President Bollinger Calls for a Global Educational Model during Beijing Visit

Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger led a panel discussion on the University’s vision for global education during his visit to Columbia Global Centers | East Asia. Bollinger arrived in Beijing in November for an event-filled trip.

He met with the Center’s Advisory Board members in a session that focused on meeting the new Director, reviewing the success of the Center over the past three years, and creating a plan to maintain and build upon this success. Plans include continued collaboration across the Centers on global themes such as universal education, global economic governance, and environmental sustainability.

Directly after the meeting, Bollinger joined Vice President for Global Centers Safwan Masri and Center Director Joan Kaufman in discussing the Columbia’s vision of global education at the Columbia Alumni reception in the Grand Ballroom of the Peninsula Hotel. Turnout was extremely high and attendees filled up the standing room. Columbia alumni were enthusiastic about Columbia’s vision of global education and the appointment of Kaufman as head of the Center. Many of the alumni shared their thoughts on the importance of the Global Centers idea and their interests in and support of a global education model.

The Center held a Global Education Luncheon led by Bollinger and Kaufman and attended by many influential university administrators and academics. The ensuing vibrant discussion covered aspects of a globalized education network as well as how the Columbia Global Centers can advance global education goals in partnership with leading Chinese academic institutions.

To finalize his visit, President Bollinger participated in a dinner hosted by Lan Yang, founder and chairperson of Sun Media Group and Sun Culture Foundation and SIPA alumna, discussing the impact of social media, particularly micro-blogging, on China’s transformation.
Columbia Global Centers | Africa in Nairobi hosted its official launch ceremony at Kenyatta International Conference Center on January 14, 2013.

The dedication and discussion event was important news in Africa, attended by leaders of several nations, including Mwai Kibaki, president of Kenya; Hailemariam Desalegn, Ethiopia’s prime minister; Salva Kiir Mayardit, president of South Sudan; Margaret Kamar, Kenya’s minister of higher education; and Ahmed Ali Silay, Djibouti’s vice minister of foreign affairs.

“The research and teaching at the Columbia Global Center in Nairobi will help to address global problems by providing perspectives and evidence from Africa...while also supporting African policy makers, governments, civil society, and regional institutions in developing solutions specific to this continent’s greatest challenges, including the fight against poverty.”

---- Nairobi Center Director Belay Ejigu Begashaw

Columbia Launches Its First Global Center in Africa

Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger has announced plans to provide grants to faculty members to leverage and engage Columbia’s Global Center network.

The President’s Global Innovation Fund is designed to provide grants for faculty who would like to use the resources or facilities of one or more of the University’s eight Global Centers for teaching or research activities. The aim is to increase global opportunities for research, teaching and service and engage with at least one of the eight Global Centers.

Source: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/beijing/content/university-announces-fund-faculty-endeavors-columbia-global-centers

Columbia Opens Global Center in Rio de Janeiro

In an ongoing strategy to broaden Columbia’s already extensive global presence and perspective, University President Lee C. Bollinger joined with faculty, alumni, Brazilian leaders, and a delegation of international visitors to open a Columbia Global Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil—the University’s second in Latin America.

In addition to Rio, Columbia has opened centers in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris and Santiago. Columbia Global Centers promote and facilitate international collaborations, research projects, academic programming and study abroad, enhancing the University’s historic commitment to global scholarship and problem-solving.

“We have no preconceived notions and don’t pretend to have answers. We’re here to learn from you.”

---- Vice President for Global Centers Safwan Masri underscored the interactive and collaborative nature of the venture

The research and teaching at the Columbia Global Center in Rio de Janeiro will mark an important milestone in fulfilling Columbia’s distinctive vision of global engagement...The driving principle of the Columbia Global Centers always has been to foster academic collaboration across national boundaries, discover new knowledge, and address challenges facing our society by connecting students and faculty on our home campuses in New York City to partners around the world. It is fitting that Rio de Janeiro, a truly global capital, completes the initial phase in the evolution of Columbia Global Centers, and we look forward to working here in ways that not only deepen our own understanding of Brazil and South America but enhance our contributions to life and learning.”

---- President Lee C. Bollinger

Source: http://news.columbia.edu/global/3025
Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger has appointed Merit E. Janow as the next dean of the University’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), effective July 1. Janow, chair of Columbia Global Centers | East Asia Faculty Steering Committee, is a leading expert in international trade and investment with extensive experience in academia, government and business, with extensive experience in the Asia-Pacific region. A professor in the Practice of International Economic Law and International Affairs at SIPA, she serves as director of the school’s international finance and economic policy concentration, co-director of Columbia’s Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Study Center and a member of its Weatherhead East Asian Institute.

Source: http://news.columbia.edu/oncampus/3174

“The addition of an eighth node in Rio de Janeiro represents an important milestone in the evolution of the network of Columbia Global Centers. The opportunities the vibrant city of Rio—indeed Brazil—has to offer are vast, in terms of student and faculty engagement as well as partnerships with local universities and institutions. The global center in Rio will also serve as an important hub as we embark on addressing global themes across the network; particularly universal education, health, and the future of cities and urbanization. Brazil is an incredible model of development and reform, provides easy access to the rest of the region, and has graciously welcomed and supported our presence, for which we are incredibly grateful.”

---- Vice President for Global Centers Safwan M. Masri

“From almost any perspective—economic, political, social, cultural—Brazil exudes vibrancy and growth and has enormous contributions to make to the global community of nations…With its national focus now turned squarely toward improving education for all of its citizens and expanding knowledge in all fields, Brazil and its iconic city of Rio de Janeiro are also absolutely perfect hosts for this, the newest Columbia Global Center.”

---- Rio Center Director Thomas J. Trebat

Source: http://news.columbia.edu/global/3102

**Santiago Center Hosts Global Centers’ Directors**

The Directors of all eight Columbia Global Centers, President Lee Bollinger, and Vice President for the Global Centers Safwan M. Masri convened in Santiago, Chile in March, 2013, to chart the course for the University’s ongoing strategy to broaden its global presence and perspective. As the driving force behind the extension of the University’s commitment to teaching, research and service around the world, the Directors form a unique constellation of voices, insights and experience from the regions where Global Centers are actively building new educational and research programs. Three days of joint discussions celebrated and reflected on the achievements of the Centers, engaged in a vibrant and open dialogue about fostering deeper connectivity with campus as well as across the Centers, and how to best fulfill the mission of the Global Centers initiative.
Center Director Explores Potential Opportunities for Health Projects in Myanmar

Center Director Joan Kaufman and newly-appointed University Professor Wafaa El-Sadr visited Myanmar from Feb. 25 to March 2 to explore potential projects for Columbia University in Myanmar’s health sector, as part of a larger set of efforts being launched by the University. El-Sadr is director of International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs and the Global Health Initiative, and professor of Epidemiology and Medicine, Mailman School of Public Health and College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Kaufman is a public health policy expert with extensive Asia experience and is on the faculty at Mailman’s Department of Health Policy and Management.

L - R: Dr. El-Sadr, Dr. Kaufman, and the Medical Director and doctors from Minglardon Specialist Hospital, Yangon

Dr. El-Sadr and Kaufman spent the week meeting with government officials, donors, representatives of academic institutions, international and local non-governmental organizations, and international agencies. All are actively involved in Myanmar’s health infrastructure and in the response to various health threats including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, maternal and child health, and reproductive health, as well as in the training of the health workforce in the country.

Based on the week of visits and discussions in Myanmar, Columbia University, specifically the Mailman School of Public Health and Columbia Global Centers | East Asia, hopes to play a role in creating opportunities for program management and clinical services for the response to HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria threats, the reduction of maternal mortality, health systems strengthening, and governance and policy training.

After the field visit to Myanmar, Kaufman spoke at a Global Health Initiative Seminar, “Myanmar: A Nation at the Crossroads”, which was held at Columbia University on April 9, 2013. David L. Phillips, the director of Program on Peace-building and Rights Institute for the Study of Human Rights, and Wafaa El-Sadr, the director of MSPH Global Health Initiative, also spoke at the seminar.

Columbia University School of Social Work in Beijing

On December 15, 2012, Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW) faculty members Dean Jeanette Takamura, Professors Irwin Garfinkel, Ada Chan Yuk-Sim Mui, and Elwin Wu presented a one-day lecture series on social and demographic issues, including aging and social welfare, at the Center during their visit to Beijing. The lectures and the ensuing discussions generated a lively discussion and many questions from participants.

CUSSW dean and faculty making speeches and holding an information session at the Center
**Orientation for Students in Columbia Study Abroad Program at Tsinghua University**

On March 5, 2013, the Center hosted an orientation for undergraduates studying at Tsinghua University via Columbia University’s Study Abroad Program, attended by program participants from Columbia University, Carnegie Mellon University, Brown University, Cornell University, and Smith College. Center Director Joan Kaufman welcomed the group and briefed the students on the Center’s resources to help the students’ study in China. The event concluded with a discussion about students’ interests and life in China.

**Julia Sloan Shares Insights on Strategic Thinking**

The Center hosted a public talk titled “Learning to Think Strategically: A Leadership Imperative for the 21st Century” on Wednesday, March 13, 2013, featuring Julia Sloan from Teachers College, Columbia University.

Sloan shared her latest study on strategic thinking and pointed out that the method of improving strategic thinking is of vital importance, especially for leaders. During the discussion session Sloan exchanged ideas with the audience members consisting of Columbia alumni, entrepreneurs, local professors, and students.

**Roundtable Discussion on Doing Business in China as a Non-Profit**

On Tuesday, April 16, 2013, the Center held a panel discussion on “Doing Business in China as a Non-Profit” with a group of visiting Chilean MBA students from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Project Director Jeff Swiryn from the Bank of Chile and Center Director Joan Kaufman coordinated the discussion.
Invited panelists included Professor Zhenyao Wang, dean of Beijing Normal University China Philanthropy Research Institute, Roger Di, partner of Non-Profit Sector, KPMG, Brent Johnson, vice president of United Family Healthcare Group Services, Pengcheng Qu, director of Government Relations at the World Economic Forum Beijing Representative Office, and Steven Blake, communications manager of The Nature Conservancy China Program.

The question and answer session involved active questioning from the Chilean MBA students to all the panelists, especially on Chinese entrepreneurship, government policies and Non-Government Organization status. Social responsibility expert Prof. Bill Valentino, who is also CU alumni, made comments and illustrated the role of the notion of equilibrium with regard to rebalancing current Chinese economic development and investing to solve prevailing social problems.

**Center Screens Documentary Film on Flying Tigers**

A documentary featuring the friendship between Chinese and Americans during World War II, *Flying Tigers Made Lifelong Friends: A Chinese Journalist and His American Friends*, was screened at the Center on April 19, 2013.

David Chen, one of the documentary’s producers, shared his personal experience recording this account of the China-U.S. relationship. Glenn Shive, executive director at the Hong Kong-America Center, discussed its historical significance and artistic value. The documentary screening received an enthusiastic response from the audience members.

**Alumni Events**

**Barnard Alumnae Event with Dean Gretchen Young**

Upon her arrival in Beijing on November 9, 2012, Gretchen Young, dean for Study Abroad at Barnard College, met with Barnard students studying in China. The meeting was followed by a reception at the Center.
A special reception was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, featuring Dean of Columbia Law School David Schizer as well as Professor Benjamin Liebman, director of the Center for Chinese Legal Studies, for a selected group of Law School alumni and visiting scholars.

Studio-X Beijing, established by Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), opened in March 2009 in a large factory building in a new art zone near the historical center of the city. The site is host to visiting studios, workshops, symposia, exhibitions and events that attract audiences between 100 and 300 people. A series of high-profile and high-energy activities in the unique old town hutong space have established Studio-X Beijing’s reputation as a place for the exchange of ideas and experimental thinking about the future of cities.

On January 11, 2013, Columbia University Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CUCSSA), Columbia Global Centers | East Asia, and Columbia Alumni Association in Beijing jointly held a new year’s cocktail reception in the Center’s conference hall. During the celebration, current Columbia students, alumni, and prospective students expanded their connections and discussed topics of common interest.
Since the winter and fall of 2012, Studio-X has had a steady stream of events and lectures. It held 10 X-talk series lectures and invited GSAPP faculty from campus, along with local experts and architects, to talk about urban design and preservation issues.

On March 11, 2013, after an opening ceremony on the theme of “China Newsroom: Chinese Architecture Magazine Week 2013”, Studio-X Beijing, in partnership with Columbia Global Centers | East Asia, held a welcome party for four faculty members from GSAPP: Jeffrey Johnson, director of China Megacities Lab, Juan Herreros, professor in practice, Markus Dochantschi, director of Global Metropolis Studio, and Sonny Kalsi. More than 50 visiting students from GSAPP also joined in the party.

Urban China Initiative (UCI) is a joint initiative led by three major founding institutions: Columbia University, Tsinghua University’s School of Public Policy and Management, and McKinsey & Company. Columbia Global Centers | East Asia provides support to the Initiative’s operations and serves as the link to Columbia faculty. UCI serves as a think-tank with the mission of finding and implementing effective solutions to China’s urbanization challenge.

UCI conducts grants program to support research concerning China’s urban development and sustainability. In 2013, five research applications were awarded for grants up to RMB 100,000. An Urban Leaders Roundtable Series is held quarterly to examine pressing urban issues in China. The last roundtable on May 15, 2013, brought together 20 leaders in China, including ministers, government directors, corporate senior executives, NGO leaders, and top academic theorists.

The Center regularly recruits both international and local interns to work on research programs and to participate in high-end conferences, public talks, and panel discussions organized by the Center. So far, students from Yale University, Cornell University, Peking University, Renmin University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, and China Foreign Affairs University, have served as interns at the Center.

Additionally, to enable Columbia’s students and faculty to work and study in a global context, the Center also helps schools and institutions on campus to find local internship opportunities. This year, Columbia Global Centers | East Asia has helped identify potential employers in China for Columbia undergraduates on the Columbia Experience Overseas program of the Center for Career Education and students from the School of International and Public Affairs. Selected Columbia students work for institutions and companies like the World Economic Forum, Eco-Forum Global, Chiheng Foundation, Teach for China, and United Family Healthcare over the summer.