



## Summer Salut with our D.C. Alumni

On a warm, June afternoon, IAFS alumni gathered at The Front Porch in Dupont Circle, D.C. with Director Tom Zeiler. This event marked our first meet-up with IAFS alumni in Washington, D.C.!



*IAFS alumni at The Front Porch in D.C.*

The weather was perfect for alumni to share memories about CU-Boulder and current stories about life in D.C. Thank you to all who came out and we hope to see you again at our next D.C. event in December!

### Join our next event!

Thank you to everyone who completed the "Alumni: Where Are You" survey sent out via email earlier this month.

We received an overwhelming number of responses and are moving forward to visit a city near you as IAFS alumni events continue!

### Stay tuned for events in the upcoming months:

- Los Angeles, CA
- Washington, D.C.
- New York, NY
- Boulder, CO
- Chicago, IL

Be connected and join our [IAFS Alumni LinkedIn Group](#).

## Recent Grad Brings Science to the Classroom in New Orleans

When Colin Sorensen ('13) steps into his fifth grade classroom, he doesn't know what the day will bring, but he doesn't back down from the challenge. A year ago, he made the decision to work for Teach for America after graduating from CU-Boulder. Teach for America is a non-profit organization addressing educational needs in the United States. Motivated to expand opportunities in the U.S., recent graduates uproot themselves and relocate to areas of high educational need.



"Ten days after graduating from the University of Colorado Boulder, I moved to New Orleans to participate in Teach for America," Sorensen shares. "Between the kids, culture, and poverty, New Orleans is, frankly, very different from Boulder, with few similarities. My first year was rough. I came home almost every day having been defeated in one way or another." Sorensen struggled with adjusting to his new environment and career, but didn't give up on New Orleans or on the students in his science classroom.

[Read more about Sorensen's career with Teach for America](#)

### Contribute to IAFS

Be part of the International Affairs community. Your involvement supports our students studying abroad around the world, as well as our scholarships, speaker events, and outreach.

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## Alum Spotlight: Working Hands-on with Global Energy Issues



*Maya Blanchard, intern with  
ICEED*

By the time she entered her senior year, Maya Blanchard (IAFS '14) had a plan. She knew she wanted to intern before she graduated, and her minor in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology had given her a strong interest in energy issues. Her plan came together with a unique internship with the International Research Center for Energy and Economic Development (ICEED). Blanchard served as ICEED's sole conference intern during the spring 2014 semester.

When Blanchard joined with ICEED, she found a non-profit organization that contributes to research on national and international energy issues. The annual ICEED conference draws a dynamic range of individuals, all discussing energy issues and markets. Driven to learn more about the field, Blanchard knew an internship with ICEED was an opportunity to grow academically and professionally, especially with the dynamic conference held close to campus in Boulder, Colorado.

[Read more about Blanchard at ICEED's 41st energy conference](#)

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## Living and Learning Bordeaux, France: IAFS Global Seminar 2014

For many people, the idea of a summer in France brings to mind cafés and a leisurely stroll along the Seine. But for 15 students on a two-week IAFS Global Seminar, summer in France brought them to the heart of European and international affairs in Bordeaux, France.

The Global Seminar—led by Professor Tom Zeiler, Director of International Affairs—allowed students to earn 3 credits in June for IAFS 3500: France and America, Connections through Time. The course focused on how two of the world's most influential powers, France and the United States, are uniquely connected through their shared history, political institutions, and economics. In addition to on-site lectures and accommodations at the Institut d'Études Politiques, students enjoyed excursions around Bordeaux. A highlight was a site visit to the US Consulate.



For the participants of the Global Seminar to Bordeaux, summer 2014 was an unforgettable chance to live and learn in a city at the crossroads of history and contemporary affairs of Europe. Cristina Stief (IAFS '15) says this program was a chance to go abroad on a budget and take a class at the same time: "There were, of course, the obvious program highlights—wine tasting class, the local cuisine (including the best goat cheese I have ever tasted), castles in the countryside, and a day trip to Saint-Émilion. But more than that, what I liked best was the accessibility of an array of distinguished [guest-lecturing] French professors, who had elected to share their time and expertise with us visiting students."

[Experience the summer 2014 Bordeaux program with a video created by Ella Zeiler](#)