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# SCII Agenda Newsletter

October 2020 | *Initial Launch Issue*



## Welcome from the Editor

Greetings, I am Colleen Pilgrim, Professor of Psychology and the new Editor of the Schoolcraft College International Institute (SCII) Agenda Newsletter. As you may have heard, our long-time colleague and Editor of the Agenda, Mathematics Professor Randy Schwartz, retired this past summer. Professor Schwartz worked tirelessly for the International Institute and the International Agenda, bringing global and international issues to the attention of our students, faculty, staff, and community. On behalf of the International Institute members, thank you Professor Schwartz for your many years of dedication to global education on the Schoolcraft campus. We wish you the best in your new adventures.

Over the summer, the decision was made to switch the International Agenda to a newsletter format and forgo the long-form magazine. This newsletter will be published multiple times during the semester and will be fully electronic. Moving to this new format allows the Institute to provide more timely

communication about upcoming events and highlight pertinent content across the internet. The switch to an electronic newsletter seemed appropriate given COVID-19 and the need for increased remote contact and social distancing.

The [Schoolcraft College International Institute \(SCII\)](#) was created by a series of Title VIB grants (1994, 1996, 1998) from the U.S. Department of Education to explore the possibility of creating an International Business Degree at Schoolcraft. While the degree itself did not materialize, the SCII proceeded to pilot a variety of campus-wide events and academic programs. Some of these initiatives developed into our current projects and events across campus. While you may be familiar with our Multicultural Fair and Focus Series, there are other grants, projects, fellowships, and links with other colleagues across the State and the globe that we want to share with you. Check back in future newsletters to learn more about these initiatives.

The new format of the Agenda Newsletter is truly a "work in progress", so feel free to share your feedback and let us know what you would like to see more of in the newsletter. Additionally, we're currently seeking Associate Editors, so please email me ([cpilgrim@schoolcraft.edu](mailto:cpilgrim@schoolcraft.edu)) if you are interested in joining the team.

In this inaugural version of the new International Agenda Newsletter, we're excited to share a quick summary of the SCII Focus Series, profile two Schoolcraft International Students (Stefanija Alievska and Latario Moxey), note an upcoming GlobalEYEzers event, and provide you with a link to the Global Voices webpage for resources on COVID-19 across the globe.

Finally, a huge thanks to Van Nguyen our Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, and Olivia Perry our Marketing and Events Coordinator, for their help and advice in launching this new format.

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## The Focus Series



The Focus Series has become an integral part of the SCII's global and international work on campus. The mission of the Focus Series is to provide opportunities for our Schoolcraft community members to learn from researchers and academics, community program leaders, and others engaged in areas of global education. The Focus series coordinates events such as speakers, films, displays, and performances in culture, politics, health, economics, history, and other areas of global importance.

This term, Schoolcraft SCII and PageTurners have collaborated on a "Meet the Author" event with award-winning author Lysley Tenorio to discuss his new novel *The Son of Good Fortune*. The novel explores issues relevant to undocumented persons in the Filipino diaspora. Tenorio's new novel has been met with high praise from reviewers including those written in the *New York Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. All are welcome to join via Zoom in the "Meet the Author Lysley Tenorio" on November 4th from 12pm to 1pm.

Another upcoming Focus Series event will explore the fundamentals of trauma-informed policing, including how de-escalation can interrupt cycles of violence. Both of our speakers work with the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority; Tinetra Taylor Burns is a Clinical Specialist and Andrea L. Smith serves as Director of Workforce Training & Program Development. SCII invites students, faculty, staff, and interested community members for the Zoom event "Trauma-Informed Policing" on Nov. 5th from 1:00 to 2:30 (meeting id 919 7017 9647).

Professor Helen Ditoura, co-chair of the SC International Institute, has served as the Focus series coordinator for more than a decade and welcomes feedback and ideas for future events. Please feel free to email her at [hditora@schoolcraft.edu](mailto:hditora@schoolcraft.edu).

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## Meet Our Students



My name is Stefaniya Alievska and I come from a beautiful country called Macedonia, located in Europe. Macedonia is a big part of who I am, especially the culture which is unique and amazing. Also, the culture is very different than in the United States. I enjoy daily my main hobbies of cooking and volunteering and they are a product from my home country. I was for years a volunteer at the Red Cross and many other organizations, but the Red Cross holds a special place in my heart. I am still volunteering at the American Red Cross and it continues to be an amazing experience. Coming to United States has changed my perspective for many things, especially education. I came three years ago for a vacation to travel and explore and decided to stay.

Back home, I was enrolled in law school and I always enjoyed reading and researching about laws and regulations. I was fascinated with the Ottoman and Roman empires and how they implemented their laws. Three years ago, I came to the United States and loved it here. I



My name is Latario Moxey, and I am from The Bahamas, which is made up of seven hundred islands and keys, and located just southeast of Florida. Although, I could have attended the University of the Bahamas, I decided that I wanted a change in scenery and came to the United States instead. Most individuals would do anything to be in the land filled with warm weather, sand that's soft like powder, and turquoise seas. However, all my life, I have had that blessing, and for me, Michigan was the ideal place to further my education. Michigan experiences all four seasons, and fall happens to be my favorite and additionally, it has incredible wildlife like bears, elk, and moose. For me, the word paradise is all relative, and Michigan is my paradise. I love the winter too, although I will say, I am not a fan of driving on black ice.

Overall, my experiences at Schoolcraft College have been outstanding, which has helped me narrow down my career path. My experiences within Professor Arnold Wicker's class shifted my desire from Law Enforcement to Emergency Management. Due to his mentoring, encouragement, and guidance, I have completed several Federal Certifications from the Department of Homeland Security. My

saw the opportunities in education, and I was willing to expand my knowledge. Consequently, I enrolled in Schoolcraft College as a Criminal Justice Major. Every day of school was more fun than the other, going to class was pure pleasure for me.

One class that caught my attention was Emergency Management; which is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters. I realized that Emergency Management combined everything I enjoyed into one discipline: organization, law, logistics and innovation. Thus, my decision was to pursue a career as an Emergency Manager. I must give credit to my mentor, Professor Arnold Wicker Sr., who put a great deal of time in guiding me to pursue my ambitions and further my education. I am very excited to work towards my dreams of becoming an Emergency Manager and I am looking forward to seeing what the future holds.

experiences at Schoolcraft allow me to move toward my goals and continue working hard to achieve all that I can while I am in the United States.

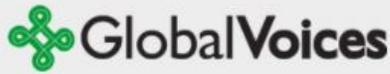
It may seem to the reader that I have my life relatively all figured out, but it wasn't always the case. To many throughout the world, The Bahamas is a paradise and a prime tourist destination, but for most of the natives, it is a complicated place to thrive or simply to live. Originally, I wanted to become a marine biologist, but the opportunity was not available due to financial difficulty. Regardless of the difficult times, it never stopped me from progressing and achieving my goals. While in my home country, I finished high school and obtained my scuba license and Boat Captain's License. It was after reaching these goals that I realized my love for law enforcement and it was the catalyst that led me to Schoolcraft College.

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Upcoming GlobalEYEzers Event: Join Yash Bajaj on INSTAGRAM LIVE for a discussion on how public policy impacts our everyday lives, shapes our world views and how we can become civically engaged. Yash's intersectional identity as a queer, first-generation American and man of color has strongly shaped his interest in public policy, and he is excited to share his journey and shed light on the importance of active civic engagement in our community on Saturday, November 7 at 12 p.m. (noon) @ASANAVoices

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## Internet Resource: Global Voices



Africa Americas Asia Europe Middle East **COVID-19** Politi



# COVID-19

Other special topics ▾

Visit GlobalVoices to learn about the impact of Covid19 around the Globe.

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