

A Word from Jackie Klopp

By Jackie Klopp
EPD Concentration Co-Director

Dear EPD students and alums,

Welcome to the second EPD newsletter! We hope this letter serves as an invitation for our alum to keep in touch. We are always delighted to welcome many of you back to campus and many thanks to those of you who continue to be involved in our program as advisors, teachers, speakers as well as friends. This year we will also have a get together in Washington on April 8th. For those of you in the area, we look forward to seeing you!

EPD continues to attract high-caliber students committed to social justice and equitable, sustainable development. With over 180 students our first term, we are now known as a mega-concentration! It is heartening to see so many bright young minds and hearts focused intently on the pressing problems of our rather dark times. We will be expanding our selection of courses and working hard to develop a curriculum that reflects current challenges, especially in meshing human rights, humanitarian affairs and development perspectives. We are also encouraging our students to take more rigorous economics classes and have expanded our range of courses on micro-finance.

We continue to foster critical and creative discussion; our showing of "Control Room" in conjunction with Network

20/20 generated an audience of over 500 people and fostered a very serious discussion about the manipulation of the media in war and its consequences. Another EPD event actually made it into *Time Out New York*. This was our conversation with Adam Hochschild on his new book *Burying the Chains*, a fascinating account of how a successful anti-slavery movement arose in Britain against the odds. From the vantage point of today, slavery seems so obviously repugnant, it was hard for many in the audience to comprehend how it was allowed to go on for so long; but as Adam pointed out, two hundred years from now, many will look back at the current massive investment in weaponry and the by and large tolerance by many of massive death by poverty and treatable diseases and find this very abhorrent as well.

EPD has also had a stimulating series of talks co-sponsored with Women in Public and International Affairs and the Gender and Development Platform (a new student group). Guests included Pratima Kale of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction and Irene Tinker of UC, Berkeley talking about the new book she co-edited with Arvonne Fraser, *Developing Power: How Women Transformed International Development*. As part of a new "Meet the Practitioner" series, we have also arranged for students to meet people working at the World Bank, United Nations and diverse NGOs and get practical insight into development from

different vantage points. We always welcome Alumni to be part of this series.

Once again, we have yet another fascinating roster of workshop projects, including our first ever global project that involves a joint team from SIPA and Sciences Po. Funded by the Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation, this project involves a careful look at the rather severe problems of "global governance". Building on this year's work, we will offer this workshop again next year. In April, I will be traveling to Nairobi with a team from the Earth Institute's Center for Urban Sustainable Development to explore setting up yet another set of joint workshop/studio project. The SIPA/CUSD partnership will focus on innovations in slum upgrading.

This year, with the help of Enrique Delamonica of UNICEF we are also building up our policy analysis track, fostering more policy-oriented team projects which will also be presented to the public at the end of the year. We include the presentation schedule and invitation to you all in this newsletter. We would love to see you at the presentations and you are always welcome to be in touch over potential policy or workshop projects.

Finally, I would like to pay special tribute to Corky Bryant who continues to provide wise advice and new ideas to the program, while finishing her new book with Christina Kappaz *Reducing Poverty: Building Peace* (to be published by

Kumarian 2005). Corky will be stepping down next year and SIPA is actively looking for a new director (Hard shoes to fill!) Our Workshop Coordinator Fida Adely will also be back next term from researching girl's education in Jordan (on a Fulbright scholarship). We look forward to hearing all about it. Our wonderful program assistants- Desiree Bliss, Alexander Fernando, Sharon Miller and Allen Thayer- will all be off on their continuing journey in the development world. I cannot thank them enough for their ideas, energy, commitment and hard work- I look forward to hearing where your energy, dedication and inquisitiveness take you next.

My best wishes to all of you and please do stay in touch!

Jacqueline Klopp
 EPD Co-Director

In this Issue...

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 EPD Updates,
 ... and more!

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Talking (Work) Shop

By Jackie Klopp & Allen Thayer

We invite all our alumni in the New York area (or those visiting!) to join us for our end of year workshop presentations to be followed by a social. Below is a tentative schedule. Please refer the EPD website for updates at www.sipa.columbia.edu/func/epd/index.htm

April 27th

- 12:00-12:15: Introductions—Corky Bryant and Jackie Klopp
- 12:15-12:45: Madagascar Team, "Madagascar... Handi or not?"
- 12:55-1:25: El Salvador Team, "Infrastructure and Violence: the Mapping of San Salvador"
- 1:35-2:05: Philippines Team, "Is Capital Enough? Beyond Microfinance for poor farmers in the Philippines"
- 2:15-2:45: UNICEF/PRSP Team, "PRSPs: A Framework for Impact Analysis on Child Poverty. The case of Bolivia"
- 2:55-3:25: Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation Team, "From Differences to Dialogue: U.S. & French Views on Global Governance"
- 3:35-4:05: East Timor Team, "Capacity Building in East Timor: IRC's Gender Based Violence Program"
- 4:15-4:45: UNFPA Liberia Team, "Roadmap to Recovery: Mapping HIV/AIDS and GBV Programming in Liberia"

April 28th

- 12:00-12:15: Introductions—Corky Bryant and Jackie Klopp
- 12:15-12:45: MST/Brazil Team, "Sugar, Tea and Markets: Selling the MST"
- 12:55-1:25: Mozambique Team, "Cashew Nuts in Mozambique: Recommendations for Developing a Viable Industry"
- 1:35-2:05: UNDP/Balkans Team, "Regional Stability in the Balkans: FTA Implementation between Serbia & Montenegro and FYR of Macedonia"
- 2:15-2:45: Kenya/Pamoja Team, "Pamoja Trust: Impact Assessment of a community organization's approach to Slum Upgrading in Nairobi"
- 2:55-3:25: Kosovo/IRC Team, "Challenges in building local capacity: Establishing an epidemic surveillance system in post-conflict Kosovo"
- 3:35-4:05: São Tome & Principe Team, "A Study in Participatory Democracy: The Sao Tome & Principe National Forum"
- 4:15-4:45: IIRR Team, "Gender Mainstreaming in Ethiopia: Changing the way people think?"

To be followed by a social open to all EPD students and alumni!

Faculty Achievements

Fida Adely

- "The Mixed Effects of Schooling for High School Girls in Jordan: The Case of Tel Yahya". *Comparative Education Review*. Vol. 48 No. 4 (2004).

Eric Hershberg

- "Desigualdades paradójicas en América Latina." Article co-authored with Jeremy Adelman. Forthcoming in *Alteridades* (Mexico City), 2004.
- "Global Restructuring, Knowledge and Learning" in *Voprosy Ekonomiki* (Issues in Economics-in Russian). Moscow, August, 2004.

Jacqueline. M. Klopp.

- "Democratization, Violence and Civil Society: The Case of Kenya's Internally Displaced" In *Governance Challenges in East Africa* Dorina Bekoe (ed.) Boulder: Lynne Reiner. Forthcoming, 2005.
- "Civil Society and the State: Partnerships for Peace in the Great Lakes Region", *International Peace Academy*, New York. www.ipacademy.org/Publications/Reports/PublRepolnde_body.htm, 2004.

Constance Morrill

- "Reconciliation and the Gacaca: The Perceptions and Peace-Building Potential of Rwandan Youth Detainees" in *The Online Journal of Peace and Conflict Resolution*. Issue 6.1. Fall 2004.

Sanjay Ruparelia

- Commentator on the 2004 Indian general election for Voice of America, BBC World Service, and the Indian Express.
- "Managing the United Progressive Alliance: the challenges ahead," special issue of *Economic & Political Weekly* (forthcoming, 2004).
- "Rethinking institutional theories of political moderation: the case of Hindu nationalism in India, 1996-2002," *Comparative Politics* (forthcoming, 2005).
- Pursuing a joint research project with Sanjay Reddy (Economics, Barnard), titled "Rethinking India's Political Economy", that seeks to examine the impact of economic reforms, democratic mobilization and Hindu nationalism on the Indian political economy since 1991. It is a collaborative interdisciplinary venture involving Partha Chatterjee (Anthropology, Columbia), Stuart Corbridge (Geography, LSE) and John Harriss (Anthropology and Development Studies, LSE). They hope to secure funding for the second phase of the project in 2004-2005.

Sahrbanou Tadjbakhsh

- Editor in Chief of the First National Human Development Report for Afghanistan, to be published by UNDP in December 2004.
- Guest Researcher at the *Centre de Recherche Internationale* (CERI) at *Sciences-Po* in Paris.

Missing in Action



A Kenyan Sabbatical By Hilaire Avril

With still one year to go before I graduate from SIPA and get to wear a silly cake-box hat, I decided to take a year off and extend what started as a summer internship. I have been interning with IRIN (www.irinnews.org) from June to August in Nairobi, Kenya, and have stayed on a consultant's contract with the same organization since.

IRIN is the United Nation agency that reports on humanitarian topics, across Africa and Central Asia (the Middle East should be next, in 2005). That makes it the perfect blend of humanitarian affairs, development, and media activities (print in my case) I had been looking for, without being on the public relations side of things.

I also stayed for reasons specific to the UN system. It is a highly schizophrenic organization, overburdened with rules and regulations for virtually anything, but it can be incredibly chaotic and people-driven at times. This is the case with small agencies, such as IRIN. It means that once you've got a foot in the door, no matter how informally, it's worth sticking around lest they forget you.

On the financial side, the dilemma went roughly like this: I still have about a full semester of required courses to go, but all those SIPA socials left me absolutely broke. A (paid) one-year break was a chance to fill again my piggy bank before I return to finish.

Also, a pint of beer costs about 1\$ in Kenya (keep that in mind next Thursday), I have a huge garden and a villa for half of my UAH rent, a great dog, and monkeys wake me up in the morning... Nairobi, despite rampant criminality, is more like a giant country club than an actual developing world metropolis – if you're lucky enough to live in the good parts and stay safe. I must say the opportunity to run away from the capital to the savannah and camp in the middle of

herds of giraffe –on a budget- every other week-end played a part in my staying.

More seriously, I think the point in getting a Master's degree is to help you and give you the break you need to dig out that dream job, especially if you've prior work experiences. That came unexpectedly early for me, this summer. But the point of the internship is not to land a Master's degree, it's the opposite way around.

Finally, as far as you travel, the globe is crisscrossed with SIPA alumni. The colleague currently sitting to my left is a SIPA, class of '03, and there are at least four of us in town at the moment. It does make you feel at home...

Alumni Briefs

Consuelo Serrano (MIA 04) graduated this May with a concentration in EPD. She works for consulting company Intellectap in Mumbai, India in the area of microfinance. She would like to contact other EPD graduates that are also in India for a possible reunion.

Frédéric Bolduc (MIA 99) began his career at the United Nations in New York City as an advisor for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He also helped Doctors Without Borders develop strategies to lobby foreign governments. He has been in charge of the Québec Government Office in Miami since it opened in 2001.

Asad Maken (MPA 02) worked at the World Bank for six months after graduation. Then he returned to Pakistan, where he re-joined the Central Board of Revenue. He worked there for 15 months with their reform wing. He joined ADB in July 2004 as contract manager specialist.

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The EPD Workshop and the Realities of Development Work By Ilona Tservil

As a SIPA alum there are many aspects of my graduate education that I value; however, none have had more relevance for me post-graduation than my EPD coursework. In particular, my workshop experience enabled me to learn firsthand the reality within development projects – that things do not necessarily unfold as planned, and that data often tells more than one story depending on the angle from which it is viewed.

In my second year at SIPA I participated in a workshop project as part of a team which assessed the effectiveness of Eurasia Foundation's grant to local entrepreneurs in Saratov, Russia. An organization called the Union of Private Entrepreneurs had approached Eurasia Foundation's Saratov Office with a proposal for aiding local economic development by stemming predatory behavior of local administrative agencies including tax inspectors, government bureaucrats, and corrupt law enforcement officials. This would be accomplished by distribution of flyers containing information on recent business legislation, holding of seminars to educate entrepreneurs on their rights, and placement of attorneys in local markets to provide advice and representation. The initial data the client organization reported was incredibly

positive. Once on the ground however, it became increasingly apparent that the figures were misleading. While the Russian organization cited that distribution of flyers was successfully accomplished, further investigation revealed that distribution of these flyers was in fact spotty, and random interviews in local markets revealed little or no knowledge of the organization's existence. At a seminar visit random interviews were conducted with the attendees to find that most were acquaintances of the Union's President. It became increasingly apparent that the organization's structure was replicating one well-established under the Soviet Union; one of centralized authority with access and benefits determined by the President of the organization. Needless to say, our recommendations for Eurasia Foundation included decentralization of and more accountability for the Union.

The lessons I learned through the EPD workshop have been invaluable to my current position. Today I work as a Russian Rule of Law Program Officer with the Open World Program. Created in 1999 the program brings emerging political and civic leaders from the Russian Federation to the US for ten day visits to view American economic and democratic institutions. Recently the US Congress expanded the program to Lithuania, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. One of the strongest aspects of the program is the rule of law theme which brings Russian judicial delegations to the US to be hosted by US federal and state Judges. In light of my hands-on experience with the EPD workshop, I now look very criti-

cally at program indicators and do not hesitate to question overly positive results. From the outset, an obvious concern focused on participant selection: were judges nominated for their participation as a reward for rulings that toed the line of reigning political opinion? While I am confident in the transparency of the program's selection procedures, I also maintain a realistic outlook. Recent news from Russia has not indicated confidence in the solidification of either democratic or legal institutions. From a personal stand point, it is hard to stay optimistic with politically motivated cases such as the trial of Mikhail Khordokovsky, and in the aftermath of the Beslan tragedy what some commentators have termed a political power grab by Russia's President Putin: the Kremlin is now poised to appoint regional leaders in lieu of their selection through democratic elections. My EPD experience has aided in my understanding that here is only so much impact development programs can have on a country's internal politics. I now also know that it is much easier to measure program indicators on a micro level than on a macro scale.

On a related note, earlier this year the Government Accountability Office completed a report on the Open World Program which found that greater evaluation is needed to fully ascertain whether the program is achieving its intended results. I hope to contribute to this task and am confident that my EPD experience has left me very well-prepared.



Integrated Early Childhood Development in Burkina Faso By Takeshi Miyasaki

Burkina Faso, a landlocked country in West Africa, is one of the poorest countries in the world. The country is ranked 175th out of 177 countries in 2004 in the Hu-

man Development Index developed by the UNDP. Its education achievement level has also been one of the lowest in the world with the net enrolment rate of primary school at 37% in 2003. When more than 60% of the children cannot afford to go to primary school, pre-school is considered a luxury for rich people. In such a context, what does UNICEF do to promote integrated early childhood development (IECD)?

UNICEF and the Government of Burkina Faso have been promoting a concept of

'school complex.' A school complex comprises of a primary school equipped with water and sanitation facilities. *Bisongo*, a village-based IECD institution for children of three to six years old, is often attached to these school complexes, and it represents a key entry point to promote girls' education in the rural area.

The process of experimentation started slowly because it took time to convince people of the benefits of establishing the

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IECD centers in the villages. Early childhood development is often perceived as a luxury for wealthy people and is not attributed a high value by the rural communities. The government officials did not perceive the IECD centers as among the basic needs of the poor in rural areas, and they were at first confused of the difference between the holistic approach advocated in early childhood development and the traditional pre-school program. It was true that the existing structure of pre-school, requiring a high fee from parents, is not conceivable in villages, where the majority of families are poor. It was under this context in which *Bisongo* was designed; namely, a community-based model to suit the reality of rural Burkina Faso.

The community-based management is the core of this model. The management committee formed by the community oversees the community's input of local materials and manual labor in constructing the building. The community chooses the persons whom they can trust as the caregivers, called the *petites mamans*. In return, the *petites mamans* take pride in their assigned responsibilities. Neither the government nor UNICEF pays them; they only receive a small remuneration collected from the contribution of parents. Despite this, they continue to carry on their work: the training and recognition of their role by the community members gave them a sense of mission and motivated them to work for the village.

Visiting a site of *Bisongo* makes one realize a holistic approach to early childhood development. Around the small classroom building are latrines, a borehole, and a water tank for washing hands. With kitchen facilities, snacks and lunch are provided to supplement the nutrition of young children. The *petites mamans* are trained to provide basic education on health, hygiene, sanitation, by teaching educational songs or poems and using picture stories.

Village people observed the visible impacts as soon as *Bisongo* was established. While young children were taken care of at *Bisongo*, mothers are able to engage in the housework as well as other economic activities. The primary-school age girl can drop off her younger siblings and go to school, freeing her from childcare responsibilities during

school hours. Parents are pleased to see that their children enjoy going to *Bisongo* and have become very active.

The strength of this model lies in the integration of IECD facilities in the school complex. *Bisongo* is generally located next to a primary school, often a UNICEF-supported Satellite School (Ecole Sattelite, or ES). Those who have completed the final year of *Bisongo* are automatically registered in primary school. It should be noted that over 50% of children enrolled in *Bisongo* are girls; subsequently, the enrollment of primary school has increased, particularly for girls. The UNICEF-supported ES adopt a bilingual approach, whereby children can learn in their mother tongue while they gradually acquire the necessary French skills by the end of the three-year cycle of schooling, after which they are transferred to regular primary school. Thus, *Bisongo* contributes to the promotion of girls' education, by being a key entry point for the children to the school complex, facilitated by the *Bisongo*-ES-primary school linkage.

Below are some photos from children at the *Bisongo*.



Takeshi Miyasaki graduated from SIPA in May 2003 with two concentrations: EPD and Human rights. His specialization within EPD was "Education and Development". He started at UNICEF in November 2003.



Internship Reports



SIPA-in-Dar: My summer internship in Tanzania By Alexander Fernando

As much as OCS, the IFBSers and IEPers would like to have you think, the internship process for us in EPD doesn't really get going until after spring break.

As I am sure is occurring now, in the second half of the Spring semester last year, a frenzy of resume-attached e-mails from all EPD students flooded just about every international organization in the remotest corners of the world... and I am not kidding you: there was a certain UNDP field office that had 2 other resumes from SIPA students asking for summer internships!

While about 80% of my e-mails received no response, those organizations that did respond were generally very helpful. Then just before finals in late April as I

was getting really antsy, I slowly started hearing back from organizations. I ended up accepting an offer for a summer consultancy with DAI (Development Alternatives Inc.) in Tanzania that I got through a former colleague.

Here I worked on a private sector development project in the agricultural sector. This entailed providing market linkage guidance for associations of small-holder farmers by identifying markets for their products, negotiating deals with buyers and representing them at a trade fair. In addition, I organized a conference on the use of standardized weights and measures in agriculture which hosted representatives from government and the private sector.

"Standard weights and measures?" you might be asking yourself. While this may not sound particularly relevant (or interesting for that matter!), I had seen over the summer how small-holder farmers are being cheated by traders who use extra-large bags — significantly above their standard weight of 50 kgs — to buy agricultural produce while only paying

farmers for 50kgs worth of product. Despite existing legislation for such standards, it was not put into practice. The conference thus sought to bring together all the stakeholders to highlight the issue and recommend an action plan. The event generated a significant amount of publicity, as the practice of the 'lumbesa' was well-known and accepted throughout Tanzania, and also served to jumpstart the government's own publicity campaign to abolish the practice.

Highlights this summer included being in Dar es Salaam with 2 other friends of mine from SIPA, running into Professor Mamdani and his wife, director Mira Nair, at the Zanzibar International Film Festival, and learning to drive stick-shift on the left-hand side of the road in a beat up 1989 Toyota Corolla that I had rented for the summer and that was previously licensed (and looked like!) a taxicab. Hopefully too, I made enough contacts to help me get back to E. Africa when I graduate from SIPA... or so I hope!



Rural Development, Teenage Dance Parties, and Bride Bartering in East Timor By Nathan Miller

The Chief of Mission of IOM in East Timor was assisting to teach a three-day course on development and conflict prevention. At the end of the class, I mentioned my interest in East Timor and IOM, and after further dialogue, I was offered the internship.

My work was related to a new community development/small infrastructure (water, sanitation, irrigation, school renovation, etc) program in rural villages. I spent my time conducting interviews with international development workers, Timorese government officials, national NGO staff, and village leaders in order to make recommendations regarding IOM's

process of distributing information to communities and to assess the appropriate level and character of cooperation between IOM and the local government administration, national NGOs, and communities. Overall, I spent one month in Dili and six weeks traveling to villages in the Eastern districts.

In one village, I was invited to attend a family party. The occasion, for which the family must have spent several months' salary, was that the Bishop was in town and was blessing the young girls who had been sufficiently pious and had learned their bible stories. The party consisted of the men sitting outside getting drunk and bullshitting, the women running around cooking, cleaning and serving, and the teenagers dancing. At a Timorese dance, the participants all sit in chairs lining the walls. When the song starts, some guys will get up and grab a girl to dance. There is only one dance, with one back and forth step and no turns, and eye contact or talking while

dancing is a serious no-no. As soon as the song ends, everybody runs back to their seats and waits for the next song. About every hour, one of the men would realize I wasn't dancing and would drag me out to the dance floor and stick me with some embarrassed 13 year old girl who would stare at her feet and giggle the whole time. The men talked a lot about buffaloes, including a rather heated discussion about how many buffaloes must be given to a girl's family in order to marry her. They explained that girls from their area are the most expensive in the country. Traditionally, the groom would have to shell out 77 buffaloes. I asked if this is still the going rate today. The guy answered, "No, that's tradition. These days we're more modern. Now you only have to give 30 or 40 buffaloes."

Internship & Career News

How EPD Can Help You Land an Internship, By Desiree Bliss

Securing an internship in international development may be a daunting task, but EPD can help!

- We suggest attending internship panels and information sessions sponsored by EPD and the Office of Career Services to network with potential employers.
- Another route is interviewing individuals within targeted organizations for SIPA research papers in order to make initial contacts. Getting in touch with field offices of international organizations, NGOs or development consulting firms who manage projects in which you are interested may result in ad hoc summer internship opportunities.
- EPD is for the first time creating an EPD Resume book that will offer participants access to fellow students' and EPD graduates' resumes for networking and information gathering. To obtain a copy of the resume book, please contact Desiree at deb2106@columbia.edu.
- Another new resource is the "Meet the Practitioner" series in which development professionals will meet with small groups of EPD students to discuss breaking into or advancing in the field.

EPD Trip to Washington, D.C. By Desiree Bliss

On April 7th-8th, a group of EPD concentrators will visit Washington, D.C., attending site visits at the World Bank, the European Commission, Development Alternatives, Inc., and others in order to gain exposure to key individuals and organizations that comprise the international development community in the DC area. A highlight of the trip will be a panel at the Brookings Institute, where a diverse set of senior development professionals and academics will share insights with students into their own career paths and provide an overview of organizations and their relevance within the larger development context. In addition, Corky Bryant will be hosting an alumni reception at the conclusion of the trip during which current and past students will be able to exchange perspectives on the field of development. The trip promises to offer EPD students invaluable networking opportunities as well as exposure to the diverse set of career paths available to graduate students interested in international development careers in the Washington, D.C. region. All EPD Alumni in the area are welcome to attend the reception. Please contact Desiree, at deb2106@columbia.edu for details.

This Semester

April 7th-8th: **EPD DC Trip and Alumni Reception.** Please see column to the immediate right for more information

April 13th: **Tom Lindberg, development consultant** will be speaking with EPD students on "Insights into Development Consulting" at SIPA. Time and location TBD. Please contact apf2101@columbia.edu for more information.

April 27th and 28th: **EPD Workshop Presentations, to be followed by the EPD social** at 5pm in Dag Lounge (April 18th). All EPD students and Alumni are welcome! Please see article on page 2 of the newsletter for more information and refer to the EPD website for updates at www.sipa.columbia.edu/func/epd/index.htm.

Alumni, we want to hear from you...

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Special Thanks!!!

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