



COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | SANTIAGO  
ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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Photograph by Eileen Barroso.

*A challenging year the world over, 2020 vividly illustrated the perils of not heeding recommendations backed by scientifically proven data. Making decisions based on populism and false assumptions has cost the world dearly.*

*Yet the response to the Covid-19 crisis by health care professionals and the medical research community has demonstrated the power of pooled resources, as brilliant minds came together from around the world to come up in record time – albeit still not quickly enough – with real solutions to a global pandemic not seen in our lifetime. The world can now afford more than a glimmer of hope, as millions of vaccines are being distributed globally; and now that knowledge and reason are once again prevailing in political leadership.*

*This cooperative approach, and its attendant benefits, was also a hallmark of the Columbia Global Centers network during 2020. The Centers quickly mobilized and pivoted to offer more than 500 instructive webinars, tackling issues related to the economy, Covid-19, forced migration, climate change, and many other critical topics, that brought Columbia expertise in conversation with essential voices from all over the world, to reach hundreds of thousands of audience members. The Centers collaborated in their programming with every school on campus, which led to new, sustained opportunities for tangible and impactful collaborations that engage our faculty with regional partners around relevant topics.*

*The Global Centers also offered students virtual internships, providing our local and regional networks of employers exceptional talent and skills. The program generated 1,900 applications from students in more than 50 countries. More than 400 students from 15 schools across campus took up positions last summer, and the program has been expanded and extended into the academic year.*

*Perhaps the most pioneering work the Centers performed during the crisis was in leading the University's efforts to provide international students study and community spaces – to convene, connect, and collaborate – at the Global Centers and nine pop-up sites around the world, in addition to student access to study facilities in 80+ other cities. More than 4,000 students have registered for and accessed the spaces, and thousands more have been engaged in robust programming and through new communication channels designed to meet the needs of our international student body.*

*At a time when so many turned inward and the world became insular, we went out – even more – and we adapted, innovated, and built community. We were not isolated groups serving specific locations, but a global body functioning together for all. Our defining purpose, of being an essential, international part of the University, has never been more clearly realized.*

*The network of Columbia Global Centers has turned a corner in a way that is enormously beneficial to their stakeholders in every region, and to the University. This year, 2021, is one of consolidation for our network, as we strive to continuously grow and strengthen the international presence essential to the University and the global community.*

*I am immensely grateful to our many partners and supporters all over the world who make the work of the Columbia Global Centers possible and impactful, and I am especially proud of our staff, who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that we deliver on our promise.*

*In hope and faith,*

**Safwan M. Masri**

Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development,  
Columbia University



## THE SANTIAGO CENTER IN 2020

Chile and the Santiago Center were not exempt from the havoc that the Covid-19 pandemic wreaked upon the world. Indeed, 2020 was a very challenging year for the Center – perhaps the most challenging since its inception in 2011.

Faced with the dilemma of how to engage stakeholders with whom it usually interacted in live events, in March the Santiago Center expeditiously adjusted, pivoted and went virtual. Working from home offices, the team took its programming online, resorting to webinars, the recordings of which can be found in the video section of the Columbia Global Centers | Santiago website<sup>1</sup>.

Besides the worldwide epidemic, at the local level Chile was still reeling at the beginning of the year from nationwide social protest that first erupted in October 2019. Looking to address issues such as social inequality, the overall cost of living, disappointing retirement system returns, politicians seen as out of touch with reality, and justice perceived as unfairly favoring the country's elite, there was a national agreement to hold a countrywide referendum on whether to rewrite the Constitution. The plebiscite was first scheduled for April and then pushed back to October 25, when an unprecedented 78% of voters chose to redraft the national charter.

Despite the obstacles on both the national and global stage, the Santiago Center steered through the difficulties and continued on its mission to promote Columbia's multidisciplinary approach in addressing local, regional and worldwide issues.

To start the year, the Center had a successful first quarter, which included several visits from campus and a first of its kind two-week course in Chile on investigative journalism, organized jointly with the Columbia Journalism School and Universidad Diego Portales (UDP).

Then, following the Center's pivot response to the pandemic, in March-December it organized a number of online events, featuring Columbia faculty, researchers and experts, and engaging with partner institutions. This formed part of the more than 400 global webinars organized by the network of nine Global Centers.

However, as the year went on, the phenomenon of “webinar fatigue” compelled the Center to become more creative in terms of topics and speakers in order to make a difference. It planned and developed varied special projects, including contests and alumni research to promote dissemination and awareness of Covid-19 and

1. Julio Friedman, Laurie Fitzmaurice, Minister Juan Carlos Jobet and Eric Guter in the “Demystifying Green Hydrogen” event in November.



1. <https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/content/santiago-videos>





2. In October, Chileans took to the streets to celebrate the results of the referendum to rewrite the Constitution.

its calamitous effects; and it organized virtual internships for a total of 40 Columbia students in the US Summer and Fall terms. As part of a network-wide campaign to accommodate Columbia students abroad, it conditioned its offices for those students who were unable to travel to New York to use an appropriate space to participate in their courses via online platforms.

At the same time, the Santiago Center expanded its horizons to address a larger group of stakeholders, as was the case in the Center-sponsored photo contest for residents of Renca, a lower-income borough in Santiago, to artistically express what life was like under the epidemic.

In order to better address its public, the Center revamped and modernized its webpage and included new sections. The social media strategy was reformulated, focusing on LinkedIn as a tool to improve access to stakeholders and the alumni base, while employing Twitter, Instagram and Facebook to promote programs and initiatives. In order to continue receiving outstanding advice, ongoing leadership and counsel regarding the Center's activities, it renewed its Advisory Board.

During the year, new partnerships were created and those already in place were consolidated. The Santiago Center will continue strengthening alumni interaction via the Alumni Club of Chile and the Business Alumni Club of Chile, while also reaching out to alumni in Peru, Colombia and Argentina, and fortifying the relationship with student organizations on campus such as the

Latin American Student Association (LASA), the Latin American Business Association (LABA) and Latin GSAPP (Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation).

The Center's "business model" has been successful to date, but it is adapting to address the real challenges that Chile is facing, while also meeting expectations from the network and the University. Based on the successful experience with Renca, it is looking to further engage with those beyond its traditional stakeholders - academia, NGOs, government and international organizations - particularly when it comes to the constitutional process and its progress over the next couple of years. With this in mind, it formed a partnership with Columbia's Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) to add thought-provoking content and programming to this important issue, tapping into Columbia's expertise and bringing global insight to this national issue.

Heading into 2021, with Chile still grappling with national issues while facing a global crisis, the Center looks to promote civic culture, employing University resources and expertise to cultivate civic education in youth and the general public. Operating in association with colleagues in New York and with the international network of nine Global Centers, the Santiago Center proceeds to work on better engaging its audience, continually adjusting to a new normal and focusing on cooperation and shared solutions to create content and experiences around critical, timely concerns in bringing Columbia to the world and the world to Columbia.



## 2020 KEY STATISTICS

The Santiago Center organized and/or sponsored 62 programs, webinars and/or activities during the year, involving:

**39**

Columbia Faculty  
and Staff members

**85**

Non-Columbia  
Experts

**16**

Columbia Schools

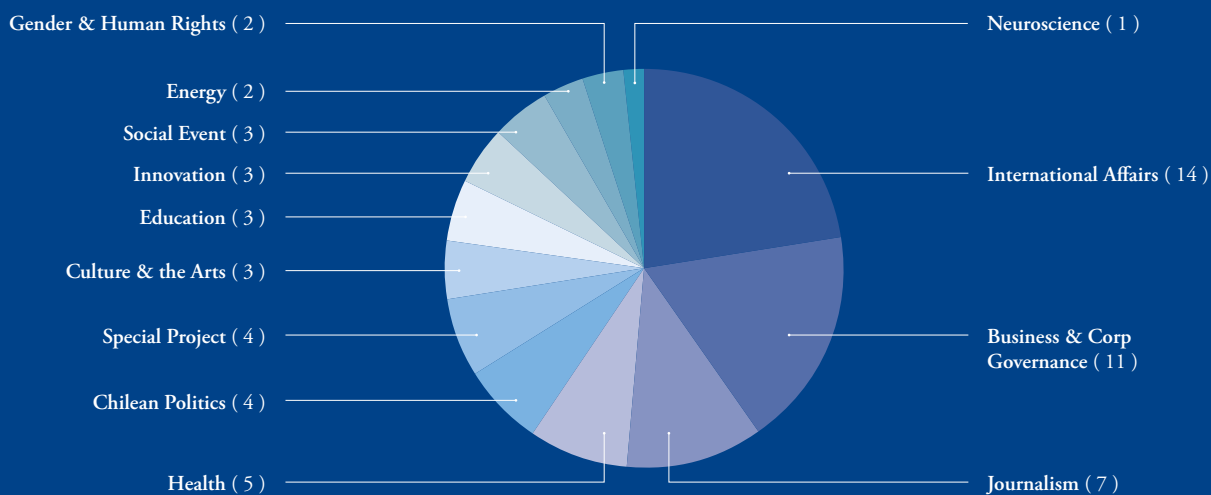
**54**

Partners (including government,  
universities, NGOs, trade  
associations and private companies,  
among others)

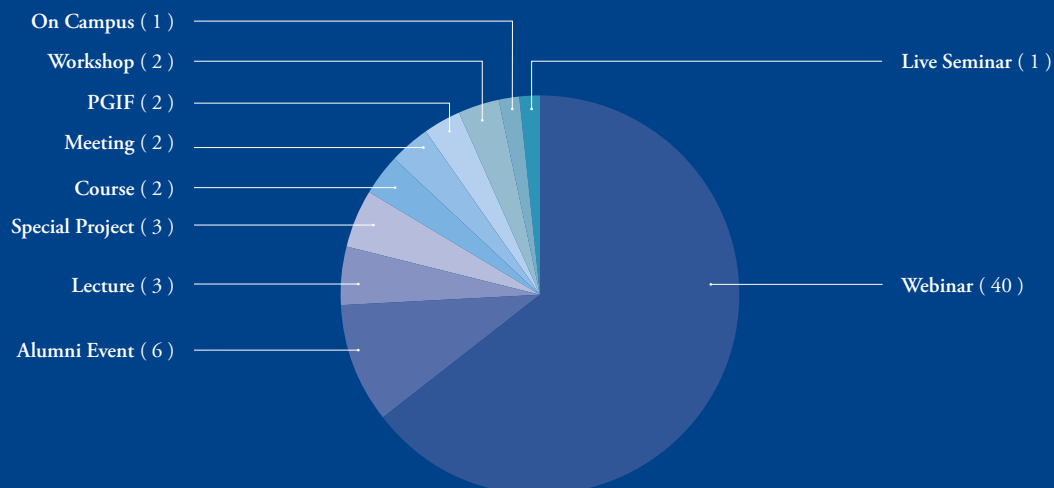
**41**

Participating Alumni

### THEMES

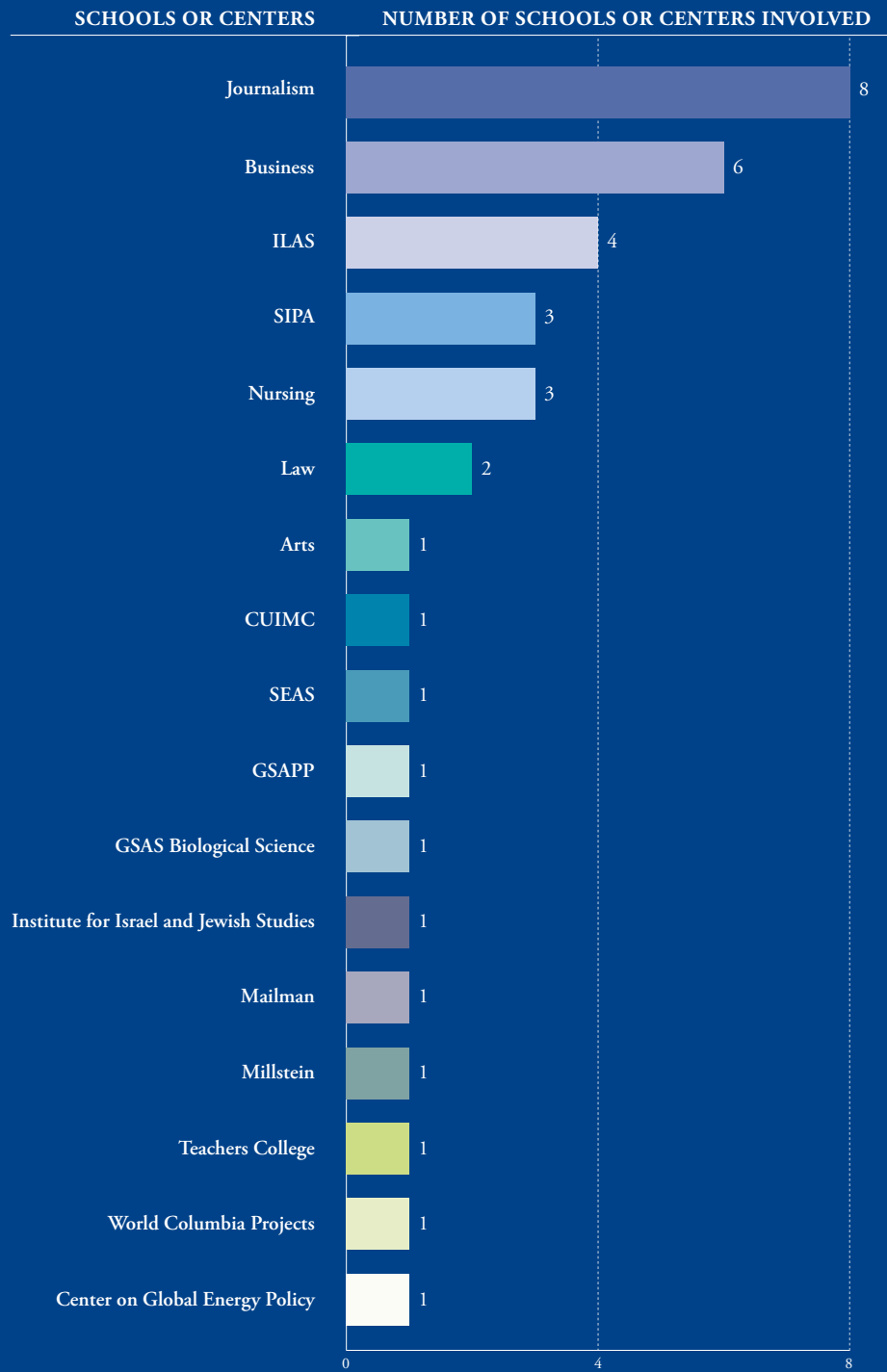


### TYPE OF EVENT





## COLUMBIA SCHOOLS OR CENTERS





# I. BEFORE THE PANDEMIC

As is usual at the beginning of the year, the Santiago Center received several Columbia faculty and researchers who visited Chile, while also engaging with Campus with delegates representing Chile in international workshops.

## Visits from Campus

› To kick off the year, speaking at Congreso Futuro - a yearly event that brings together over 80 world-leading experts to present to the public, looking to diffuse science and technology among society - Rafael Yuste, Professor of Biological Sciences and Neuroscience at Columbia University, addressed how neurotechnology is capable of accessing human thoughts, emotions, feelings and memories, and how it could be used to help prevent suicide, cure mental illness and treat neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's or Alzheimer's.

Yuste is an expert on the structure and function of cortical circuits and is working to decipher and be able to manipulate human thought. He has been working with the Chilean Congress to introduce a constitutional reform that establishes neuro-rights

as a new human right. If passed, it would make Chile the first country worldwide that regulates and protects data that could be extracted from the human brain, in order for the data to be used for altruistic purposes only.

› During a lecture entitled "Investing in Kids," Sandra Black - Professor of Economics and International Affairs who has extensively studied the role of early life experiences on the long-term outcome of children - presented on how parents' economic status affects their children. She addressed the issue of "nature versus nurture" in determining children's future wealth - if children are born different due to genetics, or if they are given more opportunities thanks to the environment in which they are raised.



1. Rafael Yuste  
2. Sandra Black and Peter Morse  
3. Jorge Otero-Pailos





According to Black, the early childhood environment is highly important to consider in defining policy to equalize the playing field when it comes to issues such as universal pre-schooling, health care and food programs.

The event was chaired by Peter Morse, Chief of Staff to the Vice Chairman of Banco de Chile and member of the Santiago Center's Advisory Board, and co-sponsored by educational NGO Fundación Oportunidad.

› Jorge Otero-Pailos, Professor and Director of Historic Preservation at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), presented a master class at the beginning of the year on experimental conservation of historical monuments.

During the meeting entitled “Critical Preservation and Dynamism of Heritage,” organized by Chile’s Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage and the National Museum of Fine Arts (MNBA), he

discussed the issue of heritage conservation considering challenges such as pollution, graffiti and the present and future role of monuments in relation to communities. Participants were quick to make the connection to the current times, with the destruction of national monuments during social movements that at times got violent.

› Daniel McQuade, Professor at Columbia Business School’s Venture for All initiative that looks to enhance the entrepreneurial ecosystem, visited Chile in January to present a workshop entitled “Entrepreneurship in Times of Social Crisis.”

Chile has a special capacity for innovation that is not common in emerging countries, where people tend to copy already existing business models, he said, highlighting the country’s business accelerator program Start-Up Chile and its pre-acceleration program for startups led by female founders, The S Factory.



Referring specifically to the situation that had affected Chile since end-October 2019, McQuade said that rather than cripple entrepreneurship, periods of disruption can be ripe with opportunity.

He pointed to the example from November 2018 when an outbreak of illnesses in the US and Canada was caused by a dangerous type of E. coli bacteria found on romaine lettuce. That incident led him to start his third and most successful venture, using blockchain technology for food traceability.

While in Chile, McQuade also imparted a course on entrepreneurship mentality for high school students from English-speaking schools.

› Tom Brock, Director and Professor at the Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Teachers College (TC), visited the Santiago Center in January to share insights on the CCRC's goal of improving outcomes at the more than 1,200 community colleges located throughout the US.

› In early March, Yinon Cohen, Professor of Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia University, and Emilio Dabed, Adjunct Professor at the Osgoode Hall School of Law at the University of York in Toronto, participated in a presentation on the Israel-Palestine issue, organized by the Santiago Center in association with Universidad Católica's Center for International Studies (CEIUC) and Columbia's Middle East Institute. The event was chaired by Jorge Sahd, the CEIUC's Director.

4. Dan McQuade

5. Tom Brock, Chris Molinari and Vivian Fosc at the Santiago Center office.

6. Yinon Cohen



## The President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF)

Launched in March 2013 by President Lee C. Bollinger, the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) offers support for faculty to develop projects and research collaborations within and across the University's nine Columbia Global Centers, to increase global opportunities for research, teaching, and service.

Past projects involving Chile included implementing a next-generation weather forecast system to better respond to climate change, gauging the causes and consequences of wildfires and how to prevent them, disaster management and recovery, and joint astrophysics research with local universities.

In the two latest PGIF projects, the Santiago Center received visits from the respective Principal Investigators.

› Dylan Possamaï, Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research at the School of Engineering and Applied Science, traveled to Chile to work on the PGIF project entitled "Massive Entry of Renewable Energy: Operation, Storage and Intermittency."

During the visit, together with co-Principal Investigator Alejandro Jofré from Universidad de Chile's Center for Mathematical Modeling, and associated postdoctoral student Nicolás Hernández,

Possamaï reviewed the jointly developed models on auction energy system optimization. They also discussed PGIF-related finalized work on optimization of demand-response programs for electricity providers and retailers, which consider consumer behavior aggregate statistics and include them in the contract itself.

› Tonda Hughes, Associate Dean for Global Health at the School of Nursing, and Lilian Ferrer, then the Director of International Affairs at the School of Nursing of Universidad Católica (UC) visited the Center to discuss advances and expectations in their PGIF project focused on research gaps on sexual minority health in Chile. Additionally, together with Billy Caceres, Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing, Hughes presented her research on LGBT health to faculty and students from the UC's Master in Public Health and Science in Nursing.

They were joined by Lorraine Frazier, Dean at Columbia University School of Nursing. Issues discussed included support to extend nurse practitioner services into Chile's primary health care system to relieve overburdened public hospitals, as well as the current state of affairs considering the social upheaval since October 2019. During her visit, Frazier also met with Jaime Godoy, UC's Vice Dean for the School of Medicine.

1. Dylan Possamaï and Alejandro Jofré

2. Giselle Feldman, Lorraine Frazier, Tonda Hughes and Lilian Ferrer





## Presence on Campus

› Two Chilean companies were selected to form part of the 2020-2021 version of the Columbia Business School's (CBS) Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness in Latin America (ECLA) program, which targets entrepreneurs from mid-sized Latin American companies seeking to become more competitive in today's global environment.

One of the firms, BH Compliance, is specialized in business ethics compliance. It diagnoses and monitors regulated aspects of corporate integrity. The second company, OGR Puntaje Nacional, aims to improve education in Latin America through technology and innovation.

The program - the sixth such version, led by Nelson Fraiman, Professor at CBS - began in January with on-campus classes. "The sessions were spectacular with lots of participation; there

was an excellent connection between all the students and the teachers were top level... there was a very good atmosphere in the ECLA program," said Ramón Montero, Legal and Compliance Manager at BH Compliance.

› In February, Claudia Heiss (GSAS'03), Director of the Political Science Department at Universidad de Chile and a member of the Center's Advisory Board (AB), participated in an on-campus workshop convened by Columbia World Projects (CWP) in collaboration with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office.

The expert workshop focused on protest movements around the world and advanced on a five-point agenda: the historical context of the social demonstrations that many countries are





experiencing today, the United Nations' viewpoint on this phenomenon, the role of new technologies and new social action tactics, perspectives and mechanisms that affect protests, and recommendations for international community action.

Speaking about Chile specifically and Latin America in general, she said there is strong dissatisfaction with political participation structures and government regimes but she warned against polarization.

In addition to participating in the CWP and United Nations experts' discussion, Heiss met with the Latin American Student Association (LASA) at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), where she spoke with a large group of students from various disciplines about the political situation in Chile following the protests that erupted in October 2019 and the constituent process which was underway at the time.



1. Claudia Heiss in New York
2. ECLA - Andrés Alvarado (Endeavor Chile) with Cristóbal Soto, Andrés Henao, Sebastián Arancibia and Camilo Navarro (Puntaje Nacional)
3. ECLA - Ramón Montero and Susana Sierra (BH Compliance)



## Investigative Journalism Course

During the first two weeks of January, the Columbia Journalism School, in partnership with Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) and the Santiago Center, held its first-ever investigative journalism course in Chile.

The course had traditionally been offered in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in conjunction with Fundación Gabriel García Márquez para el Nuevo Periodismo Iberoamericano. According to Ernest Sotomayor, then-Director of Latin America Initiatives at the Graduate School of Journalism, the idea to bring the workshop to Chile was to incorporate the exchange of cultures, styles, journalistic traditions and the way journalism is approached.

A total of twenty journalists from different written, digital, radio and television media participated in the course, whose objective was to provide tools for the realization of investigative projects, the creation of a cross-border collaboration network and learning how to review and use different databases. Part of the application process involved presenting a case to investigate, and sixteen Chilean, three Venezuelan and one Cuban reporters were chosen.

Topics covered included:

- The basic aspects of the conception of an investigative project
- The construction of a working hypothesis
- The techniques to structure the process for conducting an investigation, how to administer and execute the project, through its final phase and public disclosure
- How to obtain, analyze and visualize data and how to tell stories on multiple platforms
- How to search public records around the world, how to understand and use financial documents, interview techniques, and how to structure an investigative story
- How to investigate cross-border corruption in collaboration with journalists from other companies

Instructors included Hugo Alconada, Editor of Investigations at Argentine newspaper La Nación; Alberto Arellano, Editor at CIPER Chile; Leila Guerriero, Latin America Editor of Gatopardo Magazine; Daniel Matamala (JN'12), CNN Chile Senior News Anchor and Santiago Center Advisory Board member; Pedro





1. Ernest Sotomayor and Giannina Segnini
2. Ernest Sotomayor (center) and journalists taking the course
3. Ernest Sotomayor, Leila Guerreiro and Francisca Skoknic

Ramírez, Professor of Journalism at UDP; Giannina Segnini, Columbia's Director of the Master of Science Data Journalism Program; and Francisca Skoknic (SIPA'13), Director of the Journalism School at UDP.

The Santiago Center would like to take this opportunity to thank Ernest Sotomayor, who in 2020 retired after having enthusiastically worked to help give the Future of Journalism program the wings it deserves. The Center is extremely appreciative of his full support, efforts and selfless dedication in raising key issues and improving journalism in Chile and the rest of Latin America. It very much looks forward to continuing this work with his successor, Elena Cabral, Assistant Dean of Academic Programs and Communications.

“The main thing we wanted the students to understand is that investigative journalism involves a process and structure - you need to be organized and disciplined in the way you work, in order to be exact in the way you write your story.”

**Ernest Sotomayor**



## II. COPING WITH COVID-19

At the beginning of 2020, Chileans read news reports of a novel virus coming out of the far-off place of Wuhan, China, that was beginning to spread throughout the world; global health officials had begun to raise the alert about the Coronavirus's highly infectious nature. By the end of March, Chile's government had declared a nationwide curfew in the country's 16 regions and, trying to stymie the spread of Covid-19, had ordered people to quarantine and remain indoors.

However, the Center continued to maintain its focus on timely, relevant and high-quality content in the Center's priority areas: Journalism, Business, Corporate Governance, Public Policy and Culture & the Arts.

› In an immediate response to issues arising from the pandemic and orders to shelter at home, in April the Santiago Center hosted a webinar with tips for parents and other concerned adults looking to best help children deal psychologically with the crisis. During the session, Pablo Goldberg, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Director of the Pediatric Anxiety and Mood Research Clinic at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center, held a conversation with Alex Behn (TC'12), Director of Research at the Millennial Institute for Depression and Personality Research (MIDAP).

Goldberg explained the importance for parents to be role models, maintaining a balanced life and providing examples for their children in facing "the new normal." He recommended that parents structure the day, particularly when it comes to doing homework or chores and defining spaces. In turn, Behn spoke of the need to limit access to news and help to contextualize the situation in a transparent way, without dramatizing or providing false information.

Both experts agreed on the importance of parents being open to questions, validating the child's feelings and being compassionate and empathetic.

› Later in the month, the webinar "Gender-Based Violence: The Other Pandemic" addressed inter-partner violence (IPV), which spiked with couples living in close quarters during lockdown. María José Abud (SIPA'15), Undersecretary at Chile's Ministry of Women and Gender Equality, said that her office aims to ensure continuity of operations to help serve affected women, while also putting new initiatives into action, such as the "Facemask 19" initiative where women can go to pharmacies and use this codeword to signal to the pharmacist that she is in trouble and needs help.

Further, Lisa Bates, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the Mailman School of Public Health, emphasized that the reduction of IPV can be achieved in three ways: response-based (treatment and support), prevention-based (changing norms) and mitigation-based (reducing exposure and minimizing secondary harm). She underlined the activation of touchpoints like healthcare facilities and pharmacies where women can denounce violence, such as the case of Chile's "Facemask 19."



1. Lisa Bates
2. María José Abud
3. Pablo Goldberg
4. Alex Behn



## Journalism

Since 2016, the Santiago Center has worked with Columbia University's School of Journalism and the Journalism School at Chile's Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) to offer a number of conferences and workshops to train reporters in the "Future of Journalism" series. The worldwide pandemic was insufficient to impede advances in this series, in its fifth year in 2020, over which time the partners developed, adjusted and promoted programming to meet the diverse needs of Latin American journalism.

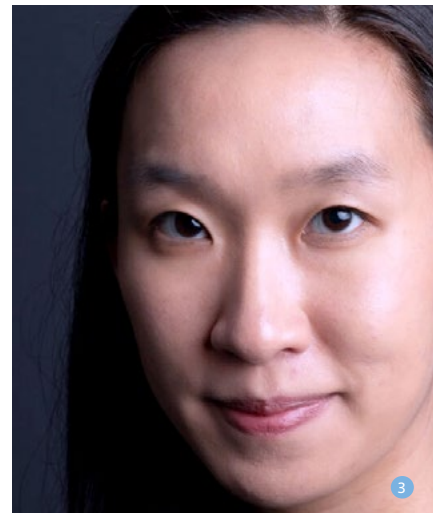
Besides the one-week course in January, the series' main focus in 2020 was two-fold: covering Covid-19 and combating misinformation and disinformation.

› In May, Bruce Shapiro, Executive Director of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, and Ari Goldman, who teaches the course "The Journalism of Death and Dying," presented the heartfelt webinar "Documenting Death: Obituaries During the Time of Coronavirus," which was moderated by Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development.

Most reporters know how to write a news story on people dying from an accident or a crime - what went wrong, why the unexpected has happened - but writing obituaries is different as these are more about life. For journalists during times of pandemic,

writing about death can sometimes turn into an opportunity to focus on life.

The obituaries help to put a human touch to the larger overall story of Covid-19, which can be difficult to grasp given the large number of deaths reported daily, according to the presenters. "We have to do this work with lots of compassion," Goldman said. "The biggest mistake [the obituary reporter makes] is telling how the death happened. Death is incidental; this is about life worth memorializing... Unknown celebrities among us get recognized this way."





1. Ari Goldman
2. Andie Tucher
3. Caroline Chen
4. Emily Bell
5. Anya Schiffrin
6. Bruce Shapiro
7. Elena Cabral

› However, reporting on life is not always happy either, particularly during Covid-19, according to Daniel Alarcón, Professor at Columbia's School of Journalism. "Sometimes reporting and being depressing go hand-in-hand, especially at times like these. People want the hard news because they want to know what we are experiencing," he said mid-May in a discussion with Francisco Aravena (JN'03), Deputy Director of Radio at Grupo Copesa. Aravena and Alarcón, who is also the Executive Producer of the successful Latin American Spanish-language podcast Radio Ambulante and Editorial Director of weekly podcast El Hilo, reviewed all that goes into planning, producing and airing podcasts during the webinar "Podcasts and Covid-19: Registering the Sounds of the Pandemic."

› Indeed, the global pandemic has already begun to change the face of journalism itself. In September, in a candid discussion, Emily Bell, Director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism, spoke with Paula Escobar, Professor of Journalism at UDP, about how the Covid-19 pandemic is transforming journalism.

The trends seen in newsrooms before the outbreak were only accelerated with the advent of the economic and health crisis:

- Loss of advertising revenue for traditional media, particularly to social media platforms
- End of print altogether, or a drastic reduction of print to favor online formats



## 6. Francisco Aravena and Daniel Alarcón



**CICLO <el futuro del periodismo>**

WEBINAR

**Podcasts y Covid-19: registrando los sonidos de la pandemia**

**MARTES 19 DE MAYO**  
14:30 hrs

Transmitido a través de Zoom.

6

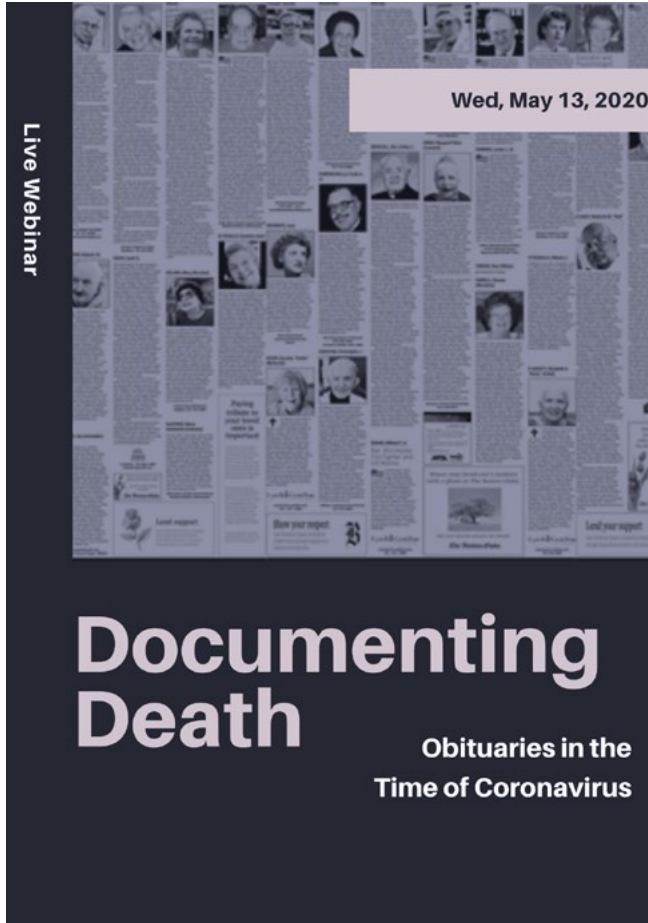
- An increase in people paying for news, but for a small number of subscriptions
- Consolidation of the sector into a few very big players, including social media (Facebook and Google) and large publications like the NY Times
- Due to a lack of jobs, journalists are leaving the newsroom to address a narrow audience, with a proliferation of small, single-person publications – newsletters, podcasts, and personalization of media

With the pandemic, Bell said she had also observed amplified collaboration between news organizations, more remote working - calling into question the future of the physical newsroom - and an increased workload and pressure on journalists with a higher risk of burnout.

› In October, Andie Tucher, Director of Columbia's Communications PhD Program, reviewed the development of fake news over time, from the beginning of the printed press and through the era when reporters began to establish and abide by codes of conduct and professional ethics. "Some fake news is silly and harmless, clearly created to be entertaining and make money. But most of the time it is much more troubling: profoundly undemocratic and dangerous, like the agitators that are trying to influence elections by spreading information they know to be untrue," she said during the webinar entitled "Fake News: History and Evolution."

› In November, Anya Schiffrin, Director of Technology, Media and Communications specialization at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), addressed the perils of online misinformation. Presenting during the webinar "How Social Media is Threatening Democracy," she spoke about different possible solutions to an issue that seems to increase by the day, and how it affects today's society, particularly when it has to do with potentially life-threatening issues such as Covid-19.

› Caroline Chen (JN'13), Investigative Reporter covering health care for ProPublica and Adjunct Faculty Member at Columbia's Journalism School, recognized an increased, more demanding workload since the pandemic hit. Speaking in December during the webinar "Covering the Pandemic from Testing to Vaccine: The Science and Politics of Covid-19," she brought together the two worlds of misinformation and covering Covid-19, discussing best practices on how to uncover political stunts and finding and reporting real information regarding the upcoming vaccines.



Live Webinar

Wed, May 13, 2020

**Documenting Death**

Obituaries in the Time of Coronavirus

## Business



While the Covid-19 pandemic began as a health issue, its collateral effects rapidly evolved into other crises, particularly affecting the world economy. In response, the Santiago Center tapped into the Columbia Business School's (CBS) faculty to have specialists in different fields engage with stakeholders in Latin America and address specific issues pertaining to their area of expertise. This was done in conjunction with the CBS Alumni Club of Chile, bringing timely, business-related issues to the fore.

› During a virtual event held in April, Mark A. Cohen, Director of Retail Studies at CBS, said that with people sheltering in place and refraining from purchasing goods, retailers and specifically department stores “are in for a world of hurt... with lots of losers and few winners.” In the webinar entitled “Retail Industry in Crisis: Trends, Winners and Losers,” he predicted that the pandemic would accelerate customer behavior to make purchases online: those who had avoided e-commerce would opt for alternative marketplaces, while existing customers “will shop online with abandon,” he said. Other formats such as supermarkets that had strong relationships with their customers before the pandemic, were expected to emerge stronger as they continue to service those shoppers.

Georges de Bourguignon (CBS/SIPA'17), CBS Chile Alumni Club president and Santiago Center Advisory Board member, chaired the event.

› At the same time, business leaders need to address the crisis with compassion, according to Todd Jick, Professor of Management at CBS and an expert in leadership and organizational change. During these times of pandemic, companies need to do everything possible to keep their business afloat, and when it comes time to lay employees off, “it can be handled in ways to ease the burdens, increase loyalty and goodwill, and decrease resistance. Or it can be done in such a way to be much more difficult and costly, and





sacrifice employee goodwill,” he said in July during the webinar “Leadership and the Pandemic - Rising to the Occasion.”

› Restaurants were also hard-hit as people avoided inside dining. However, as the world slowly started to recover from the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic and companies began to re-open their doors, Stephen Zagor, Professor at CBS and restaurant & food industry expert, warned that restaurants need to take a hard look at how they do business.

“You really should think of your restaurant as a manufacturing business,” with the kitchen producing under the direction of the chef and the product then being distributed via either wait staff or delivery, he said in August during the virtual event entitled “The Future of the Restaurant & Food Industry - A Business Perspective,” co-sponsored by Fedetur, the Chilean tourism federation, and Achiga, the national gastronomy association. He added that the secret is in cost control and logistics, all the while keeping in mind that the restaurant’s main focus should be on the customer experience.

› To close August, Rodolfo Spielmann, Head of Latin America at CPP Investments, one the world's largest pension funds, presented in the webinar "Perspectives on Latin America and Chile from Canada's Leading Pension Fund." He shared thoughts on investing throughout Latin America from a global platform and how to promote integrity, partnership and high performance from a leadership role, while also reviewing how to manage the challenges arising from the pandemic and social uprising in the region. The webinar was chaired by Alberto Garrido (CBS'18), Latam Credit Investor at CPP Investments.

› Companies and organizations that can adapt to the times may find opportunities to thrive, according to Juan Carlos Eichholz, Professor at the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez Business School and founding partner of international senior management consultancy, CLA Consulting. During the October webinar "Adaptive Capacity of Organizations in the Current Context," he specifically addressed opportunities arising from the pandemic, while also reviewing issues that companies may face in the digital age and other challenges brought on by the social and political environment. The event was moderated by Gustavo Stubrich (CBS'92), Head of BTS Chile.

1 and 2. In 2021 two iconic restaurants in Santiago had to close their doors. Squadritto had served customers for 26 years and Les Assassins for 65 years.

3. Georges de Bourguignon  
4. Todd Jick  
5. Stephen Zagor  
6. Rodrigo Spielmann



3



4



5



6



## Corporate Governance

Since 2016, the Santiago Center has worked to organize a series of events and workshops focused on corporate governance, including ethics & compliance, how boards should address climate change, and the role of directors in creating long-term value. During the year, the Santiago Center decided to expand its focus on corporate purpose and on how to meet Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) challenges.

› In June, Colin Mayer - Professor of Management Studies at the Saïd Business School at University of Oxford and author of several books, including “Prosperity: Better Business Makes the Greater Good” - waved a warning flag for companies during the current crisis. In the webinar “Why Companies Need to Rediscover their Purpose,” he said that it is critically important for businesses not to make the same mistake as during the last financial crisis, when bailed out corporations failed to respond quickly enough in recognizing their social license to operate.

Purpose allows a way for companies to steer themselves through the crisis and out of it, producing real value propositions for investors, society and customers, he said in conversation with Karen Poniachik, Director of the Santiago Center, and Bernardo Larraín, President of Chile’s Federation of Industries, Sofofa, in an event co-sponsored by Columbia Law School’s Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership.

1. Colin Mayer



- 2. Myriam Sidibe
- 3. Andrea Bonime-Blanc

› Defining and following a mission may be the one factor that determines whether a company will thrive, according to Myriam Sidibe, author of the book “Brands on a Mission” and Social Mission Manager at Unilever, where she formed the movement to change the handwashing behaviors of one billion people.

In making the case for achieving change through the power of business, she pointed to a number of examples, from food companies to beauty products manufacturers and investment firms. “It pays to be good,” she said in July during the online event “Business Growth Through Purpose,” co-sponsored with business NGO Fundación Generación Empresarial and in conversation with Karen Poniachik and Eduardo Pooley, Chief Marketing Officer at Banco Bci.

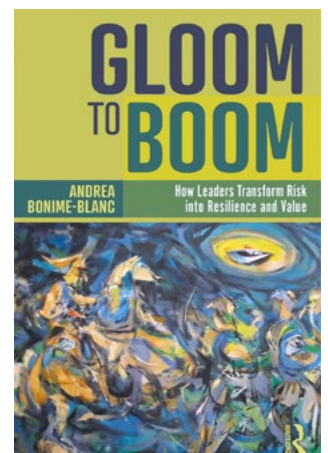
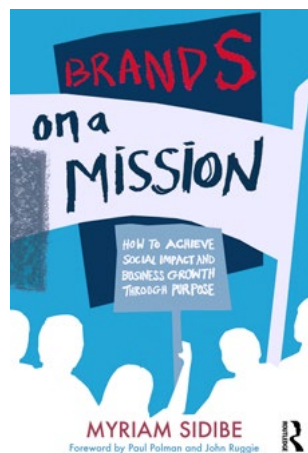


› “One size fits all” is a notion that definitely does not apply when it comes to defining corporate governance for startups, according to Evan Epstein, Executive Director of the Center for Business Law at UC Hastings and an expert on corporate governance issues. In a webinar entitled “Corporate Governance for Startups: The Experience of Silicon Valley,” held in August, he said that unlike publicly-listed companies, there is no separation between control and ownership of startups. On the other hand, the boards at startups are usually focused on the mission of growing the business out, while in established companies the board has more of a regulatory or compliance function, he noted. The event was co-hosted with AmCham Chile and chaired by Cristobal Silva (CBS’17), General Partner at Kayyak Ventures.



› Being good is the base from which companies need to build their corporate citizenship. In September, Andrea Bonime-Blanc participated in a webinar entitled “Business Risk: ESG+T in Times of Pandemic,” co-sponsored with Deloitte. Basing observations on her latest book “Gloom to Boom: How Leaders Transform Risk into Resilience and Value,” she reviewed a series of tools, cases, and solutions so that entrepreneurs and other leaders have a way of thinking about environmental, social, governance and technology (ESG+T) issues, pointing to current examples to illustrate corporate behavior.

› In December, Karen Poniachik presented in the webinar “Doing Well by Doing Good.” Speaking with Hugo Silva, Partner and Director at the firm Risk & Crisis Management Latin America, she said that ESG issues now weigh heavily in business continuity and that the new way of doing business has been a change in paradigm for companies.





## Public Policy

How governments plan for and respond to certain situations has been under scrutiny ever since the Covid-19 pandemic erupted onto the world stage. However, the issue came to the fore not just in response to this health matter and its resulting controversy: there were concerns regarding US policies as well as questions over the country's leadership and how this would reverberate throughout the world. Meanwhile, on a more regional basis, Chile confronted issues regarding its national charter and its place in the worldwide order, while Peru was struggling with countrywide protests and a national leadership crisis. Other countries in Latin America were faced with the dilemma of how to best respond to the health crisis while keeping the economy – and the most vulnerable in it – afloat.

› In the August webinar “The Ages of Globalization,” Jeffrey Sachs, Director of Columbia University’s Center for Sustainable Development, said that the wildfire spread of Covid-19 is not the end of globalization but rather a case of it, and fortunately, the positive side of globalization is more powerful than the negative.


During the event – also presented by Felipe Larraín, Universidad Católica Professor and a former Chilean Minister of Finance, and co-sponsored by the Fundación Chilena del Pacífico – Sachs noted that throughout history, technology has been at the core of great transformations and that the world is currently in the

digital era. “It’s been that way in our current pandemic, it’s been that way in our statecraft, in our geopolitics. If you look at the skirmishes between China and the US recently, they’re about the digital economy, it’s fundamental. Who’s going to control it, who will have the lead in semiconductors, who will control social media?”


Sachs also summarized his latest book, “The Ages of Globalization,” which examines world history to shed light on how today’s global issues require concerted, planet-wide action.

### Webinar

A conversation with:




**FELIPE LARRAÍN**



**JEFFREY SACHS**


Moderator:



**KAREN PONIACHIK**

## The Ages of Globalization

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Geography, Technology,  
and Institutions

## ALL EYES ON US ELECTIONS

› At the beginning of April, Robert Shapiro, Professor of Government and of International and Public Affairs at the School of International and Public

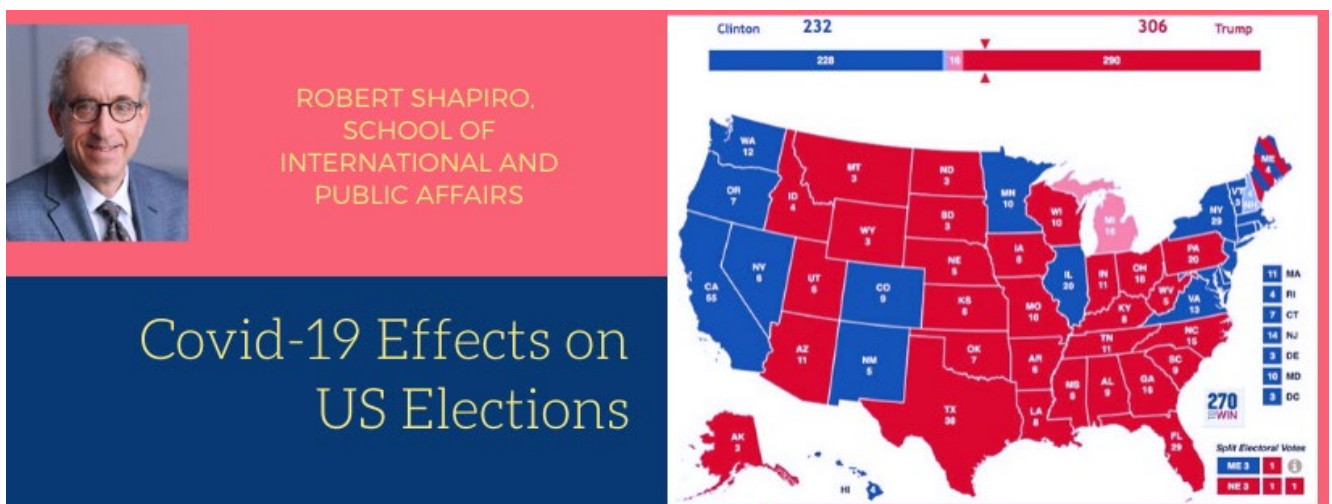
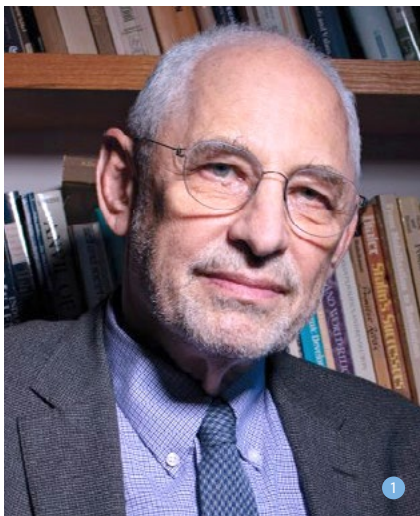
Affairs (SIPA), presented “The Impact of the Covid-19 Crisis on the US Presidential Race.”

“The name of the game is the electoral college,” he said during the webinar co-hosted by the Santiago and Rio de Janeiro Centers. The swing states of Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania would be key to winning the election, while with regards to the Covid-19 pandemic, he predicted that health costs, the number of deaths, and the economy of the states would be focal points.

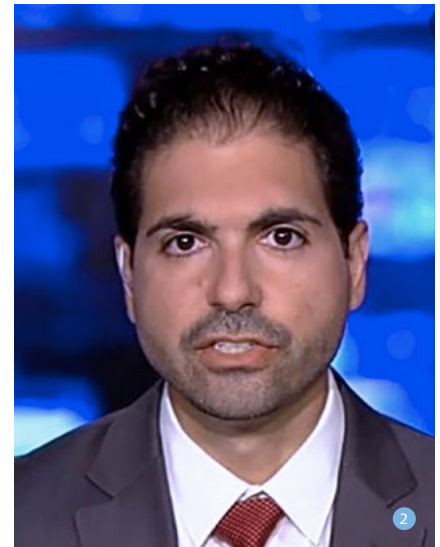
“The thing to watch for is how quickly the health crisis resolves, and that’s uncertain now,” he added. “Ironically, how quickly this gets resolved will affect the actual conduct of the elections, in terms of whether they can be held in a normal way or if they will have to be held by mail, going through the primaries and even possibly the general election.”

› With respect to the US elections and their possible effects on the world stage, the Santiago Center teamed up with the Center for International Studies at Universidad Católica (CEIUC) to hold a series of conversations to review the international environment. The three events were co-moderated by CEIUC Director Jorge Sahd and the Santiago Center Director Karen Poniachik.

1. Andrew Nathan
2. Joseph Westphal
3. Charles Kupchan







In the first event in this series, which took place in October, Andrew Nathan, Director of Graduate Studies at Columbia's Political Science Department and an expert on Chinese politics and foreign policy, spoke about the current state and eventual impact of election results in the US relationship with China. "Insecurity, threat, vulnerability is the theme we need to use to understand China's international behavior," he said, and as such, competition between the world's two largest economies is expected to continue.

In the second event in this series, also in October, Ambassador Joseph Westphal, Professor at the Joseph H. Lauder Institute

at Wharton and non-Resident Fellow at CEIUC, discussed the current state and eventual impact of election results in the US relationship with the Middle East, covering issues such as foreign policy, the growth of ISIS, and multilateral leadership, among others.

In the third event, Charles Kupchan, Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), presented in December on how, with the election of Joe Biden, the US could rebuild its strained relationship with Europe. He also discussed his new book: "Isolationism: A History of America's Efforts to Shield Itself from the World."

› On September 30, the day after the first presidential debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump, María Victoria (“Vicky”) Murillo, Columbia University Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS); Juan Gabriel Valdés, Director of the Permanent Seminar on the US at Universidad de Chile’s Institute for International Studies; and Michael Camilleri, Director of the Rule of Law Program at the Inter-American Dialogue, shared their observations on the heated and highly questioned debate.

“What Donald Trump did yesterday will satisfy those who already support him – his most fervent fans were happy with his performance. But I seriously doubt he was able to convince many voters that weren’t already supporting him,” Camilleri noted in the webinar, co-sponsored by Amcham Chile, ILAS and the North American-Chilean Chamber of Commerce.

1. President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris
2. Michael Camilleri
3. Vicky Murillo
4. Francisco Cruz
5. Patricia Pena
6. Juan Gabriel Valdés
7. Jorge Sahd
8. Rodrigo Yáñez
9. Dorotea López





1. Juan Pablo Luna
2. Paula Molina
3. Constanza Hube



5. Camila Vergara (Photograph courtesy LUN)

6. Chile held its national referendum in the midst of the health crisis.



› The day before the November 3 US Presidential Elections, Karen Poniachik and Robert Funk, Professor at the Institute of Public Affairs of Universidad de Chile and a partner at Andes Risk Group, analyzed the possible scenarios in the immensely anticipated elections. The event was chaired by Paula Estévez, General Manager of the Chilean-North American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham).

#### CHILE'S FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY

In a similar vein, the Santiago Center teamed up with CEIUC and Universidad de Chile's Institute for International Studies (IEI) to discuss Chile's foreign policy in different areas. Both events were moderated by Francisco Cruz, former Ambassador of Chile to Panama.

› At the end of June, participants in the webinar entitled "Chile and its Global Presence: How Important are Embassies?" discussed Chilean foreign policy challenges. The conversation featured several diplomatic specialists: Soledad Alvear, former

Minister of Foreign Affairs; Issa Kort, member of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies; Heraldo Muñoz, former Minister of Foreign Affairs; and Alberto Van Klaveren, Professor at IEI.

Despite some differing political views, the participants agreed that the country should always support multilateralism.

› Diplomats also came together during the webinar "Diplomats 2.0: The New Post-Covid Diplomacy" at the beginning of August to discuss the new world order in the context of today's health pandemic. Participants included Patricia Peña, at that time Canada's Ambassador to Chile; Rodrigo Yáñez, Undersecretary for International Economic Relations; Dorotea López, Director at IEI; and Waldemar Coutts, Ambassador of Chile to Norway.

The presenters addressed issues including the skills, knowledge and experience required to face future bilateral and multilateral challenges; how to promote political, social, commercial, cultural and scientific interests; and the foreign policy challenges for diplomatic academia.





› On the domestic front, ILAS's Vicky Murillo and Juan Pablo Luna, Professor of the Institute of Political Science and of the School of Government of Universidad Católica (UC), carried out a candid analysis of the situation in Chile in the context of the health pandemic, protests and political processes in the rest of Latin America and the US.

The Covid-19 outbreak in Chile forced “a parenthesis in social unrest, with the structural problems that the protest uncovered in an intense way... Chile had the conditions to manage the pandemic better, in terms of its supposed state capacity and its healthy economic status, but it has handled this pandemic poorly. I believe this has to do with the underlying structural problems which the October 18 protest [when social unrest erupted] laid bare,” said Luna.

In turn, Murillo added: “For me, Covid-19 is a type of pressure cooker, which uncovered the political and social discontent with which Latin America closed 2019... we must remember that the region ended the year with a deficit in legitimacy in its political systems, coupled with a deceleration in growth and an accumulation of corruption scandals.”

The event - moderated by Paula Molina, journalist of Radio Cooperativa - was co-sponsored by UC, ILAS and Instituto Milenio Fundamentos de los Datos.

› As September came to an end, Camila Vergara (GSAS'19), Postdoctoral Research Scholar at Columbia Law School, presented her book “República Plebeya. Guía Teórica y Práctica para Constituir el Poder Popular.” In her writing, she discusses Chile as the first “neoliberal greenhouse,” where for the first time the individuals living in the country are to help rewrite the constitution, in response to the social protests of October 2019.

› Regarding the constitutional process, in October ILAS launched the first of the Tendiendo Puentes (“Bridging Divides”) series, looking to provide a platform to civilly and academically discuss challenging issues on which a country's citizens may have a difficult time agreeing.

In favor of Chile's proposed constitutional change was Claudia Heiss (GSAS'03), Director of the Political Science Department at Universidad de Chile, who said a new charter was needed to channel social demands in politics. On the other hand, Constanza Hube, Director of the UC Constitutional Forum, countered that the way forward should be through reforms of the existing constitution.

› Immediately following the Sunday, October 25 Chilean plebiscite, the Center in partnership with the Canadian Council for the Americas (CCA) provided a platform for the discussion of results and takeaways. Participants in the webinar "The Day After: Chile's Constitutional Plebiscite" included Cristina Bitar, Senior Partner and President of Azerta; Pamela Figueroa, Professor at Universidad de Santiago; Claudia Heiss; and Carmen Le Foulon (GSAS'14), Researcher at the Center for Public Studies (CEP). The event was chaired by Ken Frankel, President of CCA.

The topics that the panelists addressed included the participation of over half of the eligible population, of which the overwhelming majority (78%) voted to "approve" the drawing up of a new constitution, yet the "reject" option won in three exclusive boroughs where the country's economic elite live: Las Condes, Lo Barnechea and Vitacura.

"Nothing that happened this Sunday can surprise us. This started a long time ago, the disconnection between elites and citizens has been there for many years," noted Bitar. "Who won? The citizens won, those who marched won, the social movement won, young people won."

"I think the social movement may have fed the electoral process: some people who marched saw this referendum as a

consequence of the social movement and therefore were more inclined to go to vote than in other elections," added Heiss. "Another element that may have made those people vote is the fact that they were not choosing people, they were not voting for politicians, they were just voting for a structural change. In a sense, this is more like a destitution process. The question now is how this will work when it's no longer a matter of destitution but of constituting."

Meanwhile, there was increased voter participation from poorer boroughs in the Metropolitan Region, but this trend was not seen in some boroughs in other parts of the country, Le Foulon said, calling for research into the reasons behind this.

"I am very optimistic of the process because I really think that not just young people, but most of the citizens in Chile, believe in democracy and that is the reason why people went to vote," Figueroa commented.

#### PERU IN CRISIS

› Meanwhile, in neighboring Peru, nationwide demonstrations and riots erupted at the beginning of November after congress ousted then-President Martín Vizcarra over what they deemed was "moral incapacity." During the same month, ILAS and the Rio and Santiago Centers co-hosted the webinar "Peru in Crisis: Coup Plotters, Democracy and the Youth who may Save it." The participants - Romina Mella, journalist at IDL-Reporteros; Alberto Vergara, political scientist; and Daniel Alarcón, Professor at the Columbia Journalism School - discussed the underlying sources of deep discontent that led people to take to the streets. They spoke about the instances of corruption that have rocked the country, such as Lava Jato and the case of former President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski.

1 and 2. Demonstrations in Chile.

3. The Day After: Reflections on Chile's Plebiscite.

4. Demonstrations in Peru.





## Green Hydrogen

In November, the Center on Global Energy Policy (CGEP) partnered with the Santiago Center in hosting a panel of experts to discuss green hydrogen, covering issues such as existing hurdles to more broadly deploying green hydrogen, comparing this relatively new power source with wind and solar energy a decade ago, and debating whether it can be depended on to drastically bring down carbon emissions and address climate change.

During the event, entitled “Demystifying Green Hydrogen,” Juan Carlos Jobet, Chile’s Minister of Energy, presented the country’s strategic plan to become an important player in this nascent market. Taking advantage of its abundant solar and wind power, the country aims to be able to produce green hydrogen at US\$ 1.5 per kilogram by 2030, which would make it the lowest cost worldwide, he said.

Calling green hydrogen the “Swiss Army knife of deep decarbonization,” Julio S. Friedmann, Senior Research Scholar at the CGEP, said that currently cost is indeed a main challenge. Whereas blue hydrogen can be produced at around US\$ 1.2-1.8 per kilogram, green hydrogen runs at US\$ 3-8 per kilogram.

In turn, Eric Guter, General Manager of Americas Growth Platforms at Air Products and Chemicals, said that establishing

a regulatory framework and setting international standards were key for the development and use of green hydrogen. “Hydrogen is a great, bright star that will help us to decarbonize,” he noted.

The event was chaired by Laurie Fitzmaurice, Executive Director at CGEP.

Green hydrogen is made using electricity from renewable energy to electrolyze water, separating the hydrogen and oxygen atoms. It is a clean alternative to fossil fuels that, unlike traditional renewables such as solar and wind energy, can be stored and used at any time of day. It also may be the only way to bring greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector to the equivalent of zero, considering several countries’ commitments to carbon neutrality over the next 20-40 years. As the impacts of climate change become more visible around the world, green hydrogen is a promising clean energy alternative, and the total hydrogen market is expected to be worth US\$ 2.5 trillion by 2050.

However, it is currently more expensive to make renewable hydrogen (RH2) gas than the wind or solar used to create it. It is estimated that in power generation for heavy industry, using green hydrogen could today increase costs 200-800%.



Minister Juan Carlos Jobet presents in “Demystifying Green Hydrogen.”

## Human Matters: Culture & the Arts

As in previous years, the Santiago Center placed importance on fostering access to the arts and promoting culture - the soul of a vibrant society. Telling stories, reveling and being entertained, recollecting the past while imagining the future provide a glimpse of the world through others' eyes. This year, to put a more human angle on events in the US, the Center also hosted a discussion with prominent Chileans living in New York.

› In May, Richard Peña, Professor of Film Studies and former Director of the New York Film Festival, had a discussion with Chilean film editor Andrea Chignoli (MFA'07) about the visual narrative and social aspects in movies that specifically had to do with pandemics. The tragedies found in movies regarding the spread of disease serve to remind us of our vulnerability as humans and can bring us together, Peña said during the webinar "Pandemics in Cinema: Filming the 'Invisible Enemy,'" reviewing three international movies: "Contagion" (USA, 2011), "Flu" (South Korea, 2013) and "Virus" (India, 2019). "Contagion is now a mirror of our own daily experience," he noted.

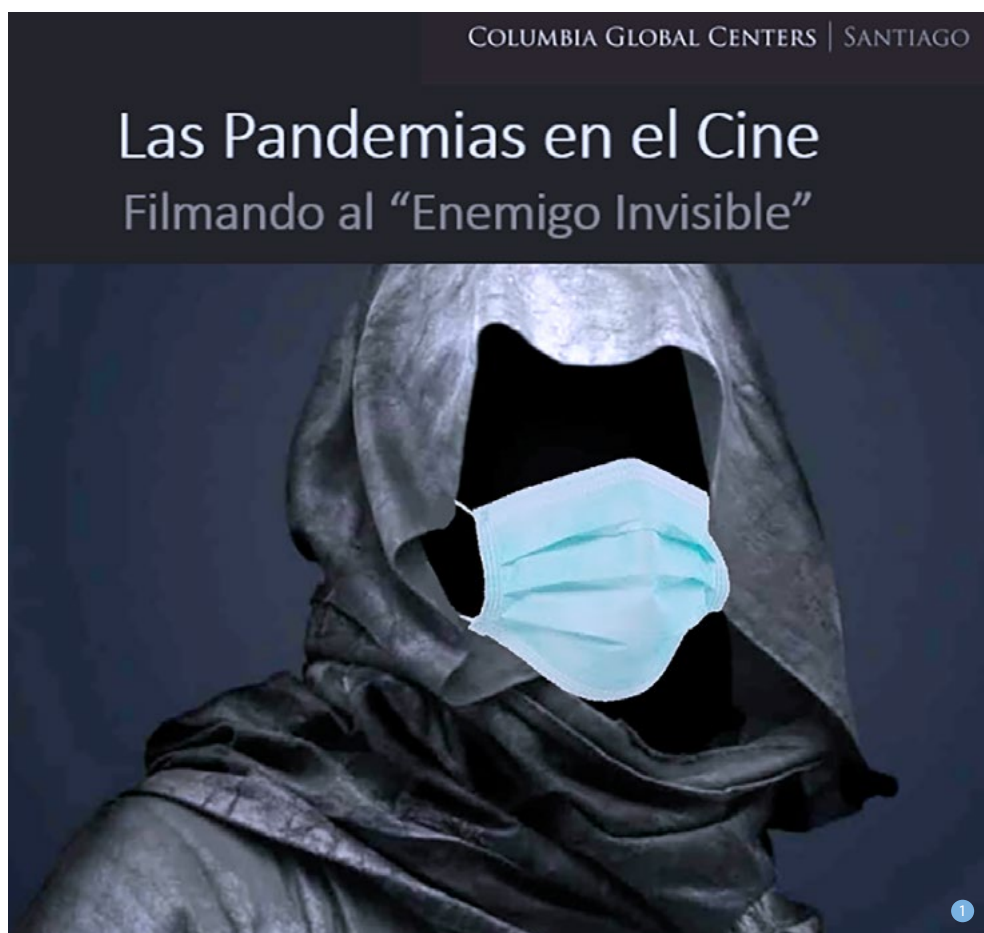
The specialist in film theory and international cinema said that within the dichotomy of that which is visible with the invisible, these movies also serve to raise the curtain on underlying social problems in society. In the response to today's Covid-19, "we're telling the essential workers that they're heroes, but they lack basic human rights such as health. That's hypocrisy."

This event was originally produced by the Santiago Center's colleagues at Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai and later adapted for the Latin American public.



1. Richard Peña  
2. Andrea Chignoli

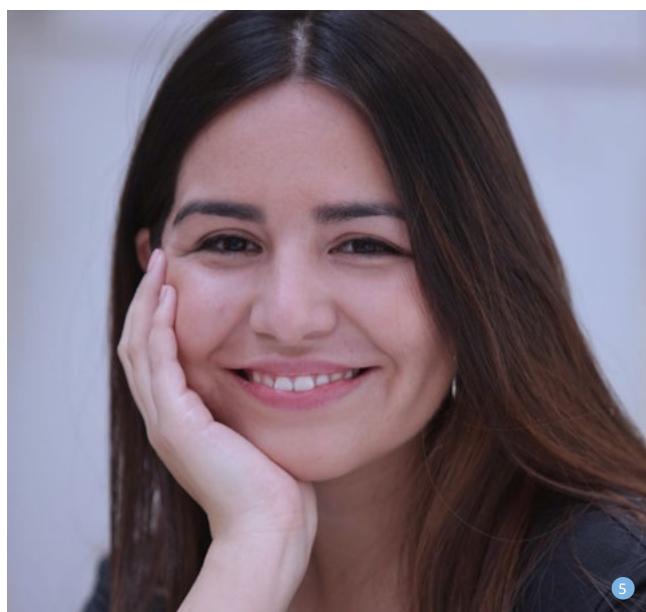




1. Poster adapted from Columbia Global Center - Mumbai.
2. Jorge Tacla
3. Alejandra Matus
4. Rafael Gumucio
5. Muriel Alarcón

› In June, the Center organized a webinar entitled “The Streets of New York: A Conversation on Pandemic, Race and Violence” in which three Chileans living in that city - Jorge Tacla, visual artist; Alejandra Matus, journalist; and Rafael Gumucio, writer - spoke about their months-long experiences

living in a city that had been deeply affected by Covid-19 while also struggling with issues of racism and protests over the death of George Floyd. The conversation was moderated by Muriel Alarcón, who had just finished her Columbia Master’s degree in Journalism with a focus on science, medicine and health.







## LGBTQ+

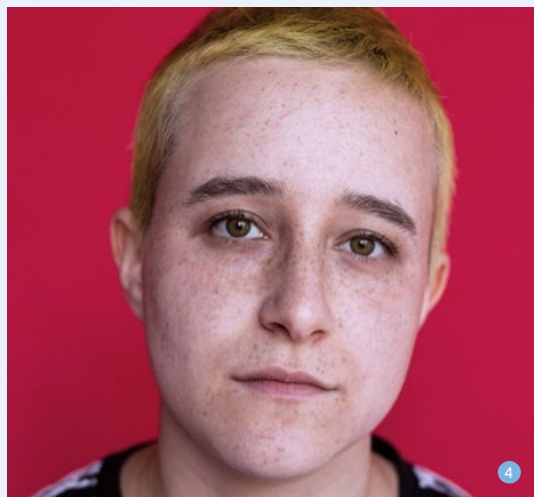
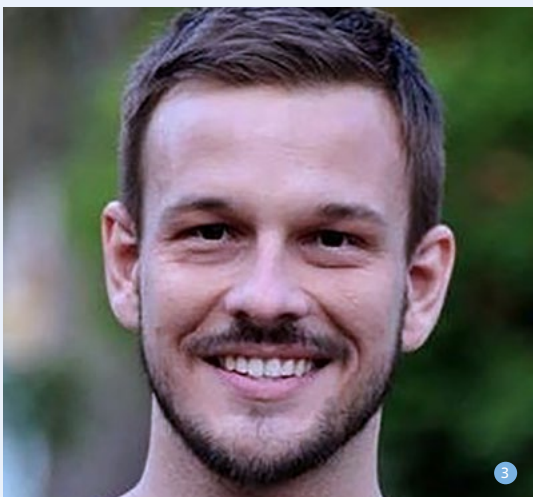
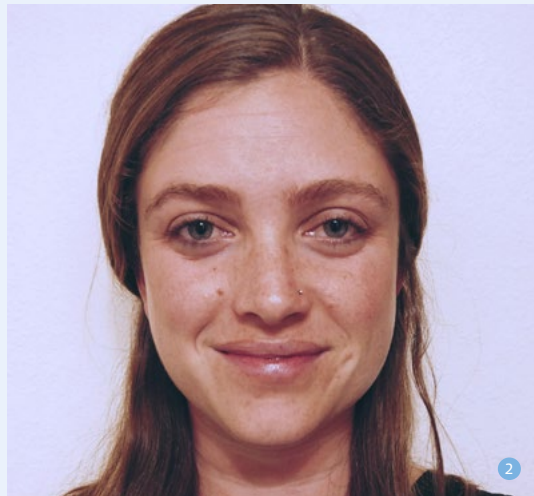
In the context of Pride Month, in June the Santiago Center held the webinar “Advances and Pending Issues in the Struggle for LGBTQ+ Rights” in which three presenters from different backgrounds participated.

Verónica Undurraga (LAW’95), Law Professor at Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez and human rights expert, kicked off the conversation, reviewing the legal situation for gay rights in instances such as adoption by homosexual couples. She was followed by Luis

Larraín, founder of LGBT advocacy group Fundación Iguales, who spoke about the current situation in Chile, specifically in the context of Covid-19. Finally, the graphic designer Lauro Bande provided a heartfelt testimony of his gender transition.

The event was moderated by Ximena Vial (GSAS’16), author and professor on migration issues at Universidad Diego Portales.

1. Verónica Undurraga
2. Ximena Vial
3. Luis Larraín
4. Lauro Bande



### III. SPECIAL PROJECTS

In addition to our regular programming, which in the last three quarters of 2020 took the form of webinars, the Santiago Center, looking to increase engagement with non-traditional stakeholders, combat webinar fatigue and interact in novel ways, embarked on three special projects.



#### 1. Covid-19 Research Projects

Looking to provide innovative content and significantly add to the discussion on the effects of Covid-19 on society, in May the Santiago Center made an open call for proposals for Columbia Alumni in Chile to submit related research or other projects.

Seven projects were selected from a total of 28 alumni-submitted proposals, which were evaluated and rated by a group of the Santiago Center's Advisory Board members. "We are in a unique position to tap into to our extended Columbia Alumni base, with all the insight, knowledge, and expertise they represent, to document this singular moment in time and review how it is affecting Chile, its people and its institutions," said Karen Ponichik, the Center's Director.

The seven projects, which range widely in scope and are available on the Santiago Center's website<sup>2</sup>, include:

- *La Creatividad No Para*, led by Paloma Estévez (SOA'19): Creative solutions addressing Covid-19 in four cases: Liceo Bicentenario Pablo Neruda de Arica, where teachers from the public high school in northern Chile created a radio program to provide companionship and emotional support to students; Cocina País, a collaborative platform that donates healthy and free meals for hospital workers and people in need; The Tunnel of Life by Grupo Air, which created sanitization systems for public spaces in a campaign to protect the population against the virus; and clothing manufacturer Monarch, which produced face masks infused with copper particles, which has antibacterial properties.

2. <https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/content/covid-19-research-projects-0>





- *Promoting Young Children's Autonomous Learning*, led by Alejandra Cortázar (TC'11): A child-friendly online platform<sup>3</sup> in Spanish, with a repository of resources (digital and for print) for children aged 3-6 to use autonomously from home. This project was supported by the World Bank and the Center for Studies on Early Childhood (CEPI).
- *Diosas de lo Íntimo*, led by Ximena Vial (GSAS'16): Women have been the keepers of the intimate space and familiar memory since ancestral times; however, their work and relevance have been kept in the private spheres of history and left out of traditional accounts. This archive registers and provides visibility of diverse Chilean women in the midst of a global pandemic. The collection of ten stories has been published with Editorial Trayecto.
- *Covid's Impact on the Labor Market, Fueled by Automation*, led by Pablo Egaña del Sol (GSAS'16): A paper which suggests that the Covid-19 pandemic may serve as a catalyzer for automation in several industries throughout Chile. Crossing datasets containing material on the degree of exposure to automation at the occupational level, with information related to telework capacity, the amount of physical proximity and the level of exposure to infectious diseases at the workplace, the researcher concludes that 13% of female workers and 21% of their male colleagues are under high risk of automation. The study also highlights the existence of a high degree of variability at the industry and territorial level throughout Chile.

3. <https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/content/covid-19-research-projects-0>



- 1, 2 and 3. Project *Diosas de lo Íntimo* by Ximena Vial.
4. Website “Juega y Aprende Conmigo,” from the project Promoting Young Children’s Autonomous Learning by Alejandra Cortázar.



- *The Politics of Coronavirus in Chile*, led by José Miguel Cabezas (GSAS'12): An analysis of political announcements from March to June 2020, demonstrating that government policies can effectively reduce - or encourage - the movement of individuals during a pandemic.
- *Comparison of Educational Initiatives in Campamentos in the Context of Covid-19*, led by Valeria Moraga (SIPA'19): A case study on the impact of two interventions - internet access and remote tutoring - on the mental health and educational indicators of children between 6 and 14 years old, who live in informal settlements. Examining the results, the researchers concluded that, in the short term, there were observable

positive changes in the socio-emotional well-being of children that were attributable to the two interventions.

- *Understanding the Impact of Social Distancing Measures and Quarantine on Vulnerable Families with Pre-School Children*, by Carmen Le Foulon (GSAS'14): An analysis on how different social distancing measures in Chile have impacted the most vulnerable families with pre-school children, while also identifying potential risk factors and protective measures.

The projects were well received by the Columbia community in Chile, with significant press coverage.



## 2. Summer and Fall Internships

The global crisis had far-reaching effects, and students were not left untouched. Besides having to adapt to sheltering in place and fully going online for classes and study, many saw their expectations dashed for career-forming internships. In response, the Global Centers ideated, developed and launched summer virtual internships (June-August) for Columbia students to continue their learning experiences and further their career development. Turning to their robust contact base in each of their nine home countries, the Centers made available a total 160 positions at companies and organizations to which Columbia students could apply.

The Santiago Center was central in providing 28 Columbia students the opportunity to work for Chilean organizations in an array of areas, ranging from identifying ways for local universities to attract more international students, to analyzing the effects of Covid-19 on people's mental wellbeing, to researching geopolitical trends, including foreign policy dissent in electoral campaigns, economic de-globalization, and US-China relations.

Due to the successful inaugural experience, the Center worked further to secure more virtual internship opportunities in Chile for the fall term (September-November), whereby career experience was made available for twelve students.

### SUMMER TERM

› Columbia students interning at Universidad Católica's (UC) Undergraduate Internationalization Program researched ways to improve the university's reach to international students. Arooba Ahmed, Anne Nguyen, Jolene Singh and Joel Wen worked under the guidance of Maribel Flórez, UC Director of Global Learning and Mobility Programs. One of the papers resulting from that internship, "Overcoming Barriers in Higher Education Mobility Between Latin America, Canada and Asia: A Scoping Review," has been accepted by the International Journal of Higher Education and is expected to be published by Sciedu Press.

“I had the great opportunity of working with Universidad Católica through the Santiago Global Center and it was a phenomenal experience to work with them... One of the things that I found great about this opportunity compared to an internship that relies on being in person is understanding that you can work remotely and still be committed and work independently.”

Jolene Singh





1. Arooba Ahmed  
2. Joon Yong Choi  
3. Derin Sezercan

› Arooba Ahmed also studied geopolitical trends, including foreign policy dissent in electoral campaigns, economic de-globalization, and US-China relations at Universidad Católica's Center for International Studies (CEIUC), under the leadership of Director Jorge Sahd. In addition, Teachers College graduate student Joon Yong Choi reviewed global financial and economic trends surrounding Covid-19 to contribute to research on the geopolitical impact of the pandemic.

› At UC's Latin American Center on Economic and Social Policy (Clapes), five students - Michael Coiro, Deborah Moreno, Derin Sezercan, Maddie Wilson and Caroline Zupan - worked with Arturo Cifuentes, Clapes Research Associate, in areas including examining the contemporary art market and researching mathematical models for financial market dynamics. Meanwhile, Scarlet Ferrer worked with Luis Gonzales, Clapes Head of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Economics, in employing satellite images of nighttime lights to perform economic analysis.

“This internship has helped me to develop my research and writing skills while allowing me to explore a field of study in which I had a super strong interest but not extensive experience. I'm excited to continue to develop these skills and explore these interests going forward! Working virtually gave me more autonomy to structure my time, which was helpful for the kind of independent research I was doing.”

Caroline Zupan

› Sezercan also worked with the Chilean-North American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham), creating a research file about business relations between the US and Chile for investors and preparing a report on Chile's economic growth since 1990.

“A virtual internship from a traditional one is totally different in practice but in theory what I learn and the skills I develop are pretty much the same. If the world is going to transfer to an online working model then I believe these internships are preparing me to adapt to this new environment. If we are going to return to in-person working one day then the skills I gained are pretty much the same... I am hoping to gain sector insights and online working experience since 2021 and the following years are also projected to be 'work from home' years.”

Derin Sezercan

› Second-year student Ana María Rodríguez, who is leaning towards a major in Computer Engineering, worked as the Santiago Center's communications intern, helping to highlight special content on the website, researching for webinars and writing engaging stories. In addition, Conchi Izquierdo, a postdoctoral researcher and scientist at Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC) working in the areas of diabetes and cardiovascular disease, helping to develop strategies for student opportunities and creating virtual communities of regional students, with a focus on Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Peru, and Ecuador.

“I've learned a lot because my background is in science. When looking for the internship, I was looking to have international relationships, something with diplomacy skills and communication skills, more management. I already have skills for developing science projects, but not in other areas. It was a really great opportunity to work with the Columbia Global Centers and the people working there, to extend my knowledge and learn from all the things they are offering me.”

Conchi Izquierdo

› Victoria Comunale and Edmund Kim, both Neuroscience and Behavior majors, together with Helena Cirne, Biomedical Engineering major, performed their summer internships at the Millennium Institute for Depression and Personality Research (MIDAP), a center of psychologists, psychiatrists, and professionals generating knowledge based on the connection between personality and depression. Working with Alex Behn (TC'12), Director of Research at MIDAP, the team gathered and translated resources for MIDAP's papers on its longitudinal study, which followed about 200 people for 35 days to analyze the effects of Covid-19 on people's mental wellbeing.

“It's really amazing to be able to connect with people thousands of miles away, which is an opportunity that has uniquely presented itself during this pandemic and probably would not have been able to happen otherwise.”

Victoria Comunale

› Clare Rigney, a Political Science major, worked with the Interactive Jewish Museum in performing research on books on the Holocaust to build a virtual library and helped to create a database of Jewish museums and organizations in the US.

› Andrea Akinola, majoring in Political Science and concentrating in Education Studies, interned with the Center of Investigation on Social Communication, Literature, and Observation (CICLOS) at Universidad Diego Portales' (UDP) School of Communication. She researched how different stakeholders, such as the food industry, government, and media have framed policies around obesity and nutrition.

› Ruby Mustill, an Anthropology and Evolutionary Biology major, performed a research internship at UDP with Daniel Matamala (JN'12), CNN Chile Senior News Anchor and Santiago Advisory Board member, for the latter's upcoming book on Chilean elites and their associations.



“I have really fine-tuned my research skills through this internship and now I have the opportunity to write a literature review, which is new terrain for me. I would like to become a lawyer, so this experience is really helping me build fundamental research and writing skills that will continue to help me throughout my professional career... The internship I originally had fell through because of the pandemic. It was a struggle to find additional opportunities at the last minute. I'm so grateful that Columbia Global Centers was able to help match me with this opportunity.”

Andrea Akinola

› Other internships were held at Universidad del Desarrollo's Research Center on Sustainability and Strategic Resource Management (Cisger), where Jean Woodham, Joey Hou and Joshua Chabeda reviewed and adjusted the English translation of scientific research, book chapters and applications to funds; while Karolina Nixon worked with the National Research Center for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (Cigiden) in researching and classifying sources in the US that covered the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that hit central Chile in 1985.

“The internship offered the perfect opportunity for me to be able to grow and expand my knowledge and experience in the field of engineering as well as getting that workspace environment, where I'm collaborating with people with other cultures and other backgrounds in an international sphere.”

Joshua Chabeda

› Further, thanks to the previously established international collaboration partnership between the Mailman School of Public Health and the Society and Health Research Center (CISS) at Chile's Universidad Mayor, another five students performed virtual practicums during the summer term. Kristina Howell, Ilana Mittleman, Julián Ponce, Allison Stewart and Thomas Wagner from the Mailman School and the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons developed their practicum projects in conjunction with CISS, led by its Director Esteban Calvo.

Issues covered include migration and substance use in Chile and Mexico, the effect of alcohol abuse on the mental health of older adults, the effect of Chile's 2019 social protests on health service utilization, and social isolation and loneliness in the elderly.



1. Ruby Mustill  
2. Jon Orbach



**FALL TERM**

› In its effort to expand its reach beyond Santiago, the Center approached and reached agreements with a number of departments at Universidad de Concepción (UdeC), located in the center-south of the country. There, Isha Gore, a master's student at Teachers College, performed a literature review for UdeC's School of Biological Science on how the mesolimbic circuit is affected in patients with Alzheimer's Disease. Kosisochukwu Irene Ugorji, an Engineering major, performed a research internship at UdeC's Biochemistry and Immunology laboratory, focusing on extracellular vesicles and the uses of exosomes as regenerative medicine.

“My internship experience at Santiago has been exceptional. Working under the mentorship of Dr. Aguayo and his team has been a privilege. I aim to enhance my understanding of neuroscience through my internship.”

Isha Gore

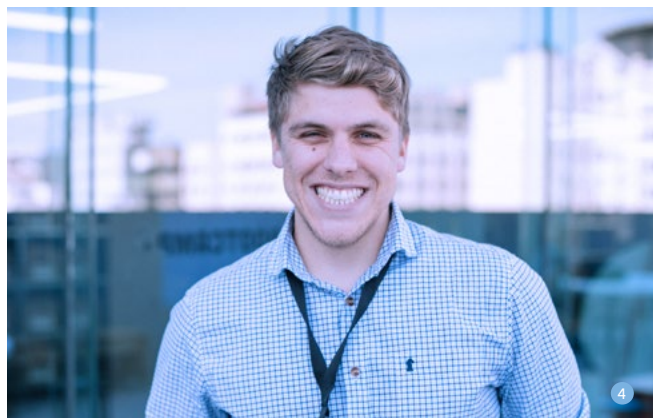
An additional agreement was reached for an internship at UdeC's School of Architecture, Urbanism and Geography, where Columbia College undergrad Justin Ghaeli performed a literature review of issues regarding Chilean housing development policies and indoor environments related to heating and air quality.

› Joaquín Gajardo, a Chilean with a master's in sustainability management, performed two internships: one at UdeC's School of Agriculture Engineering, researching non-wood forest products, and another at the Climate Science and Resilience Center (CR2), developing a Public Investment Sustainability Framework to later evaluate post-Covid economic recovery in Latin America.

› Jon Orbach, a student at the Journalism School, worked with Universidad de Chile's Institute of International Studies (IEI) in monitoring the response of the Argentinian and Chilean governments' response to combat violence against women during the pandemic.



1. Kosisochukwu Irene Ugorji  
2. Isha Gore  
3. Joaquín Gajardo  
4. Joaquín Rosas  
5. McKensie Sprow





“My supervisor, Tatiana Rein Venegas, Director of the Graduate School, was incredibly supportive and available, and the team was fantastic. I really enjoyed my time with Universidad de Chile, and I'm really happy that this was where I was this fall.”

Jon Orbach

- › Joaquín Rosas, a Sustainable Management master's student, worked with the e-mobility team at AgenciaSE on a strategy to reach 100% electric public transportation by 2040 while also analyzing the charging stations' model for electric regional public transport.

“The experience was great in learning more about E-Mobility! I plan to work in this field in the future. My supervisor and the team were very helpful and made me feel part of the team.”

Joaquín Rosas

- › Carlos López, Computer Science and Mathematics joint major, worked with corporate governance consultancy Razor Consulting in researching relevant ethics and compliance content, including case analysis, recent rulings, articles, new laws, regulations and guidance, statistics, papers and news articles.

- › McKensie Sprow, a master's student in the Latin America & the Caribbean: Regional Studies program at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS), worked with the Millennium Nucleus on Art, Performativity, and Activism (NMAPA), researching sites of memory in Argentina and how politics, particularly related to Covid-19, have impacted their funding and general existence.

“I enjoyed my research internship position with NMAPA in Santiago... I love that the internship was flexible with my schedule and that I had the opportunity to expand my research experience.”

McKensie Sprow



### 3. Renca Photography Contest

The Santiago Center teamed up with the Municipality of Renca in Santiago, Chile, to launch the contest “Des-Cubre Renca” (which in Spanish has the double meaning of Dis-Cover and Un-cover). Amidst the global pandemic, the contest aimed to reflect via photographs the stories - the experiences, faces, homes and neighborhoods - of those who live in the borough’s oftentimes unknown reality.

Renca, one of the 34 boroughs of Greater Santiago, has a population of 160,000, of which more than 77,000 live in vulnerable conditions. During the pandemic, Renca remained in total quarantine for 148 days in a row - one of the longest periods in Chile.

“In Renca, the effects of Covid-19 have caused havoc at all levels: social, economic and health. This contest was a good opportunity to open a space that reveals these struggles, while at the same time providing a cultural experience and rewarding the creativity and effort of those who participated,” noted Claudio Castro, Mayor of Renca.

A total of 154 photographs were submitted by Renca’s own residents, framed within the Renca Orgullosa (“Proud Renca”) concept which looks to highlight the community’s heritage and people with their history of resilience and life in community.







1. Valentina Mora Pérez with her grandfather and photo subject, don Atilio.  
2. Second place: William Barrueto Vargas.

The jury - comprised of Pamela López (TC'11), Programming Director of the GAM Cultural Center and Santiago Center Advisory Board member; Patricio Fernández, Founder of "The Clinic" newspaper and Board Member at thinktank Espacio Público; and Paula Campos, Director of Programming and Content at the Balmaceda Doce Quince Cultural Center - evaluated the message, originality, creativity and beauty of the photographs and awarded the top three submissions, along with seven honorable mentions.

The winners were:

› **First Place: Valentina Mora Pérez, Después de la Ventana ("After the Window")**

According to juror Paula Campos: "This image provides an interesting chromatic range that harmonically contrasts warmth and cold. The apparently chaotic composition is organized by

visually balancing the image of the cat, diagonally projected to the outdoors through a window, and the reflection of an old man in a side mirror, in which the spatiality of a room is only partially displayed. It highlights the way in which the quality and characteristics of the interior space's objects, materiality, color and textures are recorded."

› **Second Place: William Barrueto Vargas, Escalamos, bajaron las fuerzas, agachamos la vista ("We climbed, the forces came down, we lowered our eyes")**

According to juror Pamela López: "I like the depth in this photograph, not only on a visual level (with a composition that reveals different layers - from advertising to natural landscape and that of the two main characters) but also on the social level to which the photograph speaks."

› **Third Place: Felipe Abdiel Epul Jiménez, Autorretrato 1: Primera semana de pandemia (“Self portrait 1: First week of pandemic”)**

According to juror Patricio Fernández: “This photograph radiates youth, ambiguity, pop art. The glitters of the clothes flash on that indeterminate face. The subject dons a glove to maintain the surgical distance of a composition full of artifice. This photo, unlike the others, invents a world, playing on visual advertising: while advertising offers security, here everything is restlessness, intrigue, mystery. The subject could be making a bomb out of seemingly innocent ingredients.”

1 and 2. Honorable mentions  
3. Mayor of Renca, Claudio Castro





Imágenes ganadoras serán exhibidas en Nueva York

## Columbia University premió tres fotografías que retratan la vida en pandemia en Renca

**"Aparece mi gato simbólicamente tratando de escaparse por la ventana", dice Valentina Mora, quien obtuvo el primer lugar.**

FELIPE SUÁREZ

**P**ara retratar las experiencias cotidianas que se viven en estos tiempos en la comuna de Renca, el municipio junto a Columbia University con base en Santiago, organizaron un concurso de fotografía del confinamiento. Según el alcalde, Claudio Castro, compitieron 158 obras por los tres primeros lugares, imágenes que serán exhibidas en Nueva York, en el Instituto de Estudios Latinoamericanos de la mencionada universidad.

### El abuelo Atilio

El primer lugar del concurso fue para Valentina Mora (26). La joven se encuentra estudiando fotografía en el instituto profesional Alpes. "En la imagen aparece mi abuelo (Atilio) con el que vivo. Este periodo de encierro fue de mucho cuidado, evité salir y mi única vía de escape fue la fotografía", cuenta. Valentina comenta que le gustó la composición de la obra. "Aparece mi abuelo con mascarilla dentro de la casa, reflejado en el espejo, y mi gato simbólicamente tratando de escaparse por la ventana", agrega. Ambos elementos se contraponen, añade. Fue premiada con una tablet Samsung Galaxy.

### El cerro siempre presente

"Es un honor representar a la comuna. Obtener este segundo lugar me abre una puerta a futuro. Justamente necesitaba un impulso o algo que me permitiera reafirmar mi pasión por la fotografía y de esta manera lo logré", dice William Barrueto (22), estudiante de diseño gráfico. El joven agrega que la fotografía, a su pa-

### Segundo lugar.

"Escalamos, bajaron las fuerzas, agachamos la vista", cuenta William Barrueto.



### Primer lugar.

La imagen se denomina "Después de la ventana", de Valentina Mora.

recer, es muy representativa de lo que es la comuna. Los tres elementos que la integran son: el cerro de Renca, las letras del Duoc UC y sus abuelos en un primer plano. "Mis abuelos están en el segundo piso de la casa. Les pedí que miraran hacia el cerro. Tuve una buena vista, utilicé el desenfoque para no resaltar las letras del instituto y resalta-

al cerro", cuenta de su obra.

"En la comuna habita mucha gente de tercera edad y el cerro siempre está presente al ser uno de los más grandes de Santiago", menciona.

Por estar en el podio de los ganadores recibió un dron con cámara con resolución HD.

### Cerveza y traga traga

Felipe Abdiel (28) es publicista. Su fotografía, detalla él, se inclina más por la teatralidad. Por eso, al momento de participar, decidió armar una mesa en la que aparecieran todos los elementos cotidianos que lo acompañaron durante el encierro: una botella de cerveza, una copa de vino, mayonesa, frutas y traga traga, entre otros alimentos.

"Los primeros días fueron de mucha ansiedad. Comía y comía durante la mañana, tarde y noche porque no sabía qué hacer", cuenta Abdiel, quien se inició en la fotografía a los diez años. "Fue clave en mis inicios una profesora de artes plásticas llamada Georgina Aguilera. Ella realizaba un taller de fotos. Desde ese momento surgió el interés", recuerda.

Por su tercer lugar, Abdiel recibió una tablet Huawei Matepad. Karen Poniachik, directora de



Columbia Global Centers, dice que el resultado de la iniciativa fue satisfactorio. "Me han escrito académicos, científicos y médicos halagando el trabajo de los jóvenes", resalta. "Los participantes destaparon y revelaron el talento que existe en la comuna", acota feliz el alcalde Castro.

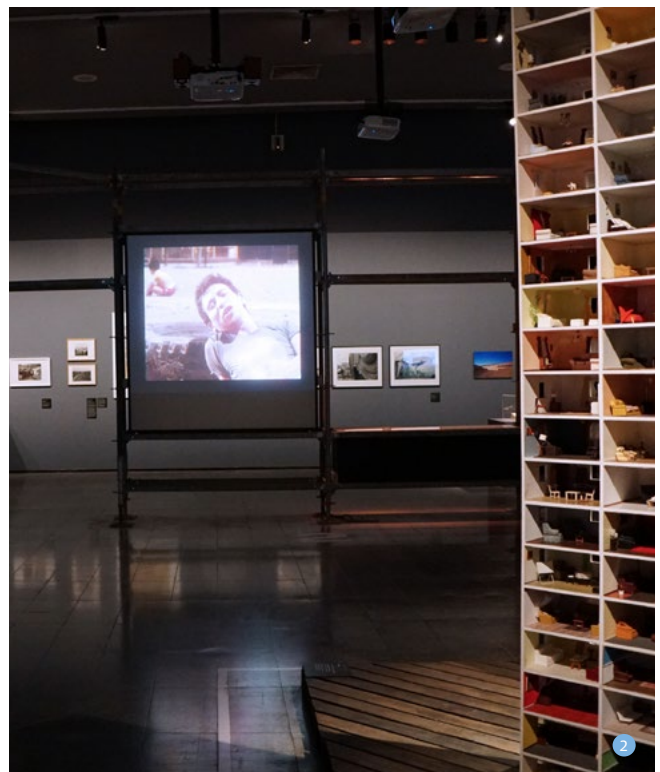
**Tercer lugar** para "Autorretrato", de Felipe Abdiel.

## IV. ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

In January 2018, a group of Columbia University alumni, with the support of the Santiago Center, founded the Columbia Alumni Club Chile (CACC). With a ten-member executive committee, chaired by Graciela Ibáñez (JN'08), it is one of a hundred such organizations around the world and receives support from the Columbia Alumni Association in New York. In 2020, it organized a number of interesting activities. This is in addition to the Columbia Business Alumni Club of Chile, which in 2020 partnered with the Santiago Center to produce business-related programming (see “Business” subsection in “Coping with Covid-19”).

› Members of the Columbia Alumni Club kicked off the year with its first activity: a mid-January visit to Start-Up Chile, the country’s startup accelerator. Since its creation by the government in 2010, Start-Up Chile has financed 2,000 new companies from 140 countries through US\$ 30 million in public investment and US\$ 120 million in private funding. During the visit, startup founders presented their companies.

› In August, the CACC offered an interactive online presentation of the exhibition “Casa chilena. Imágenes domésticas,” hosted in the Centro Cultural La Moneda. Architect Francisco Díaz (GSAPP’13), one of the curators, led the presentation. He turned to photos and architectural drawings, among other tools, to show the evolution of the home in Chile through its modern history.





1. Francisco Díaz  
 2 and 3. Casa Chilena. Imágenes Domésticas  
 Centro Cultural La Moneda, Santiago, Chile  
 Curators: Pablo Brugnoli, Francisco Díaz, Amarí Peliowski.

› In October, the club held an intimate conversation with Joseph Ramos, renowned economist and Columbia alumnus, who was previously honored by the Columbia Alumni Club Chile as the recipient of its first-ever Outstanding Columbia University Alumnus award.

He is quintessential Columbia, having studied at Columbia College (1959), the School of Engineering and Applied Science (1960), as an international fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs (1964-65) and earning a PhD in Economics (1968).

In 1968, Ramos moved to Santiago, where he worked for 27 years in UN agencies advising Latin American governments on public policy. He also worked part-time and, from 1999, full-time as a professor at Universidad de Chile's School of Economics and Business Administration (FEN). He served as FEN dean between 2002 and 2006, where he was considered an inspiring mentor and a remarkable leader, having improved FEN's physical and technological infrastructure, modernized the curriculum and introduced an internationalization program, all the while being a great promoter of inclusion.



During the virtual event, Ramos spoke about living in New York City and how it differs from the current times, reflecting on what life was like on campus and sharing the observations of a New Yorker whose years at Columbia University spanned some of the most contentious moments in US contemporary history, before moving to Chile. In 2002 the Chilean Congress granted him honorary citizenship.

Ramos was named Chile's economist of the year 2020, with his fellows calling him "brilliant, creative, histrionic, empathetic and down to earth."

At end-2020, Ramos was invited to form part of the Santiago Center's Advisory Board.



En 1955, con 16 años, se graduó del colegio jesuita en Manhattan, Estados Unidos.



Joe Ramos al medio, cuando es ascendido a teniente en la Base Antártica el 6 de diciembre de 1961.



En 1989, Andrés Bianchi (al medio) asume como presidente del Banco Central, junto a Cristián Eyzaguirre (izquierda).

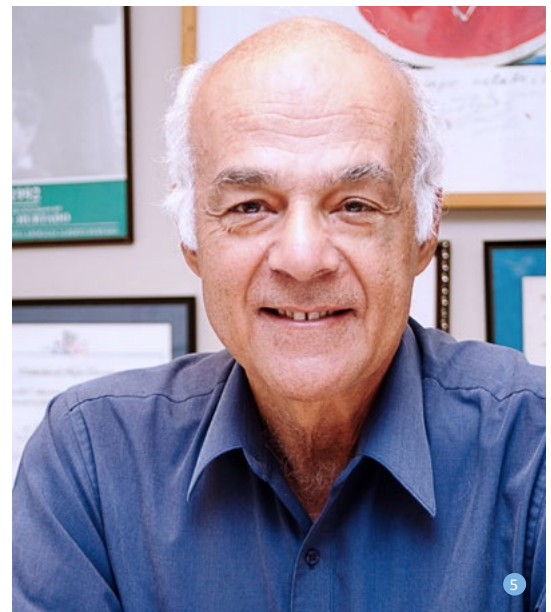


Con su mujer, Gloria Baeza, y su nieta mayor, Gloria.

Economía y Negocios de "El Mercurio" entrega anualmente el reconocimiento

## Joseph Ramos es elegido por sus pares como EL ECONOMISTA DEL AÑO 2020

Quien fuera decano de la FEN de la Universidad de Chile, nació en Filadelfia, vivió en La Habana, luego en Nueva York, fue parte del Cuerpo de Ingenieros de la Armada de Estados Unidos y hasta participó de construir una planta nuclear en la base antártica McMurdo. Su decisión de dejar la actividad como ingeniero y dedicarse a la economía lo llevó a Columbia, y luego, en 1965, a pisar por primera vez suelo chileno. En 2002 obtuvo la nacionalidad por gracia y en su trayectoria destacan su contribución y estudios en temas laborales y políticas públicas, además de su creatividad, empatía y sencillez. • CONSTANZA CAPDEVILA DE LA CERDA.



4. Alumni gathering

5. Joseph Ramos

## In Memoriam

In the past year two Chilean alumni, who left a lasting imprint on their respective fields of expertise, passed away. The Columbia Global Centers | Santiago wishes to express its condolences to surviving family members, friends and colleagues. Their loss is mourned, yet their lives are celebrated and in this publication the Santiago Center aims to memorialize their contribution to Chile and society in general.

**Érika Himmel** (TC'59) was Universidad Católica's Dean of the School of Educational Sciences in 2007-08. She was awarded the National Prize in Educational Sciences by the Chilean government in 2011 and named as one of the Distinguished Alumni of Columbia's Teachers College in 2013.

In Chile, Himmel left an impressive legacy in education, having contributed to the development of standardized assessment procedures including the University Admission Test (PAA) and the Education Quality Measurement System (SIMCE). She also had an extensive career in research and teaching, working on advancing Chile's capabilities in social and educational research and evaluation at Universidad de Chile.

**Edgar Kausel** (SEAS'72), winner of the Gold Medal from the Chilean Institute of Engineers (2004) and the National Prize for Applied and Technological Sciences (2006), was considered a pillar in the study of seismology in Chile.

Kausel, who obtained his PhD in geophysics from Columbia in 1972, was a prominent academic, former Director of Universidad de Chile's Geophysics Department (DGF) and former Vice Dean of the School of Physics and Mathematical Sciences.

Kausel's contributions to Geophysics include research on the regionalization of the lithosphere and atmosphere of the Pacific Ocean as a function of the distance to the Mid-Atlantic Ridge; origin and characteristics of surface waves; seismic hazard and risk; near and far field seismology; seismotectonics and induced seismicity in mines; seismogenic sources and the rupture process of large Chilean earthquakes. Regarding the latter, of particular interest is Kausel's identification of the two main types of telluric movements in Chile: interplate earthquakes, which are produced 20-60 kilometers deep, and intraplate earthquakes, which occur 50-250 kilometers deep.



## V. GLOBAL CENTERS' PROJECTS

Today's most pressing issues - the health pandemic, increasing political polarization, accelerating climate change, deepening inequality - are inherently global in nature. Understanding their impact and responding in a coherent manner would be impossible without sustained engagement in and with the world. In this sense, finding the silver lining in the clouds while having to shelter at home, each of the nine Global Centers' programming necessarily online meant that the local addressable markets transformed into a worldwide audience. Taking advantage of this, the Global Centers' home office in New York planned out and hosted events that could be applicable in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio, Santiago, Tunis and beyond. Below is a sampling of some of the eighteen programs that were produced in 2020.

› In June, during the event entitled "Black Lives Matter: From Minneapolis to Paris to Rio de Janeiro," Safwan Masri, EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, spoke with Jelani Cobb, Professor of Journalism and Staff Writer for the New Yorker, and Farah Griffin, Chair of the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies.

They delved into the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, and countless others, and how the effect rippled across the world, spurring racial justice protests. The panelists discussed the history of civil rights, slavery, white supremacy, and the global trajectory and intersectionality of the Black Lives Matter movement.

› As part of the Committee on Forced Migration events, the October webinar "Climate, Conflict and Coronavirus: A Perfect Storm for Migrants and Displaced Persons" focused on "the three C's" and how they have combined to create a perfect storm in many parts of the world for forced migrants.

The speakers were Jeffrey Schlegelmilch, Director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness; Kamal Amakrane, SIPA Adjunct Professor and Director in the Office of the President of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA); Leslie Roberts, Associate Professor of Population and Family Health and a member of the Program on Forced Migration and Health at the Mailman School of

Public Health; and Alex de Sherbinin, Geographer at the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) of the Earth Institute.

They addressed issues that different countries and regions were facing, such as more crowded households for poor and undocumented migrants, promoting the spread of the virus; concern that climate-related extreme events such as hurricanes, floods, and fires will force people into crowded emergency housing where social distancing is not possible; and the intersection of climate- and conflict-related displacement and refugee flows with the spread of the virus.

› In October, the webinar "Covid-19 Vaccination and Treatment: Developments and Implications" brought together leading experts in virology and immunology to offer their perspectives on the global progress towards developing a vaccine. Participants discussed the vaccine's development cycle and the experimental clinical trials underway, as well as issues of global access to treatment and vaccines.

Panelists included Susan Bueno, Associate Professor at the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at Universidad Católica, and the event was moderated by Wafaa El-Sadr, University Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine, Director of ICAP, and Director of the Global Health Initiative at the Mailman School of Public Health.



## Collaboratories

2020 saw the introduction of The Collaboratory - a program designed between the Columbia Global Centers and the Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement (UGE), led by Shannon Marquez, Dean of UGE. Its goal is to help students connect and cooperate across a global network, empowering them to make a difference in the world as global citizens. The program also aims to give students the skills, understanding, and networks to grow into the leaders the world needs to thoughtfully address increasingly complex challenges.

The Collaboratory is comprised of three components: the global seminars, reflection after each seminar, and collaboration/ideation. There were five such Collaboratories in 2020; below is a sample of two. Further information can be found on the Columbia Global Centers' website<sup>4</sup>.

› In June, the first Global Collaboratory Seminar kicked off with "The Future of Globalization: Consequences of the Pandemic on Supply Chains." It addressed the consequences of threats to the collapse of supply chains and international trading systems, particularly in food, medicine, technology, and data, with a

particular look at the impact of the global crisis and the US-China trade war. Panelists included Ian Brenner, President and Founder, Eurasia Group and GZERO Media; Ruth DeFries, Professor of Sustainable Development; and Martin Wolf, Chief Economist of The Financial Times, and it was chaired by Merit E. Janow, Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).

› In December, the Collaboratory "Is Social Media Undermining Democracy?" addressed whether powerful social media giants such as Facebook and Twitter were doing enough in blocking posts that they deem to be lacking in truth or purposely spreading disinformation, and whether that infringes on the people's right to freedom of speech. The speakers discussed how society can ensure that social media is kept moored to democratic values, used to promote and defend truth, and help respect differences. Panelists included Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia; Jameel Jaffer, Executive Director of the Knight Institute; Alondra Nelson, President of the Social Science Research Council; and Emily Bell, Founding Director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism.

## Columbia Designated Spaces for International Students

Pandemic-associated restrictions meant that many international students were unable to travel to New York, remaining dispersed around the world and attending online classes. In response, the Columbia Global Centers launched a distinctive initiative to provide thousands of students with access to global study and community spaces in 65 cities around the world, allowing them to convene, study and collaborate in safe, comfortable, and enriching environments.

Dedicated spaces were secured at WeWork facilities in Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Singapore, and Seoul; students could also access non-Columbia-designated spaces at WeWork facilities in another 50 cities around the world. Further, the University arranged for designated space for its students in Tel Aviv and Athens, while the Global Centers themselves expanded capacity to become study centers for students in their respective regions. Such was the case of the Santiago Center, which remodeled its office at the FLACSO building to receive international students looking for space with high-speed internet connections to attend virtual classes, write papers and study.



Raimundo López (LLM student), one of the Columbia students using the designated study space at the Santiago Center.

4. <https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/cgc-global-columbia-collaboratory>

## Faculty Advisory Committee

Both the Santiago and Rio Centers receive guidance from a university-wide Latin America Faculty Advisory Committee, which is formed by experts from different fields on Latin America who provide insights and strategic consulting on almost every scholarly discipline.

**Nara Milanich**

Associate Professor of History | Barnard College; Chair, Latin America Faculty Steering Committee

**Gustavo Azenha**

Director | Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies; Director of Graduate Studies | Institute of Latin American Studies

**Walter Baethgen**

Senior Research Scientist | International Research Institute for Climate and Society

**Kartik Chandran**

Professor of Earth and Environmental Engineering | Department of Earth & Environmental Engineering

**Amy E. Chazkel**

Bernard Hirschhorn Associate Professor of Urban Studies | Department of History

**Cristiane Duarte**

The John P. Lambert, M.D. Associate Professor of Child Psychiatry | Columbia University Irving Medical Center

**Laurie J. Fitzmaurice**

Executive Director | School of International and Public Affairs

**Nelson Fraiman**

Professor of Professional Practice | Columbia Business School; Director | W. Edwards Deming Center

**Daniel Friedrich**

Associate Professor of Curriculum, CUSD/CUED | Teachers College

**Pablo Goldberg**

Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry | Columbia University Irving Medical Center

**Malo A. Hutson**

Associate Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; Director of the PhD in Urban Planning Program; Director, Project Development | Columbia World Projects

**Soulaymane Kachani**

Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning | School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

**Jose A. Luchsinger**

Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology | Columbia University Irving Medical Center

**Yamile M. Marti**

Associate Professor of Professional Practice | School of Social Work

**María Victoria (“Vicky”) Murillo**

Director | Institute of Latin American Studies; Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs | Department of Political Science

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**Richard Peña**

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**Mariana Souto-Manning**

Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education | Teachers College

**Maya Tolstoy**

Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences | Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory



## Advisory Board

The Santiago Center's Advisory Board is composed of prominent academics, public figures, alumni and business leaders. It meets annually and provides advice, ongoing leadership and counsel regarding the Center's projects, activities and engagement with alumni.

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Professor of Education, Universidad Católica

**Rodrigo Carrasco** (GSAS'13)

Professor of Operations Research, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

**Georges de Bourguignon** (BUS/SIPA'17)

Manager of Investment and New Business, Asset AGF

**Francisco Guzmán** (LLM'10)

Partner at Carey and member of the firm's Mergers & Acquisitions and Capital Markets Groups

**Claudia Heiss** (GSAS'03)

Director of the Political Science Department at the Institute of Public Affairs, Universidad de Chile

**Andrea Insunza** (JN'13)

Professor of Journalism, Universidad Diego Portales

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Counselor, Permanent Mission of Chile to the OECD

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**Daniel Matamala** (JN'12)

Senior News Anchor, CNN Chile and CHV

**Peter Morse**

Chief of Staff to the Vice Chairman, Banco de Chile

**Gabriel Prudencio** (SIPA'13)

Head of Sustainable Energies Division, Chilean Ministry of Energy

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Professor and Former Dean of the School of Economics and Business Administration,  
Universidad de Chile

**Marcos Singer** (SEAS'96)

Professor of Operations Management, Dean of the MBA and Director of the Master's  
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**Diego Yarur** (BUS'06)

Head of Corporate Development, International Business, Communications and  
Sustainability, Bci Financial Group

## THE SANTIAGO CENTER TEAM



**Karen Poniachik**  
Director



**Vivian Fosk**  
Finance and  
Operations Manager



**Christian Molinari**  
Communications and  
Programming Officer

## VII. OUR PARTNERS

The Santiago Center has built and consolidated a network of local partners with whom it implements joint programs and organizes events, to extend the reach of its work.







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