

## CAMPUS EXPERIENCES

## Worldview

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exist. So, where do we fit into this process really? And what might we expect from it in the future?

Well, according to Politics Professor Howard Reichner, we are part of the global scheme of things, without even trying to be,

"If students drive cars which use gas, eat a variety of foods and use a number of the emerging technological devices, then those folks are subject to the influences of an ever increasing global world," Reichner said. "I also believe many of these students' jobs to be will be related to the world outside of the US, thus they need to be aware of and active in international relations."

Fellow Politics Professor Larry Schulz agrees. "Just look at where your clothing is made, where the gasoline comes from that fills your gas tank, and why China is financing our latest spending spree."

So, what can we do about it? Well, all logic seems to point to education. We are lucky at St. Andrews to be equipping our minds to win this battle for us through learning and experience.

Reichner has plenty of experience outside his own backyard, having spent much time in Vietnam back in the 60s – during the Vietnam War. And he can tell you, there are some striking similarities,

"The US involvement in Vietnam like Iraq was a building process with advisors going in first and the being followed by combat troops with numbers increasing until the public resentment began to be felt," he said. "The current North African and Middle East situations are being undertaken without troops on the ground but the American public is tired of US involvement and the situation has turned very political."

Reichner has taken students on trips to Vietnam in order that they can see

the interconnectivity of cultures throughout the world, a cause that Schultz holds dear to his heart.

"The biggest mistake being made by the U.S. in the current situation is not understanding our place in an interdependent world with citizens of all races, creeds and livelihoods that deserve our respect and support, especially when they seek to democratize their societies and enhance their own civil liberties and economic opportunities," Schulz said. "I encourage students to become informed about world affairs, and then act on this knowledge by becoming involved so as to make a difference for the better. That involvement may be local or more distant; it really doesn't matter since we are interconnected and so are the issues and challenges."

While traveling the world allows for a first hand viewing of the cultures, exposure can come in other forms for those who can't travel for health, economic or family reasons.

"If they haven't seen the movie *Idiocracy*, they should," Reichner shared as one example of exposure.

It becomes clear through discussing these world issues that many of the problems being faced today were caused by miscommunication and misunderstandings. As these professors point out, eliminating such misunderstandings doesn't have to be a big undertaking. Reading the news to gain a greater perspective, watching a movie to gain insights and taking an interest are all suggestions for starting the conversation and action.

The message to take away is that, yes, we should care very much about what's going on in the world right now, because it could come into our own backyard tomorrow. So, keep an eye out on the news, and try to help a neighbor in need because you never know when that neighbor could be you.

"Think Globally, Act Locally"

## Recap:

*Recap is here to fill in the gaps. Here's a bit of you may have missed since the last issue of The Lance:*

- **Saturday, March 12:** SAU Mardi Gras party a success-- It lasted from 10 PM to 1 AM, and was hosted in the belt main room, complete with dancing, music from DJ Shane, colorful lights, and plenty of that Mardi Gras bling!
- **Tuesday, March 22:** Cookout for Japan relief effort -- Knight's Dining hosted an Alive After Five Cook Out. The campus enjoyed a delicious menu of grilled foods and other treats, outside by the lake. And, the American Red Cross was on hand to talk about the work going on in Japan and also took up donations to help with their efforts. The dinner was also open to the community, for a small fee. Thanks to everyone who came in support.
- **Thursday, March 24:** Yearbook interest meeting – get your cameras ready, and start making memories, because Jenn Bruner hosted an interest meeting. And now, a team of students are already on board planning for next year's yearbook! Don't miss out on the fun!
- **Tuesday, April 5:** Religion and Science Roundtable --, Associate Professor of Psychology Pam Case presented "Neurotheology: Brains, Boundaries and Beliefs" as part of the Religion and Science Roundtable. The event was well attended and well-received.
- **Saturday, April 9:** 7th Annual FUNd Run-4-Life-- runners, walkers, and kids of all ages participated in the event, sponsored by Scotland Memorial Foundation. And, St. Andrews students had the opportunity to participate for discounted rate of \$10.