



International Affairs Program

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

IAFS Alumni Newsletter

August 2026



IAFS Director Introduction: Robert Wyrod

I am excited to be taking on the role of Director of the International Affairs Program this fall. It is an honor to help lead such a longstanding, vibrant, and important program at CU Boulder. I have been a faculty member with the program since I arrived at CU Boulder a decade ago. Over the years, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the program's many majors and minors, including sharing my own passion for African Studies and Global Health. I look forward to working with everyone in our International Affairs community—students, staff, faculty, board members—as we continue to grow this dynamic and essential part of CU Boulder.



[Learn more about Robert on the IAFS website.](#)



Student Spotlight: IAFS Club

The **IAFS Club** is gearing up for another exciting year of programming, networking, and community-building. Please join us in welcoming this year's student leadership team:

- President: **Sophia Gottemoeller**
- Vice President: **James Wethly**
- Treasurer: **Connor Sears**



The IAFS Club is open to all students interested in international affairs and provides opportunities to connect with classmates, hear from guest speakers, explore careers, and build leadership skills. If you're an alum interested in supporting the club as a speaker, mentor, or panelist, we'd love to hear from you!

IAFS Mentorship Program



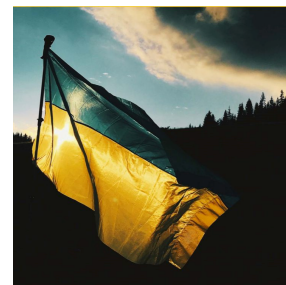
Alumni Spotlight: Coming Soon: IAFS Mentorship Program

Applications for the 2026–27 **IAFS Mentorship Program** will open soon! This year, participants will benefit from newly revamped career development modules designed to foster meaningful conversations, career exploration, and professional growth.

We're always looking for alumni and professionals interested in mentoring the next generation of international affairs students. Watch your inbox for more information on how to get involved.

Faculty Highlight: New Research on Ukrainian Public Opinion

IAFS Faculty Committee members **Sarah Wilson Sokhey** (Political Science) and **John O'Loughlin** (Geography), along with Virginia Tech's Gerard Toal, recently published new research examining how Ukrainians view the United States, its leadership, and prospects for peace. Drawing on a nationwide survey of 1,801 Ukrainians conducted in June 2026, the study offers insight into public opinion in Ukraine as the war continues.



Read more in the **CU Boulder Today feature** or the authors' **original article in The Conversation**.



Fault Lines: America and a World in Transition

August 26, 2026 – 5:00-8:30pm
Hosted by **Denver Council on
Foreign Relations**

Across the Atlantic: Ukraine, Russia, and the Future of Europe

September 10, 2026 – 6:00-8:00pm
Hosted by **World Denver**

Have news to share?

Do you have stories to share or know of internships, jobs or events that may interest IAFS alumni or students? Email iafs@colorado.edu and let us know!

Check out our [Alumni Spotlight](#) and [Internship and Job Opportunities](#) pages for updates.

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