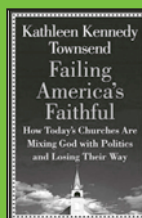




Ambassador
Zalmay Khalilzad
President Bush
nominates
I-House alum



McCormick
Tribune
Foundation
awards grant



Global Voices
Lecture Programs
Kathleen Kennedy
Townsend



Global Voices
Performing Arts
Tatva: Nature's
Elements

SPRING / SUMMER 2007

I-HOUSE LIFE

Looking to the Future

Preparing to Celebrate 75



Bruce W. Dickson,
1st Director of
International House,
1932–1934

By September 30, 1931, the construction of International House was nearing completion. The coming year would see the interior of the House finished in preparation for the opening of the House

to the world on October 5, 1932. Two years later, Bruce Dickson, the first Director of International House posed the question “has the House really accomplished its purpose?” He went on to state that “We realize that the accomplishment of any goal is relative and cannot be measured by immediate results . . . the final answer can be given only in after years.” Beginning October 5, 2007 we plan to answer Dickson’s question with a resounding “Yes!” with a year-long celebration of the 75 “after years” since the House

first opened. We invite you to share in this celebration—by attending events or sending us stories and photos of how International House

influenced your life. To learn how you can become involved in Celebrating 75 years of serving the world, go to our Web site at <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu>.



September 30, 1931, the tower of International House nears completion

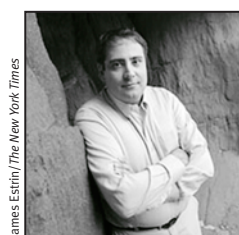
Alumni Profile

Alex Dehgan: Promoting Security Through Conservation

A war zone seems an unlikely place to find a conservation biologist. But for former I-House resident Alex Dehgan, PhD '03, conservation is the most effective strategy in promoting recovery and stability in a region where the majority of people depend on natural resources for survival. “I think this

is the path to security. The path to security in Afghanistan and Iraq is not going to be achieved through guns. They depend on natural resources and identify with wildlife. It’s an element of who they are.” In 2005, Dr. Dehgan received the U.S. State Department’s Superior Honor Award

for his efforts to rehabilitate the once-vital science and engineering culture of Iraq, despite the constant threats to his life. Now in Afghanistan, he is working to protect the country’s wildlife. Read the March 6, 2007 *New York Times* interview with Alex Dehgan on our Web site.



James Estlin/The New York Times

Alex Dehgan



I-HOUSE NEWS

From the Desk of the Director—

Spring 2007

Spring is a time of renewal here in Chicago. It is also the time of year that all of us at International House start the process of planning for the next academic year. Evidence of this is all around us as we are preparing new application and recruitment materials for residents; developing new marketing materials to recruit Residential and Collegiate Fellows and continue the planning on the last phase of the restoration of I-House which will make the building completely accessible for persons with disabilities.

These efforts take on a renewed sense of purpose as we look to our 75th anniversary year which begins in the fall. This will be a year when we revel in our past as we will feature many special events, speakers and other activities honoring our storied history. While we spend time acknowledging our past, please know that it is our future that is always at the forefront of our thoughts and actions. International House has been experiencing a renaissance in the past few years as the University has renewed its commitment to the important role that we play in the very fabric of the institution. Additionally, our alums and friends have begun to renew their support for us and for this we are eternally grateful—without your support it would be impossible to meet the challenges of providing today's students with this life changing experience.

All of us at International House hope that you will find time to visit us next year during our 75th anniversary. You are part of the living history that is the wonderful family of International House.

William L. McCartney, Director

Partners in the Arts *Silk Road Chicago*

International House, the Division of the Humanities, and the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Chicago were pleased to partner with *Silk Road Chicago* in a unique collaborative effort. In November, Azerbaijani vocalist Alim Qasimov and other Azeri instrumentalists joined with the University of Chicago Middle East Music Ensemble, conducted by Issa Boulos, for a concert, student workshops and a composer's forum. In February, the *Silk Road Ensemble* conducted a musical workshop and then paired with the Beijing quartet China Magpie, to perform a repertoire including traditional and contemporary music of China. Through June 2007, Chicago is being transformed through



Beijing-based China Magpie Quartet performs with the Silk Road Ensemble

performances, exhibitions, demonstrations and events that explore cross-cultural discovery and celebrate the artistic legacy of the Silk Road. With this initiative, Chicago has become the first city in the world to collaborate in a yearlong partnership with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Project.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Promoting Citizenship

McCormick Tribune Foundation Grant



International House is pleased to announce receipt of a \$20,000 grant from the McCormick Tribune Foundation for our World Beyond the Headlines Lecture Series, a component of our Global Voices Program. Funds will be used for an expanded series of programs on the topic of developing an active, knowledgeable, and engaged citizenry. These new initiatives will engage young people and the civic community in two key areas: first, expanding our series on major issues facing the country with a particular focus on citizenship and extending our audience by reaching out to nearby Southside communities; and second, engaging students

from Chicago high schools along with area college and university students in programs that address the meaning and obligations of citizenship in the context of national and international affairs. The World Beyond the Headlines Series is a collaborative project with the University of Chicago Center for International Studies, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and the Seminary Coop Bookstores. The program brings scholars and journalists together to consider major international news stories and how these stories are covered. The Spring Quarter 2007 schedule appears in the Arts & Ideas section of this newsletter.

Believing in the Future *After School Matters*

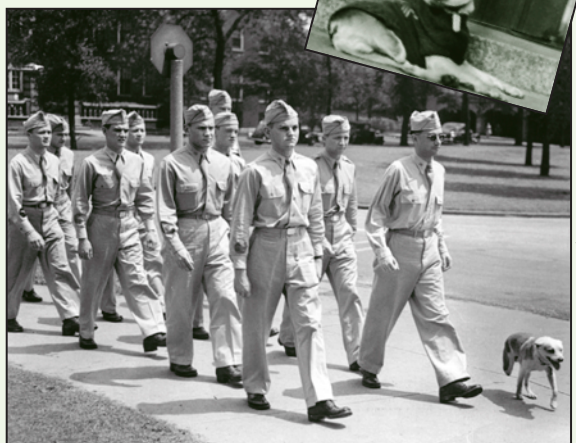


International House with support from the University of Chicago Office of Community and Government Affairs, is pleased to host a six-week summer dance program of African and West Indian Folk Dance for high school students as part of the city-wide *After School Matters* program. *After School Matters* (ASM) is a non-profit organization that partners with the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park District, the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago

Department of Children and Youth Services and community-based organizations to expand out-of-school opportunities for Chicago teens. International House is one of four sites on the Southside of Chicago for the summer 2007 Program. The program will be held from July 2–August 11. Classes are held for 4½ hours each day—Monday through Friday. Classes are free to students and up to 50 local students will be invited to join this program.

Travel in Time: From the I-House Archives

In May 1943, International House became home to the Army Air Corps for the Meteorology Class 43-5. Bunk beds were added to the single rooms with 3 or 4 cadets per room. Cadets spent months of intense and rigorous study in one of the most difficult training programs in the army—the University of Chicago’s Department of Meteorology under the supervision of the world-renowned Dr. Carl-Gustaf Rossby. During the war, the department trained over 1,700 air corps weather officers. The lives of many men depended on the cadets’ training and judgment. Providing a little levity and companionship during the long hard months of study and training, was a little dog, whose hind leg was amputated due to a car accident. Named “Isobar” by the cadets who smuggled him into the House, he became the unofficial mascot of Class 43-5. Fiercely loyal to the cadet corps who befriended him, Isobar was eventually promoted



Top: Isobar on the front steps of I-House, wearing his Sergeant's stripes and "dog" tags with serial number ASN 0003/4.
Bottom: Isobar leads the march down 59th Street to class

to the rank of Staff Sergeant, serial number ASN 0003/4 (because he only had three quarters) and shipped out with his unit when they graduated. To read the full story of Isobar and the Meteorology Cadets at International House go to our Web site at <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu/>.

From the Coulter File: Elke & David Msika-Segers

Residents who meet at International House and marry are called Coulter Couples—named after Thomas and Mary Alice Coulter, who lived in the House in the early 1930s and were one of the first couples in the history of the House to marry. Elke and David Msika-Segers recently wrote to say that they met at I-House in 2001 and continued their romance back in Europe with weekend trips between Brussels and Paris to see each other. They were married in June and are now living in Brussels. Congratulations to the newest Coulter Couple!

Both photos: International House Archives



Elke & David on their Wedding Day, June 2006.

Elke & David Msika-Segers

Alumni in the News: Ambassador Zalmay M. Khalilzad, The President's Choice

Zalmay Khalilzad, PhD '79, arrived at International House from the American University of Beirut in 1974 to study Political Science at the University of Chicago. Zal, as he was known to his friends in the House, was a resident floor advisor on the 9th floor and an active member of the Residents' Council, the Speech Committee and the Social Activities Committee.

Ambassador Khalilzad is currently the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq. On February 12, 2007, the White House submitted Khalilzad's nomination to the Senate to become U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. Once confirmed to this position Zalmay Khalilzad will become the first Muslim member of the United States Cabinet.



International House Archives



United States Department of State



Alumni Award

The University of Chicago has awarded the 2007 Norman Maclean Faculty Award to Ralph Nicholas, AM '58, PhD '71, for his outstanding

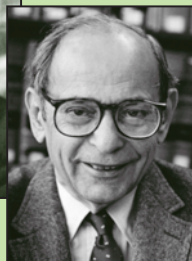
contributions to teaching and student life. A teacher and mentor to hundreds of anthropology students, Dr. Nicholas also served for ten years as Dean of the College and as President of International House.

IN MEMORIAM

Bernard D. Meltzer



International House Archives



International House Archives

Bernard D. Meltzer, AB '35, JD '37, arrived at International House from Philadelphia in 1934, a move he described as “an exhilarating and transforming experience.” He died Thursday, January 4th at his home in Chicago at the age of 92. “Professor Meltzer was a giant of legal education and of the bar.” His students, “present-day leaders, judges and lawyers recall his sharp wit and directness with awe,” said Saul Levmore, Dean of the Law School. To read more about the life of Bernard Meltzer, go to <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu/>.

Country Fellowships: China

The Gioh Fang and T.S. Ma Endowed Fellowships



International House Archives

Beginning in 2007–2008, the Gioh Fang and T.S. Ma Endowed Fellowships of \$1,500 will be awarded to one male and one female resident from China who are graduate students at the University of Chicago. Dr. Gioh



International House Archives

Fang Ma and Dr. T.S. Ma received their doctoral degrees from the University of Chicago in social service administration and chemistry respectively. The Mas' story began in Shanghai when Gioh Fang Dju, a newly-admitted graduate student at the University of Chicago was waiting for her ship to America. A young man overheard that her destination was Chicago and he asked if she could deliver a note to T.S. Ma at International House. This chance exchange led to friendship, romance and a marriage of over 60 years. By endowing these fellowships, the Mas

hope to provide future students from China with the opportunities to have the same life-altering experiences at International House that they had as students here. The Gioh Fang and T.S. Ma Endowed Fellowships will be a permanent reminder of what International House has meant to them.



International House Archives

The Legacy of a Bequest

Vera Oravec Laska: WWII Resistance fighter

Vera (Oravec) Laska, 82, died December 11, 2005 leaving a bequest of \$50,000 for the benefit of International House, the place she called "truly my home" in coming to America. At 15 Vera joined the Czechoslovakian

underground and helped hundreds of political refugees and Jews flee Nazi persecution. She was imprisoned in three labor camps, including Auschwitz. Vera arrived at International House in 1947 to study history at the University

of Chicago. She met her future husband Andrew Laska at I-House, and in 1949 they were married in the Home Room. Vera retired as Professor of History at Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts in 1988. For more about Vera's life, go to <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu>.



International House Archives

Andy (in tuxedo) and Vera (with corsage) Laska at I-House, 1949

Remembering Someone Special The Tribute Fund

Another way to commemorate special people or events in your life is through the Tribute Fund — a special part of our Annual Fund. Donations to the Tribute Fund in any amount can mark milestones, such as birthdays, weddings, anniversaries or graduations, or honor the memory of dear friends and loved ones. When you make a Tribute gift, an attractive personalized card is sent in your name to the honoree or family, apprising them of your tribute. A letter will also be sent to you as a record of your tax-deductible gift.

Recently, we received a donation to the Tribute Fund from former resident Bernard Hollander, who lived in the House in 1937–1938. His donation was in memory of Helen Taubenblatt who was the Director of Admissions at International House from 1936–1961. For more information on making a gift to the Tribute Fund contact Alumni Relations at International House.

Country Fellowships: India

Support an Indian Student

Initial funds have been given towards establishing a fellowship in honor of Surendra Kumar, former Consul General at the Indian Consulate in Chicago. Once established, this fellowship will help to support an Indian resident at International House. To contribute to this fund or to support another country-specific fellowship contact Alumni Relations at International House.

Sharing Knowledge On the Shelf

One way to celebrate the House's 75th year is to highlight the accomplishments of its residents. We are creating a section of the I-House library for books written by I-House alumni. Send us a signed and dated copy of your book which will then be fitted with a bookplate, indicating your name and the year you lived at the House. For more information on contributing to the library email i-house-alumni@listhost.uchicago.edu.

Putting Us on the Map

International House would like to thank Ronald J. Schiller, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations at the University of Chicago, for his generous gift in purchasing the world map for the Main Hallway. For more ways to Make a World of Difference go to <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu>.

Ronald J. Schiller, Vice-President, Development & Alumni Relations



Calling All Alumni: The Telefund is Coming!

Beginning April 16, 2007 University of Chicago students will be telephoning alumni of International House to discuss ways in which you can support its on-going mission for future students. Tell us about your memories of the House and give us your ideas on how we can help you continue to participate in this unique and vibrant community!

The International House Global Voices Program has established a vibrant exchange with a wide range of Chicago-area academic and cultural institutions, arts organizations, dance companies, ethnic and folk arts groups, and music and theater groups. The *Global Voices Performing Arts Series* provides a showcase for all performing arts programs. The *Global Voices Lecture Series* presents prominent speakers and organizes round-table discussion groups and special interest conferences and seminars. For further information on programs or to subscribe to our e-bulletin, go to our web site at <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu>. Programs are supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the McCormick Tribune Foundation.



March 1, 2007
On Being Native
In the 21st Century:
New Meanings,
New Data

With C. Matthew

Snipp, Professor of Sociology,
Stanford University

March 7, 2007
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
Conference

March 16–18, 2007
Spring Festival Series

The 42nd Anniversary Eastern European
Festival of Folk Music and Dance

March 30, 2007
César A. Chávez Commemoration

Keynote speaker: José Angel Gutiérrez
Co-sponsored by El Movimiento
Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan.

April 4, 2007
Center for Latin American Studies
Conference

Rising Challenges of the Left in Latin
America with Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas

April 7, 2007
Chicago International Documentary
Film Festival

Closing Reception
For complete Festival information
go to <http://chicagodocfestival.org/>



April 11, 2007
Author Night with
Atul Gawande
Discussion of his
new book, *Better:*
A Surgeon's Notes

on Performance with book-signing
to follow.

April 12, 2007
Human Rights Distinguished
Lecture Program
With author Sara Paretsky

April 12, 2007
Russian Poetry
Reading and reception with
Yevgeny Yevtushenko Co-sponsored
with the Department of History



The Chicago Ensemble
2006–2007
30th Anniversary Season

Featuring unusual
combinations of works

by well-known master composers
and lesser known contemporary
composers, performed by the
area's finest musicians. For program
and ticket information, go to
www.thechicagoensemble.org

Sunday, April 22
Sunday, May 20
Sunday, June 17

Join us for a reception with the
musicians before each concert.

April 13–14, 2007
Center for Latin American Studies
Conference
Iberian Imperialism and Language
Evolution in Latin America

April 14, 2007
Wine Tasting Series
Featuring wine from Austria
and Central Europe
Co-sponsored with the Austrian
Consulate of Chicago

April 17, 2007
Latin American Briefing Series—
Panel Session
Militarization of United States Policy
Towards Latin America



April 27–29, 2007
Tatva—Nature's
Elements

A cross-cultural
dance festival.

Co-sponsored with the Kalapiya
Foundation

April 28, 2007
Conference—Does Hip Hop Hate
Women?

Co-sponsored by the Center for the
Study of Race, Politics and Culture
and Columbia College Chicago

May 4–5, 2007
Conference on Contemporary Families
with keynote speaker Al Franken. Co-
sponsored with the Center for the
Study of Race, Politics and Culture



May 16, 2007
Spring Quarter
Candlelight
Supper

Officially closes
a year of living

and learning together and honors
all graduating residents. *The Helen*
Puttkammer Resident of the Year
Award is presented at this time.

May 6, 2007
Dancing on the Dunes

Indian dance program featuring musi-
cians from Rajasthan Co-sponsored
with the Anila Sinha Foundation

May 11, 2007
Middle East Music Ensemble
Spring Concert
Conductor Issa Boulas Co-sponsored
with the Department of Music

May 11–13, 2007
The Annual Festival of Nations
Join us for a weekend of cultural cele-
bration featuring food, music, dance
and exhibits from all over the world!

May 18–19, 2007
Chicago Society Spring Colloquium:
Petroleum, Prospects and Politics
Conference on the present and
future state of the oil industry and
the international politics of oil.

THE WORLD
BEYOND THE HEADLINES



March 8, 2007
The China Fantasy:
How Our Leaders
Explain Away
Chinese Repression,
with James Mann speak-
ing on his latest book.
Reception and book-signing to follow.



April 12, 2007
The Current Security
and Economic
Situation on the
Korean Peninsula
Korean Ambassador to the U.S., Lee

This popular public lecture series held throughout the academic year is a collaborative project with the University of Chicago Center for International Studies, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, the Seminary Coop Bookstores and International House. The program brings scholars and journalists together to consider major international news stories and how these stories are covered. Can't make it to a program? Streaming and downloadable audio and video are now available from CHIASMOS, the University of Chicago's International and Area Studies Multimedia and Outreach Source at <http://chiasm.uchicago.edu/> This program is supported in part by the McCormick Tribune Foundation.



Tae-sik; and U.S. Ambassador to Korea,
Alexander Vershbow. Co-sponsored by
the Korean Consulate of Chicago and
the Center for East Asian Studies.

April 19, 2007
Buried in Bitter Waters—History
of Racial Cleansing in America
With Pulitzer Prize winning reporter
Elliot Jaspín. Co-sponsored by the
Center for the Study of Race, Politics
and Culture.



April 27, 2007
Failing America's
Faithful: How Today's
Churches Are Mixing
God with Politics and
Losing Their Way
A discussion with
Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, former
two-term Maryland Lieutenant
Governor. Co-sponsored with the
Chicago Theological Seminary.
Reception and book-signing to follow.



May 15, 2007
The Atomic Bazaar:
The Rise of the
Nuclear Poor
with author and
journalist William
Langewiesche.



Save the Date for Alumni Weekend!

On Alumni Weekend the campus comes alive as thousands of alumni, friends, and families from around the world return to celebrate all things Chicago. Alumni Weekend 2007 will take place May 31–June 3. Plan your return to campus for four days of events including

lectures, tours, parties, exhibitions, and performances — many of them free.

Looking for a place to stay during Alumni Weekend? International House now offers hotel-style accommodations for short-term guests for the very reasonable rate of \$62 for a single or \$67 for

a double with discounted weekly rates also available. Dorm rooms are also available for \$52 per night. Book your reservations online at http://ihouse.uchicago.edu/residency/residency_short.shtml or by calling (773)753-2270.



You're Invited!

International House alumni are invited to join residents for the annual Candlelight

Supper on Wednesday, May 16, 2007. This event marks the closing of a year of living and learning together and honors all graduating residents. Reservations required. Contact Alumni Relations at International House.

Staying in touch has never been easier!

International House has launched a new look to its Web site. Visit the site to find out about upcoming programs and events for alumni and friends, information on planning your visit to Chicago, and all the latest I-House news.

Go to <http://ihouse.uchicago.edu>

Sign up for our electronic news bulletins and watch for I-House events in the University of Chicago Alumni emails! We look forward to hearing from you!

Alumni Relations can be reached by

Telephone: (773) 753-2273

FAX: (773) 753-1227

Email: i-house-alumni@listhost.uchicago.edu



Hear What's Being Said at I-House

Can't make it to an event? Streaming and downloadable audio and video are now available for many events, including our popular World Beyond the Headlines Series, from CHIASMOS, the University of Chicago's International and Area Studies Multimedia and Outreach Source at <http://chiasmus.uchicago.edu/>. Join over 1600 subscribers to hear the latest discussions on world affairs.



International House
at the University of Chicago
1414 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637