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Dear SIPA Alumni,

The holiday season is just around the corner. Before you head off to meet friends and family in the coming weeks, we wanted to highlight some interesting news and events at SIPA.

In an expansion of its network of global partners, SIPA and the University Senate have approved a new Dual Degree Program with the Fundação Getulio Vargas Escola de Administração de Empresas de São Paulo ([FGV](#)). SIPA and FGV plan to enroll the first class in the fall of 2010.

If you are looking for ways to kick off the holiday season, be sure to check in with your local CU Club holiday festivity plans. SIPA Alumni Relations will be hosting holiday networking drinks in Washington, D.C. on December 9th.

In addition, as we approach the New Year, be sure to mark your calendars for our Second Annual SIPA Alumni Weekend, to begin with the 10th Annual Global Leadership Awards dinner at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel on Thursday, April 29th and ending with panels and brunch on campus on Saturday, May 1st 2010. (*Details are forthcoming*).

Lastly, SIPA Alumni Relations would like to take a moment to thank Senior Associate Dean Robert Garris for his service and dedication to SIPA these past eight years. Rob has accepted a new position on the senior management team of the Rockefeller Foundation as the Managing Director of the Bellagio Program. Although he will be missed, we wish him the best of luck.

Warm wishes for a pleasant holiday season,

SIPA Alumni Relations

News at SIPA

Columbia Approves New SIPA Dual Degree in Brazil

SIPA is taking giant steps toward expanding its network of global partners by establishing a new dual degree in Brazil and developing additional exchange opportunities around the globe. Columbia's University Senate has approved SIPA's establishment of a dual degree in São Paulo, Brazil with the Fundação Getulio Vargas Escola de Administração de Empresas de São Paulo ([FGV](#)). SIPA and FGV plan to enroll the first class in the fall of 2010. [More](#)

Senior Associate Dean Rob Garris to Join the Rockefeller Foundation

SIPA Senior Associate Dean Robert Garris has accepted a new position on the senior management team of the Rockefeller Foundation as the Managing Director of the Bellagio Program. The Rockefeller Bellagio Center hosts an active schedule of conferences and residencies for scholars, artists, and policy practitioners. Based at the Foundation's offices in New York, Rob will help align programming at the Bellagio Center with the Rockefeller Foundation's central initiatives, among them environment & climate change; urbanization; basic survival needs (health, water, nutrition, and economic growth); social and economic security for the American worker; and nurturing philanthropic work. Rob has served for eight years at SIPA in a number of different capacities. He will be missed by friends and colleagues.

Sachs Honored with Pro Bono Humanum Award

SIPA Professor [Jeffrey Sachs](#) was honored with the Prix Galien USA Pro Bono Humanum Award. Sachs was recognized for the Millennium Villages, a project which has helped rural African communities and close to half a million people lift themselves out of extreme poverty by providing basic interventions that address needs in business development, food, health, infrastructure and education. [More](#).

Sestanovich Joins Board of Directors of the National Endowment for Democracy

[Stephen Sestanovich](#) has joined the Board of Directors of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). Professor Sestanovich was elected to a three-year term in June 2009, and joins Congressman Martin Frost, Ambassador Princeton Lyman and President of the Progressive Policy Institute Will Marshall as new members of the NED board. [More](#).

Highlights of Upcoming Events and Programs

12/05/09 DC: Holiday House Tour at Hillwood Estate

CUCDC is having a winter house tour on **Saturday December 5th** at the mansion as they prepare for the Russian Winter Festival the following weekend. Hillwood is the former home of Marjorie Merriweather Post, heir to the Post cereal fortune. The museum on this spectacular twenty-five acre estate, located near Rock Creek Park is considered one of the most comprehensive collections of Russian imperial art outside of Russia and is a world-renowned collection of eighteenth-century French decorative art and furnishings. [More](#).

12/07/09 NYC: Debating Obama's AfPak Policy

The 2009-2010 editorial board of the Journal of International Affairs cordially invites you to join them for a panel discussion and catered reception to celebrate the launch of its fall issue, *Pakistan & Afghanistan: Domestic Pressures and Regional Threats*. The panel will feature regional experts discussing various aspects of the Obama Administration's AfPak strategy. There will be a question and answer session following the panel discussion. The event will be held on **Monday night at 6pm at the Kellogg Center** in the International Affairs Building.

12/09/09DC: Festive Season Networking Drinks

If you are a SIPA alum in the D.C. area, kick off the holiday season by joining us for our December Happy Hour on Wednesday, **December 9, 2009, from 6:00 – 8:00pm**, at [Local 16](#) on U Street. Please use key word "DC Networking Drinks when [registering here](#).

12/09/09 London: Seasonal Concert

On **Wednesday, December 9th at 7:30pm** there will be a holiday concert at Temple Church (University of Chicago Alumni Club Event). The concert is in collaboration with composer and conductor Alexander Campkin, a graduate of Oxford University and the Royal Academy of Music. He will conduct The Oxbridge Singers who will perform a repertoire of well known pieces and carols, as well as Campkin's own compositions. A reception will follow. [More](#).

12/18/09 Paris: Holiday Happy Heure

On **Friday December 18th at 8pm** come join your fellow Columbians for a little holiday cheer before the holidays! We have arranged for exclusive use of the downstairs lounge at the Lizard Lounge along with a light buffet and two drink tickets per person. Tickets are 10 Euros for members of the Columbia and Cornell clubs and 18 Euros for others. Register [here](#).

1/14/10 DC: Annual D.C. Career Conference - Alumni Networking Reception

This year the annual Washington, D.C. Career Conference will be held from January 13-15. We invite you to share your professional experiences with students at an **Alumni Networking Reception on January 14, 2010**, from **6:00- 8:00pm**, at the [Four Seasons Hotel](#) at 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, and during informational interviews on **Friday, January 15**. To RSVP for the Alumni Networking Reception (January 14, 2010) and/or to volunteer to host information interviews with students on January 15, 2010, please [click here](#). For questions, contact Steven Home, D.C. Conference Coordinator, or Bobbie Cappiello, Assistant Director, Career Events and Alumni Relations at: 212-854-4613 or sipa.dc.conference@columbia.edu.

Alumni Career Programs & Events

SIPAlink

SIPA's Office of Career Services (OCS) encourages you to use **SIPAlink**, an online recruitment database. Follow the links below for online job and internship postings, employer information sessions, and much more. Some recent jobs are highlighted below. Register to find out more: <https://www.myinterfase.com/cusipa/student/>.

- Resident Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (Cambodia)
- English Language Officer, U.S. Department of State (New York)
- Policy Analyst, Institute for European Environmental Policy (London)
- Regional Program Director for Professional Exchanges, International Link Recruitment Services (Moscow)

Please see **SIPAlink** for more detailed descriptions and application instructions.

Franklin Fellows Program

The Franklin Fellows Program is a unique and innovative executive development vehicle through which the government taps citizens' knowledge and enables approved organizations to promote public service by their professionals. Sponsored and self-nominated, Franklin Fellows work within the government on global issues of vital importance to the United States. For more information on the program and how you can apply, click [here](#).

Executive MPA Testimonials from Current Students and Alumni

Check out this new site that gives the career experiences of current EMPA students and recent EMPA alumni. [More](#).

12/3/09 NYC: Stand Out in the Crowd: Job Search Techniques for Alumni

Have you just launched a job search or have you been searching for a new opportunity for some time? In this workshop, on **Thursday, December 3rd from 6:00-8:00pm**, participants will learn how to fine tune their job

searching techniques in this economy. Discussions will include resume and cover letter basics, effective networking including the use of social media, and the Columbia University resources available to alumni. The event will be held at the Center for Career Education at Columbia University. [More](#).

Recent Alumni Events

10/17/09 NYC: CU Homecoming Game: Columbia Lions vs. University of Pennsylvania at 1:30pm

Fellow EMPA Alumni and SIPA Alumni cheered on the Columbia Lions at the Columbia University Homecoming Game against the University of Pennsylvania on Saturday, October 17, 2009.

10/20/09 Paris: Dean John Coatsworth Met with CU and SIPA Alumni in Paris

SIPA Dean Coatsworth enjoyed an evening of discussion on Columbia's Global Centers and other SIPA news at the [St. James Club in Paris](#). Over 50 CU/SIPA Alumni were in attendance.

10/28/09 NYC: Economic Meltdown and Geopolitical Stability: A Discussion of Asian Markets in 2010

Over 70 alumni attended a discussion on National Bureau of Asian Research's (NBR) new book, *Strategic Asia 2009-10: Economic Meltdown and Geopolitical Stability* at the [Columbia University Club in NYC](#). Panelists included [Ashley Tellis](#), [Roger Kubarych](#), and [Steven Halliwell](#). Guests enjoyed a lecture as well as a cocktail and buffet reception.

11/14/09 Geneva: CU Club of Geneva Hosts School Ball

London School of Business and Columbia University hosted an evening of gourmet dining and dancing to the music of the 70s-80s at [Swissôtel Métropole](#). Alumni from other top universities including Stanford, Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge were also in attendance.

11/18/2009 DC: SIPA Policy Forum on Counterinsurgency in Iraq

Alumni joined SIPA Professor [Austin Long](#) at the [City Tavern Club](#) for a candid discussion on Iraq's current state of affairs, with a talk entitled "Complacency Kills: Observations on Counterinsurgency and the Future of Iraq." A video tape of the lecture can be accessed [here](#).

11/23/09 NYC: Lieutenant General Pete Osman, USMC(RET): Reflections on US Military involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan, and a welcome to the Columbia SIPA Veterans Association

The SIPA community joined General Osman as he shared his thoughts on current events in Iraq and Afghanistan, veterans in the classroom, the New GI Bill, and the future of the US Reserves. [More](#).

12/02/09 NYC: Happy Hour Networking Event

Over 100 SIPA alumni attended a Happy Hour at [Colors Restaurant](#) in New York City.

Alumni Notes

Have you logged onto [Alumni Connection](#) yet to update your [class note](#)? What are you waiting for! All you 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 more than 16,000 alumni in 155 countries.

<p>Ashley Cotton (MPA, 2009) was named to City Hall magazine's "Rising Stars: 40 Under 40" list. Cotton is Vice-President for Government and Community Relations with the New York City Economic Development Corporation. She says she took the job on the advice of a Columbia professor "who told her it was the perfect place to work in the midst of an economic crisis."</p>
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Ibrahim Musaev, (MPA, 2008), together with Dr. Yuriy Polyakov, founded **Global Eco-Innovation Forum**, user-generated platform that brings together leading specialists in multiple fields of science, policy, and business; disseminates innovative eco-friendly ideas across disciplines; and provides an efficient interdisciplinary collaboration framework within which innovative and comprehensive solutions to world's critical problems can be developed.

Giving to SIPA

Through contributions to SIPA's Annual Fund, donations for student fellowships, or participation in SIPA's annual global leadership awards 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.

SIPA Fellowship Luncheon

On Friday, October 30th, 100 students and donors met at the annual SIPA Fellowship luncheon held at the Columbia Club of New York. Two student speakers, Kode Nascimento MIA'10 and Gautam Bastian MPA'10, talked about their experiences before and during their time at SIPA, as well as what they hope to accomplish in the future. The luncheon serves as an opportunity for students and donors of named fellowships to learn more about each other.

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

Visit: <https://giving.columbia.edu/giveonline/>

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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