



# Glocal

## Community-Development Studies

### Newsletter Fall 2012

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It is a pleasure to introduce the first issue of our Glocal Newsletter. The Glocal Community-Development program is an innovative M.A. program designed to impart expertise in fields relevant to the development of local communities in impoverished regions throughout the world.

Glocal is the only program of its kind in Israel. It is fitting that it has been established at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, one of the world's foremost institutions of higher education. Moreover, the University has a long tradition of involvement with issues of international development. We at Glocal are proud to join our

colleagues in Public Health, Agriculture, and throughout the University in contributing to the growing field of development studies.

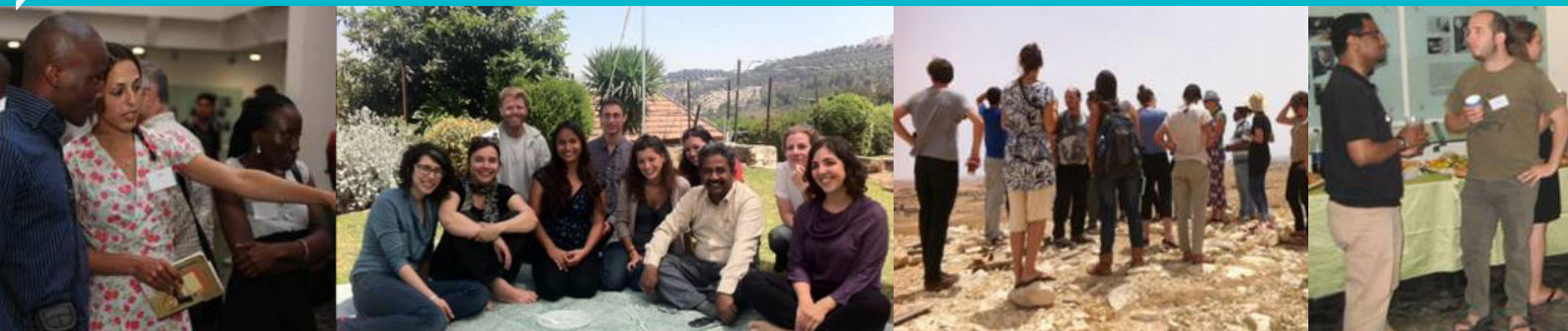
For those of us in the program "Glocal" is more than just a catchy-name. It expresses our dedication to think globally, while never losing sight of the individual, the personal and the local. Our students come from around the world. Similarly, we are in the process of building a network of internships which span the globe: India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Burundi, the Dominican Republic, Benin, Tanzania, Uganda, the Palestinian Authority and, of course, Israel itself.

Yet, despite these wide horizons I think it is no less important that we are developing a program which is characterized by deep personal connections, partnerships and community.

We look forward to expanding our network of students, partners and supporters and hope that you will join us and share our news with your friends and associates.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Steven Kaplan  
Academic Head, Glocal Community Development Studies



## Glocal Community-Development Studies - a year in review

The past year has been a busy one for us at Glocal Community-Development Studies, involving our first full year of academic courses and internships, as well as a number of special events and field trips.

September began with a bang, as our first cohort of students set off to undertake their internships in a variety of NGOs located throughout Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, the Dominican Republic, Burundi and Israel. October saw the entrance of our second cohort of Glocal students for the commencement of Glocal's first full academic year. Adding a number of new courses to our roster, students explored a range of actors and development themes through "Mapping the World of Development", and immersed themselves in project cycles and benchmarks of progress in "Introduction to Monitoring and Evaluation". We also inaugurated this year with a bi-monthly seminar series, welcoming such guests as The Honorable Paul Hunt, Canada's ambassador to Israel, and Alan Doran, Business and Finance Adviser for Oxfam GB. The end of December marked the close of the first internship cycle, and by January students began their final seminar, bringing their personal and professional experiences from the field

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back to the classroom for in-depth exploration with their peers.

By March a new semester was underway, and students were busy once again –engaged in a series of full-day workshops where they explored the complex realities of the work of development organizations here in Israel (see Bustan article page 5). In May we were proud to see the graduation of our first cohort of students, and to celebrate, we hosted our first ever end of year event. A stellar networking success which linked Glocal students to those in Hebrew University's Public Health and Agriculture programs, the event also opened Glocal to the wider development community in Israel (see final event article page 4). By June it was time to say goodbye. Our second cohorts of students have finished their first academic year and are getting ready to head off to their internships in the field, and we begin preparations for another exciting academic year. In the following pages, we invite you to explore Glocal Community-Development studies - read about our first round of internships, learn about our outreach work in Israel, and celebrate with us as we highlight the achievements of our students at home and in the field!





## Found in Translation: Spotlight on Glocal student Anne-Sophie Cardinal

**What do a school in Cambodia, a bus in Viet Nam, and refugee rights in Israel all have in common? Ask Anne-Sophie Cardinal, a Glocal student who learned that there are many ways to enter the field of international development**

Born in a French town outside of Quebec City in Canada, like many, Anne-Sophie's entrance into international development was unplanned. Originally passionate about arts and with an ear for languages, Anne-Sophie began her career as a translator, which has led her all over the world. Intrigued when she overheard someone at a party speaking about a start-up project in Cambodia run by an NGO called OrphFund, Anne-Sophie remembers thinking- "I always thought I should live such an experience, as a way to travel.", and in a few short months she was on her way to join them.

The youngest member of the team, the project sounds straightforward- to build a school for 200 children in 10 weeks, all the while living in the surrounding community. However, living in a rural community with no common language proved more difficult than the team first imagined- and alongside her work developing the school project, Anne-Sophie also began to serve as a translator, and with the help of the locals she was able to pick up bits of Khmer as she went. Recalling the experience from a vantage point of five years, Anne- Sophie recognizes that it triggered in her a fundamental change. Remarking that the experience was "too good to not be repeated", she recalls most the "change [the project] brought to those children," and the "good connection to the local community" which resulted from the group's engagement.

Following a chance encounter with an Israeli who would become her future husband on a bus in Viet Nam, Anne-Sophie found herself in Israel in the fall of 2007, and it was here that she stumbled upon another cause that would become part of her life's path.

After hearing about the influx of 5,000 refugees into

Israel in 2008, Anne-Sophie offered her services as a volunteer. She soon became a key component of the effort to assist the growing number of refugees in South Tel Aviv- working as a translator, donations coordinator and project assistant for a number of different Israeli NGOs.

Anne-Sophie admits it was a conflation of circumstances that brought her to the Glocal program. Attending the open day in 2010, she heard staff and students speak about the classes and internship and recalls that while joining the field element to the academic is what attracts most students to the program, "it wasn't the internship that really attracted me, but it was that I wanted to be more professional at what I do".

During her first academic year, alongside her academic studies and preparations for her upcoming internship with CARE Benin, Anne-Sophie worked on her newest social venture- the establishment of Become ([www.become-world.org](http://www.become-world.org)), an independent NGO focusing on integrative community development.

This summer, before they set out on their internships, a group of Glocal students accompanied Anne-Sophie to Become's base in Kenya, for an intense week of work. We wish them the best of luck on this exciting joint venture!



Ann-Sophie Cardinal



## From the classroom to the field and back again: Glocal's end of year event

On May 31<sup>st</sup> Glocal held its first ever end-of-year event. In true Glocal style, and befitting the ground-breaking work undertaken by our students on their internships, we organized a full afternoon of networking and lectures, held at The Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University.

The day started with an organizational fair, including a wide-range of organizations from across Israel, such as the Jerusalem Aids Project, the refugee organization ASSAF, and Sidreh, a Bedouin women's organization. Each NGO set up its own table, a platform which provided them with the opportunity to showcase their range of projects and initiatives, while meeting our students, staff and wider network of development scholars and practitioners.

For the next phase of the day we moved into the conference room to listen to a panel on the connection between the theory and practice of development. Each speaker brought their own unique perspective to their talk, creating a panel that was nothing less than eclectic in scope. The first speaker was the new Israeli ambassador to South Sudan. The ambassador delivered a talk that not only discussed the current state of development in the world's newest country, but also reflected on the theory and practice of state-building and its connection to development. Not sure until the last minute he would make it, the ambassador arrived straight from the airport- literally bringing the field with him!

The next two speakers both focused in different ways on how to bring the community into development work. Drawing on her own experiences, Amal Alsana-Alh'jooj, Co-Director and Founder of AJEEC-NISPED, delivered an impassioned view of the importance of participatory community engagement in development work. The last speaker, new Glocal faculty Dr. Maureen Malowany (showcased in page 6 of this newsletter), picked up where Amal had left off- discussing the importance of bringing the community into health and disease assessment.

The third and final part of the event was the student poster session. These posters were inspired by student experiences in the field and the innovative projects which resulted from their work with local communities. Each student's poster was a representation of their internship experience- and together the posters told a story- revealing the successes, challenges and surprises engendered by community development work. The poster session provided a unique opportunity for students to present their internship experiences to a wider audience, discussing their work and receiving feedback from a diverse group of academics and development professionals.

All in all, Glocal's first ever year-end event was a huge success. Not only did the event provide us with an opportunity expand our network of partners and contacts in Israel, but it also enabled us to reflect on the achievements of the program – celebrating the graduation of our first ever cohort of Glocal students!

**The event was a stellar networking opportunity, linking Glocal students to those in Hebrew University's Agriculture and Public Health programs, and opening Glocal to the wider development community.**





## Development in the Developed World: a view from Israel's South

### Taking the classroom to the field, this past May, Glocal students and staff headed off for a full-day exploration of Israel's Negev.

The field trip began as a student initiative, and after establishing a "field trip committee", students and staff worked together to develop the day's agenda. The theme was to be 'development in a developed context', and the aim was to explore the unique challenges of under-developed communities in a developed country. The result was a rich on-ground experience, where students put the models and theories of international development aside, and took a step closer to the local- exploring the actors, projects and complexities of development in today's Israel.

The day started out with a visit to Earth's Promise, one of Israel's most vibrant community garden's located in Beer Sheva. The garden's uniqueness comes from the community behind it- a group of recent Ethiopian immigrant families at a close-by absorption center who maintain the garden's plots. The students had a chance to meet these local cultivators, exploring the unique plots of each family and learning about the diverse array of Israeli and Ethiopian vegetables that were being grown.

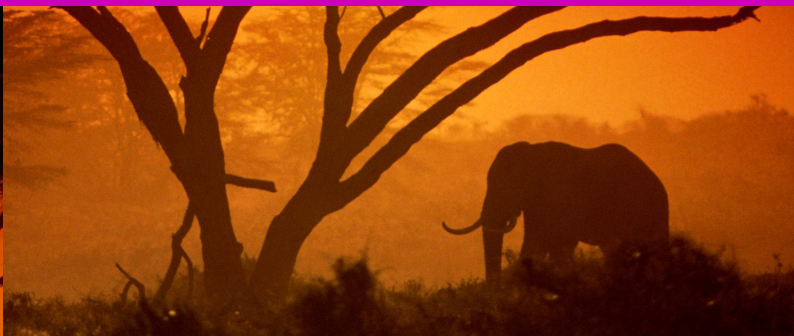
The second stop on the group's journey was the recently recognized Bedouin village of Qasr A-Sir. The village, in partnership with the Israeli NGO Bustan ('Orchard' in Hebrew), has forged a holistic development project which explores the intersection between perma-culture and sustainability and traditional Bedouin knowledge. The students walked through Qasr A Sir, and met with

Bustan's director Ra'ed Al-Mickawi, listening to him recount his own unique life path, one which in many ways mirrors the development of the Bedouin collective as a whole. At the height of the day's heat, the students settled in the shade to share an authentic Bedouin lunch which had been prepared by the Bedouin women's cooking cooperative in the village. During lunch, they met with the village's head, who opened a discussion about the political barriers to development that the village is currently facing.

In the course of the day, the group learned about the challenges facing the Bedouin community, and was exposed to the complexities confronting development initiatives and the diverse collectives in the Negev region as a whole. Both students and staff left the experience with a better understanding of development as it is carried out in a developed context, and the trip raised important questions about cross-cultural cooperation and land planning in periphery regions, providing fodder for future conversations and outreach initiatives.



The Community Garden at Earth's Promise



## Faculty Spotlight: Meet Dr. Maureen Malowany

A historian with a PhD in the history of medicine with a focus on Africa, Dr. Malowany brings her own unique perspective on development to the Glocal program, joining us this fall to teach a new course 'Health and Development: A critical approach to theory, policy and practice'.

Dr. Malowany has a strong belief in the importance of individual critical thinking and brings this belief to her course, viewing the class room as "an opportunity to think critically about what can and should be done in the world of health and development". Thus in seeing the students in her class as a community, and herself as a guide, Dr. Malowany facilitates a critical learning process built through in-depth examinations of case studies.

In studying these cases and walking around issues of sustainability, community participation and ethical collection of evidence, Dr. Malowany wants students to "understand and appreciate the complexities of the environments in which we work and treat those complexities with the respect and honesty they deserve". To this end, she comments that she has already been impressed in her conversations with Glocal students, and can't wait to get into the class room second semester to get the process off the ground.

No stranger to the field, she admits her first love is East Africa and she spent much time in Kenya in her youth. Dr. Malowany has a background in health sciences and public health, and has worked extensively in the history of the management of tropical diseases. Working as part of a team on a joint project on the history of malaria control in East Africa, she has been involved in researching several initiatives including the World Health Organization's 1998 Roll-Back Malaria program, and has served as Former Deputy Director of the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine at University of Oxford.

Dr. Malowany's perspective on health and development is informed by her unique vantage point, having been witness to what is commonly referred to as the NGO

revolution in the 1980s. She recalls her initial encounters with NGOs during her doctorate field research. The first story she tells me is about a convoy of white vans, each one replete with a different

NGO logo, which drove past her on a dirt road in rural Uganda. Not sure what the vans were meant for, who was in them, or where they were going, the contrast of that convoy with the landscape is what first struck her. Later, back at her hostel, she recalls meeting a young American woman who told her that her purpose for being in Uganda was to teach the African Farmers how to farm, to which Dr. Malowany recalls thinking "we're in trouble". The two experiences set her down a much longer path of critical reflection – on processes of development, and the relationship between health and development to communities and practices in the developing world.

When asked what advice she would give Glocal students regarding their studies Dr. Malowany had this to say: "don't be afraid to ask questions, read, and know your community". However, when it comes down to choosing an internship, alongside the research, she urges students to be more introspective: "you have to follow your passion", she says, "follow what you care about and stick with it". With her great wealth of on-ground experience and her unique perspective on development, we are grateful to have Dr. Malowany with us for this leg of our journey, and we know she is going to make a fabulous addition to our Glocal team.



Dr. Maureen Malowany