

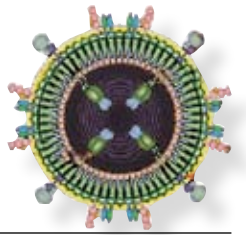


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 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Record

VOL. 34, NO. 05

NEWS AND IDEAS FOR THE COLUMBIA COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 18, 2008

Columbia's War Dead Honored

By Leah Bourne

The Columbia War Memorial was unveiled during a ceremony at Butler Library on Dec. 12 attended by Columbia alumni veterans, students, administrators and 20 of the University's trustees, all donning red paper poppies in their lapels, the symbol of American war dead since World War I.

The plaque honors the 460 known alumni who lost their lives in conflicts dating from the American Revolution. It will be mounted for permanent display at the entrance of Butler Library in early January, in a spot chosen because of its heavy traffic.

"I know that many people in the room have deep and personal connections to people who have died serving the country and the military," President Lee C. Bollinger told the gathering. "To those people we want to say that we deeply appreciate that, and we are proud to honor them as Columbians and also their service to the country." Noting his family's military service, he said, "My own father served in World War II, and I grew up in an environment in which service had a daily presence."

The committee that worked to bring the memorial into existence, said Toni Coffee (BC'56), a member who spoke at the unveiling, determined early on that it "must be in plain sight, where current members of the University



The War Memorial plaque unveiled.

community would see it every day—not hidden reverentially in a quiet room where it would be out of sight and out of mind."

Provost Alan Brinkley, who led the University's engagement in the memorial's development, noted the long history of Columbia's alumni in military service. In his remarks, he recounted how a group of students during the War of 1812 volunteered to build fortifications to protect what eventually became Columbia's campus on Morningside Heights from anticipated attacks by British soldiers.

An interactive, online component of the memorial called the "Roll of Honor" lists the names of alumni who

continued on page 12



OBAMA ELECTION FOSTERS DEBATE ON LINCOLN ERA

By Candace Taylor

The impending celebration of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth seems eerily fortuitous. As a group of world-renowned scholars gathered Nov. 22 at Columbia's Low Rotunda to kick-start the bicentennial with a symposium exploring Lincoln's legacy, the historic election of Barack Obama (CC'83)—and the comparisons drawn between him and the Great Emancipator—were not far from their minds.

When Obama accepted the Democratic nomination, "he referred to Lincoln again and again," said event organizer Andrew Delbanco, the Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities and director of the American Studies program at Columbia, who pondered whether the new president can usher in a new era of American life, as Lincoln did.

The daylong event, "Lincoln in His Time and Ours," was the first major academic conference celebrating the biennial and will be followed by similar conferences at Harvard University, Howard University and University of Oxford, among others. Columbia's was sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and marked the publication of *Our Lincoln: New Perspectives on Lincoln and His World*, edited by Columbia's DeWitt Clinton Professor of History, Eric FONER.

"We wanted it to be the liftoff event," said James Basker, president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute, an independent organization that promotes the study of American history.

But when the event was planned six months ago, organizers couldn't have known that Obama would be elected president.

His successful campaign was "a dream beyond a dream," not just for the country but for the timeliness of the symposium, Basker said.

This moment is particularly meaningful for Columbians, University President Lee C. Bollinger said in his welcoming remarks, because Obama is a Columbia graduate. Lincoln's achievements—the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and his determination to preserve the Union—make him one of the most influential figures in history, Bollinger said. Lincoln "has been studied and written about more than any other person in modern times," he said.

Still, it's not just Lincoln's achievements that have fostered such careful scholarship of his presidency, panelists said. Rather, it's the enormous philo-

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HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMS THRIVE ACROSS CAMPUS

By Record Staff

December 2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Across Columbia the teaching, research and advocacy of human rights is not a historical commemoration, but an active, growing and increasingly central organizing principle for a wide range of University programs inside and outside the classroom.

By the middle of the last century, Columbia became a leading center in the battle for civil rights in the United States; more than a half-dozen law school professors and alumni worked on the pivotal 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* case that desegregated the nation's public schools. Since then, the University pioneered scholarship and action to promote human rights globally. Starting in the 1960s with the hiring of faculty members who had worked in the field and expanding, in 1978, with the creation of the Center for the Study of Human Rights at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia built a broad, multidisciplinary strength in human rights issues.

Today, the teaching and practice of human rights is threaded throughout the curriculum at multiple schools, centers and institutes; promoted in law and health clinics; and carried out in the field both within the U.S. and in many nations abroad. The University has about a dozen degree and non-degree programs

in human rights. Those seeking to turn learning into action can apply for internships and fellowships, or work at one of the many University centers and institutes that promote and protect the rights of children, mothers, migrant workers, prisoners, refugees, low-income tenants and patients. As the archive for Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, the University now houses one of the world's largest collections of human rights documents.

To President Lee C. Bollinger (LAW'71), it makes perfect sense for an institution built on the core value

"There's a breadth and depth of engagement in both thought and action on human rights."

of academic freedom to make human rights a focus.

"My scholarly field of freedom of speech and press has taught me that all human rights are individually important and importantly interdependent," says Bollinger. "That's why Columbia plays a unique role in the advancement and protection of human rights globally. From the special archive in our library to the experienced faculty in law, international and public affairs, social work, the arts and sciences, journalism and public health, there's a breadth and depth of engagement in both thought and action on human rights that is profoundly impressive."

In a globalized society that has seen the expansion of democracy and intensified repression; better living standards for some amid deepening poverty and inequality for others; there remains, alas, ample opportunity for Columbians to find new and effective paths to promoting human rights.



ON CAMPUS



ANDERSON COOPER LIVE FROM THE J-SCHOOL

CNN anchor Anderson Cooper chats with journalism students after a Dec. 5 talk he gave at the Graduate School of Journalism. Cooper, host of the news program Anderson Cooper 360, shared anecdotes on how he launched his career as a foreign news correspondent. Cooper set out on his own to dangerous parts of the world with a home video camera. "I figured if I went to places where people were too scared to go... I'd have less competition," he said. Though he conceded that getting into the business can be difficult, he told students who wanted a career as a foreign correspondent to consider cable news. CNN, he said, still is expanding its international news coverage. Cooper's visit was sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists.

MILESTONES



MAYA TOLSTOY, a marine geophysicist at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, is the 2009 recipient of the Women of Discovery Sea Award, which promotes the achievements of women explorers. Tolstoy, who is active in scientific programs that seek to introduce young people to science, was recognized for her pioneering work in studying mid-ocean ridges using seismic signals generated by earthquakes and participating in 27 deep-sea expeditions.

Jacques Barzun Professor of History **KENNETH T. JACKSON** was awarded the Gold Medal of the 95-year-old National Institute of Social Sciences. The organization has recognized major lifetime accomplishment since its founding in 1912.



School of the Arts Theatre Professor **ANNE BOGART'S** SITI Company has been selected to participate in a new arts initiative by Nonprofit Finance Fund. The program gives artistic organizations an opportunity to strengthen their business in a shifting environment. SITI is one of nine participants that will have access to \$1 million in funding over four or five years to meet challenges faced by arts organizations such as shifting audiences and decreased funding sources. SITI is an ensemble theater group co-founded by Bogart in 1992.

KARA WALKER, professor of visual arts, has been named a 2008 USA Fellow by the Los Angeles-based United States Artists Foundation. Walker is one of 10 visual artists in a pool of 50 winners who will receive unrestricted awards of \$50,000 each. In its third year, the fellowship program honors outstanding artists from all disciplines including architecture, dance and literature.



JOHN W. ROWE, professor of health policy and management at the Mailman School of Public Health, has been named chair of the MacArthur Foundation's new interdisciplinary research network to help America prepare for the challenges posed by an aging society. Rowe, former chair and chief executive of Aetna, previously led MacArthur's Network on Successful Aging, which found that most of the factors that predict successful aging are not solely genetic but are equally related to lifestyle.

GRANTS & GIFTS

- WHO GAVE IT:** The G. Harold & Leila Y. Mathers Charitable Foundation
- HOW MUCH:** \$2.4 million
- WHO GOT IT:** College of Physicians and Surgeons
- WHAT FOR:** Department of Neuroscience
- HOW WILL IT BE USED:** To support basic research in the department
- WHO GAVE IT:** The Jerome L. Greene Foundation
- HOW MUCH:** \$1.3 million
- WHO GOT IT:** College of Physicians and Surgeons
- WHAT FOR:** Department of Medicine
- HOW WILL IT BE USED:** To help establish an endowed professorship in honor of Dr. Jerry Gliklich's outstanding contributions to cardiology at Columbia
- WHO GAVE IT:** The Branta Foundation
- HOW MUCH:** \$1 million
- WHO GOT IT:** School of International and Public Affairs
- WHAT FOR:** Faculty and student support
- HOW WILL IT BE USED:** \$300,000 will be used to create fellowship support for five outstanding students in the Executive M.P.A. program at the school's Picker Center; \$700,000 will support two new faculty members in public management as they launch new core courses (part of SIPA's curriculum reform)



Anthony Lewis Retires from J-School

By Joel Stenington

Journalism professor Anthony Lewis had a glint in his eye as he went off on a tangent in class. "You've just taken me back to John F. Kennedy's inauguration," said Lewis, who told a quick story before fellow professor Vincent Blasi brought the lecture back on track with a laugh: "to divert ourselves back to the agenda."

Such digressions and conversations between Blasi and Lewis—the asides, the stories, the legal arguments—have transfixed a generation of students at the Graduate School of Journalism. Lewis, a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former Supreme Court reporter for *The New York Times*, has co-taught "Journalism, the Law and Society" with Blasi, a First Amendment expert, to every American student at the journalism school during the last 23 years. (The class isn't required for international students.)

In a bittersweet moment, Blasi and Lewis retired from the class together on Nov. 7. For Lewis, it was the end of more than 30 years of teaching at Columbia and, previously, Harvard. Blasi will continue to teach at Columbia Law School, where he is the Corliss Lamont Professor of Civil Liberties.

"Blasi and Lewis had so many incredible personal experiences," said Kathryn McGarr (JRN'09), "that I found myself writing down their anecdotes as furiously as I took notes on the material."

The class covers media-related First Amendment cases and issues such as the standard of actual malice in libel cases and degrees of privacy in information gathering by news organizations.

During lectures, Lewis regaled the class with stories from his days as a reporter, London bureau chief and columnist for the *Times*, where three decades of op-ed columns helped define him as a leading liberal voice. He won his first Pulitzer in 1955 for reporting on the suspension of a U.S. Navy employee accused, with no evidence, of being a security risk; the man was later cleared. His second, also for national reporting, was for his coverage of the Supreme Court.

Journalists from the past two decades call the class a highlight of the one-year master's program. "I thought Lewis was a bit of



Journalism professors Vincent Blasi (left) and Anthony Lewis at their last class together on Nov. 7.

a showman, in a positive way," said Nigel Jaquiss (JRN'97), a reporter for the *Willamette Week* in Portland, Oregon who won a Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting in 2005. The class was "memorable," he added.

"I love students and I think teaching is the most wonderful profession, even more than journalism," said Lewis, now 81, who said taking the train down from Boston every week was a major reason to stop teaching the course. "Your students become your future."

In a school known for emphasizing craft, the class is considered more academic than practical and distanced from issues journalists face on the job. Dean Nicholas Lemann said there was some agreement that the course should be pushed "a couple of notches closer to practice" at a meeting called to

discuss the future of the class with two dozen Columbia deans, professors and outside experts, including a New York Supreme Court justice and legal counsels from the *Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and NBC News. A faculty board will decide who teaches the course next year.

Lemann called the class "a real jewel of the school." Both professors said the continuing economic collapse of newspapers and the loss of newspaper readers are on their minds a great deal. Blasi encouraged students to fight anxiety about the future. "It's been such an honor, as a lawyer, to be a part of your profession," said Blasi, at the end of the class. Then he choked up as he read a *Times* story from the day Barack Obama was elected president. He looked up at the class with tears in his eyes and said, "We will always need people who can tell the story."

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Center for Human Rights Study

Dear Alma,
When did the study of human rights begin at Columbia?

—An Advocate

Dear Advocate,

It all goes back to Louis Henkin, who joined Columbia in 1962 as a professor of law and also of political science. Henkin began his legal career in 1940 as the law clerk to Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Learned Hand and later to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter. After World War II, when he served in the U.S. Army, Henkin joined the U.S. State Department and later worked with its fledgling United Nations Bureau and in the Office of European Regional Affairs. In those roles, according to a biographical article on him, "he explored how international norms play out on a domestic landscape governed by the U.S. Constitution."

Henkin came to Columbia after a year as a law professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and it was here that his already substantial influence in human rights soared. He wrote such influential books as *How Nations Behave*, *The Age of Rights*, *Foreign Affairs* and *The Constitution*, as well as the textbook *Human Rights*, all required reading in the human rights field. He taught international and constitutional law and designed novel courses that looked at how the two coalesce, and how they don't.

In 1978, he and fellow law professor J. Paul Martin created the Center for the Study of Human Rights, which aims to educate students across departments throughout the University on the theory and practice of human rights. It promotes interdisciplinary academic research within the University and shares its expertise with groups outside Columbia. From this, other institutes and centers involving human rights grew.



ASK ALMA'S OWL

In 1999, the law school created the Louis Henkin Professorship in International Human Rights. It was the first endowed professorship of its kind, signifying the importance of integrating the practice and study of international human rights law. Law professor Sarah Cleveland currently holds that chair. Henkin became a university professor in 1981, Columbia's highest faculty rank, which recognizes exceptional scholarly merit. He is now a university professor emeritus. Recently, he wrote an amicus brief for the controversial case *Hamdam vs. Rumsfeld*, regarding the rights of a detainee at Guantanamo Naval Base. In its June 2006 decision reversing the Bush administration, the U.S. Supreme Court referred to Henkin's brief, which argued that individuals have enforceable rights under the Geneva Convention—proof once again of this Columbia professor's broad influence in human rights.

—Bridget O'Brian

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

ON EXHIBIT: THE HUMAN CONDITION

An exhibit of the work of Noah A. Kinigstein, titled "The Human Condition," is running through Jan. 15 at the Russ Berrie Medical Science Pavilion and the Mary Lasker Biomedical Research Building. It features works in watercolor, oil and graphics by Kinigstein, an essentially self-taught painter and long-time resident of Washington Heights. His work, reflecting figurative art and his interest and feelings regarding current world affairs, has been exhibited in various regional

shows and private art collections.

The Russ Berrie Medical Science Pavilion is located at 1150 St. Nicholas Ave. at 168th Street, and the Mary Lasker Biomedical Research Building is at 3960 Broadway (entrance on 166th Street). The exhibit, sponsored by the Office of Government and Community Affairs, is free and open to the public.

—Jennifer Curry



TRUSTEE TAPPED FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

By Record Staff

University Trustee Eric Holder, a graduate of Columbia College and Columbia Law School, has been selected by President-elect Barack Obama, himself a Columbia alumnus, to be nominated as the next attorney general of the United States.

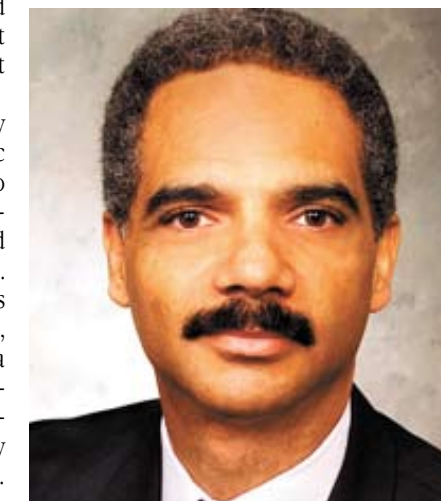
Holder (CC'73, Law'76) is the first African American and second consecutive Columbia graduate to serve as the nation's top law enforcement officer. He would succeed Michael Mukasey (CC'63), who has been attorney general since 2007, and was previously a U.S. District Judge on the Southern District of New York for 18 years.

"The Columbia community is proud to congratulate Eric Holder on his nomination to be the 82nd Attorney General of the United States," said Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger. He lauded Holder's many years of public service, which include positions as a former deputy attorney general under President Bill Clinton, as well as acting attorney general, judge and prosecutor.

Holder's first job after graduating from Columbia Law School was at the U.S. Justice Department, where he was assigned to the newly formed Public Integrity Section. He later was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to be an associate judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, a post he held for five years before joining the Clinton administration.

Holder currently is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of law firm Covington & Burling LLP. He has been a University trustee since March 2007. "Eric Holder is a widely respected alumnus who has also served the University community as an actively engaged member of our Board of Trustees," Bollinger added. "His career has exemplified our commitment to educating young people for the responsibilities of active citizenship and public service to our nation and our world."

With his confirmation, Holder would become the third graduate of Columbia College to attain a top public office over the past year. In addition to President-elect Obama (CC'83), New York Gov. David A. Paterson graduated from Columbia College in 1977.



Trustee Eric Holder nominated U.S. attorney general.

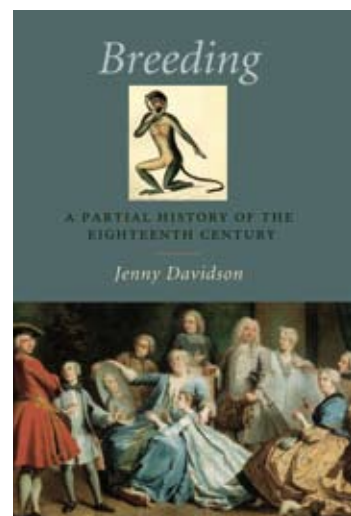


EX LIBRIS

Columbia Ink

Compiled by Jennifer Curry

As the holiday season beckons gift-givers, Columbia faculty members are well-prepared to help the cause with a trove of new books. The subjects of politics and the news media, which always draw interest, are covered in two separate books. *Brothers in Arms* looks at the Kennedy brothers and Cuba's two Castro siblings. The media's role in a democracy is deciphered by J-school professor Michael Schudson. India art and the period of Enlightenment in the 18th century are among other topics explored.



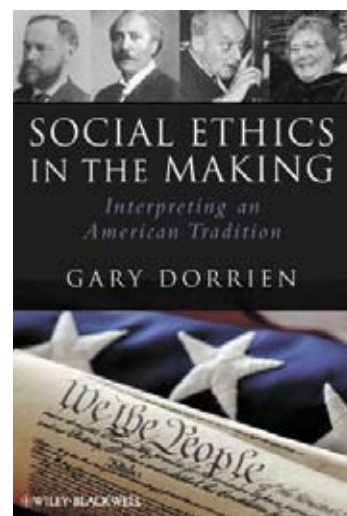
Breeding: A Partial History of the Eighteenth Century
BY JENNY DAVIDSON
Columbia University Press

In her book *Breeding*, Columbia associate professor of English and comparative literature Jenny Davidson gives readers a detailed history of fundamental concepts of the Enlightenment. That period brought about the notion of the perfectibility of man. Davidson turns to the works of Locke, Rousseau, Swift and Defoe, just to name a few, to reexamine the argument that a proper upbringing and education would allow any man to be considered a member of the cultural elite.



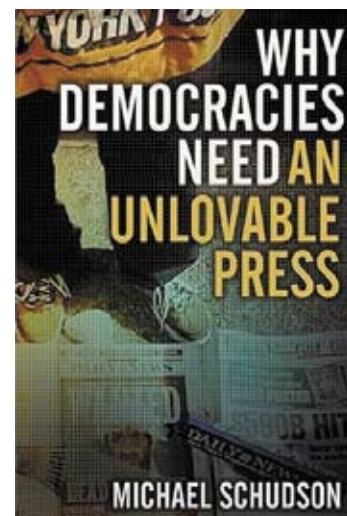
Preservation of Modern Architecture
BY THEO PRUDON
John Wiley & Sons

Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation associate professor Theodore Prudon delivers to architectural professionals and students alike a broad overview of preserving modern buildings. Case studies from the United States, Europe and Australia, assessments of modern buildings, as well as evolving philosophies and standards, offer a framework to maintain the design integrity of buildings, while working with new materials and technology not available when the structure was built.



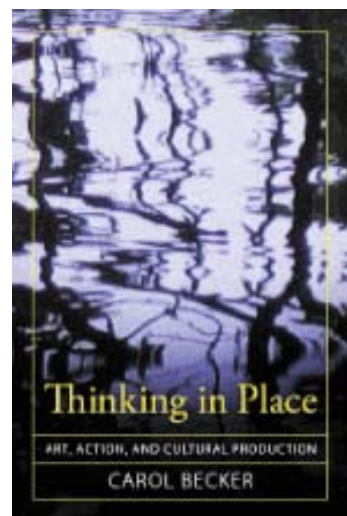
Social Ethics in the Making: Interpreting an American Tradition
BY GARY DORRIEN
Wiley Blackwell

Gary Dorrien, the Reinhard Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and professor of religion at Columbia, discusses the term "social gospel," which is referred to as social ethics in *Social Ethics in the Making: Interpreting an American Tradition*. Social ethics began with the idea that Christianity has a social ethical mission to transform the structures of society in the direction of social justice. Dorrien vividly depicts for the reader the history of social ethics, which has roots in the 19th century.



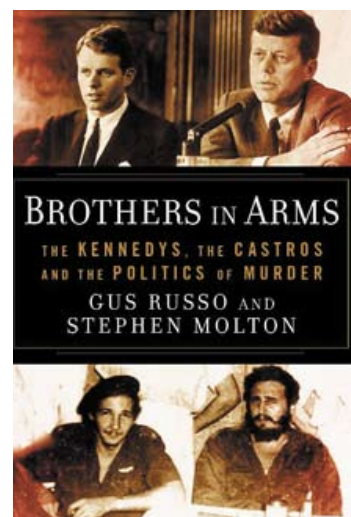
Why Democracies Need An Unlovable Press
BY MICHAEL SCHUDSON
Polity

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism professor Michael Schudson examines the relationship between journalism and democracies in this collection of his recent writings, including some published for the first time. Looking at news as both a storytelling and fact-centered practice, he dissects several controversies about what public knowledge today is and what it should be. Schudson ventures to suggest that journalism may better serve free expression when it is less analytic than media critics demand.



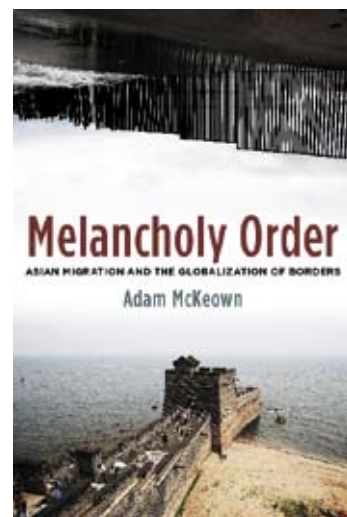
Thinking in Place: Art, Action and Cultural Production
BY CAROL BECKER
Paradigm Publishers

Thinking in Place, a book of 10 essays by Carol Becker, professor of the arts and dean of the School of the Arts at Columbia University, emphasizes to readers the importance of writing as a form of meditation that encompasses history and memory. Becker's essays reference places where she lived as a child and tell how each place holds a special significance in her life. In particular, the Brooklyn Museum in New York was where she developed an appreciation for public institutions and the arts.



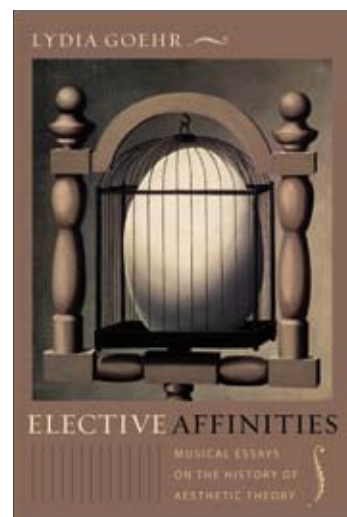
Brothers in Arms: The Kennedys, the Castros and the Politics of Murder
BY STEPHEN MOLTON
Bloomsbury USA

Former PBS *Frontline* investigative reporter Gus Russo and Columbia School of the Arts associate professor Stephen Molton take a look into the lives of two prominent pairs of brothers, the Kennedys and the Castros. Thirty years of research and interviews with undisclosed sources provide readers with a vivid narrative of controversial times prior to, during and after President John F. Kennedy's assassination. This work has a substantial amount of information that gives insight into what the authors deem to be the true motive behind the horrific murder that put a blotch on modern American history.



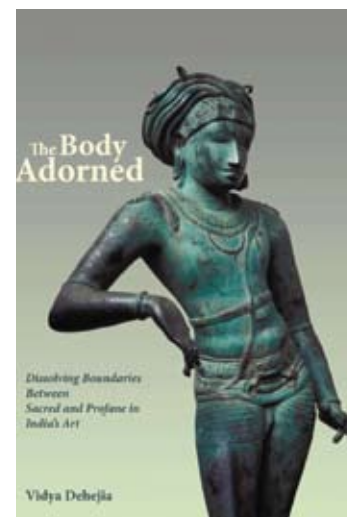
Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders
BY ADAM MCKEOWN
Columbia University Press

Adam M. McKeown, associate professor of history at Columbia University, traces the history of increased border patrol and identity documentation for more than 150 years of globalization. McKeown looks at the history of border control policies during the 1880s, which greatly affected the Asian migration around the Pacific. These border controls required that migrants be removed from social networks and placed in isolated "filing systems." The practices helped institutionalize economic and global cultural divisions, which continue to shape our perceptions.



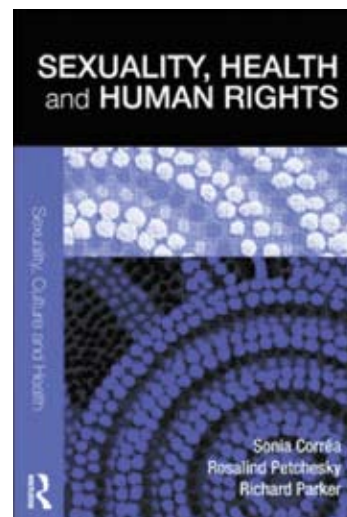
Elective Affinities: Musical Essays on the History of Aesthetic Theory
BY LYDIA GOEHR
Columbia University Press

In Goethe's novel of the same name, "elective affinities are powerful relationships that crystallize under changing conditions." In this work, Columbia professor of philosophy Lydia Goehr discusses the movement of aesthetics and critical theory as it relates to Germany and the United States after World War II. Goehr focuses on the history of aesthetic theory from Theodore W. Adorno and Arthur C. Danto. She maintains that aesthetic theory relies on a dynamic philosophy of history centered on tendencies, yearnings, needs and potentialities.



The Body Adorned: Sacred and Profane in Indian Art
BY VIDYA DEHEJIA
Columbia University Press

Vidya Dehejia, the Barbara Stoler Miller Chair in Indian Art at Columbia, presents a comprehensive study of premodern Indian art, which is dominated by the sensuous human form. The author discusses the hymns of saints, literature of poets and verses from inscriptions to show premodern India's treatment of the sculpted and painted form. Dehejia notes the coexistence of sacred and sensuous images within the boundaries of Buddhist, Jain and Hindu "sacred spaces."



Sexuality, Health and Human Rights
BY SONIA CORREA, ROSALIND PETCHESKY, RICHARD PARKER
Routledge

Sonia Corréa, coordinator of the Sexuality Policy Watch at the Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association (ABIA); Rosalind Petchesky, political science professor at Hunter College; and Richard Parker, sociomedical sciences professor at Columbia take on the study of societal changes. They look at how social, cultural, political and economic changes at the outset of the 21st century had an impact on sexuality, health and human rights. What used to be private matters are now public the authors find.

Center for the Study of Human Rights ■ Human Rights Clinic ■ Rightslink ■ SIPA Human Rights Program ■ Human Rights Institute ■ Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research ■ Peace Education Center ■ Center for the Study of Human Rights ■ Human Rights Clinic ■ Rightslink ■ SIPA Human Rights Program ■ Human Rights Institute ■ Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research ■

TheRecord
SPECIAL

CROSSING BORDERS: The Many Roads to Human Rights Scholarship and Advocacy

Columbia's engagement in human rights work reaches across traditional academic boundaries within the University and outward in many directions far beyond the campus gates. Here is a look at five of the many human rights projects that allow Columbia students, faculty and staff to have an impact on improving lives at home and abroad.

Human Rights Institute ■ Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research ■ Peace Education Center ■ Center for the Study of Human Rights ■ Human Rights Clinic ■ Rightslink ■ SIPA Human Rights Program ■ Human Rights Institute ■ Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research ■

PROFILES IN HUMAN RIGHTS



Law Clinic Students Take on Pioneering Cases

By Bridget O'Brian

The Human Rights Clinic at Columbia Law School is designed to teach second- and third-year students, as well as foreign students, the basics of good legal practice. Along with exercises and simulations, research and writing, the clinic also teaches students how to interview clients, develop facts and organize cases and projects.

But what really makes the program come alive is the hands-on experience with active human rights cases, such as that of *Gonzales vs. United States of America*. Now, a third class of students is working on this domestic violence case, which has an unusual history. It stems from a 1999 incident in which the estranged husband of Jessica Gonzales kidnapped her three daughters, despite a domestic violence restraining order. The kidnapping was reported immediately, but police never arrested her husband, who was shot and killed after he arrived at the police station and opened fire. The bodies of her children were found in his truck.

After moving through the lower courts, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June 2005 that Gonzales was not entitled to police enforcement of her restraining order under the due process clause of the Constitution. Her disappointed lawyers, who had assembled hundreds of friends-of-the-court briefs and include Caroline Bettinger-Lopez, deputy director of Columbia's Human Rights Institute, decided not to give up. They have taken the case to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, a body that promotes human rights within the Organization of American States. In agreeing to hear the case, the commission held in October 2007 that the U.S. is required to protect individuals from private acts of violence. It will rule some time next year whether the human rights of Jessica Lenahan (her name now that she has remarried) were violated.

"This is all about creative advocacy and about ways to persuade the federal and state governments that they are accountable for preventing domestic violence in this country," said Bettinger-Lopez, who brought the case with her when she joined Columbia in 2006 from the American Civil Liberties Union. In addition to this case, the law clinic students are working on several others, including one against the Dominican Republic for the mass expulsion of Haitians, allegedly because of the color of their skin. Another case challenges the imposition of life-without-parole sentences for 40 juveniles in Michigan. In all, the clinic is involved in more than 10 active cases and projects this year.

In the *Gonzales* case, the central issue is whether local police departments have a duty to enforce restraining orders, and what remedies are available to victims when the police fail to protect them and their children. In October, Lenahan appeared before the Inter-American Commission at a hearing in Washington, D.C. to make her statement on the merits of the case. The commissioners, who came from a panel of seven experts in human rights, heard testimony on whether the police department's failure to protect Lenahan and enforce the restraining order was a violation of U.S. international obligations under the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man.

The commission's decision won't necessarily be binding on the U.S., but the training for the students who worked on the case will have a lasting effect. This year's group was assisted by several from last year's clinic who stayed on. "It's a challenging legal case; there's always plenty of work to go around," Bettinger-Lopez said. The students also get to know Lenahan through the case files and will get a chance to meet her when she comes to the school to speak about the case. "It's a really rewarding experience for clinic students to have contact with real clients," said Bettinger-Lopez. "Especially somebody who is so very powerful and empowered and an inspiration to all of us."

Library Houses Archives Overflowing with History

By Tanya Domi

A number of Columbia faculty have been present at defining moments in the field of human rights, but with the acquisition last year of the records and papers of more than a half-dozen human rights organizations, Columbia is now a history-keeper as well as a history maker.

The Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research holds the archival records of several donors, including Amnesty International USA, the Committee of Concerned Scientists, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch and Columbia's own Center for the Study of Human Rights and the University Seminar on Human Rights.

"The human rights organizations that have donated their archives to the center are the most prestigious in America, if not in the world today," said Pamela Graham, a librarian and acting director of the center. "These represent the largest collections on human rights in North American libraries."

Established at the Columbia Libraries, the center is a recent, significant addition to the University's deepening scholarship about global human rights.

The largest contribution to Columbia's collection comes from Amnesty International, which deposited between 6,000 and 7,000 linear feet of reports, manuscripts, post cards, letters, banners, transcripts and other significant organizational documentation.

"We chose Columbia University to deposit our archives because of its long-standing commitment to human rights and its location in the city where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted," said Peter Farnsworth, chief financial officer of Amnesty International. "We also knew it to be one of the best places in the world and could be made available to the public."

The center's archives are too large to be maintained on campus and are housed in a state-of-the-art, climate-controlled facility in Princeton, New Jersey, at the Research Collections and Preservation Consortium, a facility shared with Princeton University and the New York City Public Library.

Another more recent human rights-related project at the Libraries is the assembly of the websites of nearly 600 human rights organizations from around the world, led by Robert Wolven, an associate University librarian who oversees collection development. A Mellon Foundation grant, shared with University of Maryland, made possible the purchase of a special software called "archive it" that can take a picture of a site to capture its information.

The software was able to capture a Tibetan human rights website last spring when Lauran Hartley, the Tibetan studies librarian, notified Wolven that she feared a website would be pulled down during the uprising. The site was captured two days before it was shut down by government authorities, illustrating the need for the speedy capture of new data and pages.

The collection in the new center complements existing Libraries holdings, says Susan Hamson, the curator and librarian who supervises archival processing in Butler Library's Rare Book and Manuscripts.

It includes the papers of the late Telford Taylor, Nash Professor of Law Emeritus and a brigadier general who was the chief prosecutor at the Nuremberg Military Tribunal after World War II and an opponent of the McCarthyism of the 1950s. His papers are held in the Arthur W. Diamond Law Library. The papers of "America's Schindler," Varian Fry, who is credited with saving the lives of nearly 4,000 Jews—among them, such luminaries as Max Ernst, Hannah Arendt and Marc Chagall—are part of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library. And the correspondence of former New York Gov. Herbert Lehman is held by the Lehman Suite at the School of International and Public Affairs; he later became the first director general of the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

Hamson describes the human rights archive as "an education" for her, as she learns about human rights and works with the various groups who have contributed material.

"Every now and then, when you are working with the archives, it does hit you, how human rights organizations have had an impact on someone, a government, some situation that is literally changing the world," she said.

Rights Curriculum Crosses Schools and Disciplines

By Melanie A. Farmer

While a student at Columbia Law school, Peggy Hicks (LAW'88) spent a semester interning at Interights, a London-based organization where she worked on cases before the European Court of Human Rights. Now, the global advocacy director at Human Rights Watch, Hicks' credits Columbia for setting her on her career course.

"I knew I wanted to work in public international law, but I wasn't sure how to pursue a career in that, and in what area," said Hicks. The law school's internship program "gave me hands-on exposure to how my legal studies could be directed to making a real difference in the lives of those suffering from human rights abuses."

Columbia is one of the first universities to have created a curriculum in human rights, and the study of human rights is threaded throughout nearly every graduate and undergraduate school at Columbia, offering courses, concentrations and multiple master's programs for those who want to teach or practice the subject. Courses range from "Peacemaking/Peacekeeping" to "Sexuality, Gender and Human Rights" and "First Amendment Values." There are a crop of degree programs, including at Mailman School of Public Health, Barnard College and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Hicks, who majored in Russian/East European studies as an undergraduate, was drawn to Columbia's Harriman Institute and the public international law component at the law school, where she was exposed to a plethora of human rights-related courses. Another key attraction, she said, was the opportunity to study under law professors Louis Henkin and Jack Greenberg—both considered giants in the world of human rights law. Henkin, University Professor Emeritus, is widely credited for having pioneered the field of human rights law.

"Human rights has been taught as part of the mainstream of our curriculum longer than anywhere else, largely due to Henkin," said Peter Rosenblum, professor of human rights and faculty co-director of the Human Rights Institute at the Law School. "Because he was such a towering figure, both in human rights and at the law school, there was a real pride of place here."

Said Elazar Barkan, co-director of Columbia's Center for the Study of Human Rights, "the curriculum here is much more than just the legal perspective ... We have a more comprehensive perspective on human rights." Barkan is also a professor of international and public affairs at SIPA.

For Priscilla Hayner (SIPA'93), that extra perspective was critical. "SIPA's broad focus geographically and thematically provided me with the opportunity to dip into brownbag seminars on an almost daily basis, considerably expanding my familiarity with conflict situations and policy developments," she said. Hayner, who received her master's in international affairs with a concentration in Latin America, went on to co-found the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) and currently heads its Geneva office.

As the world of human rights changes, so does the University's curriculum. "In the past, the human rights concentration was more legally oriented," said Barkan, "but now it addresses issues like social justice, inequality, human fairness and human dignity rather than just adherence to human rights conventions and human rights laws."

At the law school, budding lawyers can choose from a wide range of public interest law and human rights law courses, including immigration law and policy, prisoner abuse and the global war on terror, and transnational business and human rights.

Human rights "is interdisciplinary and it's even interdisciplinary within the law school," said Rosenblum, who taught at Harvard before joining Columbia six years ago. At other universities, "nobody taught trade law with an eye on human rights or global investment with an eye on human rights. Here, that's not the case. Here, there's an ease of overlap in those areas that has been really, really important."

Rights-Based Approach to Infant Mortality

By Bridget O'Brian

A woman in Sierra Leone has a one-in-seven chance of dying in childbirth, while the odds for a woman in Sweden are one in 30,000. To Lynn P. Freedman, who directs the Averting Maternal Death and Disability Program at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health, "that kind of very stark inequality makes this a global human rights issue."

And one that the Mailman school is doing much to address. The school has long been a leader in maternal mortality issues, building on the pioneering work of Mailman's former dean, the late Allan Rosenfield, and Professor Deborah Maine. For more than 20 years, Mailman researchers have studied ways to reduce the number of deaths in childbirth for women in developing countries. But since receiving a \$50 million grant from the Gates Foundation in 1999, the school has saved tens of thousands of lives through innovative, rights-based approaches to this age-old problem.

"Our program focused on ensuring access to lifesaving care for women in high mortality countries," Freedman said. "Given the disastrous state of health systems and the social and economic dynamics surrounding them, we faced not just a technical problem, but a profoundly political problem as well. With human rights, we had a principled basis to address these challenges both in theory and in our practice."

There have been various approaches to cutting the number of deaths in childbirth over the years. Through its own studies, Mailman researchers determined that the old ways—which called for training traditional birth attendants and providing prenatal care—simply didn't work, because they relied on the assumption that pregnancy complications can be foreseen and averted.

"But the epidemiological evidence showed that most of the complications that kill women can't be predicted or prevented, but they can be treated," she said. "That's why so few women die in countries with access to health care. So the fundamental principle of our project became that every pregnant woman needs access to the care that can save her life in the case of emergency—indeed, she is entitled to it as a matter of human rights."

Seventy-five percent of maternal deaths are the result of five causes: hemorrhage; infection or sepsis; hypertensive diseases such as pre-eclampsia; obstructed or prolonged labor; and complications from unsafe abortion. The first four are hard to prevent, but they can be treated with swift access to health care. "Death is so avoidable, yet so common," said Freedman. "It is really a profound injustice that women die at this rate from something they don't have to die from, because the system has failed them."

Working in partnership with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, AMDD has supported maternal mortality reduction projects in more than 50 countries. A core team from Columbia works with experienced advisers at other health and human rights organizations and ministries of health to make improvements at existing health facilities, enabling more women to use them and increasing the number of facilities overall.

Between 1999 and 2002, the government of Bangladesh increased the number of emergency obstetric clinics to 70 from 45 with help from UNICEF and AMDD. In Bhutan, the government used support from AMDD to increase the number of life-saving procedures that existing facilities could perform. And in Mozambique and a few other countries, AMDD supported the use of non-physician surgical technicians to perform lifesaving surgeries that elsewhere were restricted to specialist physicians.

The \$50 million Gates grant ended in 2006, and the AMDD program has since received additional Gates financing, money from the governments of Ireland and Denmark, as well as funding from other sources and various U.N. agencies.

"We were able to be part of the very beginnings of what's come to be called the health and human rights movement," said Freedman, who is also a professor of population and family health. "We've been able to be part of the thinking and practice...It's not just an academic area."

Six Take Advocacy Around the World

By Tanya Domi

From the moment they arrived on Columbia's campus in August, the six participants in the Human Rights Advocates Program have had an intensive experience designed to expand their skills and teach them how to raise money and network. They have made countless presentations, met with human rights organizations, been interviewed by the media and students, and studied in classes taught by faculty at the law school, the Mailman School of Public Health, and the School of International and Public Affairs.

As their four-month program ended Dec. 9, these members of the 20th class at the Center for the Study of Human Rights prepared to head back to their home countries to put into practice what they have spent the past few months studying.

They represent organizations from India, Indonesia, Liberia, Mexico, the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Florida.

"This experience at Columbia has helped build me up and has broadened my perspective," said Peter Mulbah, an environmental activist from Liberia. "I have a huge wealth of knowledge that I will take back to Liberia, but not before I apply for the master's program here. Getting into the program is one of my dreams." Mulbah has applied to study for the master's degree in environmental science that would permit him to enter the University in September 2009.

The Human Rights Advocates Program, created in 1988, was originally designed to provide opportunities for grassroots leaders to strengthen their skills and work effectively with members of the academic, NGO, policy-making and corporate communities. It was reoriented in 2004 to put human rights into the context of globalization.

"With few exceptions, most advocates leave here feeling strongly compelled to take back what they have learned to help their organizations develop and further their causes," said Stephanie V. Grepo, director of the Human Rights Advocates Program.

Among the issues this year's participants advocate for are the rights of India's Dalit women (considered "untouchables"); the connections between education, trade and local agriculture in Indonesia; environmental justice in Liberia; and people marginalized by their age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or HIV/AIDS status in Chiapas, Mexico.

Mulbah took nearly seven years to complete his college degree, taking classes when Liberia was not at war between 1999 and 2003. By the time he finished, he had created an environmental organization that focused on conservation, community and commercial sales of natural resources. When the new Liberian government of President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was elected in 2006, Mulbah was invited to work with government officials and national legal experts in the drafting of new forestry and environmental laws.

Peter Rosenblum, co-director of the law school's Human Rights Clinic, says working with advocates is invaluable and the relationship with the advocates has been a "two-way" experience, especially for students, as well as for faculty.

"We usually meet our clients, so-called victims, who are referred from Western NGOs," said Rosenblum. "But when you meet Peter Mulbah from Liberia, there is a culture difference and a professional difference. You meet them in their social, political space, and we have enough time to get to know them very well. This is a very important difference for our students and for professionals, who usually go out in the field to meet and interview and then leave. This experience with the advocates deepens and broadens your understanding of the world."



RESEARCH

CELL GROUP HAS ROLE IN ANXIETY

By John H. Tucker

The next time you scratch a mosquito bite or experience a sneeze attack, don't get annoyed. It means your anxiety regulation system is working properly.

That's because the biological cell that causes bug-bite rashes and allergic reactions—a mast cell—is also what keeps one's worries in check, say Columbia and Rockefeller University neuroscientists, who published their findings about a new-found link between mast cells and the nervous system in the Nov. 11 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The research, funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, is likely the first to establish a link between mast cells and the nervous system, the researchers say.

Mast cells, which constitute a small part of the body's immune system, have been studied for centuries and are better known for their roles in allergic reactions and asthma. They also attack foreign microbes and keep the body safe from wounds such as snake bites.

More recently, as scientists learned that mast cells also exist in the brain, they have struggled to understand why and what they do there.

Now it appears that mast cells are necessary for anxiety regulation. The Columbia/Rockefeller research

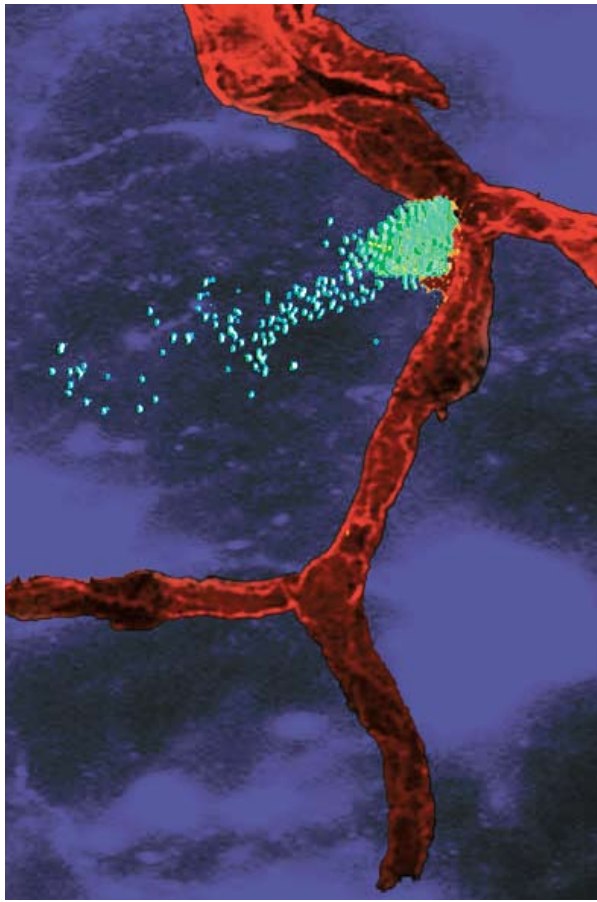
"It shows that cells of the immune system affect or otherwise influence behavior."

team found that mice without active mast cells display significantly more trepidation when placed in certain environments, while mice with the mast cells showed normal anxiety levels.

Because mast cells in mice have been shown to function the same way as those in humans, the results of the study could lead to the development of drugs that bring about new ways to help patients with anxiety disorders by targeting mast cells in the brain.

"These mast cells, which are first-responders in a cascade of immune system responders, can present themselves when needed and increase in number upon demand," says Columbia psychology professor Rae Silver, senior author of the study.

"This study is very significant" says Dr. Leonardo Tonelli, a psychiatry professor at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, who studies the relationship between allergies



A stylized composite of a mast cell (green) with neurons (blue) and blood vessels (red) in the brain.

and depression. "It shows that cells of the immune system affect or otherwise influence behavior."

To explain the reasoning behind the study's launch, Kate Nautiyal, a 26-year-old doctoral student at Columbia and lead author of the paper, said, "Mast cells release serotonin, so we thought they might be doing more than just causing allergic reactions ... We knew there was a brain-immune connection, because when you're stressed out, you're more likely to get sick."

The study involved experiments in which mice ran through two mazes. One maze had elevated pathways either with or without walls, and the other resembled a large field with high walls and a brightly lit center. In one experiment, the researchers put mice into two groups: Mice in the first group were willing to scamper into brightly lit areas and along runways without walls, indicating high confidence levels. Mice in the second group, however, whose brain mast cells were blocked, lingered near walls and defecated frequently—a sign of anxiety.

A second experiment compared the activities of everyday wild mice with "sash" mice, those born with a genetic mutation that makes them mast-cell deficient. When placed in the mazes, the sash mice resembled the anxious group of mice from the first experiment; they roamed in dark corners and along the runways with walls.

The study is the first step in exploring ways in which the immune system reacts to all kinds of stimuli. For now, says Donald Pfaff, head of Rockefeller's neurobiology lab, "We show that mast cells in the brain link the immune system and the nervous system—the two most complicated and highly integrated systems in the body."

Surgery Is Tested for Hypertension Patients

By Alex Lyda

Patients suffering from hypertension, and for whom medication hasn't been effective, may soon have surgery as an option to lower their blood pressure as a result of a trial led by researchers at Columbia University Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

The multicenter, 300-patient trial is testing the efficacy of the Rheos Baroreflex Hypertension Therapy System. The system, which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, is implanted surgically, with minimal scarring, under the skin in the neck and electronically stimulates the receptors in the carotid sinus, the area at the bifurcations of the carotid arteries responsible for regulating blood pressure.

"One-third of the world's population is hypertensive, and only one-third of those people can control their hypertension with the help of drugs," says Dr. Daichi Shimbo, assistant professor in the Center for Behavioral Cardiovascular Health at CUMC and the medical principal investigator for the trial. "There is a vast segment of the hypertensive population that could potentially benefit from surgically intervening to alter the way baroreceptors function."

Baroreceptors work like a thermostat that automatically turns on the air conditioning when the temperature becomes too hot. By activating the baroreceptors and sending signals to the brain, the Rheos System causes the brain to perceive a rise in blood pressure. The brain then acts to reduce blood pressure by sending signals to the blood vessels, heart and kidneys, the major organ systems involved in the control of blood pressure.

The Rheos System includes two small stimulating devices, called "leads," which are implanted, under general anesthesia, next to the carotid sinuses situated on the right and left sides of the neck. It also includes a pulse generator that is about the size of a small cell phone, which is implanted in the chest.

The generator delivers a pulse of energy between one and 75 volts to the leads, which conduct the energy to the carotid baroreceptors. The baroreceptors are then activated, generating nerve impulses that travel to the cardiovascular control centers in the brain, which then slow the heart rate and cause blood vessels to dilate, reducing the amount of pressure the heart must use to pump the blood.

Before joining the study, participants have to have been on three hypertensive medications, including a diuretic, none of which were effective. Shimbo stresses that any reduction in blood pressure is beneficial in patients with severe refractory hypertension.

Stimulating the baroreceptors to lower blood pressure is not a new idea, but early attempts at carotid nerve stimulation were bulky and the devices were crude. The most recent device was more easily implanted and the surgery was conducted without incident, said Sander Connolly, M.D., a CUMC neurosurgeon who is also the study's principal surgical investigator.

The Rheos System is made by CVRx, a private, Minneapolis-based company. Other centers participating in the trial include Washington University, Boston University Medical Center, University of Rochester and Hackensack University Medical Center.



Chancellor Award Winners Share Reporting Tips

By Melanie A. Farmer

Jane Mayer and Andrew Revkin were at Columbia's Graduate School of Journalism to be honored for their distinguished body of work, but before they picked up their John Chancellor Awards, they spent an hour with students, giving them the kind of reporting tips that can take decades to learn.

Mayer, a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, has written extensively on the Pentagon's secret torture policy, how the U.S. outsources torture and the prison at Guantánamo Bay. Her critically acclaimed book *The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals* was recently named one of *The New York Times'* 10 best books of 2008. Mayer relies heavily on a network of trusted sources for her stories, and in the secretive world she investigates, she said it's crucial that she protect their identities.

"It's not a joke or a movie version of something like *Deep Throat*," she said, referring to the anonymous source who helped unravel the Watergate conspiracy. "It is actually quite a serious thing at this point, and you really have to be serious about taking care of the people who will stick their necks out and talk to you." It's important to know just the right time to call sources, she said, and never to rely solely on what they tell you, but to obtain underlying documents that support their stories—further protection for them, so that they don't have to reveal themselves by going on the record.

Times reporter Andrew Revkin (JRN'82) has spent 20 years covering the environment, writing about hurricanes, tsunamis and the politics of climate change. He exposed efforts by

"You really have to be serious about taking care of the people who will stick their necks out and talk to you."

Bush political appointees to alter official climate reports in the White House and their attempts to silence NASA scientists' views about global warming. He now uses multiple platforms to report on science, writing for the *Times'* Dot Earth, doing podcasts, video clips and online slideshows.

Revkin discussed a recent blog post he wrote on the need for more working, sanitary toilets in the world. "There are 2.6 billion people right now on planet Earth who have no secure, safe, sanitary place to" use the bathroom, he said. Because there are limited places for people to go, they are choosing to defecate in plastic bags, he said, and as a result, "you have plastic bags of poop flying around slums in big cities."

His comment provoked laughter from the audience, but the story on working toilets exemplifies how his beat is not just about laboratory research but about how, and whether, science finds application in the real world. "Science is not just some set of facts that has accumulated on shelves miraculously," he said, "it's a body of information that's living, dynamic and always evolving and always under challenge." Revkin advised students to study the history of science rather than just biology or physics.

Asked to name some of the bigger stories that will follow in climate change's footsteps, Revkin insisted that the real story lies in the consequences of a rapidly growing population and the human-planet relationship. "Climate change is a subset of the story of our time, which is that we are coming of age on a finite planet and only just now recognizing that it is finite," he said.

Revkin and Mayer were honored Nov. 19 at a ceremony in Low Rotunda immediately following the panel discussion. The award honors the legacy of pioneering television correspondent and longtime NBC News anchor John Chancellor and is administered by the Graduate School of Journalism each year. A nine-member committee selected both journalists to receive the award, which bestows a \$25,000 prize for each winner.

21 Years On, Founders of HIV Center Still Battle Disease They Had Hoped to Beat

By Clare Ob

In the 1980s, as the first AIDS cases began to appear in the United States, researchers worked against the clock to find answers to critical life-and-death questions about the disease: What was causing it? Who was most at risk? What factors made them so vulnerable? Because HIV was first noticed among gay men, the risk factors for other populations were overlooked.

In 1987, the HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies was founded and quickly became a leader in the fight against AIDS among different populations. Today researchers at the center, a joint initiative of Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, conduct interdisciplinary research on HIV/AIDS-related issues that include behavior change, sexuality, mental health, ethics and policy. It also offers outreach and support to a broad range of HIV-infected and affected populations in New York City.

The group's founders are amazed that they are still working on a disease that at first seemed limited to one population but has become a global health challenge.

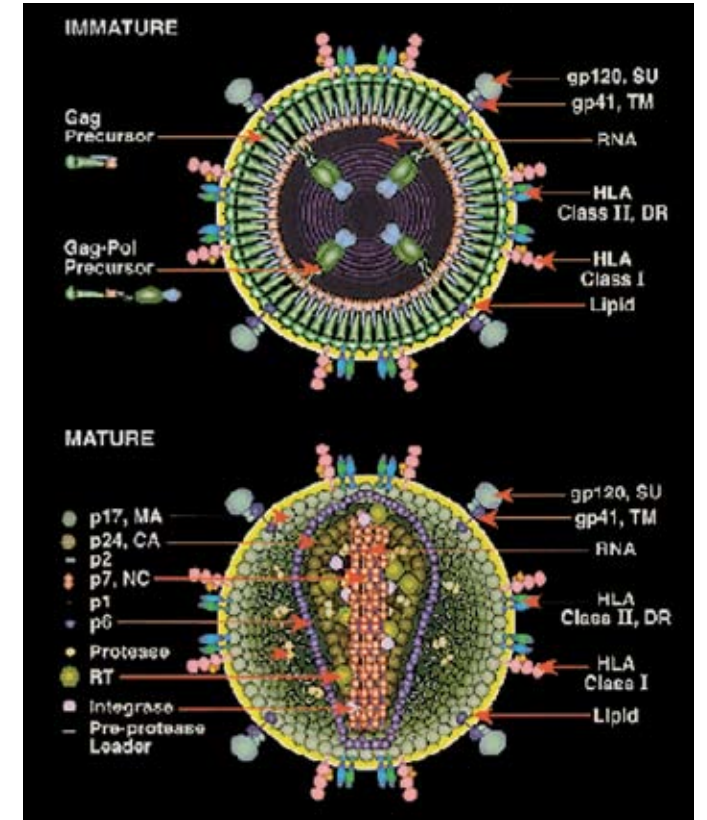
"I never thought the center would be around 20 years later," said Anke Ehrhardt, who co-founded the group with another Columbia professor, Zena Stein. "We thought the center would exist for maybe five to 10 years—max."

Ehrhardt, a sexuality and gender researcher from Germany, was an associate professor of psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia when the epidemic began, but soon found herself among a group of researchers working to understand the complexities of the disease. Responding in 1987 to a call from the National Institute of Mental Health for an interdisciplinary research center on HIV/AIDS, the researchers received a \$19 million grant to establish the center.

It was the first to conduct major studies documenting the risk of HIV infection among the seriously mentally ill and advance early prevention efforts for this population. It also identified the hardships facing families with HIV-positive parents or children and established some of the first programs to address their needs.

"We really sounded the alarm on behalf of women, working to get their agenda defined, particularly in regard to how much control women have in protecting themselves," said Ehrhardt. "This has become a hallmark of our work." The transmission of HIV from pregnant women to their children has been vastly reduced in the United States, and people with HIV live longer thanks to improved access to better treatment.

In other parts of the world, though, the biggest challenge is getting medication, and stigma and discrimination are still major obstacles. "We cannot treat ourselves out of this epidemic," said



The immature and mature forms of HIV

Ehrhardt. "At the beginning of the epidemic, no one was aware of its enormity. It's incredible that today, countries have to go through the same script as we did in those early days—denial, stigma, gender inequality and silence."

Earlier this year, the center received a five-year, \$10 million grant renewal from the National Institute of Mental Health to continue its work. The renewal included the establishment of the Global Community Core, which brings together an international group of experts from academia, government and community-based organizations to advance research on the epidemic and its impact on more than 40 million HIV-positive people. The center today is active in eight countries—South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Nigeria, China, Vietnam, Egypt and the Dominican Republic.

Ehrhardt still sees a much-needed return to issues closer to home. "There will be heightened need for greater prevention work in New York City," she said. "We need leaders who are trained to fight the epidemic—community, scientific, government and health. We need inspired and creative leadership."

SENATE LOOKS AT CONFLICT, OPEN-ACCESS ISSUES

By Tom Matbewson



The University Senate finished its work for the fall in a pair of meetings, one before and one after Thanksgiving, debating a draft policy on conflict of interest in research and hearing about the open access movement in scholarly communication.

At both meetings, President Lee C. Bollinger spoke about the economic downturn and its impact on the University. At the second, on Dec. 5, he said in response to a question that the decline in the value of Columbia's endowment was smaller in percentage terms than the 22 percent drop since June 30 that Harvard had just announced for its endowment. He didn't elaborate.

On Nov. 20, senators responded to a presentation of the proposed conflict of interest policy from Naomi Schrag, associate vice president for research compliance. She said work on the new policy began 18 months ago, and included a line-by-line review last summer by an ad hoc Senate subcommittee chaired by Sen. Samuel Silverstein (Ten, P&S). Schrag stressed the need for a single University-wide policy to cover conflicts in all types of research. Bollinger asked why book royalties were not covered by the policy, and suggested that any work done essentially for money is in some significant sense in conflict with

the aims of scholarship.

Sen. Soulaymane Kachani (NT, SEAS) mentioned reservations among his colleagues at the engineering and business schools about the applicability of a University-wide policy focused on medical research to their work. He called for some bifurcation of policies, perhaps between research involving human subjects and other kinds of scientific research, or between research conducted at the medical center and at other campuses. Kachani invited Schrag to a meeting of his department—Industrial Engineering and Operations Research—on Dec. 4.

On Dec. 5, the Senate heard from Kenneth Crews, director of the Copyright Advisory Office in the Libraries, about his role and open access, the principle that scholarly work should be available to everyone without financial or other barriers. Crews was invited by the Libraries Committee, which hoped his talk would start a conversation in faculties throughout the university about open access.

The Senate supported this principle in a resolution of April 1, 2005. In February 2008 the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences adopted a policy requiring that an accessible electronic copy of all work by faculty members be deposited in the library for general use. Questions for Crews addressed practical applications of the policy, including its financial implications for scholars.

Also on Dec. 5, Sen. Paul Duby (Ten,

SEAS) reported on an Executive Committee discussion of a just-completed poll of undergraduates that revealed an almost even split on whether a Naval ROTC should be brought back to campus. He said that in the absence of any significant changes in the terms of the debate since 2005, when the Senate overwhelmingly voted against bringing back ROTC, the committee decided not to call for new deliberations.

Housing Policy co-chairs Paige Lampkin (Stu., GS) and Craig Schwalbe (NT, SW) provided updates on student housing issues, on the new policy affecting Columbia tenants who retire, and on a Feb. 1, 2008 Senate resolution calling for a policy rationale on using rental income for the capital costs of the Columbia housing stock. Schwalbe said the committee was still awaiting the administration's response to the resolution.

Student caucus co-chairs Amena Cheema (Arts) and Genevieve Thornton (Business) read a statement of intent for the caucus for 2008-09, but did not elaborate.

The Senate meets next on Jan. 30. Anyone with a CUID is welcome. Most Senate documents are available on the Web, at www.columbia.edu/cu/senate.

Tom Matbewson is manager of the University Senate. His column is editorially independent of The Record. For more information about the Senate, go to www.columbia.edu/cu/senate.



Who's Who in Human Rights at Columbia

- PETER JUVILER, Professor Emeritus and Special Lecturer, Barnard College
- ANDREW J. NATHAN, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Columbia University
- CAROLINE BETTINGER-LOPEZ, Lecturer-in-Law and Postdoctoral Research Scholar, School of Law
- PETER ROSENBLUM, Lief, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein Associate Clinical Professor in Human Rights, School of Law
- LYNN P. FREEDMAN, Professor of Clinical Population and Family Health, Mailman School of Public Health
- The late TELFORD TAYLOR, former chief prosecutor at Nuremberg and Nash Professor Emeritus of Law, School of Law
- SARAH H. CLEVELAND, Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights, School of Law
- ELAZAR BARKAN, Professor of International and Public Affairs, SIPA
- LOUIS HENKIN, University Professor Emeritus; Special Service Professor, School of Law
- JOSE ALVAREZ, Hamilton Fish Professor of International Law and Diplomacy, School of Law
- LILA ABU-LUGHOD, William B. Ransford Professor of Anthropology and Gender Studies, Columbia University
- JENIK RADON, Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs, SIPA
- SUZANNE GOLDBERG, Clinical Professor of Law, School of Law
- JACK GREENBERG, Alphonse Fletcher Professor of Law, School of Law
- CAROL SANGER, Barbara Aronstein Black Professor of Law, School of Law
- J. PAUL MARTIN, Professor and Director of Human Rights Studies, Barnard College
- TONYA L. PUTNAM, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Columbia University
- DAVID L. PHILLIPS, Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Human Rights, SIPA
- PAMELA GRAHAM, Acting Director of the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research, Libraries
- JOHN C. MITTER, Professor of International and Public Affairs, SIPA; and Professor, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Columbia University
- KATHERINE M. FRANKE, Professor of Law, Director, Gender & Sexuality Law Program, School of Law





ECOLOGY WITHOUT APOLOGY

By Clare Ob

When Shahid Naeem, professor and chair of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, thinks about the overwhelming variety of flora and fauna on earth, he recalls the lessons he learned when, at the age of 20, he worked for publisher Henry Giroux (CC'36).

"Giroux pushed for authors who weren't going to be bestsellers," said Naeem in the University Lecture he delivered on Nov. 17. Indeed, throughout his career, the publisher recognized the worth of books authored by, at the time, largely unknown writers—Flannery O'Connor, Susan Sontag and George Orwell—authors who would go on to become literary icons themselves.

"I remember Giroux because of his ability to see the value of these understated authors, who are like a rare species," Naeem explained. "As with biodiversity, what a mistake it would be to not notice them, to not understand that the power and value of

"Columbia is taking the lead and using the science we do... for problem solving."

literature is in its tremendous diversity, not just the bestsellers."

Naeem made the comparison during the November University Lecture, the twice yearly address given by a member of the faculty to celebrate his or her academic achievement. Each University Lecture is an in-depth exploration of a topic of the speaker's choice. The title of Naeem's talk was "Nature, Knowledge, and Our National Identity: Notes from an Increasingly Lonely Planet."

Columbia Provost Alan Brinkley introduced Naeem, lauding his "calm but urgent advocacy" of environmental diversity. Naeem, while soft-spoken, tried to bring some irony to a very serious topic. Before rattling off statistics about the rapid destruction of natural habitats, he admitted: "I seem somewhat happy, don't I?" He said that if people found his talk funny, it was due to his attempt "to put a humorous spin on the demise of our world."

Naeem, who is also director of science programs at the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation, wove together personal stories and ideas from his global



Shahid Naeem, professor and chair of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, speaking at the University Lecture on Nov. 17.

research trips, his work with students and even some of his favorite poems. He recited the lines to one such poem, "Advice to a Young Prophet," by Richard Wilbur:

*Speak of the world's own change.
Though we cannot conceive/ Of an
undreamt thing, we know to our cost/
How the dreamt cloud crumbles,/ the
vines are blackened by frost./ How the
view alters.*

Explaining these lines in relation to the importance of biodiversity, Naeem said, "Species are as important as we are—to imagine these things won't be here one day

gets me all choked up and teary-eyed. The planet is getting lonelier."

Still, Naeem said that he remains steadfastly optimistic about the future of the planet and believes that the United States, under new leadership, can learn to prioritize the environment as a national treasure. "The more you explore, the more you will see," he said. "You just need to get out and see nature and the great diversity of life—Americans have a deep appreciation for biodiversity. We need to become a leader in environmental stewardship as our new national identity."

When he's not teaching classes about ecosystem functioning and understanding nature, Naeem conducts research projects

in such far-flung places as Inner Mongolia, where he is looking at what impact the loss of grassland diversity will have on herders, and in the Millennium Villages of rural Tanzania and Kenya, where he is studying how agricultural and native diversity can help achieve sustainable development.

"I have to say, it's quite challenging" said Naeem of his work in rural Africa. "How can we begin to take our science and use it to get people out of the extreme poverty." To help answer this, he said, Columbia is playing a significant role. "Columbia is taking the lead and using the science we do—for problem solving," said Naeem. "It's a happening place."

COLUMBIA PEOPLE

Cheryl Franks



WHO SHE IS: Assistant Dean, Director of Field Education, School of Social Work

YEARS AT COLUMBIA: 20

WHAT SHE DOES: Franks manages the Field Education Department at the School of Social Work, where she and her team connect some 800 students to their desired field work placements. The department works with 700 supervisors and educational coordinators at community, for-profit and not-for-profit local and international agencies throughout the city. Her team places students in fields such as family and children services, gerontology, employee assistance and services for immigrants and refugees. The aim is to give students a wide range of field placement options, from working at prisons to hospitals to public schools. Franks also teaches courses in social work and human rights.

A GOOD DAY ON THE JOB: "Today a student stopped me in the hall, excited to be here and at her placement. She's learning to master new knowledge and skills and serving clients in the places and spaces where they work and live. Hearing that, indeed, a good day on the job!"

THE ROAD TO COLUMBIA: Franks came to Columbia from Ohio State University, earning her master's degree in 1982 with a minor in human resources, organizational development and accounting from Columbia Business School. She worked for seven years at the employee assistance program for District Council 37, a labor union, where she developed a program for retirees and disabled employees. Franks joined Columbia, working primarily in field education and received her Ph.D. in social work in 2001. She served

as executive director of Diversity, Human Rights and Social Justice from 2005 to 2008, training faculty and field instructors how to facilitate dialogues on challenging topics like race and religion. She provided a similar offering to administrators, staff and faculty throughout the University.

BEST PART OF THE JOB: "Working with my team and my colleagues from around the school to prepare a future generation of social work professionals with values rooted in justice and human rights."

MOST MEMORABLE COLUMBIA EXPERIENCE: For Franks, it was difficult to pinpoint one key moment. "Certainly being one of many who have worked to advance a diversity and human rights agenda throughout the University and the school is memorable," she said. But what stands out for her is the School of Social Work community responded "with dignity and sensitivity" during the tragedies of 9/11, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Virginia Tech and the hate incidents on campus, she said. "From providing support to other members of the Columbia community and their families, and then the surrounding community through trauma response, as well as facilitating moments of inter-and intra-group conflict and tension, we were always there using our professional knowledge, skills and humanity."

IN HER SPARE TIME: To wind down, Franks takes walks with Max, her yellow lab/hound, a rescue dog from Hurricane Rita. She likes to stay active either by running, swimming or biking. And, when she gets the chance, she travels and spends time with her family in Ohio and friends in Connecticut and Washington.

—By Melanie A. Farmer



FACULTY Q&A

SARAH CLEVELAND

POSITION:
Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights, Columbia Law School
Co-director, Human Rights Institute
Columbia Law School

JOINED FACULTY:
2007

HISTORY:
Samuel Ruben Visiting Professor, Columbia Law School
Marrs McLean Professor in Law, University of Texas School of Law

Interview by Melanie A. Farmer

In 1992, when Sarah Cleveland was a third-year law student at Yale, she teamed up with classmates and professors to sue the U. S. government on an issue that sounds eerily like something from today's headlines: Do foreign detainees at the Guantanamo Naval Base deserve the same constitutional protections as American citizens? The case was brought on behalf of Haitian refugees who had sought political asylum in the U.S. after a military coup overthrew the Haitian government. The refugees who were granted asylum but tested positive for HIV, however, were detained indefinitely at Guantanamo. In early summer 2003, a federal judge ruled the detention unconstitutional, allowing them entrance into the U.S. at last. Quite a high-profile case for a lawyer in the making—and Cleveland's introduction to international human rights law.

"Being involved in that litigation," she said, "showed me the power of what international law can and cannot do on behalf of people."

Now a noted legal expert on the subject, Cleveland continues to fight such battles, more often from the classroom than the courtroom, as the Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights and faculty co-director of the Human Rights Institute at the law school. Most of Cleveland's scholarly work is on the intersection, and sometimes the fault line, between international law and domestic law. Coming almost full circle, Cleveland examines the relationship between international law and the concept of extraterritorial application of the U.S. Constitution, and how constitutional rights should apply abroad.

One area of interest is the rights of foreign nationals, who are typically at a legal disadvantage. "They are a community that has no political voice or clout," she said, "and traditionally, they are a group for whom legal protection often breaks down. That's what I want to remedy." She participated in efforts to free so-called Mariel Cubans who were indefinitely detained in the U.S. for a decade or more, and worked to develop international legal protections for migrant workers.

For the Human Rights Institute, Cleveland oversees scholarly efforts and programs with faculty co-director Peter Rosenblum, who is also a professor of human rights law. The institute was founded by Columbia professor Louis Henkin in 1998 "to be the focal point of human rights activities at the law school," said Cleveland, "and to create a bridge between the law school and human rights work outside the University." It has done so by forming partnerships with groups like the American Civil Liberties Union or through its own Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyers Network, a group of domestic legal advocates who push for U.S. compliance with international human rights law.

Formerly the Marrs McLean Professor in Law at the University of Texas, where she received the Excellence in Teaching Award, Cleveland's past scholarship has explored the use of U.S. economic sanctions to promote human rights compliance abroad, as well as the historical role of international law in U.S. constitutional interpretation, an issue on which she has testified before Congress. She is currently co-authoring the second edition of Louis Henkin's *Human Rights* casebook, due out in 2009.

Q. As faculty co-director of the institute, what matters to you the most right now?

A. Across the spectrum of projects that the Human Rights Institute is involved in, we are trying to challenge traditional ways that human rights have been thought to be useful. For example, through our project on Human Rights in the United States, we are attempting to demonstrate that human rights are relevant to what happens here within the United States, that they're not something that simply happens "out there." The focus on human rights in the United States is a flagship project of the institute and is one of Columbia Law School's distinctive



contributions to the study and practice of human rights. In our project on Human Rights and the Global Economy, we are reconceiving human rights as a field that is concerned with issues of anti-corruption, transparency and democracy in international mining contracts. In 2008, human rights is no longer only about things like torture and extrajudicial killing. We're very interested in pushing the envelope on how human rights law and advocacy are conceptualized.

Q. What are some of the projects the institute is currently working on?

A. Our project on National Security and Human Rights established the Working Group on Detention Without Trial this past summer. The working group is comprised of prominent legal academics and others with expertise on the law and policy of detention, and is working on the question of what position the new administration should adopt regarding the detention of terrorism suspects, including persons detained at Guantanamo. Members of the working group submitted testimony on this issue to the Senate Judiciary Committee this fall and have submitted a position paper to President-Elect Obama's transition team. On the clinical side, the Human Rights Clinic is pursuing a major inquest under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain all the information they can about how decisions are made by the government to accept "diplomatic assurances" when people are returned to countries where they may be subjected to torture. Very little is known about U.S. practices in this area, and the clinical project is thus a very important effort to establish transparency and accountability.

Q. How have you participated in the legal fight over prisoner rights at Guantanamo Bay?

A. Most of the work I've done around Guantanamo has involved not international law, but the application of U.S. constitutional law. I work a lot on extraterritorial application of the U.S. Constitution and the relationship between constitutional doctrine and international law. Guantanamo has obviously been a focus of the struggle over whether or not the Constitution applies outside the territory of the United States and if so, under what circumstances and to whom. We filed an amicus brief [in the *Boumediene v. Bush* case] arguing that the habeas corpus provisions of the Constitution should apply to Guantanamo detainees and

pleasantly the Supreme Court agreed. They didn't cite our brief so I can't claim credit, but we like to think it had some influence.

Q. You helped draft a labor code for post-Taliban Afghanistan. What was that like?

A. That was complicated. We were given a copy of the pre-Taliban labor code of Afghanistan, which was essentially a Soviet-era document, and asked to try to come up with an employment code that would satisfy fundamental international labor standards and also be attractive to foreign investment. One of the challenges was that the Afghan labor code was riddled with references to traditional employment practices. For example, the employer was supposed to provide a hot lunch for the worker every day. Under the Afghan labor code, it was also essentially impossible to fire someone for any reason. One of the main problems we struggled with was how to create a workable enforcement mechanism in a country that had no real functioning legal or judicial system. So we tried to craft a plan for essentially arbitrating labor disputes. I don't know that Afghanistan ever adopted this labor code.

Q. What makes Columbia's human rights program stand out?

A. [University Professor Emeritus] Louis Henkin built the field of human rights as an area of legal study and built the study of human rights at Columbia before any other school. Part of his vision was that human rights should be a subject of scholarly inquiry not only at the law school, but in the University as a whole. Henkin believed in the interdisciplinary study of human rights, and so he founded the Center for the Study of Human Rights at the University level two decades before he established the Human Rights Institute.

Q. Do you think people are generally aware of their human rights or when those rights are being violated?

A. I don't think people necessarily know that there is a treaty out there that says "you have the right not to be treated in a particular way," but I think that people do have a sense of basic human dignity and what it means to be treated like a human being. And that's really what human rights are all about.



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Columbia's newest Nobel laureate, **Martin Chalfie**, takes the stage at Stockholm's Concert Hall after receiving his Nobel Prize in chemistry. Chalfie, department chair of biological sciences and the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Biological Sciences, received his Nobel from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at the Dec. 10 ceremony for his work on green fluorescent protein (GFP) and its use in biological science research. Chalfie discovered a way to use the protein to track and observe cells in his work in sensory biology. He shares the award with scientists Roger Tsien at the University of California, San Diego and Osamu Shimomura, senior scientist emeritus at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass.



GENE BOYARS

Head Archery Coach **Derek Davis** gives a participant a one-on-one shooting lesson at the team's fifth annual Friends and Family Day. The Dec. 6 event, which attracted more than 60 alumni, family and friends, is a chance for people to try their hands at archery after watching group demonstrations given by members of the defending National Championship archery team.



DAVID WENTWORTH

Human rights advocates from around the world graduated on Dec. 9th, from the Human Rights Advocates Program at the Center for the Study of Human Rights. From left to right: **Anbu Aganezhamaivanan**, India; **Paola Carolina Delgado**, South Florida; **Peter Mulbah**, Liberia; **Yasmine Ergas**, associate director, CSHR; **Andrew Nathan**, chair, CSHR's board; **Dr. Roger Lahiriri**, Democratic Republic of Congo; **Elazar Barkan**, co-director of CSHR; **Stephanie Grepo**, director of advocate's program; **Christine Eberbach**, coordinator CSHR; and **Amlia Pulugan**, Indonesia (see story, page 7).

War Memorial

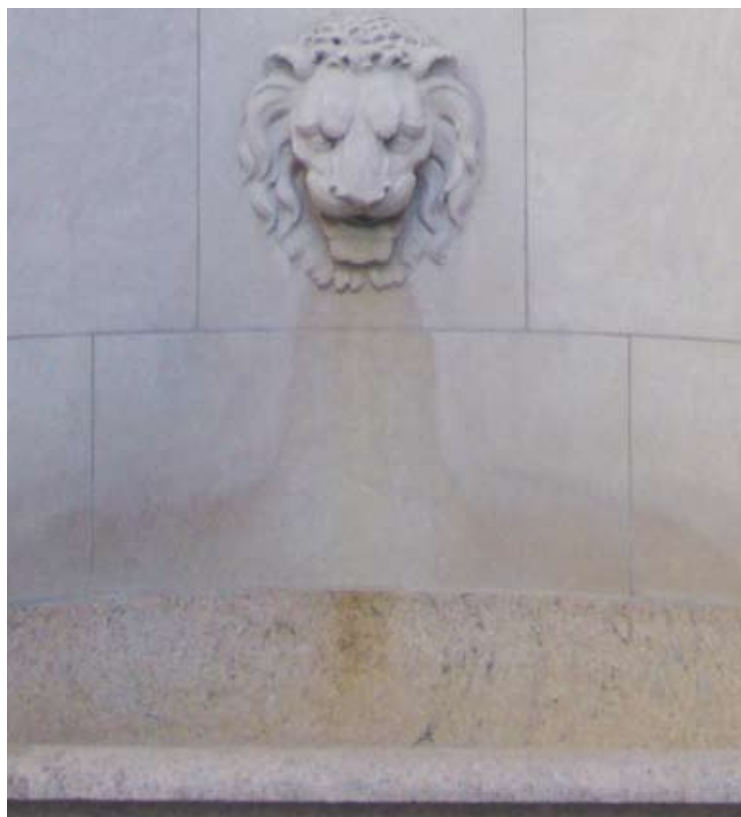
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died in war and also contains photographs and other archival information about the University and its veterans. The site www.warmemorial.columbia.edu will be periodically updated.

In her remarks, Coffee pointed out that fellow members of the committee, many of whom served in the military, wanted to make sure that the plaque honored those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country. Men like Franklin Van Valkenburgh (ENG'17), the commanding officer of the USS Arizona, who died on Dec. 7, 1941 in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor from a direct bomb hit on the ship's bridge.

Originally intended to honor Columbians who died in World War II, the scope of the memorial expanded over the years to include all members of the Columbia community who died in conflicts. The project gained new traction in 2007, when members of the U.S. Military Veterans of Columbia (MilVets), an on-campus organization of students who are military veterans, recommended to the provost that Columbia develop a memorial. Brinkley then convened a Working Group on War Remembrance, charged with making the recommendations that have led to the memorial at Butler Library. MilVets and a broad-based committee of faculty, students, administrators and alumni helped bring the memorial to fruition.

Before he made his own remarks, chairman of the University Trustees Bill Campbell (CC'62) came to a salute and gave his name, rank and serial number—he was a former member of the United States Army. “This is an emotional night,” he said. “You might think it’s a long time coming but we’ll take it... We should all be proud of those who served and the people who worked so hard to make this memorial a reality.”



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

Hint: The water that flows from this lion's mouth may be reminiscent of the thoughts flowing through the minds of Columbia's students in what may be the busiest undergraduate buildings nearby. Which fountain is this and where is it located? Send answers to curecord@columbia.edu. First to e-mail the right answer wins a *Record* mug.

ANSWER TO LAST CHALLENGE: Rock core from Loyalhanna Creek Dam donated to the Department of Geology. It is displayed on the fourth floor of Schermerhorn Hall; Winner: *Robina Simpson*, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Lincoln

continued from page 1

sophical changes that characterized his presidency, as well as a flotilla of contradictions.

For example, Lincoln initially opposed slavery, but he was not an abolitionist and did not support social or political equality for blacks, explained panelist James Oakes, Graduate Humanities Professor at the Graduate Center at City University of New York. Rather, Lincoln favored “compensated emancipation,” where the government would pay slaveholders to give up their slaves. “That commitment to compensated emancipation had a long history among political moderates in the United States looking for a way to end slavery that would bring neither social revolution nor the destruction of property,” said Christopher Brown, a history professor at Columbia.

Another controversial aspect of Lincoln's presidency was his wartime suspension of habeas corpus and other civil liberties, said Mark Neely Jr., the McCabe Greer Professor of History at Pennsylvania State University. It's possible to “draw a straight line from Abraham Lincoln to John Ashcroft,” Neely said, adding that early forms of the interrogation tactic “water-boarding” were employed during Lincoln's administration.

Still, Neely gave Lincoln higher marks for civil liberties than other American presidents, including Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who interned more than 100,000 Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans after Pearl Harbor, and Woodrow Wilson, who pushed through the Espionage Act of 1917, which sharply curtailed Americans' free speech during World War I.

“There's been speculation about whether there's anything more to learn about Abraham Lincoln,” said panelist James McPherson, the George Henry Davis Professor of American History at Princeton University. “Today, I think we proved that there is.”