

Peter Koehn is The University of Montana's Distinguished Scholar for 2005.

## ***UM Forum Statement***

“Many faculty members dream of becoming a Fulbright Scholar, and then there’s Peter Koehn, who keeps earning the prestigious awards. His status as a Fulbright senior scholar, lecturer and senior specialist has taken him to Hong Kong several times and to Nigeria as well. In 2001 he was one of only 12 people in the nation to be named a Fulbright New Century Scholar. His scholarship has contributed to better understanding of African politics and development, U.S.-China relations, transnational networks and interpersonal competence, and global environmental and resource challenges.”

## **Distinguished Scholar Nomination Form**

**Nominee’s name:**

Peter H. Koehn

**Hometown:**

Missoula, Montana

**Position and Department:**

Professor, Department of Political Science

**Year he joined UM:**

1972

**Previous UM positions, if any:**

Founding Director, Office of International Programs

**Employment before joining UM:**

Lecturer, Haile Sellassie I University, Ethiopia

**Special achievements and/or activities that led to nomination (include dates as appropriate):**

Selection as a *Fulbright New Century Scholar* (September 2001) -- one of twelve U.S. awardees in the inaugural year of competition. In addition, Koehn was chosen by his fellow new century scholars to present the group's consensus "Recommendations for Sustaining and Expanding the NCS Effort" at a gathering of more than 100 international and U.S. policy makers held at the Pan American Health Organization on 6 November 2002.

Award of a \$25,000 grant from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation to hold a workshop at Salmon Lake in July 2004 for faculty and administrators from four U.S. medical schools. The workshop focused on ways to introduce elements of Professor Koehn's transnational-competence framework across the undergraduate medical-school curriculum. The Gold Foundation will highlight this workshop in its spring 2005 newsletter.

Invitation to deliver keynote, plenary, or seminar presentation at 7 external venues (6 overseas) in past two years.

Publication in *International Studies Perspectives (ISP)* of his co-authored manuscript with James N. Rosenau on "Transnational Competence in an Emergent Epoch" as a "visions of international studies" article in the May 2002 issue. *ISP* is a top-tier journal dedicated to "publishing the highest quality work on teaching, policy, and the profession." Vision pieces are expected to be "thought-provoking and often controversial articles that will always push the boundaries of how we perceive the international studies field today."

Publication by M.E. Sharpe of his sixth book (co-edited with Xiao-huang Yin) in May 2002. The volume, *The Expanding Roles of Chinese Americans in U.S.-China Relations: Transnational Networks and Trans-Pacific Interactions*, has been highly recommended by three prominent scholars in Asian and Asian-American studies (see flyer). In December 2004, the prestigious Xinhua Press (Beijing) published a Chinese version of the book.

Publication of his article "The Shanghai Outlook on WTO: Local Bureaucrats and Accession-related Reforms" in *Pacific Affairs* 75, 3 (Fall 2002):399-417. *Pacific Affairs* is a top-tier journal in Asian studies.

Publication of his co-authored work on *Organizational Communication in Refugee-camp Situations: Bringing in Perimeter Populations through Intercultural Communication Training* in December 2002 in the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)'s peer-reviewed New Issues in Refugee Research series.

Publication (in English, French, and Arabic) of his co-authored article on "Great Power Decentralization and the Management of Global/Local Economic Policy and Relations: Lessons in Fluidity from the People's Republic of China" in the June 2003 issue of the *International Review of Administrative Sciences (IRAS)*. *IRAS* is the most prestigious international journal in the field of public administration.

Acceptance of his article on “Subnational Managerial Transformation and the Post-WTO-Accession Business Environment in China: Shanghai Perspectives” for publication in the *Thunderbird International Business Review (TIBR)*. *TIBR* is a leading journal in international business.

Publication of his article on “Medical Encounters in Finnish Reception Centres: Asylum-seeker and Clinician Perspectives” in the *Journal of Refugee Studies (JRS)* 18 No. 1 (2005):47-75. *JRS* (Oxford University Press) is the world’s leading journal on refugee studies.

Publication of his article on “Global Politics and Multinational Health-care Encounters: Assessing the Role of Transnational Competence” in the inaugural (2004) issue of *EcoHealth*.

Publication of his article on “Sustainable Development Frontiers and Divides: Transnational Actors and U.S./China Greenhouse-gas Emissions” in the December 2004 issue of the *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology*.

Acceptance of his senior-authored article on “Clinician/Patient Connections in Ethnoculturally Discordant Encounters with Political-asylum Seekers: A Comparison of Physicians and Nurses” for publication in *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*.

Publication of his article on “One Government, Multiple Systems: Hong Kong Public Administration in Transition” in the inaugural issue (2001) of *Public Organization Review: A Global Journal*.

Selection and participation as one of the first 500 U.S. Fulbright Senior Specialists. For his March 2003 project, he presented a featured paper at the Second International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies co-sponsored by the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) Library and Ohio University, recommended acquisitions that would enhance the CUHK Library’s Chinese American and global-migration studies collections, and presented invited lectures at CUHK and at City University of Hong Kong.

Invitations by the American Political Science Association (APSA)’s book review editors to review Arthur Helton’s book on refugees and humanitarian action and Matthew Gibney’s book on the ethics and politics of political asylum for APSA’s new journal *Perspectives on Politics*.

**Publications – general topics and extent. List up to three [additional] publications and dates:**

Peter Koehn’s scholarly contributions provide detailed analysis of a wide range of contemporary political and policy issues, typically from a cross-disciplinary perspective. In addition, he devotes considerable intellectual energy to providing specific and practical “action” recommendations aimed at addressing pressing transnational concerns (e.g., global climatic change) and/or at improving government and nongovernmental responses to the needs of poor and uprooted populations. His scholarship, which often is based on innovative social-science field-research strategies executed in intercultural contexts, has contributed to understanding of

African politics and development, U.S.-China relations, local government in Montana, global environmental and resource challenges, transnational networks and interpersonal competence, the management and reform of development assistance, human (especially refugee) migration, and migrant-health care. In treating these subjects, Koehn's work addresses both the level of the individual actor and the broader constraints and opportunities embedded in domestic and transnational social, economic, and political outlooks and institutions. He has collaborated fruitfully with many U.S. and foreign scholars from political science and other disciplinary backgrounds. His current work on transnational competence in medical encounters has received local and international attention, as reflected in invitations to speak at conferences, workshops, and seminars in Asia, Europe, Australia, and Montana on physician and nursing education and on migrant health care.

*The Outlook for U.S.-China Relations Following the 1997-1998 Summits: Chinese and American Perspectives on Security, Trade, and Cultural Exchange.* Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1999. 403 pp. Co-edited with Joseph Y.S. Cheung.

*Refugees from Revolution: U.S. Policy and Third-World Migration.* Boulder: Westview Press, 1991. 463pp.

"Competitive Transitions to Civilian Rule: Nigeria's First and Second Experiments." *Journal of Modern African Studies* 27 (September 1989):401-430. *JMAS* is a top-tier journal in African studies.

#### **Awards and professional recognition (include dates):**

A total of 36 external awards amounting to 3.35 million dollars.

Fulbright New Century Scholar. One of twelve U.S. scholars, inaugural Challenges to Health in a Borderless World program (2001-2002). National peer-reviewed competition.

National peer-approved candidate, Fulbright Senior Specialist roster (2001-2006). Senior-specialist award (Hong Kong) in 2003.

Peer reviewer, national/international grant competitions (2004, 2000, 1999, 1992). Most recently, reviewed 14 proposals for the U.S. Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program (Title VIA).

Distinguished service to international education award, University of Montana (1999). Campus-wide competition.

Fulbright senior scholar and lecturer awards: Hong Kong (1997-1998), Hong Kong (1994-1995, declined), Nigeria (1979-1980). National peer-reviewed competitions.

Higher-education representative, U.S. Agency for International Development National Roundtable (1996). National invitation.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, one of two invited conference speakers from the USA (1993).

The Japan International Cooperation Agency, 1991 Development Specialist in Residence.

Grant award under the U.S. Agency for International Development's University Development Linkage Program to develop a partnership in natural-resources management between The University of Montana and The University of Belize (1991). One of 13 grants awarded in the first year of national competition.

Grant award from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education (FIPSE) to develop an international natural-resource-management specialization in The University of Montana's School of Forestry (1990). One of 75 grants out of 1900 proposals in that year's national competition.

Rockefeller Foundation research award -- study of exiles from Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Iran living in the United States (1984). International panel-reviewed competition.

Social Science Research Council awards (1977, 1979). National panel-review competition.

U.S. Department of State's Scholar-Diplomat Seminar participant (1977). National competition.

Peer reviewer, 63 book and journal manuscripts (1973-2004).

**Professional affiliations and activities. Please indicate which are current and which are past (with dates):**

Past: Association for Asian Studies (1998-1999); International Studies Association, African Studies Association, American Society for Public Administration, American Political Science Association, Western Political Science Association, Canadian African Studies Association, Ethiopian Studies Association (various intervals, 1973-1996); Western Association for Asian Studies (2002-2003); Association of International Education Administrators (Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, National Conference Planning Committee, Task Force on Professionalism, Committee on Cultural and Ethnic Diversity) (1991-1995); Consortium for International Development (Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, Chair of Council of Directors – 1993-1997); Task Force on Africa, International Student Exchange Program (1995-1997). Present: member (since 2003) of the Board of Editorial Advisors, *East Asia: An International Journal*.

# Department Chair's Nomination Letter

February 3, 2005

Dear University Research and Creativity Committee Members,

On behalf of the faculty of the Political Science Department I am pleased to nominate **Peter Koehn** for the Distinguished Scholar Award. Professor Koehn, UM's only Fulbright New Century Scholar, is an exceptionally dedicated and prolific member of this faculty. This is evidenced in part by the sheer volume of his scholarly output: 18 books and monographs, 42 chapters in edited volumes, 38 articles in refereed journals, 13 other journal publications or newspaper pieces, and 22 reviews and review essays. It is also evidenced by the quality of his contributions. For instance, his book on Refugees from Revolution was favorably reviewed in the American Political Science Review B the leading journal in the field. His ground-breaking article on transnational competence, co-authored with the renown James N. Rosenau, was published as a Visions of international studies contribution by the International Studies Association's journal in May 2002. The Fulbright Program recognized the importance of Professor Koehn's work with refugees and his innovative transnational-competence contributions when it granted him one of its first 12 U. S. New Century Scholar awards.

Over the course of his career, including 33 years of scholarly activity as a member of The University of Montana's faculty, Professor Koehn's research has covered an extraordinary range of critical issues and subjects. His published work includes important contributions to our understanding of Montana local government, African politics, transnational medical encounters among doctors, nurses, and patients, U.S. immigration and foreign policy, U.S.-China relations, foreign aid, refugee formation, migrant health care, higher education management, inter-cultural and organizational communication, sustainable development, and global climate change. Professor Koehn's scholarship has been published in journals that specialize in three subfields of political science: comparative politics, international relations, and public administration. Particularly remarkable, however, is his record of publishing in highly regarded peer-reviewed journals outside of his discipline. Within the past two years, for instance, his multi-disciplinary contributions have appeared (or have been accepted for publication) in journals devoted to international business, transcultural nursing, ecology, environmental health, social policy, and refugee studies. Equally impressive is the fact that peer reviewers have judged his scholarship on Ethiopia, Nigeria, Eritrea, Iran, China, Hong Kong, and Finland to merit publication. His scholarly contributions have been translated into Chinese, Arabic, French, and Finnish. That the editors of a lengthy list of outstanding journals and books have called upon him to review more than 60 scholarly manuscripts further attests to the high regard in which his expertise is held and the extent of his professional commitments to the dissemination of high-quality scholarship.

A distinguished scholar will be the recipient of sponsored invitations to speak at external venues. Over the course of his career, Professor Koehn has been invited to present plenary addresses at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the University of Minnesota, the University of Windsor, Denver University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of the District of Columbia, the European Commission-sponsored Conference on Hospitals in a Culturally Diverse Europe (Amsterdam), and the upcoming E.U. Conference on Dual Citizenship, Transnationalism, and Cosmopolitanism (Joensuu, Finland). His current cutting-edge work on transnational competence has resulted in additional invitations to speak in Asia, Australia, and Montana.

On this campus, Professor Koehn has invited and introduced three University of Montana Presidential Lecturers (Ilona Kickbusch; James N. Rosenau; and Ali Mazrui), involved four undergraduate students in his on-going research through the University's competitive student/faculty research-project program; and recently chaired a completed M.A. thesis on state policy and HIV/AIDS in Uganda and South Africa. He has also served as external member of a Ph.D. defense at Simon Fraser University and currently is an external committee member on a doctoral dissertation in preparation at Kuopio University (Finland). The knowledge he has accrued over the years through his research and scholarship has greatly enriched the classroom experience of his students and the graduate and undergraduate research projects that he has supervised.

In addition, Professor Koehn has been exceptionally successful in securing external financial support for social science research projects and innovative higher education programs. He has authored or co-authored proposals that have resulted in 36 awards totaling \$3,356,627 B more than \$1.5 million of which has been channeled through The University of Montana. He has received four Fulbright awards (to three continents) and highly competitive research grants from the Social Science Research Council and the Rockefeller Foundation. Most recently, he co-directed (with Herbert Swick) an Arnold P. Gold Foundation-funded workshop for educators from four U.S. medical schools who are committed to incorporating his transnational competence framework in their curriculums. Professor Koehn's grants and projects have enhanced the national and international reputation of The University of Montana.

For all of these reasons the political science faculty believe that Professor Koehn is fully worthy of the prestigious Distinguished Scholar Award. It is our hope that you will reach this conclusion as well.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Tompkins, Chair  
Political Science