

SIPA

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



In This Issue:

News at SIPA

Upcoming Events

Recent Events

Alumni News

Giving to SIPA

Alumni eNews – December 2007

Greetings Alumni!

The Holiday Season is upon us. As our **DC** and **NYC** alumni groups celebrate with happy hour events, we hope that you can join us in the festivities.

Please also note that the New Year will give us a chance to reconnect both at the **DC Alumni Career Conference on January 17th and 18th** and at the **30th anniversary of the MPA Degree program on February 16th**. Don't forget to register!

Please keep in touch and let us know what you have been up to by posting a class note and updating your information on our website at www.alumniconnections.com/sipa

Looking forward to reconnecting over the holiday season.

Daniela Coleman
Director of Alumni Relations
SIPA

News at SIPA

Gerhard Schroeder, Former Chancellor of Germany, to present the Gabriel Silver Memorial Lecture

On December 10, 2007, Gerhard Schroeder, Former Chancellor of Germany, will present the Gabriel Silver Memorial Lecture on "Russia and the Future of European Energy Security." This event will be held at Low Memorial Library Rotunda at 6 p.m. To register please visit:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/silver_lecture/register.html

SIPA Alumnus Bill de Blasio Running for Brooklyn Borough President

On October 9, 2007, Bill de Blasio (MIA '87) announced his candidacy for Brooklyn Borough President. His priorities as Borough President would include keeping Brooklyn affordable by building and preserving affordable housing and stopping out-of-control and out-of-character development. Bill de Blasio is the current Councilmember representing Brooklyn's 39th District and current Chair of the City Council's General Welfare Committee. His past accomplishments include serving as campaign manager for Hillary Clinton's successful 2000 U.S. Senate bid and as a former member of Brooklyn's Community School Board. For more information on his campaign please visit: www.billdeblasio.com.

SIPA Alumni Pioneer First Ever American Human Development Report

Images from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina exposed some of the realities of poverty in this country. SIPA Alumni Kristen Lewis (MIA '93) and Sarah Burd-Sharps (MIA '87) thought it might be valuable to explore well-being and poverty issues in a domestic context. As a result, the two former UNIFEM colleagues began the exciting yet laborious process of pioneering the first ever American Human Development Report

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(ADHR). For more information please visit:

http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/announcements/hdr_alum.html

Upcoming Events and Activities

12/6: SIPA Holiday Alumni Happy Hour in New York City

All SIPA alumni are invited to join us for the December New York City Alumni Happy Hour. The Happy Hour will be held at the **Cutting Room** (19 W 24th St) from 6:30-8:30pm. Please join us to start off the holiday season with SIPA friends! RSVP at the following link:

<http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/ALUM/register/>

12/19: SIPA Alumni Happy Hour in DC

Join your SIPA friends and colleagues for a complementary cocktail, jazzy tunes and holiday cheer in our nation's capital on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 from 6:30-9:30pm at **Tabaq** (Lower Level Lounge). It is located at 1336 U Street NW (one block from U Street/Cardozo metro on the Yellow and Green lines:

www.tabaqdc.com/location.htm). To register, please email: srimmington@gmail.com

1/17- 1/18/08: SIPA's Annual Washington, DC Career Conference

Alumni are invited to participate in the **Alumni Reception** and to host informational interviews with current students as part of the SIPA Washington, DC Career Conference. There is still time to sign up to host informational interviews with current students. This is a terrific opportunity for students to ask questions and learn more about the sector in which you work. The evening **networking reception** will be held at the **Four Seasons** on January 17th. Your willingness to participate and give career advice to current students is much appreciated! Please register for both the reception and/or informational interviews at:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/alumni/dc_register.html

2/16/08: SIPA to Celebrate MPA 30th Degree Program

A 30th Anniversary celebration of the creation of the MPA degree program will be held on Saturday, **February 16th, 2008**, at Columbia University. The day-long event for SIPA alumni will feature faculty and alumni panel discussions followed by a reception. More detailed information on the event will be sent to alumni in December. To register, please see: <http://sipa.columbia.edu/mpa30>

Highlights from Recent Events

11/12: EPD Alumna Addresses Current Students

EPD alumna Jenny Perlman Robinson (MIA '01) came to SIPA to speak with current SIPA students. Jenny Pearlman Robinson talked about her work with The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children and her career path after SIPA.

11/19:CU Club of London Hosts Book Launch for SIPA Alumna Prof. Isabelle Rohr (MIA 1996)

The Columbia University Club of London hosted a book launch at the University Women's Club in Mayfair for SIPA graduate Prof. Isabelle Rohr's first published book: *Spanish Right and the Jews, 1898-1945: Anti-Semitism and Opportunism..* According to Prof. Paul Preston, from the London School of Economics where Isabelle received her PhD in 2006, "...this fascinating and compelling work moves some considerable way beyond the existing literature on the Franco regime's treatment of Jewish refugees during the Second World War". Her book is available for sale on amazon.com.

11/21: Paris Alumni Gather for Thanksgiving Celebration

SIPA alumni gathered to enjoy a traditional American Thanksgiving meal in Paris! SIPA alumni were joined by alumni from Cornell and Brown at this sold out private dinner. The alumni also sponsored five current Columbia students studying in Paris for the meal. The next Paris "Happy Heure" is scheduled for January 18th. For more information on Paris Alumni Events, please contact: france@alumniclubs.columbia.edu

11/26: Alumni and Current Students Attend the IFP Gala at French Consulate in NYC

The International Finance and Policy concentration hosted its annual IFP Gala event on November 26th at the French Consulate in New York. The French deputy Consul Chantal Chauvin welcomed 150 guests, including alumni representing 16 different class years, current IFP students, SIPA faculty, and other guests. The Gala was sponsored by Christofferson Robb and Company and organized by the IFP program assistants.



French Deputy Counsel Chantal Chauvin with current SIPA IFP Program Assistants Ivan Topalov and Giuseppina Speranza

Alumni News

Alumni Resources: Alumni Have Lifelong Access to the Office of Career Services

The mission of the Office of Career Services (OCS) is to provide students and alumni with the necessary tools to successfully manage their professional development throughout their careers. This is accomplished through career counseling, a professional development course, career events, recruitment and employer outreach programs, and the Alumni Career Advisory Program (ACAP). Alumni are encouraged to partner with OCS and dedicate time to independent research and networking to build bridges with the professional world. To see the list of services available please visit:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/current_students/career_resources/fact_sheets.html

Are you registered with SIPA MonsterTrak?

SIPA's Office of Career Services (OCS) offers a number of resources for alumni. Alumni are encouraged to register via the OCS website to access SIPA customized MonsterTRAK software to have access to information about career development programs, full-time/part-time jobs, internship listings, and more!!! For details, please visit: http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/alumni/find_job.html

Some recent jobs are highlighted below. Register to find out more:

- Millennium Challenge Corporation: Associate Director. Washington, DC.
- New York City Council: Senior Policy Analyst. New York, NY.
- IM Systems Group: Environmental Economist. Silver Spring, MD.
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD): Communications Officer. Paris, France.
- Fitch Ratings: Associate Director, Public Finance. New York, NY.

SIPA Class Notes are now on-line!

Have you logged onto [Alumni Connection](#) yet to update your [class note](#)? What are you waiting for! All you will need is your UNI and Password. (If you forgot them, you can access them [here](#)). Below are some recent postings. Post your note today and stay connected with over 14,000 alumni in 153 countries!

Donna Van Cott (International & Public Affairs, 1992)

Donna Van Cott writes, "Donna van Cott was appointed associate professor with tenure at the University of Connecticut. Her most recent book *From Movements to Parties in Latin America: The Evolution of Ethnic Conflict*" (Cambridge University Press 2005) was a 2006 Choice Outstanding Academic Title and was named 2006 best book in Comparative Politics from the American Political Science Association's organized section on Race, Ethnicity and Politics." (Click here to access [more](#).)

Brooke Pomerantz (International & Public Affairs, 2001)

Brooke Pomerantz writes, "I was recently licensed in the state of California and work as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. In addition to my full-time job at UCSF-Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute, I started a private practice this year for individual, couples, family, and group therapy in the Financial District of San Francisco." (Click here to access [more](#).)

Giving to SIPA

Through contributions to SIPA's annual fund, donations for student fellowships, or participation in SIPA's annual benefit dinner, you can help to foster the link between academic excellence and the practice of public policy that makes SIPA unique. For information on how you can contribute to SIPA's mission, please visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/about_sipa/giving_to_sipa.html

New \$1 Million Fellowship Fund at SIPA

SIPA's Office of Development is very pleased to acknowledge the generous support of David Ottaway (SIPA International Fellow '63 and Columbia Political Science Ph.D. '68) and his family with their gift of \$1 million to support student fellowships. The Ottaway Fellowship Fund will provide full scholarships for two students at SIPA, with special consideration given to members of an underrepresented, socioeconomic group. The Fund will be awarded in the Fall of 2008 and will help SIPA make significant progress towards reaching its fellowship goals. Please join us in thanking the Ottaway Family for their sincere commitment to SIPA and our student's education.

Create a lasting contribution by making a donation to SIPA today!

Visit: <https://wwwb.ais.columbia.edu/udar/UDARGiftForm.jsp>

1. Select 'School of International and Public Affairs' from the drop-down menu.
2. Select 'Annual Fund' for the purpose of your gift.

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