

MEET

THE CONTRIBUTORS

In PEAR's second season, the Journal saw a marked increase in the diversity of overall submissions. The papers, essays and reviews submitted to PEAR since the printing of its inaugural issue in the spring of 2009 ranged in topics and themes, touching nearly every aspect of international affairs. On the following pages, readers will find biographies of each of our selected contributors for this edition of PEAR. Their university affiliations, countries of origin and course of academic study truly represent the scope of current and future international relations practitioners.

SANDRA CHOE

Yonsei University,
Graduate School of International Studies

cmj721@yonsei.ac.kr

Sandra Choe is currently a master's degree candidate in the Korean Studies program at Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies. A native of Detroit, Michigan, she received a dual B.A. from Wellesley College (English) and Ewha Womans University (Korean Literature, Korean Studies) in Seoul, South Korea. Her main research interests are historical memory of the Japanese colonial period in Korea and the influence of American modernization theory on East Asian societies during the Cold War period. Sandra is also a certified translator who has just published her first translated book, *Seoul: A Window into Korean Culture* (Seoul: HerOne Media, 2008).

JENNIFER FROST

Yonsei University,
Graduate School of International Studies

jenniferfrost@hotmail.co.uk

Jennifer Frost is a fourth semester student at Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies focusing on International Cooperation. While studying at Yonsei GSIS her focus has been International Law and Organizations. At the same time, Jennifer has worked as a teaching assistant to Program Chair Dr. Ajin Choi and for two semesters she was an editor for the student-run Yonsei GSIS magazine NOVAsia. Jennifer has studied at Yonsei under the Samsung Royal British Legion British Korean Veterans 2008 Scholarship. Prior to studying in Seoul Jennifer received her LL.B Bachelors of Laws at the University of West England, Bristol and her work experience includes placements at two reputable law firms. During her time in Seoul, she has interned at the British Embassy within the political team.

COURTNEY FU RONG

New York University, East Asia Studies

courtney.r.fu@gmail.com

Born in China and raised in Singapore, Courtney received her B.A. in Political Science at the National University of Singapore and recently graduated from New York University with an M.A. in East Asian Studies. In an attempt to go beyond

the limits of scientific study of politics with rationalist methodology, Courtney turned her attention to historical and cultural studies at the graduate level. This switch coincides with her interest in the Confucianism that had a great impact on her formative years. Courtney is currently working at the Interactive Digital Media Institute of NUS on an interactive computer program which allows users to seek answers from Confucian classics on various issues about everyday life. She will start her next appointment as Research Assistant at the East Asia Institute in December 2009.

CONSTANTINO GOUVRAS

College of Law, Manchester

email unavailable

Constantino Gouvras obtained a Graduate Diploma in Law in 2008 which, in conjunction with his current studies in the Legal Practice Course, will lead to an LL.B award from the College of Law, Manchester. Prior to his legal studies, Constantino completed a Bachelors of Science degree at the University of Durham in 2006 and was awarded a Masters of Science from the London School of Economics in 2007. Aside from studying, Constantino is currently working for the Citizens Advice Bureau as an adviser. While residing in London he started doing pro-bono work but now specializes in advising people with mental health issues. Constantino also worked for the International Bar Association as an intern where he developed his interest in the anti-money laundering field. He currently lives with his partner in Manchester where he is completing his studies.

F. JOHN HENRY LIM

Tufts University,

Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

f.johnhenry@gmail.com

F. John Henry Lim is an M.A. candidate from the Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies focusing on foreign policy and international security. He is currently on exchange at the Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston, Massachusetts where he is studying under the tutelage of Daniel Drezner and Joseph Nye (at the Kennedy School of Government). His research interests include Chinese domestic and foreign policy, East Asian security and middle power diplomacy. His jointly written article, "China's Engagement in the Developing World: The Beijing Consensus in Angola," will be published in the *Journal of East-West Business* in the fall of 2009.

ELIZABETH O'GRADY

University of Denver,
Josef Korbel School of International Studies

elizabethogrady@gmail.com

Elizabeth O'Grady received her B.A. in Political Science (cum laude) from Furman University and her M.A. in International Studies from the Joseph Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. Having studied abroad in both South Korea and Israel as a graduate candidate, Elizabeth expanded upon her academic interest in issues of national security and arms control through internships at the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses and the Israel Palestine Center for Research and Information, among others. She has published numerous articles and papers, including "Changing Chinese Strategic Culture and North Korean Relations: Will the Alliance Withstand North Korea's Nuclear Misbehavior?" and has experience teaching English and managing the English language curriculum at Soochow University in China.

ASKHAT F. SAFIULLIN

Yonsei University,
Graduate School of International Studies

koktube@hotmail.com

Askhat F. Safiullin is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the International Cooperation Program at the Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies. His doctoral dissertation is about drivers for regional security cooperation in post-Soviet Central Asia in the context of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. His academic interests are international relations theory, methodology, international security and international law. Askhat received his M.A. in the International Cooperation Program at the Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies in 2003 and his B.Sc. in Economics and Computer Science from the Kazakh State Academy of Management.

BENJAMIN SCHMIDT

American University,
School of International Service

bmischmidt@yahoo.com

Benjamin Schmidt received an M.A. in US Foreign Policy from the School of International Service and an M.B.A. from the Kogod School of Business, both

at American University, in the spring of 2009. In the field of international relations, his areas of expertise include the impact of American domestic politics on foreign policy decisions, executive-legislative relations and international affairs, and the effects of congressional action on US foreign policy. Ben has pursued his academic interests around the world, including courses of study in both Russia and China. A fluent Spanish speaker, Ben received a B.A. in Spanish Studies from the University of Wisconsin.

LISA J. STARR

University of Victoria,
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

ljstarr@uvic.ca

Lisa J. Starr is a doctoral student in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Victoria in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. She received an undergraduate degree in education from the University of Regina in 1993 and went on to spend fifteen years as a teacher and school leader in domestic schools in British Columbia, as well as international schools in Pakistan, Kuwait and Mongolia. During her career overseas, she obtained a masters degree from the University of Phoenix in Administration and Supervision. Her areas of research interest include international schools, cultural diversity and pluralism, leadership, identity and autoethnography.

PIETER STEK

Yonsei University,
Graduate School of International Studies

pieter@yonsei.ac.kr

Pieter hails from the Netherlands but considers Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to be his hometown. He is currently a student at Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies majoring in International Cooperation and also holds an M.Sc. in Civil Engineering and Management from the University of Twente. As a university student, Pieter was Treasurer of a European student conference, Party Leader in the University Council and did various internships including stints mapping urban drainage systems in the Philippines and working as a journalist with *Malaysiakini* in Kuala Lumpur. At Yonsei GSIS he is a founder and organizer of the Debate Society.