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Newsletter

SANTIAGO CENTER HOSTS TOP SCIENTISTS



Top scientists with Karen Poniachik, Claudio Muñoz (President of Telefónica) and Andrés Couvve (of BNI)

Six top international scientists, including three Nobel laureates, visited Chile in January to participate in the Transformative Minds Conference organized jointly by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago), Universidad de Chile's Biomedical Neuroscience Institute (BNI), of the Millennium Science Initiative, the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem Program of the Chilean Economic Development Agency (CORFO) and the National Senate.

The visiting scientists were:

- **Dr. Charles Zuker**, professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and neuroscience at Columbia University and a member of the US National Academy of Sciences;
- **Dr. Richard Axel**, Nobel Prize winner in Physiology / Medicine 2004 for his discoveries of odorant receptors and the organization of the olfactory system; professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and of pathology at Columbia University;
- **Dr. Tom Maniatis**, chairman of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics at Columbia University. Pioneer of the biotechnology industry; among his many awards, he was the recipient of the 2012 Lasker Award in Medical Sciences;
- **Dr. Torsten Wiesel**, Nobel Prize winner in Physiology / Medicine 1981 for his discoveries concerning information processing in the visual system; former president and professor emeritus of Rockefeller University;
- **Dr. Cornelia Bargmann**, investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and member of the US National Academy of Sciences. Among her many awards, she was the recipient of the 2012 Kavli Prize in Neuroscience;
- **Dr. Susumu Tonegawa**, Nobel Prize winner in Physiology / Medicine 1987 for his discovery of the genetic mechanism that produces antibody diversity; professor of biology and neuroscience investigator and director of Howard Hughes Medical Institute at MIT.

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

the general community in scientific endeavor and the role of philanthropy in supporting scientific research.

The Transforming Minds Conference, which took place in the ex-Congress building in Santiago and was attended by a packed audience that included leading local scientists, politicians and students, sought to highlight the importance of public investment in science and technology.



Dr. Tom Maniatis



Dr. Susumu Tonegawa
(Nobel prize 1987)



Dr. Charles Zuker



Dr. Cornelia Bargmann



Dr. Charles Zuker, Karen Poniachik, Director at Columbia Global Centers (Santiago); Manuel Olivares (President BBVA Bank Chile)



Dr. Torsten Wiesel (Nobel Prize 1981); Juan Larrain Vice President of Research UC; Andrés Couve, Director BNI; and Dr. Richard Axel (Nobel Prize 2004)



Claudio Muñoz President of Telefónica



Charles Kimber (Celulosa Arauco) and Kathy Barclay (President of AmCham)

CHILE-COLUMBIA FUND AWARDS FIRST ROUND OF GRANTS

A total of eight projects, ranging from a study of urban reconstruction after the February 2010 earthquake in Chile to research into titin, a protein that plays a key role in muscle elasticity, will receive grants of up to US\$30,000, thanks to a new program launched by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago).

The Chile-Columbia Fund, created by Columbia University and the Chilean government's National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), seeks to foster long-term ties and exchanges between Columbia and Chilean universities. Projects must involve collaboration between faculty members and/or researchers at Columbia and at least one Chilean university. They may also provide opportunities for student participation.

"In this first round, we received 27 proposals from nine different schools at Columbia University," said Karen Poniachik, director of the Santiago Center, in an interview with the *Columbia Spectator*. "That level of interest across so many different disciplines reflects the potential that Columbia University has to engage in joint work with Chilean universities through the Santiago Center."

The eight projects, announced by Columbia Provost John H. Coatsworth on February 10, also include environmental, health and public policy issues.

"We are super excited for this project because it's going to jump start a network of research associates that we are creating in Chile that hopefully will lead us to the enlargement of this particular program," said Clara Irazábal, who won a grant to study post-earthquake reconstruction, in an interview with the *Columbia Spectator*. An assistant professor of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), Irazábal indicated that the project would be paying particular attention to the city of Talca – where 60 percent of downtown buildings were destroyed – but would also examine reconstruction efforts in a number of other Chilean cities.

Similarly, Miguel Urquiola, an associate professor of economics and international and public affairs, indicated that his grant to study the economics of education in Chile is particularly interesting because of the country's voucher system. "I think this is one way [we] can be involved in two things simultaneously which is rigorous research and engaging with policy questions around the globe," he told the *Columbia Spectator*.

Looking to the future, Poniachik indicated that the Santiago Center's plan for the next awards in 2014 - 2015 is to seek to attract projects that bring together multiple global centers.

TEAMS AWARDED CHILE-COLUMBIA FUND GRANTS 2014

- **Julio Fernández**, professor of biological sciences, Columbia University; and **Victoria Guixe**, professor of biology, Universidad de Chile: *Degradation of titin at single molecular level.*
- **Clara Irazábal**, assistant professor of urban planning, director of the GSAAP Latin Lab, Columbia University; and **Mario Marchant**, assistant professor, Department of Architecture, Universidad de Chile: *Learning from 27F—A comparative assessment of urban reconstruction processes after the 2010 earthquake in Chile.*
- **Darby Jack**, assistant professor of environmental health sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; and **Dante Cásares**, director of the Environmental Health Program, Universidad de Chile: *Collaborating to quantify the health benefits of clean biomass combustion in Chile.*
- **Don J. Melnick**, Thomas Morgan Professor and Director of Conservation Biology, Columbia University; and **Cristián Bonacic**, associate professor and director Department of Ecosystems & The Environment, Universidad Católica de Chile: *Building a natural and social science collaboration to implement a new innovative science-based model for long-term sustainable development of Chile's temperate rainforests.*
- **Christian Pop-Eleches**, associate professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University; and **Francisco Gallego**, associate professor of Economics, Universidad Católica de Chile: *Parental interventions for home computers in Chile.*
- **Ursula Staudinger**, Robert N. Butler Professor of Socio-medical Sciences and director of the Aging Center, professor of psychology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; and **Esteban Calvo**, director of the Master in Public Policy, Universidad Diego Portales: *When does retirement optimize health? Causal effects of retirement timing on health outcomes and healthy behavior of older Americans and Chileans.*
- **Miguel Urquiola**, associate professor of economics and international and public affairs, Columbia University; and **Alejandra Mizala**, professor of industrial engineering and academic director, Center for Advanced Research on Education, Universidad de Chile: *K-12 and higher education in Chile: School size and college reputation.*
- **Gabriel Weintraub**, Sidney Taurel Associate Professor of Business, Columbia University; and **Marcelo Olivares**, assistant professor of industrial engineering, Universidad de Chile: *Public procurement mechanisms – From practice to research and back again.*

SEMINAR ON QUALITY OF LIFE IN CHILEAN CITIES

Academics from the architecture and urban research schools of different local universities debated proposals for enhancing quality of life in Chilean cities at the Columbia in Chile seminar on "Who cares for Chilean cities?" The seminar also included a keynote presentation by Mark Wigley, dean of Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), who was accompanied by GSAPP professors Clara Irazábal and Enrique Walker.

The seminar, organized by the GSAPP's Latin American and Caribbean Laboratory (Latin Lab) and Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago), followed a prior mirror event, Chile at Columbia in New York, in March 2013, and sought to serve as a meeting point for exchange of views and experience among different schools concerned with the challenges of today's Chilean cities. It was preceded in July by a call for abstracts of papers, open to the architecture and urban research schools of all Chilean universities accredited for at least four years.

A total of seven papers were presented at the seminar in the categories of architecture, urban projects and public space by academics from the Universidad de Chile, Universidad Católica, Universidad Diego Portales, Universidad de Concepción and Finis Terrae. The seminar was attended by more than 180 people.



Dean Mark Wigley



Clara Irazábal

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | LATIN AMERICA SANTIAGO

THE CHILE READER

HISTORY, CULTURE, POLITICS



Elizabeth Quay Hutchison,
Thomas Müller Klubock,
Nara Milanich,
and Peter Winn, editors

Columbia Global Centers | Santiago invites you to the book launch of *The Chile Reader: Culture, Politics, History* (Duke University Press, 2013) coedited by Elizabeth Quay Hutchison, Thomas Klubock, Nara Milanich, and Peter Winn.

Panel discussion with **Sol Serrano** (Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile) and **Heidi Tinsman** (UC Irvine)

Tuesday, April 15, 2014, 5:30 pm
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd floor, Barnard Hall.
Barnard College campus, entrance at 117th Street and Broadway

Sponsored by: Columbia Global Centers | Santiago; Institute of Latin American Studies; Center for International History; Barnard Forum on Migration

WOMEN AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF MEMORY

Latin America's experience of the construction of cultural memory in the aftermath of historical trauma was one of the reasons why Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago) was chosen as the venue for the inaugural meeting of the Women Mobilizing Memory working group of the Columbia Center for the Study of Social Difference's Women Creating Change Initiative. Fifteen members of the group traveled to Chile where, during five days in December, they met with local academics, artists, writers and activists.

The working group focuses on how individual and collective testimony and performance can establish new forms of cultural memory and facilitate social repair. Taking a gender perspective, it explicitly explores women's acts of witness and the gendered forms and consequences of political repression and persecution.



Women Mobilizing Memory Team

More than 300 people attended the workshops in Santiago, organized in collaboration with the US-based Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics and co-directed by Columbia professors Marianne Hirsch and Jean Howard. The issues studied ranged from how material sites transmit memory and whose stories are included and whose are excluded to the aesthetic structures that facilitate memory transfer and what the arts and humanities can offer policymakers seeking to build new democracies in the wake of historical violence. In the context of the 40th anniversary of Chile's September 1973 coup, the group visited related sites and memorials. The event also included performances by Chilean theater groups and a public roundtable in which artists from Chile and the United States discussed the memorial work of photography.

Following the visit to Chile of the team participating in a working group, the roundtable discussion was held in New York on March 10. It brought together five graduate student members of the Women Creating Change group – Henry Castillo (New York University), Andrea Crow (Columbia University), Nicole Gervasio (Columbia University), Leticia Robles-Moreno (New York University) and, as moderator, Kate Trebuss (Columbia University) – to discuss the impact of site-based, collaborative, feminist and transnational engagements with the past on their own understanding of the social and political work permitted by memory.



The workshop at Villa Grimaldi



Columbia Professor Marianne Hirsch



Photography and Image Panel at Museo de la Memoria



Kate Trebuss, Columbia PhD Ca.



Professor Diana Taylor and photographer Susan Meiselas



Panel led by Columbia PhD students Andrea Crow and Kate Trebuss

VISITS FROM CAMPUS



Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs. During a recent visit to Chile, Professor Sachs, director of The Earth Institute and professor of sustainable development and of health policy and management at Columbia University, held a private breakfast with leading local businesspeople and economists, including members of President Michelle Bachelet's team and former finance minister and Columbia alumnus Andrés Velasco.



Professor Lynn Kagan. The co-director of the National Center for Children and Families at Teacher's College spoke at an event on pre-school education organized by Columbia Global Centers | Latin America (Santiago) and Universidad Diego Portales.



Professor Elliott Sclar. In January, Professor Sclar, director of The Earth Institute's Center for Sustainable Urban Development, was the keynote speaker at the International Conference on Sustainable Urban Development, organized by the Centro de Desarrollo Urbano Sustentable (CEDEUS), a joint initiative of Universidad Católica and Universidad de Concepción. In conversations, Professor Sclar also explored opportunities for future collaboration between CEDEUS and Columbia University.



Professor John Dinges. The Godfrey Lowell Cabot Professor of Journalism visited Chile for a series of meetings and interviews with opinion leaders and key people from Chilean media related to his research work about the journalism landscape of Chile.



Professor Jonathan R. Cole. The former provost and dean of faculties at Columbia University and John Mitchell Mason Professor gave a master class on the future of universities and the development of applied knowledge during the launch of the *Dirección de Transferencia y Desarrollo (DTD)*, a new unit created by the Universidad Católica to promote applied research, its patenting and transfer.



Professor Vasilis M. Fthenakis. The director of Columbia University's Center for Life Cycle Analysis also visited Chile in January, when he participated the first International Workshop in Lithium, Industrial Minerals and Energy (IWLIME) organized by Centro de Investigación Avanzada del Litio y Minerales Industriales (CELMIN) of the Universidad de Antofagasta in northern Chile.

LATEST NEWS

Journalism School fosters partnership with Instituto de la Comunicación e Imagen (ICEI) of Universidad de Chile.

David Klatell, Professor of Professional Practice & Chair of International Studies at J-School visited Chile in March together with Bill Grueskin, Dean of Academic Affairs & Professor of Professional Practice. The Graduate School of Journalism entered into a partnership with the ICEI last August, which aims to enhance the cultural, scientific and technological offerings at each institution. It has already had a successful short-term exchange experience: Alexandra Hall, a graduate student at Columbia with a Masters in Latin-American Studies worked as a reporter for Radio Cooperativa, one of the oldest and most influential radio conglomerates in Chile.

Both Klatell and Grueskin are delighted with the partnership with ICEI: "When I visited the Universidad de Chile, I was highly impressed with the quality of its faculty, students and facilities," said Klatell. "We at the Columbia Journalism School are thrilled to collaborate with Professor María Olivia Mönckeberg (Director at ICEI) and her colleagues as they develop a master's degree program. We anticipate a close working relationship that will benefit both schools, our students and alumni."

