

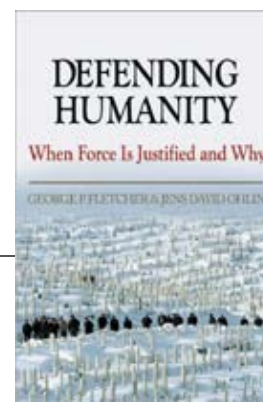


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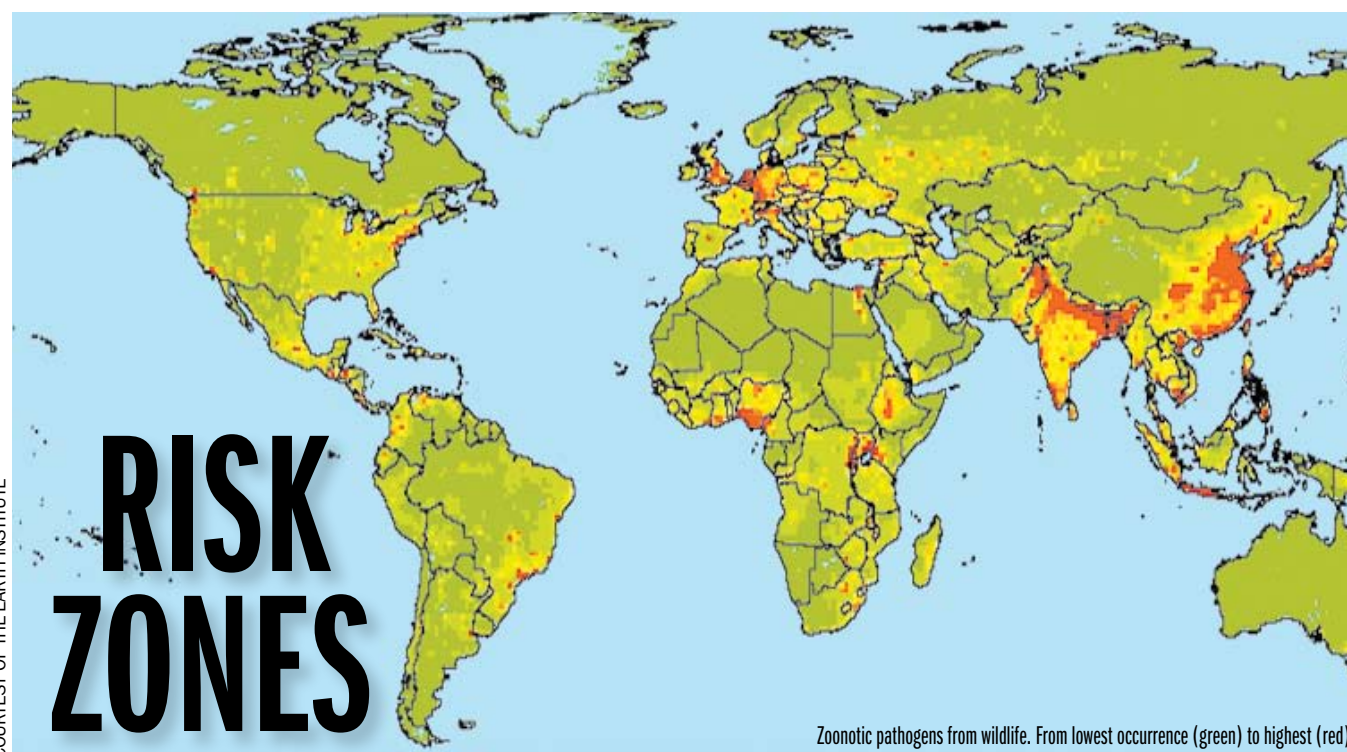
# The Record

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

VOL. 33, NO. 09

NEWS AND IDEAS FOR THE COLUMBIA COMMUNITY

MARCH 7, 2008



COURTESY OF THE EARTH INSTITUTE

## Scientists Map the Hotspots For Emerging Diseases

By Kevin Krajick and Clare Oh

A new study provides the first scientific evidence that deadly emerging diseases have increased sharply across the world, and maps the geographic and host sources of these outbreaks.

The study's researchers say that although historically the majority of new infectious diseases have emerged in wealthy countries, the future risks are high in many poor areas. The analysis appears in the Feb. 21 issue of the leading scientific journal *Nature*.

Researcher Marc Levy, deputy director of the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN), part of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is a coauthor of the study. It uses data from the NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC), which is operated by CIESIN.

CIESIN specializes in data and information management and research related to human interactions in the environment. It contributed what is the centerpiece of the study: knowledge of the drivers of global environmental change and spatial demographic data.

Factors such as population density, population changes, latitude, rainfall, and wildlife biodiversity were correlated with emerging-diseases data from 1940 to 2004. Mapping the data formed a predictive landscape of emerging-disease hotspots in rich as well as poor nations, with implications for further prediction and prevention.

"CIESIN played a leadership role in developing a methodology that identifies the statistical relationship between the

drivers of diseases and disease patterns," says Levy. "In terms of policy implications, we hope that the study will serve as the basis for increased surveillance and early warning."

Emerging diseases—defined as newly identified pathogens, or old ones moving to new regions—have caused devastating outbreaks recently, and have roughly quadrupled over the past 50 years. Some 60 percent of the diseases traveled from animals to humans, the majority of them originating in wild creatures. With data corrected for lesser surveillance in poorer countries, hotspots jump out in areas spanning sub-Saharan Africa, India and China, while smaller spots appear in Europe, and North and South America.

Some pathogens may be picked up

*continued on page 8*

## We Got the Beats!

By Kelsy Chauwin

There may not have been an overflow of angelheaded hipsters "burning for the ancient heavenly connection to the star dynamo in the machinery of the night," but in a fitting evocation of the Beat Generation, Philosophy and Buell halls offered plenty of improvised jazz and poetry readings by students and alumni, all part of the 4th annual "Howl: A Celebration of Columbia's Beats."

The Feb. 8 program, which started in the afternoon and stretched into the evening, attracted more than 200 attendees of all ages, races and backgrounds in a show of enthusiasm for the literary legacy of Columbia alumni Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg. It was sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association, Friends of the Columbia Libraries and the American Studies department.

The event kicked off on an academic note, with a discussion of

*continued on page 6*



MICHAEL DAMES

David Amram performs at Buell Hall for Howl: A Celebration of Columbia's Beats.

## NEW WEB SITE TO "MAAP" LOCAL BLACK HISTORY

By John Tucker

The launch of a Web-based teaching tool is helping to bring to life African American history in New York City for public school children across the area.

MAAP—an acronym for "Mapping the African American Past"—is the joint creation of the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL), which developed the Web programming and infrastructure; Creative Curriculum Initiatives (CCI), which provided text about historic New York City sites; and Teachers College, which has created a curriculum for use by New York City teachers.

Funded by a grant from JPMorgan Chase & Co. and launched in late February, MAAP creates a visual link between New York City as it is today and the world that African Americans lived in 150 or more years ago, using video, audio, historic maps and other components.



This page from the MAAP Web site is about John Brown Russwurm and Samuel E. Cornish, founders of *Freedom's Journal*, the first African American owned and operated newspaper in the U.S.

"A critically important strategy in involving young students in the study of history is to make that history come alive," says Margaret Crocco, professor of Social Studies and Education at Teachers College.

Frank Moretti, executive director of CCNMTL, adds that Web-based learning environments such as MAAP provide simultaneous universal access to an intellectual object at no cost. They also offer students new forms of interactive engagement. CCNMTL has developed approximately 200 large-scale online learning sites for thousands of scholars and faculty members over the past nine years.

For the casual user, MAAP will be as simple as clicking on a time period—say, 1800-1899; clicking on a location on a map of the city (Leonard Street, west of Broadway, for example); and reading entries such as one about *Freedom's Journal*, the first newspaper owned and published by African Americans.

For teachers, the curriculum and lesson plans—developed by students and graduates of the Teachers College Program in Social Studies under the guidance of Crocco and faculty member William Gaudelli—are related to each site and adapted for students in different grades. The lessons are organized into

*continued on page 5*



## ON CAMPUS



## SLIP-SLIDING AWAY

A blanket of white greeted Columbia students on the morning of Friday, Feb. 22, luring some thrill-seekers out into the cold. Above, a few take a downhill ride on the moguls of Low Library. Half a foot of snow fell in New York City; while the storm was not unusual for mid-February, it was easily the area's most significant snowfall of the season.

DAVID WENTWORTH

## MILESTONES



The American Association for the Advancement of Science recognized **JIM HANSEN**, Earth and Environmental Sciences professor, with the 2007 Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award. This \$5,000 prize was awarded for Hansen's work publicizing the dangers of global warming, as well as for

the ground-breaking computer models he created to predict climate trends. Separately, Hansen received the 2008 Commonwealth Award for Science. He and three other honorees will receive a shared prize of \$200,000 at a ceremony in April. The award recognizes individuals who have advanced and enriched society through their life's work. Hansen joined the Columbia community as a research assistant in 1969 and today, in addition to his professorship, he is the director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies.

**SHREE K. NAYAR**, T.C. Chang Professor of Computer Science, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in recognition of his work on physics-based models for computer vision and computer graphics. Election to the NAE is one of the highest honors an engineer can



receive, and engineering schools are often judged by how many of their faculty members belong to the academy. Nayar is the director of the Columbia Vision Laboratory and co-director of the Columbia vision and graphics center.



**ELLEN S. SMITH**, assistant vice president and director of government relations, will step down from that post to spend more time with her family. Smith served at Columbia for more than 16 years and will continue in her current position until early March, when she will begin serving as a special adviser

to the Office of Government and Community Affairs through the end of the year. While at Columbia, she was the University's principal liaison with the federal and state legislative branches and executive officials in the areas of science policy, tax policy, Medicare and Medicaid, and higher-education policy and financing. She also has worked on activities centered in New York City, organizing numerous internship programs, student advocacy trips, policy conferences and briefings. In addition, Smith has served on and led a number of committees for professional and national university associations. She currently serves on the board of Columbia's Community Impact, an organization she chaired for three years.

**LUCA CARLONI**, assistant professor of computer science, was awarded a Sloan Research Fellowship. The fellowships go to researchers "who show the most outstanding promise of making fundamental contributions to new knowledge," according to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which administers them. Each year, 118 Sloan Research Fellowships are awarded in seven fields; winners are free to pursue whatever lines of research they find most compelling.



## CORRECTIONS

The Lenfest Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards come with a prize of \$25,000 a year for three years. A story in the Feb. 14 issue of *The Record* incorrectly stated the prize was a total of \$25,000.

William Kunstler (LAW'48), a well-known civil-rights lawyer, was a member of the American Civil Liberties Union's advisory council. While he frequently cooperated on cases with the ACLU, he was never on its staff, as a story in the Feb. 14 issue of *The Record* incorrectly stated.

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*The First Lady*

Dear Alma: Who Was the First Woman to graduate from Columbia?

—Stargazer

Dear Stargazer,

Her name was Winifred Edgerton, and she was awarded a Ph.D. in astronomy from Columbia in 1886. According to Rosalind Rosenberg in her history of Columbia women, *Changing the Subject: How the Women of Columbia Shaped the Way We Think About Sex and Politics*, Edgerton was a math prodigy fresh from Wellesley College who was looking for a telescope in order to complete a project for the Harvard Observatory, and only Columbia had one.

Columbia's trustees had just adopted the Collegiate Course for Women, which permitted women to take exams but not sit in classes with men. "You can't teach a man mathematics if there's a girl in the room," said a mathematics professor at the time, John Howard Van Amringe, one of the many opponents of allowing women on campus. "And if you can, he isn't worth teaching." One of the first students who attempted the Collegiate Course route, Annie Nathan Meyer, dropped out after struggling with the unfairness of the learning situation, but became a major force for the creation of a women's college to be affiliated with Columbia—Barnard College.

Winifred Edgerton presented a problem: The Collegiate Course was set up for only undergraduates, not for graduate students. President Frederick A. P. Barnard, who had consistently advocated to the Columbia trustees that Columbia should admit women, and who also had an interest in astronomy, took up Edgerton's cause. He advised her to meet with each trustee individually to make her case. Edgerton also found a ready advocate in John Krom Rees, professor of

**ASK ALMA'S OWL**

astronomy who, according to Rosenberg, was eager to have an assistant.

She won over all of the trustees. Even the most obstructionist, the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, agreed that "her studies would interfere with neither her domestic obligations nor her religious devotions," and she presented a case that was "absolutely exceptional in nature."

Rosenberg describes Edgerton's graduate life at Columbia this way: "For the most part, Edgerton worked alone in the observatory ... but the trustees' rule against class attendance by women seems to have been so widely flouted that even the pious and deferential Edgerton took classes with male students without word getting back to the board."

At commencement, where she was awarded a Ph.D. cum laude, the Columbia students gave Edgerton an ovation that lasted for fully two minutes. In 1933, a portrait of Edgerton was accepted by Columbia; an inscription reads: "She Opened the Door."

—By Stacy Parker Aab

Send your questions for *Alma's Owl* to [curecord@columbia.edu](mailto:curecord@columbia.edu).

*TheRecord* welcomes your input for news items and staff profiles. You can submit your suggestions to:  
[curecord@columbia.edu](mailto:curecord@columbia.edu)

# PARSING THE LANGUAGE OF RACE

By Adrienne Blount



EILEEN BARROSO

From left to right: Rodolfo de la Garza, Kimberle Crenshaw, President Lee C. Bollinger, Sandhya R. Shukla, Robert O'Meally and Ira I. Katznelson.

What do we mean when we talk about race?

"When it comes to examining race in America, the language of race is difficult to talk about, difficult to think about," said Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger, at a Feb. 20 panel titled "The Language of Race in America." "The discourse itself is important to examine, because it reflects how people think as well as the underlying reality."

Bollinger, along with five Columbia professors, discussed racial terms, the future of diversity, the dynamics of the presidential election and affirmative action at the Kraft Program Series panel in Low Memorial Library.

"So much of the language of race is the language of stereotypes," said Robert O'Meally, Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature. Mere words can easily and inadvertently convey or reinforce stereotypical attitudes, myths and assumptions.

As an example, Kimberle Crenshaw, professor of law, alluded to United States Sen. Joe Biden's characterization of presidential candidate Barack Obama as an "African American who is articulate and bright and clean and a nice-looking guy." While Biden

intended it as a compliment, he caused offense and drew criticism for his remark.

"The possibility of an African American being president reflects a contradiction at this moment in time," Crenshaw said. "Despite the fact Obama's candidacy is viable, racial dialogue is going in the opposite direction." Crenshaw suggested the language of race is bifurcated. "People think the best way to get beyond race is to dismantle affirmative action or not talk about it."

With Obama's candidacy at the forefront of discussion, Bollinger asked the panelists to elaborate on

of race is that it has jumbled and confused conversation about race—both publicly and privately."

Rodolfo de la Garza, Eaton Professor of Administrative Law and Municipal Science and vice president of the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, said he and his colleagues only talk about Obama as a black candidate when analyzing whether white Southern men will vote for him.

De la Garza believes the language of race is a regrettable irony. "While many Latinos advocate having a separate race category to gain programmatic benefits comparable to blacks, there is a generational transformation," he said. "Young people do not use color as a basis to define a person. Rather than moving in a direction to obliterate race as a category, we are moving backwards."

Sandhya R. Shukla, Conrad Lung Associate Professor of Asian-American Studies, borrowed from W.E.B. Du Bois to frame the language of race in today's political climate: "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." She said, "It would work well for us to reframe the quote and ask, 'Does color line in the 21st century make sense to us and why?'"

**"So much of the language of race is the language of stereotypes."**

the current texture of race discussion. All conceded that the concept of race is relatively raw in private and coded in public.

Ira I. Katznelson, Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History, explained that Obama's unexpected candidacy has shaken the rules of race and politics. "The most productive feature of the Obama campaign with respect to the language

# New African American Studies Chair Endowed

By Record Staff

A newly endowed chair in the Arts and Sciences—the first focused on African American studies—is being created with the support of the University's Black Alumni Council.

The M. Moran Weston/Black Alumni Council Professorship, named in recognition of Columbia's first African American trustee, is expected to be formally approved by the University's trustees in the spring, and will be endowed at the level of \$3 million through a partnership between the University and its alumni and friends.

"In addition to its impact on African American studies at Columbia, this chair will strengthen the presence of African American alumni in the life of the University," said Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. (CC'78), a U.S. District Court judge who championed the effort to establish the chair.

"It's wonderful to have African American alumni who have a strong connection with both Columbia College and Columbia University investing in the development of African American studies," said Manning Marable, a professor of public affairs and history and the founding director of the Institute for Research in African American Studies.

The Black Alumni Council was formed in the mid-1990s by Columbia College alumni leaders who sought to strengthen links between the College and its African American alumni.

The chair is named in honor of M. Moran Weston II (CC'30, GSAS'40), who was devoted to improving the social condition of thousands in the Harlem community. Weston served as rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, and was also a founder of Carver Federal Savings Bank, the largest independent financial institution in the United States owned by African Americans. The University awarded Weston an honorary degree in sacred theology in 1969, the year he became Columbia's first African American trustee. Previously named in Weston's honor are both a lectureship at the School of International and Public Affairs and a plaza on the Morningside campus—the latter marking the first public space on campus honoring an African American.



M. Moran Weston II

"Columbia was very near and dear to my dad's heart," says Gregory Weston (LAW'82), counsel at the law firm of Nixon Peabody LLP. "It was perhaps the most important institution to him throughout his life, and he would be thrilled to be linked in such a meaningful and permanent way to the school that he loved so much."

Supporters of the new chair include the Garland E. Wood Foundation, established by Garland Wood (CC'65, BUS'72); and a number of other prominent African American alumni, including Gregory Weston; Judge Greenaway; Eric Holder (CC'73, LAW'76), an attorney and partner at Covington & Burling LLP; actor and former Microsoft Corp. executive Ronald Simons (CC'86, BUS'89); and George Van Amson (CC'74), managing director at Morgan Stanley. University Trustees Chair Bill Campbell (CC'62), chairman of Intuit Inc., also is a leading contributor.

Gifts in support of the new chair count toward the \$4 billion Columbia Campaign, a University-wide effort that was launched in the fall of 2006 and is expected to conclude in 2011. More than \$2.64 billion has been raised to date for the campaign.

# ON EXHIBIT: PORTRAITURE

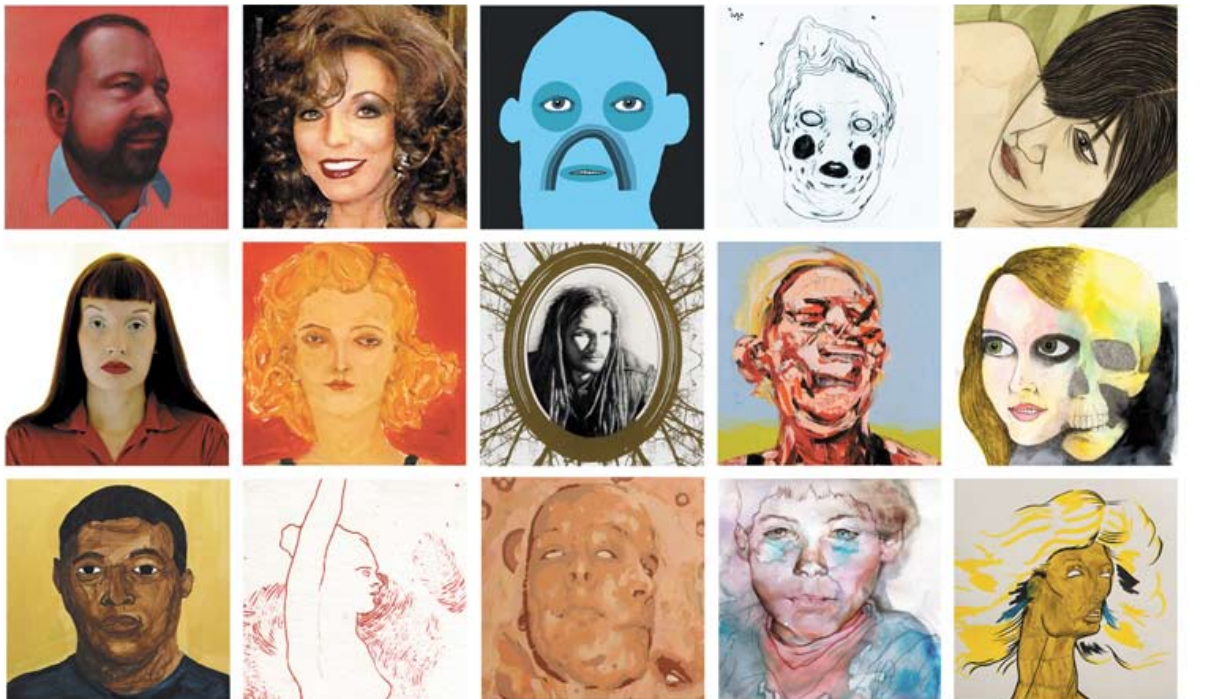
The University's LeRoy Neiman Gallery is featuring *Face Forward*, an exhibit of portraiture organized by Columbia University MFA student Seth Scantlen.

The show takes a close look at portraiture in contemporary art. Scantlen said his desire was to show a large scheme of mediums, styles and artists that are actively taking part in the dialogue of portraiture. The project represents young and early-to mid-career artists from a variety of educations and training.

Scantlen said the best showcase for the diversity of work was to adopt a rigid format in which the artwork showed a head-and-shoulders shot of a single figure straight on. This is the most standard format for portraiture, he said, and also has a strong presence in contemporary culture, given the omnipresence of I.D. pictures used on driver's licenses and on social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.

The exhibition opened Feb. 18 and will run through March 10. A companion book featuring all the exhibiting artists as well as other artists will be available at the show. For more information go to: [www.visualfieldpress.com](http://www.visualfieldpress.com).

—By Record Staff



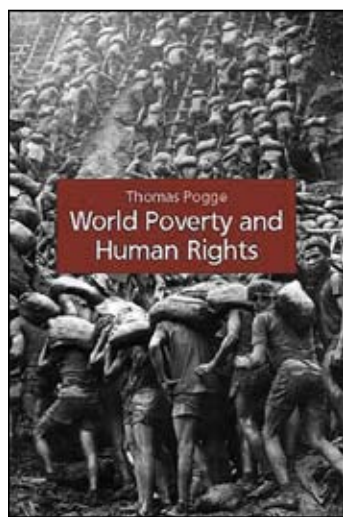
# FACE FORWARD



## NEW ON THE SHELVES

# Recent Books by Columbia Faculty

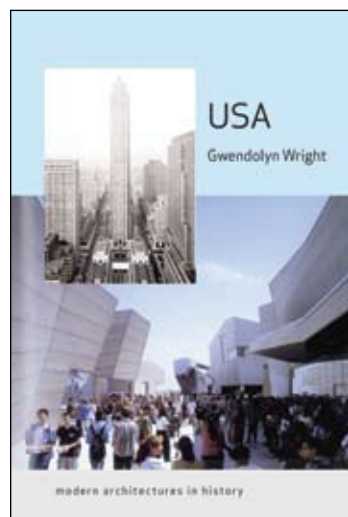
Columbia's faculty members have been hitting the bookshelves with their latest works, which encompass a wide range of fields including politics, architecture, business, economics and fatherhood. Here is a selection of new books by Columbia faculty from various publishers.



*World Poverty and Human Rights, Second Edition*

BY THOMAS POGGE  
Polity Press

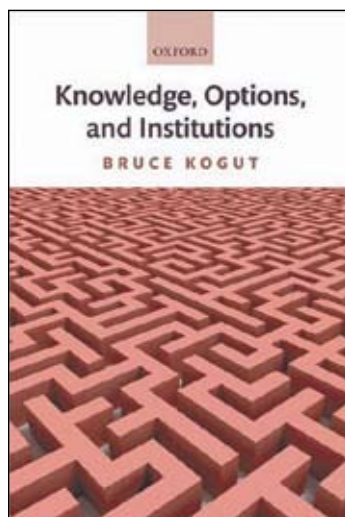
Thomas Pogge of Columbia's Department of Philosophy details how the poorest 46 percent of human beings possess a mere 1.2 percent of global income. Pogge says the poorest among us on the planet, some 826 million, do not have enough to eat, and that one-third of all human deaths are caused by poverty. Amid a recent shift toward greater global inequality, Pogge offers a modest, widely sharable standard of global economic justice and makes detailed, realistic proposals toward fulfilling it.



*USA: Modern Architectures in History*

BY GWENDOLYN WRIGHT  
The University of Chicago Press

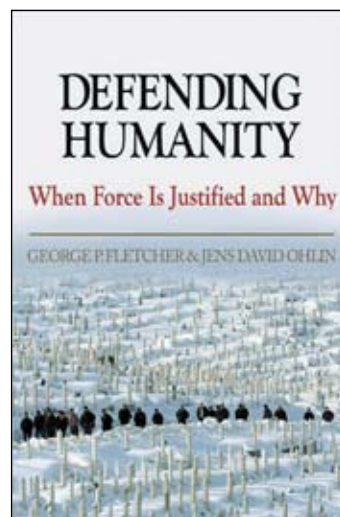
In this richly illustrated volume, architecture professor Gwendolyn Wright chronicles the development of architecture in America, from the proto-skyscrapers erected at the end of the 19th century to the "green architecture" of today. Arguing against more traditional views, Wright insists that much American architecture arose organically in North America, and was not imported from across the ocean.



*Knowledge, Options, and Institutions*

BY BRUCE KOGUT  
Oxford University Press

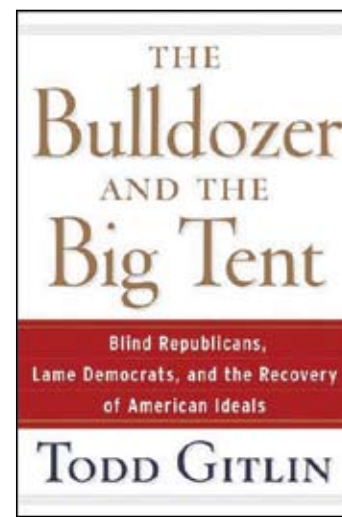
In this collection of essays about the science of management, Bruce Kogut, a professor in the business school, looks at the firm through the lens of psychology, interpreting the manager's motivations in terms of altruism, egoism and practical utility. Grounding his theories in the latest psychology and neuroscience, Kogut resists the traditional resource-based view of the firm, and stresses the importance of a sound behavioral foundation.



*Defending Humanity: When Force Is Justified and Why*

BY GEORGE P. FLETCHER, JENS DAVID OHLIN  
Oxford University Press

George P. Fletcher, professor at the law school, and Jens David Ohlin, fellow at the law school, set forth an analysis of the nature of self-defense in this book. They look to the United Nations Charter, the document that stipulates what is legally considered self-defense, and illustrate how the Charter has proved inadequate in many cases. They examine preventive wars like Iraq, interventions like Kosovo, and preemptive wars like the Six Day War.



*The Bulldozer and the Big Tent*

BY TODD GITLIN  
John Wiley & Sons

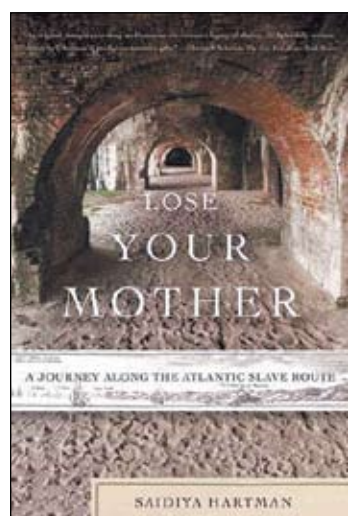
The bulldozer of the title refers to the Republican Party of George W. Bush, a party that Todd Gitlin says takes a "bulldozer approach to reality—belligerence as an all-purpose style, whether facing domestic critics or the rest of the world." In this book, Gitlin, a professor of journalism and sociology and chronicler of the American Left, deconstructs how Bush & Co. came to power, and predicts its legacy will last long into the presidency of the winner of November's election.



*Big Think Strategy: How to Leverage Bold Ideas and Leave Small Thinking Behind*

BY BERND H. SCHMITT  
Harvard Business School Press

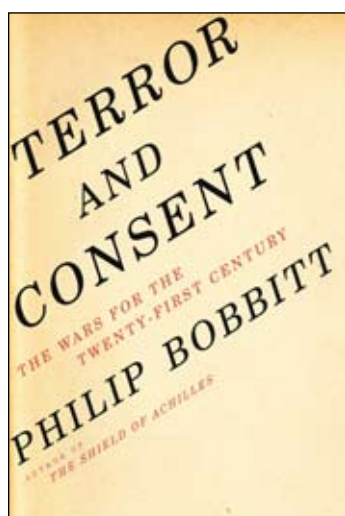
A handbook for any CEO (or CEO-in-training), this book teaches its reader how to revitalize a business through bold and creative management. Bernd Schmitt, a professor of international business, draws on myth and case studies, looking at instances throughout history, from the Trojans to Whole Foods, when creative management decisions made the difference.



*Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route*

BY SAIDIYA HARTMAN  
Farrar, Straus & Giroux

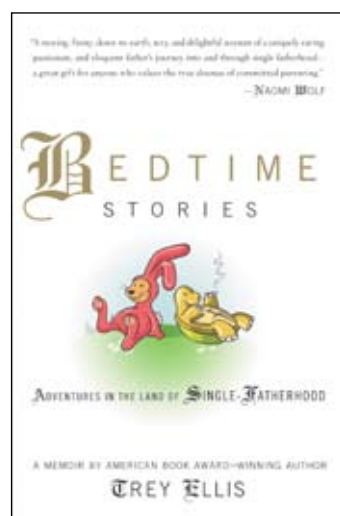
In a book that is part memoir, part history, Saidiya Hartman, professor of English and Comparative Literature, follows the overland slave route from the interior of Ghana to the Atlantic Coast. It is the same route her ancestors were forced to take, and she journeys to many of the same places that they must have traveled. As the offspring of slaves and an American in Africa, Hartman writes about black identity in a modern world.



*Terror and Consent: The Wars for the Twenty-First Century*

BY PHILIP BOBBITT  
Knopf (Random House)

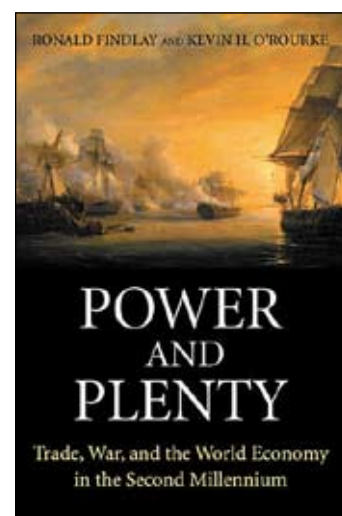
In this book, Philip Bobbitt, author of the acclaimed *The Shield of Achilles* and professor at the law school, pieces together a new vision of the war on terror from legal documents, strategic briefings and newspaper accounts. He argues that the United States legal system has not properly adapted to the post-9/11 reality, and speculates about the nature of "consent" in the 21st century.



*Bedtime Stories: Adventures in the Land of Single-Fatherhood*

BY TREY ELLIS  
Modern Times (Rodale)

Trey Ellis, a novelist, essayist and screenwriter, is now an assistant professor of film studies at the School of the Arts. The author of three previous novels, he had wanted to tackle a memoir, and suddenly found himself with more than enough material after his wife left him, leaving him to care for their eight-month-old son and three-year-old daughter. His book of single parenthood, child rearing and dating captures "the unvarnished truth," he said.



*Power and Plenty: Trade, War, and the World Economy in the Second Millennium*

BY RONALD FINDLAY AND KEVIN H. O'ROURKE  
Princeton University Press

Ronald Findlay, professor of Columbia's Department of Economics, and Kevin O'Rourke have written a seminal work about the 1,000-year history of trade and commerce in geopolitical context, effectively telling how international trade has shaped the contemporary world. The book shows how the expansion and contraction of the world economy has been directly tied to the interplay of trade and geopolitics.

## MAAP

continued from page 1

modules centered on several themes, including the development of the African American community in New York City, resistance and self-determination in the face of slavery and discrimination, and African American contributions to building New York City.

The interactive MAAP site will ultimately showcase 52 historic sites in New York City, including the familiar (the African Burial Ground, Draft Riots, Abyssinian Baptist Church) and the less well-known (African Grove Theater, Colored Orphan Asylum, Hughson's Tavern).

The Web site, offered free of charge to teachers, is also available to the public and will be actively promoted to tourists. It can be visited at <http://maap.columbia.edu>.



Also on the MAAP Web site: James Hewlett played Richard the III (1778-1836) at the African Grove Theater.

## REAL-ESTATE STUDENTS TACKLE NEWARK PROJECT

By Stacy Parker Aab

As part of their course work, students in the architecture school's year-long Master of Science program in Real Estate Development are assigned an underutilized property and must devise development proposals that maximize the property's possibilities from a business and civic perspective.

This year, teams of students in the core course study will be working on a particularly pressing urban challenge: a full city block of decaying buildings and parking lots near Newark's Broad Street rail station. It is an area ripe for redevelopment as the city implements a comprehensive economic development strategy under a new mayor, Cory Booker, who has big plans for his city.

On Feb. 13, Stefan Pryor, Newark's deputy mayor for economic development, spoke to students and faculty at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, outlining the efforts already under way to reinvigorate New Jersey's largest city. Booker himself was unable to attend, but Pryor told the group that the city is heavily courting economic development, focusing on Newark's downtown area and waterfront as well as encouraging new business opportunities connected to the Port of Newark.

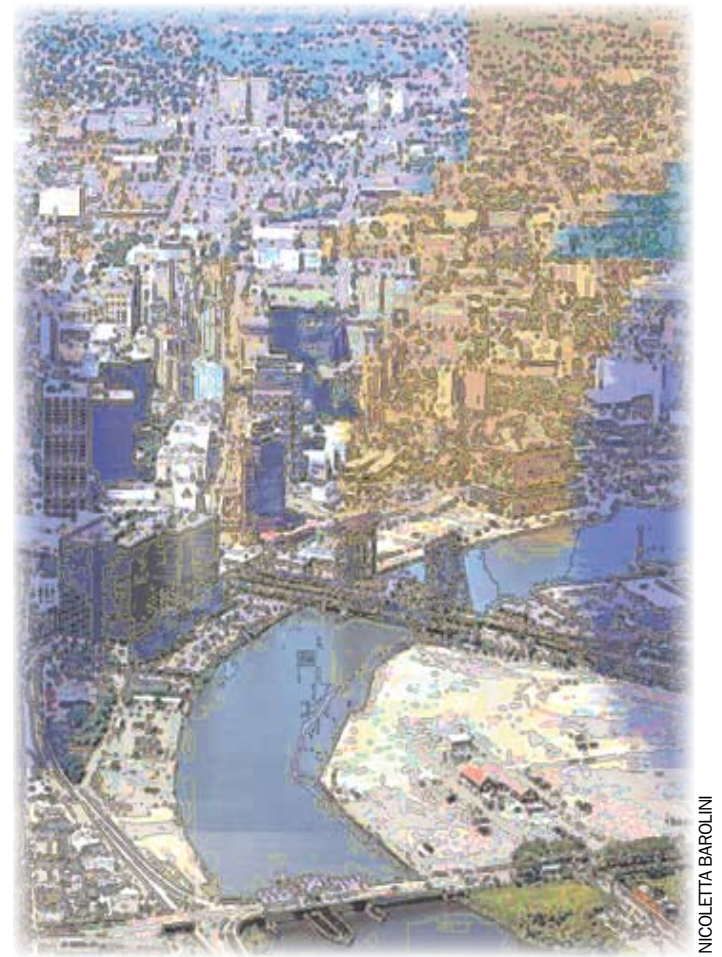
That dovetails with the goals of the real estate development program, which is "solely focused on the next generation of real estate developers," said Michael Buckley, the program's director and an adjunct professor at the school. "Newark was chosen because of the initiatives of Cory Booker and Stefan Pryor. This site is not on anybody's radar screen, but it should be."

The area is "poised for a high-density, transit oriented redevelopment," said Michael Clark, associate adjunct professor at the architecture school who co-designed the course with Buckley.

Pryor noted that previous Newark administrations did no city planning, and 50 years had passed since the city's master plan was last updated. By instituting new policies on land disposition, tax abatement and abandoned properties, the city's administration is nurturing development aimed at being "equitable, accessible, green, smart and prosperous," he said.

Students will present their plans to the site's developer—in this case Arthur Stern of Cogswell Realty Group LLC. In the past, development sites have been located in New Jersey, New York City and Philadelphia. Past developers have included Tishman

Realty, Kimco Realty, Gale Co. and L & M Equity Participants. "The developers listen to the students, give feedback and guidance, and sometimes even hire some of the students to work in their firms," Clark said.



Aerial rendering of Newark.

NICOLETTA BAROLINI

## New Institute Explores Religion's Changing Role

By John Tucker

Columbia University has launched the Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life to examine the changing role religion plays in the contemporary world, and to promote religious understanding and cultural tolerance.

"Perhaps no issue is of greater importance and concern to the contemporary world than that of religious and cultural tolerance," said Nicholas B. Dirks, vice president for Arts and Sciences and Franz Boas Professor of Anthropology and History.

"The world is experiencing a resurgence in religion, and with that comes religious and cultural intolerance," added Mark C. Taylor, professor and chair of the Department of Religion and co-director of the institute, which opened its doors this semester and will hold a formal launch ceremony in the fall. "By taking an expansive rather than restricted view of religious thought and practice, the institute will recast the traditional opposition between the secular and religious in ways that promote innovative approaches to familiar problems."

In an attempt to uncover the origins of global conflict, the institute will examine the historical and practical values within religious traditions, explore each religion's attitude toward ecumenicalism, and investigate the social and cultural institutions that support coexistence among people of different faiths.

According to co-director Alfred C. Stepan, the Wallace S. Sayre Professor of Government for the University's School of International and Public Affairs, the institute has already launched programs addressing current sectarian problems in India, Sri Lanka, the Holy Land and Kosovo, which recently declared its independence.

Operating under a 12-person advisory board, the institute will take on a cross-disciplinary approach, uniting scholars from fields including religion, cultural anthropology, history, political science, economics and social psychology.

This spring, the institute has scheduled an assortment of seminars, lectures and international conferences, and it will roll out internship and fellowship programs this summer. After its formal launch in the fall, the institute will begin forging partnerships with notable policymakers and religious and cultural leaders of the world.

This semester's scheduled events will touch on a variety of themes including conflict resolution through sacred space, the relationship between the secular state and the religiously diverse populace, the potential amendment of Turkey's secular constitution, the contributions of Sufism and art to Senegal's democracy, and the relationship between secularism and women's rights.

## GLOBAL CLASSROOM LINKS EXPERTS AND STUDENTS

By Kevin Krajick

Students from around the world can now have a live interactive discussion with the top thinkers in the field of sustainable development—without ever leaving their classrooms.

This semester, Columbia University economist Jeffrey Sachs, 2007 Nobel laureate Rajendra K. Pachauri, UNICEF Director Ann Veneman and other experts kicked off a "Global Classroom" that uses new Web technology to link leading academics and problem solvers with hundreds of graduate students.

The master's-level course was launched worldwide on Jan. 22 and

will continue through the spring.

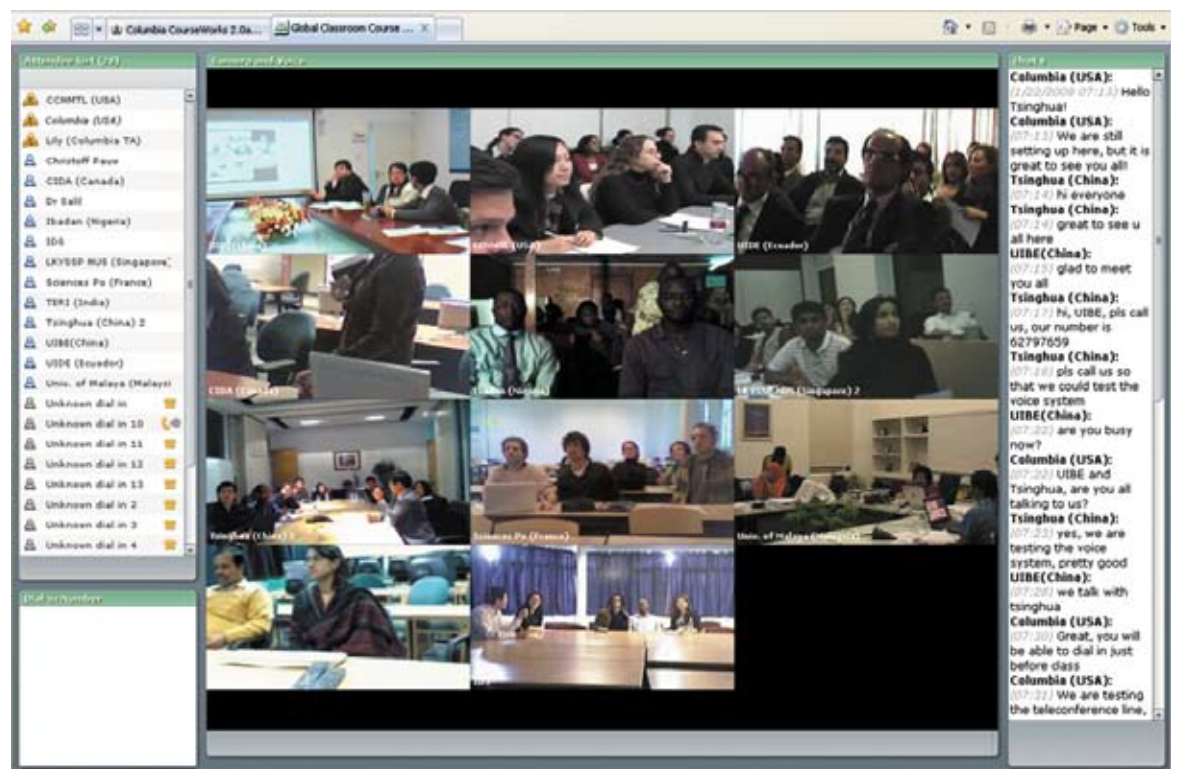
Designed to help change the course of development education and create new leaders working toward a sustainable world, it is an early initiative of the Commission on Education for International Development Professionals, a project directed by the Earth Institute at Columbia University. It is supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and much of the technology was assembled by the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL).

"The Global Classroom provides the opportunity for expert lecturers

and diverse bodies of students to hold a real-time worldwide discussion on the world's foremost problems of sustainable development," said Sachs, director of the Earth Institute. "Together they, and we, can brainstorm on solutions."

The classes will integrate taped lectures and live Web-based discussions, bringing together students at a dozen universities around the world through online meeting rooms, video, live chat and discussion boards. In this global academic setting, the students will explore the relationship across core fields of study in agriculture and nutrition;

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The Global Classroom in action; depicted above are international students accessing a variety of live discussions and classes via the Internet.



# Score! Library Acquires Archive of Opera Composer And Prominent Harlem Renaissance Figure

By Record Staff

Columbia University's Rare Book & Manuscript Library acquired a large collection of manuscripts, unpublished scores, librettos, correspondence and photographs from the estate of Harry Lawrence Freeman, one of the earliest composers in America to embellish an operatic score with jazz, blues and spirituals.

Freeman, born in Cleveland in 1869, was a musical prodigy and an ambitious composer. He is credited with being the first African

complemented by his deep recognition of how Africa and its diaspora were crucially informing a new American musical identity."

All of Freeman's operas address themes of African American experience and memory, making him a prominent figure in the Harlem Renaissance, the cultural flowering of the arts that emerged out of the upper-Manhattan region in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1921, Freeman founded the Negro Grand Opera Company in Harlem, occupying the former site of Oscar Hammerstein's popular theatre.

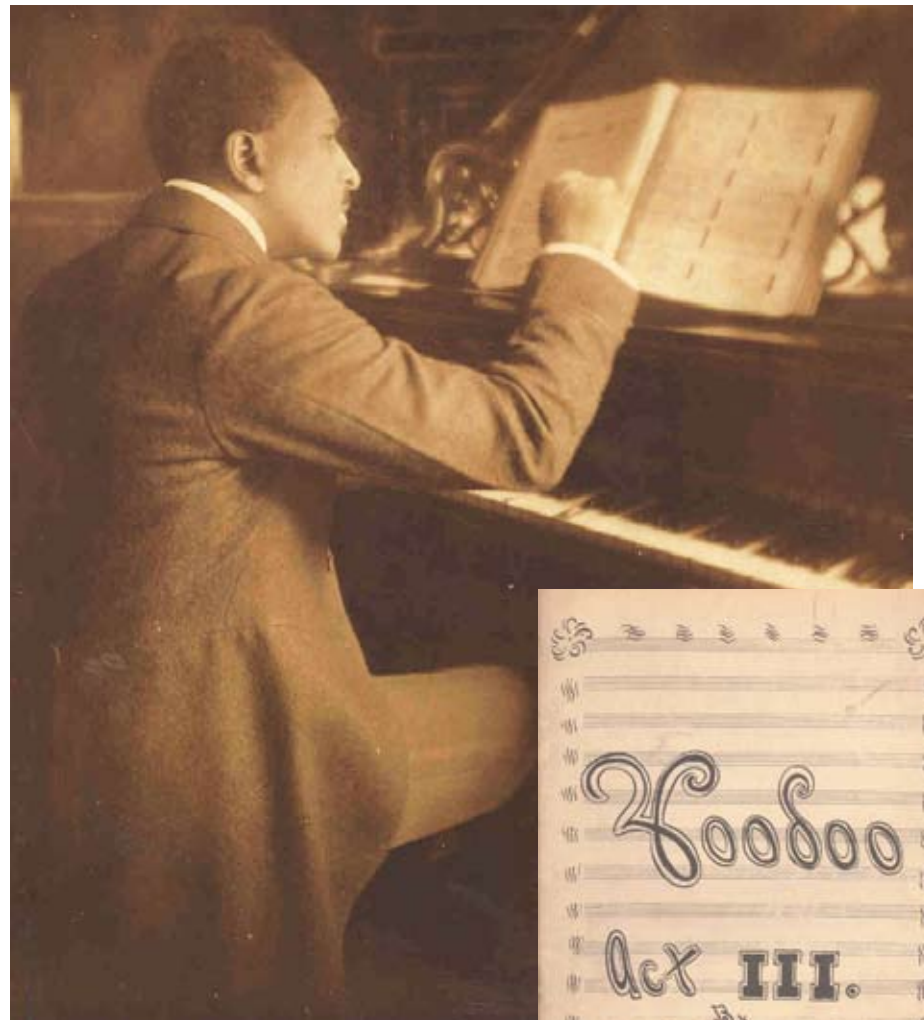
**"This collection is a major find for anyone interested in the history of American opera."**

American composer to successfully stage an original opera of his own composition, which premiered in Denver's Deutsches Theater in 1893 when Freeman was 24 years old. Freeman went on to a long career in New York, composing some 15 grand operas, a number of which received full-scale performances. He was one of the first American composers to have an opera broadcast on radio. Freeman died in 1954.

"This collection is a major find for anyone interested in the history of American opera," said George Lewis, director of the Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University. "Freeman's engagement with political, historical and cultural issues in his work was strongly

In 1929 he received the prestigious Harmon Foundation Award for achievement in music.

The archive contains the full record of Freeman's career, including original manuscripts of almost all of his operas as well as other musical compositions; set and costume designs from some of his productions; copious clippings of reviews and contemporary press coverage; original correspondence; surviving recordings of Freeman's music; and much more. The archive also includes a great deal of material related to the careers of Freeman's wife Carlotta, a noted soprano who appeared in his productions, and his son Valdo, himself a musician and artistic collaborator with his father.



Above: a portrait of Freeman composing at the piano, undated. On the left: Front page of the opera *Voodoo*, Act III, 1914

## We Got the Beats!

continued from page 1

Kerouac's seminal work, *On the Road*. Panelists included Kerouac's friends as well as experts on the author, interviewed by Penny Vlagopoulos, herself a scholar of post World War II American literature who wrote the introduction to *On the Road: The Original Scroll*, published in August.

One of the panelists was Joyce Johnson, whose 1983 memoir *Minor Characters* explored her two-year relationship with Kerouac in the late 1950s, which started after they were set up on a blind date arranged by Ginsberg. Johnson herself is a Beat Generation writer who has taught in Columbia's School of the Arts. "At the time [*On the Road*] was published in 1957, it really answered a tremendous need



Columbia Ph.D. student and Kerouac scholar Penny Vlagopoulos with the David Amram Trio

and hunger that a lot of young people felt," said Johnson. "Here was a writer who came along in the most compelling way, [saying] 'open yourself up to experiences, go on the road, don't be stuck in those little grooves that society wants you to remain in.'"

*New York Times* writer John Leland, a 1981 graduate of Columbia College and author of *Why Kerouac Matters: The Lessons of 'On the Road' (They're Not What You Think)*, argued that Kerouac's book laid the foundations for the 1960s social movements. But perhaps, he added, the work still resonates today because of the internal contradiction faced by narrator Sal Paradise and Kerouac himself: the desire to be free, yet conventional on one's own terms.

Kerouac contemporary David Amram said that for all the deeper meanings now attached to the Beat poets and musicians, "most of our struggle was

just to be able to pay the rent." The pioneering jazz musician worked with Kerouac on dozens of projects, including the 1959 film *Pull My Daisy*, essentially creating the downtown poetry jazz scene.

"We were not aware that we were charter members of the Beat Generation," recalled Amram. There was no "movement," he added, but rather just

a loose-knit group of individuals. There were no "insiders" or "outsiders"—they were artistic and non-conventional; they were spiritual and spanned many religions. He summed up the collective sentiment of the crowd with a Kerouac quote: "Live your lives out? Nah! Love your lives out."

After the talk, guests and panelists headed to Butler's

Rare Book & Manuscript Library to view photographs and drawings of and by Kerouac, Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, Gregory Corso and other Beats.

Then the evening's performances began. At Buell Hall, students and alumni lent new voices to Columbia's Beat tradition by reading their own original poetry, while next door at Philosophy Hall, the David Amram Trio played set pieces and improvised accompaniment to impassioned readings from Beat texts by students and alumni.

It was a reminder that performance art is hardly new. And then the celebration that began with *On the Road* culminated with a complete reading of Ginsberg's famous poem, *Howl*—a tradition at each year's event that makes for a particular kind of Columbia homecoming.

## PEACE OFFERING: NEW MASTER'S PROGRAM FOR ART OF NEGOTIATION

By Record Staff

Blessed are the peacemakers—and now they even get credit, thanks to a new graduate degree program.

Starting in the fall, the School of Continuing Education will launch a Master of Science in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. The program is designed to train professionals to be effective negotiators and problem-solvers in a range of fields, including business, law, education, health care, government, human resource management and labor relations.

The program focuses on constructive communication, ethical understanding, cultural awareness and sensitivity, counseling and resolving conflicts in ways that are favorable for all parties. Courses

of University resources," said Peter Awn, acting dean. To that end, the new program was developed in concert with Columbia's Center for International Conflict Resolution in the School of International and Public Affairs. Some faculty from that center, including its founding director, Andrea Bartoli, will teach courses in the program.

The training philosophy of the graduate program involves interactive methods of managing conflict. The focus is on building common ground, establishing dialogue, applying practical skills, ensuring representation and recognition and forging relationships. The 36-point program is designed for part-time study, though students may enroll

**The program is designed to train professionals to be effective negotiators and problem-solvers in a range of fields.**

will examine the psychology of bargaining, coalition development, and value distribution, and emphasize the importance of organized preparation and establishing process.

"The mission of Columbia's School of Continuing Education is to mount innovative programs that meet Columbia's standard of excellence and take the best advantage

full-time after the first semester.

This degree joins the School of Continuing Education's current graduate programs in Strategic Communications, Technology Management, Fundraising Management, Landscape Design, Construction Administration, Sports Management, Information and Archive Management, and Actuarial Science.

FACULTY Q&A

# GEORGE SALIBA

**POSITION:**

Professor of Arabic and Islamic Science, Department of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:**

29 Years

**HISTORY:**

Former Chair, Department of Middle East Languages and Cultures, Columbia University

Visiting Assistant Professor of Arabic and Islamic Science, New York University

*Interviewed by Melanie A. Farmer*

At a time when study of the Islamic world often means a plunge into current geopolitical events or a dissection of religion, George Saliba has focused on a less obvious topic: Islamic science.

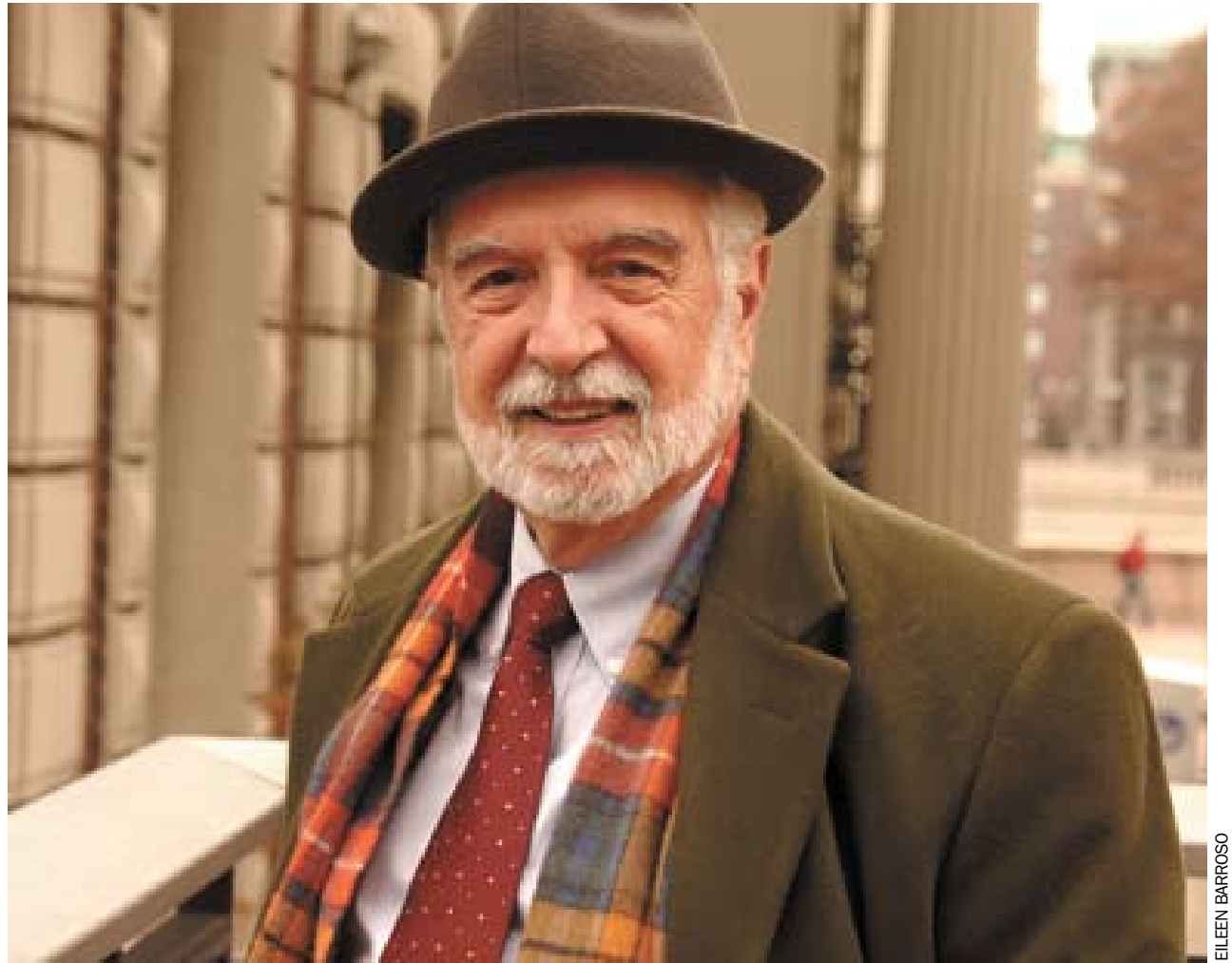
The history of Islamic science is a complex one, as he illustrates in his new book, *Islamic Science and the Making of the European Renaissance*. Saliba draws connections between science in the ancient Islamic world and in 16th century Europe. Scientific breakthroughs thought to originate in European texts, he argues, were documented in Arabic long before they surfaced during the Renaissance.

"Arabic science was the major building block of which modern science in the Renaissance could make use," says Saliba, "and actually contributed to the sophistication of the mathematics produced in the Renaissance, in addition to that which was inherited from ancient Greece."

As examples of this influence, Saliba points to Arabic manuscripts still preserved in European libraries, whose margins were extensively annotated in Latin by European scientists, particularly those regarding astronomical problems. Another example is the work of the famous astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus, who constructed a mathematical model to describe the movements of Mercury in the 16th century. That was the same model, Saliba says, that was described in an Arabic text two centuries earlier.

"People think of it as the work of Copernicus because it is embedded in the body of his work," says Saliba. What is not very widely known, he adds, are the "real concrete technical connections between the Islamic world and the Renaissance." While European scientists may not have often taken the Arabic books, translated and then read them—although in some cases they did—they were certainly influenced by the ideas those books contained.

Saliba, born in Lebanon, has written extensively on the transmission of astronomical and mathematical ideas from the Islamic world to Renaissance Europe. His next book will focus



EILEEN BARROSO

on Europe's sharp rise in scientific production, dissecting its success while many other regions lagged behind. This semester he also is teaching contemporary Islamic civilization and co-teaches a course called Science Across Cultures.

**Q.** *What do you hope readers will take from this book?*

**A.** One should be able to understand how science responds to social, political and economic conditions and how important that interplay is between science and society ... The use of Islamic science is of double purpose. First, to illustrate how this interaction between science and society took place in the specific historical example of Islamic society, thus describing the main outlines of Islamic intellectual history through the exploration of the once brilliant Islamic scientific tradition ... The second purpose is to allow the reader to appreciate the objective conditions that allowed Islamic science to flourish, sometimes in the bosom of the religious environment and not necessarily in conflict with it, thus seemingly avoiding the assumed natural conflict between science and religion so well generalized from the European example of the conflict between Galileo and the church.

**Q.** *What attracted you to the history of Arabic science?*

**A.** I am a student of mathematics. My undergraduate and part of my graduate work were in mathematics. So I only wanted to use the weapons that I had already learned from

school to think about these bigger historical problems. Also, Arabic was a native language to me ... I felt that I can deploy these tools best to answer questions that will be very difficult for somebody who either doesn't have the science or doesn't have the language, to try and answer them.

**Q.** *Some scholars argue there was a decline or an end to Islamic science. You view this differently. In what way?*

**A.** We did not see a decline in Islamic science. Instead, we saw an exponential rise in European science after the 16th century that made all other sciences—not only Islamic science—look like they went into a decline. I attribute this fantastic rise in European science ... to the economic boost Europe received as a result of the discovery of the New World, which ... had the effect of impoverishing Islamic and Chinese civilizations that lost the monopoly on trade and boosted European powers who replaced them. The net result was that Europe could then invest heavily in science and, in turn, science could produce capital for Europe.

**Q.** *What is scientific activity like now in the Islamic world?*

**A.** Some Muslim countries are doing tremendous activities. I recently visited Malaysia, for example, and I was very impressed by the scientific production at its universities. Others are still struggling from [political] occupation. Look at Iraq. That's a Muslim country. I don't think anybody could expect the Iraqi scientists to produce now.

COLUMBIA PEOPLE

# Penny Nadel



EILEEN BARROSO

**WHO SHE IS:** Child Care Counselor, School and Child Care Search Service

**YEARS AT COLUMBIA:** 5

**WHAT SHE DOES:** Nadel helps Columbia employees find early childhood (infant, toddler, pre-school), parochial school and special education placements. Any Columbia employee interested in this free service can contact the program through the School and Child Care Search Service Web site <http://schoolsearch.columbia.edu>. Nadel takes it from there, researching the best matches for parents' child care or educational needs.

**A GOOD DAY ON THE JOB:** Meeting with families, and on occasion, their children, as well as visiting child care sites.

**BEST PART OF THE JOB:** "Finding the best possible environment for a family, and having them accepted into the program they desire."

**WHAT BROUGHT HER TO COLUMBIA:** The opportunity to be part of the start-up for The

School at Columbia University—a kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school that opened in September 2003. Prior to Columbia, Nadel worked at the Dalton School for 13 years and before that, she spent 13 years at the Ramaz School.

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT:** Opening day of The School at Columbia. "It was one of the most challenging and exciting jobs in my career. The day finally arrived when all was ready to receive the long-awaited children of the Columbia community. It's a high you cannot experience unless you have been there."

**IN HER SPARE TIME:** Nadel enjoys teaching cooking classes to children, painting and running. She has two grown children, one in the restaurant business and one who is currently attending Teachers College.

—by Melanie A. Farmer



EILEEN BARROSO

**SAFETY FIRST**

Senior Sgt. Theodore Johnson (second from right, holding plaque), received the Ricardo Morales Crime Prevention Award Feb. 28 at the Department of Public Safety's 4th annual awards ceremony. Johnson, who has been with Columbia for five years, received the award for his efforts in crime prevention, which went far beyond his general duties.

He is pictured with Joseph Ienuso, executive vice president of facilities; Ricardo Morales, manager of crime prevention programs, for whom the award is named and who received the award when it was first given last year for his crime-prevention work; and James McShane, associate vice president for Public Safety. At the ceremony, 20 public safety employees received recognition for perfect attendance, including two security officers, Michael Layne and Wilmer Martinez; neither of the officers has missed a day of work in seven years.

Outstanding service awards went to several employees, including Richard Rodriguez, a maintenance worker in the facilities department who spotted someone stealing items in Fayerweather Hall and alerted public safety officers in time to catch the thief.

The ceremony also recognized Kenneth Wynne, who is retiring from the public safety department after 34 years at Columbia; there also were promotions for 13 other public safety employees.



EILEEN BARROSO

**OF POLICY AND PITCHFORKS**

Former United Nations Ambassador John Bolton spoke at the Law School Feb. 7, in a wide-ranging speech about foreign policy and nuclear proliferation. He criticized "State Department bureaucrats who advance their own agenda, not the president's," and added that "if Americans knew how foreign policy was made, they'd be after us with pitchforks." Bolton, who was invited by the Federalist Society, is now a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. After the program, Bolton signed copies of his new book, *Surrender Is Not An Option: Defending America at the United Nations and Abroad*.



EILEEN BARROSO

**REMEMBERING '68**

Columbia's Black Alumni Council held a reception Feb. 22 in Low Library. Pictured above are board members of the council, as well as alumni who were involved in the 1968 student protests on campus, which was commemorated at the event. The council's Heritage Award also was presented, given posthumously to Rick Johnson ('71CC), who died last November and who created a scholarship fund named for his father to help Columbia undergraduates on financial aid. The fund has since been renamed the Rick and Lee Johnson Memorial Fund.

*Risk Zones*

*continued from page 1*

by hunting or accidental contact; others, such as Malaysia's Nipah virus, go from wildlife to livestock, then to people. Humans have evolved no resistance to zoonoses (diseases that are transferable from animals to humans), so the diseases can be extraordinarily lethal. The scientists say that the more wild species in an area, the more pathogen varieties they may harbor.

"We are crowding wildlife into ever-smaller areas, and human population is increasing," says Levy. "The meeting of these two things is a recipe for [diseases] crossing over."

Peter Daszak, who directed the study and is an emerging-diseases biologist with the Consortium for Conservation Medicine at the Wildlife Trust, another Earth Institute affiliate, says that some strains, such as lethal variants of the bacteria *e. coli*, are now spread with great speed because products like raw vegetables are processed in huge, centralized facilities. "Disease can be a cost of development," he says. In rich nations, emerging disease outbreaks are also a result of multidrug-resistant pathogen strains caused by the overuse of antibiotics.

Kate E. Jones, an evolutionary biologist at the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and lead author of the study, says the work also urgently highlights the need to prevent further intrusion into areas of high biodiversity. "It turns out that conservation may be an important means of preventing new diseases," she says.

In addition to the ZSL and Earth Institute researchers, the study was coauthored by John L. Gittleman, dean of the Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia.



**WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?**

Hint: This is not a daffodil in need of hydration, but a "darling" quenching source all the same. Send answers to curecord@columbia.edu. First to e-mail the right answer wins a Record mug.

ANSWER TO LAST CHALLENGE: C.V. Starr East Asian Library, in Kent Hall; No Winner

*Global Classroom*

*continued from page 5*

economics; environment and climate science; management; policy, anthropology and social studies; public health; and technology and engineering.

At Columbia the course is offered for credit by the School of International and Public Affairs. Throughout the semester, instructors at each partner institution will draw on a common syllabus and set of pre-taped lectures, reading assignments and other resources available through a "super site" course management system developed by CCNMTL.

"This is just a first step," said John McArthur, associate director of the Center on Globalization and Sustainable Development at Columbia. "We hope other schools and programs will take on this model to teaching students across disciplines while convening classes across borders. The world's toughest development challenges—like climate change, poverty and water scarcity—will require collaborative global problem solving that draws upon core insights from various fields."

Joining Columbia University in the Global Classroom project this semester are 11 other institutions of higher learning on five continents: The Energy and Resources Institute in India; Georgetown University; Institute of Development Studies in Sussex, United Kingdom; the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; Mekelle University in Ethiopia; Sciences Po in France; Tsinghua University and University of International Business and Economics, both located in China; Universidad Internacional del Ecuador; University of Ibadan in Nigeria; and the University of Malaya in Malaysia.