Emmy Winner June Massell Named Vice President for Communications and External Affairs

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a better person to fill the position of vice president for Communications and External Affairs than June Massell. Communication is never easy, but it is especially complicated in an academic environment. June has all the professional, as well as the personal, capacities to help the University speak effectively and, above all, with an authentic voice,” said President Lee C. Bollinger. “The credentials she has accumulated in her distinguished career reflect an extraordinarily impressive range of experiences, all of which will now be of direct benefit to Columbia. It is a pleasure to welcome her to the community.”

Massell has served as a reporter, anchor, host, producer and writer for all three major networks and for public television, cable, local news stations, print and online media. She is well-known for investigative reporting and has won four Emmys, as well as broadcast awards from New York City, New York State and the National Commission on Women.

As an on-air correspondent for “The MacNeil Lehrer News Hour” and ABC News, including “Nightline,” “World News Tonight,” and “Good Morning America,” she covered some of the most important stories of our time and interviewed many of the most prominent American and world leaders in government, politics, business, finance, medicine, science, and culture and the arts. She also was a local reporter at WNBC TV in New York and WMAQ TV in Chicago. Prior to on-air reporting, Massell was a producer and associate producer at NBC News and CBS News, where she worked in a variety of formats, including hard news, documentaries and magazine programs, as well as specials. She began her career as a researcher at CBS News.

Just before the birth of her daughter twelve years ago, Massell decided on a career change and began her own media and communications strategy firm advising CEOs and senior executives in both the corporate and nonprofit sectors. She developed and implemented media and communications strategies, and provided counsel on effective communications, press relations and management of complex and sensitive issues for a wide variety of clients from all sectors of life, including educational institutions. She has worked with government offices and departments and as a delegate to various international human rights fact-finding missions and has been an invited speaker at the Aspen Institute’s “Law & Society” seminars with Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun.

Emmy award winner June Massell has been appointed as a reporter, anchor, host, producer and writer for all three major television networks.

New MPA Dual Degree Offered by SIPA, London School of Economics

BY JAMES DEVITT

The School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) have established a master of public administration dual degree program that captures a rigorous academic education with practical experience in solving real-world problems. The program will offer students intensive interaction with governmental and international organizations in the United States and the United Kingdom. This is the first dual degree program between Columbia and LSE.

The program was formally launched by SIPA Director Kathleen Sullivan with a roundtable discussion covering three topics on the Columbia campus: privatization, the environment and immigration. The roundtable featured faculty from SIPA and LSE.

“This program offers students unrivaled experience in two of the world’s leading cities as well as expert teaching from the internationally renowned faculty of two premier educational institutions,” said SIPA Dean Lisa Anderson.

“The MPA is an exciting new opportunity to train talented individuals who will drive public policy. We believe this new MPA will offer professional expertise and techniques of analysis that use rigorous methods rooted in economics but also take account of international, political, social and cultural factors,” said Professor Patrick Dunleavy, LSE MPA program director.

A 21-month program, the LSE-SIPA Dual Master of Public Administration begins in the fall of 2003. It will include a full academic year of study at SIPA and a full academic year of study at LSE. Applicants apply either to LSE or SIPA for their first year. They may apply to pursue the dual MPA once they have been accepted at either institution or during the fall semester of their first year.

In the first year of study, students take core courses covering essential areas of policymaking, including economic analysis and quantitative methods. Second-year students’ work includes a chosen area of concentration. LSE areas of concentration include welfare state policies, the European Union and management of organizations. SIPA concentrations include city management and urban affairs, health policy, and science and technology policy.

Students finishing their second year of the dual degree program at LSE also complete a 15,000-word dissertation, which focuses on a specific area of public policy application. Those completing their second year at SIPA take part in a public policy clinic, a two-semester course that includes working with faculty and practitioners to design and implement policy-relevant research projects.