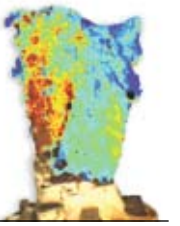


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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Record

VOL. 36, NO. 02

NEWS AND IDEAS FOR THE COLUMBIA COMMUNITY

SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Roy and Diana Vagelos Donate \$50 Million For New Medical Education Building

By Record Staff

When P. Roy Vagelos graduated in 1954 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, polio was rampant and heart attack victims spent weeks in the hospital. Over a long and distinguished career in medicine and the pharmaceutical industry, Vagelos gained a unique perspective on the power of the health sciences to improve the quality of human life.

Now with his wife, Diana, a Barnard College alumna, Vagelos is donating \$50 million for a new medical and graduate education building on the medical center campus. It will be named in their honor. The gift is the largest received for Columbia University Medical Center's capital campaign, and with its receipt, the campaign has raised more than \$1 billion.

"It is clear that whatever the benefits Roy and Diana Vagelos may have gained from attending Columbia and Barnard, they have given even more back to our University through decades of service and support, and we are enormously grateful," said Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger. "With this latest demonstration of generosity, they are helping establish a new sense of community and campus life at our medical center in Washington Heights that is so important to our attracting future generations of talented medical students and faculty."



P. Roy and Diana Vagelos

Vagelos, 80, is former chair and chief executive officer of pharmaceutical giant Merck & Co., Inc. An authority on lipids and enzymes, he published more than 100 research papers in peer-reviewed journals and won scientific recognition at the National Institutes of Health before becoming chair of Washington University School of Medicine's Department of Biological Chemistry. After joining Merck in 1975 as director of research, he rose through the ranks of senior management and held the firm's top jobs from 1985 until he stepped down in 1994. He currently is chair of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc., a biotech company.

A longtime supporter of P&S, he has campaigned to raise money for its pro-

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THINKING GLOBALLY



EILEEN BARROSS

SASSEN NAMED TO CO-CHAIR COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL THOUGHT

By Adam Piore

Urban sociologist Saskia Sassen was born in the Netherlands, grew up in Argentina and Italy, studied in France and the United States, and speaks six languages.

With such a background, "global thought" would seem to come naturally to Sassen, who specializes in the social, economic and political dimensions of globalization and is known for creating the term "global city." The term refers to a city that plays a significant global economic role, illustrating in an extreme way some of the major features of globalization, from the organization of finance to new forms of socio-economic inequality, she says.

Now, Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger has named her co-director of the University's Committee on Global Thought, which he set up

in 2005. "Given the significance of urbanization around the world," Bollinger explains, "I felt that Saskia's innovative efforts to understand cities in all their complexity offered a wonderful pathway into a better understanding of how global society is evolving." Bollinger points out that the committee is one of a number of initiatives to help the University understand the process of globalization, including Global Centers abroad, the World Leaders Forum on campus and the Earth Institute.

Sassen, the Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology, taught at Columbia in the 1990s and was lured back from the University of Chicago in 2007.

She will collaborate with fellow co-director, Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, to push the boundaries in the emerging field of globalization studies.

It's exactly the kind of thing Bollinger had

in mind for the committee, whose purpose, he says, "is to support faculty who want to think in broad terms about globalization and also create a place for some unconventional appointments like [Nobel Prize-winning author] Orhan Pamuk."

"It's now widely recognized that globalization is dramatically changing our world," Stiglitz says. The committee "is trying to promote teaching and research on the many dimensions and questions that this raises." He too praises Sassen's work for being so multidisciplinary and crossing geographic borders. "Her focal point is cities, which are the setting in which local, national and global forces all come into play," he says.

Sassen says it was far easier to study globalization 20 years ago. "It has become more complex and contradictory," she says. "We

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Eric Foner Thinks Anew About Lincoln and Slavery

By Record Staff

As one of the nation's most prominent historians, Eric Foner has fulfilled a Columbia tradition of making history relevant to our own time, especially for audiences beyond the academy.

While Foner retains a scholarly skepticism of facile comparisons between past and current events, he has consistently worked to make history part of our contemporary culture. Now he is about to publish his 22nd book, this one on a topic about which some might have thought there was little left to say: Abraham Lincoln and slavery. But it turns out that, despite Foner's own extensive scholarship on the 16th president's tu-

multuous epoch, the specific focus of *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery* (W.W. Norton) remained fresh for him.

"I have touched on Lincoln in a number of my books on the pre-Civil War period, the Reconstruction era after the war," he explains. "But I personally have never really written di-

"In some ways, Lincoln is always our contemporary."

rectly about Lincoln and I thought that it was still possible to say something new, despite the voluminous literature that's out there."

Working on the book, Foner says, provided

fresh insights about Lincoln's longtime opposition to slavery's westward spread; the role of the issue in the founding of the Republican Party in the 1850s; and, conversely, the frustration of abolitionists with Lincoln's resistance to emancipation in hopes of keeping slave-holding border states in the Union and his support of efforts to encourage blacks to resettle in colonies outside the U.S.

Foner believes that Lincoln's assassination and quick ascension to near saintly status as "the Great Emancipator" obscured a more interesting and human story about the change Lincoln underwent during the course of the war as he developed a greater respect for black people, so many of whom served bravely in the Union Army. What comes through the pages of

continued on page 7



ON CAMPUS



EILEEN BARROSO

FUN RUN

With a view of Low Library in the background, hundreds of runners get a fast start on the new academic year by taking part in President Lee C. Bollinger's Ninth Annual Fun Run on Sept. 17. The 5-kilometer race through Riverside Park, which started in 2002 as part of Bollinger's inauguration events, is open to all Columbia students, faculty and staff. After the race, runners and walkers are entitled to collect a free T-shirt on College Walk. This year, the winning time was 16 minutes, 19 seconds; the slowest was 46 minutes. More to the point, everyone had fun.

MILESTONES



Louis Brus

PROFESSORS LOUIS BRUS and **NICHOLAS TURRO** have recently won separate awards from the American Chemical Society. Brus, the Samuel Latham Mitchell Professor of Chemistry and also professor of chemical engineering, received ACS' annual Peter Debye Award for outstanding research in the field of physical chemistry. Turro, who is the William P. Schweitzer Professor of Chemistry and professor of chemical engineering, has received the Arthur C. Cope award for his achievements in the field of organic chemistry. As part of this award, Turro will select Columbia to receive an unrestricted grant for research in organic chemistry, which will support his work.



Nicholas Turro



Massachusetts Institute of Technology's *Technology Review* magazine has named **SAMUEL SIA**, assistant professor of biomedical engineering, to its 2010 list of 35 top innovators under age 35. Sia, who was selected from among 300 nominees, was recognized for his work using the techniques of microfluidics to build low-cost, handheld devices currently being tested in Rwanda to collect and analyze blood samples at a patient's bedside to diagnose infectious disease.

BRENT STOCKWELL, associate professor of biomedical sciences, is one of six winners of the \$1.5 million BioAccelerate NYC Prize sponsored by the New York City Investment Fund in partnership with the New York City Economic Development Corp. Stockwell will receive \$250,000 for research on a new class of drugs to treat cancer in a more selective and nontoxic way by targeting proteins. Each prizewinner is paired with a mentor from a life science company to provide patent and regulatory expertise for the winner's business plans. Stockwell will be mentored by Edward Garmey of biotech firm ArQule, Inc.



GRANTS & GIFTS

WHO GAVE IT: U. S. Department of Education

HOW MUCH: \$2.5 million

WHO GOT IT: East Asia units at Columbia University

WHAT FOR: To advance the quality and dissemination of knowledge about East Asia and to provide global educational outreach

HOW WILL IT BE USED: This East Asia National Resource Center grant will provide \$290,387 for the next four years to support expanding activities at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, C.V. Starr East Asian Library and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Additional annual funding of \$328,500 per year will go toward the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships, administered by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

WHO GAVE IT: National Institute on Aging

HOW MUCH: \$7.1 million

WHO GOT IT: Gerard Karsenty, the Paul A. Marks Professor of Genetics & Development

WHAT FOR: Research titled "Serotonin as a Regulator of Bone Mass Accrual: Basic and Clinical"

HOW WILL IT BE USED: The five-year grant will fund four related projects aimed at better understanding the genetic and molecular control of bone remodeling in the context of aging by brain-derived or gut-derived serotonin.

WHO GAVE IT: MasterCard Foundation

HOW MUCH: \$12.5 million

WHO GOT IT: Fred Ssewamala, associate professor of social work

WHAT FOR: To research savings services for low-income youth in developing countries

HOW WILL IT BE USED: Over the next five years, Ssewamala (with co-investigator Michael Sherraden of Washington University) will examine the social utility of savings accounts for young people in Kenya, Ghana, Colombia and Nepal.

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Savage Painting

Dear Alma,

I walked by the painting in the entrance of Butler Library and wondered: Does it have any connection to a similar piece at Yale's library?

—Ivy Voyeur

Dear Ivy,

The artworks were painted by the same man, Yale graduate Eugene Francis Savage. After winning the Prix de Rome in 1912, he returned to the United States, where he taught at Cooper Union and Carnegie Mellon Institute before being appointed the William Leftingwell Professor of Painting at Yale, where his students were known as "little Savages."

Savage's specialty was allegorical murals, and he gained acclaim in 1926 for a set in the Elks Veterans Memorial and Headquarters Building in Chicago. Other commissions followed, including a 1931 mural in the then-brand-new Sterling Memorial Library at Yale. According to Yale's website, the central figure Alma Mater wears the school colors and holds a book bearing the school's motto, *Lux et Veritas*. She stands under the tree of knowledge surrounded by the allegorical figures Light, Truth, Science, Labor, Music, Divinity, Literature and the Arts.

John Gamble Rogers was the Sterling architect, and when Columbia hired him in 1931 to design what would later be known as Butler Library, he brought in Savage to paint another mural. *Videbimus Lumen* was to be a 10- by 14-foot work whose central figure of Athena represented Columbia and included angels protecting Enlightenment from Ignorance.

According to a 1979 monograph by Butler reference librarian Paul Cohen, building donor Edward S. Harkness



ASK ALMA'S OWL

approved of the choice, but no one thought to inform Columbia's administration. University President Nicholas Murray Butler was none too pleased when he saw preliminary sketches, he wrote in 1934, "first because I had not heard anything about it, and second because I thought it rather startling."

Hoping to block the work, Butler brought in the head of Columbia's buildings and grounds committee, who decreed the colors too vivid and the poses too awkward. The committee talked to the artist repeatedly but while colors were toned down and figures rearranged he wasn't deterred. Butler then turned to the trustee-appointed art committee, hoping they could succeed where the building committee had not—to no avail. When the painting was unveiled, it included gold leaf on Athena's crown, earrings and a coat of mail; the colors were only slightly less outré; New York City landmarks crowded into the image.

The work was panned by art critics and students alike, but the criticism of Professor Meyer Schapiro, then a lecturer here in fine arts, was the most succinct: "Inept."

—Bridget O'Brian

Send your questions for Alma's Owl to curecord@columbia.edu.



Videbimus Lumen in Butler Library entrance.

Happening at
Columbia

For the latest on upcoming Columbia events, performances, seminars and lectures, go to calendar.columbia.edu

Butler Librarian Crusades for Comic Books

By Nick Obourn

DC Comics' *Army@Love* and Picasso's *Guernica*? Batman and a 12th-century manuscript illumination? For a few more weeks, comics enthusiasts can see such pop culture images paired with great works of traditional art in an unusual exhibition on the third floor of Butler Library.

The exhibition, which has been put together by research librarian Karen Green and closes in mid-October, was organized to draw attention to the University's growing collection of graphic novels and comic books.

Green, whose expertise is in ancient and medieval history and religion, might seem an unlikely advocate for a collection that is built in part from the funny pages.

"I'm a medievalist by training," said Green, "and the world of medieval visual culture—as seen in cathedral sculptural programs, stained glass, tapestry cycles and manuscript illumination—is not so far removed from the visual culture of comics. If you know how to read an image from the Middle Ages, it helps you read images from the modern day as well."

Green proposed establishing the collection in 2005, arguing that there was increased scholarly interest in the medium, that Columbia was the perfect place to start one because New York City is home to DC Comics, Marvel Comics and many graphic novelists, and that such a collection would complement the University's thriving film studies programs. "Comic books are continually and now increasingly being used as fodder for film," said Green.

She won approval and set up the first university-based graphic novels and comic book collection in the city. New York Uni-

versity has since established its own.

Since its founding, the collection has grown to more than 1,600 titles, ranging from Art Spiegelman's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Maus* to *Strip AIDS U.S.A.*, a collaborative publication from the 1980s in which artists unflinchingly portray the AIDS crisis in New York.

The collection has benefited from a close association with Jim Hanley's Universe, a legendary New York comic book store and Green's primary vendor.

As Green seeks to integrate the collection into Columbia's curricula her colleagues and the faculty are responding with enthusiasm.

Rare Books and Manuscript librarian Jane Siegel recently purchased a copy of *The Adventures of Obadiab Oldbuck* by Rodolphe Töpffer, published in America in 1841 and considered by many to be the first graphic novel.

Faculty members have incorporated graphic novels into their coursework. The medical school has used them in a course on illness narratives, and Tomas Vu-Daniel, the LeRoy Neiman Professor of Visual Arts, is teaching a course called "From Drawing into Print," in which the final project is creating a graphic novel.

"The objective of the course is to explore the graphic novel as a medium for creating art," he said. Vu-Daniel contacted Green after seeing her exhibit in Butler and had her speak on the first day of class, where she showed students creative uses of the medium. "She was telling us that there is nothing that a graphic novel can't do," he said.

Maura Spiegel, associate professor of English and comparative literature, assigned *Berlin: City of Stones* by Jason Lutes in her course called "The Man in The Crowd," a senior seminar on films, novels and images about Berlin between the two wars. "Juxtaposing films with



Above: Detail of 1931 cartoon *Gasoline Alley* by Frank King

graphic novels is effective for opening up features of visual language," she said.

As interest in the collection grows, Green has had to grapple with difficult issues of acquisition. She compared the process of building the collection to Rebecca Dart's comic *Rabbithead*, in which a single strip of drawings morphs into seven visual storylines.

"I started with a clear, almost linear plan—buy award winners," said Green. "Then I started seeing individual writers

or artists in the collection that merited fuller coverage, and so I branched out into more of their oeuvre. Then something else might make me branch out further: a specific artistic approach, a genre, etc. In *Rabbithead*, the seven narrative lines gradually narrow back down to a single strip. I don't plan on narrowing the focus, but you could say that, as I pursue the various threads, I see a single whole emerging from all that diversity."

ON EXHIBIT:

Artist Nancy Holt at Wallach Art Gallery

Swamp grass. Massive concrete tunnels in the desert Southwest. The bleak Pine Barrens of south-central New Jersey. These are some of the materials of acclaimed environmental artist Nancy Holt, whose early projects are on display in the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery on the eighth floor of Schermerhorn Hall.

Nancy Holt: Sightlines features more than 40 works from 1966 to 1980 by the pioneering artist who started her artistic

career as part of the land art movement of the 1960s. Holt uses a variety of media including film, photography, video and site-specific installation to explore the vastness of the American landscape. The exhibition, which is curated by Alena J. Williams, a Ph.D. candidate in Columbia's Department of Art History and Archaeology, opens Sept. 22 and runs through Dec. 11. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Holt shooting the 1976 film *Sun Tunnels*

Argentine Scholar Excavates Six Centuries of U.S. Hispanic Heritage

By Joel Stonington

To see the future face of America, look no farther than New York City with its 2.3 million Latinos.

Nearly one-third of New Yorkers identify as Latino, a milestone the nation as a whole is expected to pass sometime around 2050 as the national Hispanic population triples, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.

That makes the release of *Hispanic New York: A Sourcebook* (Columbia University Press) particularly timely. The anthology, which includes original documents and scholarly and journalistic articles, documents a Latino presence in New York since the 1500s.

The book is edited by Argentine journalist and scholar Claudio Iván Remeseira, founder and director of the Hispanic New York Project, which is hosted by Columbia's American Studies Program. He also teaches a seminar on New York's Latino, Latin American and Iberian cultural heritage.

Andrew Delbanco, director of American Studies and the Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities, notes in his introduction to the book that "the notion of a sharp boundary between 'Anglo' and 'Hispanic' America is a fantasy that should have been dispensed with long ago."

During a Sept. 15 book launch party and panel discussion at Columbia's Morris A. Schapiro Center, Remeseira noted with approval that Latinos are gaining mainstream recognition. Recent examples include Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic on the U.S. Supreme Court; Pulitzer Prize-winning Dominican novelist Junot Diaz; and Bill Richardson, the Mexican American governor of New Mexico

Though New York lags behind California,

Texas and Florida in total Hispanic population, Remeseira said the rest of the country is probably going to look like New York with its diversity and intermingling of nationalities.

While Puerto Ricans dominate the Latino population in New York, there are more than half a million Dominicans and more than 100,000 each from Mexico, Ecuador and Colombia.

Milagros Ricourt, a panelist and professor of Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies at the City University of New York, spoke about the difficulty of trying to determine the ethnic identity of a child born to an Ecuadorian father and Puerto Rican mother and married to a Dominican. The answer does not correspond to the boxes we check on census forms, she noted.

"Anyone who says they are Latino, they are Latino, and I don't know if we can do any better than that," said Frances Negrón-Muntaner, another panelist and director of Columbia's Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race.

As controversy over illegal immigration rages, much of it has centered on Mexicans and other Latinos. But Remeseira argues that Hispanics have always had a presence in America. "Latino or Hispanic or Spanish people, as they have been called, have been part and parcel of this country's history since the very beginning," Remeseira said. In examining the past for evidence, he included in the sourcebook a letter written by Walt Whitman in 1883 that ends on this note: "As to the Spanish stock of our Southwest, it is certain to me that we do not begin to appreciate the splendor and sterling value of its race element."

Said Remeseira, "The important thing is not just to celebrate the heritage as one more element but to be able to see that the notion of mainstream is changing and that Latinos are part of ... the mainstream and what it means to be American."



New Faces on Campus: A Small Selection of New Faculty at Columbia

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Marcel Agüeros, *Assistant Professor of Astronomy*



Marcel Agüeros

Before joining Columbia as a professor, Agüeros was a National Science Foundation astronomy and astrophysics post-doctoral fellow in the astrophysics laboratory of Columbia. His work has been published in several journals, including the *Astrophysics Journal*, the *Astronomical Journal* and the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. A 1996 Columbia College alumnus, Agüeros focuses on observational stellar astronomy. He received his M.Phil. from Cambridge in 1998 and his Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 2006.

Marwa Elshakry, *Associate Professor of History*

Elshakry specializes in the history of science, technology and medicine in the modern Middle East. Her first book, *Reading Darwin in the Middle East*, is forthcoming. She received her B.A. from Rutgers in 1995 and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1997 and 2003, respectively. Prior to joining Columbia, she was an assistant professor in the history of science department at Harvard.

Andrei Okounkov, *Samuel Eilenberg Professor of Mathematics*

Okounkov has taught at a number of institutions before Columbia including the University of Chicago, the University of California at Berkeley and Princeton University. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including a Sloan Research Fellowship and the European Mathematical Society Prize. In 2006, he received a Fields Medal, one of the highest honors awarded in mathematics for his contributions to bridging probability, representation theory and algebraic geometry. Okounkov earned his B.S. and Ph.D. from Moscow State University.



Andrei Okounkov

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Emile Bacha, *Professor of Surgery*



Emile Bacha

Bacha has developed novel techniques to perform hybrid surgical-interventional procedures for many complex congenital heart defects, and specializes in minimally invasive approaches to pediatric cardiac surgery. He also is director of congenital and pediatric cardiac surgery at New York-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital. Before joining

Columbia, he was an associate professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School/Children's Hospital Boston. From 2000 to 2005, he was director of pediatric and congenital heart surgery and pediatrics at the University of Chicago. He received his M.D. degree in 1989 from Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany and completed his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School and Emory School of Medicine Affiliated Hospitals in Atlanta.

Donna Farber, *Professor of Surgical Science*

Farber's research interests include immune memory and protective immunity, influenza immune responses and autoimmunity. She received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California at Santa Barbara and was a research associate at the Pasteur Institute. She did post-doctoral studies at Yale University. Before joining Columbia, she taught in the departments of surgery and microbiology and immunology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.



Donna Farber

Melanie Wall, *Professor of Biostatistics*



Melanie Wall

Wall spent the first 12 years of her academic career on faculty at University of Minnesota's School of Public Health. Her research focuses on the development and improvement of biostatistical models and methods for research problems where the target variables of interest are latent, specifically variables that may be conceptual in nature such as body image or parenting style. She will be teaching at Columbia as a professor of biostatistics in the Department of Psychiatry.

MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, *Assistant Professor of Sociomedical Sciences*

Sivaramakrishnan is a public health historian with a focus on the history of medical global health concerns. She's currently researching the cultural politics of aging in South Asia. Prior to joining Mailman, Sivaramakrishnan was a David Bell Research Fellow at the Center for Population Studies and Development Studies at Harvard. She was awarded the Balzan Fellowship for her work on social inequalities and health by University College London. She completed her undergraduate education at St. Stephens College, Delhi University and at Trinity College, University of Cambridge, where she studied modern history and political thought.

THE FU FOUNDATION SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE

Kristin Myers, *Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering*



Kristin Myers

Myers researches the mechanical behavior of solid materials with a specific interest in the behavior of soft tissues. One of the main focuses of her lab is the characterization of the cervix during normal pregnancy and the pre-term labor condition known as cervical insufficiency, which can result in miscarriages or premature births. She received her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in 2008 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and conducted her post-doctoral research at Johns Hopkins University from 2008 to 2010.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Sharon Katz, *Assistant Professor of Accounting*

Katz researches equity valuation, tax avoidance and earnings quality. He studied economics and law at Tel Aviv University and has served in the Israeli Air Force. In Israel, he worked as a corporate lawyer. Following his completion of an M.B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles, he worked for Citigroup, specializing in mergers and acquisitions. He later completed a Ph.D. in business administration from Columbia Business School. Prior to his return to Columbia, he taught at Harvard Business School.

Kent Daniel, *Professor of Finance and Economics*

From 1996 to 2006, Daniel taught at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, where he was the John and Helen Kellogg Distinguished Professor of Finance. His research is in asset pricing and behavioral finance. Prior to Columbia, Daniel was with the Quantitative Investment Strategies group at Goldman Sachs Asset Management, where he was most recently a co-chief investment officer. He holds a B.S. from the California Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. and Ph.D. in finance from the University of California at Los Angeles.



Kent Daniel

COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

Brett Dignam, *Clinical Professor of Law*



Brett Dignam

A leading advocate for prisoners' rights, Dignam is directing the law school's Mass Incarceration Clinic. Prior to Columbia, she led the Prison Legal Services, Complex Federal Litigation and Supreme Court Advocacy clinics at Yale Law School. Dignam has also worked as an attorney in the Tax Division of the Justice Department, and has designed workshops for prisoners on issues including immigration, sexual assault and exhaustion of remedies under the Prison Litigation Reform Act.

Abbe Gluck, *Associate Professor of Law*

Gluck is an authority on health care law and legislation, and the role of state legal actors in the federal system. She has served as a senior lawyer in both New York City and New Jersey government and clerked for Judge Ralph K. Winter on the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (LAW'59).



Abbe Gluck

Robert J. Jackson Jr., *Associate Professor of Law*

Jackson is an expert on the legal and economic implications of executive compensation and corporate governance. He has served as an adviser to the U.S. Department of Treasury and as a former associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. Jackson holds an M.B.A. from University of Pennsylvania, and his principal areas of interest are corporations, securities regulation, contracts and corporate finance.

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Ramin Bahrani, *Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in Film*

Bahrani studied film at Columbia before moving to his parents' homeland of Iran, where he lived for three years. He returned to the United States in 2002 and made *Man Push Cart*, which was the opening film at the 2006 New Directors/New Films festival and screened at Sundance and Venice. It also earned 10 awards and three nominations from the Independent Spirit Awards. Bahrani's *Chop Shop* was awarded a 2007 Independent Spirit Award. He won the International Federation of Film Critics Prize at the Venice Film Festival as well as an Independent Spirit Award nomination for best director for his third release, *Goodbye Solo*.

Victor LaValle, *Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in Writing*



Victor LaValle

A 2010 Guggenheim Fellow, LaValle is the author of *slapboxing with Jesus*, a book of stories, and two novels, *The Ecstatic* and *Big Machine*. He has also taught at Warren Wilson College and Mills College. He is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including a Whiting Writers' Award, a PEN/Open Book Award and a United States Artists Ford Fellowship. He

holds a bachelor's from Cornell University and an M.F.A. from Columbia School of the Arts.

Maureen Ryan, *Assistant Professor of Professional Practice and Director of Production*

Ryan is a freelance producer based in New York concentrating on feature films, both documentary and narrative. She co-produced *Man on Wire*, the 2009 Academy Award-winning feature documentary about French high-wire artist Philippe Petit. She produced the narrative feature film *Bomber* and the feature documentary *The Gates*, which was broadcast on HBO and received a 2008 Peabody Award. She received her M.F.A. in film from Columbia School of the Arts, where she also served as adjunct faculty and production coordinator for the film program.



Maureen Ryan

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Benjamin Orlove, *Professor of International and Public Affairs*



Benjamin Orlove

An anthropologist, Orlove has conducted field work in the Peruvian Andes since the 1970s and also carried out research in East Africa, the Italian Alps and Australia. He studies climate change and glacier retreat, with an emphasis on water, natural hazards and the loss of iconic landscapes. At Columbia, he also teaches in the master's program in climate and society, for which he serves as associate director.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Anne Conway, *Assistant Professor of Social Work*

Conway's research focuses on improving emotion regulation and reducing mental health problems in disadvantaged children and youth. She obtained her master's in social work and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was awarded two research fellowships funded by the National Institutes of Health to pursue post-doctoral training in early childhood and adolescent mental health research. She was formerly a visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh in the Department of Psychology in Education.



Anne Conway

RESEARCH

OIL SPILL MEASUREMENT BY LAMONT SCIENTISTS TOPS OFFICIAL ESTIMATE

By Kevin Krajick

In the first independent, peer-reviewed paper on the volume of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, scientists at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory estimate that the total oil escaping into the open ocean was some 4.4 million barrels.

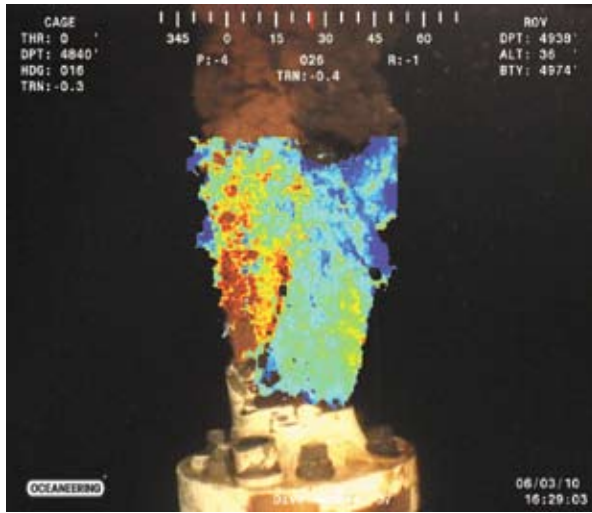
Using a new technique to analyze underwater video of the well riser, they say it leaked 56,000 to 68,000 barrels daily—maybe more—until the first effective cap was installed on July 15. Their estimate is close to the most recent consensus of government advisors, whose methods have not been detailed publicly. The paper appeared in the Sept. 23 online edition of the journal *Science*.

"We wanted to do an independent estimate because people had the sense that the numbers out there were not necessarily accurate," said lead author Timothy Crone, a marine geophysicist at Lamont. After British Petroleum and government officials downplayed the importance of measurements, scientists, environmental groups and legal experts pointed out that the information was needed to determine both short- and long-term responses, as well as monetary liability. This baseline number is also essential to address the continuing scientific controversy over where the oil has gone.

The new study divides the flow rate into two periods: April 22 to June 3, when oil spurted from a jagged break in the riser; and after June 3, when the riser was cut and oil temporarily spewed into the ocean unimpeded. Crone and his coauthor, Lamont marine geophysicist Maya Tolstoy, used a visual analysis technique Crone recently developed called optical plume velocimetry. They say video from the earlier period indicated a flow of about 56,000 barrels a day. After the pipe was cut, they say, the rate increased to about 68,000. Accounting for time elapsed, the authors subtracted 804,877 barrels collected by BP at the site for a total of 4.4 million barrels that escaped.

Given the study's stated 20 percent margin of error plus or minus, this roughly agrees with the federal government's Flow Rate Technical Group's most recent comparable estimate of 4.1 million barrels (after subtracting the oil collected by BP).

Attempts to get a handle on the size of the oil's release have been fraught with problems. A week after an initial 1,000-barrel-a-day assertion, it became apparent that BP was collecting more than that, and far more was escaping. On April 28, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration produced an estimate of 5,000 barrels,



Lamont-Doherty marine geophysicist Tim Crone used a new technique he developed to visually measure fluid flow rates of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

extrapolating this figure from the size of the surface plume, but scientists and journalists questioned it because the spill was occurring far below the surface.

Crone became involved when National Public Radio asked him and other experts for their own estimates; a May 14 NPR story based on their observations suggested that the rate was actually five to ten times higher.

This new study is the first to lay out the details of an analysis publicly in a report independently reviewed by other researchers, but the scientists say it is just a start. Crone and Tolstoy say their conclusions rest on a few short clips of high-resolution video—almost all which was released by BP and the government, and made available to the scientists by members of Congress.

The researchers point out that the flows could have varied, and the analysis did not include other leaks from smaller holes further up the pipe, which may have grown with time. "We clearly acknowledge the limits of our technique; we're unlikely to ever know the exact figure," he said. Tolstoy added: "This is not the last word. It is the first peer-reviewed word. But we think it's a really good ballpark."

Crone started developing optical plume velocimetry in 2006 to study natural hydrothermal vents, volcanically driven cracks in the seafloor that shoot superheated jets of mineral-laden water. Crone added, "This is a great example of how basic research that doesn't seem to have any immediate value suddenly gains huge immediacy for society."

Kevin Krajick is senior science writer at the Earth Institute.

Business School Researchers Give Poor Grades to Stand-alone Middle Schools

By Clare Ob

Two researchers at Columbia's Graduate School of Business have found that middle school may be bad for our children's education.

Their study reveals that academic performance among students at stand-alone middle schools in New York City—typically grades six through eight or nine—was significantly lower than that of students attending kindergarten-to-eighth grade (K-8) schools. The study was published in the fall 2010 issue of the journal *Education Next* and is forthcoming in the *Journal of Public Economics*.

Jonah Rockoff, the Sidney Taurel Associate Professor of Business, and co-author Benjamin Lockwood analyzed a decade of data on students who entered third grade between fall 1998 and fall 2002 and remained in New York public schools for six years, until most had completed the eighth grade. They compared English and math test scores, attendance rates and parent evaluations, as well as socioeconomic data for all of the students in different types of schools.

According to the study, when students enter a middle school—which usually spans grades six through eight—there is a steep drop-off in academic achievement that cannot be explained by differences in per-pupil spending or individual class size, which are actually similar for both middle and K-8 schools. Instead, the researchers believe that part of the

explanation is cohort size, or the total number of students in a given grade, which tends to be much larger in stand-alone middle schools. They also found that student absences increase in these schools—around two more days per year than their counterparts—which may also be a factor in the achievement gap.

"There are lots of different hypotheses as to why performance drops in middle schools," said Rockoff, the study's principal investigator. "There isn't one single reason why students do poorly; however, our evidence shows clearly that middle schools are currently not the best way to educate students in New York City."

The study also shows that these students continue to fall substantially behind through the middle school years as compared to their K-8 peers. Declines in achievement over time are even worse for students at the lower end of the performance spectrum. The researchers argue that this continued decline may set up students for unnecessary long-term disadvantages.

"What we found underscores the need for middle-school reform," said Rockoff. The researchers hope the study will lead to further investigations into the performance of middle schools and, ultimately, to changes to improve student performance.

Rockoff is an economist who works on issues related to public finance and the economics of education. Lockwood was a research assistant at the business school at the time of the study.

"Our evidence shows clearly that middle schools are currently not the best way to educate students in New York City."

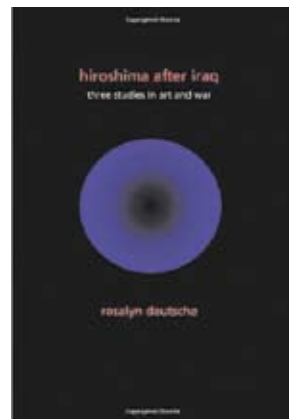
COLUMBIA INK

New Books by Faculty

Hiroshima After Iraq: Three Studies in Art and War

BY ROSALYN DEUTSCHE
Columbia University Press

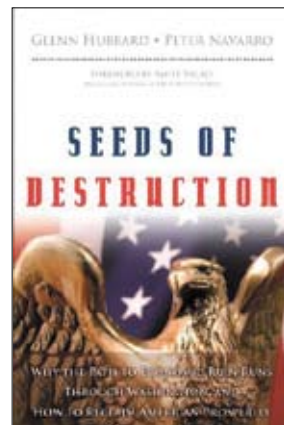
Rosalyn Deutsche, an art historian and critic who teaches modern and contemporary art at Barnard College, examines three contemporary video works about the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Drawing on feminist and psychoanalytic theory, Deutsche rejects the view that opposition to the U.S. invasion of Iraq lacked the intensity of the anti-war movement in the 1960s and '70s. In *Hiroshima After Iraq: A Study in Art and War*, Deutsche shows how three video artists contribute to the discourse of war resistance by exploring the intersection of past and present wars.



Seeds of Destruction: Why the Path to Economic Ruin Runs Through Washington, and How to Reclaim American Prosperity

BY GLENN HUBBARD AND PETER NAVARRO
FT Press

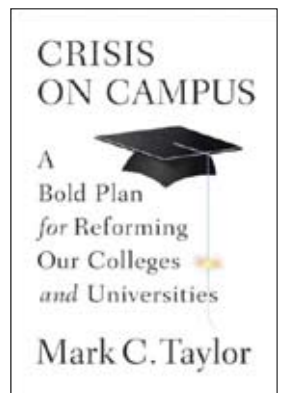
Glenn Hubbard, dean of Columbia's Graduate School of Business and former chair of the Council of Economic Advisers under President George W. Bush, teams up with University of California, Irvine professor Peter Navarro in *Seeds of Destruction* to explain how government policy choices have had startlingly disastrous effects on the U.S. economy. Standing on opposite sides of the political spectrum, Hubbard and Navarro propose 10 initiatives to restore American prosperity, including overhauling the tax system and revitalizing American manufacturing.



Crisis on Campus: A Bold Plan for Reforming Our Colleges and Universities

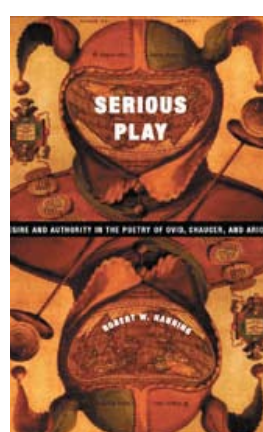
BY MARK C. TAYLOR
Knopf Doubleday Publishing

Mark C. Taylor, chair of the Department of Religion, takes aim at American higher education in *Crisis on Campus: A Bold Plan for Reforming Our Colleges and Universities*. Taylor surveys the academy and discovers promising graduate students with little hope of finding a job that suits their training and undergraduates with mountains of debt. His suggestions for radical reform include abolishing tenure, emphasizing teaching rather than rarefied research and online instruction. According to a review by *The New Republic*, Taylor likes the idea of more academic-corporate partnerships to sell online courses. His book expands on a controversial 2009 op-ed piece in *The New York Times*, where he called graduate education "the Detroit of higher learning."



Serious Play: Desire and Authority in the Poetry of Ovid, Chaucer, and Ariosto

BY ROBERT W. HANNING
Columbia University Press



Robert W. Hanning, retired professor of medieval and Renaissance literature, explores the poetry of three of premodern Europe's greatest comedic poets in *Serious Play: Desire and Authority in the Poetry of Ovid, Chaucer, and Ariosto*. Ovid, Chaucer and Ariosto's use of what Renaissance theorists call *serio ludere*—literally "to play seriously"—provides the basis for his analysis of the fine line between comedy and truth in their poetry. Hanning delves beneath their wit and sarcasm to examine what lies beneath each poet's complex relationship to political authority, fantasy and desire.

—Daphne Chen and Olivia Jackson



COLUMBIANews ON THE WEB

Special World Leaders Forum Showcases Challenges and Solutions to Poverty in East Africa Drylands



As part of a special World Leaders Forum event, East African officials representing Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda joined Columbia University faculty to discuss the challenges

of drylands. These are areas where parched soil and extremely limited rainfall have made it difficult to sustain a pastoral economy and proven devastating to local economies.

In July 2010, Columbia's Earth Institute launched the Drylands Initiative in partnership with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The goal is to expedite development in six East African countries: those represented at the World Leaders event as well as Ethiopia and Sudan. Participating countries, will receive assistance to support and develop livestock production, infrastructure, health, education and business projects.

To learn more about the challenges of Africa's drylands, go to news.columbia.edu/drylands.

Football Head Coach Norries Wilson Answers Fan Questions

As the Columbia Lions geared up for the 2010 season, football head coach Norries Wilson answered fan questions ahead of the season opener Sept. 18 against Fordham University at the Robert K. Kraft Field at Columbia's Baker Athletics Complex. (Fordham won, 16-9.)

Lions fans submitted their questions for Wilson via Facebook. Wilson became the Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football in December 2005 and is the 18th head coach of Columbia Football. The Lions were ranked fifth against their peers in the 2010 Ivy League Football pre-season poll.



For video of Wilson's answers to fan questions, visit news.columbia.edu/coachwilson.

Bhutan Prime Minister Explains Metric of 'Gross National Happiness'

By Melanie A. Farmer

Forget gross national product. The prime minister of Bhutan says a nation should measure itself by its gross national happiness.

Jigmi Y. Thinley spoke about his country's unusual metric to about 450 people in Low Rotunda during Columbia's World Leaders Forum on Sept. 15. His was the first in the 2010-2011 series of forums and talks by world leaders at Columbia, a year-round event series that includes heads of state and global thought leaders from a variety of countries and fields.

Bhutan, a Buddhist kingdom of about 700,000 nestled in the Himalayas between China and India, has adopted an unusual and complex system of measuring gross national happiness as an alternative to GNP, the common economic indicator that measures the sum of all goods and services produced by a nation.

Thinley said GNH is based on the belief that the purpose of development and the role of the state is to create a place where people can pursue what they aspire to most in life: happiness.

"It is a holistic development paradigm to make human society resilient," said Thinley. "We are the only country so far that promotes happiness through deliberate public policy and action."

Thinley was in New York for a summit on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, a lofty set of targets, such as reducing poverty and disease, that member nations have pledged to reach by 2015. During the summit, Thinley says he will propose including happiness as the ninth of the MDGs.

He said leaders need compassion, knowledge and strength if they are to tackle pressing global problems such as caring for the elderly, the negative effects of climate change and the proliferation of weapons.

"In our search for solutions through the multiplicity of problems that confront society, leaders must be able to rise above ideological, historical and economic fault lines that divide our world," said Thinley. "They will need to find new ways to create a more harmonic world."

To counter the growing weapons industry, for example, he suggested leaders need to advocate for the "departure from the old logic of security" and move to a security system that consists of regional centers that promote peace. "It is possible for us," he said, "to realize that it is not security but insecurity we create by the spread of arms and the expansion of armies."

Bhutan held its first democratic national elections in 2008, after the king gave up absolute power voluntarily



Jigmi Y. Thinley, prime minister of Bhutan, spoke about gross national happiness at Columbia's World Leaders Forum.

and turned the throne over to his son to preside over a constitutional monarchy.

In welcoming Thinley, University President Lee C. Bollinger said no other guest is as well-equipped to address the subject of happiness, calling Bhutan "a unique civil society."

"We will all be watching closely how the events unfold in Bhutan," said Bollinger. "It's a set of circumstances that has no parallel elsewhere in the world today."

At a reception following the talk, Thinley said the country's transition to a democracy has gone smoothly. "The only reason for that is because democracy in Bhutan did not come by way of struggle and conflict between those who had power and those people who wanted empowerment," he said. "It came by way of a king who felt that the power belonged to the people."

According to a happiness poll conducted in 2005, only 3 percent of the population identified themselves as unhappy, with 52 percent saying they were happy and the rest, very happy. The country plans to conduct its second happiness survey next year. Still, even a happy new democracy faces challenges.

"The biggest challenge my country is faced with is how do you create democrats among a people who never wanted democracy in the first place," he said.

"We're faced with how to develop a democratic culture among the people so that the power they have can be exercised responsibly and effectively, so that even the most popular leaders—though they may have come through the electoral process—do not manifest tendencies and succeed in becoming authoritarian."

COLUMBIA PEOPLE

Boubacar Maiga



WHO HE IS: Director of Custodial Services

YEARS AT COLUMBIA: 11

WHAT HE DOES: Custodial services is an around-the-clock operation, so it is not uncommon to find Maiga on campus inspecting buildings at midnight or meeting with staff at dawn. His typical workday starts at 5:30 a.m. He leads a department of 200 employees, who clean 54 buildings and empty about 10,000 garbage cans each day. Maiga meets daily with management staff from the overnight, day and swing shifts to go over issues ranging from specific building problems to incomplete assignments. He also meets with campus operations, facilities management and clients.

Maiga says his job is challenging. "It is one of those jobs that when done right, you won't hear from anyone," he said. "But I make sure my staff knows that they are appreciated," he added. "I see this job as a public service. Whether you're a Nobel Prize researcher or the president of the University or the provost—we touch everybody's lives."

BEST PART OF THE JOB: Maiga, 41, who started as a janitor, said his staff's commitment keeps him motivated. "I have 200 people coming here at all times of the day," he said. "I have people who have been here for 15 or 20 years. Sometimes they're by themselves at three in the morning. It is tough. You have to be committed. My staff really keeps me going."

ROAD TO COLUMBIA: In 1992, Maiga moved to New York City from Niger, where he had studied philosophy and law. Though he knew he was overqualified for a cleaning position, he applied for one at Columbia University Medical Center.

"There are things you can't explain," he said, "but I knew that I would find my way, as they say, by coming to work at Columbia." Maiga has since been promoted four times, becoming director of the department in 2007.

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT: Doing his part to support the University's expansion plans in the old Manhattanville manufacturing area. Columbia "has given me what I need to really develop a great career," he said. "I get to emphasize that to the community, and that this project is valuable. It will give other people like me the same opportunities."

IN HIS SPARE TIME: What spare time Maiga has is spent with his wife and five children, ages 2 to 15. He also tries to squeeze in a game of basketball or tennis. A 2007 graduate of the public administration program at the School of International and Public Affairs, Maiga is currently working toward a master's degree in negotiation and conflict resolution from the School of Continuing Education.

—Melanie A. Farmer

FACULTY Q&A

ERIC FONER

POSITION:

DeWitt Clinton Professor of History

JOINED FACULTY:

1982

HISTORY:

Professor, Department of History, Columbia University, 1982–present

Professor, Department of History, City College and Graduate Center, City University of New York, 1973–82

Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions, Cambridge University, 1980–81

Harmsworth Professor of American History, Oxford University, 1993–94

Continued from page 1



EILEEN BARROSO

The Fiery Trial is the sense of a practical, moral man of his time whose mind was open to change and who, only in the last years of his life, came to embrace the idea that former slaves could be full citizens in a reunified nation.

Q. *One theme of your book is Lincoln's changing perspective on race. Wasn't he more focused on saving the Union and preventing the spread of slavery than he was in abolishing it?*

A. Lincoln never claimed to be an abolitionist, but he was strongly anti-slavery—there's no question about that. Like most politicians of the time, his position was that the westward expansion of slavery must be stopped. He was not willing to compromise on that. There was this idea that stopping the westward expansion would somehow eventually lead to the end of slavery. Lincoln was also devoted to the Constitution, the Union and the stability of the nation. Balancing those things was a very complicated process in the 20 years running up to the Civil War.

Q. *The pre-Civil War period, you point out, was marked by two kinds of development in the United States: westward expansion and the Industrial Revolution. How did this new kind of economy affect the views of Lincoln and his peers?*

A. We know that Lincoln grew up in modest circumstances on a self-sufficient farm. His father held the family together but never accumulated any significant amount of money. But during his own lifetime, Lincoln experienced what we call the market revolution, which benefited Illinois and Lincoln, too. He was a railroad lawyer, and by the time he ran for president, there were railroads crisscrossing Illinois. The state was becoming a major economic center of the United States. Lincoln believed this tremendous economic expansion offered opportunities to people like himself. And he was part of the glorification of Northern society as a place of opportunity, as opposed to what he considered the stagnant, unfair and undemocratic structure of slave society.

Q. *People often seem to think of America's history with slavery as happening in a vacuum. What did a young man like Lincoln know about emancipation movements going on in England and elsewhere?*

A. Lincoln was self-educated but widely read, and he was quite aware of the widespread discussions and actions about slavery in the 19th century. In one speech, he talks about Wilberforce and Sharp, the people who led the movement to abolish the slave trade in England. His early plans for getting rid of slavery were influenced by what happened in the British West Indies, where there was gradual emancipation with monetary compensation to the slave owners and some kind of apprenticeship system for the slaves as a transition to freedom. That's what he proposed in the early years of the Civil War to get the process of emancipation going, particularly in border slave states that remained in the Union.

Q. *Was Lincoln's strategy of gradual, compensated emancipation in pivotal states such as Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware politically doomed to failure, much as President Obama's efforts toward bipartisanship have been?*

A. A former graduate student here at Columbia and now a professor, Manisha Sinha, wrote an op-ed piece comparing Lincoln's effort to conciliate the border slave states to Obama's effort to conciliate Republicans. She said Lincoln eventually realized that bipartisanship is a two-way street. You can't be bipartisan if the other side is not interested, and Lincoln

eventually realized that border states were not interested in slave emancipation. He put forward various plans, and they were systematically rejected. Eventually, he moved to a completely different plan, which was immediate abolition. The key thing about Lincoln, as I've said, is when one policy didn't work, he was willing to change. He wasn't stubborn; he wasn't stuck to a policy. It was no humiliation to admit that something didn't work and that he'd have to try something else. I think that is one of the hallmarks of his greatness as a leader.

Q. *Dedicated abolitionists criticized Lincoln for not being a strong ally to their cause. Is there an echo of that today in the frustration of Obama's supporters with his leadership?*

A. Well, of course historians don't like to pose parallels too closely between periods of the past and the present, although we all do it. But, then, as now, both presidents received severe criticism from what you might call the political left, and they resented it to some extent, although I would have to say that Lincoln showed a kind of open-mindedness and willingness to take criticism seriously. Abolitionists went to the White House, Lincoln talked to them, knew what they were saying. He didn't want to speak only to people who agreed with him, and he didn't surround himself with a small range of opinions. I think he realized that in a monumental crisis you must be open to new ideas, which enabled him to change and grow during the Civil War.

Q. *Do people today realize that the man called the "Great Emancipator" promoted efforts to get former slaves to move to colonies in South and Central America?*

A. In August 1862, Lincoln had a meeting with a black delegation in which he publicly pushed them toward endorsing the idea of colonization, of organizing among their own people to leave the country. He couldn't really conceptualize the United States as a biracial society of free people until really the last two years of his life. But then he did rethink these questions and moved to a very different position, which I think is much more interesting than to just say, "Well, he's born with all the right views and that's it throughout his whole life." While he ended up as the great emancipator, no question about it, he didn't get there in a straight line.

Q. *Ultimately, Lincoln's views about race changed in the last two years of his life. What was behind that?*

A. By the end of the Civil War, 200,000 black men had served in the Union Army and Navy. Lincoln believed their contribution was essential to Union victory, and that by fighting, they had staked a claim to citizenship. But there were other things. Before the Civil War, Lincoln had virtually no contact with black people. And since he was not part of the abolitionist movement, he had no interaction before the war with articulate, politically active black men like Frederick Douglass or others. I think that this contact with African Americans of education, of talent, of political awareness broadened Lincoln's views of race. Lincoln also developed a deep, real compassion for the emancipated slaves and was concerned about their fate. We don't know what would have happened if Lincoln had not died in 1865, but he certainly was in a very different place in terms of race when he was assassinated than he had been when he entered the White House, or even a year or so into the Civil War.

Q. *Was the Civil War in effect also a social revolution?*

A. The historians Charles and Mary Beard called it the "second American Revolution." They were talking more about economics and the rise of industry, but the abolition of slavery is a revolutionary act, because slavery was the foundation of the society of half the country. Abolishing it meant you're going to have to have a new labor system, a new political system, a new system of race relations. It throws all those things up for grabs. It makes blacks feel for the first time that there really was the possibility of equality in the United States, which really no one had even glimpsed before the Civil War. At Lincoln's second inaugural, it is said that half the crowd was black; this would have been completely impossible before the Civil War. Why would any black person go to the inaugural of James Buchanan or Franklin Pierce?

Q. *You allude to the great what-if question on Lincoln. What are your thoughts on how Reconstruction might have gone had he had lived out his second term?*

A. I'm always asked what would have happened if Lincoln had not been killed. Lincoln was succeeded by a man who was his complete opposite. Some people grow in a crisis, as Lincoln did, and some people seem to shrivel away, and that's what happened to Andrew Johnson. He lacked Lincoln's broad-mindedness, he lacked his flexibility, he lacked his compassion for the emancipated slaves, he lacked Lincoln's connection with the Republicans in Congress and Northern public opinion. I think what would have happened is what happened during the war: Lincoln and Congress would have debated and fought, and they would have reached some kind of general policy on Reconstruction. It probably would have looked like what Congress passed over Johnson's vetoes in 1866: civil rights for black people, maybe limited black suffrage and federal protection of the rights of former slaves. It wouldn't have been as radical as Reconstruction would later become. Would it have worked better? Who knows. But the idea long embedded in our history that Andrew Johnson was simply following in Lincoln's footsteps is ludicrous. It is a tragedy that Lincoln was killed, given the man who followed him.

Q. *Aside from it being the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth, why is he so relevant today?*

A. Lincoln's life illuminates persistent questions of American history: obviously, the question of race, the role of the government, the role of presidential leadership, of social mobility in our society—all things he experienced in his own life. He seems like the quintessential American in some ways, and that's why I think every generation takes a new look at him. So there's nothing unusual perhaps in me coming along and saying, "Well, there's 10,000 books on Lincoln, but I have something to say—book number 10,001." I don't claim that this is the final word on Lincoln, but I do think that in some ways, Lincoln is always our contemporary.

COLUMBIANews ON THE WEB

For more of the interview and a video of Eric Foner discussing his new book on Lincoln, go to news.columbia.edu/foner



ELEEN BARROSO

African drylands were the topic of a Sept. 20 forum with East African officials and Columbia faculty. From left, Sheba Rukikaire, head of the drylands program in Uganda; Belay Begashaw, director of the Earth Institute's MDG Centre; and Upmanu Lall, director of the Columbia Water Center, discuss the challenges facing communities in the drylands, which suffer from extremely limited access to food and water. The World Leaders Forum event was co-sponsored by the Earth Institute, which in July launched its Drylands Initiative aimed at accelerating development, including in livestock production, health and education, in six East African countries.



DAVID MENTWORTH

José Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission, meets with students in the Burden Room of Low Library following his Sept. 21 speech during the World Leaders Forum. The 15 students, who are enrolled in a dual-degree program at the School of International and Public Affairs, got to ask Barroso one question apiece. Some of the questions dealt with economics, while others focused on policies and governance of the European Union.



ELEEN BARROSO

Columbia College Dean Emeritus Austin E. Quigley speaks at the Sept. 13 dedication of a theater named in his honor in Lerner Hall. Quigley served as dean from 1995 to 2009, the second-longest tenure in the school's history. Quigley, who is the Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature and special adviser to the president on undergraduate education, established the undergraduate major in drama and theater arts at the college, revived the doctoral program in theater and helped reinvigorate the M.F.A. program in theater at the School of the Arts.



ELEEN BARROSO

The 315 incoming members of the School of Engineering and Applied Science kick off the academic year at an Aug. 31 orientation program by tossing their first-year beanies into the air. Engineering Dean Feniosky Peña-Mora revived the Columbia tradition of handing out beanies to first-year students, which dates back to the late 1800s, as a way to build community among class members. However, Peña-Mora told the students wearing it was no longer a requirement.

Vagelos

continued from page 1

grams and served as a mentor for faculty, students and staff. He also serves as chair of Columbia University Medical Center's Board of Visitors and chair of the medical center's capital campaign.

"When I first came to P&S 60 years ago, the facilities were first-rate, as many of them had just been built," Vagelos said. "Naturally, over time, some of them have aged, and new technologies and teaching resources are now required to provide the best modern education opportunities. We are training the doctors who will deliver medical care, the scientists who will perform groundbreaking scientific research, and the teachers who will help train the future generation of physicians and scientists. It is important that their educational facilities are as exciting as medical science is today."

The medical center was built in the 1920s, and has been periodically updated and added to as it has grown into a larger institution. But the need for new and improved space is widely acknowledged. "This new education building will ensure that Columbia continues to produce superior doctors and researchers, trained in the latest techniques, as medicine continues to evolve rapidly throughout the 21st century," said Lee Goldman, executive vice president for Columbia University and dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine at the medical center. "Roy's support has been essential to our efforts to improve the quality of life and learning on the medical campus."

Vagelos met his wife, Diana, at a party held by a mutual friend while he was attending P&S and she was a first-year Barnard student. A 1955 graduate, she is now a trustee. The Diana Center, Barnard's new student center, was named for her in recognition of a major gift from the couple. They also funded Barnard's Vagelos Alumnae Center.

The P&S project is part of an overall medical center campus revitalization plan that will add green space, consolidate student services and renovate several existing buildings. The projected cost for the entire project is \$185 million.



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

Hint: Although the serene sea-blue colors may fool you, this is no vacation retreat. Around here, students failing to produce the required work are likely to be issued a professorial subpoena *duces tecum*. Where is this? Send answers to curecord@columbia.edu. The first person to email the right answer wins a *Record* mug.

ANSWER TO LAST CHALLENGE: Sliding gate door of Journalism School building.

WINNER: Daniel P. Romanello, Associate Director, Print Services

Saskia Sassen

continued from page 1

need new categories of thinking, new categories for research and for interpreting data."

She gives an example: China spends billions of dollars to buy mines in Africa and land to grow palm trees for bio-fuels. The leading investors in many developing nations are not from the West, but sovereign wealth funds from countries such as China and the United Arab Emirates. They are making new global geographies that often bypass Europe and the United States entirely, she notes, highlighting the need for new ways of understanding the growing economic and cultural interdependence of the world's nations.

The committee's first five years, Sassen says, really "put this organization on a global map." Last year alone, the committee brought in 70 speakers from around the world. The next step, she says, is to move forward with projects that promote cross-disciplinary collaboration and take a new look at issues ranging from food policy and ecology to trade and war.

To that end, Sassen has organized her second Columbia conference about global cities on Oct. 1, "Cities and Eco-Crises."

"My hope with these annual conferences is to make the subject of cities and their economic, social, technological and ecological challenges one of the core subjects of the CGT, along with governance and religion," she says.

On Oct. 4 and 5, the committee will sponsor a forum titled "Sovereign Wealth Funds and Other Long-Term Investors: A New Form of Capitalism?" Panelists will include speakers from the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and the Abu Dhabi Investment Council, as well as former Vice President Al Gore and George Soros.

"We do these conferences that either are mapping out a new global event or global actor," Sassen says. "The sovereign wealth funds have existed for quite a while. But the global finance crisis has significantly increased their role in the world economy and we need to understand a great deal more about what that means."