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Alumni eNews – January 2008

Greetings Alumni!

Dear Alumni,

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and are now looking forward to the New Year.

Of the many alumni events that planned for the year that you might mark on your calendar, one of the most important is the 30th Anniversary of the MPA Program on **Saturday, February 16th 2008**. We expect that this will be an outstanding opportunity for you to catch up with fellow SIPA graduates, so you won't want to miss it. Registration closes soon (January 21st) so please don't forget to sign up at www.sipa.columbia.edu/mpa30. See below for more information.

Looking forward to seeing you there. In the meantime, best wishes for a great New Year.

Daniela Coleman
Director of Alumni Relations
SIPA

News at SIPA

Professor Pete Johnston to Retire; Anya Schiffrin Appointed Acting Director of IMC

After nearly 20 years of exemplary service as the Founding Director of SIPA's International Media and Communications concentration, Professor Pete Johnston has announced that he is retiring at the end of this academic year. To ensure a smooth transition, [Anya Schiffrin](#) will be appointed as the Acting Director of IMC for the 2008-2009 academic year. A reception in honor of Professor Johnston will be held in the spring semester.

The full text of the Dean's announcement is available [online](#)

SIPA's Center for International Conflict Resolution Partners with Colombian Singer Juanes
Juanes' Mi Sangre Foundation has partnered with the Center for International Conflict Resolution (CICR) to create a campaign for nonviolence in the singer's home country of Colombia. The goal of this campaign is to formulate innovative solutions that will bring peace to the people of Colombia, who desire an end to the violence from guerrillas and paramilitaries. CICR director, Aldo Civico, says the program could involve a partnership between other universities and non-governmental organizations. Both Civico and Juanes hope that new creative solutions will start a path to peace.

SIPA Alumnus Named Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity-New York City

Habitat for Humanity - New York City has announced the appointment of a SIPA alumnus, Josh Lockwood (MIA 97) as Executive Director. Habitat-NYC, a leading affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, builds affordable homes for ownership in New York City's five boroughs. Lockwood joined the organization in 2006 as Chief Operating Officer and was appointed Acting Executive Director in the spring of 2007. For more information visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/announcements/habitat_nyc.html

Upcoming Events and Activities

1/17- 1/18: Washington, DC Career Conference and Reception provides opportunities to reconnect with friends and to mentor graduating students.

The SIPA Washington, DC Career Conference is rapidly approaching! Alumni are invited to participate in the **Alumni Reception hosted by SIPA Acting Dean Coatsworth**. The evening **networking reception** will be held at the **Four Seasons** on **January 17th**. This is a wonderful opportunity for alumni to reconnect with **fellow alumni, current students and SIPA's Acting Dean**. Please register for the reception at: http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/alumni/dc_register.html. If you are not able to attend, please consider volunteering to serve as an alumni career advisor at www.alumniconnections.com/sipa

1/24: SIPA Paris Alumni Host Upcoming "Happy Heure"

On January 24th SIPA alumni in Paris will celebrate the start of the New Year. The SIPA Paris group has created a Facebook page to highlight their events. For more information on Paris alumni events please contact: france@alumniclubs.columbia.edu

1/31: SIPA's Policy Forum Hosts Arvind Panagariya speaking on "India: The Emerging Giant"

In recognition of Arvind Panagariya's forthcoming book, *India: The Emerging Giant*, SIPA's Policy Forum will be hosting a talk followed by a reception with the author on the same topic on January 31st at the Columbia Club of NYC from 6:30 – 8:30pm. Professor Panagariya is Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy and Professor of Economics at SIPA. Please see the SIPA Alumni [Webpage](#) for more details in the coming weeks.

2/16: SIPA to Celebrate MPA 30th Degree Program: Deadline to Register January 21st


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 begin with a breakfast registration followed by three main faculty and alumni panel discussions on the following topics: **The Future of NYC, Climate Change and the Environment, and Public/Private Partnerships**. The panel discussions will be followed by a **keynote address and cocktail reception**.

Featured MPA alumni panelists include Bart Oosterveld: *Moody's Investors Service*, Lloyd Kass: *New York City Housing Authority*, Neil Hernandez: *NYC Department of Juvenile Justice*, Venetia Lannon: *New York City Economic Development Corporation*, Mario López-Alcalá: *Innovest Strategic Value Advisors*, Melissa Dimas: *Environmental Protection Agency*, Hannah Campbell: *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* and Julia Farber: *Carbonfund.org Foundation*. Additional panelists will be confirmed closer to the event. The event costs \$50 for recent graduates (2002 and after) and \$75 for graduates before 2002 and additional guests. We hope that you can join us in commemorating this important SIPA milestone!

To register before the **January 21st deadline**, please see: <http://sipa.columbia.edu/mpa30>

Highlights from Recent Events

12/10: Gerhard Schröder, Former Chancellor of Germany, presented the Gabriel Silver Memorial Lecture

Gerhard Schröder gave SIPA's annual Silver Memorial lecture entitled, "Russia and the Future of European Energy Security," co-sponsored by The Center for Energy, Marine, Transportation and Public Policy (CEMTPP). To view his speech visit: (Flash Player) 

12/6 and 12/19: SIPA Alumni Holiday Happy Hours

SIPA alumni gathered to celebrate the holiday season together at happy hour events in both New York (12/6) and Washington, DC (12/19). The gatherings were filled with holiday cheer and allowed alumni to catch up with old friends and network. Both events were widely attended by SIPA alumni; over one hundred alumni gathered in New York and over fifty celebrated together for the DC event. Don't miss catching up with your fellow SIPA alumni at the next happy hour event. Stay posted for information about upcoming happy hours in January!

Alumni News

The latest issue of *SIPA News* is arriving soon!

The latest issue of *SIPA News* will be mailed shortly. The issue focuses on the major policy challenges facing the next U.S. president and includes articles on Iraq, health care, China and the environment, and U.S.-Russia relations. Not receiving *SIPA News*? Take this opportunity to update your address on [Alumni Connection](#).

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 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:

- FBX International: Executive Director. New York, NY
- US AID: Regional Team Leader. Washington, DC.
- M.J. Bradley & Associates: Energy Policy Analyst. Concord, MA.
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD): Economist. Paris, France.
- Finca International: Chief Financial Officer. Washington, DC.
- Control Risks: Consultant. Houston, TX.
- University of Hong Kong: International Relations Professor. Hong Kong.

SIPA Class Notes are 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!

Glenn Kessler (International & Public Affairs, 1983)

Glenn Kessler writes, "Glenn Kessler has been diplomatic correspondent for *The Washington Post* for the past five years. In September, St. Martin's Press published his book *The Confidante: Condoleezza Rice and the Creation of the Bush Legacy*, an account of Rice's diplomacy that former national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski lauded as "timely and important." Glenn is married to Cindy Rich (MIA 1984), a senior international policy analyst at Morrison & Foerster, and they live in McLean, Va., with their three children." (Click here to access [more](#).)

Shannon Lightner (International & Public Affairs, 2001)

Shannon Lightner writes, "I was recently appointed Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, where I oversee the Illinois Office of Women's Health. This year I also got married to Edward Gomez, a SIPA alum (MIA 2001), and together we have made Chicago our home (for now!)." (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

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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