



WATSON INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
BROWN UNIVERSITY

BIARI

Brown International
Advanced Research Institutes



Brown University's International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) initiative convenes early-career scholars and practitioners from around the world to address pressing global issues through collaboration across academic, professional, and geographic boundaries.

Made possible by support from Santander Universities, BIARI represents a distinctive professional development opportunity for outstanding young academic and policy professionals, wherever they are based, to interact with their global peers and lay the groundwork for lasting, productive relationships.

BIARI offers four parallel tracks, each convened by Brown University professors, featuring lectures, seminars, workshops, and simulations led by distinguished international guest faculty. Besides sharing their own work and developing new lines of inquiry, participants also have opportunities to benefit from Brown University's world-class campus and facilities.



Objectives

Research That Matters

Based at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies, BIARI offers rigorous, innovative, interdisciplinary programs that further Watson's mission: to promote a just and peaceful world through research, teaching, and public engagement.

Global Exchange

BIARI provides a unique opportunity for rising scholars from diverse backgrounds to meet, connect, and identify areas of potential collaboration.

Sustainable Network Building

Each year's BIARI participants join a dynamic alumni community of over 850 members from 101 countries. Alumni teams can apply for seed funding for longer-term research, teaching, and outreach collaborations that are outgrowths of BIARI initiatives.



BIARI 2015 June 6-20 | The Institutes

Humanitarian Response and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Increasing Effectiveness and Accountability in the Age of Complex Emergencies

"Natural" disasters and political unrest pose chronic threats to human security. Separately or in tandem, they turn citizens into refugees and displaced people, stretch government capacity, and, increasingly, spark chronic disorder, instability, or military conflict. What are the implications of complex emergencies, where natural and man-made factors combine, for the future of humanitarian action? This institute will convene an interdisciplinary and international group of academics and practitioners to develop a better understanding of the underlying political, social, and environmental factors that affect human security before, during, and after humanitarian emergencies. Topics will include the effectiveness and sustainability of existing disaster preparedness systems in different regions; best practices in humanitarian assistance delivery, training, and monitoring; and the politics of compassion in disaster and conflict zones. Discussions will focus in particular on the ethical issues that arise at the intersection of human security and humanitarian assistance; rights-based approaches to humanitarian relief; and the potential for new technologies to transform humanitarian response.

Governance and Development in the Age of Globalization

Development in the age of globalization presents new challenges and opportunities. Globalization has not only accelerated the pace of economic transformation and social change, it has also fundamentally reconfigured the nature of governance. While global and regional governance institutions (both public and private) are playing an ever more powerful role of shaping possibilities at the local and national level, national and local governments still provide the principal arenas of democratic contestation. The central axis of politics in an age of globalization is the complex interaction of governance institutions at different levels. Tackling the core problems of development, from economic growth to social provisioning and environmental sustainability, requires understanding how processes and institutions of governance operate and interact at multiple levels.

This interdisciplinary institute will bring together specialists in these different domains to focus on efforts to expand the regulatory capacity, institutional efficacy, and democratic legitimacy of governance institutions that shape development. Areas of focus will include labor standards, social provisioning, democratic participation, and urban transformation. The goal of the institute is to develop a critical understanding of these issues by exploring the latest theories and empirical work through comparative lenses.



Ethnicity, Conflict, and Inequality in Global Perspective

Co-convened by faculty from the departments of Economics and Political Science, this institute offers participants a thorough exploration of the conceptual and theoretical foundations of scholarship that connect conflict, inequality, and ethnicity. Best practices in comparative and interdisciplinary research design, implementation, and exposition will be explored, with a particular focus on the dilemmas of doing justice to context-specific data while producing generalizable insights. Lectures and workshops led by distinguished guest faculty will constitute the core of this institute, to be supplemented by participants' individual research presentations, and panel discussions on pressing contemporary cases in line with participants' expertise and interests. Applications are especially welcome from scholars interested in evidence-based policy-making.

Population and Development: New Approaches to Enduring Global Problems

With the world's population officially surpassing 7 billion, this institute will address the crucial and interlinked issues of population and development. What are the most significant population issues in the 21st century? How do population dynamics and the policies designed to address them contribute to or detract from equitable development? How can theories and methods in the social sciences contribute to understanding the relationship between population and development, and how can this scholarship contribute to better policies and programs?

Exploring topics such as demographic transition, urbanization, migration, population and environment, HIV/AIDS, the rise of non-communicable diseases in low-income countries, and the underlying relationships between population processes and social and economic development, participants will hear from and interact with some of the world's leading scholars on these topics. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to develop their own research proposals and projects as they engage with cutting-edge theory, innovative and tested research methods, and first-rate scholarship.

“BIARI is the best academic institute I have attended. The focus of the institute is clearly defined and the content of the institute is also very relevant and applicable to people of different academic backgrounds, disciplines, and careers.”

(Population and Development participant, 2014)

“More than my specific institute, the overall BIARI experience was phenomenal as it exposed me to a very diverse and multi-cultural setting. The several interactions with participants from across different countries proved to be very useful in helping me re-think my own scholarly work.”

(Human Security and Humanitarian Response participant, 2014)

“It was extremely valuable to have attended the institute convened by inspiring academics like Dr. Varshney and Dr. Loury. Their presentations and talks were stimulating, inspiring and enriched my understanding of the complexities of conflict. In all, it was a great experience and I feel fortunate for having been selected for it.”

(Ethnicity, Conflict, and Inequality participant, 2014)

Applications for BIARI 2015

Applications are invited for BIARI 2015, which will be held at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies June 6-20, 2015.

We especially welcome applicants who are early in their professional careers. Practitioners normally have four to ten years' experience in their professional field. Participants from an academic background are usually within seven years of having finished their PhD or professional terminal degree. The working language is English.

To apply, please visit watson.brown.edu/biari.

Thanks to generous support from Santander Universities, BIARI covers the full cost of tuition, meals, and university housing for the duration of the program, and air travel when institutional support is not available.

Early-career faculty from institutions that are members of the Santander Universities network are especially encouraged to apply.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT

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