# COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS

# **APPENDIX TO RFPs:**

# GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND

| Columbia Global Centers   Amman          | 3  |
|--|----|
| Columbia Global Centers   Beijing        | 17 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Istanbul       | 36 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Mumbai         | 48 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Nairobi        | 54 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Paris          | 59 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Rio de Janeiro | 69 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Santiago       | 73 |
| Columbia Global Centers   Tunis          | 81 |
|  |    |

# Columbia Global Centers | Amman

Center Launch: March 2009

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Jordan

# **Director Biography**

# SAFWAN M. MASRI

Professor Safwan M. Masri is Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University, and a Senior Research Scholar at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).

In his role as EVP, Masri directs a number of Columbia's global initiatives and is responsible for the development of an expanding network of Global Centers, located in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, and Tunis. These centers work to advance Columbia's global mission and extend the University's reach to address the pressing demands of our global society.

Masri joined Columbia University in 1988 as a member of the faculty of Columbia Business School. He was appointed Vice Dean in 1993, a position he held for thirteen years. He previously taught engineering at Stanford University, and was a visiting professor at INSEAD (*Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires*) in France.

A scholar on education and contemporary geopolitics and society in the Arab world, Masri's work focuses on understanding the historic, postcolonial dynamics among religion, education, society, and politics. He is the author of *Tunisia: An Arab Anomaly* (Columbia University Press, 2017), which examines why Tunisia was the only country to emerge from the Arab Spring as a democracy. The book has received positive coverage in a number of media outlets, including the *Financial Times* and *Le Monde*. Masri's writings on education and current affairs have been featured in the *Financial Times*, *Huffington Post*, *The Hill*, and *Times Higher Education*. He has also appeared on BBC World News, CNN, CBC News Network, ABC News, CBS News, among others, and has been widely quoted in the press, including in the New York Times.

Masri is an honorary fellow of the Foreign Policy Association and a member of the International Advisory Council of the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES). He was founding chairman of both King's Academy and Queen Rania Teacher Academy in Jordan, and served as an advisor to Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah. He is a trustee of International College in Beirut and of the Welfare Association (Taawon) in Ramallah. Masri serves on the governing boards of Endeavor Jordan and the Children's Museum Jordan, and was a director of Arab Bankers Association of North America (ABANA) and Aramex.

Masri 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. He 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. Masri has also been honored with the 2003 American Service Award from the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

# **Deputy Director Biography**

# Hanya Salah

# hs2617@columbia.edu

Hanya Salah is the Deputy Director at the Columbia Global Centers | Amman. She joined the Center in August 2010. She is responsible for overseeing and managing the Programs Department at the Center and supporting the Director in a number of initiatives. Prior to joining the Center, Hanya was the Director of the Children's Museum in Jordan and was responsible for implementing and coordinating the final phase of the museum's development and launch, as well as managing its overall activities. Hanya also directed the Ali Jabri Human Heritage Foundation, where she curated and oversaw the opening of the Foundation's inaugural exhibition and managed the Foundation's daily operation. Prior to that, Hanya worked for over 10 years at UNICEF and the United Nations in New York in different capacities. Hanya received her B.A. in Art History from Williams College and studied for her M.A. in Near Eastern Studies and Museum Studies at New York University.

All inquiries regarding PGIF or GSP should be directed to Hanya Salah.

# **Center Space**

Columbia Global Centers | Amman is headquartered in the residential area of Dabouq. It is a stately, 47,000 square foot, two-floors building with an interior courtyard. The building contains an auditorium, several conference rooms, classrooms, and staff offices. Dedicated office space on the second floor has been assigned to Columbia schools with high level of activity in the region. In support of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (GSAPP), the Center has dedicated space to GSAPP's Studio-X Amman, which includes a studio, conference room, exhibition, and faculty office. The Center also has videoconferencing capabilities that can be configured to classrooms, conference rooms, or the auditorium depending on program needs.

# **Regional Dimension**

The Center maintains ties with partners in Beirut, Tunis, Jerusalem, Abu Dhabi and Cairo. The Center's staff have worked with the American University of Beirut, Birzeit University near Ramallah, and the American University in Cairo, as well as several local and regional NGOs. Progress is continuously being made towards expanding the Columbia University network throughout the region.

# **Networking and Contacts**

# Local, regional and national government partners

- *Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC):* The Center worked closely with MoPIC to tackle challenges related to sustainable development in Jordan.
- *Ministry of Social Development (MoSD):* The Center collaborated with the MoSD on a number of programs in the past, such as, "Jordan Social Work Education for Excellence Program," 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." In October 2017, a number of GSAPP faculty members and Studio-X staff were invited to present at the "Resilience by Design" University event at GAM, organized in collaboration with Resilience by Design, 100 Resilient Cities, and PennDesign during Amman Design Week 2017.
- *Ministry of Health (MoH):* The Public Health Program has had discussions with the MoH on priority areas of collaboration. The MoH has participated in the Center's roundtable discussion: "Jordan: Successes and Challenges in Public Health" and several working group meetings on programming and research on non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The ministry is also supporting the Women ASPIRE (Women Advancing Solutions in Policy, Implementation, Research and Engagement for Refugees) project, and has granted the team approval to conduct research study at selected health facilities in five governorates (Amman, Zarqa, Mafraq, Ramtha, Irbid).
- Jordanian Nursing Council: The Center collaborated with the Jordanian Nursing Council on the "Global Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Research Development Initiative."

# Local, National and, International NGOs and Institutions

The Center has collaborated with a range of both local and regional NGOs and institutions on their programs, including:

- Africinvest
- Aga Khan Foundation, International, Arab Image Foundation
- Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability Program (AHDA)
- American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI)
- American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR)
- Arab League Educational, Cultural & Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- Arab Renaissance for Democracy for Development (ARDD-Legal Aid)
- CARE International
- Caritas Jordan
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
- Center for the Study of the Built Environment (CSBE)

- Chatham House
- Chrest Foundation
- Darat Al Funun The Khalid Shoman Foundation
- Danish Refugee Council
- Durable Solutions Platform
- Family Development Foundation, Economic Research Forum (ERF)
- Family Health International (FHI 360) Cairo
- Fondation BIAT
- Foundation for Architecture and Heritage (FAH)
- Friends of the Earth Middle East
- Greater Amman Municipality
- Institute of Family Health
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- International Growth Centre (IGC) United Kingdom
- International Medical Corps
- International Rescue Committee
- Jordan Green Building Council (JGBC)
- Jordan River Foundation
- Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development
- King Hussein Foundation
- King Abdullah University Hospital
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Open Society Foundations
- Riwaq Center for Architecture Preservation (Ramallah)
- Royal Health Awareness Society
- Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature
- Ruwwad Al Tanmeya
- Sharjah Art Foundation
- The Identity Center Regional: Regional Partnership on Culture and Development
- Tomorrow's Youth Organization
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- United States Embassy in Jordan (Regional English Language Office)
- USAID Takamol Jordan Gender Program
- WHO

# Universities and colleges

- Al-Quds Bard College for Arts and Science
- American University of Beirut
- American University of Cairo
- American University of Sharjah
- Bartlett School of Architecture
- Bezalel Academy of Art and Design
- Birzeit University
- Center of Strategic Studies at University of Jordan
- German Jordanian University
- Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut
- Jordan University of Science and Technology
- London Architectural Association
- Queen's University Belfast
- Tunis Business School
- University of Helsinki, the Department of Teacher Education
- University of Groningen
- University of Jordan
- University of Oslo
- Yarmouk University

# 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", 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 held at Columbia Global Centers | Paris, "Remembering Across Time: Psychological Studies of the Two World Wars in Transgenerational Memory."

# • Religion and the Global Framing of Gendered Violence

The Columbia Global Centers | Amman held a two-day workshop led by Professor Lila Abu-Lughod, Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science. The workshop brought together 17 scholars, journalists, and activists from the MENA region to discuss the role of religion in naming, framing, and governing gendered violence. The discussions addressed comparative questions about the forms and politics of inquiry, techniques of measurement, and technologies of intervention that are being used to frame and treat the issue of violence in relation to gender.

# • International Economic Association's Seventeenth World Congress

The IEA World Congress aims to provide a platform for the exchange of expertise and research on economy-related issues and challenges of global importance by bringing together prominent economists, academics, and policy makers. Columbia Global Centers | Amman worked closely with the International Economic Association, and Joseph Stiglitz in particular, University Professor at Columbia and now former President of the IEA, to spearhead the effort to bring this key event to Jordan.

# • Fostering Entrepreneurship in Engineering Education in Tunisia

This three-year project, led by the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS) in partnership with Columbia Business School (CBS) and the Global Centers | Amman, aims to strengthen the culture of entrepreneurship in engineering education in Tunis. The program included the training of Tunisian educators to enhance their ability to better mentor and coach student teams participating in the *National Open Start Up Competition* in Tunisia. Mentors were provided with tools on how to nurture the development of a small-grown entrepreneurship culture that is student driven and faculty supported. Students were also trained on the importance of sustainable development goals, design thinking, business model canvas, market discovery, teamwork and pitching.

# The Future of the Past: Addressing the Cultural Heritage Crisis in Iraq and Syria

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, in partnership with Columbia University and the Columbia Global Centers | Amman, organized a series of three regional cultural heritage workshops, entitled "The Future of the Past: Addressing the Cultural Heritage Crisis in Iraq and Syria," at the Columbia Global Centers | Amman. The workshops brought together museum specialists from Iraq, Syria, as well as Jordan, to discuss their current situation and needs with each other, as well as with colleagues from Europe and North America. In addition, the workshops helped identify other areas in which The Metropolitan Museum and Columbia University can continue to offer support to Iraqi and Syrian museum colleagues in the future to preserve their countries' cultural heritage. The main topics discussed at the workshops were photographic documentation, education and training needs, emergency care needs, and publication of material. The events were followed by hands-on training sessions designed to give photographers better support with correcting, saving and transferring images and to assess their work.

# • International Legal Dialogue

The Center organized a conference on "International Legal Dialogue – Middle East and North Africa." The conference was spearheaded by Lori Damrosch, President of the American Society of International Law and Hamilton Fish Professor of International Law and Diplomacy, and was held in collaboration with the Columbia Law School, American Society of International Law, University of Jordan Law School, American Red Cross,

Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, and the American Bar Association – Rule of Law Initiative. The conference brought together local, regional and international speakers in the form of panel discussions on various timely international legal themes that are particularly relevant to the Middle East and North Africa. Some of the major issues and topics that were covered are arbitration, child abduction and protection, environmental effects of armed conflict, humanitarian law, and human trafficking in refugee situations.

• Human Rights Treaty Body Reform Process: Towards a Stronger Human Rights Protection Regime

This project brought together experts from around the world to contribute to the ongoing process of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly's 2020 review of the UN human rights treaty bodies. The intended outcome is for participants to contribute to the UN-led process on the future of the UN human rights protection, and the implementation of UN General Assembly resolution 68/268 on strengthening the treaty body system which oversees reporting on human rights treaty compliance. The project organized a number of convenings in Istanbul, Amman, and in Latin America, that would feed into the work of decision makers in the lead-up to a review and resolution at the UN General Assembly in 2020. The project is led by Elazar Barkan, Professor of International and Public Affairs and Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University, and Jack Snyder, Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Relations.

• Regional Perspectives on International Mobility: Contextualizing the Model International Mobility Convention

In partnership with the Columbia Global Policy Initiative (CGPI) and University Professor Michael W. Doyle, Director of the Columbia Global Policy Initiative and co-author of the *Model International Mobility Convention* (MIMC), the Columbia Global Centers | Amman held the workshop, "Regional Perspectives on International Mobility: Contextualizing the Model International Mobility Convention." Policymakers, academics, and practitioners were brought together to critically examine the question of international mobility and explore the MIMC. Professor Doyle presented a new framework in approaching migration and discussed the MIMC within the context of the MENA region. The event helped promote CGPI's Convention and encourage further signatures from local and regional academics and policymakers.

• Strengthening Refugee Access, Equity and Inclusion: Developing a New Framework

The Columbia Global Centers in Amman and Istanbul organized a symposium at Columbia University in New York to address the gap in the linkages between humanitarian response and development in light of a rapidly changing global context, and the need for new paradigms of refugee assistance and inclusion. The symposium featured Columbia faculty engaged in the forced displacement issue, practitioners from the MENA region, and scholars who have been instrumental in treating refugee movements as a developmental issue.

• Women Advancing Solutions in Policy, Implementation, Research, and Engagement for Refugees

Women Advancing Solutions in Policy, Implementation, Research and Engagement for Refugees is a collaboration between Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW), Columbia Global Centers | Amman, and the University of Jordan. The purpose of this project is to establish a consortium of faculty committed to identifying the needs of Syrian refugees in the areas of research, education, training, and service.

Women ASPIRE is also leading a primary data collection project in partnership with the University of Jordan, the Institute of Family Health and the International Rescue Committee. This research study aims to understand the gendered health and mental health concerns of Syrian refugee women living in non-camp urban settings throughout Jordan. The project is led by Professors Nabila El-Bassel, Willma and Albert Musher Professor of Social Work, and Neeraj Kaushal, Professor of Social Work.

• Mental Health and the Psychological Impact of War on Individuals, Families and Communities in Yemen: A project to advance Research, Services, and Advocacy

The project is an interdisciplinary investigation and advocacy project that aims to address the adverse effects of armed conflict on mental health in Yemen. The broad objectives of the project are to conduct interdisciplinary research to better understand the mental health situation in Yemen, including how it varies across experience, gender, and age, as well as the capacities of and gaps in mental health services in the country. Professor Sarah Knuckey, Associate Clinical Professor of Law, the director of the Human Rights Clinic, and the faculty co-director of the Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School, and Professor Lindsay Stark, Associate Professor of Population and Family Health at Mailman School of Public Health are leading this project in partnership with the Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies (SCSS).

• Improving Access to Resettlement and Complementary Pathways for Syrians in the Middle East Seminar

Columbia Global Centers | Amman and Durable Solutions Platform (DSP) organized a seminar, "Improving Refugee Access to Resettlement and Complementary Pathways." The seminar brought together practitioners from NGOs, UN agencies, donors, civil society, think tanks, academia as well as people from the private sector. The aim of the seminar was to establish a better understanding among stakeholders on how to improve access to resettlement and complementary pathways for Syrian refugees in the Middle East. The seminar shared preliminary findings of research studies on resettlement and complementary pathways.

• Pluralism in Emergenc(i)es: Movement, Space, and Religious Difference

The Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life (IRCPL) and Columbia Global Centers | Amman, with support from the Center for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain at the University of Groningen, and the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages at the University of Oslo, held a conference, "Pluralism in Emergencies: Movement, Space, and Religious Difference," in Amman. This conference addressed how pluralism becomes activated in emergency situations, and is utilized in different ways and towards different ends. The event brought together local experts, doctoral students and activists with regional specialists and practitioners from academia, civil society and the NGO sector. Participants presented on and discussed the impact of the global migration situation on housing and urban development, collective memory and identity, and religious pluralism in the face of rapidly changing and increasingly precarious lived realities. Outcomes of the conference included the production of an edited book volume and other online publications.

• Global Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Research Development Initiative

Columbia University School of Nursing received a three year grant (2014-2017) from the President's Global Innovation Fund to investigate nursing and midwifery research gaps and current practices in South and East Africa and the Middle East. Three summits were held as

part of this project, two of which were hosted at Columbia Global Centers | Amman, including the final summit which convened experts from both Southern and Eastern Africa as well as the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean regions. Participants engaged in cross-regional dialogue to identify priorities and gaps, develop strategies that address them, create a plan to implement these strategies, establish a strong regional and cross-regional network and mentorship program, and disseminate recommended strategies. The initiative was led by two faculty members from Columbia University School of Nursing: Elaine Larson, PhD, Associate Dean for Research, and Jennifer Dohrn, DNP, Director of the Office of Global Initiatives and its WHO Collaborating Center for Advanced Practice Nursing.

**Public Health:** In coordination with the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, the Center's programming team supports 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:

• Impact of Family Separation on Syrian Refugees in Jordan

In partnership with UNHCR and with support from Columbia Global Centers | Amman, Columbia University developed and implemented a cross-sectional, qualitative research study to investigate the social, emotional and economic impact of family separation on Syrian refugees living in Jordan. The study, which began in July 2017, collected data from Syrian refugees in order to understand how separation impacts their families, and their perceptions of future solutions. It analyzed the ways in which separation perpetuates increased vulnerability. This study served as the first step in a larger regional study on the effects of family separation on displaced people, highlighting viable opportunities to improve policymaking in addressing practical and political barriers to reunification. In March 2018, the UNHCR published a summary of the research findings which included a total of 85 semi-structured, in-depth interviews conducted in Jordan. Four MPH students from Columbia were paired up with three Jordanian researchers to collect data from 1 July to 31 August. This project is spearheaded by Neil Boothby, Professor of Population and Family Health at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and Zahirah McNatt, doctoral student (DrPH) at Mailman School of Public Health. The partnership on this project serves as the first example of a strategic regional collaboration between UNHCR MENA and an academic institution.

• Coordinated Public Health Response in Emergencies:

The Columbia Global Centers | Amman, in conjunction with UNICEF Middle East and North Africa, organized a six-day training program on "Coordinated Public Health Response in Emergencies." The program was designed to build a knowledge base, and to provide technical support to UNICEF Child Survival and Development staff in countries engaged in emergency response. This comprehensive training course was tailored to the needs of staff and contextually relevant to health priorities in the region.

• Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases in the Middle East and Turkey

Columbia Global Centers | Amman hosted a workshop and convening on "Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the Middle East and Turkey" in January, 2014. The two-day workshop brought together Columbia University faculty with practitioners and academics from Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Turkey, to discuss topics related to the global burden of NCDs, research priorities, and potential training programs. The

workshop was followed by a public convening attended by representatives of academic and research institutions, non-governmental organizations and government agencies. The project was led by Wafaa El-Sadr, University Professor and Director of the International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs.

• Global Mental Health Research Consortium and Scholars Program

In April 2014, the Center hosted a program on promoting women's mental health in the Arab region. The program was led by Dr. Kathleen Pike, Executive Director and Scientific Co-Director of the Global Mental Health Program, and Associate Director of the Health and Aging Policy Fellowship Program at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. The meeting on "Arab Regional Field Studies" brought together the WHO scientific leadership and fifteen experts from the Arab region to address pressing topics, and work on the implementation of regional field studies related to the development of the WHO ICD-11. The meeting was organized in partnership with the American University of Beirut, headed by Brigitte Khoury, Director at the Arab Regional Center for Research, Training and Policy Making in Mental Health.

#### **Studio-X Amman**

Launched in 2009, Studio-X is a regional platform for experimental design and research initiated by Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP) and the Columbia Global Centers | Amman. Through workshops, lectures, screenings, and field visits, Studio-X Amman brings together Columbia GSAPP students and faculty with practitioners, researchers, and students working from or on the Arab region to critically reflect on the role of architecture education and practice in our time.

- Faculty and institutes involved: Amale Andraos, Mario Gooden, Felicity Scott, Craig Konyk, Jyoti Hosagrahar, Mary Mcleod, Philip Anzalone, Frederic Levrat, Craig Buckley, Mark Wasuita, Adam Bandler, Jordan Carver, Jennifer Broutin Farah, Kamal Farah, Karla Rothstein, Nina Kolowratnik, Madeeha Merchant, Laura Kurgan, Caitlin Blanchfield, Makram El Kadi, Gwendolyn Wright, Ziad Jamaleddine, Reinhold Martin, Mabel Wilson, Kadambari Baxi, Petra Kempf, Mpho Matsipa, Grga Basic, Hiba Bou Akar, Khaled Malas, Kate Orff, Leah Meisterlin, Michael Krisch, Center for Spatial Research.
- Local staff: Nora Akawi, Adjunct Assistant Professor, GSAPP and Director of Studio-X Amman; Jawad Dukhgan, Associate Director, Studio-X Amman; Nadine Fattaleh, Programs and Media Coordinator, Studio-X Amman.
- Institutions engaged: German Jordanian University, Jordan University, American University of Sharjah, Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Birzeit University, Bartlett School of Architecture, London Architectural Association, Cairo Lab for Urban Studies, Training and Environmental Research (CLUSTER), Sijal Institute for Arabic Language and Culture, Visualizing Impact, Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo)

# **Sampling of projects:**

# • Reading the Janet Abu-Lughod Library

This project is developed in partnership with Sijal Institute for Arabic Language and Culture. It is a series of seminars and talks based on the Janet Abu-Lughod Library, generously donated to Studio-X Amman by Professor Lila Abu-Lughod and her family.

# • Traveling Seminars and Studios

Nora Akawi teaches an ongoing traveling seminar course titled, "Mapping Borderlands," on borders, migration, citizenship and human rights, in collaboration with Nina V. Kolowratnik, Khaled Malas, Aamer Ibraheem at Columbia GSAPP since 2014. Traveling studio on "Water Urbanism" in collaboration with the Urban Design Program and faculty at GSAPP was held in January 2017 and 2018.

# • Cinema and the Memory of Cities

The program, held in Amman, Johannesburg, Tunis, and New York is curated by Rasha Salti with Nora Akawi and Mpho Matsipa. It includes screenings and discussions between filmmakers, urbanists, architects and artists on cities, counter-narratives, and subjectivity.

# • Frozen Imaginaries

This multimedia project is developed by Jawad Dukhgan with Antonio Ottomanelli. It includes workshops, design charrettes, and talks to investigate frozen construction sites in Amman in relation to master plans developed for the city during the late 20th century.

#### X-Talk Series

Studio-X hosts a year-long public lecture program at various venues around the city. The lectures offer audiences a chance to engage with a range of topics that are relevant to Studio-X's work, bringing scholars, researchers, and practitioners from the region as well as Columbia faculty and alumni to present their work.

#### • Conferences and Symposia

Multiple conferences and symposiums have been organized in Amman, New York, and other locations. Conferences include "The Arab City" in November 2014 in New York, "Propositions I" in March 2015 in Amman, and "Studio-X Amman at Milan Design Week" in April 2017 in Milan. The most recent "Contemporary Amman and the Right to the City Conference" was organized in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Amman and the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo) in November 2018. It brought together over 40 scholars, researchers, and practitioners.

**Arts Programs:** 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.

# • On the Margins of American Cinema

Richard Peña, Director Emeritus, New York Film Festival and Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University, presented film screenings and discussions, *On the Margins of American Cinema* at the Amman Center in July 2017. The screenings addressed specific examples of "independent" American cinemas, tracing their development and emphasizing

the unique contributions each has made to American film culture. There were five themes addressed throughout the series, one each day, including: Faded Glory: Independent African American Cinema, Altered Vision: American Avant-Garde Filmmaking, An American Neorealism? The Case of "Salt of the Earth", and The Evolution of American Documentary.

# • Introduction to Film Studies Workshop

Peña, Director Emeritus, New York Film Festival and Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University, conducted a five-day course the provided an overview of the basic techniques filmmakers have at their disposal in order to convey information and create meaning in film.

**Education and Learning Opportunities for Full-Time Students**: Columbia Global Centers | Amman hosts numerous onsite-training programs, particularly over the summer. Programs include the Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates Program, the Columbia Experience Overseas Program, and the Arabic Summer Language Program.

# • Columbia Arabic Summer Program

In conjunction with Columbia's Office of Global Programs and Columbia Global Centers | Tunis, the Amman Center holds an annual Arabic language program. The nine-week intensive summer program offers a multi-faceted introduction to the languages, culture, and history of the Middle East and North Africa. During the first part of the program, students spent time in Amman learning Arabic and attending seminars that examine the inter-relatedness of the Mashrek and the Maghreb dialects through various disciplines. The second part of the program takes place in Tunis, whereby students continue to study Arabic and examine various themes. They are given the opportunity to learn Mashreki in Amman and Maghrebi Darija in Tunis. The program is led by Taoufik Ben-Amor, Gordon Gray Jr. Senior Lecturer in Arabic Studies, and Madeleine Dobie, Professor of French and Romance Philology.

# • Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates (SEE-U) Program

SEE-U is a five-week summer program intended to provide Columbia undergraduates with a global understanding of ecology and environmental sustainability. The Program is designed by the Earth Institute Center for Environmental Sustainability (EICES) and Columbia College. It is offered at several locations around the world. Students conduct environmental fieldwork in unique natural settings, and gain a sense of exploration and appreciation of Jordan's ecology through a combination of field research and coursework.

# • Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO)

CEO Amman is a unique eight-week internship program that connects Columbia University undergraduates with highly sought after work environments through alumni and employer partnerships developed by the Center for Career Education (CCE). The program was launched in partnership with the CCE in 2011. Throughout the internship, students explore their chosen career path and develop relevant professional skills while living in a new city, and gaining global experiences.

• Summer Program on Democracy and Constitutional Engineering in the Middle East

Columbia University offered a three-week summer program focused on democracy and constitutional engineering in the Middle East during May – June 2015. The program was

organized by Columbia Global Centers | Amman, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, and the Office of Global Programs. Spearheaded by John Huber, Professor of Political Science, the program was held in Tunis, followed by a segment in Istanbul. Columbia students alongside students from leading universities in the Middle East, North Africa, and Turkey participated in the program. Students investigated the concept of democracy, the challenges of democratic transitions and consolidation, and the trade-offs associated with different ways of organizing democratic institutions. The program was supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund and the Lee C. and Jean Magnano Bollinger Fellowship.

# • Social Entrepreneurship Workshop for Jordanian High School Students

In August 2019, Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE) and Columbia Global Centers | Amman organized an intensive five-day workshop on social entrepreneurship for Jordanian high school students. The workshop introduced high school students from Amman to the social impact of entrepreneurship, the entrepreneurial framework for problem-solving, and how to apply this knowledge on both a local and global level. CORE also introduced students to different business models of existing startups and connected them to founders of successful social enterprises from around the world. The workshop concluded with students presenting their pitch decks to a panel of prominent social entrepreneurs in Jordan.

# • Social Work with Refugees and Displaced Persons: Global and Jordan Experience

Led by Mashura Akilova, Lecturer at Columbia School of Social Work, the program brought 16 graduate students from the Columbia School of Social Work to Amman during March 8 – 18, 2018. The students examined social work practices with forced displaced populations, and investigated social policies, programs and legal issues impacting this cohort. The purpose of the course was to provide an opportunity for students to gain knowledge and skills through a comprehensive study of Jordan's experience with emergency response.

#### • Kraft Global Fellows Program

The University Chaplain and ten Columbia University students were in Amman from January 3-12, 2018, as part of the Kraft Global Fellows Program, an initiative of the Kraft Family Fund for Intercultural and Interfaith Awareness, and the Office of the University Chaplain. The purpose of the trip was for students to gain a better understanding of the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds in Jordan and the region, as well as to explore relevant topics such as multi-faith interconnectivity. Students were accompanied by Jewelnel Davis, the University Chaplain, Associate Provost and Director of the Earl Hall Center at Columbia University. They met with a number of religious leaders, local influencers and faith-based organizations, including the Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies (RIIFS), Jordan River Foundation (JRF), ARDD-Legal Aid, the Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Center, UNHCR, Injaz, and Catholic Center for Studies and Media. This program was designed in coordination with Columbia Global Centers | Amman.

# • Cities of Knowledge: Displaying Archaeological Knowledge in the Public Spaces of Amman

In partnership with the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University, the Amman Center hosted a travel seminar for nine undergraduate students during March 12-18, 2016. This seminar explored the urban development of the city of

Amman through its two major archaeological sites the ancient buildings of the Roman City of Philadelphia, and the Qala'a (Citadel). Students studied these sites as related to the modern city of Amman. They discussed how modern methods of urban planning all relate to the idea of reconstructing past narratives for Amman, while focusing mainly on archaeology, urban architectural developments, specific cultural centers and even museum displays. Students were accompanied by Avinoam Shaelm, Riggio Professor of the History of the Arts of Islam, and Holger Klein, Professor of Art History and Archaeology.

**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 and public policy, to the fine arts. Speakers have included:

- Christine Tohme, Founder of Ashkal Alwan
- Gayatri Spivak, University Professor at Columbia University
- Helen Lackner, Research Associate at the London Middle East Institute at SOAS University of London
- Hugh Herr, Associate Professor of Media Arts and Sciences at Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Joseph Nye, University Distinguished Service Professor and former Dean of the Kennedy School Government at Harvard University
- Joseph Stiglitz, University Professor at Columbia University
- Lila Abu Lughod, Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science at Columbia University
- Nicolas Pelham, Middle East Correspondent for The Economist
- Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University
- Seth Anziska, Mohamed S. Farsi-Polonsky Lecturer in Jewish-Muslim Relations at University College London
- Wade Davis, Professor of Anthropology and the BC Leadership Chair in Cultures and Ecosystems at Risk at the University of British Columbia

# **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

The Amman Center continues to organize programs and research activities in the areas of public health and migration, social work, education, architecture, as well as the arts and cultural expression, among others. While many of these themes 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 some of the greatest opportunities for study, involvement, and impact.

Over the past few 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 | Amman has held meaningful conversations and academic dialogues with regional experts and thought-leaders, actively seeking out ways in which Columbia—with its diverse intellectual capacities—may contribute positively to the developments taking place across the region.

# **Columbia Global Centers | Beijing**

Center Launch: March 2009

Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/beijing/

Email: beijing.cgc@columbia.edu

Address: No.26, 1F Core Plaza, No.1 Shanyuan Street, Zhongguancun, Haidian District, Beijing,

China 100080

Other links: Wechat – Sina Weibo – Facebook

# **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 largest 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, including Tsinghua University and Peking University, and geographically close to significant historic locations such as the Summer Palace.

Located in a business suite, the two-floor facility features nearly 5,000 square feet of office space is equipped to accommodate more than 15 employees and has 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 strong 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 it to reach out to the local community in Beijing and other cities in China, and 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 jointly organized with local partner institutions.

# **Networking and Contacts**

In 2019, the Beijing Center invited speakers and panelists, mainly faculty from Columbia University, to develop the key pillar brands that we call "Master Class" "Frontier" "Horizon" which feature the essence of Columbia campus and the glory of its past.

In order to enhance it active and localized presence and influence, the Beijing Center initiated thematic projects to enhance engagements with its local community. These ongoing projects gather Columbians and non-Columbians from various areas to share their experience and views at the Center.

In total, with 73 public programs, Beijing Center engaged with 15 schools and research institutes, 5,552 attendees, 6 thematic series projects, 5 deans, 54 faculty members, 572 students, 490 alumni, 18 local partners, and more than 5,200,000 online viewers. Please find more on the latest annual report.

The Beijing Global Center works with diverse local and regional universities, institutions, governments, NGOs, media, and enterprises in China, and includes more than 90 partnerships with Chinese universities, government entities and the private sector. A partial list of Center partners in China include:

# Local, regional, and governmental partnerships

- China National Committee of Aging
- China Federation of Social Work
- State Information Center
- National Development and Reform Commission
- Health and Family Planning Commission of China
- Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Clean Development Mechanism Fund of the Ministry of Finance
- Energy Development Research Center of the China Investment Association
- State Administration of Quality Supervision and Regulation Department
- Shanghai Municipal Department of Environmental Protection
- Social Assistance Department, Ministry of Civil Affairs

#### Local and international NGOs and foundations

- The Sustainability Consortium
- World Economic Forum (Davos)
- Dandelion School for the Children of Migrant workers
- Roots & Shoots Beijing
- Greenpeace East Asia
- Kai Feng Foundation
- Ford 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 Technologys
- Beijing Medical University
- Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business
- Zhejiang University
- China Foreign Affairs University
- University of International Relations
- Communication University of China
- National School of Administration

# Academic institutes and think tanks

- Chinese Academy of Governance
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C
- Tsinghua-Brookings Institute
- China Council for International Investment Promotion
- Beijing Normal University China Philanthropy Research Institute
- Yale Beijing Center
- Stanford Center at Peking University
- Chicago Center in Beijing
- Harvard Shanghai Center
- China Center for International Economic Exchanges
- Stanford Center at Peking University
- Chicago Center in Beijing
- Harvard Shanghai Center
- China Center for International Economic Exchanges

# Sampling of past projects

# I. On-Going Projects:

# President Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) funded projects, 2013, 2014, 2015 2016 and 2019:

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. In the first three years of the program, the Beijing Center has attracted more than 30 proposals. For 2013-2019, 13 projects headed by Columbian faculty and Chinese partners have been awarded.

# PGIF 2013

| Name of PI                     | Title of Project   | PI Affiliation  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| William Eimicke                | Global Public Management   | School of International and Public Affairs  |
| Nicola Twilley                 | Regional Foodshed Resilience: An Interdisciplinary and International Practicum | Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  |
| Julian Teitler<br>Sandro Galeo | Columbia University Global Migration<br>Network                                | School of Social Work /<br>Mailman School of Public<br>Health   |
| Shantanu Lal and<br>Jeremy Mao | Children's Global Oral Health Initiative                                       | College of Dental Medicine,<br>College of Physicians and<br>Surgeons  |
| Jan Svejnar                    | Strategies for Growth: The Changing Role of the State                          | School of International and Public Affairs  |
| Sheena Iyengar                 | Global Leadership Matrix (GLeaM)   | Business School   |
| Sheldon Pollock                | The Columbia Global Humanities Project   | Arts and Sciences   |
| Kathleen Pike                  | Global Mental Health Research<br>Consortium and Scholars Program               | College of Physicians and<br>Surgeons, Department of<br>Psychiatry, Mailman School of<br>Public Health, Department of<br>Epidemiology |

# PGIF 2014

| Name of PI    | Title of Project  | PI Affiliation                      |
|---------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|               | De-Provincializing Soft Power: A Global-<br>Historical Approach   | Arts & Sciences: Social<br>Sciences |
| Ira Deutchman | Screenwriting and Creative Producing<br>Workshops for CGC   | Arts & Sciences: Humanities         |
| Wafaa El-Sadr | China's Aid to Africa: Achievements,<br>Challenges and Opportunities  | Mailman School of Public<br>Health  |
|               | Children's Global Oral Health Initiative:<br>An Adaptable Interdisciplinary Model for<br>Chronic Health Care Management and<br>Health Promotion | P&S                                 |
| Kathy Pike    | Global Mental Health Research<br>Consortium and Scholars Program  | P&S                                 |
|               | Global Expertise to Feed the World:<br>Planning and CGC Network on<br>Sustainable Agricultural Intensification                                  | Earth Institute                     |

# PGIF 2015

| Name of PI | Title of Project   | PI Affiliation   |
|------------|--|--|
|            | Annual China-Latin America Program on Trade and Financial Relations in Context of Changing Economic Structure in China and Latin America | Public Affairs   |
|            |  | Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science. |
|            | Should I Stay or Should I Go? A<br>Longitudinal and Cross-national Study of<br>the Effects of Retirement on Health                       | Mailman School of Public<br>Health                       |

# PGIF 2016

| Name of PI      | Title of Project   | PI Affiliation                        |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Julie Herbstman | $\mathcal{E}$  | Mailman School of Public<br>Health    |
| Samuel Zeichner | Planning Grant: Columbia University<br>International Consortium for<br>Maxillofacial Radiology | Columbia University Medical<br>Center |

# PGIF 2019 (bold projects are underway)

| Name of PI | Title of Project | PI Affiliation                          |
|------------|------------------|---|
|            | e e              | Department of Biomedical<br>Engineering |

# **Thematic Programs - Areas of Focus**

To combine the University's superb capabilities with public interest and local urgent demands, the Beijing Center designed and cultivated its Thematic Series Projects, addressing key challenges and covering hot topics from the local public.

Sustained attention to these areas by a continuously increasing audience was maintained through ongoing discussions hosted by the Center.

The Thematic Series enables better engagement of Columbia community in China and creates greater potential for opportunities for future academic research and program collaborations with external counterparts.

# **≻**East Asia Study Series

As a regional hub for East Asia, the Beijing Center not only covers China, but also has influence in all of East Asia. The East Asia Study Series aims to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding between the East and the West, which is especially important considering Asia's rise and the current international context. In 2019, in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, key issues were addressed by this series. They included Chinese classics and culture, Japanese film and literature, elder care systems, journalism and other issues. The Center achieved its goal by bringing research and teaching about the region to the forefront and contributing new knowledge on global humanities.

# Panel discussion: Reporting Asia + Alumni reception

On July 13, Professor Eugenia Lean, Director of WEAI, and Professor Xiaobo LÜ, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Political Science at Barnard College, were joined by Keith Bradsher, Pulitzer Prize-winning Shanghai bureau chief for *The New York Times* and the newspaper's senior writer for Asia economics and business for a panel discussion on reporting on Asia at the Beijing Center. They shared views on how to deliver responsible and trustworthy news about Asia.

The Center also invited to the event a group of Shanghai alumni who participated in a live Q&A session online.





(Photo ID: Benjamin Liebman 1, Benjamin Liebman 2) Professor Benjamin Liebman shares his thoughts on artificial intelligence and how it might impact law firms' productivity and the work of lawyers, on June 20.





(Photo ID: Weiping 1, Weiping 2) Professor Weiping WU gives a lecture on China's urbanization in the global context at the Beijing Center on June 27.





(Photo ID: Jinyu 1, Jinyu 2) Professor Jinyu LIU discusses her studies on China's aging society and takes an interview at the Beijing Center on July 14.





(Photo ID: Wei Shang 1, Wei Shang 2) Professor Wei SHANG presents his observations and studies on Chinese classic literature at the Beijing Center on July 16.





(Photo ID: Paul 1, Paul 2) Paul Anderer, Mack Professor of Humanities and Professor of Japanese Literature at Columbia University, shared his latest work *Kurosawa's Rashomon* at Beijing's Kubrick bookstore on June 11, and at the Beijing Center the next day.



(Photo ID: Pop) Professor Kevin Fellezs (second from right), Associate Professor of Music in Columbia, talk about Asian pop music with international panelists at the Beijing Center on April 20. The symposium was supported by Columbia University's 2018-19 Global Humanities Projects Grants.

# **➤**Education panel series

Education is one of the top national issues in China. It is hotly debated and closely watched. In 2018, in light of the upcoming 100th anniversary of John Dewey's visit to China, and the country's stepped-up efforts in educational reform, the Beijing Center built a thematic program. The program has conducted 10 public panel discussions, five high-level discussion meetings on cooperation and two long-term educational research projects with local universities and schools.

The program successfully used the expertise of Columbia University, and its distinguished Teachers College, to showcase case studies on essential education expertise, and spread the innovative practices led by Columbia alumni and local experts.



(Photo ID: Education 2) Professor Hope Jensen Leichter, Elbenwood Professor of Education and Director of the Elbenwood Center for the Study of Family as Educator at Columbia Teachers College, shares the Center's work and its tie with Dewy's theory in a video massage for the symposium on John Dewey's impact on April 28.



(Photo ID: Education 3) Attendees gather at the Beijing Center on May 19 for a panel discussion on development of innovative schools in China.

The Center hosted the following series of panel discussions on education

- -December 22, 2018 Reinforcing Cultural competence in a multicultural environment.
- -December 22, 2018 and April 13, 2019 New educational technology in classroom: The practice of VR/AR application.
- -January 12, Documentary screening and discussion of crossroads of journalism dreams: Chinese students at Columbia Journalism School.
- -January 20 and April 28, John Dewey's Contributions Remembered 100 Years Later: Beijing seminars on the centenary of the American philosopher and educational reformer's China visits.
- -May 19, Development of the innovative schools in China: How schools and families can help prepare talents for the 21st century.
- -June 19, Transformation of education: The Role of Education in the 21st Century.
- -July 20, Music education: The importance of art in childhood development.
- -July 28, *Hundreds of Aspects of Ivy Students*: The gain and growth of having an overseas education experience, and being a global citizen.

# **➤**Public health and medical care

Health is a must for human development and the foundation of social-economic development. As demand for more accessible and affordable medical care continues to rise in China, the Beijing Center has worked closely with CUIMC and relevant schools and units to promote Columbia's expertise. They explored increased standards for public health management, mixed approaches to integrated treatment and convalescence care.

The goal is to build meaningful engagement and research and practice cooperation, by organizing nation-wide conferences that feature experts from Columbia. They have helped to reinforce exchanges, support graduate students global practicum and talent exchange, and many others activities.

# International forum and award: CUIMC at the first Xiong'An International Health Forum

As a keystone project for international exchange within the health services sector and to present the expertise of Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC), the Beijing Center supported a three-day Xiong'An International Health Forum in November 2018.

Six CUIMC faculties shared their views and studies at the forum, and Dr. Roy Vagelos P&S '54 received the Lifetime Achievement Award 2018 by the Shenzhen World Health Foundation.

The forum was co-founded by the Shenzhen World Health Foundation, China Association of Chinese Medicine, and China Institute of Strategy and Management, and received recognition and strong support from the People's Government of Hebei Province and the Administrative Committee of Xiong'An New Area, UNICEF, the Kofi Annan Foundation, Hebei Provincial Development and Reform Commission, and the Hebei Provincial Health and Family Planning Commission.

# Global practicum: Internship experience of Chinese Traditional Medicine





Health care should no boundaries. To promote China-US academic communications and cooperation in education, clinical practice, and leadership, the Beijing Center supported Columbia School of Nursing with its 6-week practicum with the Affiliated Hospital of Shandong University of Chinese Traditional Medicine (TCM) in March. This is also the school's first clinical nursing internship program in China under its Office of Global Initiatives.

Working with the school, the Beijing Center also hosted six students on May 16, from the School for a special presentation and sharing event titled "The Nursing Experience in America and China through the Eyes of Student Nurses," which attracted leaders of nursing departments, professionals from local hospitals.

# >Environmental sustainability

The risks and hazards of climate change have been well recognized as the most urgent issue affecting our planet. China is fully on board with many other nations to firmly push for action and has initiated a great many plans to increase environmental sustainability in the country. The Beijing Center is focused on providing Columbia expertise to help solve urgent local environmental issues.

# **Exhibition: "A Drop of Water" International Art Exhibition for the Children**

In response to the University initiative labeled *The Year of Water*, Beijing Center, along with Centers in Paris, Nairobi and Rio, in partnership with the No-Boundaries Committee, launched "A Drop of Water" International art exhibition for children, fostering global awareness and social responsibility in young citizens around the world.

The Center also supported and coordinated academic public programs featuring research on water usage at Columbia and its application in China.

# Research project: Infant health and air pollution



(Photo ID: Almond 1, Almond 2) Professor Douglas shares his research on maternal avoidance behavior against pollution and infant health in China at the Beijing Center January 24.

The Beijing Center has supported Professor Douglas Almond, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, to promote his research in infant health and air pollution and how is can be applied in China. The Center also hosted a public talk featuring his work on maternal avoidance behavior against pollution and infant health in China on January 24.

# Public lecture: EV charging in US, China



(Photo ID: Hove) Hove shares his recent research on electric vehicles and EV charging in China at the Beijing Center on May 8.

Anders Hove, Fellow with the Center for Global Energy Policy at SIPA, discussed China's EV charging infrastructure, business models and challenges, at the Beijing Center on May 8. His work analyzed the integration of clean energy into the general power grid and wider energy systems.

# Road Show and Panel on Young Green Tech Initiative

In partnership with Wanke Foundation's Asia Society, Beijing Center co-organized Young Green Tech, an exchange program that empowers young creators to address environmental challenges through scalable solutions and clean tech innovation. Three roadshows and year-round events in China, including one held on April 23 celebrating Earth Day, have helped promote the concept of sustainability.

#### **≻**Core curriculum Series

By the end of World War I, professors at Columbia University initiated Contemporary Civilization -- a central component in Columbia University's Core Curriculum -- inspiring their students to explore the history of philosophical, social, and political thoughts, contemplate the various value systems, and think about our individual worth in the world.

This year, on the occasion of the centennial of the Core, the Beijing Center has developed online and offline programs to continue the intellectual mission of the Core, providing wide-ranging perspectives, discussing new challenges in the era of globalization, and inspiring creative ideas in the humanities among the younger generation.

# Colloquium: Ovid and Latin Classics in Chinese translation

From May 20, Beijing Center hosted a week-long colloquium featuring a collaborative project on "Ovid and Latin Classic in Chinese Translation" under the support of Columbia Global Humanities Grant initiative.

Throughout the week, scholars from China, the U.S., and Europe strategized about certain shared research goals in the areas of Greco-Roman classical study, modern translation theory and practice, and cross-cultural analysis of the psychology of exilic experience.







Video:



(Photo ID: Ovid 4)

# High school master classes: The nature of Columbia undergraduate education





"Think about the nature of human experience, "extolled Professor Gareth William, Anthon Professor of Latin Language and Literature at Columbia University, during his master classes at RDFZ Chaoyang Branch School in Beijing on May 23, and the Experimental High School Attached to Beijing Normal University on May 25. His class focused on Columbia's core curriculum and its main concept through classic literature.

#### Panel discussion: Understanding values of the Core at Columbia

Why should Chinese undergraduates study Western classics, and can it help to resolve the issues they encounter as citizens of the world? How do Chinese students deal with the difficulties they confront in the academic world?

At the Beijing Center, six Columbia undergraduate students shared their experience of learning and growing with Columbia's Core curriculum and discussed how this hundred-year-old curriculum can still address the problems of the present, on August 4.

# **➤**Women Leadership Series

Women Leadership Panel Series consists of a series of interactive panels designed to build an active network of Columbia faculty, students, alumni, external guests and women who are prominent professionals and leaders. These panels are expected to inspire the younger generation, especially women, to pursue personal development in career and life, and amend the gender stereotypes that often perceive women as less competitive than men in the workplace. The discussion provided a platform to raise the profile of professional women and build a dynamic circle for participants to explore new paths to leadership and greater success.

#### Panel discussion: Uncovering the myth of doing it all

The Beijing Center hosted the Sixth Women Leadership Panel on September 15, 2018, lead by four experienced professional women from Hogan Lovells China Office, Hitone Capital, ICBC Headquarter, and a large government owned insurance corporation. Their stories and insights offered many ideas on how to make good deals. They shared their opinions and answered questions in their respective areas of expertise, including cross-border transactions, antitrust law and international trade, real estate equity investments, investor relationship management.

# Panel discussion: Tips on goal setting

The Beijing Center hosted the seventh panel discussion of Women Leadership Panel Series on May 19, which consisted of the Director at the Department of International Trade Research in CCPIT Academy, Chief Economist at China National Gold Group Corporation, and Chief Macroeconomic Analyst at Huachuang Securities Co., Ltd. They shared their wealth of knowledge in the e-commerce, finance, and security analysis sectors, and discussed their experience in setting long-term and short-term goals and the development of their own career paths.

#### **Brand Series**

The Columbia Brand Projects at the Beijing Center are comprised of six sub-brands, which aim to promote diverse academic discourse and stimulate intellectual engagement in the region. Presenting the advanced academic and scientific work and developments from Columbia University via public programs, the Brand Projects provide local students, scholars, and stakeholders with a platform to enhance understanding, address global challenges and enable long-term cooperation and influence.

# "Experience Columbia in Beijing"

Public lectures hosted by the Beijing Center are designed to showcase the true essence of Columbia University. Audiences are given the unique opportunity to experience Columbia resources firsthand.

To name a few engagements, the Beijing Center invited Columbia faculty to give lectures and have dialogues, deans and vice-deans to introduce schools' visions and education programs, admission officers to engage in information sessions, professors and experts to speak on Bandung spirit, and scholars and entrepreneurs to discuss the appliance of big data and statistics. It is not only a platform to exhibit Columbia University from official perspectives, but also a good way to promote the bilateral engagement of Columbians and their local counterparts.

# **>**Master class

To expand its influence and raise awareness of Columbia, Beijing Center invited faculty and scholars to present their research and share knowledge with other organizations. This year the Center collaborated with several of Beijing's international schools, a wide range of local partners including museums, bookstores, enterprises, and the media.

Seminars and workshops covering humanities, urban planning and other important topics were specially designed to fit the needs of targeted audience groups. They helped build deep connections with local organizations and vastly expanded engagement in Columbia programs.

# Workshop: Building justice studio in architecture and urban planning





The Beijing Center supported Leah Meisterlin, Assistant Professor in Urban Planning at Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), to present her workshop titled "Building Justice Studio in Architecture and Urban Planning" at RDFZ Chaoyang Branch School on March 18.

# **≻**Frontier

Public programs under the Frontier brand focus on presenting Columbia's advanced scientific research in a variety of fields, including engineering and medical science. Presenting the university's superb scientific research capability and talent cultivating approach, these programs aim to lay a foundation for future academic exchanges and collaborative research in science and technology.

# **Symposium: Precision medicine**



With the goal of encouraging collaboration in research between experts in neonatology, pediatric surgery, pediatric neurology, pediatric cardiology, cancer treatment, and genomics, the Beijing Center hosted a symposium on precision medicine in partnership with China AI 30 Forum. The symposium featured Wendy Chung, Kennedy Family Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at Columbia University and Shen Yufeng, Assistant Professor of Systems Biology and Biomedical Informatics at Columbia University, on September 18, 2018.

Also attending were researchers from China's Capital Institute of Pediatrics, the Vice President of Beijing Tsinghua Changgung Hospital, Chief of Pediatrics at Beijing Friendship Hospital and other medical experts.

#### **≻**Horizon

Under the Horizon brand, the Beijing Center invites Columbia faculty to give lectures and dialogues. Deans and Vice Deans are also invited to introduce their schools' vision and education programs, while librarians share their knowledge of the university's library resources.

Topics of discussion mainly focused on the humanities, social sciences and regional studies. The aim of Horizon is to expand local knowledge of Columbia's renowned programs and pedagogy.

# Discussions: China, US and global economy





On March 21, one of the hottest and timeliest topics -- US and global economic relations -- was up for discussion at the Center. Prominent participants included Merit Janow, Dean of School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Patricia Mosser, Director of the MPA in Economic Policy Management at SIPA, and Jan Svejnar, Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at SIPA.

Also speaking at the discussion were Jacob Lew, former Secretary of the Treasury of the US and Visiting Professor at SIPA, and David Sandalow, Inaugural Fellow at the Center on Global Energy Policy and Co-Director of the Energy and Environment Concentration.

On March 22, the Beijing Center supported SIPA's fourth annual conference, under the theme *The West: The Role of the State in Economic Growth*. Coordinated by SIPA's Center on Global Economic Governance, the Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University, and the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University, dozens of top thinkers participated in the conference, including Nobel Laureates, leading academics, policy makers, and business leaders.

#### **➤**Application

The Application brand includes information sessions about a variety of academic programs at various schools at Columbia. By providing local students with direct access to admissions officers and first-hand knowledge of the schools and their programs, the Beijing Center assisted in promoting academic programs to the local community, and attracted talented prospective students for the University.

# Information session: GS's Dual BA Programs



The Center hosted two information sessions for the Dual BA Program of School of General Studies at Columbia University with Sciences Po on October 14, 2018 and with Trinity College Dublin on October 15, 2018. The information session, led by Vice Dean Curtis Rodgers of School of General Studies and Associate Dean Jessica Sarles-Dinsick, covered important details about application procedures.

# **➤**Student Connections

Reception: SEAS newly admitted graduate students in Shanghai and Beijing



The Beijing Center supported a series of receptions for Columbia Engineering alumni and admitted students in China. Mary C. Boyce, Dean of Engineering at The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, met and greeted, and provided a detailed introduction to the School to more than 140 new students, alumni, and parents in Shanghai on March 30, and to an audience of over 170 on March 31. Yaqin ZHANG, President of Baidu and Columbia Business School Senior Visiting Scholar 2018 also participated.

# Welcome reception: Columbia Class of 2023



The Beijing Center, in partnership with Columbia Undergraduate Admission Office, hosted a welcome reception for the Columbia Class of 2023 and their parents on April 14. The event provided new students an opportunity to learn more about the University and to engage with alumni and their peers.

# Send-off gathering: Columbia undergraduates and parents



Every year, a send-off event for Columbia undergraduates and parents at the Beijing Center is designed to give new students and their parents the opportunity to meet and exchange information before they travel to the U.S.

On July 6, the Center, in collaboration with GCC Columbia and Parent Club in China, hosted a gathering for more than 65 students and parents of the incoming Class of 2023 of Columbia College and Columbia Engineering.

# **➤**Alumni Engagement

Alumni gathering and panel discussion: Role Play by GSAPP



On December 15, 2018, the Beijing Center hosted role playing event organized by GSAPP alumni in China. Steffen Boddeker, Associate Dean of Admissions and Outreach at GSAPP,

delivered opening remarks and connected with GSAPP alumni and prospective students.

# Alumni gathering: Holidays are coming!

More than 100 Columbia alumni gathered at the Beijing Center to celebrate the holiday season on December 23, 2018. Columbia Alumni Association of Beijing supported the event.

To help explore Chinese traditional culture, the gathering invited Colin Siyuan Chinnery, an artist and curator based in Beijing, to speak about his "Sound Museum" that preserved the sounds of old Beijing.

# **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

Columbia Global Centers | Beijing was established in March 2009 as one of the first in the network of Columbia Global Centers. The Beijing Global Center provided Columbia faculty and students with opportunities to expand their research and scholarship, and serves as a conduit for knowledge exchange and skill development with local and regional academics, experts, and practitioners.

In 2019, the Beijing Center continues to engage in key areas including Education, Health & Medicine, Environmental Sustainability, Women Empowerment & Leadership, Art, Culture & History; Business, Innovation & Entrepreneurship; Engineering & Applied Science.

# Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

Center Launch: November 2011

Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/istanbul

Email: <u>istanbul.cgc@columbia.edu</u>

Address: Sıraselviler Caddesi No. 49; Yeni Hayat Apt. Flat 5; Beyoğlu, İstanbul

A look at Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul 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 has been Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul since its launch in 2011. 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 Master of International Affairs (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 and 2007, an Internet company with multinational clients. Between 2005 and 2010, Ipek produced and hosted "Global Leaders," a television program on NTV networks, the first news channel of Turkey, 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 Yeni Yüzyıl, Milliyet and Sabah.

Ipek is a founder and board member of 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 Işık University. She was a member of Allianz Turkey's Advisory Board between 2015 and 2017. She is a former board member of the Strategic Advisory Council of the Marseille Center for Mediterranean Integration.

Elected an Eisenhower Fellow in 2002, 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, over 930 students from Columbia and over 10,700\* from Turkey have been engaged in Global Center programs in Istanbul, along with over 180 faculty representing 15 Columbia schools. In 2018, 17,900\* people came together in 133 events organized by the Center and Studio-X Istanbul\*\*. There are three full-time and three part-time staff working for the Center.

The Center's office is 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.

In addition to the above, through existing connections with various counterparts, the Center has a very strong network throughout 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.

\*These large numbers are also a function of frequent events hosted at our Studio-X Istanbul venue.

\*\*Due to a change in strategic direction of GSAPP, Studio-X Istanbul and all other Studio-X locations around the world were closed as of August 2019. From 2013 to 2019, Studio-X Istanbul hosted 202 events attended by over 25,000 people.

# **Regional Dimension**

Through various projects and events and in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | 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 collaborated on co-convening a roundtable meeting on global geopolitical developments in Paris in May 2014. The Istanbul, Paris, and Amman Centers have been collaborating on a workshop series on Artistic Expression and Art Censorship, the first of which took place in Istanbul in September 2017. In June 2015, the Istanbul and Tunis Centers partnered with Professor John Huber on the Columbia Program in Tunis and Istanbul: Democracy and Constitutional Engineering, and have plans to organize future sessions. In May 2019, the Istanbul Center collaborated with the Amman Center on a panel titled, "Citizens and Mothers: Women and the State in Ottoman Society."

It is in the Center's long-term strategy to continue working with the Amman, Paris, and Tunis Centers to broaden joint programming related to nearby regions, mainly the Middle East, Balkans, Black Sea, the Caucasus, and the Eastern Mediterranean. We are especially connected with Greece both in terms of programming and for various levels of contacts in the private and public sectors.

#### **Networking and Contacts**

# **Universities and Colleges**

- Boğaziçi University
- Sabancı University
- Koç University
- Bilgi University
- Istanbul University
- Istanbul Technical University
- Marmara University
- Hacettepe University
- Kadir Has University

- Bilkent University
- Others based on faculty interest and area of work

# Local and international NGOs

- UNDP
- UN Global Compact
- UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- UN Women
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Oxfam
- Sustainable Development Association (SDA)
- Center for Economic and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM)
- Global Relations Forum (GRF)
- Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists' Association (TUSIAD)
- Atlantic Council
- Open Society Foundation
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- Istanbul Policy Center at Sabancı University
- International Crisis Group (ICG)
- European Stability Initiative (ESI)
- Peace Research Institute of Oslo Cyprus Center (Prio Cyprus Center)
- Endeavor
- Darüşşafaka
- Education Reform Initiative (ERG)
- 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 Kültür
- Hafıza Merkezi (Truth, Justice and Memory Studies Center)

- DEPO
- The Asfari Foundation

# Local government and national government

- The President's Office
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of National Education (MEB)
- Ministry of Health
- Directorate General of Migration Management
- Istanbul Mayor's Office
- Istanbul Public Health Directorate
- Consulates and Embassies

### **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 has hosted several visiting MBA and GSAPP groups throughout the year, while also organizing summer internships for SIPA students. In 2015, the Center hosted the Office of the University Chaplain's Kraft Global Fellows Program and the Columbia Berlin Consortium for German Studies. Every year, the Center also organizes events for Turkish incoming students and current undergraduate students.

Courses which have been offered in Istanbul for Columbia University students:

- 1. Columbia-Boğaziçi Summer School in Byzantine and Ottoman Studies with Professor Holger Klein: taught at Boğaziçi University in 2013, 2014 and 2015 to Columbia and Boğaziçi students.
- 2. **Global Seminar in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies**, a Global Core course, with Professors Martha Howell and Karen Van Dyck: commenced in spring 2015 at Boğaziçi University, with Columbia and Boğaziçi students.
- 3. **Democracy and Constitutional Engineering** with Professor John Huber: This summer course was launched in June 2015, targeting 15 graduate students from Columbia and the same number from the region. It was held in conjunction with Columbia Global Centers | Amman, and offered in Istanbul and Tunisia. This project was supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF).
- **4. Syrian Refugees: Public Policy and Development Responses in Turkey** with Professor Daniel Naujoks: This course will be a pilot global immersion course for Master of

- International Affairs students at SIPA. The students will spend 10 days in January 2020 in Turkey for the in-country study component of the course.
- 5. **Social Work Practice with Refugees and Displaced Persons** with Professor Mashura Akilova: In this project-based course, students will work on projects for Turkish NGOs and agencies that offer services to refugees, with an in-country study component during March 2020.

Developing additional opportunities for Columbia students to study in Istanbul and engage further with the city, country and region is a priority for the Center. Contemporary urban issues, peace and reconciliation and gender studies are three topics, among others, ripe for summer programming. Multi-site programs that link Istanbul to Paris and/or Amman could also be explored.

- Historical dialogue, reconciliation and the politics of memory constitute important themes for the Istanbul Center's programs. The Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past (RNHDP), in affiliation with 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 partnered with a human rights organization, the Truth, Justice and Memory Center, on this endeavor along with several other NGOs from the region. Together we mounted 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. In 2015, as part of the Committee on Global Thought's Politics of Memory in Global Context initiative, the Istanbul and Amman Centers worked together with Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor of History and Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia, to design a series of inter-linked workshops in both cities under the heading of "Time and Trauma: Transgenerational Memories of Mass Suffering," which featured an interdisciplinary group of scholars and artists from Asia, Turkey and the Middle East.
- As a priority area for Columbia University, journalism, press freedom and freedom of **expression** have been the foci of several programs at the Istanbul Center. Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and Columbia Global Centers | Amman 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 M. Masri, Dean Steve Coll, former Dean Nicholas Lemann of the Columbia Journalism School and several distinguished global and regional experts on Turkey and the Middle East. In 2014, the Istanbul Center organized a training program for students of media and journalism from the region and the United States on the theme of freedom of expression, with lectures given by Professor Anya Schiffrin, Director of the International Media, Advocacy and Communications specialization at Columbia University's School of International Affairs, and by experts from ProPublica. Since 2015, the Center has been working with Professor Susan E. McGregor, Assistant Professor at the Columbia Journalism School and Assistant Director of the Tow Center for Digital Media, on a project supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund which entails conducting research on experiences of working journalists in Turkey as well as holding a series of workshops and trainings for journalists and citizen media practitioners. The Istanbul Center designed a workshop series on Artistic Expression and Art Censorship in collaboration with the Amman and Paris Centers to take place in Istanbul, Amman and Paris. The first workshop took place in Istanbul on September 28-29, 2017 during the Istanbul

**Biennial**, including Vishakha Desai, Senior Advisor for Global Affairs to the President at Columbia University, Senior Research Scholar and Adjunct Professor at SIPA, and President Emerita of Asia Society, New York. The public event and the workshop listed as part of the biennial program and targeted an international group of attendees. The workshops brought together a diverse network of human rights organizations, NGOs, artists, scholars and activists to discuss how different organizations and institutions join efforts and act together against various limitations of artistic expression and cultural policies that lead to direct and indirect forms of censorship in the arts. The Istanbul Center is collaborating with the Paris Center to plan the second meeting of this workshop series.

- Programs related with the refugee issue have been a top priority for the Center with the increasing influx of refugees and need to develop mechanisms for both refugees and host communities for better services and integration. The REfugees Act and Communicate for Health (REACH) project in the Center for Sustainable Development was awarded a PGIF in 2019 to work with the Istanbul Center, on bridging the gap in health literacy and health care access among refugee and local youth via digital health technologies in countries mostly affected by forced migration. In October 2016, the Istanbul and Amman Centers organized a joint symposium at Columbia University in New York, "Strengthening Refugee Access, Equity and Inclusion: Developing a New Framework," to explore how existing plans of aid effectiveness and development could be strengthened to improve refugee settlement outcomes in countries directly affected by the Syrian crisis. It brought together Columbia scholars from the fields of law, public health, education, public policy, and migration, with leading experts and practitioners from Turkey and the MENA region. The Center has also been working closely with Professors Wafaa El Sadr and Miriam Rabkin of ICAP and Neil Boothby of the Program on Forced Migration and Health on refugee health issues and with Professors Neeraj Kaushal and Nabila El-Bassel regarding their President's Global Innovation Fund project, "Syrian Refugee Crisis: Road to Resettlement." The Center also held a side event at the UN World Humanitarian Summit to assess regional developments regarding the refugee issue. The Istanbul Center also completed a feasibility study for the Asfari Foundation on the access of Syrian refugees to higher education in Turkey. The Center is engaged with Professor Bruce Usher and his team from the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at the Columbia Business School for the new "Columbia Scholarship Program for Displaced Persons." The Center is also working with the Asfari Foundation to support and strengthen the leadership capacity and resilience of civil society executives who are serving vulnerable refugee populations in the region, through mounting a custom training program for Syrian women leaders. The Istanbul Center collaborated with UN Women and Oxfam to establish a regional platform on the inclusion of **gender in the humanitarian response**. In July 2018, the Center hosted a roundtable discussion on the needs of children in the Syrian refugee crisis with Jeff Schlegelmilch, Deputy Director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at the Earth Institute.
- 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 2013. Through a project supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund, which was led by Professors Wafaa El-Sadr and 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, focusing on Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.
- Programs with the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons were initiated in 2018 with the topic of Narrative Medicine. On October 1, the Center hosted Dr. Charon, Founder of Narrative Medicine at Columbia University, for a closed workshop and training on Narrative Medicine for medical professionals practicing in Turkey with Figen Biyik, and for a public talk on "Narrative Medicine: Honoring the Stories of Illness." This talk was co-sponsored by the Istanbul Faculty of Medicine at Istanbul University.
- The Istanbul Center actively works towards developing a global humanities program in collaboration with Columbia and its regional partners. In October 2015, the Center organized a roundtable meeting at Boğaziçi University with Sharon Marcus, Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature and the Dean of Humanities at Columbia to discuss future prospects for designing an interdisciplinary global humanities curriculum to be executed with regularized faculty visits and student exchange programs between campuses.
- The **Istanbul Research and Documentation Project** was conceptualized and founded by Professor Holger A. Klein, Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University in November 2011 as a collaborative research initiative. Supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund, the goal of the project is 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. A post-doc researcher, based in New York, joined the project team in 2016.
- Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments is a project led by Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Art History and Archaeology at the Department of Art History and Archaeology in the College of Arts and Sciences. Awarded a President's Global Innovation Fund grant in 2013, the goal of this three-year project is to map and document the monuments of Iraq and Kurdistan. Along with conducting fieldwork in Turkey, Professor Bahrani regular engages with specialist communities and the wider public to raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding the region's cultural heritage. In 2015, the Istanbul Center partnered with the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations to support Professor Bahrani's efforts to convene leading specialists from Turkey, Syria and Iraq for a workshop on "The Future of the Past: Addressing the Cultural Heritage Crisis in Iraq and Syria." A new component of this project is a potential collaboration with a Turkish academician to map monuments in Western Turkey (Aegean region).
- Black Sea Networks the recipient of the President's Global Innovation Fund grant for 2016-2018 is a new teaching, learning, and research initiative. Housed in Columbia's Slavic Department and led by Professor Valentina Izmirlieva, the project aims to re-conceptualize existing multidisciplinary programs and initiatives within a larger Black Sea framework and to encourage undergraduate and graduate education in Black Sea Studies. Truly global in its scope, the initiative is developed by an international team of scholars in partnership with Yale University, NYU, Cambridge University, and Columbia's Global Centers in Istanbul and Paris, and boasts the support of the Harriman Institute, the American Councils for International Education (Washington D.C.), the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, and a vast network of institutions across the Black Sea region. As part of the project, the Istanbul Center is working on an exhibition based on the Russian émigré

- artist Iraida Barry's archives in Turkey and at the Bakhmeteff Archive at Columbia. The exhibition is expected to be held in or after 2020.
- 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 Zevnep 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 Altınay 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 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 fullday public conference and workshop. The Center is actively involved in the new crossnetwork global project related to gender-based violence with Women Creating Change scholars of the Center for the Study of Social Difference. As part of the project, the Istanbul Center created a working group consisting of 20 graduate students and senior undergraduate students who work on gender-based violence in Turkey, and held seven workshops on "Reframing Gendered Violence" (RGV) in Istanbul, using the content and framework provided by the RGV project at Columbia University. Then, the Istanbul Center initiated and organized its own workshop on June 7 that focused solely on papers presented by local students. The workshop was moderated by Susanna Ferguson, Ph.D. Candidate in Middle East History at Columbia University, and Professor Lila Abu-Lughod, one of the organizing committee members of the RGV project, joined via video-conference.
- Programs related to **the arts** have been a central feature of programs run out of the Istanbul Center. Professor Vishakha Desai led a "Politics of Visual Arts in a Changing World" workshop with top names from the Istanbul art world in 2019. The workshop focused on new political trends that are affecting the creation, presentation, reception, and preservation of works of art in diverse cultural contexts. In 2015, the Center and the Consulate General of Greece in Istanbul hosted the "Blue Voyagers: The Art of Romare Bearden and Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu" exhibition, which was co-curated by Robert O'Meally, Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Merve İspahani (Research Associate, Istanbul Center). The exhibit was part of a year-long series of programs, lectures and performances inspired by Bearden's interpretation of Homer's classic work. The Istanbul Center also collaborated with Professor Ira Deutchman, Chair of the School of the Arts Film Program on an event series in 2014.
- Sustainable development has been a priority for the Istanbul Center, through a collaboration which began in 2013 with Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is also Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development

Solutions Network, launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2012 to mobilize global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Istanbul Center helped to coordinate efforts to set up the Turkey chapter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which brings together universities, the private sector, civil society and government to advance the sustainable development agenda in Turkey. The university-led network is hosted by Boğaziçi University and was launched with a conference in June 2014. The Center's efforts have been centered on the topic of **sustainable urbanization**, a core challenge that confronts Istanbul as well as cities across the country and the wider region. Through a number of roundtables hosted by the Center, global and local experts on urbanization have been coming together to reflect on challenges and opportunities to further sustainability at the city level, particularly in light of the new global framework put forward by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Istanbul Center collaborated with the UNDP Regional Centre for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Koç University on a film series held in 2019.

- Programs with the Film Program at the School of the Arts were initiated in 2018. The Center hosted Professor Richard Peña in May when he spoke about "The Invention of Independent Cinema: A Celebration of Maya Deren and Her Works from 1917-1961;" Professor Bette Gordon in May for screening and talk on her film, "The Drowning;" and Professor Katherine Dieckmann in June for a screening, closed workshop and talk on her film, "Strange Weather." Professor Dieckmann's visit was part of a summer residency program funded by Ann Kaplan, which will also support a screenwriting workshop in spring 2019 with Professor Dieckmann. The Center aims to continue its film programming annually.
- Programs in Ottoman Studies expand at the Center in collaboration with Tunç Şen, Assistant Professor of History. Most recently, the Center hosted a panel discussion on "The History of Ottoman Culture and Science: Sources, New Approaches" with Professor Şen; Hakan Karateke, Professor of Ottoman and Turkish Culture, Language and Literature at the University of Chicago; and Harun Küçük, Assistant Professor at the Middle East Center at the University of Pennsylvania. We are planning a closed workshop with Professor Şen on "Geographies and Histories of the Ottoman Supernatural Tradition: Exploring Magic, the Marvellous, and the Strange in Ottoman Mentalities" in winter 2019.
- Founded as an initiative of Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), **Studio-X Istanbul** was an urban laboratory that aims to identify the current and future issues facing the city and seeks to generate innovative forms of thinking for their solutions. It was part of a worldwide network of spaces operating in Amman, Johannesburg, Mumbai and Rio de Janeiro. Directed by architect Selva Gürdoğan, Studio-X Istanbul opened in November 2013 in a two-story building at Salıpazarı, in Istanbul's downtown area. Studio-X was a unique platform enabling information and knowledge exchange among experts, universities, civil society organizations and local governance; supports everyone who would like to do something on urban issues. Studio-X Istanbul's programs pursued the following key themes: Open Memory, Livable Lovable Cities; Compressed; Mind Shift; Made by Makers; Housing - hosting exhibitions, workshops, and public discussions to elaborate on those themes in collaboration with scholars and students from Columbia University and from across the Studio-X community of architects, designers and academics in Istanbul. Due to a change in strategic direction of GSAPP, Studio-X Istanbul and all other Studio-X locations around the world were closed as of August 2019. From 2013 to 2019, Studio-X Istanbul hosted 202 events attended by over 25,000 people. Studio-X has been an amazing part of the Columbia family in Istanbul and the journey has touched many

constituencies in Istanbul and beyond. Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul will continue to collaborate with GSAPP in the coming months and years to facilitate programs and interactions.

• The following table shows the **President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) projects** that have been engaging with the Istanbul Center since the inception of the Fund. All these projects involve collaborations with other global centers.

| Project Title   | Faculty  | Duration  |
|---|--|-----------|
| Confronting Non-<br>Communicable Diseases   | Professor Wafa El Sadr and Professor<br>Miriam Rabkin, Mailman School of<br>Public Health                          | 2013      |
| Global Leadership Matrix  | Professor Sheena Iyengar, Columbia<br>Business School  | 2013      |
| Global Migration<br>Network   | Professor Julien Teitler, School of Social<br>Work, and Professor Sandro Galea,<br>Mailman School of Public Health | 2013      |
| Istanbul Documentation Project  | Professor Holger Klein, Department of<br>Art History and Archaeology   | 2013      |
| Mapping Mesopotamian<br>Monuments   | Professor Zainab Bahrani, Department of<br>Art History and Archaeology   | 2013-2016 |
| De-Provincializing Soft<br>Power  | Professor Victoria De Grazia,<br>Department of History   | 2014      |
| Global Operational Data<br>Index  | Professor Susan McGregor, Columbia<br>Journalism School  | 2015      |
| Changing Health Needs in<br>Complex Emergencies:<br>Non-Communicable<br>Disease Services for<br>Syrian Refugees in Jordan | Professor Neil Boothy, Professor Wafaa<br>El Sadr, and Professor Miriam Rabkin,<br>Mailman School of Public Health | 2015-2018 |
| Sustainable Waste<br>Management   | Professor John Themelis, School of<br>Engineering and Applied Sciences   | 2015      |
| Mapping Human Networks of Transnational Architectural Projects  | Professor Mabel O. Wilson, Graduate<br>School of Architecture, Planning and<br>Preservation                        | 2015      |
| Regional Network for<br>Historical Dialogue and<br>Dealing with the Past  | Professor Elazar Barkan, School of<br>International and Public Affairs   | 2016      |

| (RNHDP)- 2016 Summer<br>Training Program              |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| Providers ASPIRE                                      | Professor Nabila El-Bassel and Professor<br>Neeraj Kaushal, School of Social Work | 2016-2018 |
| Black Sea Networks                                    | Professor Valentina Izmirlieva,<br>Department of Slavic Languages                 | 2016-2019 |
| Refugees Act and<br>Communicate for Health<br>(REACH) | Professor Yannis Ben Amor, Center for<br>Sustainable Development                  | 2019-2020 |

# **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 2019 and 2020, the Center wishes to further expand its work on entrepreneurship, Narrative Medicine, and Executive Education, and to establish annual summer programming and annual film programming. The Center 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 discernible 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 | Mumbai

Launch: March 2010

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# **Director Biography**

# **RAVINA AGGARWAL**

### ra2792@columbia.edu

Ravina Aggarwal has been the Director of the Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai since 2015. She is a sociocultural anthropologist with a doctoral degree from Indiana University in 1994. Dr. Aggarwal taught in the Department of Anthropology for over a decade and was part of the Women's Studies Program at Smith College, where she became a tenured faculty member. Her research is based on extensive fieldwork in the Himalayas and her areas of study and teaching included political anthropology, peace-building, cultural studies, gender, and development.

Prior to joining the Center, Dr. Aggarwal worked 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 information technology, and arts and culture. As part of her work on bridging the digital divide, she served on the Innovation Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She is one of the two founders of the Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation and serves on the Advisory Board of the Urban Design Research Institute in Mumbai.

Dr. Aggarwal is the author of several publications, including *Beyond Lines of Control: Performing the Border in Ladakh, India* (Duke University Press, Seagull Books) and the editor of *Into the High Ranges* (Penguin India) and *Forsaking Paradise* (Katha). She has recently completed *Songbird*, a mystery novel for young adults set in the Himalayas (forthcoming 2020, Zubaan Books).

## **Center Space**

The Columbia Global Center | Mumbai is located in Nariman Point, the city's premier business district, and is also close to the historical and cultural center of South Mumbai. The space was inaugurated on February 14, 2017 and covers a total area of approximately 4,300 sq. ft. with a large space for convening that can house 100 people or be divided into two classroom spaces accommodating 75 and 25 participants.

#### **Regional Dimension**

Located in Mumbai, the Center also has a reach in other Indian cities, primarily Delhi and Bangalore, with some significant programs being held there. Going forward, the Center is looking to increase its presence in other regions in India such as the Himalayas and the Western Ghats in Maharashtra through regionally relevant and inclusive programs such as initiatives on water and

urban sustainability. The Center will connect its deep engagement with the region to ongoing efforts at globalizing the curriculum and research at Columbia University, and also steer a course for effectively shaping the "network effect" of the Columbia Global Centers in other parts of the world to build a global knowledge initiative.

# **Networking and Contacts**

## Local, National, and International Government Organizations

The Center is in the process of engaging various Government Ministries and Agencies at the Central and State level. Some of these include:

- Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi
- Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority
- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Delhi
- Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
- National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
- National Institute of Hydrology
- Niti Aayog
- India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Mumbai
- UNICEF
- United States Embassy
- United States Cultural Center
- World Bank

#### Local and International Academic Institutions and Civil Society Organizations:

- Aga Khan Trust for Culture
- Ashoka University, Sonepat
- Asia Society India, Mumbai
- Cathedral and John Connon School
- Centre for Environmental Research and Education, Mumbai
- Foundation for Medical Research, Mumbai
- G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture, Mumbai
- Indian Institute of Human Settlements, Bangalore
- Indian Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai
- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
- Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
- Institute for Architecture and Environmental Studies
- Jaihind College

- Jnanapravaha, Mumbai
- Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environmental Studies, Mumbai
- Mumbai Mobile Creches, Mumbai
- NMIMS School of Design
- Nehru Centre, Mumbai
- Partners for Urban Knowledge, Action and Research (PUKAR), Mumbai
- Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi
- Rachna Sansad's Institute of Environmental Architecture
- Resource & Support Centre for Development (RSCD), Mumbai
- Shillim Institute
- Sir JJ College of Architecture
- SNDT Women's University
- Society for Nutrition, Education, and Health Action (SNEHA), Mumbai
- St. Xavier's College
- The Gateway School
- The Global Education and Leadership Foundation (tGELF), Delhi
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
- Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), Mumbai
- University of Mumbai

# **Corporate, Media and Business Organizations**

- Aditya Birla Group
- ACS Finance
- AZB & Partners, Mumbai
- Caravan Magazine, Delhi
- Jaico Publishing House, Mumbai
- KPMG
- Pidilite
- ReNew Power
- The Indian Express
- The CoWrks Foundry

# **Program Activities**

The Mumbai Center has gained its intellectual reputation through deep and sustained thematic engagement and facilitation of collaborative research by partnering on projects, providing programmatic inputs and regional context, and curating programs with faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and students at the Center. Our ability to rely on the integrity of long-term research and connect local issues to globally relevant challenges and practices enables us to carve a niche in a competitive knowledge space. We have also been actively investing in supporting student programs and courses. The Center's programmatic activities include:

- support for faculty research through partnership-building with local universities, civil society organizations, government entities and the private sector in India to contextualize this research and make it locally and globally relevant
- research dissemination through curated public programs (conferences, exhibitions, workshops, public conversations) featuring academics from Columbia University with the objective of increasing public awareness and informing policy
- educational programs for students as well as professionals including field immersion courses or course components and internships
- implementation projects which entail practical applications of research and innovation through demonstration pilots and large-scale projects

# **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

The Mumbai Center has four areas of programmatic expertise:

#### 1. Environmental Sustainability

This initiative serves as a knowledge platform for research and related programs on environmental sustainability, including conservation of natural resources, access to clean air, water, and energy, green technologies, disaster management, and sustainable urbanization. The Mumbai Center's work takes an interdisciplinary approach, integrating human use and lived experience studies with scientific mapping, testing, and solutions. Some of the research and public programs include:

- Water Conservation and Cleanliness: This area continues to be of prime importance to the region, both from the perspective of water scarcity and groundwater conservation as well as clean and decontaminated water for all. The Center has worked with a diverse range of projects led by faculty in engineering, climate sciences, ecology, architecture, political science, and health, and seeks to expand this work further through research projects, training modules, and student programs.
  - O Special Initiative: Mapping the River Ganga in the Himalayas: The mythological, cultural and agricultural significance of the River Ganga has long captured the country's imagination, but few realize it is also one of the most hyper-engineered landscapes of the world. From 2016-2018, the Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai successfully ran a project entitled 'The River Ganga: India's Iconic Water Machine,' comprising a travelling exhibition of the works of Anthony Acciavatti, a lecture series on Groundwater in India, and several training seminars for government and academic institutions. We are now trying to deepen this work through focused programming, including student courses, in the Himalayan region of India.

- *Urban Risk and Resilience:* With India poised to house a large segment of the world's urban populations by 2030, sustainability issues have become core to urban expansion. The Center urban climate resilience and disaster management, clean air and water, energy and waste solutions, and green spaces and biodiversity.
  - o Special Initiative: Conserving Urban Biodiversity: Urban expansion poses severe challenges for green spaces and biodiversity. To work collaboratively on addressing this problem, the Center entered into a knowledge partnership with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) in India to support the recently restored 16<sup>th</sup> century Sunder Nursery, considered to be "New Delhi's Central Park." The park lies in the heart of India's capital and is significant for its Mughal monuments and vast experimental heritage of trees and plants. This year, the Center's partnership with AKTC will focus on a series of interventions on Urban Wildlife Conservation, including public education programs and documentation initiatives on birds, pollinators, and other insects that will have the potential to generate internships for students and faculty partnerships.
  - O Special Initiative: Building Climate Resilience in Coastal Cities (Mumbai): Mumbai has been cited as one of the top 5 megacities to be affected by sea surge due to global warming. The city is also a signatory to the C40 Cities forum for reducing greenhouse gas emissions globally. The Center supported a research project funded by PGIF and led by Adam H. Sobel, Professor, Department of Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics and Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, to assess the risks of storm surge to Mumbai. Another PGIF-project investigates the threats of global warming to the health of the Arabian Sea and the livelihoods of people who depend on it. Led by Professor Joaquim Goes, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, and Helga do Rosario Gomes, this project aims to develop early detection and forecasting solutions for mitigating the harmful effects of hypoxic events, harmful algal bloom, and fish mortality on the West Coast of India.
- Air Quality Improvement: Air quality in major Indian cities is amongst the worst in the
  world. Sources of emissions include coal-fired power plants, industry, vehicles, and
  agricultural and biomass burning, which contribute to harmful air pollutants and
  greenhouse gases. A network of faculty from various disciplines is now engaged in
  research on air pollution in India, including faculty working on breast cancer and other
  public health problems.

#### 2. Education, Culture, and Knowledge

The goal of this concentration is to explore how education and knowledge systems can respond to the new realities of the twenty-first century. India has the largest youth population in the world, which is faced with new technologies, experiences, and ideologies that call for reimagining educational values, cultural norms, knowledge fields, and learning skills.

O Special Initiative: Historical Methods Seminar Series: This is a new initiative organized in partnership with the South Asia Institute and in association with the Mumbai History Teachers Academy as a six-part seminar series to strengthen research capacity and teaching among college history professors in Mumbai. The program leverages Columbia University's expertise by showcasing cutting-edge research methodologies and interdisciplinary approaches in the study of History.

#### 3. Health and Medicine

The Mumbai Center is working to establish a dedicated interdisciplinary program addressing health, in collaboration with the Columbia University Medical Center as well as the social sciences and other disciplines working on health-related issues. In order to advance science and improve public health outcomes in India, the Center is partnering with the Mailman School of Public Health for a program that supports faculty exchange, mutual learning, and collaboration.

Areas of strength at the Center include:

- *Health and Environment:* Environmental concerns and demands have a considerable impact on human health in India. Research topics in this concentration include health hazards related to urban sprawl, climate change, natural disasters, toxic wastes, and air, water, and land pollution.
- *Nutrition:* The Center is interested in building programs related to diet and disease. India bears a huge double burden, in terms of over and under-nutrition. We have been working with faculty to explore integrative medicine, nutritional training and guidelines to improve survival outcomes for children with cancer, and the transformation of food patterns and their links to cardio-vascular diseases and diabetes.
- Gender and Health: The Center is currently supporting two projects on women's health and airborne pollution. The first, by Dr. Mary Beth Terry and Dr. Jasmine McDonald from the Mailman School, examines early onset breast cancer and exposure to pollutants. The second, by Dr. Jeanine D'Armiento, Director of the Center for LAM and Rare Lung Diseases, examines the impact of burning dirty fuels on health, how to empower women who are most affected by this, as well as tools to better monitor health.
- Health Pedagogy: In order to stimulate thinking and curricular reform in medical and health-related teaching, the Center has hosted workshops that foster exchange and learning. Dr. Rishi Goyal from the Physicians and College of Surgeons organized a two-day conference on February 18-19, 2019 to strengthen the field of South Asian medical humanities by building a network that could share expertise and build the groundwork for future collaboration. Similarly, Professor Jennifer Dohrn from the School of Nursing will lead workshops on Simulation Learning and Nursing pedagogy.

#### 4. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

India is regarded as one of the world's fastest growing economies. It also faces enormous economic challenges, including persistent poverty and rising inequality. The Mumbai Center's activities and projects in this area are currently focused on incubating startups and supporting student-led solutions in India. We lend support to research projects and student initiatives through public events and internships. Ongoing programs include:

• Special Initiative: Urban Works Innovation Challenge: In partnership with Columbia Engineering, the Urban Works Innovation Challenge 2019-2020 supports startups comprising Columbia students and alums, and passionate young professionals and entrepreneurs in India who can create viable and interdisciplinary design-concepts for transforming 21st-century workspaces in India into safe and sustainable environments.

# Columbia Global Centers | Nairobi

Center Launch: January 2012

Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/nairobi

Email: nairobi.cgc@columbia.edu

Address: Westcom Point, Block A, 8th Floor, P.O. Box 51412-00100 Nairobi, Kenya

# **Director Biography**

#### **MURUGI NDIRANGU**

#### mn2231@columbia.edu

Murugi Ndirangu joined the Nairobi Center from her previous role as associate professor of nutrition and health care management at Appalachian State University, where she conducted research on the health of vulnerable populations, the efficacy of public health nutrition interventions, and food security in domestic and international settings. In that role, Murugi was also East African Coordinator for the African Nutritional Sciences Research Consortium.

She holds a PhD in Nutrition and Food Systems from the University of Southern Mississippi, and an M.Ed in Psychology and a B.Ed in Education, both from Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya.

# **Center Space**

The Columbia Global Center | Nairobi is located in the prestigious and easily accessible area of Westlands, Nairobi. The Center is located in a 4,600 square feet space at Westcom Point Building, 8th floor, Block A. The Center has ample space with 3 meeting rooms and can accommodate small workshops and training activities. The Center is located in an ideal location that is convenient, in accessibility from the city center as well as to other key offices such as the United Nations complex and the American Embassy. The location is quiet, serene and generally safe thus making it conducive for diverse activities at the Center.

#### **Regional Dimension**

The Nairobi Center activities cover the Sub-Saharan African Region. In the recent past, the Center hosted the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) where it consequently had Millennium Village Projects running in the six countries of Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Malawi in East and Southern Africa. 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, UNHABITAT and a number of other organizations that choose to have regional presence in Nairobi.

# **Networking and Contacts**

### Local, regional, and national government

The Center has facilitated research, dialogue and technical support for African countries – more particularly those in the East African region. In addition to the Center's role in hosting the MDG's, the Center also hosted the establishment of the African Soil Information Service (AfSIS) Phase II project, the UN's Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Dry Lands project that was focused on Djibouti, Somalia and South Sudan. With the MDG's, the Center collaborated with government(s) on issues such as eradicating poverty and hunger, gender equality, education, maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS and environmental sustainability. In addition to working closely with governments, the Center worked with African institutions such as the African Union and COMESA.

#### Local and international NGOs and the UN

The Nairobi Center has worked with a wide variety of international governmental and non-governmental organizations such as the African Development Bank, CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) institutions (ILRI, ICRAF, CIAT, CYMMT etc.), Heifer International, Elizabeth Glazer Foundation, the David & Lucille Packard Foundation, Equity Foundation, Safaricom Foundation, Chandaria Foundation, APHRC, TechnoServe, Educate Global Fund, Oxfam, European Union, the Gates Foundation etc. The Center has also engaged with numerous UN organizations such as the World Food Program, the World Tourism Organization, UNAIDS, UNICEF and UNFPA.

# **Universities and Colleges**

The Center has worked with major public, private and other local universities in the six countries, including Maseno University in Western Kenya, University of Nairobi, Kenya, Aga Khan University, 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. This has been primarily through collaboration not only 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 Africa. It is also working towards strengthening engagement with local universities in Africa, as the expansion and establishment of universities has been significant in the last few years.

# **Programming and Projects (Selected)**

• The Center hosts the Peace and Social Change Fellowship Program, an initiative of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) program, Earth Institute at Columbia University, in collaboration with the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. The program is funded by the Gates Foundation.

- The Center is participating in a European Union funded project on Education & Resilience based on North Uganda and South Sudan in partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University and Oxfam among other partners.
- Round-table Discussion: The role of Higher Education in the Economic Transformation of the Region. On 1/10/2019, Columbia University President Lee Bollinger hosted a round-table discussion with leaders from the private, government and academic sectors in Kenya on the role of education in economic transformation of the region. The discussion revolved around topics such as the challenges of the youth bulge, corruption and governance and effects of climate change.
- Columbia Business School students from the Chazen Institute visited Nairobi from 14th 16th January 2019, to interact with big corporates in the region This was a fact finding mission where they sought to learn more about the regional market and tips on success in running businesses in the East African region.
- The 3rd No Boundaries Art Exhibition 01/15/2019. CGC | Nairobi, in partnership with the No-Boundaries Committee, hosted the 3rd No-Boundaries International Art Exhibition in Nairobi. The show themed of 'One Tree, One City' drew in over 200 submissions, where 20 were selected to showcase their works. The Mission of the exhibition is to enlighten the future generation's global awareness and social responsibility through the power of Art and Art education. The 'moving exhibition' was in New York, Paris and Beijing. Rio de Janiero is next stop and will similarly feature the works from all the other respective countries.
- In May 2019, the Center hosted two public lectures by Prof Howard French of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Prof. French discuss the Africa-China relations.
- In June 2019, the Center hosted a seminar titled "Governing land on the fringes of African cities: Challenges, research questions and empirical evidence'. The seminar brought together researchers and experts from different disciplinary backgrounds reflecting on the impact of urbanization on peri-urban land markets and land use transformations. Peri-urban areas and especially the land they comprise will be affected by rapid urban growth: whereas the rising land prices in Nairobi are already pushing urban dwellers towards the outer skirts of the city for acquiring affordable land for housing, these areas are also attractive for speculators and investors. The seminar provided for brainstorming sessions which involved 5-6 experts and researchers dealing with land transactions, land use transformations and land governance in peri-urban areas (in Kenya) in order to identify transversal research questions and potential areas for further collaboration.
- In commemoration of the 10th year anniversary of the Columbia Global Centers, the Nairobi Center hosted a panel discussion in New York in July 2019 on the women and peace movements in Africa. The event featured courageous women leaders who have spearheaded peace movements in their respective countries.

# • The Africa Nutritional Sciences Research Consortium PhD Graduate Training Project

The main institute involves 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, Sokoine University of Agriculture and others. ANSRC will not just offer laboratory based training for academic sake but will link Graduate students to a 'path of action' wherein students will be conducting basic research relating to public health problems in East Africa. ANSRC will also strive to establish private public interactions to ensure that

their research projects enhance local economic development. The Consortium has been legally registered in Kenya and is currently working on establishing its curriculum as well as pursuing more funding sources. A planning workshop funded by the African Development Bank was held in Nairobi in Oct 2018.

# • Existing President Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) projects:

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 nine Global Centers for teaching and/or research activities.

| PGIF- Round 7 2019   |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Faculty  | Project   |  |  |  |
| Kavita Ahluwalia, P.A, College of Dent<br>Medicine – IFAP Global Health Program e                      | al Oral Health Program Planning and Evaluation:<br>Training for Action with New Partners  |  |  |  |
| Saidiya Hartman Saidiya, College of Arts ar<br>Sciences, Humanities                                    | The Sojourner Project South Africa: A Black<br>Mobile Academy   |  |  |  |
| Terry McGovern, Mailman School of Publ<br>Health, College of Physicians and Surgeons                   | ic Improving Capacity to Address Gender-Based<br>Violence: A Public Health and Law Evaluation<br>of a GBV Clinic in Kisumu, Kenya   |  |  |  |
| PGIF – Round 6, 2018   |   |  |  |  |
| Faculty  | Project   |  |  |  |
| Terry McGovern, Mailman School of Public<br>Health, College of Physicians and Surgeons                 | Addressing Gender-Based Violence: A Public Health and Law School Partnership in Kisumu,   |  |  |  |
| Neil Boothby, Mailman School of Public<br>Health - College of Physicians and Surgeons                  | Co-Creating an Urban Displacement Solutions<br>Alliance   |  |  |  |
| Andrea Howard, Mailman School of Public<br>Health - College of Physicians and Surgeons                 | Implementing Science and Global Health: Taking Knowledge to Action  |  |  |  |
| Philip LaRussa, Department of Pediatrics,<br>College of Physicians and Surgeons                        | Proposal to convene a meeting of key Sub-Saharan<br>African pediatrics healthcare leaders and related<br>governmental officials in Nairobi  |  |  |  |
| Sidney Hemming, Department of Earth and<br>Environmental Sciences, Lamont-Doherty<br>Earth Observatory | Student Geology in the Turkana Basin  |  |  |  |
|  | Round 5, 2017   |  |  |  |
| Faculty  | Project   |  |  |  |
| Kavita Ahluwalia P.A, College of Dental<br>Medicine – IFAP Global Health Program                       | Global Learning Laboratory for Oral Health. Step 1:<br>A Planning Grant to Create a Kenya-Brazil Cross-<br>National Collaboration in Support of Research,<br>Education and Policy |  |  |  |
| Mamadou Diouf, School of Arts and<br>Sciences - Institute of African Studies                           | African Ethnographies, African Philosophies:<br>Theorizing from the Continent   |  |  |  |
| Tanya Ellman, Mailman School of Public<br>Health - College of Physicians and Surgeons                  | Men Matter: Male Engagement in HIV Services   |  |  |  |
| Ruth Finkelstein, Mailman School of Public<br>Health, Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging<br>Center        | Generativity in deprived urban contexts: Older<br>Adults' experiences in slums in Mumbai, Nairobi<br>and among Haitian immigrants in New York                                     |  |  |  |

| Debra Wolgemuth, College of Physicians      | African Nutritional Sciences Research Consortium: |
|---|---|
| and Surgeons - Institute of Human Nutrition | Laboratory based PhD Training in Nutritional and  |
|   | Agricultural Sciences in East Africa              |
| Wafaa El-Sadr, Mailman School of Public     | China's Aid to Africa: Achievements, Challenges   |
| Health, College of Physicians and Surgeons  | and Opportunities                                 |

# **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

The Center has developed a reasonable capacity to carry out research in sustainable development which includes knowledge sharing and public engagement, business empowerment (entrepreneurship, job creation, skill developments), health initiatives, (health education and nutrition) and liberal and creative arts. The Center is keen on broadening its focus areas to accommodate a diverse range of projects to match all disciplines that are offered by Columbia University. The Center is prepared and able to handle simultaneous requests and programs.

# **Columbia Global Centers | Paris**

Center Launch: March 2010

Website: https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/paris

Email: paris.cgc@columbia.edu

Address: Reid Hall, 4 rue de Chevreuse, 75006 Paris

#### **DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY**

#### PAUL LECLERC

Director

pol5@columbia.edu

Paul LeClerc began his tenure as director of the Columbia Global Centers | Paris 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.

LeClerc is presently chair of the advisory board of the Columbia Maison Française, the Teachers College Board, and the J. Paul Getty Trust. He is an honorary trustee of the New York Public Library and past trustee of Union College, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the National Book Foundation, the Voltaire Foundation (Oxford University), the Carroll Foundation, the Milton Petrie 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 thirty-two-year-old son.

#### **BRUNHILDE BIEBUYCK (AKA, Brune)**

Administrative Director bb2006@columbia.edu

Dr. Brunhilde Biebuyck has worked at Reid Hall since 1984. Before becoming the Center's administrative director, she directed the Columbia-Penn undergraduate program and the MA Program in French Cultural Studies. She has lived in the Republic of Congo, various parts of the USA, Belgium, and France. Her research concentrates on oral traditional narrative, and she is currently working on the French and English translation of a Bantu epic collected in the 1950's. She is member of the *Classiques Africains*, a prestigious collection of works on African poetry and prose, and the *Cahiers de Littérature Orale*, the only academic journal in France devoted to oral literature. Together with Meredith Levin, Columbia Librairies, she has created a website on Reid Hall's multi-layered history from the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. The site will only

go live in the late Spring 2020. Her daughter graduated from Barnard College and holds a PhD in clinical psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She practices in New York City.

#### **CENTER SPACE**

The Paris Center is located at historic Reid Hall in a residential neighborhood of the Montparnasse district. The original structure, a former porcelain factory, dates back to the early 1750's and two other buildings were added to the property in the early twentieth century. The total usable square footage of all buildings is 23,000 square feet. The gardens of approximately 9,000 square feet provide important social spaces in which students, faculty, and visitors are nearly always to be found. Thanks to funds from Columbia University, the entire facility was fully renovated between 2016 and 2019. The Chevreuse building houses offices, state-of-the-art classrooms, an architecture studio space, a library, and a studio apartment for visiting faculty. The Grande Salle building, a large lecture hall that seats up to 150 people, connects the historic building to the newly modernized Institute building, which includes: the Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination (two floors of office space, a third floor with a seminar room, kitchen and a lounge area for fellows): a large conference room (seats 70); a catering kitchen; and a small meeting room. There are two wooden outbuildings used as classrooms and offices. 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 find space for student programs at other local institutions.

# REGIONAL DIMENSION, NETWORKING, AND CONTACTS

We have partners in numerous European cities such as Berlin, Leiden, London, Dublin, 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.

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. Through its public programming and various academic programs, it has developed strong relations with the following institutions in France:

# **Higher Education Institutions**

- Alliance Program (Sciences Po, Paris I, Polytechnique)
- Centre de recherche épidémiologie et statistique Sorbonne Paris Cité (CRESS-UMR 1152)
- École des hautes études en santé publique (EHESP)
- École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS)
- École du Louvre
- École normale supérieure (ENS)
- École Polytechnique
- Sciences Po
- Paris VII, Denis Diderot
- Paris IV, Sorbonne
- Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne
- Nouveau Collège d'Études Politiques (NCEP), Université Paris Lumière
- Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI)

- Institut d'études avancées (IEA)
- Institut Pasteur
- Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL)
- INSERM
- Sphère (Université Paris-Diderot)
- Institut Acte (Paris I)
- Collège sciences de la santé Université de Bordeaux
- Collège international de philosophie

# American & European University Programs in Paris

- American University (AUP)
- British Council
- Dartmouth College
- EUSA Internship program
- Hamilton College
- Harvard College summer program
- New York University (NYU)
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Smith College
- Sweet Briar Women's College
- University of Kent (Canterbury, England)
- University of San Diego School of Law summer program
- Vassar College
- Wesleyan University

# **Cultural Organizations**

- Ateliers Berthier
- Centre Pompidou
- Cité internationale des arts
- Fondation Louis Vuitton
- Fondation Cartier
- Le Tarmac (Théâtre)
- Musée Carnavalet
- La Dive Note
- La Maison des Écrivains
- La Muse du Parnasse
- Le Musée de la chasse et de la nature
- Musée d'Orsav
- Musée du Louvre
- Musée du Luxembourg
- Musée du Quai Branly
- Musée national de l'histoire de l'immigration
- La Nouvelle Athènes
- Opéra de Paris
- Sinfonietta
- Textes et Voix

• Théâtre du Lucernaire

# Libraries, Editors, and Archives

- American Library in Paris
- Archives de la Préfecture de police
- Archives départementales de la ville de Provins (Fonds ancien)
- Archives nationales de Paris
- Archives nationales de Pierrefitte
- Bibliothèque Forney
- Bibliothèque historique de la Ville de Paris (BHVP)
- Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF)
- Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève
- Éditions Philippe Rey
- Librairie Tschann
- Librairie Falado (music)

#### **American Institutions in Paris**

- American Hospital
- American Club of Paris (ACP)
- American Women's Group in Paris (AWG)
- Association of American Residents Overseas (AARO)
- Commission Franco-Américaine Fulbright
- Cultural Services of the American Embassy in Paris
- Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF)

## RESEARCH

A new and important initiative now resides at Reid Hall - The Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination. It is the outcome of several years of reflection and discussion, with special contributions from the Paris Center's Faculty Steering Committee, Paul LeClerc, the Director of the Center; and Professor Mark Mazower, the Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies in the Department of History. A Columbia Presidential initiative, it challenges longstanding traditions that govern the ways in which knowledge is defined, produced, and taught, by bringing together scholars and artists for year-long residencies.

The Institute opened its doors in September 2018 with its first cohort of fellows: eight Columbia University faculty members and seven scholars, writers, and creative artists from around the world. This academic year, the following fellows are in residence:

Roni Henig, Israel; Project Title: *Life of the Non-Living: The Narrative of Language Revival* in Modern Hebrew Literature

Emlyn Hughes, United States, Columbia University; Project Title: More Radioactive than Chernobyl

Bouchra Khalili Abigail R. Cohen Fellow, Morocco; Project Title: The Assembly

Edouard Louis, France; Project Title: A Century and Three Women

Nora Philippe, France; Project Title: Infinite Lives, Finite Footage: Girls, 2015-2045

Debashree Mukherjee, India, Columbia University; Project Title: Mediated Ocean: An Audiovisual History of Colonial Traffic Between Africa and Asia

Dina Nayeri Abigail R. Cohen Fellow, United Kingdom/Iran; Project Title:

Problem Stories: When Truth Isn't Enough

Pauchi Sasaki Peru; Project Title: The Speaker Dress

William Sharpe, United States, Barnard College; Project Title: Walking: Steps Toward a Visual History

Fiona Sze-Lorrain, Abigail R. Cohen Fellow, France; Project Title: Poems and Translations

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### **Long-term Academic Programs**

Reid Hall has been running educational and research programs for the University since the mid-1960s, when it was gifted to Columbia University by the Reid family. The decision taken in 2010 to establish the Global Center at Reid Hall is thus best seen as an evolutionary step in the history of a well-established academic center for francophone studies, where thousands of Columbia College and graduate students, as well as scores of Columbia faculty, have had rich and meaningful educational and research experiences.

#### Degree programs:

- MA in History and Literature, Columbia University (created in 2011)
- M2 Public Health "Comparative effectiveness research" (created in 2015), Centre de Recherche Épidémiologie et Statistique Sorbonne Paris Cité.

### Courses of study:

- Columbia University Undergraduate Programs in Paris
  - Fall and Spring semester Program (created in 1972)
  - Columbia in Paris Summer Program
  - The French Scholars Summer Program
  - Art and Music Humanities Summer in Paris
  - Summer Math Institute
- 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).

#### **Short-term Residencies**

In addition to its long-term academic offerings, the Center welcomes Columbia students and faculty for intensive seminars and workshops throughout the year as well as in the summer months. We have worked with the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), the School

of the Arts (SOA), the Alliance group, the Mailman School of Public Health, the School of Professional Studies (SPS), and many others. The following residencies are held on a regular basis:

## **Executive Masters in Technology Management**

The Center hosts multiday residencies for the School of Professional Education's Executive M.S. in Technology Management. The 16-month program prepares senior technology professionals to develop a strategic mindset, fine-tune their speaking and presentation skills, understand core business functions (such as finance, accounting, and leadership), and ultimately drive enhanced business performance through the use of technology. The program emphasizes the importance of using technology in business for strategic advantage and improved productivity. Graduates typically assume positions as CIO, CTO, CAO, COO, CEO, or CSO, or as entrepreneurs. The program is also ideal for those pursuing CISA (Certified Information Systems Auditor) certification. (Arthur Langer, Director, Center for Technology Management)

# **Alliance Summer School in Science and Policy**

Created in the fall of 2002, the Alliance Program is a non-profit transatlantic joint venture between Columbia University and three prestigious French institutions: the  $\acute{E}cole$  Polytechnique, Sciences Po, and University of Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne. The Alliance Summer School at the Center began as a student-led initiative in summer 2012, in an effort to promote interdisciplinary exchanges between doctoral and masters students researching the nexus of science and policy at Alliance institutions. The Summer School brings together world-class professors, industry experts, and PhD students for the exchange of ideas, intellectual discourse, and joint-learning opportunities through a mixture of guest speakers and workshops. Examples are drawn from various topics, including public health (e.g. air pollution, infectious diseases) and natural resources management (e.g. fisheries).

In June 2019, the 8th Alliance Graduate Summer School on research methods in sustainable development brought together graduate students and leading scholars in the fields of economics, environmental science, and public policy. Together, they explored methods in remote sensing, network analysis, and machine learning with applications to urban planning and environmental policy.

A new summer workshop in Medical Humanities took place in June 2018, a joint initiative between Alliance, Columbia Global Centers | Paris, and the Heyman Center.

Summer 2020, the Alliance will launch an intensive week-long Academic Writing Seminar.

#### Mailman Practica in Public Health

Since 2011, students enrolled in the Mailman School's Master in Public Health can engage in a six-week long practicum that includes weekly seminars at the Center and an internship organized jointly with the *École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique* and the Cochrane Center of the University of Paris V. Students present their final projects at the Center to a distinguished jury, including not only their French supervisors, but also Mailman

representatives such as Associate Deans **Marlyn Delva** and **Linda Kushman**, and **Moïse Desvarieux**, Associate Professor, Epidemiology.

# **Enhancing the Research Component of the History Major**

Now in its sixth year, this program was founded by **Susan Pedersen**, Gouverneur Morris Professor of History, and **Charly Coleman**, Associate Professor of History, who now heads the program. It offers intellectual and financial support to students undertaking senior thesis projects. Faculty and graduate students advise students in formulating feasible research topics and questions. Columbia's dedicated research librarians guide their search for sources. Those awarded fellowships then spend four to six weeks in European archives, where they conduct invaluable research to enrich their understanding and to craft an original project that will contribute to historical knowledge. In the fall, they enter the senior seminar in which they will write their thesis.

Initially financed by the President's Global Innovation Fund, and now supported by the Dean of Columbia College, the Barnard Provost, and the Board of Visitors of the Columbia History Department as well, this program has provided thirty-eight undergraduate fellowships over the past five years. Those students have worked in archives in Britain, France, the Netherlands, Ireland, Germany, Spain, Italy, Russia, Serbia, and Poland. They have used private papers, national and colonial archives, and company and institutional records. Their projects have ranged in time from the medieval period to (almost) the present, and in space from India, to the Caribbean, to Africa and Europe. Over half of the theses have received departmental honors or prizes.

The workshop at the Paris Center is the heart of this program – the moment when students grasp the real challenges of historical research and think of themselves as fellow scholars.

#### PROJECTS WITH PARTNERS

#### IDDRI (Sciences Po)

The Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), founded by Laurence Tubiana, is a non-profit policy research institute based in Paris. Its objective is to determine and share the keys for analyzing and understanding strategic issues linked to sustainable development from a global perspective. IDDRI organizes several kinds of activities: regular seminars, international conferences, and conference-debates and workshops. Most of these activities are conducted in collaboration with partners from France and other countries and are, wherever possible, reported in IDDRI's publications. The Center hosts IDDRI's monthly lunch-time seminars and semi-annual day-long conferences.

#### Cambridge Consortium for Bioethics & Cambridge Bioethics Retreat

This yearly gathering of international bioethicists has taken place at the Center since 2010. To date, delegates from 29 countries have participated in the Consortium meetings to discuss their successes – and challenges – in teaching bioethics around the world. The conference is followed by a retreat, which is unique among bioethics meetings in that experts in medicine, philosophy, law, and health policy are invited from around the world to present their current research projects. Some of the topics and themes under discussion: Prenatal Whole-Genome Sequencing: Can and Should We Regulate?, Intelligent Machines and the Transformation of Health Care, *The Ethics of* 

Human Enhancement and Folk Intuitions: Is the Lottery of Life Curbing the Moral Boundaries of Human Development? The Place of Other Disciplines in a Bioethics Curriculum, Teaching Bioethics in a Multi-Cultural Society, Film and the Arts as Teaching Tools.

#### **PSL**

In May 2016, the Center, and the MA program in History and Literature, hosted the first joint workshop with the Paris University Consortium *Paris Sciences et Lettres* (PSL) on the theme of "Authorship in a Postcolonial Context." **Joseph Slaughter**, Columbia Professor of Comparative Literature and English, co-organized the conference with **Gisèle Sapiro** from the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales*. In December 2016, Columbia professor Christopher Peacocke (Philosophy) held a joint PSL/Columbia Seminar series on "Belief, Norms, and Truth" with Pascal Engel and Jerome Dokic of EHESS. A joint conference on Queer Theory, cosponsored by the CSSD and the Center, took place in December 2018, convening cutting edge scholars in both the US and Europe.

#### **FACULTY-LED PROGRAMMING**

The Center has collaborated closely with numerous Columbia faculty members to help to facilitate initiatives they wish to develop at the Center:

Columbia Sounds: Susan Boynton (Professor of Music and Historical Musicology): In collaboration with the Department of Music (which has long been one of the world's most influential centers of music composition), and CUP, the Center launched a new concert series in the summer of 2015 focusing on the faculty, students, and alumni of Columbia University. Columbia Sounds offers the Parisian and Reid Hall/Global Center audience the opportunity to hear outstanding performances of new American music (in the beautiful and acoustically superior Grande Salle!) that bear the mark of Columbia University's distinguished musical traditions. As curator of the series, Susan Boynton works closely with artists and composers on their programs.

Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought: Bernard Harcourt (Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science and Director of the CCCCT); Jesús Velasco (Professor of Latin American and Iberian Cultures; Chair, Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures). In partnership with EHESS, they have organized several daylong seminars and workshops including: Gouverner, échanger, sécuriser: Big Data et la production du savoir numérique (Dec 16, 2014); Spectacle et surveillance. Relire Foucault à l'ère numérique (May, June 2015); From the Inquisition to Guantanamo: Avowal, Torture, and the Power of Truth (April 2016). Since 2016, the Center has conducted a reading group in parallel with the 13/13 series that initially grew out of Bernard Harcourt's work on Foucault. The focus shifted from Foucault to Nietzsche in 2016, to Uprising in 2017, to Praxis in 2018. This year's theme is Critique.

#### **CENTER PROGRAMMING**

In 2015, Dr. Loren Wolfe, now Senior Program Manager, was hired to develop cohesive and robust public programs at the Center. She received her doctorate in Romance Languages and Literatures from Harvard University in 2013, specializing in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century literature. She then served for three years as a faculty member in Barnard College's Department of French, teaching French and Comparative Literature before moving to Paris. Her research explores the

intersections between medical and literary discourse. She is working on a book entitled *Immunity, Modernity, Masculinity* that cuts across the disciplines of literature, biology, philosophy, and sociology.

The programming team includes: Joelle Theubet (the Center's Communications Officer) and Sinead Mc Causland (Program assistant). Together with Loren, they have built a dynamic set of programs for a French-American and international public in Paris. Since 2015, the center has welcomed 21,000 guests attending over 300 events. The programming decisions have been guided by the following three goals:

- To capitalize on and give visibility to Columbia's terrific resources, drawing on its faculty, thought leaders, students, institutes, institutional partners, as well as the eight other Global Centers, to promote the ambitious aims of the University's global agenda.
- To foster a "third space" between America and Europe, between the academy and the wider society. To seize on the freedom such a space offers by bringing together a wildly diverse assembly of scholars, students, journalists, authors, activists, artists, scientists, doctors, politicians, people in business, and everyone else who falls on the sides or in between to address urgent global issues through rigorous, and open dialogue. To approach ideas and concepts in innovative ways so as to circumvent discursive "dead ends" and to chart new inroads to greater understanding and problem solving.
- To attract and activate engaged individuals who seek intellectual challenges and creative
  answers, particularly students, young scholars, and budding creators, both as program
  participants and as members of the public.

With these objectives in mind, the programming team has channeled its energy into tackling the most pressing questions and issues facing today's world by focusing on six key rubrics:

- Gender & Agency
- Boundaries of Translation
- The Global: History & Effects
- Identity, Politics, and Society
- Critical Dialogues in Science, Medicine, Technology
- Creative Encounters in Music, Film, Art, and Architecture

Moving forward, the Center plans to deepen its engagement by continuing an ambitious public programming agenda, while cultivating longer-term, interdisciplinary research-oriented projects in conjunction with several American and European institutions, among which. It has had particular traction working with on-campus partners linked to the Medical Humanities including: The Heyman Center for the Humanities; the Medicine, Literature, and Society major (part of the Institute for Comparative Literature); the new department of Medical Humanities and Ethics at the Medical School; the School of Professional Studies; the Mailman School of Public Health; and the student-run Columbia Society of Medical Humanities. The Center aims to become a global hub of interdisciplinary reflection and research on the body, its discourses, and its disciplines, convening academics, doctors, researchers, and patients from all over Europe. In June 2019, the Center hosted the annual Medical Humanities Institute for the Mellon-funded Consortium of Humanity Centers and Institutes, "Health Beyond Borders."

Thanks to its open and polyvalent nature, programming has become a dynamic space for interrogating the constructs of race, which have figured prominently in the Center's

programming for the last three years. The team has worked with local journalists, activists, artists, and cultural institutions to find oblique and productive entries into sensitive discussions. Several youth-oriented projects seek to combat discrimination by raising awareness and facilitating interaction across social divisions of culture, class, and religion.

Climate change has an impact on all aspects of human existence, and the Paris Center has been dedicated to helping create solutions, working with the Mailman School of public health to better understand the impact of climate change on health, as well as with the Earth Institute to grasp the science and technology paving the way to paradigm breakthroughs.

The Paris Center's programming brings to bear the vibrancy and inclusiveness that have historically characterized and continue to mark the European intellectual, cultural, and scientific scene, and civil society.

# Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro

Center Launch: March 2013

Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/riodejaneiro

Email: riodejaneiro.cgc@columbia.edu

Address: Rua Candelária, 9, 3o Andar, Centro, Rio de Janeiro, 20091-020 Brazil

# **Director Biography**

#### THOMAS TREBAT

#### Tt2166@columbia.edu

Thomas J. Trebat is director of the Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro. He joined Columbia after a lengthy career on Wall Street dedicated to economic research on Latin America. He formerly served as Executive Director of the Institute of Latin American Studies at Columbia University and of the Institute's Center for Brazilian Studies. Prior to joining ILAS in February 2005, Tom was Managing Director and Head of the Latin America team in the Economic and Market Analysis department of Citigroup. He joined Citicorp Securities in 1996 as the head of Emerging Market Research.

Previously, he worked at Bankers Trust, the Ford Foundation, and Chemical Bank. As a senior international economist at Bankers Trust, he was involved in many aspects of country debt negotiations in Brazil, Chile, Mexico and elsewhere in Latin America during the 1980s. At the Ford Foundation, he served for four years as the regional director for Latin America and Caribbean Programs. At Chemical Bank, Tom organized and directed the emerging markets research group. Mr. Trebat has a PhD in economics from Vanderbilt University and remains active in teaching and publishing. He 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 in 1983

# **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 Building Administration 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 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, Brasília, and also in Fortaleza in the Northeast of Brazil. Its partners outside of Rio include the University of São Paulo, Fundação Getúlio Vargas (São Paulo), INSPER (in São Paulo), the Lemann Foundation, and the Universidade de Fortaleza, among many others. 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.

# **Recent and Upcoming Programs**

- **Festival 3i** The Journalist's Job: Information Leakage, Data Mining, and Technology. Good tactics of the new investigative journalism and how journalists can write powerful stories. This will be a workshop with Columbia School of Journalism Master's Director Giannina Segnini and The Intercept Cofounder Glen Greenwald.
- First Childhood and Data Journalism: The first course sponsored by the Fundação Maria Cecilia Souto Vidigal, Insper, and Columbia Global Centers will bring Columbia School of Journalism Master's Director Giannina Segnini and a small group of 20 journalists who are specialists in first childhood and Public Policies. The selected group of journalists have received full scholarship, housing, and flight tickets to those who didn't live in São Paulo.
- The Role of the State The third Brazil edition of the conference is the result of a successful last year's round, when prominent academics, business leaders and civil society were gathered to discuss the strategies for economic growth in the context of fiscal and structural reform policy, monetary and banking issues, and institutional legitimacy and transparency.
- Threats to the Brazilian Environment and Environmental Policy Faced with this reversal of extant environmental practices, members of the law faculties of Law Columbia and Pace are convening this workshop in order to increase understanding and raise awareness in the United States of the scope and severity of the environmental crisis in Brazil. We seek to gather scholars and activists from a variety of disciplines, in addition to the law, to examine critically and from a comparative U.S.- Brazil perspective, the alarming situation in Brazil.
- **Lemann Dialogues** For the 2019 Lemann Dialogue, hosted by Columbia University, the overarching theme is evidence-based policy-making, its importance, and its challenges. The conference aims to highlight academic research and its value for addressing public policy needs and social challenges in Brazil.
- Columbia Women's Leadership Network The Columbia Women's Leadership Network in Brazil program selects annual groups of up to 20 mid-senior level professionals with the goal of creating a growing network of women who will contribute to the transformation of public service in Brazil. Taking advantage of the talents and academic excellence of Columbia University, each cohort will consist of women working different areas of public management from different parts of Brazil.
- IV Seminar on Innovation in Public Management The IV Seminar on Innovation in Public Management aims to bring examples of innovative partnerships, discuss the main lessons learned and promote an analysis of the perspectives of the use of innovative instruments for structuring and managing partnerships in Brazil. In addition, it is intended to bring together in one place professionals and leaders from diverse sectors, engaged in the mission to revitalize the current scenario of public administration. The seminar aims to give

- visibility to academic articles and case studies that systematize knowledge, analysis or best practices of partnership between different sectors in Brazil and in the world.
- **Liberta Institute** The Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro has submitted a proposal to work with Liberta Institute in the fight against sexual exploitation of children in Brazil. The aim is to work with multiple schools in the University in topics ranging from human rights, public health and policy.

### **Networking and Contacts**

# Local, regional, and national governments

- Municipal Secretary of Education of Rio de Janeiro
- Municipal Secretary of Health of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo

# **NGOs and Private and Public Companies**

- Lemann Foundation
- Comunitas
- Brava Institute
- Instituto República
- Um Brasil
- Rio de Janeiro Chamber of Commerce
- National Development Bank
- Securities and Exchange Commissions of Brazil
- Museum of Tomorrow
- Vera Cruz Institute
- Vetor Brasil
- Moreira Salles Institute
- Rio de Janeiro Research Funding Agency (FAPERJ)
- São Paulo Research Funding Agency (FAPESP)
- Fiocruz
- SESC SP
- Viva Rio
- Roberto Marinho Foundation
- Fecomércio
- Paraná State Water Company (SANEPAR)
- Museum of São Paulo (MASP)
- Industries Federation of São Paulo (FIRJAN)
- Instituto Humanize
- Mindquest Educação

- Unibes Cultural
- Liberta Institute
- Igarapé Institute
- Securities and Exchange Commission of Brazil (CVM)
- Brazil Center for International Relations (CEBRI)
- Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES)

# **Universities and Colleges**

- University of São Paulo
- University of Fortaleza
- Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
- State University of Rio de Janeiro
- Fundação Getulio Vargas
- ESAF

### **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

Throughout the almost five 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 presence with a variety of academic and executive education programs in public management. Besides that topic, the center has developed many programs in the areas of education; healthcare; resilience and climate change; sustainability; cinema and visual arts; entrepreneurship, technology and innovation (artificial intelligence), public security; human rights, social and business entrepreneurship and women leadership. These are themes of enormous importance in Brazil and that engage the strengths of the Columbia faculty. Staff in the Rio center will be able to take on simultaneous programs and requests by utilizing its impressive network of contacts in Brazil to the utmost.

# Columbia Global Centers | Santiago

Center Launch: March 2012

Website: http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/santiago

Email: <a href="mailto:santiago.cgc@columbia.edu">santiago.cgc@columbia.edu</a>

Address: Av. Dag Hammarskjold 3269, 1st Floor, Vitacura, Santiago - Chile 7630000

## **Director Biography**

#### KAREN PONIACHIK

## Kpp16@columbia.edu

Karen Poniachik is director of the Columbia Global Centers | Santiago. 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 Metro SA and Jetsmart Airlines as well as 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), Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (UCV) 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 <u>Flacso</u> building, in the same street as many other international organizations (ILO, ECLAC, UNDP). David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies 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 Forrest Fires or Glaciology studies, when they travel South.

## **Networking and Contacts**

## Local, regional, and national government

- Ministry of Women Affairs
- Ministry of Education
- <u>Ministry of Environment</u>
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Economy
- <u>CORFO</u> (Chilean Economic Development Agency)
- CNID (National Council for Innovation and Development)
- CONICYT (MoU ensuring scholarships for PhD Chilean students accepted by CU).
- National Congress

## Local and International NGOs, and Business Associations

- <u>CR2</u> (Climate Change Fondap)
- <u>Cigiden</u> (Disaster Risk Magament Fondap)
- AmCham (American Chamber of Commerce)
- <u>Cedeus</u> (Sustainable Transportation Fondap)
- Comunidad Mujer
- Women Corporate Directors local chapter (WCD)
- Museo de la Memoria y los Derechos Humanos
- Museo Interactivo Judío de Chile
- Asociación Chilena de Energías Renovables (ACERA)

## **Universities and Colleges**

- Universidad de Chile
- <u>Universidad Católica</u>
- <u>Universidad de Católica Valparaíso</u>
- Universidad Diego Portales
- Universidad del Desarrollo
- Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez
- Universidad de Magallanes

# Sampling of current as past projects

# Team co-led by Columbia University is awarded National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant to Study Glaciers and Climate in Chile

As of August 2018, Michael Kaplan and Joerg Schaefer from Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO), in association with Chilean researchers and students, will participate in an NSF-funded research project in the country's central area and southern tip to determine glacier sensitivity to past climate changes. Carly Peltier, a doctoral student in Columbia University's Earth and Environmental Sciences Ph.D. program. The Columbia scientists will be joined by a team of local experts which include Juan Carlos Aravena from Universidad de Magallanes' Centro de Investigación Gaia Antártica (CIGA); Esteban Sagredo from Universidad Católica; and Maisa Rojas and Patricio Moreno from Universidad de Chile, who will be acting as advisors to Chilean graduate students that will also participate in the project. More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/team-co-led-columbia-university-awarded-national-science-foundation-nsf-grant-study-glaciers">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/team-co-led-columbia-university-awarded-national-science-foundation-nsf-grant-study-glaciers</a>

## Top Columbia Medical Team Participated in Major Conference in Chile

In November2018, five Columbia distinguished faculty members and researchers from the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons participated in a symposium on Primary Immunodeficiencies and Immune Dysregulation organized and hosted by Clínica Alemana-Universidad del Desarrollo. This meeting focused on diagnosis and state of art management of diseases derived from genetic defects in the immune system which result in recurrent or severe infections or in exacerbated immune responses in the form of autoimmunity or immune dysregulation. This was the first of many activities carried out in the framework of an academic and research collaboration agreement signed in July by the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, represented by Dr. Lawrence Stanberry, Associate Dean for International Programs at the University's, with Chile's Universidad del Desarrollo (UDD), the School of Medicine Clínica Alemana-UDD, and the Institute of Sciences and Innovation in Medicine (ICIM). More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/top-columbia-medical-team-participate-major-conference-chile">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/top-columbia-medical-team-participate-major-conference-chile</a>

## Columbia Astronomy Students Intern at Chile's Universidad Católica (PGIF)

In mid-2018, two Columbia University undergraduates from the <u>Astronomy Department</u>, spent two months in Chile in a practicum at <u>Universidad Católica's Astrophysics Institute</u> (UC) as part of an ongoing exchange program between both institutions funded by the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF). The collaborative program, run by <u>Marcel Agueros</u> at Columbia and <u>Gaspar Galaz</u> at UC, had benefited five graduate students from both universities. This time, thanks to the efforts of <u>Frits Paerels</u>, Director of Undergraduate Studies at the Astronomy Department, and the support of the Santiago Center, the series incorporated the participation of undergraduate students.

More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/santiago-center-stories-columbia-astronomy-graduate-student-interns-universidad-catolica-de">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/astrophysics-exchange-program-columbia-universidad-catolica</a>; <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/columbia-astronomy-students-participates-research-program-chile">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/columbia-astronomy-students-participates-research-program-chile</a>

# Students from Columbia and Universidad Diego Portales collaborate in Innovative Literary Translation Workshop

The Spring 2018 semester marked the first year of the literary translation workshop Word for Word between graduate students at Columbia University's School of the Arts and Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) in Chile. This global course was launched in 2011 and is currently conducted between Columbia students and their counterparts at five universities in Europe and Latin America. The program's purpose is two-fold -- to provide emerging translators with valuable experience and a global network, and to encourage writers to engage with their own language in a new way. It was founded as a yearlong exchange program by Professor Binnie Kirshenbaum, the former Chair of the School of the Arts Writing Program and has evolved into a course held every Spring semester hosted out of the Literary Translation program. It results in publication-ready translations of students' work. More Information:

https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/students-columbia-and-universidad-diego-portales-collaborate-innovative-literary-translation

## Panama Papers Case Analyzed in Depth as Part of the "Future of Journalism" Series

Marina Walker, who directed the Pulitzer Prize-winning Panama Papers journalistic investigation, visited Chile in May for two days of workshops, lectures and press appearances. The visit was part of the "Future of Journalism", an ongoing event series co-hosted by the Global Center|Santiago, the Journalism School at Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) and Columbia Journalism School. Other programs in this series include:

- Chilean Alumni Present News Chatbot in NYC
- Defining Social Movements in the Era of Social Media, with Todd Gitlin.
- <u>Discussion on the Challenges of Investigative Journalism</u> with Ernest Sotomayor, Columbia Journalism School's Dean of Student Affairs.
- Narrating Latin America with Daniel Alarcón, Columbia Journalism School professor.

- <u>Journalism in the Era of Social Media</u> with Duy Linh Tu, director of the Digital Media Program at the Columbia Journalism School.
- <u>The Future of Journalism (and Democracy) after Facebook</u>, with Columbia Journalism School's Tow Center director, Emily Bell.

#### **Columbia-Led Scientific Mission to Easter Island**

During March 2018, a team of scientists led by William D'Andrea, Associate Research Professor at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO), travelled to Rapa Nui (Easter Island) to work on a major research project most important wetlands. The collaborative field team also included LDEO's Lorelei Curtin; Andrea Seelenfreund from Chile's Universidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano; Nicholas Balascio and James Van Hook from the College of William and Mary in Virginia; and Raymond Bradley from University of Massachusetts Amherst. With the support of Ma'u Henua (Rapa Nui's community administrating the National Park), Chile's Forest Service (Conaf), the National Monument's Council (CMN), and Isla de Pascua's Technical Department of Heritage (Secretaría Técnica de Patrimonio) the team successfully collected sediment cores from the wetlands of Rano Kau, Rano Raraku, and Rano Aroi, recovering geologic records that likely span the past 30,000 years on Rapa Nui and which will be used to examine various aspects of climatic, environmental, and human land-use history. More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/columbia-led-scientific-mission-easter-island">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/columbia-led-scientific-mission-easter-island</a>

# **Exclusive Business Executive Education Event on Digital Transformation in Santiago**

In May 2018, the Santiago Center partnered with Columbia Business School Executive Education to offer an extremely successful workshop featuring David Rogers, a globally recognized leader in digital business strategy and the bestselling author of The Digital Transformation Playbook: Rethink Your Business for the Digital Age. This whole-day-exclusive event, entitled "Transform Your Business to Compete in the Digital Age", included interaction sessions led by Rogers on the five domains in which traditional companies need to rethink their underlying assumptions (customers, competition, data, innovation, and value); the way in which leaders need to address digital transformation at their corporations; and on big data, analytics, and the true power of Artificial Intelligence. More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/exclusive-business-executive-education-event-digital-transformation-santiago">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/exclusive-business-executive-education-event-digital-transformation-santiago</a>

#### Columbia Scientist Delivered Keynote Address at Major Remote Sensing Conference

In April 2018, <u>Ajit Subramaniam</u>, Research Professor at Columbia's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO), will visit Chile to participate at the <u>Latin American Remote Sensing Conference (LARS)</u>, the most important gathering of its kind in the region, sponsored by the <u>International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing</u> and held in the context of the Latin American Remote Sensing Week. The theme of this year's conference was "Sustainability - A Challenge for Everybody" and its aim was to facilitate exchange of knowledge among scientific experts, sustainable development and resource managers, security and defense specialists, and technological innovators. Subramaniam delivered a keynote speech entitled "Remote Sensing of Aquatic Environments for Sustainability Challenges and New

Technologies", where he provided an introduction to the use of remote sensing techniques that can be used to study the aquatic environment and discuss case studies that demonstrate how they can be used to analyze water quality and the effects that nutrient loading, suspended sediments and aquaculture can have over it. More information:

 $\frac{https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/columbia-scientist-deliver-keynote-address-major-remote-sensing-conference}{}$ 

## **Conference on the Role of Development Banks**

In January 2018, Stephany Griffith-Jones, Financial Markets Director at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue, presented the main conclusions of a two-year research project led by Columbia University, co-directed by José Antonio Ocampo, that studied the role of Development Banks (DBs) in seven countries: Germany, China, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru. During a conference organized by the Santiago Center in association with Universidad de Chile's School of Economic and Business (FEN), Griffith - Jones explained the contribution that DB's have made in terms of promoting economic development as well as the challenges they face today: she covered several key questions, such as: What is the role DB's should fulfill in the current economic context? do they use the adequate instruments and funding schemes to support economic development, productive diversification, energy transformation, and entrepreneurship and innovation? Do they have sufficient scale in economies such as Chile? What relationship should they have with the private world? How can the continuity of its programs be guaranteed beyond electoral cycles? Her presentation was followed by a panel discussion featuring Eduardo Bitran, Executive Vice President of Chile's Economic Development Agency (CORFO); Ricardo French-Davis, a renowned economist that teaches at FEN; and Daniel Titelman, director of the Economic Development Division of the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC). The event was chaired by Manuel Agosin, the Dean of FEN and also a Columbia alumnus. More information:

https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/conference-role-development-banks

#### **Neurology Symposium**

In September 2017, the Neurological Institute at Columbia University Medical Center teamed-up with local neurology experts at Universidad de Chile, to conduct an educational symposium on neurological emergencies geared towards generalists and emergency room physicians who frequently manage these critical patients. A delegation of four faculty members Columbia Medical Center's Division of Critical Care and Hospitalist Neurology visited the country to participate in a "Train the Trainer" symposium: Kiran T. Thakur, MD, Assistant Professor of the Division of Critical Care and Hospitalist Neurology at the Department of Neurology of Columbia University's Medical Center; Kathryn Rimmer, MD, Resident at the Adult Neurology Residency Program at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital; Sachin Agarwal, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Neurology at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital; and Shivani Goshal, MD, Assistant Professor of the Division of Critical Care and Hospitalist Neurology at the Department of Neurology of Columbia's Medical Center. Chilean partners include Andrea Slachevsky, Associate Professor, and Rodrigo Salinas, Assistant Professor, both from Universidad de Chile's School of Medicine. More Information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/neurology-symposium-september-9-10">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/neurology-symposium-september-9-10</a>

## **Biomedical Engineering Symposium (PGIF)**

A delegation of nine faculty members, scientists and students from the <u>Department of Biomedical Engineering at Columbia</u> visited Chile in March 2017 to participate in a PGIF-funded "Biomedical Engineering Symposium", organized by the Institute of Biological and Medical Engineering at Universidad Católica (UC) in conjunction with the. More information: <a href="https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/biomedical-engineering-symposium-columbia-uc">https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/news/biomedical-engineering-symposium-columbia-uc</a>

## **Symposium on Antibiotic Resistance (PGIF awardees)**

In December 2015, a team led by the Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the <u>Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons</u>, **Paul Planet**, MD, travelled to Chile to participate in a two-day Symposium entitled "Rise and Spread of Antibiotic-Resistant Microorganisms in the Americas", held in conjunction with the Facultad de Medicina Clínica Alemana-Universidad del Desarrollo. During the event, specialists in infectious diseases, microbiology, and genomics from North and South America presented a state-of-the-art technological approach and discussed strategies for halting the spread of antibiotic-resistant pathogens. More information: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/columbia/newsletter-november-2015?e=0b4791b39e">https://mailchi.mp/columbia/newsletter-november-2015?e=0b4791b39e</a>

## Field-Trip by Columbia Volcanologists (PGIF awardees)

In February 2016, a team of scientists led by **Phillip Ruprecht**, an Assistant Research Professor at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, visited the Quizapu Volcano in Southern Chile as part of a field trip research project financed by the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF). Besides Ruprecht, three other faculty members participated in the expedition (from the Lamont Center and from the Universities of Hawaii and Michigan). The group also included two post-docs and four Ph.D. students from Columbia as well as local students from Universidad de Concepción and Universidad de Chile. After a seminar series held at the Santiago Center, which was attended by local geologists and volcanologists, the group left for Talca, in Maule Region, for the eight-day field trip component. They climbed the Chilean Cordillera to explore the natural hazards as well as processes that lead to ore formation associated with volcanism. In particular, the group focused on one of the most historically active places in Chile - the volcanic cluster around Descabezado Grande, including Quizapu, which erupted in 1846 and 1932. The latter provided a unique "volcano park" to discuss magma generation and transport, eruptive behavior and volcanic processes, among many other earthsciences related topics. The highlight of the work-shop was a day hike to the crater (>3100 m elevation - a very windy place) where participants could grasp the forces and dimension of these historic eruptions by looking into the 800 m wide crater and seeing the many stages of eruptive activity it experienced. More information: https://mailchi.mp/columbia/newslettermarch-2016?e=0b4791b39e

## **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Focus**

Tapping across the spectrum of Columbia's intellectual capital, the Center has facilitated research, teaching and public activities in disciplines that have implications for Chile's public policy agenda. During the last three years, it has addressed emerging topics and challenges, such as population aging, the impact of robotization in the labor market, antibiotic resistance, new

diagnosis techniques for mental illness, and advances in engineering to resolve medical problems. This, in addition to other broader economic and social topics such as climate change, immigration, and human rights. To all these issues, the Center brings a multidisciplinary approach, drawing on the knowledge and research of the numerous Columbia Schools, centers and labs.

The Center's area of focus is largely determined by the needs of the country. After the last Advisory Board meeting, the Santiago Center agreed to focus on the following topics for the period: Earth Sciences (including Climate Change), Corporate Governance, The Future of Journalism, Film & the Arts, Engineering and Public Policy.

There is growing interest among Columbia faculty and Chilean counterparts in collaborative research projects and initiatives, which is reflected, for example, in the four-month research project by Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory's (LDEO) Research Vessel Marcus Langseth in Chilean seas with two local Universidad de Chile's scientists on board (2016-2017); the ongoing exchange and collaboration program on respiratory infections between the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at UC's School of Biological Sciences and the Columbia University Medical Center; and the joint-venture between the School of Liberal Arts at UAI and the Department for Core Curriculum at Columbia

# **Columbia Global Centers | Tunis**

Center Launch: 2017

Website: <a href="http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/tunis">http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/tunis</a>

Address: 15, Avenue de Carthage, 1000, Tunis, Tunisia

## **Director Biography**

#### **Youssef Cherif**

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Youssef Cherif is Deputy-Director of Columbia Global Centers | Tunis. He is a member of the Carnegie Civic Research Network. He was previously the Al-Maidan Libya Project manager at the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) and an expert affiliated to the Tunisian Institute for Strategic Studies (ITES). He also consulted for the Arab Institute for Business Managers (IACE, on Tunisian foreign policy), the UN (implementing the SDG's in Tunisia and writing the country report), The Carter Center in Tunisia (political affairs), etc. Youssef holds a Chevening Master of Arts in International Relations from the Dept. of War Studies of King's College London, and a Fulbright Master of Arts in Classical Studies from Columbia University. He is regularly quoted on North African affairs by international media outlets, including The New York Times, the Financial Times, CNN, Al Jazeera English, BBC, France 24, and think-tanks, such as Carnegie, IEMed, ISPI, etc.

## **Center Space**

CGC Tunis operates from downtown Tunis, in a refurbished early 20th century building. It encompasses the third floor, with balconies opening on Tunis' iconic Place Barcelone and the offices of the old Municipality of Tunis, one of a series of landmark Art Nouveau sites. The office has two open-spaces that can serve as classrooms and conference venues, and a number of cubicles. The building where it is located, Le15, offers a free large conference/reception venue in the ground floor, as well as a rooftop space for receptions.

## **Regional Dimension**

CGC Tunis can serve as a field office for scholars and students working on Tunisia and Libya, because of the proximity between Tunis and Tripoli, and the fact that Tunisia is a platform for international organizations and embassies working on Libya. Tunis is also, because of its geographic location, a hub for North African, Saharan, Mediterranean, and migration studies. It also attracts a number of sub-Saharan African students, hence a bridge to their countries.

CGC Tunis is working closely with CGC Amman and Istanbul, the two other regional centers, as well as CGC Paris: Tunis is at two hours flight from Paris. Tunis is moreover at one hour flight from Rome, which increases its European and Mediterranean dimensions.

#### **Center Interests, Priorities and Thematic Foci**

#### A. Education

As a center emanating out of an academic institution, CGC Tunis needs to have a strong education component. Through scholarships, workshops, conferences, e-courses, executive education, and other academic events, the Center aims to become a lighthouse of knowledge dedicated to West and North Africans. It will also raise awareness about Tunisia and West & North Africa among the community of Columbia University.

It is under this axis that CGC Tunis, in cooperation with Tunisia's Ministry of Culture, helped disseminating Columbia University Press (CUP) books in Tunisia. In 2017, Columbia University was the guest of honor of the International Book Fair of Tunis. CUP was represented with staff and books, and Gayatri Spivak delivered a lecture in the venue. The event allowed for interaction between CUP and major local publishers and booksellers which led to further partnerships. CUP participation to the Book Fair has now become an annual event and CUP books are available in Tunisian bookshops. El Kitab, a leading bookshop in Tunisia, is now distributing CUP books at a 50% discount. CGC Tunis is working on importing more CUP books to be stored in Tunisian public libraries, where there is a shortage in English language books. We also engaged in a conversation with the Rambourg Foundation regarding buying substantial quantities of books for Tunisian public libraries. We will keep reaching out to CUP authors whose visits to sign books would include lectures given at the Center or at El Kitab. Yet because of the limited distribution of books in Tunisia, this initiative has had a limited reach. This requires more communication from our side and El Kitab's, as well as visits by books' authors for signing ceremonies.

CGC Tunis has facilitated the establishment of the Rambourg Fellowship at SIPA. It is a scholarship scheme funded by the Rambourg Foundation for Tunisian students to study at SIPA. CGC Tunis plans to host information sessions regarding this scholarship and how to apply to US universities. It will also organize regular information sessions for Columbia College and the different undergraduate and graduate schools, while disseminating information on financial aid opportunities for admitted students. This would increase the number of West & North African students applying to Columbia, and possibly expand the pool of alumni from the region. In addition, the Center will organize pre-departure events for prospective Columbia students from the region. Yet as of now, only one student got the Rambourg Fellowship, because of the difficulty of maching the criteria of SIPA and Rambourg. Furthermore, the lack of communication by CGC Tunis and the Rambourg Foundation limited the scope of people reached.

CGC Tunis will relay the calls for proposals of Columbia projects and conferences to scholars from West and North Africa. The Center will, in parallel, try to include CU scholars and graduate students in research projects from West & North African countries, and strive to give them access to local archives and libraries. A special emphasis will be given to Humanities and Social Sciences. A conference aiming at these goals was organized in October 2018 in Tunis in cooperation with the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life (IRCPL, Pluralisms in Emergencies). Yet the lack of interest by CU faculty and students, and the high costs of visits to both sides, complicated this goal.

The Center will keep hosting and organizing public lectures. In January 2017 for instance, CGC Tunis helped organize the visit of Tunisian scholar and statesman Yadh Ben Achour to Columbia. He was the first CGC scholar-in-residence, and he gave a series of conferences on Tunisia. In September 2017, Safwan Masri launched his Arab Anomaly book in Tunis. In October and November 2017, CGC Tunis, the Middle East Institute and the Department of Italian hosted a Tunisian Art Historian in New York to talk about 19th century Tunisia. In April 2018, CGC Tunis and the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures

invited another Tunisian historian to talk about 16th century Tunisia. In Spring 2019, CGC Tunis organized a panel discussion on campus related to Tunisia's general elections. In Summer 2019, the Center hosted Pr. Michael Harris to talk about mathematics and literature. Other events, on various topics ranging from public health to arts and political science, took place during 2018-19 in Tunis and on campus.

CGC Tunis' activities include inviting CU faculty to offer classes in Tunisia, for instance the film festival organized by Richard Pena, from the School of the Arts. For our first session in July 2017, we organized a workshop on Latin American Film, in partnership with L'Agora Cinema and the US Embassy. Pena gave lectures, showed movies and led discussion groups. The program is already running in several centers and its second Tunis iteration took place in December 2018. Pena then taught a graded Master Class in Tunisia's leading school of cinema, and it was partly funded by the US Embassy. He also animated workshops at L'Agora and the US Embassy. In December 2018 as well, CUMC professor Karen Soren visited Tunisia and lectured in the schools of Medicine of Tunis and Monastir. CGC Tunis is moreover in discussion with GSAS about hosting CU PhD candidates as teachers in Tunisian universities.

The Center is committed to help implementing academic projects focusing on the region. Hence, in 2018-20, CGC Tunis is hosting CUMC Pr. Craig Spencer's Measuring Human Rights Violations and Mortality Amongst Migrants and Refugees in the Sahel Region project. Pr. Spencer use the Center's facilities and we help him in developing the project. Similarly, we are hosting SIPA's Pr. Eric Verhoogen and his Evaluating an Export Promoting Scheme in Tunisia project during 2019-21. CGC Tunis is providing the space for talks and meetings, as well as contacts and advice. But be it for the PGIF projects, lectures, classes and other events, there are high expectations in Tunisia, but a limited responsiveness from Columbia faculty and researchers.

CGC Tunis facilitates visits by Columbia faculty and students to the region. One of these programs is that of Chaplain Jewelnel Davis and her Kraft program. Another program where CGC Tunis plays a role is the now-regular Global Immersion: Doing Business in North Africa class, by Pr. Kamel Jedidi. Since 2019, CGC Tunis is hosting the Summer Arabic language program (MENA Studies in Tunis and Amman) led by Pr. Taoufik Ben Amor. CGC Tunis, moreover, helps organizing GSAPP's Traveling Studio (directed by Pr. Ziad Jamaleddine) to Tunisia.

## B. Entrepreneurship, Business & Economy

Entrepreneurship is booming in the Arab World. Tunisia, as a democratic country going through political and economic reforms, aims to become a regional hub. Co-working spaces are mushrooming while start-ups are the go-to path for many talented fresh graduates. However, the education system remains disconnected from the world of entrepreneurship and students are often self-taught. Moreover, West & North Africa remains disconnected from the major hubs of entrepreneurship in North America. This is a gap that CGC Tunis aims to fill. Our partners BIAT, HBG and Africinvest are particularly interested in this field, and so are the US Embassy and the Ministry of Higher Education.

Fostering Entrepreneurship in Engineering Education in Tunisia (Open Startup Tunisia) is a project spearheaded by Columbia that aims to tackle these issues. It involves the Global Centers, the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) and several leading Tunisian universities. The project started in 2015, with the aim of introducing elements of an entrepreneurship curriculum in engineering schools, and building an ecosystem that would support entrepreneurial activities in the Tunisian context. The concept is to make a preincubation program and an annual competitions for students to pitch their ideas in a series of steps. The winning team flies to New York and competes with CU students. CGC Tunis is

committed to the success of this project, providing space and assistance. However, the project took its own path and it is now morphing towards an independent entity applying for its own funding and drafting its own program.

CGC Tunis is also in discussion with Columbia Business School as well as the School of Professional Studies to host Executive Education courses. Tunis is centrally located between Algiers and Tripoli. It has therefore the possibility to become a hub for companies working in Tunisia, Algeria and Libya and willing to offer their staff Columbia education. This may be expanded to the rest of Western and Northern Africa. Furthermore, because of CGC Tunis' connection with Tunisia's most important business groups, it will look for internships and placement opportunities for Columbia students in Tunisia and the region: since 2018, CGC Tunis distributes the call for application to prospective "SIPA Capstone Clients". During 2018-19, two SIPA Capstone groups found opportunities in Tunis-based organizations.

## C. Politics, Democracy and International Relations

Since independence, Tunisia has been ruled by an authoritarian regime that mutated into a police state under the country's second president, former Interior Minister Zinelabidine Ben Ali. Public space was closed and political participation became quasi inexistent. Nonetheless, the country's strong institutions, the dissemination of modern education among the population, the limited political bloodshed in Tunisia's recent history, among other things, gave the Tunisian transition to democracy a unique path.

The democratic system that Tunisia adopted in 2011 is therefore an originality that attracted global scholarly attention. So is the duality of Islam and Democracy. CGC Tunis is facilitating the study of Tunisia's democratic transition, which would benefit Columbia faculty and students, especially from the departments of Political Science and Sociology, the Middle East Institute, the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS), the Law School and the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).

Also, the Center will encourage the study of Political Science and International Relations in the region, starting with Tunisia. As a discipline, Political Science was partly banned in Tunisia during dictatorship. We will leverage the visits to Tunisia of Columbia faculty and graduate students who specialize in this field to teach courses and organize workshops on Political Science in Tunisian universities and with Tunisian students. CGC Tunis approached the Open Society Foundations about this idea.

An example of a project on this line is the study-abroad class taught by Pr. John Huber and organized in 2015 by the Global Centers, the Office of Global Programs and the Department of Political Science: Democracy and Constitutional Engineering in the Middle East. It was a three-week summer program taught in Tunisia - and partly in Turkey, with CGC Istanbul - that provided Columbia students, and a select group of students from the region, with tools to understand Political Science and the process of democratization. The class did not take place since, but it may restart in Summer 2020 or 2021 with Tunis and Nairobi as its centers.

International Relations was also neglected during the Ben Ali era. While essential to understanding foreign policy and the interactions between countries, and useful for working in think-tanks and NGO's, the field is largely occulted in Tunisian academia. CGC Tunis will, at a later stage and following its Political Science endeavor, connect SIPA staff and faculty with schools of Law and Economics, as these are the schools where International Relations (and affiliated) courses can be incorporated in the Tunisian system of education. The Rambourg Fellowship fits under this category, as it will equip students with skills that allow them to contribute in this field. The Foundation will be approached in a similar way as Open Society to work on this topic. But be it here or with Political Science, the interest at Columbia is limited and we have to keep pushing to bring guests to Tunisia.

A number of organized or planned lectures feeds into this aim too. Hence we hosted talks on US-North Africa relations, EU-MENA relations, Russia-MENA relations and we are currently working on a "Russia in North Africa" project with the Harriman Institute. These talks and meetings were attended by scholars, diplomats, politicians, students, etc. CGC Tunis is reaching out to departments and centers at Columbia, such as the Department of Political Science, the Harriman Institute, the Saltzman Institute, etc. Our events in Tunisia will benefit more if Tunisian schools and universities send their students and researchers directly to us, which is again an issue of communication.

#### D. Medicine

CGC Tunis is home to Craig Spencer's PGIF project on human rights and migration. It also hosted Karen Soren and facilitated her access to Tunisian schools and hospitals. It is now working on organizing a series of lectures in the School of Medicine of Tunis for Craig Spencer, for 2019-20. Therefore the Center is carving a place for itself in the field of Medicine, and may in the future apply for grants that relate to this field, with TCPH as a favored partner.

## E. Heritage and Climate Change

CGC Tunis is located a few kilometers away from Carthage. Tunisia, in addition, was the core of several North African kingdoms for three thousand years. Yet interest in Tunisia's past, and North Africa's in general, has been limited at Columbia University (and North America). It is the Center's mission to link both sides. The Center will hence set up different archaeological tours and talks for undergraduate and graduate students and encourage research projects on the topic of Ancient History. Additionally, CGC Tunis will learn from CGC Istanbul and their work on Turkish and Mesopotamian heritage and archaeology. It aims to work with CGC Paris, as Tunisian archaeology is traditionally linked to France.

On a completely different topic, climate change, a major threat to life in West and North Africa, remains little addressed. It is important in the Columbia Commitment too. It will therefore be a main focus of CGC Tunis, in coordination with local and international NGO's, universities and public institutions. CGC Tunis will learn from the work of CGC Nairobi in this field. Moreover, we can link the work on Climate Change to heritage preservation, because water and weather were of concern to humanity at all times.