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Welcome to the summer ’14 issue of CNS Brief. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum for news sharing and information exchange between CNS training programs alumni and other nonproliferation experts worldwide, to introduce new members to our expanding network and to inform the international nonproliferation community about various nonproliferation related initiatives and events worldwide.

To better help our global alumni stay connected, we have created the Global Network of Nonproliferation Specialists, a Facebook group that we hope you will join. We now have over 50 members, many of whom are our former visiting fellows. Please join us and use this group as a forum for communication and exchange.

We would also welcome your submissions to our newsletter, including information about you and your organization's activities in the nonproliferation field, your publications, upcoming events, etc.

Sincerely,
Margaria Sevcik

NEWS FROM THE NONPROLIFERATION COMMUNITY IN EURASIA

ODessa InternationaL Summer School for Students, Young Experts and Post-Graduates

This year’s Odessa International Summer School, “Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security: Regional Challenges,” took place in Odessa, Ukraine, August 20-25, 2014. The event was organized by Odessa National I.I. Mechnikov University in cooperation with Swedish Radiation Safety Authority.

The most recent summer school focused on nuclear nonproliferation issues and regional challenges for specific regions: Europe, the Black Sea region, the Middle East, and Asia. Special focus was given to Ukraine and the influence on the global nonproliferation regime of the events taking place there.

The international dimension of the Summer School took on a particular salience with young experts, students, Ph.D. students, journalists and practitioners from Ukraine, Georgia, Poland and Moldova represented among a total of 28 participants.

The school provided a unique opportunity for students to present the results of their research and to discuss it with both Ukrainian and foreign experts and served to establish a regional research network and to promote academic cooperation in the field of nonproliferation studies. The majority of the students who participated in the school, came from different Ukrainian, Moldovan, Georgian and Polish universities and represent the following cities: Chisinau, Kiev, Kharkiv, Krakow, Tbilisi, Sevastopol, Odessa, and Novosibirsk.

A number of summer school participants decided to pursue academic careers and chose to focus on nonproliferation in their research. Therefore, as a result of cooperation with the SSM, many Ukrainian, Georgian, Polish and Moldovan students became interested in nonproliferation issues and were given a chance to discuss them on a regular basis, publish articles and research papers and carry out individual and joint research projects.

For more information, contact Dr. Polina Sinovets, Institute of Social Sciences, Odessa I.I. Mechnikov National University; polashkas@gmail.com.

WINNERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF NONPROLIFERATION ANALYTICAL ESSAYS

In June, organizers of the International Competition of the Nonproliferation Analytical Essays announced the winners of this year’s contest, which was conducted under the theme “Regional Challenges of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime: Problems and Perspectives.” (see CNS Brief # 37). The competition is organized by three universities: Novosibirsk State Technical University, Tyumen State University in Russia, and Odessa National University in Ukraine. This year, for the first time, a student from Monterey Institute of International Studies participated in this competition. Other contestants included students from Russia and Ukraine.

The winners include the following:

1st Place: “Middle East and South Asia Regional Group: Dismantling Political Cartels within International Organizations - the Case of the CTBTO” by Ms. Anne-Marie Ritsaar, Monterey Institute of International Studies (Monterey, California, USA).

2nd Place: “Nuclear Programs of India and Pakistan: “Domino” Effect or Transformation of Nonproliferation Regime?” by Valeriia Lozova, Odessa National University (Odessa, Ukraine).

3rd Place: (two winners) “Problems of India and Pakistan Joining the Nonproliferation Treaty: Will it Strengthen or Weaken the Existing Nonproliferation Regime?” by Ms. Natalia Kosolapova, Tyumen State University; and “EU Politics in Nuclear Weapons Nonproliferation” by Ms. Tatiana Britenkova, Novosibirsk State Technical University.

WHO’S WHO IN THE GLOBAL NONPROLIFERATION COMMUNITY

AFRICAN CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

by Hubert Foy

The African Center for Science and International Security (AFRICISIS) is an independent not-for-profit nongovernmental organization founded in 2012 under the laws of the Federal Republic of Ghana. The center has an operational partnership with the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC), the center’s office site. Indeed, AFRICSIS and GAEC have a common interest in promoting peaceful nuclear energy applications and security through research, education and outreach.

Dr. Musheibu Mohammed Alfa, Ghana’s Deputy Minister of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation, affirmed this common
AFRICIS is an African think tank engaged in research, education and outreach in the field of nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, arms control and global security. AFRICIS is filling a noticeable gap in the continent as a catalyst for ideas and action on key policy issues and by bridging the gap between knowledge and policy at the crossroads of science and technology.

“The Center’s focus would also be directed towards providing independent research, technical training, analysis and policy recommendations,” emphasized Dr. Alfa, “all of which are essential to devising creative and effective solutions for national and international security issues.”

The major aims of AFRICIS include strengthening WMD non-proliferation, arms control, and global security; facilitating capacity building; and enhancing development through implementation of arms control agreements. In addition, the center seeks to identify security challenges and assess their implications in relation to international affairs. To meet these goals, the center convenes meetings with African states, partners and other institutions on key issues to encourage dialogue. When workable solutions or next steps become clear, the center formulates and disseminates policy positions to move solutions from conception to implementation.

The center has an International Advisory Board composed of highly skilled and dedicated experts in nonproliferation, arms control, and global security. The board meets annually to review the center’s programs and offer strategic advice to guide the executive management and implementation of projects.

For more information or inquiry, visit www.africsis.org or email admin@africsis.org.

CNS Summer ’14 Visiting Fellows

In May-August, CNS hosted three summer visiting fellows from Nigeria and Pakistan. They included:

Mr. Abdulmajeed Ibrahim, Regulatory Engineer, Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority, Abuja, Nigeria. E-mail: abraham@miis.edu

Ms. Maria Syed, Assistant Research Officer, Islamabad Policy Research Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan. E-mail: msyed@miis.edu

Ms. Nidaa Shahid, Producer and Host, Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation, Islamabad, Pakistan. E-mail: nshahid@miis.edu

CNS SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE NONPROLIFERATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This summer, the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) welcomed a group of very promising undergraduate students, including eight summer interns and two Davis United World College (UWC) fellows, to its Summer Undergraduate Internship in Nonproliferation Studies program. All were selected through a very competitive application process. The eight summer interns are from American University, Claremont McKenna College, Columbia University, Middlebury College, Princeton University, Scripps College, Stanford University, and University of Georgia. The two Davis UWC fellows are from Middlebury College and Pomona College. Their majors include international studies, political science, Middle Eastern studies, anthropology, East Asian Studies, sociology, chemistry and geology.

As part of its mission to combat the spread of weapons of mass destruction by educating the next generation of nonproliferation experts, CNS started the summer undergraduate internship program in 1997, and the Davis UWC Fellowship in Nonproliferation Studies was established in 2006. CNS offers on-the-job training during the summer for undergraduate students in nonproliferation studies. The recent group of participants conducted research on issues related to the spread and control of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and on regional security issues in the former Soviet Union, Eurasia, East Asia, South

Mr. Hubert Foy, Founder and Director of AFRICIS

From left: Nidaa Shahid; CNS project manager Masako Toki; Abdulmajeed Ibrahim; Deputy Director, Education Program Margarita Sereck; Scientist-in-Residence Ferenc Dalnoki-Veress; CNS Director William Potter; Maria Syed.
Asia, and the Middle East. All of the summer interns contributed to developing and updating resources on the Nuclear Threat Initiative Website. In addition to working on ongoing projects at CNS, students developed their own research projects under the guidance of senior CNS faculty. Students also participated in CNS lectures and training seminars throughout the summer. Usually, CNS starts the training program at the beginning of June for two to three months.

_CNS Director William Potter with summer interns._