

Global Matters

The newsletter of the Office of International Affairs

Volume 16, March-April 2011

Global Health Lecture Series



12:00 Noon CST
ACB 120

- X Wednesday
January 19
[Jack Rudd, DDS](#)
Teethsavers
- X Wednesday
February 2
[Kelly Bennett, MD](#)
TTUHSC Free Clinic
- X Wednesday
February 16
Ambassador Nagy
Int. Affairs, TTU
- X Wednesday
March 2
[Tom McGovern,](#)
EdD, Psychiatry
- X Wednesday
March 16
Mauricio Pinto, MD
Fam. Med., Odessa
- X Tuesday
April 5
John Thomas, MD
Operation Hope
- X Wednesday
April 6
Doula staff
UMC
- X Wednesday
April 13
Chinese Medicine
panel
- X Wednesday
April 20
Meredith Aikman
School of Nursing
- X Wednesday
May 4
Nicole Hines, RN
Employee Health &
Infection Control

Saving Our Sisters in the Congo

by Harjot Singh, School of Medicine,
Class of 2013

Every day 1,000
women are

Available from the OIA Library

The following resources are available for check-out:

Book

A Thousand Sisters: My Journey into the Worst Place on Earth to be a Woman

by Lisa Shannon

In this book, author Lisa Shannon details how she left her comfortable life in Portland, OR, to aid women in the Democratic Republic of Congo suffering abuse and death in what has been termed Africa's First World War. Shannon's painful first-hand accounts of the violence inflicted upon Congolese women will hold any reader's attention. This book provides a much-needed view of how one inspired American woman can act with hope, drive, and courage to aid women in a part of the world too often overlooked.

Movie

The Devil's Miner

This film is an astonishing portrait of two young brothers who work deep inside the silver mines of Cerro Rico, Bolivia. Raised without a father and living on the slopes of the mine, the brothers must work the mines when they are not in school to help support their family and afford supplies vital to their education. In the mines it is an ancient belief that the Devil determines the fate of those who enter, and the brothers must place their faith in the mountain devil's generosity.

To view a complete selection of books and movies available, visit our website at ttuhsc.edu/cima/library

Babies

A movie review by Meera Subash

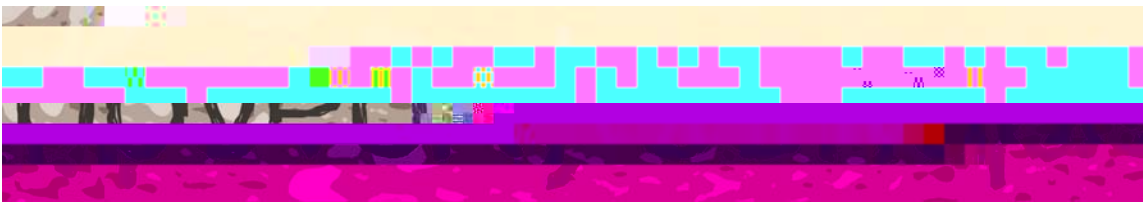
Babies is a one-of-a-kind documentary.

While chronicling the birth and first months of life of four babies from around the world, the creators and producers are able to captivate audiences through pure visual charm and musical amusement. There are very few words spoken in this film---to the benefit of the viewers. Without the added layer of complexity that dialogue brings, viewers can focus on the true heart of this film—the babies and their interactions with their social and natural environments.

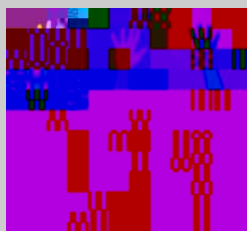
We are introduced to Ponijao from Namibia, Mari from Tokyo, Bayar from Mongolia, and Hattie from San Francisco before they are even born. The directors spotlight the remaining days of pregnancy for each baby's mother and showcase the different birthing rituals that take place from the northern expanses of Mongolia to more technologically dependent nations like Japan.

As each baby enters the world, we are entertained by the curiosity they bring as they interact with their new surroundings. Ponijao experiences the chain of command under his older siblings in the Namibian savannah. Mari's jaunts around busy downtown Tokyo leads her to story time with other Japanese infants atop a skyscraper. Bayar in Mongolia befriends the goats and cattle inhabiting his parents' land. And Hattie enjoys the sunlight of Northern California with her parents.

Babies does an excellent job of recording each babies' different experiences, but it does an even better job of revealing the universal similarities of infancy and childhood. Whether interacting with mother for the first time, breastfeeding, playing with siblings,



New Non-Immigrant Student Check-ins at TTU / TUHSC Spring 2011



Undergraduate Students: 52 (93% increase)

Graduate Students: 75 (24% decrease)

Total checked in: 127 (includes 12 exchange students)

Countries Represented: 38

Major Countries of Origin:

- x India (32)
- x China (11)
- x Norway (8)
- x Nepal (7)
- x Saudi Arabia (7)
- x Vietnam (5)
- x Colombia (4)
- x Iran (4)
- x Nigeria (4)

New non-immigrant check in numbers include students at both TTU and TTUHSC.

Information provided by TTU Office of International Affairs 1/28/2011

International Women's Day Celebrates Its 100th Birthday

by Shamini Parameswaran, School of Medicine, Class of 2014

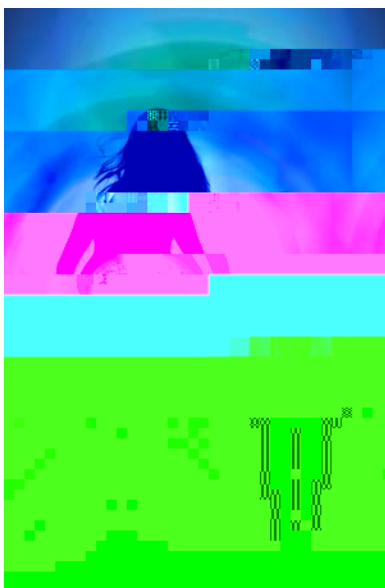
March 8th marked the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day (IWD), a glorious day honoring women around the globe. It all started in 1911 when the first IWD was recognized. The turn of the 20th century ushered in the Industrial Revolution and with it, innovative opportunities to exploit women. The feminine community, having consistently paid the price of inequality, began to speak out in protest. Women no longer wanted their voices to go unheard. Clara Zetkin, a renowned German Socialist, suggested at the first international women's conference in Copenhagen in 1910 that women have a day of their own to be recognized for their efforts and hardships. A year later on March 19th, many countries, such as Austria, Denmark and Germany, reserved this day for celebrating the accomplishments of women worldwide. Women within these countries began to protest sex discrimination in employment, as well as in the political arena. The world was in for a great surprise as women gained the strength to stand up to their male counterparts.

In 2011, women continue to stand. Barack Obama acknowledged the progress of women in the U.S. and stated that women should continue to be honored for their struggle and accomplishments. In the United Kingdom, women are served pancakes all day on March 8th (traditionally known as Pancake Day). In other countries, the occasion is seen as a day for men to express their love for women (similar to Valentine's Day). No matter how it is celebrated, women worldwide continue to be remembered with the utmost respect, as originally proposed for the first International Women's Day. As designated by the United Nations in 1977, the purpose of IWD is to increase awareness of the social and political struggles of women.

Women's struggles were also heralded here at home, at the International Cultural Center (ICC). The film *A Powerful Noise* was screened at the ICC to raise awareness of three female leaders who are trying to change the world one woman at a time.

A Powerful Noise is an incredible documentary. Three women, with different stories and from different countries, are connected by a common desire

to empower women. Hanh, of Vietnam, is an AIDS patient. Though her body wages a daily battle with the disease, Hanh decides to look beyond her condition and fight the war in her homeland: the injustices impacting women infected with HIV. Madame Urbaine, who lives in Mali, one of the poorest countries of the world, doesn't allow the burden of economic distress to discourage her from helping financially distraught women. She stops at nothing until every woman or child she comes into contact with is educated or helped in whatever way they need to be helped. And finally, there is Nada, a woman living among the devastation of a brutal war that split her homeland and took the life she once knew. She binds women together based on their strengths and skills without regard to their ethnicities. All three of these women established important organizations within their countries, impacting and changing lives in ways unimaginable.



The women recognized in *A Powerful Noise* help to remind each and every one of us that no matter what battles or wars we may have to face on a daily basis, they are nothing compared to what is going on in the world outside. And when we learn to focus on the bigger picture, those bigger battles do something about them, what once used to bother us no longer does. These three women refused to sit around and do nothing; and now, thanks to them, a girl who was once ostracized for having HIV can go back to school, and a woman whose baby was burned by the woman's employer, received retribution and saw her employer go to jail. And finally, women

who needed to support their families are able to work together to produce and sell their crops, with the support of one of these great female leaders.

Gandhi once said, "Be the change you wish to see in this world," and these women exemplify his statement. International Women's Day is not only an opportunity to thank them, but to thank each and every woman out there, whether mother or sister, friend or aunt, teacher or mentor. We take this opportunity to thank women for the impact they have on so many lives. Most of all, we thank them for holding onto hope, even amidst some of the darkest times in history.

To learn more about International Women's Day, visit the [International Women's Day website](#) or the [UN's International Women's Day web page](#).

To learn more about the film *A Powerful Noise*, visit the [film's website](#). You can also [watch the film on Hulu](#).

International Flavor

Pierogi
recipe provided by
Celeste Kulinski,
Director, Business
Services

Ingredients:

- X 2 cups flour
- X 2 egg yolks
- X 1 cup (8 oz) sour cream
- X Pinch of salt

Instructions:

- X Mix yolks and sour cream.
- X Add to flour and salt, cutting it in with a pastry blender.
- X Knead dough on lightly floured board

Kingdom of Lesotho

The Kingdom of Lesotho is an African country about the size of Maryland nestled in the Southeastern corner of South Africa. More than 99% of the population is ethnically Basotho. The country's official languages are Sesotho and English, with some populations speaking Xhosa and Zulu.

Lesotho is a constitutional monarchy. The country gained its independence from Britain in 1966. For almost 20 years the Basotho National Party (BNP) ruled by decree until a military coup forced the party out of office. At that time, a military council granted executive powers to King Moshoeshoe II. In 1990, the King was forced into exile and his son, Letsie III, was installed as king.

Three years later, the power of the military junta was handed over to a democratically elected government. This was short lived as soon thereafter Letsie III staged a coup. Letsie III abdicated in favor of his father, Moshoeshoe II; however, Moshoeshoe was killed in a car accident in 1996 and was again succeeded by his son, Letsie III.

Leadership disputes split the country and subsequent election results were disputed by opposition parties. Protests and violent demonstrations racked the country. Military intervention by South Africa and Botswana helped restore stability, but the situation intensified once the troops withdrew.

A proportional electoral system was created in 1998. Elections were held in 2002 under this new system. Currently Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili serves as head of the government and his

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Views of the World: in the news & on the web

- x [A New Era Begins at UN Women](#)
Once sidelined, women are now gaining momentum within the UN system. UN Women opened its doors in January—and with it the doors to women's leadership at the global level.
- x [Making Global Labor Fair](#)
Labor activist Aurret van Heerden talks about the next frontier of workers' rights—globalized industries where no single national body can keep workers safe and protected.
- x [South Sudan Chosen as Name for New Country](#)
Ending months of speculation, South Sudan has been chosen as the name of what will be the world's newest country when it comes into existence on July 9.
- x ["Bravest Woman in Mexico"](#)
Bill Neely of Independent Television News profiles a 21-year old, whose first job is serving as one town's chief of police.
- x [Turmoil in Egypt Disrupts Study-Abroad Programs](#)
Many U.S. students get first-hand look at history before being forced to flee.
- x [In Jerusalem, Students Hold a Rare Conversation Across Checkpoints](#)
The distance between Bethlehem University, in the West Bank, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem is only about four miles, but it has not been easy to traverse for a group of 20 students from the two institutions.
- x [Kidnappings Rock Mexico's Docs](#)
Violence against medical staff and increased levels of mental illness are taking a toll on Juarez.
- x [Mother and Daughter Doctor-Heroes](#)
Dr. Hawa Abdi and her daughters treat Somali refugee women and children, often for free.
- x [The Wealth Gap Around the World](#)
The World Bank's Branko Milanovic discusses the Haves and Have-Nots.
- x [8 Enduring Lessons of Our Peace Corp Years](#)
Former Peace Corp volunteer Betty Soppelsa recounts the lessons she learned nearly 43 years ago.
- x [Keep Your Mobile Devices Secure While Traveling](#)
We've become accustomed to having ready access to the Internet just about anywhere. The problem is, it's easy to forget how vulnerable that makes us to security threats.
- x ["Women Are Heroes"](#)
"Women Are Heroes" movie trailer.
- x ["Please stop. I speak English."](#)
Matt Sugrue from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia shares the lessons he learned during his study abroad experience.
- x [In Dubai, a Cinematic Door to the Mideast](#)
Randy Malamud, professor of English at Georgia State University, shares a glimpse of the rising film industry in the Middle East.
- x [Ife Exhibit Changes Ideas About African Art](#)
An Exhibit at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond reveals another side of traditional African art.
- x [Tunisia and the Spark That Launched Uprisings](#)
Bob Simon reports from Tunisia, where protests against the repressive government not only toppled its autocratic ruler, but sparked the uprising in Egypt that forced President Hosni Mubarak to resign.
- x [Patrick Baz Is in His Element in Libya](#)
Patrick Baz, the Middle East photo manager for Agence France-Presse, has been covering the conflict in Libya since the end of February.
- x [Indian High Court to Consider Jailed Activist's Case](#)
A case in India concerning a physician and civil-liberties advocate who faces a life sentence for sedition has drawn worldwide attention from human-rights groups.

Saving Our Sisters in the Congo cont.

alternative avenues so as not to further fuel conflict in the Congo.

Lisa Shannon's story is one of compassion and brazen commitment against abuses of basic human rights. It is an inspiration to learn about her efforts and actions, which are driven solely for the purpose of alleviating human suffering. Lisa Shannon is an ideal model for individuals to take a stand – in any

way they can – against injustice and blatant human rights violations.

For more information, please visit [RunforCon-goWomen.org](#), [AThousandSisters.com](#), or [Women-forWomen.org](#).

Please contact cima@ttuhsc.edu to help organize a Run for Congo Women event in Lubbock in the Fall of 2011.

The images used in this article were taken from [AThousandSisters.com](#).

When in... Belgium cont.

- X When toasting, raise your glass twice—once while the toast is being said and again just before drinking.
- X It is polite to eat everything on your plate and enjoy your food. The Belgians relish the good life, and they don't like to be wasteful. Compliment the food. Belgians take their cuisine very seriously.
- X Smoking is widespread and allowed in most places.
- X The penalty for drunk driving is severe and may result in a prison sentence.
- X Belgians are not comfortable with a lot of bodily contact, so maintain an arm's length of personal space and avoid backslapping and other overt physical expressions.
- X Don't drop into a Belgian home unannounced—even family members phone first to make arrangements to visit.
- X Bring flowers or wine when visiting a Belgian home.
- X Use your whole hand when pointing, and don't chew gum or blow your nose in public.
- X Restaurant bills include 15 percent service charge and value-added tax (VAT), but you may leave an extra tip for excellent service.

taken from Behave Yourself! by Michael Powell

March

01—Independence Day; Bosnia-Herzegovina

02—National Day; Morocco

International Holidays and Celebrations

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Matters

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