

September 2016 | 006

Newsletter

COLUMBIA PARTICIPATES IN IMPORTANT
CONFERENCE ON RESILIENCE IN CHILE

Chile's National Council of Innovation for Development (CNID) invited professors **Arthur Lerner-Lam** and **Lisa Goddard**, two of Columbia University's most prominent scientists, to participate as keynote speakers in an international conference on resilience.

During the event, held on August 25, local and international experts discussed how research and development can help create resilience and how to develop long-term strategies to confront the risk of natural disasters like earthquakes, volcano eruptions and extreme weather events.

Arthur Lerner-Lam, a seismologist, is Deputy Director of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia; Lisa Goddard, a climate change expert, is Director of the University's International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).

The public seminar was followed by a closed working session where the international guests discussed long-term resilience strategies with members of a local multidisciplinary task-force entitled the Commission for Resilience to Address Natural Disasters (CREDEN), convened by the CNID.

In addition, Goddard participated in a seminar entitled "*Decadal Variability: The newest scientific frontier for understanding and prediction*," organized by the Center for Climate and Resilience Research (CR2) at the Universidad de Chile's School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.



Maisa Rojas and Laura Gallardo from CR2 with Lisa Goddard.



Juan Carlos de la Llera from CREDEN and Gonzalo Rivas from CNID.



Karen Poniachik, Director of the Santiago Center, with Arthur Lerner-Lam.

GAYATRI CHAKRAVORTY SPIVAK AWARDED DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA



Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, renowned Columbia professor from the Department of English and Comparative Literature, and Founding Member of the Institute of Comparative Literature and Society, traveled to Santiago to participate in two lectures on women, indigenous, and minority rights, hosted by Universidad de Chile.

During her visit, she was widely praised by local intellectuals and was awarded a Doctor Honoris Causa degree by Universidad de Chile as a recognition for her work and contribution to the cultural and political development of societies.

Professor Spivak, Indian scholar, literary theorist, and feminist critic, is considered one of the most influential postcolonial intellectuals. She is best known for her essay "*Can the Subaltern speak?*" and for her translation of and introduction to Jacques Derrida's "*De la grammatologie*." In 2012, Spivak was awarded the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy, and in 2013 she received the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award given by the Republic of India.

EXPERT ON CORPORATE NON-FINANCIAL RISKS VISITED CHILE



Andrea Bonime-Blanc, a Columbia alumna that and current Chief Executive Officer at GEC Risk Advisory, visited Chile to participate in the first of a series of four conferences on "*The Role of Directors in Creating Long-Term Value*" organized by the Santiago Center, the Law School's Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership, and the School of Economics and Business at Universidad Diego Portales.

Bonime-Blanc, an expert on corporate governance, risk management, business reputation and ethics and compliance, gave a superb presentation entitled "*The Role of the Board in Transforming Non-Financial Risks into Value*." She also met with several local business organizations to discuss the importance of managing ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) risks and in addressing the increasing risk of cyber-attacks. The joint series of four conferences will be held in Santiago over the course of the 2016-2017 academic year.

COLUMBIA SCIENTISTS PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOP ON SALMON FARMING

Two top Columbia scientists from the Lamont–Doherty Earth Observatory, **Ajit Subramaniam** and **Sonya Dyhrman**, visited Chile in August to participate in a workshop and seminar on the impact of harmful algae blooms (HABs) in the salmon farming sector.

The events, held at the southern Chilean city of Puerto Varas, were organized by Chile's Salmon Research Institute (Intesal) and co-sponsored by the Santiago Center. The first two days of the gathering were devoted to discussions among local and international scientists, while the third day featured an open conference attended by more than a hundred professionals working in the health, environment, operations, and production areas of the salmon farming industry, as well as government officials, researchers, and students.

Last March, HABs hit Chile's salmon farming region of Los Lagos, causing considerable losses to the industry. The purpose of the workshop and the seminar was to discuss the challenges surrounding the monitoring, prevention, and mitigation of HABs and to draft an action plan to tackle them in the mid- and long-term.



SANTIAGO CENTER TEAMS UP WITH MIT AND HARVARD

On August 2, Columbia Global Centers | Santiago teamed up for a second time with Harvard Club de Chile, Harvard's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Regional Office, MIT Club de Chile, and the MIT Sloan Management Latin America Office as part of a series of panel discussions on current local public policy issues.

This time, the topic was "*Chile's Digital Challenges*" and it featured **Mauricio Ríos**, CEO of Everis Chile; **Claudio Muñoz**, President of Telefónica Chile; and **Mónica Retamal**, Executive Director at Fundación Kodea. They all agreed that one of the main problems the country faces is the lack of experts, especially women, in STEM careers.

They also analyzed the challenges regarding delays in incorporating new procedures in e-government processes, the slow pace of adoption of new ITs in both the public and private sectors and the low expenditure in R&D by local companies.

The first panel of this series, entitled "*The Role of Chile's Private Sector in Promoting Productivity Growth*", included **Andrés Velasco**, Visiting Professor at the Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA); **Joseph Ramos**, President of the National Productivity Commission; and **Marcelo Larraguibel**, Founder and Member of the board at Virtus Partners.



Mauricio Ríos, Mónica Retamal, Claudio Muñoz, and Alfie Ulloa.



Joseph Ramos, Marcelo Larraguibel, Karen Poniachik, and Andrés Velasco.

VISITS FROM CAMPUS



Xavier Sala-i-Martin, Professor of Development Economics, visited Santiago to participate as a keynote speaker at a major infrastructure event and also to launch his book "*Economía en Colores*" ("*Economy in Colors*").



Roosevelt Montás, Director of Columbia's Center for the Core Curriculum and professor of Literature, Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, visited Chile to support Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez's (UAI) efforts in implementing its own core curriculum in line with the model Columbia has taught since 1919. In addition, professor Montás gave lectures on Contemporary Civilization in the UAI's Santiago and Viña del Mar venues.



Felicity Scott, director of the PhD in Architecture and co-director of the Critical, Curatorial and Conceptual Practices Program at Columbia's GSAAP (Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation) visited Chile to participate in several activities related to the project "Contemporary Architecture Criticism." She taught a master-class for students and gave a public lecture at Universidad Católica to present her recent book "*What Went Wrong?*"

FIRST ALUMNI GATHERING OF 2016

A group of Columbia alumni got together in Santiago's fashionable Hotel Cumbres during the evening of June 8. Organized by **Graciela Ibáñez** (MA Journalism '08) and **Brena Sena** (MPH '14), the gathering brought together former students from several schools and generations. Every year, the Columbia Alumni Association in conjunction with the Santiago Center organize at least two social events targeting the 400 Columbia alumni that live in the country.



Pamela López and Graciela Ibáñez.



Esteban Rojas and Gabriela Villalobos.



Fernando Severino and Sofia Cecchi.



María Jesús Bofill and María José Abaud.

CHILEAN ECONOMIST APPOINTED TO KEY POSITION AT BUSINESS SCHOOL

Mauricio Larraín, who joined Columbia's Business School in 2012, has been appointed Roger F. Murray Associate Professor of Finance. His research focuses on the boundaries of corporate finance, financial intermediation, and development economics. Specifically, he studies corporate finance with a focus on the financial systems and intermediation in emerging market economies.

Larraín has three publications in top finance journals, including the *Review of Financial Studies* and the *Journal of Financial Economics*. In addition, he was the recipient of the 2015 Rising Scholar Award from the *Review of Financial Studies*. At the Business School, he teaches the PhD course on empirical corporate finance and the core Corporate Finance course in the MBA and EMBA Programs.



SUCCESSFUL MBA INFORMATION SESSION ORGANIZED BY THE SANTIAGO CENTER

More than a hundred enthusiastic young Chilean professionals, plus many from other Latin American countries residing in Santiago, attended an MBA Information Session held on August 1.

Amanda Carlson, Assistant Dean of Admissions at the Business School, detailed the programs and degrees offered by the School, the list of core courses plus the ample availability of electives, application requirements and deadlines, and financial aid alternatives.

Several alumni attended the event and shared their experience, explained the professional path they had followed after obtaining their degree and described the academic benefits of Columbia's MBA vis-a-vis those offered by other Ivy League Schools.



Andrea De Vivo, Diego Infante, and Tatiana Edvokimeva.



Bianca Fernandes, Alejandra Baudrand, Matías Pérez, and Mats Wensioe.

MAILMAN STUDENTS' FIELDWORK IN CHILE

Two Mailman School of Public Health graduate students, **Rie Kamigai-chi** and **Mai Uchida**, spent their summer academic session in Santiago working on a research project under the leadership of **Esteban Calvo**, faculty member at the Institute of Public Policy at Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) and adjunct professor at the Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center. This fieldwork is part of a joint-program supported by the Mailman School of Public Health, the Columbia Global Center | Santiago, and Chile's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT).



BOOK LAUNCH: "ANA. REIMAGINANDO EL DIARIO DE ANA FRANK"

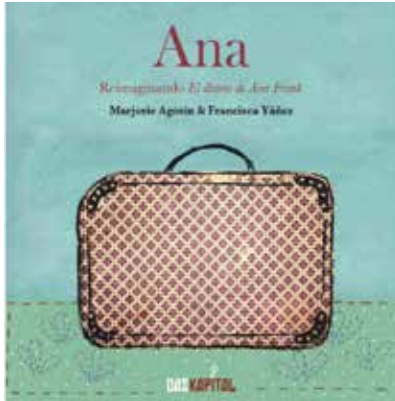
On August 9, the Santiago Center, with the sponsorship of several local and international human rights institutions, as well as that of the embassies of The Netherlands and the United States, hosted an extremely emotive seminar to launch the children's book "*Ana. Reimaginando el Diario de Ana Frank*" written by **Marjorie Agosín** and illustrated by **Francisca Yáñez**.

Throughout the event, sixth grade students from a local municipal school, located in a low-income district of Santiago, read passages from the publication. They had been studying topics related to human rights and the Holocaust for the last two months in an effort promoted by the Santiago Center and implemented by their teachers and the school's principal.

Agosín, professor at Wellesley College, and a renowned human rights activist, novelist and poet, explained why she wrote this book targeting children: "So they can learn about Anne and see her not only as a victim of Hitler, but as a wonderful writer from those times... as a young woman who liked to play and surely to eat ice cream, fall in love, make drawings of little boats... in a nutshell, as a someone who enjoyed life."

Her presentation was followed by a panel discussion featuring **Carla Guelfenbein**, a Chilean award-winning novelist; **Juan Flores**, a psychoanalyst; and **Cristián**

Montes, professor of Literature at Universidad de Chile.



Juan Flores, Marjorie Agosín,
Cristián Montes, and Carla Guelfenbein.



Luis Alegría, Dalia Pollak,
Alejandra Morales, and Patricio Arriagada.



More than a hundred people attended the event.



Marjorie Agosín, author of
"Anne, Re-imagining the Diary of Anne Frank."

RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF CHILE'S UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA VISITS CAMPUS



María Elena Boisier, Research Director of Chile's Universidad Católica (UC), visited the Columbia University campus to hold a series of meetings with Columbia experts in the field, including **Mike Purdy**, Executive Vice President for Research; **Deborah Stiles**, Vice President of Research Operations; and **Victoria Hamilton**, Director of the Office of Research Initiatives. Their discussion on policies and procedures included research compliance and training, clinical trials, animal care and use, human research protection, institutional review boards, environmental health and safety, and postdoctoral affairs.

The conversations focused primarily on operational and legal aspects and how Columbia and UC's practices compare. In addition, the group discussed activities performed under the MOU on Global Change that both institutions signed in 2012, and the possibility of negotiating an additional cooperation agreement in Astronomy.

CHILEAN NEUROSCIENTIST JOINS COLUMBIA'S ZUKER LAB

The Pew Charitable Trusts announced the newest class of Pew Latin American Fellows in the Biomedical Sciences, a list which includes Chile's **José Cánovas**, a Neuroscientist PhD who works in the Zuker Lab at Columbia's Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics.

Ten postdoctoral scientists from Latin America will receive two years of funding to pursue research at laboratories and academic institutions in the United States. They will conduct their work under the mentorship and guidance of some of the country's most distinguished researchers in biomedical science.



IN MEMORIAM OF PROFESSOR DAVID KLATTEL (1948 - 2016)



The Santiago Center mourns the passing of Professor **David Klatell** on August 11.

Professor Klatell was a broadcast journalist, professor and leader at the Graduate School of Journalism for 26 years. He was also an active member of our Faculty Steering Committee.

He was recruited to the Journalism School in 1993 and was tasked with redesigning the School's broadcast curriculum, among other responsibilities. He ran the broadcast journalism program for many years and taught broadcast news reporting, digital reporting, new business models in journalism (especially focused on start-ups and mobile video platforms), and ethics. He also held the positions of Acting Dean of the Journalism School in 2002, and was named Vice Dean from 2004 until 2008.