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Dear SIPA Alumni,

SIPA Alumni Day on April 25 brought together over 100 alumni spanning 41 class years, who travelled as far as from Venezuela, Belgium, Canada and the UK to attend. The policy panels on Obama's domestic and foreign policy agenda in addition to roundtables on career transitions and market trends provided the alumni ample opportunities to debate, to reconnect and to network. (To see some pictures taken on Alumni Day, click [here](#).) Given the success of this year's activities, we look forward to making this an annual occurrence.

We would like to also congratulate the SIPA graduating class of 2009 who, on May 18th, will become the latest addition to the SIPA alumni community. General Brent Scowcroft will provide the graduation address to the "imminent alumni" in what will no doubt be a joyous occasion.

Best wishes,

Daniela Coleman
Director of Alumni Relations
SIPA

News at SIPA

Brent Scowcroft to Deliver 2009 Graduation Address

Former National Security Advisor and SIPA Advisory Board member General Brent Scowcroft will deliver SIPA's 2009 graduation address on May 18. General Scowcroft served as National Security Advisor to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he earned his MA and Ph.D. in International Relations from Columbia University. [MORE](#)

SIPA Alumnus John Solecki (MIA'87) Released After Two Months of Captivity near the Pakistan/Afghanistan

John Solecki (MIA '87) was released on Saturday, April 4, after being held captive near the Pakistan/Afghanistan border for more than two months. Solecki is head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Pakistan's Balochistan province. [MORE](#)

Christophe Jaffrelot to Join SIPA as Visiting Professor

Christophe Jaffrelot, director of CERI at SIPA's partner SciencesPo in Paris, France's foremost center for research on the international political system, will join SIPA in the fall of 2009 as the Alliance Visiting Professor in International and Public Affairs. Professor Jaffrelot holds degrees from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, the University of Paris I-Sorbonne and the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales. [MORE](#)

Workshop Team Wins Award for Brazilian Mining Project

A student team from SIPA's Workshop in Development Practice received this year's Leous Parry Award for Progressive Sustainability for its work on promoting social dialogue on the impacts of mining company operations in Pará, Brazil. [MORE](#)

IMC Newsletter Goes Virtual via The Morningside Post

The IMC newsletter can now be viewed virtually at <http://themorningsidepost.com/inside-sipa/imc-news/>. Find out what alumni and current students of the IMC concentration are up to.

Highlights of Upcoming Events and Programs

5/7/09 Boston: SIPA Alumni Networking Drinks

Come join fellow SIPA alumni for networking and drinks in Boston at the [Cambridge Common Restaurant](#) on **Thursday, May 7, 2009**, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at 1667 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138. Please **RSVP** with keyword "Boston Networking and Drinks" in the Event Title line at: <http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/ALUM/register/>

5/14/09 Tokyo: "The Financial and Economic Futures of Japan and the US"

The Center on Japanese Economy and Business (CJEB) and the Columbia Business School will hold a conference open to SIPA alumni on, "The Financial and Economic Futures of Japan and the US" on Thursday, May 14, from 1:30 p.m. until 6:10 p.m., followed by a reception, at the Hotel Okura Tokyo in Tokyo. For more details, click [here](#)

5/19/09 NYC: Tenth Annual El Regreso Latino Alumni Homecoming Reception

The **Columbia Alumni Association (CCA)** and the **Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University (LAACU)** invite alumni to their annual dinner and celebration of the diversity and achievements of Latino alumni. The cost is \$30 for Alumni. For details, click [here](#).

5/19/09 NYC: All Ivy Speed Dating at the Columbia University Club of New York

Location: Columbia University Club of New York, 15 West 43rd Street

Description: If you are between the ages of 21-35 and single, then come to the Columbia Club's *All Ivy Speed Dating* event and meet other eligible singles.

Cost: \$35 members - \$45 guests. For details, click [here](#).

5/21/09 NYC: SIPA Alumni Networking Drinks

Come join fellow alumni and the recent 2009 SIPA graduating class for networking drinks at [The Boat Basin](#) on Thursday, May 21, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:30pm at West 79th Street. Register with key word 'NYC Networking Drinks' at: <http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/ALUM/register/>

5/27/09 NYC: Finding, Creating, and Negotiating a New Job in Tough Times with SIPA

Professor of Negotiation and Conflict Management [Seth Freeman](#)

When: Wednesday, May 27, 6:30 – 8:30pm, Presentation: 6:30 – 7:30pm with Q & A and Reception to follow: 7:30 – 8:30pm at the [The Columbia University Club of NYC](#), 15 West 43rd Street, NYC.

RSVP: Please note that this event costs \$15. Due to space capacity, registration is required. To register and pay for this event, please [click](#).

6/4/09 NYC: SIPA Policy Forum on *The Impact of the Stimulus Plan on NYC and NYS*

SIPA alumni are invited to hear perspectives from City Councilman Bill DeBlasio (MIA '87) and NYS Senator Jeff Klein (MPA '85) on the effects of the stimulus package on NYC and NYS. The Policy Forum, from 6:00 to 8:00pm will be panel discussion moderated by SIPA Dean John H. Coatsworth at the Columbia Club of NYC, followed by a cocktail reception. *Details are forthcoming.*

6/6-7/09 Venice, Italy: Come Meet Fellow Alumni at the 53rd Venice Biennale 2009

Connect with Columbia alumni and friends for one of the world's most anticipated and prestigious art exhibitions. A two-day program of exclusive tours, artists' talks, and architectural insight will celebrate Columbia connections among the canals of Venice. For details, click [here](#).

6/10/09 NYC: Old Economy, New Economy, No Economy; Perspectives on the Economic Crisis

The event, sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association, will be held at The Morgan Library and Museum, beginning with a reception at 6pm, followed by a panel discussion at 7pm. [MORE](#)

6/12/09 London: Royal Opera House presents Balanchine's Jewels at 7:30pm

Join a small group of Columbians for Balanchine's "Jewels," a stunning trio of works representing the "personalities" of three jewels: Diamonds, Emeralds and Rubies. Each of the three acts features the music of a different composer: "Emeralds" is set to the music of Gabriel Fauré, "Rubies" to the music of Igor Stravinsky and "Diamonds" to music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. For details, click [here](#).

6/15/09 South Florida; Does Obama Have a Latin America Policy?

The Columbia University Club of South Florida welcomes SIPA Dean [John H. Coatsworth](#), as he discusses the importance of Latin America to the Obama administration's "new" foreign policy. The event will take place at 6:30pm at [Grimpa](#). For details, click [here](#).

10/6-7 NYC: Workshop on Negotiation, Conflict Resolution, and Effective Business Communication.

The Center for International Conflict Resolution (CICR), in partnership with Consensus, is now offering executive workshops in negotiation, conflict resolution, and effective business communication. The interactive two-day courses, which satisfy CPE and CLE requirements, address the specific challenges posed by an international and cross-cultural marketplace. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

Alumni Career Programs & Events

Request from Dean John H. Coatsworth Regarding References for Career Services

The current global economic situation makes this a particularly challenging employment recruiting period for SIPA students and alumni. Although the Office of Career Services has already organized a number of successful career-related events for students and alumni, including employer information sessions, career conferences, as well as additional workshops to address the job search process in this difficult economy, we still need your help.

We would appreciate if you could speak with your hiring managers and human resources office about possible internship and full-time opportunities within your organization that would be suitable for SIPA students. For more information, click [here](#) or contact OCS at sipa_ocs@columbia.edu.

5/27/09 NYC: Tele-seminar on Navigating a Radical Career Change, 1-2 pm(ET)

Sharon Good, CC, Life, Career and Creativity Coach, www.goodlifecoaching.com

You'll learn new strategies for navigating a radical career change and come away with clear ideas on how to make the change and the inspiration to move ahead with it. Click [here](#) for more information.

SIPAlink

SIPA's Office of Career Services (OCS) is proud to introduce **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/>.

Chief Operating Officer (COO), **FINCA International**, Democratic Republic of Congo
Country Director, Vietnam, **HealthRight International**, Hanoi, Vietnam
Program Associate, **NYC Business Solution Centers**, New York, NY

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

Recent Alumni Events

4/17/09 NYC: EMPA Alumni Homecoming Reception

The EMPA Forum hosted its annual EMPA homecoming and reception at the **Columbia University Club** with Dean John H. Coatsworth as special keynote guest. Over 50 EMPA alumni attended.

4/23/09 London, UK: First 100 Days of the Obama Presidency

The alumni clubs of Columbia, Georgetown, Johns Hopkins, Sciences Po and Tufts held the fifth international affairs event, themed around the first 100 days of the presidency of Barack Obama. Over 250 people attended the event, with François Bujon de l'Estang, Chairman of Citi France and Former French Ambassador to the US, as one of the noted guest speakers.

4/23/09 NYC: Ninth Annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner

The Awards Dinner was held at the **Mandarin Oriental** with over 300 guests in attendance. Honorees this year included **Christiane Amanpour**, CNN's Chief International Correspondent; **Arminio Fraga**, Founder of Gávea Investments and former President of the Central Bank of Brazil; and the **New America Foundation**, a nonpartisan public policy institute that invests in individuals who bring promising new ideas and direction to our national debate.

4/25/09 NYC: The First Annual SIPA Alumni Day on the Columbia University Campus

The first ever SIPA Alumni Day took place on campus this year, bringing together over 100 alumni, spanning 41 class years and 3 continents. Ambassador Stephen Sestanovich addressed alumni at the lunch. Building on this year's momentum, SIPA will look to make this a yearly tradition.

5/6/09 NYC: ISP Networking Dinner on the Korean Peninsula: Challenges and Solutions

Alumni gathered over dinner at Trattoria Dopo Teatro to hear perspectives on North Korea from Alexander Illitchev (Senior Officer, Asia and Pacific Division, UN Political Affairs) and Dr. Stephen Noerper, EWI's Senior Fellow (2008-2009 academic year.)

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 15,000 alumni in 155 countries.

David Starr, (MIA 2002), is currently the Director of Countermeasures Response in the Bureau of Emergency Management at the NYC Department of Health. His unit oversees logistics and policy planning for citywide responses to major public health emergencies including CBRNE terrorist attacks, severe coastal storms, and natural pandemics.

Thomas L. Fraser, (International Fellow 1990), is on the Working Group of the Asia Society's Initiative on U.S.-China Cooperation on Energy and Climate. The Initiative prepared a series of policy recommendations for the Obama Administration regarding U.S.-China cooperation on climate change and energy security. The Initiative's report is available at:
http://www.asiasociety.org/taskforces/climateroadmap/US_China_Roadmap_on_Climate

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 promised \$30M Kluge testamentary gift for endowed fellowship support

As part of Columbia University's commitment to SIPA, President Lee Bollinger recently announced a \$30 million bequest gift from the estate of John Kluge will be used for fellowship support at SIPA. This exciting news was announced at SIPA's Ninth Annual Global Leadership Awards dinner on April 23, 2009. Once the generous gift is realized, it will substantially increase SIPA's endowment.

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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