programs. Our students will benefit immensely from Mary’s hands-on work in many of the world’s most volatile areas, as well as senior state experience in Ireland and a strong United Nations portfolio.”

In October 2002, Robinson launched the Ethical Globalization Initiative (EGI) to promote a more ethical and equitable globalization process through dialogue, research and concerted action. At Columbia, Robinson will continue as executive director of EGI, and the University will become a partner in this global effort. Other EGI partners include the Aspen Institute and the International Council on Human Rights Policy.

Jeff Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, said: “We are delighted that the Earth Institute will house EGI’s research activities at Columbia, since Mary Robinson has long noted that basic human rights for the poor are essential in promoting sustainable development.”

The Earth Institute is a partner of Realizing Rights: the Ethical Globalization Initiative, with Professor Jeff Sachs and Dean Lisa Anderson serving on its board, said Robinson. “A broad-based and distinguished academic committee has been established under the chairmanship of Provost Alan Brinkley to integrate the ideas and approach of the Ethical Globalization Initiative fully into Columbia, and to enable the rich resources of the University to be drawn upon.”

Robinson has extensive experience in global governance and international law. At the age of 25 she was appointed the Special Rapporteur of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. In 1988, Robinson practiced law at the Irish bar, and took leading cases to the Court of the European Communities in Luxembourg and the European Court of Human Rights at Strasbourg. She has also served on the Dublin City Council, the International Commission of Jurists and the Advisory Committee of Interights, and was an expert on European Communities and Irish parliamentary committees.

“Mary Robinson’s appointment to the Columbia faculty is a major win for Arts and Sciences, SIPA, our students and our international affairs programs,” said Ira Katznelson, Columbia’s acting vice president and dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. “Throughout her career, Robinson has tackled some of the most challenging issues of our day—from visiting Rwanda in the aftermath of genocide to supporting the prosecution of former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes. She will bring to the classroom enormous insight into world politics and the difficult aspects of modern day diplomacy.”

Robinson is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and the American Philosophical Society. A founding member and now chair of the Council of Women World Leaders, she is honorary president of Oxfam International.

**President Bollinger Visits Ghana to Explore Increased Cross National Educational Ties**

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cross-national cooperation with Akilagpa Sawyer, secretary-general of the Association of African Universities (AAU), headquartered in Accra. The Association boasts more than 177 members in 44 African countries committed to increasing ties with the international education community.

The president also toured government health facilities where the Mailman School of Public Health has been active. The Mailman School’s Averting Maternal Death and Disability (AMDD) program and its local partner in Ghana—the Regional Prevention of Maternal Mortality (RPMM) network—are working to improve the availability, quality and utilization of emergency obstetric care. Since AMDD’s inception in 1999, the program has built a global network of organizations (with partners UNICEF, CARE, UNFPA, Save the Children and RPMM), to greatly reduce the number of deaths in resource-poor countries from pregnancy and childbirth complications.

A world-leading academic center for the study of sustainable development, Columbia’s Earth Institute is currently collaborating with Ghana’s Ministry of Economic Planning, Columbia’s Earth Institute also plans future bilateral projects in urban planning, as well as energy and water conservation.

Bollinger visited the local authority primary school in Sekyedomsa in the Ejura-Sekyedomsa district of the Ashanti region near Kumasi. The model school provides lunch meals of locally produced food for its students.

“I feel that the children’s lives are being touched in a different way with this...program,” said Bollinger in the Ghanaian Times.

The school lunch program is part of a larger effort adopted by world leaders at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000 to reduce poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy globally. Eighteen Columbia faculty members serve as coordinators of United Nations Millennium Project task forces, working throughout Africa and elsewhere.

The Columbia-Ghana relationships do not stop there. Teachers College’s National Center for Children and Families and the UNICEF, has been working in Ghana to help the government identify and establish nationally accepted indicators of early child development. Columbia MBA students traveled to the country to work with women entrepreneurs.

“I am impressed with what I have seen,” said Bollinger at the end of the seven-day visit to Ghana in the Ghanaian Times. “This is a country with enormous potential...with a society eager...to bring development to the people.”

**Mary Robinson, Former President of Ireland, Joins Columbia Faculty**

Mary Robinson spoke before the Italian Senate during a summit in Rome in 2002.

Bagnall sees myriad uses for Funding

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The Record: In a world in which many people read less and are increasingly obsessed with pop culture, what is the importance of studying the classics and history?

Bagnall: Well, I think in the end, the reason is because they are interesting to people. People care about human history. They want to know about other cultures, and since I think curiosity is one of the central human traits, one has to respect that curiosity as reason for doing things. Indeed, I think that despite the tidal wave of pop culture, there have never been more people interested in the ancient world than there are now. You can go on the web and find anything, and the web has been wonderful, partly, for making it possible to discover the fact that there are people out there interested in just about anything. Of course, sometimes, it’s not such good things. Any time I talk to a nonclassical audience about the kinds of things I do, I find them totally fascinated and wanting to learn more. Often we don’t do a very good job of communicating to other people, you know, outside the professional circle. And I have spent a fair amount of effort, over the years, writing things that have been intention-

Mary Robinson spoke before the Italian Senate during a summit in Rome in 2002.

Bagnall on a dig in Syria. His interest in history began as a child.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOIL LUCION

Mary Robinson, Former President of Ireland, Joins Columbia Faculty

PHOTO BY HEALY BAGNALL

Ghanian President Kufuor and Columbia President Bollinger met in Low Library during the head of state’s visit in September.