President’s Global Innovation Fund

Columbia Global Centers Appendix

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Columbia Global Centers | Middle East

Center Launch: March 2009
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Director Biography

SAFWAN M. MASRI
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Professor Safwan M. Masri is Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University. As an ambassador for Columbia, he cultivates relationships with Columbia alumni and with international leaders, essential to the continued development of a global Columbia. In this role, he helps coordinate various University-wide global initiatives, and works to extend Columbia’s reach to match the pressing demands of our global society.

Professor Masri is responsible for the development of an expanding network of Columbia Global Centers, located in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro and Santiago. The Centers promote and facilitate the engagement of faculty, students, and alumni with the world, address global challenges, and advance knowledge and its exchange. He has been Director of the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East since its founding in 2009.

Professor Masri has been a member of the Columbia Business School faculty since 1988 and was appointed Vice Dean in 1993, a position he held for thirteen years. He was Visiting Professor at INSEAD in 1990 and 1991, and has also held teaching positions at Stanford University and Santa Clara University. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering from Purdue University in 1982; his Master of Science in Industrial Engineering also from Purdue in 1984; and his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management from Stanford University in 1988. Professor Masri was honored with the Singhvi Professor of the Year for Scholarship in the Classroom Award in 1990, the Robert W. Lear Service Award in 1998, and the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence in a Core Course in 2000. He has also been honored with the 2003 American Service Award from the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Professor Masri is Founding Chairman Emeritus of King’s Academy and of the Queen Rania Teacher Academy, Trustee of International College, Trustee of the National Children’s Museum in Jordan, Director of Endeavor Jordan, Director of the Luxury Education Foundation, and member of the advisory boards of the School of Business and the Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement at the American University in Cairo. He has also served as Advisor to Her Majesty
Queen Rania Al Abdullah, and as director of the Arab Bankers Association of North America, Aramex, and the Nuqul Group.

Professor Masri’s scholarly interests include education reform in the Middle East, and contemporary Arab geopolitics and society. His area of academic expertise has been in operations management, with a focus on supply chain management. He has consulted and written on change management and operational efficiency in banking and finance.

**Center Space**

Columbia Global Centers | Middle East is headquartered in Amman in the residential area of Dabouq. It is a stately, two floors, and 47,000 square foot building with an interior courtyard. The building contains an auditorium, multiple conference rooms, nearly a half-dozen classrooms, and staff offices. The Columbia schools that have been most active have been dedicated office space on the second floor. For example, to support the programming and offerings of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (GSAPP), the Center has dedicated part of an upstairs wing to GSAPP’s Studio-X Amman, which includes a studio, conference room, and faculty office. The Center also has videoconferencing capabilities that can be configured to classrooms, conference rooms, or the auditorium depending on program needs. In addition, the grounds include an adjoining teaching annex, which has several lecture halls that hold roughly 40 people each, in addition to a set of breakout rooms.

**Regional Dimension**

The Center has close ties with partners in Beirut, Riyadh, Jeddah, Tunis Jerusalem, Abu Dhabi and Cairo. In Beirut, the Center works closely with the American University of Beirut. The Center also works closely with Birzeit University near Ramallah, and the American University in Cairo. Additionally, the Center maintains ties with several NGOs in the cities mentioned.
Networking and Contacts

Local, regional and national government partners

• Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC): The Center worked closely with MoPIC to tackle the challenges of sustainable development in Jordan.

• Ministry of Social Development (MoSD): The Center collaborated with the Ministry on a number of program in the past, such as, Jordan Social Work Education for Excellence Program, which is dedicated to building a strong social work profession in Jordan.

• Greater Amman Municipality (GAM): The Graduate School of Architecture, Preservation, and Planning (GSAPP) has worked with GAM on a number of initiatives including the Advanced Studio Course Knowledge City: Information Infrastructure.

• Ministry of Education (MoE): The Queen Rania Teacher Academy (QRTA) offers its capacity building programs directly to the Ministry of Education educators and supports the MoE in reviewing and developing educational policies. QRTA’s programs for school leaders and teachers respond to pressing MoE educational needs.

• Ministry of Health (MoH): The Public Health Program has had discussions with the MoH on priority areas of collaboration. MoH has participated in the Center’s roundtable discussion: “Jordan: Successes and Challenges in Public Health”, and participated in the Center’s working group meetings on the development of programming and research on non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

• Jordanian Nursing Council: The Center collaborated with the Jordanian Nursing Council on the Global Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Research Development Initiative.

Local and international NGOs

The Center has collaborated extensively with a range of NGOs locally and regionally on their programs, including:

• Jordan River Foundation
• Royal Health Awareness Society
• Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature
• Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development
• Friends of the Earth Middle East
• UNICEF
• WHO
• CARE International
• International Medical Corps
• International Rescue Committee
• Caritas Jordan
• International Committee of the Red Cross
• UNHCR
- King Hussein Foundation
- Center for the Study of the Built Environment (CSBE)
- Darat Al Funun – The Khalid Shoman Foundation
- Jordan Green Building Council (JGBC)
- Foundation for Architecture and Heritage (FAH)
- The Identity Center. Regional: Regional Partnership on Culture and Development,
- Family Health International (FHI 360)-Cairo
- Tomorrow’s Youth Organization
- Family Development Foundation, Economic Research Forum (ERF)
- Riwaq Center for Architecture Preservation (Ramallah)
- Sharjah Art Foundation, SAH (Sharjah)
- Aga Khan Foundation, International, Arab Image Foundation
- Arab League Educational, Cultural & Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- United States Embassy in Jordan’s Regional English Language Office

**Universities and colleges**

- Jordan University of Science and Technology
- American University of Beirut, American University of Cairo
- The University of Jordan
- German Jordanian University
- American University of Sharjah
- Bezalel Academy of Art and Design
- Birzeit University
- Bartlett School of Architecture
- London Architectural Association
- The University of Helsinki, the Department of Teacher Education
- Yarmouk University
- United Arab Emirates University in Al Ain
- Tunis Business School

**Other personal contacts or renowned local/regional institutions that the center is working towards engaging:**

**The Center is collaborating with the following:** Arab Council for Social Science Research, Issam Fares Institute (AUB), Carnegie Middle East Center, and the Seventeenth World Congress was organized in partnership with Economic Research Forum, Fung Global Institute, International Development Research Centre, Centre for International Governance Innovation, Institute for New Economic Thinking, African Innovation Foundation, King Abdullah II Fund for Development, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, and Japan International Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Health in Saudi Arabia, Saudi Aramco, AlGhanem Industries (Kuwait).

**Universities and colleges:** The Public Health Program at Columbia Global Centers | Middle East engaged American University of Beirut (AUB), Al Quds University, Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST).
Sampling of projects

The Center regularly organizes and hosts conferences and seminars. Previous ones include:

• **Symposium: Global Think-In on Time and Trauma - Memory in Global Perspective**
  The Global Think-Ins are designed as incubators for academics and practitioners from varying disciplinary and methodological backgrounds, geographical locations, and expertise to share, critique, and develop new ideas. Global Think-Ins are supported by the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University. The series is part of the committee’s project The Politics of Memory in Global Context, now in its fifth year, led by historian Carol Gluck, Columbia’s George Sansom Professor of History and Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures. The events in Istanbul and Amman followed the first international Think-In the committee held in Paris in January at Columbia Global Centers | Europe, *Remembering Across Time: Psychological Studies of the Two World Wars in Transgenerational Memory*.

• **Seminar on Investing in Young Children: Global, Regional and National Perspectives**
  The Center organized a seminar “Investing in Young Children: Global, Regional and National Perspectives” presented by Neil Boothby, Allan Rosenfield Professor and Director of the Program on Forced Migration and Health at Columbia University’s Schools of Medicine and Public Health. Professor Boothby's research focuses on the impact of war, violence and other adversities on child health and development. The presentation focused on the growing body of interdisciplinary science that sheds light on the importance of childhood health and development as building blocks for policies focused on the social and economic development of communities and nations. It also highlighted different applications of the science of healthy child development to major policy and programmatic issues, such as child health disparities and antipoverty programs.

• **Partnership with Youth Program in Nablus**
  A partnership was launched among the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East, Columbia University School of Social Work, and Tomorrow’s Youth Organization Palestine (TYO), a non-governmental organization in Nablus that strives to enable children, youth and parents in disadvantaged areas of the Middle East to realize their potential as healthy, active and responsible family and community members. The partnership aims to enhance the organization's early childhood and youth service learning programs from a social work perspective, and help enhance the understanding of the impact of the TYO volunteer model program on young adults’ employability.

• **International Economic Association’s Seventeenth World Congress**
  The IEA World Congress is aimed to promote the interaction of prominent economists, academics and policymakers towards gaining a truly world perspective on economy-related issues and challenges of global importance. The global center in Amman worked closely with the International Economic Association and in particular with Joseph Stiglitz, University Professor at Columbia and now former President of the IEA, to spearhead the effort to bring this key event to Jordan.
• *Debating the ‘Woman Question’ in the New Middle East*
  The Center held a two-day workshop on “Debating the ‘Woman Question’ in the New Middle East: Women’s Rights, Citizenship, and Social Justice” in Amman on May 3-4, 2014. A conference report summarizing key issues discussed was put together by Lila Abu-Lughod, Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science, Department of Anthropology at Columbia University, and Susanna Ferguson, PhD Student in the History Department at Columbia University.

• *International Prize for Arabic Fiction*
  The International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF) is a literary prize in the Arab world which aims to recognize excellence in contemporary Arabic creative writing, and promotes the readership of high quality Arabic literature internationally, through the translation and publication of winning and shortlisted novels in other major languages. The Center hosted the opening of IPAF on February 9, 2014.

**Public Health:** In coordination with the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, the Center’s Public Health team provides technical support to stakeholders in the health sector and develops training and capacity building programs for public health professionals in Jordan and throughout the Middle East. The most recent programming includes:

• *Coordinated Public Health Response in Emergencies:*
  The Center in conjunction with UNICEF Middle East and North Africa, organized a six-day training program on “Coordinated Public Health Response in Emergencies.” The program aims to build a knowledge base and provide technical support to UNICEF Child Survival and Development staff in countries in or on the verge of conflict, or engaged in emergency response. This comprehensive training course was tailored to the needs of staff and contextually relevant to health priorities in the region. Subsequently, an online iteration of the program will be developed and made available to UNCIEF staff engaged in emergency response.

• *Confronting Non-communicable Diseases in Middle East and Turkey*
  The President’s Global Innovation Fund research project titled: “Confronting Non-communicable Diseases in Middle East and Turkey” hosted their first training workshop at the Center on January 19 to 20, 2014. The workshop brought together Columbia University faculty, partnering faculty from Turkey, and NCD experts and stakeholders from Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine.

• *Global Mental Health Research Consortium and Scholars Program*
  The Global Mental Health Consortium and Scholars Program is a President’s Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) research project led by Executive Director and Scientific Co-Director, Global Mental Health Program at Columbia University, Kathleen Pike. The consortium consisted of a semi-annual meeting of the World Health Organization’s leadership team responsible for field testing of the mental health chapter of the 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems. The
Consortium took place during the week of April 6 and concluded in a one day symposium on Thursday April 10, held at the Center.

- Faculty and institutes involved: The Mailman School of Public Health’s Global Health Initiative, Professor Alastiar Ager, Dr. Jamie Eliades, Kathleen Pike, and Wafaa El-Sadr

- Local staff and institutions engaged: At least four Columbia Global Centers | Middle East staff members were engaged in organizing the training; in addition to Dr. Rima Afifi and Dr. Samer Jabbour from the American University of Beirut.

**Studio-X Amman:** Studio-X serves as a platform for experimental research and design in architecture, and as an interface for GSAPP students and faculty to collaborate with students, scholars and professionals from Amman and the region. By establishing partnerships with local and regional institutions, Studio-X provides the space for activities that range from engaging the most urgent and practical questions to opening up philosophical or artistic explorations – from informal events hosted in a single evening to multi-year research projects with dedicated teams. Recognizing the city’s crucial role in the region, Studio-X provides a stage for public events (lectures, seminars, symposia, and exhibitions), and research (workshops, studios).

- Funding and duration: GSAPP and Columbia Global Centers | Middle East, launched in 2009.

- Faculty and institutes involved: Amale Andraos, Andrew Dolkart, Craig Konyk, Craig Buckley, Felicity Scott, Frederic Levrat, Jennifer Broutin, Jyoti Hosagrahar, Kamal Farah, Mark Wasiuta, Phillip Anzalone.

- Local staff and institutions engaged: Nora Akawi, curator. German Jordanian University, American University of Sharjah, Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Birzeit University, Bartlett School of Architecture, London Architectural Association, The University of Helsinki, Jack Persekian (the Palestinian Museum, Al Ma’mal Foundation), Rasha Salti (Toronto International Film Festival), Michael Turner (UNESCO), Tafeeda Jarbawi (director general, Welfare Association).

**Arts Program:** In partnership with Columbia’s School of the Arts (SoA), the Center hosts a series of programs in the arts, from creative writing to photography and film workshops. The Center is currently planning a film and visual fine arts course, which will be open to interested individuals in the region.

**Onsite Learning Programs for Full-Time Students:** Onsite learning is strongly advocated in the mission of the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East and the facilities available allow the Center to hold numerous onsite-training programs, particularly over the summer. Among the programs held is the Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates Program, the Columbia Experience Overseas Program, the Summer Arabic Language Program, and the Summer Design Workshop.
• **Middle-East/North Africa Summer Institute in Amman and Paris**
  In conjunction with Columbia’s Office of Global Programs, the Center held the fifth offering of the annual Arabic language program in May-August 2014. The program, renamed this year as the Middle East/North Africa Summer Institute, was headed by Taoufik Ben-Amor, Gordon Gray Jr. Senior Lecturer in Arabic Studies, Madeleine Dobie, Associate Professor of French, and Emmanuelle Saada, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Director of the Center for French and Francophone Studies. 25 Columbia undergraduate and graduate students enrolled this year, with 13 of them traveling onto Paris for a second half of the course focused on the North African dialect. Three of the students enrolled in the program were Presidential Global Fellows. The expansion of this summer’s program was made possible through funding from the Presidents’ Global Innovation Fund.

• **Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates (SEE-U) Program**
  SEE-U is a five- week education program intended to provide Columbia undergraduates with a global understanding of ecology and environmental sustainability, and the opportunity to conduct fieldwork in unique natural settings. The Program is designed by the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC) at the Earth Institute and Columbia College and is offered at a number of sites around the world. The Center implemented the pilot program in the summer of 2011 and has turned into an annual summer program.

• **Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO)**
  CEO Amman is an internship program that offers Columbia University undergraduates high-quality internships developed through alumni and employer partnerships by the Center for Career Education (CCE). Launched in partnership with the CCE in 2011, CEO Amman created internship opportunities for 9 interns in 2012 in a diverse array of fields, including publishing, hospitality, community development, consulting and pharmaceuticals. The program is now in its fifth year, and will be held from June-August of 2015.

• **Summer Program on Democracy and Constitutional Engineering in the Middle East**
  The program is spearheaded by John Huber, Professor of Political Science, and was recently held in Tunis, followed by a segment in Istanbul. It enrolls Columbia students alongside students from leading universities in the Middle East, North Africa, and Turkey. The substantive focus of the program is on the concept of democracy, the challenges of democratic transitions and consolidation, and trade-offs associated with different ways of organizing democratic institutions. Although the program studies general issue associated with democratic politics and does not focus exclusively on Tunisia and Turkey, these locations provide students with meaningful exposure to the recent histories and challenges that both countries have faced.
**Speaker Series:** The Center hosts regular public lectures for members of the community to engage with scholars and provide them with the opportunity to learn about a wide range of topics, from economics, to public policy, to the arts.

Recent speakers include:

- Sultan Al Qassemi
- Hayat Sindi
- Alfred Stepan
- H.E. Mehdi Jomaa
- Sheena Iyengar
- Gayatri Spivak
- Yezid Sayigh
- Naomi Tutu
- Thomas Friedman
- Rashid Khalidi
Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus

Since its founding, the global center in Amman has launched and upheld programs and research initiatives in crucial areas such as sustainable development, public health, social work, teachers’ education, and architecture, among others. And while many of these continue to be at the heart of the Center’s work and mission, its location at the epicenter of one of the most geopolitically dynamic places in the world provides perhaps some of the greatest opportunities for study, involvement, and impact.

Over the past couple of years, the Center has facilitated a number of important discussions, gatherings and conferences concerned with regional geopolitical developments. In collaboration with the global center in Istanbul, the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East has held meaningful conversations and academic dialogues with regional experts and thought-leaders, and has actively sought ways in which Columbia—with its diverse intellectual capacities—may contribute positively to developments taking place across the region.

Some of the current thematic areas of interest for the Center include: economic reform, geopolitical developments (religious pluralism, post-Islamism, forced migration and social inclusion), education, cities and urbanization.
Columbia Global Centers | East Asia

Center Launch: March 2009
Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/beijing/
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Deputy Director Biography

Bin Pei
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Bin Pei joined the Columbia Global Centers | East Asia as the deputy director in May 2015. Before that, she worked at various international development organizations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s China Office, focusing on global development, philanthropy and social entrepreneurship, sustainable development and the role of the private sector, local governance and public participation, women empowerment and economic development, educational reform, civil society development, migration and social integration, and cross-sector collaboration. Prior to joining the private sector, Bin worked at multiple departments at the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs and was the youngest woman leader there in 1996. She founded the foreign language training center for the Ministry of Civil Affairs as the Director. Her interest is cross-sector, cross-cultural and inter-disciplinary exchanges and engagement for many of the global issues currently being defined in the new global order.

She holds an MBA (Lancaster University) and a Masters of Education (Beijing Normal University). She was a Chevening scholar. In 2010, she was named an Aspen Institute Ideas Festival Fellow.

Center Space

The Center is located in west Beijing’s tech-hub area, Zhongguancun, which is also known as China’s “Silicon Valley.” It is the country’s biggest high-tech park and home to dozens of leading Chinese and international internet and technology companies. The Center is adjacent to some of China’s top universities, such as Tsinghua University and Peking University, as well as geographically close to historic significant locations like the Summer Palace.

Located in a business suite, the two-floor facility features nearly 9,000 square feet of office space equipped to accommodate more than 15 employees and a 1,000 square feet event space floor with a multi-functional conference room equipped with video and audio systems. It is an ideal place for high-profile conferences, academic lectures, training programs, workshops, roundtable meetings, and alumni gatherings. Up the staircase from this area is the primary workspace, with 14 desks, six independent offices, a large seminar room, and a salon area.
Regional Dimension

Since the Center is based in Beijing, most of the programs and events are held in Beijing, China. However, the Center has good relationships with a number of local partners in various cities nationwide, including universities, academic institutions, government entities, NGOs, state-owned and private enterprises, social enterprises, media, etc., allowing us to be able to reach out to the local community in other cities in China and other countries in East Asia region, and to expand its work beyond Beijing. The Center’s event space is also available to our partner institutions should the need arise. It is also available to serve as academic space for research and student programs at other local partner institutions for any joint programs with them.

Networking and Contacts

The East Asia Center works with diverse local and regional universities, institutions, governments, NGOs, media, and enterprises in China. Our contacts include but are not limited to the following:

Local, regional, and governmental partnerships

- Development Research Center, State Council
- State Information Center
- People's Bank of China
- Ministry of Finance
- Health and Family Planning Commission of China
- Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of
- China National Development and Reform Commission
- State Administration of Quality Supervision and Regulation Department
- Shanghai Municipal Department of Environmental Protection
- Social Assistance Department, Ministry of Civil Affairs
- China National Committee of Aging
- U.S. Department of the Treasury, Embassy of the USA
- Tianjin Municipal Government
- Xianshuigu Township Government

Local and international NGOs and foundations

- Teach for China
- The Sustainability Consortium
- World Economic Forum (Davos)
- Friends of Nature
- Chiheng Foundation
- Dandelion School for the Children of Migrant workers
- Roots & Shoots Beijing
- Greenpeace East Asia
- Eco Humanity Alliance
- Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs
- Shanghai Green Oasis Ecological Conservation and Communication Center
- Grassroots Community
- China World Peace Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy China Program
- United Family Healthcare
- Kai Feng Foundation
- Smart Agriculture Analytics
- Nature Resource Defense Council
- Ford Foundation
- Asia Foundation
Universities and colleges

- Tsinghua University
- Peking University
- Renmin University of China
- Beijing Foreign Language University
- Central University of Finance and Economics
- Shanghai Jiaotong University
- Beihang University
- Beijing Normal University
- Beijing University of Technologies
- Beijing Medical University

- Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business
- Zhejiang University
- Fudan University
- China Foreign Affairs University
- University of International Relations
- Communication University of China
- China Foreign Affairs University
- National School of Administration

Academic institutes and think tanks

- Chinese Academy of Governance
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Chinese Academy of Sciences
- Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C
- Tsinghua-Brookings Institute
- Antarctic Forum
- China Council for International Investment Promotion
- Beijing Normal University China Philanthropy Research Institute
- Fung Global Institute
- Chinese Economics 50 Forum
- Peking University-Lincoln Institute
- Shanghai Development Research Foundation
- Stanford Center at Peking University
- Chicago Center in Beijing
- Harvard Shanghai Center
- China Center for International Economic Exchanges
Sampling of projects

Academic Programs

• *Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) related collaboration*
  The Center’s work on sustainability has included close collaboration and support to the SDSN led by Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Sachs (Director of the Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University, and Director of the SDSN) and led locally by our Advisory Board member Professor Xue Lan at Tsinghua University, who is co-chair of the SDSN China Leadership Council. Over the last year, the Center has deepened our support to the SDSN, engaging both Columbia faculty and local speakers in an effort to discuss sustainable development issues with a focus on China’s most pressing problems at the Center. The Center hosted a workshop for 20-25 Chinese university students in collaboration SDSN Youth Initiative in July 2015.

• *Presidential Global Fellowships 2015*
  Veniamin Gushchin CC’18, and Talia Rubin CC’18 have received 2015 Presidential Global Fellowships and came to China. The Center helped with network requests.

• *Internship Programs (including Columbia Experience Overseas), summer 2012-2015*
  In recent years, the Center has helped identify potential employers in China for students from the School of International and Public Affairs and undergraduates from Columbia Experience Overseas program run by the Center for Career Education. Selected Columbia students worked for institutions and companies like the World Economic Forum, Smart Agriculture, Teach for China, and United Family Healthcare over the summer. The Center hosted an orientation for six students from the campus CEO program for students based in Beijing for the summer in 2015 and helped to identify three potential employers and make introductions for the CEO program, including Urban China Initiative, The Sustainability Consortium, and Smart Agriculture Analysis.

Grants

• *The Sustainable Consortium (TSC)’s sustainable sourcing initiative in China*
  The Center supports the evaluation work of TSC’s sustainable sourcing initiative in China. We are also discussing with TSC the plans for both short term and long term collaboration with Columbia University.

• *Beijing+20 Project*
  A grant was awarded to the Center from the Ford Foundation for work on women’s rights and empowerment in China - Beijing+20 Project - related to the 20th anniversary of the historic Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 in Beijing.
Panels/Workshops/Seminars (2015)

The Center hosts workshops or panels involving scholars from Columbia University, other top universities, companies, government entities, academic institutes, and NGOs on diverse topics.

• On March 2015, Professor Jeffrey Johnson, Director of GSAPP’s Asia Megacities Lab, moderated a panel of GSAPP faculty and leading Chinese architects on “Architectural Practice and the City” at the Beijing Center.

• On March 19, the Center co-organized and hosted the China Trek Workshop, a one day of two panel discussions on Energy and the Environment with SIPA’s Center on Environment Concentration director Travis Bradford.

• On April 23, Benjamin Liebman, Columbia Law School Professor and Director of the Center for Chinese Legal Studies, and two other experts, Li Xiao, Senior Judge at the Supreme People's Court, and Wang Xixin, Vice Dean and Professor joined a panel discussion on court reform in China at Peking University Law School.

• On May 8, the Beijing Center, Earth Institute, and The Sustainability Consortium (TSC), in partnership with the Walmart Foundation and the China Environmental United Certification Center, hosted a high level forum to discuss Chinese enterprises’ experiences and strategies in sustainable development. The forum gathered over 20 experts on sustainability-related issue from international organizations, think tanks, companies, and universities.

• On June 16, Jim Cheng, Columbia C.V. Starr Library Director, had a public talk on Global Collaboration in the Digital Age to introduce partnerships between the library and its Chinese partners.

• August 20, Richard John, Columbia Journalism School Professor gave a public talk titled “From Franklin to Facebook: The United States and the Creation of Global Communications Networks” at the Beijing Center.

• August 22, William Haseltine, president of ACCESS Health International, gave a public talk on “Opportunities for Investment in Health and Wellness in USA and China” at the Beijing Center.

• August 29, Professor José Antonio Ocampo and Professor Marcos Troyjo had a panel discussion on the economic prospects of Latin America and the bilateral implications for China-Latin America relations.

• September 8, Marcos Troyjo, director of Columbia University’s BRICLab and an adjunct professor at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, gave a lecture on “BRICs as Reemerging Markets: Bracing For the ‘New’ New World” at the Beijing Center.

• October 15-16, Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor of History and Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University, together with other experts on war
memory and history, had a panel discussion on the politics of war memory in global context.

II. Past Projects:

• Conference on Trade and Financial Relations in the Context of Changing Economic Structure in Latin America and China:

• The Beijing Week on Energy and Environment
June 28-July 5, the Center coordinated with Columbia University’s Earth Institute to launches the First Annual Beijing Week on Energy and Environment in Beijing, organized by Earth Institute, taking place at the Center. The Beijing Week was a non-degree certificate program offered by the China Sustainability Project of the Center on Globalization and Sustainable Development, Columbia University’s Earth Institute. It targeted to high profile emerging leaders and professionals with a minimum of a college degree (preferably to masters candidates/graduates) and with a strong focus on energy and environment. It emphasized the energy and environment global scenario and the challenges ahead for the world and China: energy security, de-carbonization, sustainable cities, politics, technological change, investment opportunities in China and abroad.

• High school student workshop
The Center co-organized a three-day social science workshop with four visiting lecturers and administrators from Columbia’s Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics (INCITE) to provide Chinese high school students with an understanding of the principles and skills to design and conduct social research. From July 17 to August 17, Social Science Summer Program at Columbia is Open for Enrollment to High School Students, organized by INCITE on campus. The Center co-sponsored the program with major responsibility for helping promote this NY based program to potential Chinese students.

• The Certificate Program in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages (TCSOL)
TCSOL was a collaborative training program co-sponsored by Teachers College, Department of East Asian Language and Cultures, and Asia for Educators at Columbia University. The program was open to second language teachers and researchers from mainland China and neighboring regions and countries. The Center coordinated with TC to plan and launch a certificate training program in Teaching Chinese in Beijing, organized by Teachers College, taking place at Beijing Language and Culture University in July 2015.

• Beijing+20: Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
The Center held a series of Beijing+20 Public Panels as part of the Center’s Beijing+20
year-long activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. Two panel discussions were held at the center: one was themed on Status of women’s rights in China on April 28, and the other was on Women’s economic empowerment on May 29. A closed-door brainstorming session with Kessler-Harris and seven invited Chinese experts was also held to discuss Chinese women’s social protection in the welfare state and challenges to economic opportunity for women.

**President Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) funded projects, 2013, 2014, and 2015:**

The fund is designed to provide grants for those Columbia faculty members whose research will rely on the resources, facilities, and regional networks of one or more of the University's eight Global Centers for teaching or research activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>PI Affiliation</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Eimicke</td>
<td>School of International and Public Affairs</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Global Public Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicola Twilley</td>
<td>Graduate School of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Regional Foodshed Resilience: An Interdisciplinary and International Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian Teitler Sandro Galeo</td>
<td>School of Social Work / Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Columbia University Global Migration Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shantanu Lal and Jeremy Mao</td>
<td>College of Dental Medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Children's Global Oral Health Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Svejnar</td>
<td>School of International and Public Affairs</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Strategies for Growth: The Changing Role of the State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheena Iyengar</td>
<td>Business School</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Global Leadership Matrix (GLeαM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Pollock</td>
<td>Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>The Columbia Global Humanities Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Pike</td>
<td>College of Physicians and Surgeons, Department of Psychiatry, Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Global Mental Health Research Consortium and Scholars Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira Deutchman</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences: Humanities</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Screenwriting and Creative Producing Workshops for Columbia Global Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wafaa El-Sadr</td>
<td>Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>China's Aid to Africa: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus

The Center’s research themes and programs are diverse. Major foci of the Center include aging and public health, climate change and sustainability, political economic development, financing and investment, international relations, as well as art and culture exchange. Major projects include Women Creating Change, Aging Summit, BRICS executive training program, Beijing International Design Week Dashilar Exhibition, The Politics of Memory in Global Context, Latin American Economic Prospects and the Bilateral Implications for China-Latin American relations, Conference on Trade and Financial Relations in the Context of Changing Economic Structure in Latin America and China, and the Global Scholars Program, an undergraduate summer course led by Columbia University faculty in China and at one other global center. The mission is to expand current programs, develop new initiatives as well as to work closely with the seven other global centers on issues of globalization and global learning. The Center has started by building strong links with universities and institutions in its respective region. The long-term ambition is that many programs will have a global reach and involve multiple centers in the network engaged in truly global conversations.
Columbia Global Centers | Turkey

Center Launch: November 2011
Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/istanbul
Address: Sıraselviler Caddesi No. 49; Yeni Hayat Apt. Flat 5; Beyoğlu, İstanbul
istanbul.cgc@columbia.edu – Facebook – Studio-X Istanbul – Twitter
A Look at Columbia Global Centers | Turkey with Center director Ipek Cem Taha (video):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V23JjqUKto

Director Biography
Ipek Cem Taha
ic24@columbia.edu

Ipek Cem Taha is director of the Columbia Global Centers | Turkey since 2011 and since 2014 is also the Advisor for Strategic Development to the Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development. After completing her secondary education at Robert College in Istanbul, Ipek obtained her B.A. degree with honors in political science from Amherst College. She holds M.B.A. and M.I.A. degrees from Columbia University.

Ipek started her career in 1993 as an associate for Bankers Trust Company (now part of Deutsche Bank) in New York, in the International Capital Markets Group. She was a managing partner of Netwise between 1996-2007, an Internet company with multinational clients. Between 2005 and 2010, Ipek was producing and hosting “Global Leaders,” a television program on NTV networks, consisting of interviews with personalities such as Kofi Annan, Richard Branson and Madeleine Albright. Before creating Global Leaders, Ipek was a columnist for eight years at daily newspapers, including Milliyet and Sabah.

Ipek is founder and board member in several NGOs, including URAK (National Competitiveness Research Institute), KAGIDER (Women Entrepreneurs Association) and SAHA, an association that supports contemporary art. Ipek is also a trustee of Robert College in Istanbul and on the Advisory Board of Allianz Turkey. She is a former board member of the Strategic Advisory Council of the Marseille Center for Mediterranean Integration.

Elected an Eisenhower Fellow in 2003, Ipek also holds an Honorary Professorship from T.E.I. in Greece for her work in promoting friendship and cooperation between Greece and Turkey.
Center Space

Since its establishment in November 2011, the Istanbul Center has hosted over 600 events, 12 deans and 90 faculty members from Columbia, as well as over 500 students. With Studio-X Istanbul’s launch in November 2013, there are now six full-time and three part-time staff working for the Center.

Collaborations on programs and events have been mounted with 15 different schools, departments and centers at Columbia University, through which at least 17 partnerships with local partners have been facilitated by the Istanbul Center.

The Center occupies two venues in central Istanbul. The Center’s offices are located in Istanbul’s very central and historic district of Taksim square, on half a floor of a historic turn-of-the-century building characterized by its facade and high ceilings. The office space is 3,229 square feet and can be utilized in two distinct ways. One area can be dedicated to daily office work while the other (about 1/3 of the space) can be utilized for workshops, seminars and lectures for up to 30 people and receptions for up to 100 people. The Center could accommodate one or two faculty members or fellows working on a part-time basis.

The second venue houses Studio-X Istanbul, a 20,000 square feet multi-level space which has been equipped to host exhibitions, workshops and public events related to GSAPP’s global programs. The Istanbul Center frequently uses Studio-X Istanbul for larger events, such as lectures for over 100 participants.

In addition to the above, through existing connections with various counterparts, the Center has a very strong network in all of Turkey, with access to free or low rent university auditoriums and lecture spaces, as well as foundation venues with auditoriums. The Center can also create partnerships with local institutions to provide academic space for research. Hotels are an additional venue option for events, though more costly.

Regional Dimension

Through various projects and events and in collaboration with the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East (CUMERC) in Amman, the Istanbul Center has developed relations with universities and non-governmental organizations in the region, in countries such as Greece, Lebanon, Cyprus, Armenia, Israel/Palestine, and Iraq. The Istanbul and Paris Centers have also collaborated with each other, co-convening a roundtable meeting on global geopolitical developments in Paris in May 2014. It is in the Center’s long-term strategy to continue working with both CUMERC and the Paris Center to broaden joint programming related to nearby regions, mainly the Middle East, Balkans, Black Sea, Caucasus, and the Eastern Mediterranean.
Networking and Contacts

Local government and national government

- The President’s Office
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of National Education
- Ministry of Health
- Directorate General of Migration
- Istanbul Mayor’s Office
- Istanbul Public Health Directorate
- Consulates of the US, Greece and the Netherlands among others

Local and international NGOs

- UNDP
- UN Global Compact
- UN Population Fund
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees
- International Organization forMigration (IOM)
- Sustainable Development Association
- Center for Economic and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM)
- Global Relations Forum
- Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists’ Association (TUSIAD)
- Atlantic Council, Open Society Foundation Turkey
- Prague Freedom Foundation, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Turkey Office
- Istanbul Policy Center at Sabancı University
- International Crisis Group
- European Stability Initiative, Peace Research Institute of Oslo Cyprus Center
- Endeavor
- Darussafaka
- Education Reform Initiative
- Mother Child Education Foundation (ACEV)
- Ashoka, Women’s Entrepreneurship Association (KAGIDER),
- Turkish Women’s International Network
- Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV)
- Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV)
- SALT
- Anadolu Kultur
- Hafiza Merkezi (Truth, Justice and Memory Studies Center)
- DEPO

Universities and Colleges

- Boğaziçi University
- Koç University
- Bilgi University
- Sabancı University
- Istanbul University
- Istanbul Technical University
- Marmara University
- Hacettepe University
- Kadir Has University
- Bilkent University
- Others based on faculty interest and area of work (planned’
Current and upcoming programming

• The expansion of our student programming is a reflection of the growing demand from Columbia scholars and especially students who wish to enhance their global horizons through the unique learning experiences offered by the Columbia Global Centers. The Center contributes to and enhances coursework by offering insight into the local context, connecting scholars and students with counterparts in Turkey, designing lectures with local scholars, organizing educational excursions and attending to certain logistical matters, all in ways to optimize the learning experience. The Istanbul Center regularly hosts several visiting MBA and GSAPP groups throughout the year, while also organizing summer internships for SIPA students. For three years now, the Center has also organized events for incoming students and current undergraduate students.

Courses currently on offer in Istanbul for Columbia University students:
- Byzantine Studies and Urban Mapping Summer Program with Professor Holger A. Klein: taught at Boğaziçi University since 2013 for Columbia and Boğaziçi students.
- Global Seminar in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, a Global Core course, with Professors Martha Howell and Karen Van Dyck: started in spring 2015 at Boğaziçi University, with Columbia and Boğaziçi students.
- Democratic Engineering with Professor John Huber: This summer course started in June 2015, targeting approximately 30 graduate students from Columbia and the region. This course is held in conjunction with the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East in Amman, and is offered in Istanbul and Tunisia. This project is supported by the President’s Global Innovation Fund.

• The Istanbul Documentation Project, led by Professor Holger A. Klein aims to create a digital platform for the virtual presentation of Istanbul's Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman and early Republican sites and monuments. As part of the project, Professor Klein has been teaching a summer course at Boğaziçi University since 2013 while a post-doc researcher is expected to join the Istanbul project team in 2016. The Istanbul Research Institute and the Archaeological Museum are key partners in this endeavor. This project is supported by the President’s Global Innovation Fund.

• Women Creating Change: The Center has been pleased to place a special focus on gender issues through a collaboration with the Center for the Study of Social Difference. Professor Judith Butler led a workshop at the Center in September 2013 titled ‘Rethinking Gender, Vulnerability and Resistance,’ which was co-directed by Boğaziçi University scholar Zeynep Gambetti. This workshop engaged 15 scholars from the region and through parallel events, approximately 50 NGO leaders and activists from Turkey. The second workshop, ‘Women Creating Change: Mobilizing Memory for Action,’ took
place in September 2014 and built upon relationships and discussions that were initiated at a workshop held at the Santiago Center in December 2013. Professors Marianne Hirsch and Jean Howard directed the Istanbul program together with Professor Ayşe Gül Altinay of Sabancı University and Professor Diana Taylor of NYU. The Istanbul Center worked closely with the academic directors to produce a rich program of activities including an art exhibition titled ‘Mobilizing Memory: Women Witnessing,’ a series of public roundtables, theater performances and a gender-memory walking tour of downtown Beyoğlu. Along with the 35 scholars, artists, graduate students and activists from the US, Chile and Turkey who participated in the core workshop program, the associated events engaged a much wider segment of the academic community and general public. The Women Mobilizing Memory working group continued its activities in 2015 by carrying the exhibition to Vienna in April and organizing an art exhibition, ‘Collaborative Archives: Connective Histories’ on campus in September, parallel to a full-day public conference and workshop.

- **Studio-X Istanbul** tackles crucial questions facing the future of Istanbul and other global cities through a series of inter-disciplinary projects by serving as a platform for architects, designers, urbanists, entrepreneurs and others concerned with urban issues. It is directed by architect Selva Gürdoğan and collaborates closely with other Studio-X locations particularly the Amman Lab. Studio-X regularly hosts studio projects led by GSAPP scholars and involving graduate students. Main projects focus on space and memory, historic preservation, settlement and migration (‘Architectures of Peace’ and ‘Echoing Borders’), sustainable transportation and inclusive, innovative urban planning.

- **Historical dialogue, reconciliation and the politics of memory** constitute important themes for the Istanbul Center’s programs. Through Historical Dialogue and Reconciliation Project, spearheaded by Professor Elazar Barkan of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, is a platform for scholars and practitioners in the region to exchange knowledge and practices of historical memory, dialogue and reconciliation. The Center is partnering with a human rights organization, the Truth, Justice and Memory Center, in this endeavor along with several other NGOs from Turkey, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Cyprus and Armenia. Together we mount thematic workshops and in 2015 launched an annual summer program to provide capacity building in strategies related to historical reconciliation, conflict resolution and memory studies. Together with Professor Carol Gluck and Professor Rashid Khalidi, the Istanbul and Amman Centers designed a series of inter-linked workshops in both cities under the heading of “Time and Trauma” in April 2015, which featured an interdisciplinary group of scholars and artists from Asia, Turkey and the Middle East.

- **Journalism, press freedom and freedom of expression** have been the focus of several programs at the Istanbul Center. Columbia Global Centers | Turkey and the Columbia Global Centers | Middle East co-convened the ‘Workshop on Geopolitical Developments and Press Freedoms in the Middle East and Turkey’ in September 2013, which featured President Lee C. Bollinger, Professor Safwan Masri, Dean Steve Coll, former Dean Nicholas Lemann of the School of Journalism and distinguished global and regional experts on Turkey and the Middle East. The Istanbul Center also organized a regional training program for students of media and journalism on the theme of freedom of expression in August 2014, with lectures given by Professor Anya Schiffrin from SIPA and Pro- Publica. The Center is interested in organizing additional training program for journalists and citizen media practitioners.
The Center is also working together with Professor Susan E. McGregor of the Journalism School a project support by the PGIF, titled “Global Operational Data Index.”

- The **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network**, an initiative undertaken by Professor Jeffrey Sachs of the Earth Institute, was launched in Turkey in June 2014. The Istanbul Center coordinated efforts to set up the platform, which brings together universities, the private sector, civil society and government to publicize and advance the sustainable development agenda in Turkey. The university-led network is hosted by Boğaziçi University and is expected to focus on climate change, energy and sustainable cities. The Center has given support to the SDSN Youth and SDSN Annual Conference in 2015. The Center has hosted two events in 2015 with Aromar Revi of the SDSN and Indian Institute for Human Settlements focused on sustainability in cities, which is a priority area for the Center.

- **Programs with the Mailman School of Public Health** were initiated following the visit of Dean Linda Fried and several public health scholars from Mailman in October 2013. Through a project supported by the President’s Global Innovation Fund, which was led by Prof. Wafaa El-Sadr and Prof. Miriam Rabkin, Turkish public officials and scholars were involved in a workshop on non-communicable diseases held at the Amman Center. The collaboration with the Mailman School and the Amman Center was carried further through a large-scale workshop in October 2015 and several meetings conducted with governmental agencies, international organizations and scholars working directly with public health systems in Turkey focusing on refugee health. This is part of a long-term project, “Responding to Changing Health Needs in Complex Emergencies: A Policy Imperative,” funded by the Global Policy Institute and managed by ICAP and the Forced Migration Program at Mailman in collaboration with the Amman Center. The Istanbul Center leads the logistical and strategic aspects of the program’s implementation in Turkey. Plans for 2016 are expected to entail a more comprehensive collaboration with state authorities and international agencies on the refugee issue.

- Programs related to the **arts and cultural heritage** have been a central feature of programs run out of the Istanbul Center. As part of Professor Zainab Bahrani’s PGIF project, a 3-day-long workshop was organized in Istanbul in October 2015 in collaboration with the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, convening experts from Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Iraq. Professor Vishakha Desai also led a “Global Think-In on Arts and Culture in Global Cities” in October 2015, meeting with top names from the Istanbul art world in an effort to formulate a global research agenda examining the impact of arts and culture. The Istanbul Center also collaborated with the School of the Arts with Professor Ira Deutchman, Chair of the School of the Arts Film Program. Koç University and several alumni of the School of the Arts worked with the Center to develop a series of widely-attended events in March 2014, including a lecture to students, a public roundtable and a workshop on pitching for emerging filmmakers.
In addition to those already described above, the Center provides support to the following President’s Global Innovation Fund projects. All these projects involve collaborations with other global centers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator and School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Klein, Art History &amp; Archaeology</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Istanbul Documentation Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Bahrani, Art History &amp; Archaeology</td>
<td>2013, 2014</td>
<td>Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Teitler, Social Work and Prof. Galea, Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Global Migration Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. El Sadr and Prof. Rabkin, Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Iyengar, Business School</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Global Leadership Matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Grazia, History</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>De-Provincializing Soft Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. McGregor, Journalism</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Global Operational Data Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Themelis, SEAS</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Sustainable Waste Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Wilson, GSAPP</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Mapping Human Networks of Transnational Architectural Projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

A core priority is to further expand course offerings for Columbia students that could imaginatively integrate a cross-disciplinary and multi-site approach to topics such as: contemporary urban studies and sustainability, as well as gender studies.

In 2016, the Center wishes to further expand its work on the refugee crisis and is also interested in exploring the future of the humanities in the region through comprehensive programming developed in collaboration with faculty in the humanities. Joint programs involving counterparts in Greece form an additional point of interest.

Thematic priorities for the Istanbul Center:

- Democracy, freedoms, and human rights form a major theme as related to historical understanding, memory and accountability in the transition from conflict to sustainable peace; culture and cultural diversity; and pluralism, freedom and inclusion. Freedom of expression and journalism, inclusive of research and training.

- Gender equality and women’s empowerment, including women’s leadership, gender and conflict resolution and women in the economy.

- Development issues such as public health challenges; capacity building in public health
systems, public health care in regards to Syrian refugees in Turkey and Jordan and Lebanon as well, tracking communicable and non-communicable diseases, preventive health care, sustainable development related to climate change, renewable energy and urban policies and approaches to addressing refugees and migration.

- The future of global cities with Istanbul as a key spoke of engagement through topics such as architecture, arts, humanities, urbanization, preservation, public health and sustainable development.

Additional areas of interest include:

- Innovation, leadership, finance and entrepreneurship.

- Foreign policy and international relations, especially focused on Transatlantic Relations (US, Turkey, EU); Turkey and the region (Middle East, EU, Central Asia); energy corridors surrounding Turkey.

- Capacity building efforts, through executive education and professional development opportunities across different fields (government officials, business professionals, educators and researchers).

A key priority is to enhance the intellectual profile of the Center through hosting research projects and fellows whose work can make a discernable impact on issues of importance to the local and regional context, particularly in the areas identified above. The Center aims to further contribute to its local and regional context through outreach and capacity building efforts. Engaging Columbia students in the global agenda and enhancing Turkish studies on campus are other important priorities for the Istanbul Center. It is also in the Center’s long-term strategy to broaden programming that engages the nearby regions of the Middle East, Balkans, Black Sea, Caucasus, and the Eastern Mediterranean.
Columbia Global Centers | South Asia Center

Launch: March 2010
Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/mumbai
Address: Express Towers, 11th Floor | Nariman Point | Mumbai 400021 | India
Facebook – Twitter – mumbai.cgc@columbia.edu

Director
Ravina Aggarwal
ra2792@columbia.edu

Ravina Aggarwal is director of the Columbia Global Center | South Asia, located in Mumbai, India. Prior to joining Columbia, she was a Program Officer at the Ford Foundation’s New Delhi office from 2007-2015, where she was responsible for strategic planning and grant-making for programs on development, social justice and public policy, with a focus on the fields of education, media and technology, and arts and culture.

Dr. Aggarwal’s work in the philanthropy sector followed a long career as a sociocultural anthropologist. After receiving her doctoral degree from Indiana University in 1994, she joined the Department of Anthropology at Smith College, where she became a tenured faculty member and also served in the Women’s Studies Program. Her research was based on extensive fieldwork in the Himalayan region of Ladakh in South Asia and her areas of study and teaching included political anthropology, peace-building, cultural studies, gender, and development.

Dr. Aggarwal is the author of several publications including Beyond Lines of Control: Performing the Border in Ladakh, India (Duke University Press, 2004). She is co-founder of the journal Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism and a founding trustee of Ladakh Arts and Media Organization, a non-profit society.

Center Space

The Columbia Global Center | South Asia is located in Nariman Point, the city's premier business district. The Center is housed on the 11th floor of Express Towers, a prominent office building in Nariman Point that is home to several financial institutions, McKinsey & Company, and the Indian Express newspaper. We have a total area of approximately 2,500 sq. ft. The Center has a small conference room that can accommodate about 15 people.
Regional Dimension

Located in Mumbai, the Center has been endeavoring to expand its reach into other Indian cities, such as Delhi, with some significant events being held there, such as panel discussion on “The Future of Humanities” and the Global Symposium on Mental Health and Social Justice among others. Additionally, the Center's Health and Education projects currently operate in five rural districts across India, in collaboration with state and local government in each site.

Going forward, the Center is looking to increase its presence not just in other regions in India, but in other nations in the South Asian region too.

Networking and Contacts

Local, regional, and national government

The Center is in the process of engaging various government Ministries at the central and state level. Examples of this include engaging with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Water Resources for the upcoming projects “Designing the Ganges” and “Columbia in the Himalayas.” Additionally, the Center seeks to engage with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai for its upcoming program, “Technology and the Global City.”

Currently, the Model Districts Health and Education Projects work closely with local and state governments in Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand. In addition, the projects regularly engage officials from National Rural Health Mission, run by the Ministry of Health, and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the government’s universal education program.

Local and international NGOs

The Center has engaged with NGOs in Mumbai and Delhi that work at the grassroots level in the sphere of health, education, gender and development. These include organizations such as SNEHA, PUKAR, and Magic Bus, CREA, and Nirantar Trust, among others. Additionally the Center has engaged with the following organizations: WHO, WFP, Gates/Manthan Project, IKEA Foundation, The World Bank, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Agha Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), Aditya Birla Group, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI); and the Rishi Valley Institute for Educational Resources (RIVER).

The Model Districts Health Project was commissioned and has recently completed a set of research papers for UNICEF-India.

Universities and colleges
The Center has engaged the educational institutions such as Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, The Himalayan University, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Ashoka University, and the University of Mumbai and its affiliated colleges.

Other personal contacts or renowned local/regional institutions that the center is working towards engaging:

- Local, regional, and national government through our upcoming projects
- US Embassy, The British Council and The American Center

Other Organizations

In addition to the above mentioned organizations, the Center engages with the following organizations

- Media organizations such as Caravan magazine, Zubaan Publishers, Biblio, Scroll.
- Libraries and Centres of Learning and Knowledge exchange such as the Asia Society, The Nehru Center, and the American Center Library.
Current and upcoming programming

Public Programming

Upcoming Public Events

- Technology and the Global City - a public talk and discussion involving Dr. Laura Kurgan, in association with Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI), on December 15th, 2015
- National versus Universal leadership: Gandhi- Tagore Reading and Panel Discussion, with Prof Akeel Bilgrami, Mr. Anmol Vellani and Prof. Rajmohan Gandhi. January 10th 2016,
- Conflict of interest: Global Perspectives on Business Ethics- a talk by Prof Sheena Iyengar, March 2016.
- Systems of Global Film Distribution, a talk by Prof Ira Deutchman, in Mumbai, early 2016
- Ambedkar at Columbia: with Prof. Partha Chatterjee.

Recent Public Events

The Center organized talks, and discussions involving Columbia faculty and panel discussion often in collaboration with other organizations, including Columbia Alumni Association of India. Recent events include:

- Digitization, Openness, and the Remaking of the New York Public Library. A talk by Dr. Paul LeClerc. Held on 27th October 2015, at the Nehru Center Library, in Mumbai.

  - Dr. Brinda Bose: Associate Professor, Associate Professor, Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University
  - Dr. Sharon Marcus: Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Dean of Humanities, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University.
  - Dr. Pramath Raj Sinha: Founder and Trustee, Ashoka University.

- A Theory and History of Celebrity, a talk by Dean Sharon Marcus on 1st September, 2015 at Jnanapravaha in Mumbai.

- Why Your Strategy Needs to Keep Moving - A talk by Prof Rita McGrath, on April 23, 2015 at Studio-X Mumbai.
• Global Symposium: *Mental Health and Social Justice*. Held on 13th April 2015, at the India international Centre, New Delhi. This was followed by a panel discussions on Gender, Sexuality and Mental Health and Mental Health and India’s Youth
  
  o **Shekhar Saxena**, MD: Director, Mental Health and Substance Use, WHO
  
  o **Eszter Kismodi**, JD.LLM: International Human Rights Lawyer on Sexual and Reproductive Health Law, Policy and Research

• The event was *Gandhi, in his Time and Ours* – a talk by Prof Akeel Bilgrami, on January 9th, 2015 at Studio X.

• *Basel III Capital and Liquidity Standards: Are Indian Banks Ready for the Transition?* A talk by Prof. Suresh Sundaresan, held at Bhavans College Campus, Mumbai.

**Educational Programs**

**Upcoming Programs**

• Developing Educational Courses

In order to provide unique learning opportunities, the Center, seeks to develop multiple short term courses that are targeted at students and professionals. The areas under consideration are in line with the thematic focus of the center – in the near future, courses on Film, BRICS and the global economy, and Environment are being planned. Such courses will be conducted with the help of the relevant Schools at Columbia, at times involving local subject experts too.

**Ongoing Programs**

• Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) Program

The Columbia Overseas Program designed by the Columbia University Center for Career Education aims to provide a multi-cultural professional experience to students by collaborating with the network of Global Centers. The Center coordinates the program by being the primary contact point for the students in India, orienting them to the local milieu and supporting in the identification of interning organizations and alumni mentors.

**Research Design and Exhibition Projects**

**Upcoming Projects**

• Designing the Ganges: Exhibiting and Disseminating Research to Inform the Management and Planning of the Ganges River Basin

Although the Ganges has become the highly publicized focus of government reform and investment, there was no systematic and comprehensive mapping and analysis of the
infrastructural transformation of the Ganges River Basin in the 50 years prior to the publication of Anthony Acciavatti’s Ganges Water Machine: Designing New India’s Ancient River in 2015. The proposed 18 month project aims to disseminate the findings of Acciavatti’s decade long field and archival study through a large scale exhibition, international conference and educational courses. The project’s ultimate goal is to establish a platform for informed decision making on future directives regarding the development and management of the River Ganges.

**Ongoing Projects**

- **Model Districts Health Project**

The Model Districts Health Project (MDHP) is a joint initiative between the Earth Institute, Columbia University and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Its goal is to demonstrate which health and nutrition interventions are required to narrow policy-practice gaps in the National Rural Health Mission in five regionally representative districts across India. The project’s strategy is to target interventions and additional public health spending at the intersection of the six building blocks of health systems strengthening (infrastructure, data management, governance, financing, supply chain management, and frontline health worker capacity) and five areas along the continuum of care for mothers and children (antenatal care, safe delivery, immediate postnatal care, early childhood development and nutrition, and routine and sick child care). The MDHP scale-up model is supported by a robust baseline and monitoring and evaluation plan, pilot interventions at the block level, growth and expansion to the district level based on learning exchanges within and across districts, and finally national level scale-up through policy adaptation and replication.

Faculty involvement: Jeffrey Sachs (Earth Institute), Sonia Sachs (Earth Institute), Joanna Rubinstein (Earth Institute) and Ranu Dhillion (Earth Institute).

Staff involvement: twelve, including Project Director Nirupam Bajpai

Local institutions: State and local governments of, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand, National Rural Health Mission (Ministry of Health)

Funding source: IKEA Foundation

- **Model Districts Education Project**

The Model Districts Education Project (MDEP), Access to Achievement is a collaborative, 5-year, demonstration project of the Columbia Global Centers | South Asia, the Government of India, and key stakeholders in primary education in India. The project draws on the experience to date of the Center’s Model Districts Health Project and on current scientific evidence and models of best professional practice to develop, implement and evaluate a high quality, cost-effective, scalable program of primary education in two rural districts. This is a unique project that brings together faculty and students from five different
schools/departments at Columbia University: Teachers College; the School of Social Work; the Dental School; the Department of Nutrition of the Columbia Medical School and the Earth Institute.

The Model Districts Education Project aims to improve the quality of primary education in rural India by developing and testing an evidence-based model that is “locally owned and operated” yet is readily transferable to other locales. The project has two specific aims, each with discrete, measureable outcomes: to improve the quality of student learning and to lower grade repetition and dropout rates.

MDEP has been launched in two districts - Morigaon, Assam and Medak, Andhra Pradesh.

In the past one year, the project studied and analyzed the status of primary education in the selected districts. The team focused on developing solutions to contextual educational problems, researching on local practices and international innovations that could provide relevant insights to be applied. This led to developing three working papers on in-service teacher training, curriculum planning and implementation in the selected districts. One of the models that the team has been keenly researching is the Multi-Grade-Multi-Level (MGML) model of pedagogy.

Faculty involvement: Kavita Ahluwalia (College of Dental Medicine), Monisha Bajaj (Teacher's College), Denise Burnette (School of Social Work), Radhika Iyengar (Earth Institute), Dr. Wahida Karmally (College of Physicians & Surgeons), Doug Ready (Teacher's College)

Staff involvement: five, including Project Director Nirupam Bajpai

Local institutions: State and local governments of Assam and Andhra Pradesh, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

Funding source: IKEA Foundation

**Presidents Global Innovation Fund Projects**

*Collaborations for Developing the Science Base for Improved Air Quality in India* - Prof. Ruth DeFries

Improved air quality in Indian cities is a primary need for healthy living environments amidst rapid economic development. Currently, air quality in major Indian cities is amongst the worst in the world. To address this issue a planning activity is proposed through the Columbia Global Centers| South Asia to initiate long term collaborations, joint projects and student exchanges with Center for Environmental Science and Engineering (CESE) at Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, in Mumbai.

*Covering Religion: A Global Perspective* - Prof. Ari L. Goldman and Yogi Trivedi
Covering Religion is a two-year research project that meets key goals necessary for the further development of the emerging discipline of media and religion. First, the project aims to train a cohort of religion-sensitive journalists by dispatching recent graduates to conduct research at the Global Centers in Amman and Mumbai. Second, it brings together the work of journalists and academics who study at the intersection of religion and media through fieldwork conducted by the fellows and the faculty investigators. This project aims to fill lacunae in the scholarly corpus on covering religion globally.


The project seeks to build on the existing network of Columbia University’s Global Health Center (CUGC) in Mumbai in order to cultivate partnerships between faculty at the Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) and local public health partners, and develop student field practica in India.

Colonization and Decolonization in the Making of the Modern World: an Intensive Summer Course Taught in Rio de Janeiro and New Delhi. - Mae Ngai

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER) is planning to offer the undergraduate course, “Colonization and Decolonization in the Making of the Modern World” as an intensive four-week class in June 2017, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and New Delhi, India. The course will accommodate up to 15 undergraduate students and will be co-taught by Prof. Claudio Lomnitz, Campbell Family Professor of Anthropology, and Dr. Manan Ahmed, Assistant Professor of History. Colonization/ Decolonization examine the dynamics of civilizational contact, exchange, and conflict through the reading and discussion of primary-source texts. Students read Christopher Columbus’s letters, the Requerimiento, Nahuatl poetry, and slave narratives; documents from the East India Company and the Opium War; the writings of Gandhi, Lu Xun, and Kwame Nkrumah; and the UN Charter, among others.

Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Longitudinal and Cross–national Study of the Effects of Retirement on Health- Prof. Ursula M. Staudinger

Should individuals continue working or retire to optimize their cognitive, functional, and psychological health? This project will explore the health effects of retirement timing throughout the world. Given current policy interest in increasing the retirement age and economic benefits of delaying retirement, it is crucial to develop a better understanding of how retirement timing impacts health in later life. The project is being carried out in the additional locations Beijing, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, Amman, Mumbai, and Nairobi.

Digital Justice: Public Discourse, Censorship, and the Technologies of Dissent- Dr. Dennis Tenen

This project harnesses the emerging field of “Digital Humanities” towards critically engaging with questions of digital publics, free speech, censorship and technologies of dissent. Three rounds of workshops are proposed at the Global Centers in Mumbai, Amman and Santiago where local NGOs, artists, and academics can think through the implication of these global
concerns in their specific geographies. The conversations will lead to a series of publications, lectures, tools, and other digital artifacts that seek to affect change for digital justice globally. The project will be concluded with a symposium at Columbia, to summarize and present the research.

Advancing Sustainable Waste Management (SWM) in Latin America and Disseminating the Results to Other Developing Regions

The aim of the project is to identify and characterize the obstacles to sustainable waste management in selected Latin America nations (starting with Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Costa Rica) and ways to overcome them. Additionally, to encourage/nurture the formation of national academia-industry waste management organizations in Latin America, similar to existing ones in thirteen countries and disseminate the findings of this study to other developing regions, using the existing WTERT web network, publications, and a 2016 international meeting at Columbia University. As part of the dissemination component, Beijing, Istanbul, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, Amman, Mumbai are the cities under consideration.

Screenwriting and Creative Producing Workshops for Columbia Global Centers- Prof. Ira Deutchman

Dedicated workshops for Screenwriting and producing instruction are in high demand internationally. This project seeks to help provide instruction and mentorship in writing for the moving image, as well as a practical need for quality instruction in the business of film, specifically creative producing - pitching, funding, and distributing their films locally and internationally. Whether the local film industry is mature and booming (as in Western Europe, China and India); rapidly developing and evolving (Middle East, Latin America); or nascent (Africa),
Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus

The Centers Interests and Priorities are largely around three themes:

**Sustainable Urbanization:** This initiative addresses the challenges posed by dramatic geographical transformation occurring in the region and globally with the exponential growth of cities. The initiative draws upon Columbia University’s leading expertise in the areas of Urban Planning, Environmental Sciences, and Social Sciences.

**Global Economics:** Through this initiative, the Center investigates the growth experience of India and other South Asian countries, economic governance and policy, and issues of persistent poverty and inequity. It builds on the work on Indian Economic Policy at the School of International and Public Affairs as well as the Chazen Institute’s India Business Initiative.

**Education and Knowledge in the Twenty-First Century:** This initiative is predicated on India’s challenge of having the highest youth demographic in the world and the need for educating, building skills, and inculcating values of global citizenship and leadership. It leverages Columbia University’s expertise in early, primary, and secondary education through institutes such as the Teacher’s College, and its intellectual and institutional investments in Higher Education reform, Innovation, Digital Society, and Freedom of Expression.
Columbia Global Centers | Africa

Center Launch: January 2013
Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/nairobi
Address: P.O. Box 51412-00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Other links: nairobi.cgc@columbia.edu – Facebook – YouTube

Director Biography

BELAY EJIGU BEGASHAW
beb2132@columbia.edu

Belay Begashaw is director of the Columbia Global Centers | Africa since January 2012. He joined the Earth Institute at Columbia University in January 2009 as senior agriculture policy specialist for Eastern and Southern Africa, and was appointed director of The Millennium Development Goals Center in August 2009.

Begashaw serves as associate director of the Earth Institute’s Tropical Agriculture and Rural Development Program, and has more than 20 years of experience in agriculture extension and rural development, ranging from a grass-roots development agent to the minister of agriculture for Ethiopia. Over the past three years, he has done extensive consulting work for several international organizations in the area of food security, poverty reduction and investment.

Begashaw earned his MPA degree from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, M.Sc. from University of Reading and a B.Sc. from Addis Ababa University, Almay College of Agriculture. He holds a Ph.D. in agricultural policy from Texas A&M University where he is a Borlaug Fellow. Begashaw has served as a member and chair of several boards of trustees with national and international mandates, including International Live Stock Research (ILRI), Alamaya University, Ethiopian Agriculture Research System, Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute, the National Drug Administration the National Standard Organization, the National Food Reserve Agency and Ethiopian Radiation Agency.

Center Space

The Columbia Global Center | Africa is located in the prestigious and easily accessible area of Westlands, Nairobi. The compound is composed of two isolated buildings covering a space of 14,000 square feet. It’s ideal location is quite convenient, as it is easy to access the city center as well as other key offices such as the United Nations complex and the American embassy. The location is quiet, serene and generally safe thus making the environment conducive for various activities to take place at the Center.

Regional Dimension

Since the Center is based in Nairobi, many of the programs and events are held in Nairobi, Kenya.
However, the Center through the Millennium Village Project has offices in six countries in East and Southern Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Thus, the Center has held programming meetings in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Mekelle, Ethiopia; Kampala, Uganda; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; Tabora, Tanzania; Kigali, Rwanda; Blantyre, Malawi; and Kisumu, Kenya. It has also held programming meetings in West African countries. The Center has either staff or partners in all these cities. The Center has also worked in Chad, Mozambique, and Zambia this past year.

In Nairobi, the Center has access to a wide variety of larger auditoriums and conference centers, in part due to the headquartered presence of UNEP, UN-HABITAT and a number of other organizations that choose to have their regional office in Nairobi. The Center is partnering more and more with local institutions for research.

Networking and Contacts

Local, regional, and national government

The Nairobi Center works directly with local and regional governments in all countries in Africa. However, the six major countries in East and Southern Africa that the Center is directly involved with through the Millennium Villages include: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Malawi. The Center also works with three more countries in the dry lands project, namely: Djibouti, Somalia and South Sudan. For example, for the Millennium Village, Sauri, in Western Kenya, the Center works with Gem district (local government) and Siaya County (county/regional government). The Center also works with the national government(s) on specific MDG-related issues, such as a particular health policy; for example, a nutrition policy for under-5 children. In the six countries, the Center has strong relationships with:

- Ministries of Local Government
- Ministries of Agriculture
- Ministries of Education
- Ministries of Gender / Youth
- Ministries of Health
- Ministries of Environment

- Ministries of Water and Irrigation
- Ministries of Energy
- Ministries of Infrastructure and Transport
- Municipalities

Local and international NGOs and the UN

The Nairobi Center works with a wide variety of international NGOs, such as the CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) institutions (ILRI, ICRAF, CIAT, CYMMT etc), Heifer International, Elizabeth Glaser Foundation, the David & Lucille Packard Foundation etc. The Center is also engaged with numerous UN organizations and is currently working with the World Food Program, the World Tourism Organization, UNAIDS, UNICEF and UNFPA. The Center also works with local NGOs such as Red Cross in Kenya.

Universities and colleges

The Center works with major public, private and other local universities in the six countries, including Maseno University in Western Kenya, University of Nairobi, Kenya, USIU-Nairobi, Kenya, Strathmore University in Nairobi, University of Dar es Salaam and Tabora in Tanzania, Makerere and Mbarara in Uganda, Mekelle in Ethiopia and others. It primarily works with schools and institutes of Columbia University but also with other universities typically in partnership with Columbia. There is enormous scope for the Center as there has recently been a proliferation and
registration of public and private universities and colleges across the region.

**Engagement with other contacts and networks**

The Nairobi Center will continue to strengthen its engagement with the local, regional and national governments in the above listed countries in East and Southern Africa. The AfSIS project that became effective from April 2013 will enable direct engagement in Nigeria, Ghana in West Africa in addition to Tanzania and Ethiopia in the east. Given its increasing emphasis on e-technology, the Center is likely to seek out partnerships with local and international NGOs that are also involved in e-technology solutions, such as Com-care for health service provision. It is also working towards strengthening engagement with local universities in these nine countries in east and southern Africa, as the expansion and establishment of universities in this region has been significant in the last few years.

**Programming and Projects**

I. **On-Going Projects:**

- **The Nairobi Center’s major project is the Millennium Villages Project (MVP) that directly supports approximately half a million people in Africa.** The project is actively operational in at least 20 countries including, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Rwanda, in Eastern Africa. The Earth Institute (EI) of Columbia University is the main institute involved and has been for the last ten years. The number of local staff are 40 at the Center. Besides the Earth Institute, the Center collaborates with faculty from the Mailman School of Public Health, the School of International and Public Affairs, the Earth Institute’s Center for International Earth Science Information Network, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, a number of undergraduate schools, as well as the School of Medicine and the School of Engineering. The Center also engages with numerous local institutions in each of the above listed countries. Its main donors are private foundations and multilateral agencies.

- **The Africa Nutritional Sciences Research Consortium PhD Graduate Training Project.** The main institute involved is the Institute of Human Nutrition, Columbia University Medical Center. The local staff members and local institutions involved in the East African region are many, and include the University of Rwanda, University of Nairobi, Kenya Polytechnic University, Makerere University, The Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology, Arusha, Sokoeine University of Agriculture and others.

- **Modi Labs IT Project with the School of Engineering.** The number of local full time staff at the Center is two. Work is undertaken on cutting-edge IT solutions that feed into the Millennium Village Project (MVP) and other new evolving projects.

- **The Africa Soil Information Service Project (AfSIS – [http://www.africasoils.net](http://www.africasoils.net))** - the final proposal for Phase II (after Phase I and the Transitional Grant) was submitted at the end of August 2014 and the Gates Foundation have reverted positively. The main institute involved is the Earth Institute: The Agriculture and Food Security Centre and CESSEN have been actively involved during the first phase. The project is in its second phase, and the organizations invited to be involved are in the process of being determined, as are the number of staff that will be based at the Center and in the field. The project is operational in.
Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana and Nigeria and the Transitional Grant will be completed at the end of 2014 and Phase II initiated.

- **15 Credit Tropical Biology and Sustainability course for Undergraduates jointly developed by Columbia’s Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B) and Princeton Universities** that has been implemented in Kenya for a number of years and it is hoped will continue until 2018 whereupon a review will be timely. The Nairobi Center in conjunction with E3B and Princeton have developed a discrete 3-week module on ‘Sustainable Development in Practice’ which has been approved by CU and will hopefully also soon be approved by Princeton and is to be unrolled for the first time in March 2015.

- **The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN),** an initiative undertaken by Professor Jeffrey Sachs of the Earth Institute in collaboration with the Center is well underway. The Nairobi Center coordinated efforts to set up the platform, which brings together universities, the private sector, civil society and government to advance the sustainable development agenda in Africa. The regional SDSN network for the Great lakes regions that constitutes four countries, namely Rwanda, DRC, Congo Brazzaville and Burundi was launched in Kigali-Rwanda in July 2014. Prof. Sachs of EI, Ministers, University Chancellors and Research Heads from the respective countries and other civil society and development partners participated in the launch. The network for Kenya Tanzania and Uganda is still at a preliminary stage.

- **A nine person team from the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, College of Physicians & Surgeons and the School of Nursing led by Prof Shantanu Lal visited Nairobi, Kenya in mid 2014.** They spent time at the University of Nairobi and entered into an MoU with the University’s School of Dental sciences on working together on education, training, capacity building and the increasingly important role of tele-dentistry. At the end of their week’s work, they conducted a tele-health and oral cancer screening workshop at the Columbia Global Centers | Africa where a variety of Kenyan students and practitioners were in attendance from the University of Nairobi Dental Schools of Dentistry, Medicine and Nursing and Kenya Medical Training College and the Government of Kenya Ministry of Health, Yala. The team completed their stay by visiting Nyumbani Children’s Home which caters for children with HIV/AIDS and tested their new equipment and tools while conducting a community based dentistry event.

- New and exciting collaboration with the **CU School of Arts** took off with Professor Richard Peña, a Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University and the former Director (1988-2012) of the New York Film Festival. In August 2014 he ran two programs in Nairobi on film. “Introduction to Film Studies” was a five-day workshop essentially for students and practitioners in the industry, whilst in the evenings, Professor Peña presented “A Panorama of Hollywood Cinema” for a wider audience. The 5-day workshop was full to capacity with 36 students while the evening program was received well by the general public.

- The ‘**Sudan Dialogue for Marginalized Groups**’ took place at the Center earlier in 2014 through Prof. David L. Phillips, the Director on Peace-Building and Rights at Columbia
University **Institute for the Study of Human Rights.** They brought together a delegation of 32 people - drawing from Sudanese thinkers and community leaders to discuss current conditions and explore cooperation in advancing Sudan’s progress. The dialogue sought to organize, empower and prepare the various groups from the Sudan region to shape events in Sudan, towards a comprehensive and just peace, stability, democracy, prosperity, equal opportunities and non-discrimination. It builds upon previous activities led by Columbia University since 2012 to facilitate dialogue between scholars, intellectuals, civil society leaders, and persons interested in Sudan.

- **‘Thinking Big: Women Empowerment Workshop’ for women entrepreneurs by CU Business School.** This was led by Professor Murray Low, Founder of the Entrepreneurship Program at Columbia Business School in New York. The objective of the workshop was to help “medium” sized firms ($330,000 annual turnover or more) that have achieved some level of success to grow - a potentially powerful lever for job creation. The focus was on the challenges of managing growth. The training was highly rated by all participants and there are plans to continue and expand such programs in order to reach out to more African business owners and entrepreneurs.

- **Students/Alumni.** We continue to support the **Kenyan Columbia Alumni Association,** and have hosted a number of interns and students including a graduate pursuing her Masters from the **Mailman School of Public Health** who worked on the Community Health Workers Program and E-health based at the Nairobi Center for 3 months; another graduate from the **School of Social Work,** who completed her internship with us on policy aspects of the Community Health Worker program, and visited the Millennium Village of Sauri and shadowed CHWs. Pulitzer funded Interns worked at Mayange Millennium Village, Rwanda on Sustainability, and Sauri Millennium Village, Kenya on managing bacterial wilt and spent some days at the Nairobi Center in early August. Another Pulitzer funded Intern worked on education in Ruhiira Millennium Village, Uganda. Other Interns joined the Millennium Villages to work on various projects later in the summer. The Center has a strong relationship with **SIPA** and places students annually at any/all of the Millennium Villages according to pairing up the need.

- **The Distinguished Lecture Series was launched at the Center in 2013.** It aims to extend the expertise and intellectual discourse at Columbia University to the wider Africa region.
  
  Lecture 1: Dr. Deqo Mohamed CEO of Dr. Hawa Abdi Foundation. Dr. Abdi was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012. The lecture covered the success and challenges of establishing a hospital and providing health services in war-torn Somalia.
  
  Lecture 2: Prof Safwan Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University, spoke on “The failure of education and the current state of the Arab world” at Strathmore University, Nairobi.

**President Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) funded projects, 2013 and 2014:**

The fund is designed to provide grants for those Columbia faculty members whose research will rely on the resources, facilities and regional networks of one or more of the University’s eight Global Centers for teaching and/or research activities.
### PGIF – Round 1 Winners, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Person and Department / School in CU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Pollock, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies</td>
<td>Global Humanities Project</td>
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<td>Shantanu Lal, College of Dental Medicine, College of Physicians &amp; Surgeons</td>
<td>Children’s Global Oral Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tilla S Worgall Columbia University, College of Physicians &amp; Surgeons Department of Pathology, Division of Clinical Pathology</td>
<td>Sphingolipids in Pediatric Brain Tumors</td>
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<td>Julien Teitler, School of Social Work Sandro Galea, Department of Epidemiology</td>
<td>Global Migration Network</td>
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<td>Mahmood Mamdani Herbert Lehman Prof. of Govt. and Prof. of Anthropology, Dept. of Anthropology, MESAAS</td>
<td>Ifriqiyya Indian Ocean / Trans African Slavery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheena S. Iyengar, S.T. Lee Professor of Business, Columbia Business School</td>
<td>Global Leadership Matrix</td>
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### PGIF – Round 2 Winners - 2014

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wafaa El-Sadr</td>
<td>China's Aid to Africa: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira Deutchman, Arts &amp; Sciences, Humanities</td>
<td>Screenwriting and Creative Producing Workshops for the Columbia Global Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter Baethgen, Earth Institute</td>
<td>Fostering a community of practice around drought information tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedro Sanchez, Agriculture and Food Security Center, Earth Institute, CU</td>
<td>Planning a Global Centers Network on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustin R. Rubenstein, Assistant Professor, Dept. Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology, Earth</td>
<td>Kenyan Undergraduate Immersion in Tropical Biology and Sustainability</td>
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### Institute

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jennifer Dohrn, Director, Office of Global Initiatives and WHO CC for Advanced Practice Nursing</th>
<th>Global Nursing Research Development Initiative</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen W. Nicholas, Professor of Population and Family Health at the Columbia University Medical Center</td>
<td>Children's Global Oral Health Initiative: An Adaptable Interdisciplinary Model for Chronic Health Care Management and Health Promotion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus

The Center currently has about 30 technical staff with a wide and varied skill set. They all have a development and MDG focus. The skill sets are intended to match the needs of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and generally reflect the focus of the 8 goals. For example, there is a strong health team with four experts working in health as well as experts in food security, agri-business, education, gender, environment, water, infrastructure, monitoring and evaluation, IT, public policy and partnerships. Experts have different backgrounds but they have all worked in development.

The Center is interested and has developed a reasonable capacity to carry out research in sustainable development which includes economic growth and poverty reduction (health, agriculture, education), social inclusiveness (gender, job creation, skill developments), climate change and environment management and good governance. The Center is particularly keen on working on IT based applications and solutions.

The Center is prepared and able to handle simultaneous requests and programs. The Center is fully engaged and a proponent of ‘Africa rising’ through research, teaching and project implementation.
Paul LeClerc began his tenure as director of the Columbia Global Centers | Europe on July 1, 2012. LeClerc’s academic interests are Voltaire and the French Enlightenment. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. in French at Columbia University and wrote a dissertation on Voltaire that was awarded distinction. He is the author, editor, and co-editor of six scholarly volumes, all published by the Voltaire Foundation of Oxford University. His foreign honors include the French Legion of Honor (Officier), the French Order of Palmes Académiques (Officier), and the Spanish Order of Isabel the Catholic (Commander), as well as honorary doctorates from Oxford University and La Sorbonne nouvelle. In 2004, LeClerc received the Columbia Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Award for Distinguished Achievement, and he holds honorary doctorates from nine American colleges and universities. In addition, President Bill Clinton named him to the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

Prior to joining the Columbia staff, LeClerc was president and CEO of the New York Public Library (1993-2011); president and professor of French at Hunter College, CUNY (1988-93); provost, academic vice president and professor of French at Baruch College, CUNY (1984-88); university dean for academic programs, CUNY (1979-84); instructor, assistant professor and associate professor of French at Union College (1966-79).

Throughout his career, LeClerc has been committed to international, educational, and cultural relations. He directed terms abroad for Union College students in France, was instrumental in creating the CUNY-Universities of Paris exchange program, created exchanges between the Hunter College Master of Fine Arts program and the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris and between the Baruch College School of Business and the University of Paris-Dauphine, and organized landmark exhibits at the New York Public Library with European partner libraries.

LeClerc is presently chair of the advisory board of the Columbia Maison Française and a trustee of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the J. Paul Getty Trust, the Voltaire Foundation (Oxford University) and the Carroll, and Milton Petrie Foundation. He is an honorary trustee of the New York Public Library and past trustee of Union College, the National Book Foundation, and a variety of other non-profit educational and cultural organizations. In 2014, he was named to the Conseil Scientifique of the BnF. He is married to Dr. Judith Ginsberg, executive director of the Nash Family
Foundation in New York City. They have a twenty-nine year old son.

**Center Space**

The Paris Center is located at historic Reid Hall in the Montparnasse district. The original structure, a former porcelain factory, dates back to 1745. An additional building, constructed in the early 20th century houses architectural studio space, a library, a large lecture hall (seats 180) and a large conference room (seats 70), in addition to classrooms and offices. There are two wooden outbuildings used as classrooms and offices. The total usable square footage of all buildings is 23,000 square feet. The two gardens of approximately 9,000 square feet provide important social spaces in which students, faculty, and visitors are nearly always to be found.

**Regional Dimension**

While the Center has not held programming in other countries per se, we have partners in numerous European cities such as Berlin, Leiden, London, and Rome. We also have partners in other French cities such as Aix-en-Provence, Bordeaux, Lyon, Marseilles, Poitiers, Reims and Rennes. There are numerous institutions both around the Center and in greater Paris with whom we have partnered on colloquia, lectures, and film series (Bibliothèque nationale de France, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Collège International de Philosophie, Institut de France, Collège de France, Universities of Paris VII, Paris IV and Paris I – Sorbonne, Sciences Po, etc.). Additional auditorium and conference space is available through our partner institutions and can easily be rented throughout Paris, should the need arise. It is also possible to establish academic space for research and student programs at other local institutions.

**Networking and Contacts**

The Center benefits from Reid Hall’s significant position in trans-Atlantic cultural relations. For more than a century, Reid Hall has hosted international conferences, undergraduate and graduate programs, scholarly events, and artistic exhibits and performances.

**Local, regional, and national government resources**

- Bibliothèque nationale de France
- The American Library in Paris
- Cultural Services of the American Embassy in Paris
- The Louvre Museum
- Mona Bismarck American Center for Art and Culture
- France-Amériques
• Association of American Residents Overseas (AARO)

• American Women Living in France (AAWE)

• American Club of Paris (ACP)

• Various cultural organizations (Arts Arena, La Dive Note, Textes & Voix, La Maison des écrivains, Tschann Librairie, La Maison de la Poésie, La Muse du Parnasse…)

**University and College partners**

• École Normale Supérieure (MA programs)

• École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (MA programs and scholarly initiatives)

• University of Paris I, University of Paris IV, University of Paris VII (Columbia Undergraduate Programs in Paris and the Alliance Program).

• Institut d’Études Politiques – Sciences Po (Columbia Undergraduate Programs in Paris and the Alliance Program).

• École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique (Masters in Public Health taught in collaboration with Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health)

• École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture (Architecture program)

• École Spéciale d’Architecture (Architecture program)

• American university programs in Paris: Dartmouth, Hamilton, Hollins, Sarah Lawrence, Smith, Sweetbriar, Vassar, Wesleyan.

• University of Kent (Canterbury, England)

• INSERM

• Centre de Recherche Épidémiologie et Statistique Sorbonne Paris Cité

**The Center is working on engaging other personal contacts or renowned local/regional institutions, such as:**

**Local, regional, and national government**

• The Office of the Mayor of Paris

• The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs

• Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles

**Universities and colleges**

• We hope to solidify our current partnerships and expand them to other areas of programming and events.
Programming and Projects

Within the Global Centers network, the Paris Center is sui generis in at least two important ways. First, it is the only global center within the developed economies. Second, in contrast to the seven other Global Centers, all of which are a relatively new presence for Columbia University in their regions, Reid Hall has been running educational and research programs for the University since the mid-1960s. The decision taken in 2010 to designate Reid Hall as the Global Center for Europe is thus best seen as an evolutionary step in the history of a well-established academic center for francophone studies, at which thousands of Columbia College and graduate students, as well as scores of Columbia faculty, have had rich and meaningful educational and research experiences.

The academic programs currently active at the Center are:

Degree programs:

- MA in History and Literature (created in 2011)
- Masters in Public Health: Epidemigology and Infectious Disease, run jointly between the Mailman School of Public Health and the École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique (created in 2010)
- M2 Public Health "Comparative effectiveness research" (created 2015), Centre de Recherche Épidémiologie et Statistique Sorbonne Paris Cité.

Courses of study:

- Columbia University Undergraduate Programs in Paris, offered in fall, spring, and summer semesters.
- The Shape of Two Cities: New York-Paris Program, a post-baccalaureate program in Architecture, offered in New York in the fall and in Paris in spring (created in 1994).
- School of the Arts summer program in film studies, (created in 2011);
- Executive Master of Science in Technology Management, School of Professional Studies (created in 2013).
- Columbia Middle Eastern and North African Studies, hosted by the Global Center in Amman and in Paris (PGIF, 2014-2016).
- The Alliance Summer School in Science and Policy (created in 2013)

In addition to the above, colloquia, film screenings, concerts, lectures, conferences, and workshops are offered to not only the academic community but also a general public. Funding for these projects and events varies from programming funds offered by the the Paris Center to
foundation grants. The Paris Center has hired a **Program Manager** to develop public programs, including, for example, a speaker series featuring Columbia faculty and their European counterparts, concerts with Columbia’s Department of Music, workshops on contemporary social issues.

**Sampling of past projects**

**Winter School on Law and Finance**

Columbia Global Centers | Europe welcomed for the first time the Winter School on Law and Finance. Hosted by the Institute of New Economic Thinking and taking place from January 6-10 2014, this intensive course brought together students, post-docs, and researchers for a series of sessions on the relation between law and finance. Sessions were taught by Katharina Pistor, Columbia University, Brigitte Haar, Goethe University Frankfurt, and Dan Awrey, University of Oxford. The Winter School was followed by the Global Law in Finance Network’s annual workshop.

**The Future of the Liberal Order**

The Columbia Global Centers of Europe and Turkey joined together with the Transatlantic Academy for a roundtable event hosted in Paris at Reid Hall on the 27-28 of May 2014. The conference addressed a topic of major global significance, “Can the Liberal Order Survive in a Post Western World?” It did so by considering the prospects for the liberal order in the face of the rise of new, non-western powers, some of who are not democratic, and how and in which ways the West can maintain and broaden the core of the liberal order when it is losing in relative power.

**Shifting Notions of Social Citizenship: The “Two Wests”**

Can we imagine the perpetuation of democracy in the face of a transformed welfare state? Social scientists and historians from the United States and different European countries met to explore how the decline of the welfare state will affect present and future conceptions of citizenship and political participation. This workshop examined the impact of the widespread decline of the welfare state on long-standing claims to social citizenship, and considered the consequences of welfare state transformation for democratic participation in Europe and the United States. The workshop ran from June 11-13, 2014 at Reid Hall in Paris, with the support of the Department of Human Studies, University of Eastern Piedmont; the Center for the Study of Social Difference, Columbia University; the Department of History, Columbia University; and the Alliance Program, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Columbia | Blinken European Institute and the Interuniversity Center for European-American History and Politics (CISPEA).

**Columbia University Summer Institute in Middle East/North African Studies (MENA)**

This nine-week intensive study program offers a multifaceted introduction to the languages, history and culture of the Maghreb, emphasizing the region’s relations with the Middle East and France. The first month of the program takes place in Amman, where students study Arabic in the well-established Columbia Summer Arabic Language Program and begin a cultural seminar that examines the Maghreb through the lens of migration.
After a one-week travel break, the program reconvenes in Paris. Students explore migration to, within and from North Africa as a key component of the region’s history, as a dimension of contemporary society, and as a context and theme of music, literature and film. The program runs in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Middle East (Amman).

Community-Building Program: History Department

Thesis students from the History Department working in the UK, France, Spain and the Netherlands convened at Reid Hall for a three-day community-building program that brought together various faculty, graduate students and friends of the department in Paris. Professors Susan Pedersen and Charly Coleman led this first edition of the program.

The Role of the State in Economic Growth in Europe

The financial crisis and ensuing recession brought about a sharp change in the activity and economic role of the state in many countries, blurring previously established demarcations between the roles and responsibilities of the public and private sectors, and challenging established strategies for growth and development. As the global economy gradually recovers from this great recession, the Center on Global Economic Governance has developed a series of three conferences to take place over three years (2014-2016) that will examine the changing role of the state in the economic models and growth strategies of distinct economic systems in Europe, Latin America, and Asia. The first conference took place in Paris at Columbia Global Centers | Europe and Sciences Po, and examined the changing role of the state, in response to both the economic crisis and Europe’s debt crisis, as well as its role in the continuing quest for growth. Co-Sponsored by: Columbia Global Centers | Europe, Alliance Program: École Polytechnique, Sciences Po, Panthéon Sorbonne University, and the International Economic Association

The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network

In December 2012, Columbia’s Earth Institute, in partnership with the United Nations, sited the Secretariat of its new Sustainable Solutions Network at the Paris Center, presided by Executive Director Guido Schmidt-Traub. Launched by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon in August 2012, it mobilizes scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society, and the private sector in support of sustainable development at local, national, and global scales. Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute and special advisor to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, directs the Solutions Network. Laurence Tubiana, director of IDDRI and Professor at Sciences Po (France), and Xue Lan, professor and dean of the School of Public Policy and Management at Tsinghua University in China, co-chair the Leadership Council. Ted Turner, a global business leader, philanthropist and founder of CNN and the United Nations Foundation, is a founding member of the Leadership Council. The Network works closely with United Nations agencies, multilateral financing institutions and other international organizations, and will provide technical support to a high-level panel formed to advise on the global development agenda beyond 2015, the target date for the Millennium Development Goals. It has established thematic groups to support global problem solving in critical areas
such as poverty eradication, gender equality, universal access to healthcare, the transition to low carbon energy, and more resilient cities. Over the coming months, it will hold a series of regional meetings with heads of state, business leaders, scientists, researchers and academic experts in Nairobi, Paris, Berlin, Malaysia and Beijing.

Festival des Écrivains du Monde

This is the first major initiative of Paul LeClerc as the new director of the Columbia Global Center | Europe. The Festival was produced by Caro Llewellyn, whose past experience include producing the PEN Festival in New York for five years, the Centennial Festival of the New York Public Library in 2011, and the Sydney Writers' Festival. Organized in partnership with the Bibliothèque nationale de France. The first edition of the Festival brought 28 writers from 18 countries to Paris and Lyon. The second edition focused on Writers of India, and attracted more than 2,500 people. In addition to the events, each of the 14 participating writers in Paris contributed essays on the effects of globalization on cultural production and consumption. The essays were published by the Columbia Magazine, The Caravan magazine, and Les nouvelles de l’Inde. The 2015 edition featured 17 writers from different parts of the world and drew over 2,250 people.

Cross-center initiative: Reframing Violence Against Women, Beyond a Politics of Blame
Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Rio de Janeiro)

Center Launch: March 2013
Website: [http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/riodejaneiro](http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/riodejaneiro)
Address: Rua Candelária, 9, 3o Andar, Centro, Rio de Janeiro, 20091-020 Brazil
Other links: [Facebook](http) – [Twitter](http) – [riodejaneiro.cgc@columbia.edu](http)

**Director Biography**

**THOMAS TREPAT**

tt2166@columbia.edu

Thomas J. Trebat is the Director of the Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Rio de Janeiro). He is the former Executive Director of the Columbia University Institute of Latin American Studies and of the Institute’s Center for Brazilian Studies.

Trebat joined Columbia in 2005 after a lengthy career on Wall Street dedicated to economic research on Latin America. In addition to his administrative duties at Columbia, he taught courses on the Latin American economy and on Brazil as an adjunct professor at SIPA. Tom has a Ph.D. in economics from Vanderbilt University and is also a member of the Council of Foreign Relations. His book, “Brazil’s State-owned Enterprises: A Case Study of the State as Entrepreneur,” was published by Cambridge University Press.

**Center Space**

The Center functions in 3,000 square feet of newly renovated office space in a beautiful Art Deco building in the heart of Rio’s historic downtown. The space features an attractive classroom, which can comfortably seat 25 persons. The Center is minutes from the downtown airport, close to all transportation options, and walking distance to churches and public places of enormous historic importance. It is on the third floor of a 14-storey building that is the headquarters of the Commercial Association of Rio de Janeiro. One of its neighbors in this building is the Brazilian counterpart of the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations. The Center’s landlord provides, on a space available basis, the free use of two large auditoriums capable of seating 100-150 persons. It also has other rooms available to in this iconic building, many with views of the beautiful Bay of Guanabara.

**Regional Dimension**

The Center has held programming events in São Paulo, Porto Alegre and also in Fortaleza in the Northeast of Brazil. Its partners outside of Rio include the University of São Paulo, Fundação Getúlio Vargas (SP), INSPER (in São Paulo), the Lemann Foundation, and the Universidade de Fortaleza. The Center firmly intends to develop close working relations with a large number of Brazilian universities, including UNICAMP (University of Campinas) and the Universidade de Brasília, in order to accommodate interests of Columbia University faculty and researchers. Center staff is highly confident that many, probably most, Brazilian universities would have space
available to accommodate Columbia researchers provided that the research project attracts support from local Brazilian faculty.

**Current and upcoming projects**

- Columbia SIPA first Master’s degree in public administration (Global EMPA) starting in Brazil in 2015
- Columbia School of the Arts programs in TV Writing, Film Directing and Film Curating
- Columbia Law School project on capital markets regulation, which included a workshop and has moved on to a research cooperation
- Columbia Teachers’ College Project on training teachers and principals, which include cooperation with public departments and private foundations
- Columbia SIPA BRIClab project (Brazil and other emerging markets)
- Columbia Picker Center project to study improvements in the Brazilian public administration (currently studying the education department in Rio de Janeiro)
- Columbia in Rio summer program of Department of Latin American and Iberian Studies and Global Programs
- President’s Global Innovation Fund projects in Brazil
- FAPERJ (Rio de Janeiro’s Funding Agency for Research) Funds between universities based in the state of Rio de Janeiro and Columbia faculty, which has led to several conferences and programs backed by the Center
- Columbia Engineering School collaborating with UFRJ, through the Columbia Global Centers, to create the Rio Innovation Hub
- Mailman School project to provide training for hospital managers
- Resilience projects involving the Mayor’s office, Fiocruz, UFRJ and the Earth Institute

**Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

Throughout the almost three years of existence, the Rio Center has explored collaborations with different schools in various areas and themes of interest, being open to faculty, students and local partners. The Rio Center has a strong interest in topics regarding Public Administration (which is demonstrated by the full commitment the staff has shown with the Global EMPA program). Besides that topic, we have developed many programs in the areas of education; healthcare; resilience and climate change; sustainability; cinema and visual arts; and humanities – with a special note for researchers who want to study Brazil. These are themes of enormous importance in Brazil and themes, which engage the strengths of the Columbia faculty. Staff in the Rio center will be able to take on simultaneous programs and requests by utilizing our network of contacts in Brazil to the utmost.
Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago)

Center Launch: March 2012
Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/santiago
Address: Av. Dag Hammarskjold 3269, 1st Floor, Vitacura, Santiago - Chile 7630000
Facebook – Twitter – santiago.cgc@columbia.edu

Director Biography

Karen Poniachik
kpp16@columbia.edu

Karen Poniachik is director of the Columbia Global Centers | Latin America based in Santiago, Chile. She was Chile’s minister of mining between 2006 and 2008, a time during which she chaired the boards of directors of state-owned companies Codelco, Enap and Enami. From March 2006 to March 2007, she also served as minister of energy. Currently, she is a member of the corporate boards of directors of E.CL, Metro SA, and Maersk Container Industries San Antonio as well as member of the advisory board of the Chilean-American Chamber of Commerce.

Poniachik was Chile’s special envoy to the OECD in charge of the country’s accession process to the Organization, which was successfully completed in January of 2010. Previously, she served as executive vice-president of Chile’s Foreign Investment Committee (2000-2006); and as director of Business and Financial Programs at the Council of the Americas in New York (1995-2000). Poniachik graduated as a journalist from Universidad Católica de Chile (1987) and holds a Master’s degree in International Affairs from Columbia University (1990).

Center Space

The Center was launched on March 2012 and during its first years of operation, it has developed relations with several local academic institutions, authorities and non-governmental organizations. Staff has been working with a vast network of prestigious universities in Santiago, especially with Universidad Católica (UC), Universidad de Chile (U.Ch), Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (UAI), Universidad del Desarrollo (UDD) and Universidad Diego Portales (UDP). The Center has signed MoU’s with them to promote the exchange of faculty, students and specific programs (internships, joint research, etc.). Most of activities have been held in the auditoriums and conference rooms of these universities, promoting the participation of their faculty and students. The space of the Center is a 70m2 office space, located at the Flacso building, in the same street as many other international organizations (ILO, ECLAC, UNDP). Harvard’s Rockefeller Center also has its office the same building. There is an auditorium available for occasional events that can host up to 100 people, which has been used to hold recruitment sessions, panel discussions and small workshop meetings.
Regional Dimension

Most of the center’s operations are based in Santiago, with occasional visits to other Chilean Regions, especially when the topic of study requires so. It is the case of Solar Energy projects, when researchers travel north, or in the case of the Template Rainforests studies, when they travel south.

Networking and Contacts

Local, regional, and national government

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Economy
- CORFO (Chilean Economic Development Agency)
- CNIC National Council for Innovation and Competitiveness
- CONICYT (MoU ensuring scholarships for PhD Chilean students accepted by CU).
- SENAMA (Chilean Aging Services)
- National Congress
- INDH (National Institute for Human Rights)
- Fundación Chile

Local and International NGOs

- Fundación Ciencia y Vida
- Biomedical Neuroscience Institute (BNI)
- Endeavor
- NEXOS (Association of Chilean Scientist in the USA)
- National Association of Architecture
- Comunidad Mujer
- Museo Interactivo de la Memoria
- Museo Interactivo Judío de Chile

Universities and Colleges

- Universidad de Chile
- Universidad Catolica
- Universidad Diego Portales
- Universidad del Desarrollo
- Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez
Sampling of current and past projects

- **Columbia's Climate Change Scientist, Walter Baethgen, participated in a Symposium entitled "Coping With Droughts" (PGIF awardee).**

  Because of Chile’s geography, we can identify a huge diversity of climate conditions, ranging from the arid north to the rainy south. Recognizing the importance of international collaboration to the development of effective drought information tools and the critical need for these tools in increasingly water-stressed world, the Santiago Center has supported the International Research Institute for Climate and Society IRI to bring to Chile the experts who developed a climate forecasting systems to improve the planning process for organisms coping with drought in the Latin American region. During November 19-21 2014, Walter Baethgen, head of the Regional and Sectorial Research Program and leader of the Latin America and the Caribbean program in the IRI at the Earth Institute, participated in this Experts Symposium.

- **Workshop on Water Security featuring Dr. Upmanu Lall**

  Most recently (October 2015), the Center hosted Dr. Upmanu Lall, Director of Columbia’s Water Center in workshop on water security held in conjunction with Universidad del Desarrollo and AmCham. It was attended by scientists, members of the academic community, government officials and businesspeople that focus on water management solutions. Dr. Lall spent a week in Chile working with scientists that specialize in water issues.

- **Chile-Columbia Fund (2014)**

  A total of eight projects, ranging from a study of urban reconstruction after the February 2010 earthquake in Chile to research into titin, a protein that plays a key role in muscle elasticity, received grants of up to US$30,000, thanks to the Chile-Columbia Fund. This Fund, created by Columbia University and the Chilean government's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), aims to foster long-term ties and exchanges between Columbia and Chilean universities. A total of 27 proposals were presented, from 9 different Schools at Columbia University which reflects the potential that Columbia University has to engage in joint work with Chilean universities.

  Teams awarded Chile-Columbia Fund Grants 2014

  1. Julio Fernández, professor of biological sciences, Columbia University; and Victoria Guixe, professor of biology, Universidad de Chile: Degradation of titin at single molecular level.

  2. Clara Irazábal, assistant professor of urban planning, director of the GSAAP Latin Lab, Columbia University; and Mario Marchant, assistant professor, Department of Architecture, Universidad de Chile: Learning from 27F–A comparative assessment of urban reconstruction processes after the 2010 earthquake in Chile.
3. Darby Jack, assistant professor of environmental health sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; and Dante Cásares, director of the Environmental Health Program, Universidad de Chile: Collaborating to quantify the health benefits of clean biomass combustion in Chile.

4. Don J. Melnick, Thomas Morgan Professor and Director of Conservation Biology, Columbia University; and Cristián Bonacic, associate professor and director Department of Ecosystems & The Environment, Universidad Católica de Chile: Building a natural and social science collaboration to implement a new innovative science-based model for long-term sustainable development of Chile's temperate rainforests.

5. Christian Pop-Eleches, associate professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University; and Francisco Gallego, associate professor of Economics, Universidad Católica de Chile: Parental interventions for home computers in Chile.

6. Ursula Staudinger, Robert N. Butler Professor of Sociomedical Sciences and director of the Aging Center, professor of psychology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; and Esteban Calvo, director of the Master in Public Policy, Universidad Diego Portales: When does retirement optimize health? Causal effects of retirement timing on health outcomes and healthy behavior of older Americans and Chileans.

7. Miguel Urquiola, associate professor of economics and international and public affairs, Columbia University; and Alejandra Mizala, professor of industrial engineering and academic director, Center for Advanced Research on Education, Universidad de Chile: K-12 and higher education in Chile: School size and college reputation.

8. Gabriel Weintraub, Sidney Taurel Associate Professor of Business, Columbia University; and Marcelo Olivares, assistant professor of industrial engineering, Universidad de Chile: Public procurement mechanisms – From practice to research and back again.

**Waste Management for Latin America under the Director of the Earth Engineering Center of Columbia University, Nickolas Themelis (PGIF awardee).**

The transition from non-regulated disposal of solid wastes to Sustainable Waste Management (SWM) is a major and pressing environmental issue for all urban centers. With cities expanding their boundaries every year and economic development accompanied by ever increasing generation of solid wastes, the collection and disposal systems that were once sufficient need to be updated by better means for recycling, composting, energy recovery and sanitary landfilling that conserve resources and land and also reduce the risk of contaminating water and air. And Chile is not the exception, which is why the visit of Professor Nickolas Themelis was so impactful.

In a joint workshop held by the Santiago Center and Universidad del Desarrollo (UDD) in Santiago in September 2014, presentations and discussion on four pre-feasibility
case studies conducted by EEC in Buenos Aires-Argentina, Valparaiso-Chile, Toluca-Mexico and Montevideo-Uruguay introduced the audience into the world of Waste to Energy projects expecting it to be an ongoing discussion for Latin America. Alex Godoy, Director of the Sustainability Management at UDD was positive about thinking of future projects and in working together with professor Themelis. That is why, after the workshop, professor Themelis met with important authorities and discussed relevant problems for the country under energy and innovation topics. After visiting the Ministry of Energy, a more research oriented meeting was held at SERC (Solar Energy Research Center) where the main topic was professor’s experience in turning waste into energy.

• **Columbia Astronomers Draw Roadmap for Collaboration with Universidad Católica (PGIF awardees)**

In May 2015, a group of eleven faculty members and PhD students from Columbia’s Department of Astronomy met with local counterparts Astrophysics Institute of Pontificia Universidad Católica (PUC) in a joint workshop under the heading *Teaming Up to Prepare for the Next Decade in Time-Domain Astrophysics: A Joint Columbia University - Pontificia Universidad Católica Workshop.*

Among the Columbia faculty who attended the joint meetings were the Department's chair Kathryn Johnston, Zoltán Haiman, David Schiminovich, Marcel Agüeros and Mary Putman. They were joined by some of their PUC’s counterparts including the Astrophysics Institute Director Gaspar Galaz and Assistant Professor Julio Chanamé. During their visit, Columbia’s team presented their work and engaged in small group working sessions.

Columbia’s visit was part of a joint effort to strengthen ties between Columbia’s Astronomy Department and PUC’s Astrophysics Institute. Both institutions stressed their eagerness to increase collaboration in the form of staff exchanges and joint applications to Chilean grants. Another major theme of the workshop was their joint preparation ahead of the arrival of the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope to Chile in 2020.

• **Seminar on Forest Carbon Credit Standard**

Donald J. Melnick, Columbia University's Thomas Morgan Professor of Conservation Biology and Director of the Center for Environment, Economy and Society (CEES), was in Chile to start work with Universidad Católica on a project for the sustainable development of Chile's temperate rainforests. This is one of eight projects being implemented with the support of the Columbia-Chile Fund created by Columbia University and the Chilean government's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) to foster long-term ties and exchange between Columbia and Chilean universities.

In May 2014, Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago) hosted a seminar, attended by representatives of local companies, government institutions and NGOs, about the Rainforest Standard (RFS), a carbon credit standard for forest conservation developed by Columbia University and several South American partners. After initially
focusing on tropical rainforests at the Amazon, it is now looking to expand its application to temperate forests such as those found in Chile.

Both Professor Melnick and Professor James Warfield, Deputy Director of CEES, spoke at the seminar. Melnick’s project with Universidad Católica envisages the implementation of at least one RFS demonstration project in Chile.

• **Lectures on Art Space**

**Martin Vinik**, Adjunct Professor of the Art Administration Program at Teachers College, visited Chile in May 2015 to participate in a joint-workshop and conference with Universidad Católica’s School of the Arts. His two public presentations drew more than 200 attendees including managers from many artistic and cultural organizations, students, faculty, policy makers and government officials involved in these topics.

During the visit, Mr. Vinik shared with the Chilean arts community many useful tips on financial management, strategic planning and fundraising for the arts. One of the topics he developed during his lectures was the obsession of the human beings with enormous artistic spaces used as theaters, museums, monuments and other iconic arts organizations, to the point when the buildings from the outside are as attractive to potential tourists as they are useless to the institution’s purposes in the inside. He specifically mentioned the case of a theater in Dallas, TX, where the scenario was so big they had no show that could fit the space.

• **Nobel Scientists at an “open to public” conference and an exclusive conversation for business people, scientists and opinion leaders in Santiago**

Six top international scientists, including three Nobel laureates, visited Chile in January 2014 to participate in the Transformative Minds Conference organized jointly by the Santiago Center, Universidad de Chile’s Biomedical Neuroscience Institute (BNI), of the Millennium Science Initiative, the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem Program of the Chilean Economic Development Agency (CORFO) and the National Senate. The Transforming Minds Conference, which took place in the ex-Congress building in Santiago and was attended by a packed audience that included leading local scientists, politicians and students, sought to highlight the importance of public investment in science and technology.

Among the visiting scientists, three were from Columbia University:

• Dr. Charles Zuker, professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and neuroscience at Columbia University and a member of the US National Academy of Sciences;

• Dr. Richard Axel, Nobel Prize winner in Physiology / Medicine 2004 for his discoveries of odorant receptors and the organization of the olfactory system;
• professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and of pathology at Columbia University;

• Dr. Tom Maniatis, chairman of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics at Columbia University. Pioneer of the biotechnology industry; among his many awards, he was the recipient of the 2012 Lasker Award in Medical Sciences;

During their visit, these six scientists participated in a breakfast entitled From Science to Business, organized by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago), and chaired by Dr. Zuker, in which they met with local businesspeople, opinion leaders and policymakers to discuss issues that ranged from the importance of investment in science and technology and, particularly basic science to the social, cultural and economic impact of science and technology, strategies for engaging the private sector and the general community in scientific endeavor and the role of philanthropy in supporting scientific research.

• **Columbia-UDP Public Policy Meetings**

Taking advantage of CU faculty’s visit to Chile, the Center has been jointly organizing a series of talks with Universidad Diego Portales (UDP). The first meeting was organized with the Public Policy Institute at UDP on January 2013 with Teacher’s College Professor Henri Levin, who gave a lecture on labor adaptability. The second event was organized during the visit of Mailman’s School of Public Health Dean Linda Fried on January 2013. The meeting was entitled “Economic and Social Consequences of Global Aging” and was organized as a panel discussion with four speakers: Dean Linda Fried; Rosa Kornfeld, director of the Chilean Aging Services (discussing the national aging policy); Joaquin Vial, member of the Board of the Central Bank of Chile and former head of Chile’s National Budget Office (discussing the economic consequences associated with population aging); Esteban Calvo, director of the Master in Public Policy-UDP.

The Third Public Policy Meeting was held on October 2014, where Thomas Trebat, director of Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Rio de Janeiro), talked about Brazil's economic situation, the country's future in the light of its recent presidential election and the impact that the new government on domestic and foreign policy. In addition, Ernesto Ottone, director of the Globalization and Democracy Program, gave a keynote talk about Latin America's challenges in the context of globalization.

The fourth meeting took place on January 2015 when Professor Ursula Staudinger Director, Butler Columbia Aging Center, Robert N. Butler Professor of Sociomedical Sciences and Professor of Psychology; Director, Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center, with other two renowned speakers will discuss experiences about aging and well-being, offering tools to move toward a world where longevity benefits people of all ages.
Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus

The Center’s area of focus is largely determined by the needs of the country. After the last Advisory Board meeting on June 26, 2014, the Santiago Center agreed to focus on the following topics for the period: Public Health, Energy Policy, Earth Sciences Gender Issues, Sustainability, Educational Reform and Fundraising Opportunities in Chile.