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**CONTACT:** Mark D. Weinstein  
Executive Director of Public Relations  
[937-766-8800](tel:937-766-8800) (o)  
[937-532-6885](tel:937-532-6885) (m)  
[Mweinstein@cedarville.edu](mailto:Mweinstein@cedarville.edu)  
[@cedarvilleneews](https://www.facebook.com/cedarvilleneews)

## **Students Assist Professor Along Path to 500th Media Interview**

**CEDARVILLE, OHIO** -- In 2012, Dr. Glen Duerr joined the Cedarville University faculty to teach international studies courses. Now, eight years later, the associate professor of international studies has completed 500 media interviews with outlets all across the world.

“From talking with the media from around the country, I’ve learned just how valuable and helpful Dr. Duerr is regarding international stories,” said Mark D. Weinstein, executive director of public relations. “Dr. Duerr has the unique ability to break down a complicated story and communicate information in a way that is understandable for everyone who is listening. He’s a gifted communicator and a tremendous asset to Cedarville University.”



Duerr's first media interview didn't happen right away. In fact, it took about 18 months before he conducted his first recorded television interview on WDTN TV (Dayton's NBC affiliate), a short segment on the life of Nelson Mandela, who had just passed away. Shortly thereafter, he began receiving more media inquiries, including his first live interview with WCRF radio in Cleveland about Russia's invasion of Crimea and Eastern Ukraine.

It didn't take long for the media to regularly pursue Duerr's expertise on international topics. With the sound of his native United Kingdom, Duerr, also a citizen of Canada and the United States, blended his deep knowledge of international politics with a tone of thoughtfulness that endeared him to the media. Since joining the regular media circuit of interviews, Duerr has averaged more than 70 media interviews a year — second most among all Cedarville faculty.

"Whether the audience is small or large, I really enjoy the opportunity to discuss a complex subject and to accurately explain information to the public," Duerr said.

His 500th interview was with a Dayton-area television station, speaking on the Russian Covid-19 vaccine, nicknamed "Sputnik-V," referencing the Sputnik satellite launch in 1957.

Duerr has spoken to various media outlets throughout Ohio and around the United States on international topics such as the coronavirus, Brexit and the North Korean Singapore Summit in 2018 and Hanoi Summit in 2019.

"I've done nearly 50 interviews on the topic of Brexit and many others involving nuclear weapons or missile tests, which are very delicate and diplomatic issues," Duerr said. "I have to communicate these things clearly, including the pros and cons and what's at stake."

Duerr has a vested interest in Brexit since he's originally from the U.K. and he still has family living there. Perhaps that's one reason why he was excited — and willing — to participate in eight interviews in a 24-hour period on his return trip home from a 2016 vacation.

During this trip, with his father-in-law and twin daughters in his car, Duerr would either pull into a rest stop or switch to the passenger seat to talk with Ohio media. Juggling interview requests around when his 6-month-old daughters were sleeping may have been the biggest hurdle to each interview.

"I really enjoyed talking with the media about Brexit on the trip home from vacation," said Duerr. "In reality, the most difficult part of doing these interviews was making sure the car was quiet enough for me to hear the questions."

With his increase of media interviews throughout the years, Duerr has been given opportunities by international media outlets to contribute to their coverage of international news. Since 2018, he has conducted 50 interviews with LaRazon, a Spanish publication; 40 of the interviews took place last year.

He's also been able to take part in a documentary created by a media outlet in Iran. This documentary detailed the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), specifically looking at the United States and its role in international agreements. He had the opportunity to speak positively about democracy and the United States without the media outlet censoring anything he said.

Duerr's interviews not only provide insight into international stories, but they also impact his students.

"I think my students do a tremendous job in sharpening me by how they interact in class and ask great questions," Duerr said. "It's very common for students to ask me challenging questions that force me to reflect and determine the best response. I've used these opportunities to help prepare me for live media interviews, whether those are on TV, radio or print."

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 4,380 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 150 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, including the international studies program, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and high student engagement ranking. For more information about the University, visit [www.cedarville.edu](http://www.cedarville.edu).

**Story Written By Lauren McGuire**