Ready for the World Award (2011)

Flavia Brizio
Trisha Hepner

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Flavia Brizio
Flavia Brizio, of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literature, created an exchange program with the University of Genoa. This program has brought a visiting scholar-in-residence to UT every other year for the past six years. These Genovese scholars have broadened the lives of our students through a lecture series that enhance courses in history, English, philosophy, and more. Brizio is also a leader in the cinema studies program, and has helped bring an international dimension to that program and the campus film series.

Trisha Hepner
Trisha Hepner, assistant professor of anthropology, is devoted to her students' education in anthropology and human rights. Her courses emphasize international issues and worldviews, especially in the context of humanitarianism. She also recently helped start the Gulu Study and Service Abroad program, which will take a group of students to northern Uganda this summer. She also contributes to the community through her work with Bridge Refugee Services, East Tennessee's refugee resettlement agency. She encourages her students to volunteer with Bridge and to do their research in subjects that benefit local refugees.