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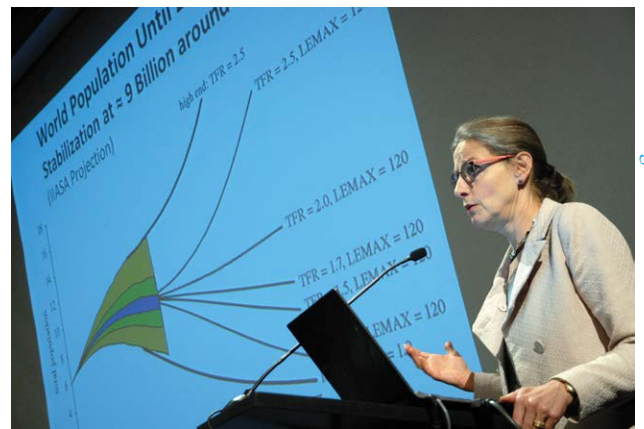
Newsletter

DIRECTOR OF COLUMBIA'S AGING CENTER IN CHILE

Ursula M. Staudinger, Director of the Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center, was in Chile at the beginning of January. Her visit took place in the framework of the project *"When Does Retirement Optimize Health? Causal Effects of Retirement Timing on Health Outcomes and Healthy Behavior of Older Americans and Chileans"*, financed by the Columbia-Chile Fund established by Columbia and Chile's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT).

During her visit, Professor Staudinger met with local authorities and experts on aging. They included **Jeanette Vega**, Director of the National Health Fund (FONASA), the state health insurer which is used by around three-quarters of all Chileans, and **Rodrigo Pérez Mackenna**, President of the Association of Pension Fund Administrators (AFPs). Professor Staudinger was also invited to address the Presidential Advisory Commission on Pensions, led by **David Bravo**, which is currently reviewing Chile's pension system.

In addition, she spoke at the seminar *"Visualizing Experiences: Tools to Cope with Aging and Measure Wellbeing"* about the phenomenon of aging in a context of demographic change and economic growth. The other speakers at this event, which was held at Universidad Diego Portales (UDP), were **Sebastián Pavlovic**, Superintendent of Health, and **Manuela Garretón**, a lecturer at UDP and Director of Ciudad Emergente, an organization that seeks to promote innovative urban development with citizen participation.



Ursula Staudinger at UDP



Addressing Pension Commission

LOCAL PROSPECTS FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

In January, Professor **Vasilis M. Fthenakis**, Founder and Director of Columbia University's Center for Life Cycle Analysis and an international expert on renewable energy grid integration and photovoltaic technologies, visited Chile where he attended meetings with government officials, policy-makers and local researchers on solar energy development.

During his visit, Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago), in conjunction with the Solar Energy Research Center (SERC Chile) and Chile's National Council on Innovation for Competitiveness (CNIC), hosted a business workshop entitled *"New Developments in the Renewable Energy Markets: A Solar Grand Plan for Chile"*. The event, which targeted investors, was co-sponsored by the Chilean-North American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham), the Chilean Association of Renewable Energies (ACERA), the local Solar Energy Association (ACESOL), the Chilean Association of Energy Generators and the Chilean Association of Electricity Distribution and Transmission Companies.

Fthenakis presentation was followed by comments from **Rodrigo Palma**,

Director of SERC Chile, an initiative formed by Universidad de Chile, Universidad de Tarapacá, Universidad de Antofagasta, Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Universidad de Concepción and the Fundación Chile technology transfer institute.

CNIC and SERC Chile invited Professor Fthenakis to visit the site of the future Solar Platform of the Atacama Desert (PSDA), a project being developed by Universidad de Antofagasta and the Antofagasta Energy Development Center (CDEA) to create a research facility and natural laboratory for solar energy technologies in northern Chile. While in Antofagasta, Professor Fthenakis also visited the Coya Sur lithium mine where the sun's action is used to concentrate sodium nitrate solutions.

In Santiago, Professor Fthenakis visited Fundación Chile and the Center for Sustainable Energy Innovation and Promotion (CIFES), the government agency responsible for advising the Economic Development Agency (CORFO) and other public institutions on matters relating to renewable energies.



Rodrigo Palma; Karen Poniachik, Director Santiago Center; and Vasilis Fthenakis

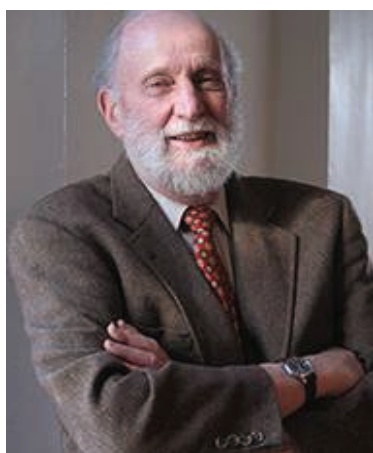


Gonzalo Rivas, President, CNIC



René Muga, Executive Vice-President, Generadoras de Chile; Paula Estevez, Head of International Division, Energy Ministry; Juan Somavía, Government Relations and External Affairs Manager - Copper, Anglo American

WORKSHOP ON FILM PRODUCTION



In January, **Michael P. Hausman**, Adjunct Professor of Film at Columbia's Faculty of the Arts and an important film producer, offered a workshop entitled *"Fiction Films: Production, Creation of Networks and Collaborative Work"* during the Film Festival of Viña del Mar.

The event was organized by Valparaíso Creativo, an initiative financed by the government's Economic Development Agency (CORFO) and implemented by

Viña del Mar's municipal government, that seeks to promote audiovisual creation in the Valparaíso Region and its insertion into international circuits.

During a long and distinguished career in the film industry, Professor Hausman has worked as executive producer of films that include *Brokeback Mountain* (Ang Lee), *Amadeus* (Milos Forman) and *Gangs of New York* (Martin Scorsese).

COLUMBIA ALUMNUS PRESENTS THESIS ON SPORTS AND POLITICS



Daniel Matamala, Heraldo Muñoz and Ernest Sotomayor

Daniel Matamala, a journalist and news anchorman at CNN Chile, presented the thesis *"Power Games: How Sports Help to Elect Presidents, Run Campaigns and Promote Wars"* with which he earned his Master of Arts in Journalism at Columbia University in 2012. The presentation was followed by comments from Chile's Foreign Minister **Heraldo Muñoz** and the Dean of Student Affairs at Columbia Journalism School, **Ernest Sotomayor**.

In his thesis, Matamala explores the relationship between sports and politics, looking at what voters' favorite sports can tell us about their political leanings and how this is used to great effect in election campaigns. He finds that - unlike soccer in Europe or Latin America which cuts across social barriers - sports in the United States can be divided into "red" and "blue".

DROUGHT SYMPOSIUM

The International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia University's Earth Institute was one of the organizers of the International Expert Symposium *"Coping with Droughts"* which took place in Santiago last November. Speakers at the event included **Walter E. Baethgen**, Senior Research Scientist and leader of the Latin America and the Caribbean Program at the IRI.

The Symposium, which was followed by a two-day training course for water-related stakeholders, was designed to create a community of practice to support the development and use of water information tools.

In 2014, Walter Baethgen was awarded funding from Columbia University's President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) for a project entitled *"Fostering a Community of Practice around Drought Information Tools"*. Its aim is to create a Drought Information Community of Practice (DICoP) bringing together researchers and practitioners who are working to improve the development and delivery of drought information for decision-making in Chile, Kenya and Jordan.

An IRI video on Chile's water challenges, *"Managing Water in a Dry Land: Lessons from Chile's Elqui Valley"*, can be seen on the Santiago Center's website

(<http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/santiago/>)

SEMINAR ON THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

In an event co-sponsored with local think-tank CIEPLAN, Professor **Stephany Griffith-Jones**, Financial Markets Program Director at Columbia University's Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD), spoke at the seminar *"The New Role of China and the BRICS Bank in the International Financial Architecture"*. The new bank, whose creation was announced in July 2014 by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, would finance infrastructure and sustainable development projects.

Her presentation at the seminar, which took place last November, was followed by comments from **Manuel Marfán**, senior fellow at CIEPLAN, and **Pablo García**, a member of the Board of Governors of Chile's Central Bank.

Founded in 2000 by Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz, the IPD is a global network of leading economists, political scientists and academic and policy centers that seeks to broaden policy dialogue on major international development issues.



Stephany Griffith-Jones, Manuel Marfán and Pablo García

SYMPOSIUM & WORKSHOP ON MECHANOBIOLOGY

On December 11-12, Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago) hosted a unique symposium and workshop on mechanobiology that was partly financed by the Columbia-Chile Fund, created by Columbia and Chile's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT). The project, led by Professor **Julio M. Fernández** of Columbia's Department of Biological Sciences, was co-sponsored by Chile's Fundación Ciencia y Vida.

Columbia University's Professor **Michael Sheetz** and postdoctoral researcher **Andrés Rivas** also participated in the event as well as Harvard University's **David E. Clapham** and National University of Singapore's **Linda J. Kenney**.



Pablo Valenzuela, Andrés Rivas, David Clapham, Julio Fernández, Linda Kenney, Michael Sheetz, Christian Wilson, Daniel Guerra, Raúl Pérez-Jiménez and Carolina Torrealba

Faculty and students from local universities also attended the seminar and the workshop that followed the main lectures.

The event, which brought together experts who have pioneered this new science at both the cellular and single-molecule levels, was the first of its kind in Chile. Participants were able to learn not only about the state of research but also the challenges of translating it into beneficial products. The workshop sought to explore the possibility of developing mechanopharmacology, a new field which aims to discover compounds that affect the response of target proteins to mechanical forces, providing an entirely new perspective on drug development.



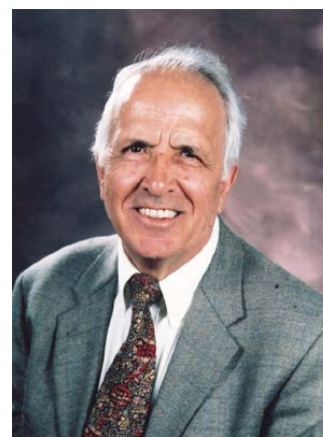
Pablo Valenzuela, Scientific Director and Co-Founder of Fundación Ciencia y Vida, with Julio Fernández

PROFESSOR THEMELIS SPEAKS ON WASTE MANAGEMENT

Professor **Nickolas J. Themelis**, Director of Columbia University's Earth Engineering Center and Chair of the University-based Waste-to-Energy Research and Technology Council (WTER), visited Chile last September to meet with local authorities and experts. He was the key speaker at a workshop on *"Sustainable Waste Management in Latin America"* organized by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago), Universidad del Desarrollo's (UDD) Engineering Faculty, the Earth Engineering Center, and the Chilean Energy Ministry.

The event served as the opportunity to launch the Chilean chapter of WTER through which UDD's Engineering Faculty will generate waste recycling and energy recovery projects with other universities and companies. Its launch is part of a project funded through the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF), launched in March 2013 by Columbia University's President Lee C. Bollinger, designed to provide support for faculty wishing to use the resources or facilities of one or more of the University's eight Global Centers for teaching or research activities.

Professor Themelis also visited the Solar Energy Research Center (SERC Chile), formed by six local universities and the Fundación Chile technology transfer institute, where he participated in a meeting chaired by SERC's Director, **Rodrigo Palma**, which focused on the transformation of waste into energy.



Nickolas Themelis

During the meeting, Themelis discussed the experience with landfills and waste of his town of Sandwich, MA, as well as the New York City government's experience of separating industrial and household waste. Examples of waste recycling efforts in Santiago's Vitacura and La Pintana districts were also discussed as potential clusters for pilot programs.

TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION

Professor **Ellen B. Meier**, Director of the Center for Technology and School Change (CTSC) of Columbia University's Teachers College, traveled to Chile in January to participate in the IV Inter-American Educational Summit on School Management and Leadership organized by Universidad Católica de Chile. During the Summit, she gave a lecture on *"The Transformative Potential of Technology"*.

During the Summit, Professor Meier also led a workshop on *"Leading with Numbers: Using Technology Responsibly to Inform Instruction"* in which she was accompanied by Rita Sanchez, Coordinator of International Professional Development at CTSC. At the hands-on workshop, local teachers, school managers, trainers and NGO



Professor Meier at Universidad Católica

representatives were guided in the design of responsible responses to data and learned about data-informed leadership.

The CTSC was established in 1996 in response to a growing need in education to understand the role of technology in the classroom. Today, it works with school communities and educational organizations to transform the design of school learning environments.

Professor Ellen Meier also took advantage of her visit to Chile to participate in a workshop for over forty school principals and academic coordinators at the Centro Politécnico de Ñuñoa in Santiago. This activity was sponsored and organized by Chile's Gabriela Mistral Educational Foundation.

DEAN PIPPENGER IN SANTIAGO

In early November 2014, **Michael Pippenger**, Dean of Undergraduate Global Programs, visited Santiago to explore possible study abroad programs for Columbia University undergraduate students and other joint academic projects with local universities.

During his visit, he met with representatives of Universidad Católica, Universidad de Chile, Universidad Diego Portales and Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez. He also visited the Museum of Memory and Human Rights in order to discuss possible internships and short courses for Columbia College students.



Michael Pippenger; Gisele Feldman, Program Officer, Santiago Center; Ricardo Brodsky, Executive Director, Museum of Memory and Human Rights; and Rodrigo Cabello, Education Officer at the Museum

THOMAS TREBAT ON THE FUTURE OF BRAZIL

On October 26, **Thomas J. Trebat**, an economist and Director of Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Rio de Janeiro), offered a conference on *"The Future of Brazil and its Implications for Latin America"* in which he analyzed Brazil's political and economic outlook following the election of President Dilma Rousseff for a second term. The event was organized jointly by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago) and Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) as part of the two organizations' program of public policy meetings. **Ernesto Ottone**, a lecturer at UDP and Director of its Globalization and Democracy Program, also spoke at the event.



Ernesto Ottone, UDP's Esteban Calvo and Thomas Trebat

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MEETING

The latest gathering of Columbia University alumni in Chile took place last November at the Taringa restaurant in Santiago's Vitacura district. Organized by **María del Pilar Duarte** (Law School) and **Graciela Ibáñez** (Journalism School) and the New York-based Columbia Alumni Association (CAA), with the support of Columbia Global Centers | Latin America

(Santiago), it was attended by alumni from different programs and across different generations. At the event, it was agreed that more such activities should take place in order to facilitate networking among Columbia University graduates and strengthen their ties.



Bernardita Subiabre (SEAS), Andrés Baytelman (LAW) and Robert Currie (LAW)



Josefina Consiglio (LAW), Alexander Hazbun (SIPA), Randal Fahs (SIPA) and Ricardo Alvial (SIPA)



Jaime Salas (LAW), Santiago Munita (Business) and Iván Bertrand-Galindo (LAW).



Hwang Yoon (SIPA) and Alexander Hazbun (SIPA)



María del Pilar Duarte (LAW) and Graciela Ibáñez (Journalism)



Ignacio Montero (TC), Pamela López (TC) and Jorge Cifuentes (TC)

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR JACOB LESHNO

On December 22, Professor **Jacob D. Leshno** from Columbia University's Business School gave a lecture entitled "*Market Design: Lessons from School Choice Systems and Other Applications*" in which he discussed recent advances in the theory and practice of market design and, in particular, of matching mechanisms for allocation problems in which money cannot be used to incentivize participants.



Gabriel A. Weintraub



Jacob D. Leshno



Marcelo Olivares

Professor Leshno talked about successful applications, ranging from the allocation of students to schools to the matching of donors to patients for organ transplants, with a particular emphasis on lessons learned for practitioners and policy-makers. His trip to Chile took place in the context of the project "*Public Procurement Mechanisms: From Practice to Research (and Back Again)*" implemented with the support of the Columbia-Chile Fund. This project is led by **Gabriel A. Weintraub**, Sidney Taurel Associate Professor of Business at Columbia, together with **Marcelo Olivares**, a professor at the Department of Industrial Engineering at Universidad de Chile.