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## **Alumni eNews –May 2011**

April was an exciting month for SIPA - The Global Leadership Awards Dinner on April 14 saw tremendous support from alumni and friends, as Paul Volcker, former chairman of the Federal Reserve, Mitch Silber, director of intelligence for the NYPD, and Witness, a Global Human Rights Organization, were honored. Two days later, on April 16, SIPA hosted its third annual Alumni Day, where guests and panelists discussed pressing issues such as US-China trade, Afghanistan, President Obama's re-election bid, and the Middle East. Susie Gharib, a SIPA alumna and host of PBS' "Nightly Business Report," capped off the event with a riveting talk about the U.S. economy.

For a full recap of the Global Leadership Awards Dinner and SIPA Alumni Day, visit our [website](#).

If you missed the activities this year, we hope that you will join us next year.

**SIPA Office of Alumni Affairs**

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## **News at SIPA**

### **Professor Manning Marable: 1950 – 2011**

Dean John H. Coatsworth said Professor Marable "devoted his life to the struggle for racial equality and social justice in the United States. He was a towering intellect and a man of immense personal courage." [More](#)

### **Popular Professor Recognized for Faculty Achievement**

Mahmood Mamdani, the Herbert Lehman Professor of Government at SIPA, was honored with a *Distinguished Columbia Faculty Award*. The awards, established by Columbia University Trustee Gerry Lenfest, recognize faculty across a range of activities – including scholarship, University citizenship, and professional involvement – with an emphasis on instruction and mentoring. [More](#)

### **The Human Impact of Budget Cuts**

William Eimicke, founding director of the Picker Center for Executive Education and former government executive, warns of the hazard of public sector layoffs in *The Record*. He says that, "the problem with [cutting] public services is the consequences are life and death." [More](#).

## **Benefits for Columbia Alumni Arts League Members**

Created by Columbia alumni for Columbia alumni, Columbia Alumni Arts League (CAAL) is a membership program open to CU alumni of all school and program affiliations. CAAL members enjoy special benefits and discounts at more than 100 leading arts organizations and restaurants, connect with fellow alumni and artists at exclusive cultural events, and receive a weekly curated digest of the best free and discounted offers to arts events in NYC. Nearly 6,000 alumni from schools across the University currently enjoy CAAL benefits. To learn more please visit [www.alumniarts.columbia.edu](http://www.alumniarts.columbia.edu).

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## **Highlights of Upcoming Events and Programs**

### **5/19/11 NYC: SIPA Networking Drinks at the Boat Basin – 6:30 to 8:30 pm**

Come for Networking Drinks at [The Boat Basin](#), West 79th Street at Henry Hudson Pkwy. The Class of 2011 will be joining us at their first official alumni event. Register with key word ‘NYC Networking Drinks’ [here](#).

### **5/19/11 – 5/22/11 Barcelona, Spain: Columbia in Barcelona: Architecture, Art, History, Tapas**

Join Columbia alumni and faculty for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For full details and updates about this Columbia signature event, contact Ilene Markay-Hallack, Executive Director for University Events and Programs, at [im2@columbia.edu](mailto:im2@columbia.edu) or 1-212-851-7841. Registration fee of \$900 USD includes guided tours and transportation for the four days, entrance to all attractions, receptions, and meals.

### **5/22/11 Hong Kong: Third Annual Weatherhead East Asia Symposium**

For a full list of the program, including registration, click [here](#).

### **5/25/11 Houston, Texas: “A Modern Mystery: Will China Incorporate Tibet?”**

Join the Columbia University Club of South Texas and Robert Barnett, assistant professor of contemporary Tibetan studies and director of the Modern Tibetan Studies Program at Columbia University, to explore “A Modern Mystery: China’s Long Struggle to Incorporate Tibet.” A networking reception will begin at 6:00 pm, followed by the program at Westin Oaks Houston, 5011 Westheimer at Post Oak in Houston, Texas. For details, click [here](#).

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## **Alumni Career Programs & Events**

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### ***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/>.

- Deputy Country Director, Swaziland, Clinton Foundation – Mbabane, Swaziland (SIPAlink Job ID: 34835)

- Senior Project Manager, Industry Transformation Team, New York City Economic Development Corporation – New York (SIPALink Job ID: 34766)
- Coordinator, Development Operations, Human Rights Watch – Berlin, Germany (SIPALink Job ID: 34736)

Please see [SIPALink](#) for more detailed descriptions, application instructions, and industry updates. Also, visit the site if you are interested in attending employer information sessions and other career events open to alumni.

**SIPA alumni are invited to participate in the following events and programs of the Center for Career Education.**

- **Job Search Strategies for Alumni: Finding Employment in a Slightly Improved Market**

Series of Workshops: Wednesday, May 11 and Wednesday, May 25. The fee for each session is \$10 and they will take place at The Center for Career Education at Columbia University; East Campus, Lower Level Conference Room, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

**Wednesday, May 11 - 6:00 to 7:30 pm**

Finding the Jobs: This session will cover the “Hidden Job Market,” which includes tapping into and expanding your network of people. In addition, we will also talk about general and specialized websites as well as other sources of employment opportunities. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Wednesday, May 25 - 6:00 to 7:30 pm**

Acing the Interview and Landing the Job: Learn how to interview with confidence by discerning what employers are looking for. Reduce the stress and increase your chances for success by anticipating the questions and learning how to answer them. The workshop will also cover ways of following up after the interview and how to prepare your references. Finally, we will discuss how to handle salary negotiations once the offer is made. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

## **Recent Alumni Events**

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**3/31/11 NYC: SIPA Networking Drinks at Colors Restaurant**

More than 100 SIPA alumni gathered with newly admitted SIPA students at Colors Restaurant in New York City.

**4/14/11 NYC: The Global Leadership Awards Dinner on April 14**

More than 300 alumni, guests, and students participated in this great event. For more information, click [here](#).

**4/15/11 NYC: International Fellows Reception at the Italian Academy**

More than 75 International Fellows came back to campus to hear a lecture by Dr. David Ottaway, (IF

'63, MA '68, PhD '72), senior fellow, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, on "Revolution and Counter Revolution in the Arab World."

#### **4/16/11 NYC: SIPA's Third Annual Alumni Day**

More than 150 alumni came back to campus to attend SIPA's third annual Alumni Day. For a full rundown of the day, see our [website](#) and pictures [here](#).

## **Alumni Notes**

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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 17,000 alumni in 153 countries.

**Maha Hosain Aziz** (MIA 2005) is a senior teaching fellow in South Asian Politics at London's School of Oriental & African Studies. She recently published a column, "Defusing South Asia's Demographic Time Bomb" in *Businessweek*.

**Luca Sergio** (MIA 1992) writes, "I recently took the helm as CEO of Ethis Communications, a healthcare news, publishing, and multimedia house based in Manhattan and focused on ophthalmology and optometry. This follows a number of years leading sales and marketing teams in ophthalmic medical device companies."

## **Giving to SIPA**

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

Through contributions to SIPA's annual fund, donations for student fellowships, or participation in SIPA's annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner, you can help strengthen the link between academic excellence and the practice of public policy that makes SIPA unique. For information on how to further SIPA's mission, please click [here](#).

SIPA's Annual Fund is the School's chief vehicle to engage the broad base of our alumni in supporting SIPA. It is a critical piece of the School's fund-raising strategy, which also involves solicitations of significant gifts from large donors. One hundred percent of the gifts raised by SIPA's Annual Fund support the education of SIPA students.

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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