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Alumni eNews – May 2008

Dear SIPA Alumni,

Spring is upon us—and the end of the academic year is just around the corner. As the semester comes to an end, the School has some great news to share. John H. Coatsworth has been appointed as Dean of the School. We also learned that Pulitzer winner alumnus Steve Fainaru (MIA 1994) will deliver SIPA's graduation address.

Meanwhile, CU Alumni Clubs around the world (Paris, Moscow, London) have been active hosting guest speakers and holding networking sessions.

Be sure to let us know of any SIPA social networking events in your area.

Best wishes,
Daniela Coleman
SIPA Director of Alumni Relations

News at SIPA

John H. Coatsworth Named Dean of SIPA

After an 18-month international search, John H. Coatsworth has been appointed as dean of the School of International and Public Affairs. Dean Coatsworth joined the Columbia faculty from Harvard in 2006. For more information, see Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger's announcement: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/announcements/sipadean.html

Lisa Anderson Named Provost of the American University in Cairo

The American University in Cairo (AUC) announced the appointment of Columbia University Professor Lisa Anderson, a specialist on politics in the Middle East and North Africa, as its next provost. For more information, please see: http://sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/announcements/lisa_anderson.html

SIPA Alumnus, Steve Fainaru, 2008 Pulitzer Prize Winner, to Speak at SIPA's Graduation Ceremony on Monday, May 19th, 2008

Steve Fainaru (MIA 1994), 2008 Pulitzer Prize winner and reporter for the *Washington Post*, will be the speaker at SIPA's graduation this year. Mr. Fainaru has won the Pulitzer International Reporting Prize for 2008 for his stories on private contractors in Iraq. For more information, please see: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/archive.html

Hisham Aidi Named Carnegie Scholar

Hisham Aidi, lecturer at SIPA, has been named a Carnegie Scholar for his work on Muslim youth in America and Western Europe. For more information on the program, please see: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/archive.html

Kemal Dervis—UNSP: Perspectives on the United Nations and Development

The United Nations Studies Program (UNSP) and the Economic and Political Development Concentration at SIPA presented a lecture entitled, "Perspectives on the United Nations and Development." To view video of the event, please visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/multimedia/index.html

Iran Conference—US-Iranian Relations since 1953 and Prospects for the Post Bush Era

The Middle East Institute (MEI) and SIPA presented the third event in the Spring 2008 series - Three decades of the Islamic Republic of Iran: "US-Iranian Relations since 1953 and Prospects for the Post Bush Era." To view video of the event, please visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/news_events/multimedia/index.html

Martin Varsavsky Lecture: "Starting New Companies in the U.S. vs. Europe: Pros and Cons of Each Operating Environment"

Martin Varsavsky, President and CEO of FON, gave a presentation as part of The Investorcorp Lecture series. To view video of the event, please visit: <http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/events/>

Upcoming Events and Programs

5/16: Muskie Club's Fashion Party in Moscow

The Muskie Club is hosting a trendy fashion party on **Friday, May 16 at 8 pm** at the luxury design boutique hotel **Golden Apple (M. Dmitrovak 11)**. Please RSVP to the Muskie Club coordinator Hadija Gipaeva at muskie.coordinator@gmail.com.

5/19: SIPA Graduation 2008 Ceremony

The SIPA graduation ceremony will be held on **Monday, May 19th at The Riverside Church beginning at 2:00 pm. Guest seating begins at 1:00 pm.** For more information, please visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/sipa_graduation.html

5/21: Columbia University Commencement 2008

The University wide commencement ceremony 2008 will be held on **Wednesday, May 21 at 10:30 am, on Morningside Campus.** For more info, please visit: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ceremonies/commencement/>

5/21: Columbia University Club of London Event: "Race and Politics in the US Presidential Election"

CUCL will host this topic discussion with Professor Robert Lieberman on **Wednesday, May 21, at the University's Women's Club, London. Registration begins at 6:30 pm.** For more information, see <http://alumniclubs.columbia.edu/london/eventdetail.php?id=8500000000000343>

6/19: Happy Hour in NYC. Details forthcoming.

Alumni Career Programs and Events

5/8: CORO New York's Leadership New York Information Session, 6-8pm

Coro will host a Leadership New York information session at **ING Group** in the **New York Central Building**. Current program participants and alumni will be on-hand to answer questions and share their unique perspectives on the program. To RSVP, visit:

<https://www.kintera.org/site/apps/ka/rg/register.asp?c=nvI2IeNZJyE&b=3962915&en=fmJRL6OZKmLRI7NXLjLRK7NTLiL6LjMZJkKSIcMYIpK2LgM0IkI4IIM5JrL2IINeE>

5/22: "Promote Yourself in Just 15 Seconds with the 15-Second Pitch", 8-9 PM (ET)

Tele-seminar (access by phone)

Hosted by the **Columbia Center for Career Education**, join Laura Allen, co-founder of 15SecondPitch.com, for a lively, 60-minute tele-seminar where you can learn how to create a great 15-Second Pitch, that you can start using immediately. To register, please visit:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=19813>

www.sipa.columbia.edu

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

Please be aware that you have life-long access to SIPA's Office of Career Services (OCS). OCS continues to provide you with resources, including job postings, career counseling appointments, the NYC Career Series, the Washington, DC Career Conference, fact sheets available on our website, and the online alumni directory where you can get in touch with fellow classmates and network.

To see the list of services available, please visit:

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

Please take advantage of all these great opportunities!

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:

- Environmental Protection Agency: Environmental/Energy Economists. Washington, DC
- Financial Services Volunteer Corps: The County Director. Mumbai, India
- Migration Policy Institute: Associate Policy Analyst. Washington, DC
- New York City Department of Education: Senior Analyst. New York, NY
- Global Fund for Women: Program Associate. San Francisco, CA

Highlights from Recent Alumni Events

4/7: Cocktail Reception for SIPA Alumni in San Francisco

San Francisco Alumni joined Dean of SIPA John H. Coatsworth for an entertaining cocktail reception in San Francisco at *The Carnelian Room*.

4/14: 8th Annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner

The 8th Annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner was held at the Pierre Hotel (Fifth Avenue and 61st Street). This year's honorees were distinguished industrialist and diplomat, **Arnold A. Saltzman**, and **Lan Yang** (MIA '96), a leading force in China's media business.

4/15: New York City SIPA Alumni Invited to Open House Reception to Meet Prospective SIPA Students

The SIPA Office of Admissions held an Open House reception for admitted fall 2008 students. Many thanks to the SIPA Alumni panelists Chris Allieri, Sham Mustafa, and Suchitra Saxena, for sharing their experiences as students on the alumni panel.

4/17: SIPA Alumni in France Attended Book Talk with Professor Arvind Panagariya

Professor Panagariya was the guest speaker of the Columbia University Club in France at Reid Hall in Paris. He presented his book *The Indian Growth Miracle: What are the Lessons?* Professor Panagariya is the Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy at SIPA.

4/24: Alumni Invited to New York City Career Reception with Current Students

As part of the annual NYC Career Series hosted by OCS, SIPA Alumni were invited to a networking cocktail reception for current students at *Studio 450* in New York City.

4/24: Politics of Energy Conference in London

SIPA Alumni of London listened to an evening panel discussion with the alumni clubs of Columbia, Georgetown, Johns Hopkins (SAIS), Tufts (Fletcher) on the fourth international affairs event on eastward shifting of energy assets. Special thanks to alumnus Rick Faery and alumna Lia Abady for helping to organize this event.

4/24: Breakfast in Berlin with SIPA Associate Dean Garris

SIPA Alumni of Berlin joined Associate Dean Garris for a breakfast discussion on new developments at SIPA, including the search for a new dean and the goal of constructing a new building for SIPA by 2015.

4/24: Moscow Columbia Alumni Club Hosts Monthly Happy Hour

SIPA Alumni attended the Moscow monthly Happy Hour at the night club *Petrovich*.

5/5: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Paris

On **Monday, May 5th**, the **Columbia University of Club of France** celebrated Cinco de Mayo with amigos from Columbia, Stanford and Harvard over Mexican food and margaritas!

5/6: Women's Humanitarian Network (WHN) 2nd Annual Panel Discussion and Reception, "Playing the Game v. Changing the Game: Women's Leadership," For more info, including panelists, see:

<http://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?brand=sipa&id=22166&vt=detail&context=standalone>

Alumni Notes

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!

Joseph Blady (International & Public Affairs, 2003)

Joseph Blady (International & Public Affairs, 2003) recently accepted a position at SRA, Int'l located in Pentagon, Washington, DC as Senior Intelligence Analyst. Joseph recently was employed at Department of Defense as Program Officer, Nonproliferation. "I am pleased to have come out of retirement to return to work at the Department of Defense. Because it is so difficult to get back into government service once one has left, I chose the contractor route. I would be more than happy to discuss my experiences with prospective ISP careerists."

Patricia M. Cloherty (International & Public Affairs, 1968)

Patricia M. Cloherty (International & Public Affairs, 1968) is the Chairman and CEO of Delta Private Equity Partners. Ms. Cloherty has been awarded the Order of Friendship by a decree from Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, in recognition of her major contribution to the development of Russian business and strengthening cooperation between the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

Jeffrey Vasser (International & Public Affairs, 1994)

Jeffrey Vasser (International & Public Affairs, 1994) was honored by The Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce as its Businessman of the Year. Mr. Vasser received the honor at a ceremony hosted by the chamber at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort in Atlantic City on Wednesday, April 30, 2008. He is Executive Director of the Atlantic City Convention and Visitors Authority. Mr. Vasser has a bachelor's degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration. He lives in Linwood with his wife, Angie, and sons Carson and Zachary.

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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