*

### A big welcome to the class of 2026!

Twenty-four students declared the major in Spring 2024. This is a vibrant class of students: They will be focusing on Africa (2), Asia (1), Europe (12), Latin America (4), Middle East (5), Culture and Identity (1), Foreign Policy and Diplomacy (9), Global Governance and Conflict Resolution (9), and Development and Sustainability (5). They will be learning Arabic (5), Chinese (1), French (2), German (1), Hebrew (1), Spanish (12), and Russian (1). Several of our new majors are pursuing double majors and minors and many of them plan to study abroad. We are pleased to introduce IR Class of 2026 whose entry into the major we celebrate with a welcome luncheon on February 23, 2024: Malika Ali, James Barker, Ruot Bijek, Annie Burtson, Mary Clark, Jack Coddling, Sadie Condon, Caaroline Corbett, Josie Duggan, alex Fraser, Dana Friedlander, Debra Gonkpah, Ryan Kats, Jeffrey Killian, Dk Kim, Blake Matthews, Anna Meyer, Logan Moore, Mary Page, Hillary Quisenberry, Zealy Rodriguez, Wade Schomper, Maxime Touzot, Garrett Van Blarcom-DeLuise. Welcome to the major everyone!

### Three IR Students inducted into Phi Beta Kappa



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROF. UÇARER.

Founded in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest academic society in the United States. It is a prestigious national honors society that celebrates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and inducts outstanding students in arts and sciences at only select US colleges and universities. On May 10, 2024, three students in IR Class of 2024 were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. **Lydia Hybels '24**, **Peter Patouhas '24** and **Charlotte Woods '24**. Congratulations to all three for this honor and recognition!

# OF NOTE: CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS



**Bucknell honors class of 2024 graduates**

The Bucknell community gathered together on Malesardi Quadrangle Sunday, May 12, to celebrate the academic achievements of the Class of 2024, a group of graduates whose educational journey was distinguished by passion, resilience and poise.



**Michael C. Pascucci '58 Team Center opens at Bucknell University**

The final phase and keystone of the Pascucci Family Athletics Complex is now complete: The Michael C. Pascucci '58 Team Center, which officially opened its doors April 15, offers premier facilities tailored for Bucknell's Division 1 student-athletes.

**WISHING YOU A GREAT  
SUMMER!  
-IR@BUCKENLL**



**Bucknell SBDC earns state SBDC excellence and innovation award**

Last year alone, the Bucknell SBDC engaged with more than 600 individuals, resulting in the launch of over 40 new businesses. Additionally, its consulting assistance — much of it provided by Bucknell students — helped businesses support more than 2,300 jobs across the region.



**Jane Fonda discusses the link between acting and activism**

Art has the capacity to inspire deep feelings and reveal uncomfortable truths, whether about ourselves or the world around us ... For Jane Fonda, art and action are reciprocal forces that have bolstered both her acting career and her activism.



**Bucknell students named as National Science Foundation Fellows and Goldwater Scholars**

Six Bucknellians have been awarded two of the most prestigious fellowships and scholarships in higher education: National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowships and Barry Goldwater Scholarships.

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*The IR Matters!  
newsletter highlights  
events and people in  
the Bucknell IR  
community. The  
publication appears  
once a semester and  
welcomes feedback  
and submissions from  
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faculty.*