Singh Advocates India for United Nations Security Council

The inaugural Brown-India Lecture featured India’s Minister of External Affairs K. Natwar Singh. In “The Argument for India,” delivered to an audience of more than 500 people on September 23 at Brown University’s Sayles Hall, Singh stated that his country “has a larger message for the world.” The lecture was Singh’s only public address during his recent visit to the United States.

Singh highlighted India’s success as a secular, multicultural democracy, its history in UN peacekeeping missions, and providing relief to other nations in need. He also emphasized his country’s worldwide economic status among the reasons why “India can bear much greater responsibilities” in the world.

“In putting forward our candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council, we are confident that the world will take into account our international contribution as well as our strong democratic credentials,” he emphasized.

Singh outlined India’s transition from two centuries of British colonial rule to its independence in 1947 and rise to a democracy and world power, taking care to highlight how the country has worked to overcome various challenges and perceptions.

In addition, he noted that “demographic trends and historical traditions have come together to make India, along with the United States, China, Europe, Japan, and Russia, among the key players of the century.”

The phenomenon is more remarkable, Singh said, because “it is not every country that, even while addressing primary issues like health, shelter, and literacy, is simultaneously able to compete at a global level in technology, business, and culture.”

Key to India’s success has been its persistence in building a democracy, which “has not been an easy exercise,” Singh noted, because “there has been no historical precedent for a billion people determining their collective destiny through a mechanism of consent.”

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE

He also pointed out that India’s electorate of nearly 700 million voters has played a vital role in changing both federal and local government with a peaceful transfer of power. The country also has become more secular and diverse, which from an Indian perspective “translates into equal respect for all religions,” Singh said.

“Democracy and secularism have not only been values that have sustained the development of modern India. They have also provided effective defenses against terrorism unleashed by ideologies of intolerance and fundamentalism,” Singh added.

“Our ability to rise to this challenge has depended on the denial of ground fertile for the spread of such extremist thinking. This was made possible because all sections of India believed that their grievances can be expressed through the democratic process,” he explained.

While describing India’s individualism and pluralism, Singh remarked how they “are two sides of the same coin and they reflect themselves as much in economic activity as they do in the political.” All these strengths, taken together, put India in a strong position in an interdependent world that “requires a more consensual decision-making process.”

Moreover, “the argument for India is that argumentative people, difficult as they are, embody virtues and habits that make the world a better and safer place.”

Singh has served his country in a distinguished diplomatic career that spans more than a half century. Educated at the University of Delhi, Cambridge University, and Peking University, Singh first joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1953, spending many years with India’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

At the UN, he represented India in the General Assembly, the Executive Board of UNICEF, the UN’s Institute for Training and Research, and later served as president of the UN Conference on Disarmament and Development. He also served as India’s ambassador to Pakistan from 1982 to 1984 and ambassador to Poland from 1971 to 1973.

In the intervening years, he was the high commissioner to Zambia and deputy high commissioner to the United Kingdom. For more than 20 years, Singh worked within the ministry, holding numerous positions, including minister of state for three years. He became external affairs minister in 2004. In addition to his government service, he is a well-known political leader, having served in both the lower and upper Houses of the Indian Parliament.

A prolific author, Singh most recently wrote Heart to Heart (2003), Profiles and Letters (1997), and The Magnificent Mahanaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala (1997). His articles and reviews have appeared in publications such as The New York Times, Saturday Review, Sunday Times, India Today, and The Times of India.

His work as a public servant and as an author were recognized in 1984, with the Padma Bhushan Award, one of India’s most prestigious decorations for distinguished service to the country, and then in 1989 with the E. M. Forster’s Literary Award.

In addition to his public career, Singh has been the secretary of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund and the vice-chairman of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.

The Brown-India Fund, its parent and alumni donors, and the Watson Institute generously supported Singh’s lecture.

The full text and video of Singh’s lecture is also available online at www.watsoninstitute.org.
Richard Barker ‘57 Joins Institute’s Board of Overseers

Richard Barker ’57 has joined the Watson Institute’s Board of Overseers. Barker recently retired as vice chairman of the Board and director of Capital Group International, Inc. (CGII). He is also former vice chairman of the Board of Capital International Limited (CIL).

Barker graduated from Brown University in 1957 and attended the University of Connecticut School of Business Administration. He previously served as executive vice president of Standard & Poor’s Equity Services, Inc., and as vice president and senior portfolio manager of Standard & Poor’s InterCapital Corporation.

Before joining the S&P organization, he served as a director of research and subsequently as portfolio manager at Connecticut General Life Insurance Company and its affiliate, CG Investment Management Company.

Barker joined Capital Group International in 1971 and also served as chairman of the Board of Capital Guardian Trust Company and as director of the Capital Group and Capital Management Services. He managed U.S. equity portfolios for the organization for 26 years.

He is a trustee of Brown University, the Brown University Sports Foundation, the BASIC Fund, the California Film Institute, Landmine Survivors Network, and the San Francisco Ballet. He is also president emeritus of the Branson School, and trustee emeritus of Marin General Hospital Foundation and the Naval War College Foundation.

Barker joins a 23-member Board of Overseers, which provides guidance to the Watson Institute. Board members include former ambassadors and heads of state, as well as presidents and directors of global firms, leaders of nongovernmental organizations, and renowned scholars of international relations.

Watson Board members have been guiding forces behind the Congressional 9/11 Commission, the Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Authority, and the World Trade Center Memorial Competition.

Institute Receives Watson Bequest

Brown University recently received a gift of $23 million from the estate of the late Thomas J. Watson, Jr. ’37, $21 million of which was designated to support the Watson Institute for International Studies. From this amount, $5 million went toward the Institute’s building and $16 million toward its programs.

Among the key enhancements to the Institute, this generous gift will endow: The Howard R. Swearer Directorship, honoring Brown’s 15th president, who served as the Institute’s first director after retiring as the president of Brown; The Olive C. Watson Professorship, honoring the former member of the Institute’s Board of Overseers and late wife of Thomas J. Watson, Jr., to be held by a faculty member with a joint appointment in an academic department and the Watson Institute; and three additional joint appointments between academic departments and the Institute.

Institute Launches Successful Friends Program

The Institute launched its Friends of the Watson Institute (FOWI) program on June 1 with a dinner in New York, hosted by Institute Overseer Lucinda Watson.

Some 40 attendees, including Brown University President Ruth J. Simmons, enjoyed a stimulating discussion of current efforts to combat terrorist financing.

After opening remarks by Institute Director Thomas J. Biersteker, Richard Barrett, head of the Monitoring Group of the United Nations al-Qaida/Taliban Sanctions Committee, outlined the major challenges that international organizations face as they try to coordinate a global effort to regulate the financing of terrorist groups. Two respondents, Lee Wolosky, co-director of the Council on Foreign Relations task force on terrorist financing, and the Honorable Sue E. Eckert, former U.S. assistant secretary of commerce and current Institute senior fellow, provided their own insights into curbing the financing of terrorist organizations.

The Institute also inaugurated its West Coast FOWI branch with a dinner in San Francisco on October 6, hosted by Institute Overseers John Chen ’78 and Richard Barker ’57. Fifty guests attended the dinner, which included a discussion of U.S.-China relations, featuring Xu Wen-Li, Institute senior fellow and co-founder of the China Democracy Party; Jonathan Pollack, professor of Asian and Pacific studies and chair of the Asia-Pacific Studies Group and the Naval War College; and Marsha Vande Berg, founding editor of The World Report and executive director of the Pacific Pension Institute.

FOWI provides a venue through which alumni and friends of the University can reconnect to Brown through a shared interest in international affairs.
Thomas J. Biersteker, director of the Watson Institute, has announced that he will step down in June 2006 after 12 years at the helm of the Institute. Brown University has initiated an international search for a new director.

During his tenure, Biersteker, who is also Brown’s Henry R. Luce Professor of Transnational Organizations, has overseen numerous institutional achievements, resulting in the Institute’s increased national and international recognition as a multidisciplinary and multinational center addressing constantly changing global issues.

When announcing Biersteker’s decision to the Brown community, Provost Robert J. Zimmer noted:

“Tom has been an extraordinary leader for the Watson Institute, and its current success and prominence owe much to his leadership. Under his leadership, the... Institute has developed a number of research areas reflecting Thomas J. Watson’s vision for a research center that would address the most pressing problems of our times.... His work will have a lasting impact on the...Institute and the University.”

Biersteker commented on the transitions during his directorship:

“The Watson Institute has grown from a modest, five-person (faculty and staff) enterprise to become a widely known and highly respected institution for international studies scholarship and outreach. It has been an extraordinary experience to have been part of such an evolution.”

When he became director in April 1994, the Institute as a single entity was still a young enterprise—less than three years old. Most of its research was transitioning from the singular mission (to prevent nuclear exchange between the United States and the former Soviet Union) of its predecessor organization, the Center for Foreign Policy Development, to a research and educational institution that embraced a broad international studies agenda for a post-Cold War world.

Biersteker’s directorship has been marked by several key developments. Programmatically, he has overseen the reconfiguration of the Institute’s research, creating four multidisciplinary research programs in the broad domains of security, politics and culture, political economy, and the environment. He also worked to strengthen the ties between the Institute and the University both academically and administratively, placing research faculty in the classroom, bringing the appointments structure under the University appointments process, and initiating new joint appointments with departments under the University’s current Academic Enrichment Initiative.

Biersteker was the driving force behind the construction of a new building for the Institute near the center of Brown University’s campus. Designed by architect Rafael Viñoly, the nearly $25-million facility at 111 Thayer Street brought under one roof the Institute’s operations, which had been dispersed across five locations on campus.

In addition to his duties as director, Biersteker has maintained an active research and teaching schedule. He is the principal co-investigator on two Institute projects: Targeted Sanctions and Targeting Terrorist Finances. For the past five years, these initiatives have placed Institute scholars at the center of an international effort to improve the effectiveness of multilateral sanctions as a deterrent to oppressive regimes and, since 9/11, to identify how a multilateral global regulatory effort can degrade the ability of groups using terrorism to...
finance their activities. He has also been a contributor to several other Institute initiatives, including the Critical Oral History Projects, Info-TechWarPeace Project, and North American Border Controls after September 11 Project.

Throughout this period, Biersteker has continued to author, co-author, and co-edit numerous books, book chapters, and journal articles. Among them are *Argument Without End: Searching for Answers to the Vietnam Tragedy* (co-authored with Robert S. McNamara, James G. Blight, Robert Brigham, and Col. Herbert Schandler, 1999); *Rebordering North America Integration and Exclusion in a New Security Context* (co-edited with Peter Andreas, 2003); and *The Emergence of Private Authority in Global Governance* (co-edited with Rodney Bruce Hall, 2002).

At Brown, he also teaches a popular undergraduate lecture course on theories of international relations in the twentieth century and the graduate pro-seminar on international relations theory.

He cites his research and teaching as one of the primary reasons for stepping down at this time. 

“Academic administration can be exhilarating, especially during periods of institutional growth and transformation, as we have experienced here at the Watson Institute... Although I certainly have no regrets about the time I have spent as director, there have been some real opportunity costs for me personally in terms of research and teaching. I want and need some new challenges.”

Biersteker will spend the upcoming 2005–2006 academic year ensuring that the Institute’s new strategic plan is launched on firm footing and it is integrated into Brown’s capital campaign. He will also begin oversight of a $21 million gift from the estate of the late Thomas J. Watson, Jr. ’37 that will provide support for three endowed positions and three additional joint appointments between academic departments and the Institute.

Biersteker will remain on the faculty at Brown with a joint appointment between the Political Science Department and at the Watson Institute.

---

**Biersteker’s Itinerary Is Worldwide**

In addition to juggling myriad administrative, teaching, and research priorities, Watson Institute Director Thomas J. Biersteker squeezed in several important speaking engagements as the 2004–2005 academic year ended.

Among them, in May, he addressed the Kim Koo International Symposium on Leadership and Vision for Korea at the Kim Koo Academy in Seoul. Joining other distinguished scholars from China, Korea, Mongolia, and the United States, Biersteker spoke on “The Nature of Contemporary American Leadership and Its Implications for World Order in the 21st Century.” He focused on perceptions of American leadership in the world today while tracing American hegemony from the 1919–1939 interwar years to the current administration.

The academy is named after the Korean patriot and opposition leader who sought Korean unity and independence and who was assassinated on June 26, 1949.

In June, Biersteker participated with an internationally well-known group of scholars and practitioners at the Dag Hammerskjöld Symposium on Respecting International Law and International Institutions, which took place at the Uppsala Castle in Uppsala, Sweden. At the symposium, he spoke on “Routes to Enhanced Respect: Reflections on Recent Experiences at Realistic Alternatives,” focusing on his research in UN sanctions reforms and targeted sanctions.

Biersteker also traveled to Great Britain, Turkey, and Washington, DC during the summer and early fall to participate in conferences and workshops.

---

“Tom has been an extraordinary leader for the Watson Institute, and its current success and prominence owe much to his leadership.”

Brown Provost Robert J. Zimmer
Ross Levine, the Harrison S. Kravis University Professor and professor of economics in Brown’s Economics Department, has joined the Watson Institute for a two-year term as the first Paul R. Dupee Jr. ’65 Faculty Fellow.

As a Watson faculty fellow, Levine is affiliated with the Institute’s Political Economy and Development Program and will spend two years as an active participant in the intellectual life of the Institute. His plans include the organization of a major international conference in the spring of 2006 on the “Formation and Evolution of Institutions.”

The Faculty Fellows program has been launched to encourage cross-fertilization and greater interaction between the Watson Institute and departments at Brown.

Levine looks forward to his new role. “I have devoted my professional life to understanding economic stagnation and discovering which policies foster improvements in living standards. By interacting with scholars and practitioners from diverse backgrounds at the Watson Institute, I hope to do better work in the coming years,” he said.

He was previously at the University of Minnesota, where he was the Curtis L. Carlson Chair in Finance. Before that, he was a professor at the University of Virginia and a principal economist at the World Bank. He is a prolific scholar, having published two books and more than 80 articles and handbook chapters since receiving his PhD in 1987.

Levine is currently ranked among the top 10 economists in terms of citations. He is best known for his work on finance and development, which explores the importance of the structure of financial institutions as a determinant of entrepreneurial activity and thus economic growth.

He has also contributed to discussions about the relative merits of regulatory versus market-based devices for improving governance of banks and other financial intermediaries.

Levine will provide new depth to a group in development and growth economics within the Economics Department, which is already recognized to be among the best in the country. In addition, he will also help strengthen the finance component of the new concentration in Commerce, Organization, and Entrepreneurship by offering courses in money and banking.

Who’s New at Watson

The Watson Institute regularly hosts distinguished scholars and visitors from around the world to contribute to the academic excellence of the Institute and Brown University. The visiting faculty participate in multidisciplinary research and teaching, while providing a spectrum of expertise to inform and enhance the Institute’s research and outreach programs. The Institute welcomes this semester’s new scholars and visitors and looks forward to their contributions. Among the most recent scholars and visitors are:

Marcos Arruda, an economist and educator with the Institute of Alternative Policies for the Southern Cone of Latin America, is a visiting professor in Latin American Studies at the Center for Latin American Studies during the fall semester. He is also professor of solidarity, economy, and human development at various UNIPAZ—International University of Peace campuses and a member of the Global Animation Team of the Workgroup on a Solidarity Socio-economy (WSSE), of the Alliance 21 for a Responsible, Plural, and United World.

Arruda, a Brazilian national, received his MA in Development Economics at American University and his PhD in education and economics from the Fluminense Federal University. He also holds a degree in geology from the National School of Geology at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.
His research interests include macrosocioeconomic affairs; national finance; debt and adjustment policies; globalization; local, national, and global development policy; international financial institutions; international trade agreements; solidarity economy; work and labor organization; methodology of local development; youth and adult education; cooperative education for self- and co-management.

YAAKOV JEROME GARb, visiting assistant professor (research), is a researcher and adjunct professor at the Institute of Urban and Regional Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, academic director of the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, and director of Central European and Middle East Programs of the Institute for Transport and Development Policy.

Garb holds a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. His interests are in environmental and urban issues, regional studies, and development.

NEVE GORDON, a visiting scholar, is a senior lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Ben Gurion University. He received his BA in philosophy from Hebrew University and his MA and PhD in political science from the University of Notre Dame.

He is the editor of From the Margins of Globalization: Critical Perspectives on Human Rights (Lexington Books, 2004); scientific editor of the Hebrew translation of Susan Buck-Morss’s Thinking Past Terror (Resling Books, 2004); and with Ruchama Marton, editor of TORMUT: Human Rights, Medical Ethics and the Case of Israel (Zed Books, 1995); as well as many other publications. His areas of interest focus on globalization, human rights, and medical ethics.

EUN-SHik KIM, professor of ecology and dendrology and dean of the College of Forest Sciences at Kookkmin University in Korea, is visiting professor (research) for the fall semester. He works with Global Environment Director Steven P. Hamburg on funded projects in the Global Environment Program.

Kim received his MPhil, MS, and PhD in forestry and environmental studies at Yale University, as well as a BS and MS in forestry from Seoul National University in Suweon, Korea. His research interests include LTER/NEON, desertification and restoration of degraded ecosystem global ecology, eco-informatics and biometrics, tree growth and environmental change, dendroecology, and tree-ring studies.


ROSS LEVINE is an economist and the Dupee Faculty Fellow at the Watson Institute (see preceding page).

MINH A. LUONG is a visiting fellow for the fall term. He is also the assistant director of International Security Studies, director and lecturer of the Ivy Scholars Program, and Forrest Mars Senior Visiting (Term) Professor of Ethics, Politics, and Economics at Yale University. While at the Institute, he will teach “Global Security after the Cold War,” an international relations course.

Luong is a certified crisis management and communications consultant and serves as principal and managing consultant at Advocacy Associates Consultants in Cambridge, MA, and New Haven, CT.

He is author of numerous articles in management and academic publications. He received a BA in rhetoric from the University of California at Berkeley and is currently pursuing a DBA at California Pacific University’s School of Business Administration and Management.

JONATHAN MENDEL is a visiting fellow and a doctoral candidate in political geography at the University of Durham, U. K. He holds a BA in philosophy and politics from the University of Warwick and an MA in politics research from the University of Newcastle. The author of several scholarly articles, his areas of interest include the war on terror, political geography, and international politics.

JOAO PEIXOTO is a demographer at the Institute of Social Sciences at the University of Lisbon. He is also a consultant at the National Statistical Institute in Portugal. He will collaborate with Luiz Valente as a Luso-American Foundation (FLAD) Visiting Professor (Research) while working with the Watson Institute and the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies. He will teach “Immigration in Southern Europe: The Case of Portugal.”

Peixoto holds degrees in sociology from the Institute of Labor and Enterprise Sciences (ISCTE) in Lisbon and the School of Economics at the University of Coimbra, and a PhD in economic sociology from the
Institute of Economics and Business Administration at the Technical University of Lisbon. His main interests are sociology of migrations, economic sociology, sociology of organizations, and demography.


**EDUARDO POSADA-CARBÓ,** departmental lecturer and research associate at the Latin American Centre at St. Anthony’s College, Oxford, U.K., is the Cogut Visiting Professor in Latin American Studies during the fall semester.

Posada–Carbó holds a BA in law, with a specialization in socioeconomics from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia, and an MPhil in Latin American studies and DPhil in modern history from St. Anthony’s College.

His research interests include Latin American and Colombian history, culture, economics, and politics. He is the editor with Carlos Malamud of _Financing Party Politics: European and Latin American Perspectives_ (Institute of Latin American Studies, 2004).

**JOHN PHILLIP SANTOS,** a visiting fellow for the fall semester, is an author and media producer. While at the Institute, he is working with Global Security Program Director James Der Derian on the Institute’s new crosscutting initiative Global Media Project.

He is a Berlin Prize Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin, where he worked on _The Farthest Home is in an Empire of Fire_ (Viking/Penguin, 2005) and the development of Teleopia Labs, a production workshop for documentary media performances. Before that, he held various positions in media, including stints as a producer at CBS and PBS.

Santos received his BA in philosophy and literature from the University of Notre Dame and his MA in English literature and language as a Rhodes Scholar at St. Catherine’s College, Oxford University.

He is the author of _Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation_ (Viking/Penguin, 1999), which was a National Book Award finalist in nonfiction. Santos also was an Emmy nominee in 1988 for “From the AIDS Experience: Part I, Our Spirits to Heal/Part II, Our Humanity to Heal,” and in 1985 for “Exiles Who Never Leave Home.”

**EILON SCHWARTZ** is a visiting assistant professor (research). He is the founding director of the Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership and faculty at Hebrew University.

Schwartz received a BA in Jewish history and thought from the Jewish Theological Seminary University, a BA in European history from Columbia University, an MS in environmental studies from Bard College, and a PhD in educational philosophy from Hebrew University.

While at the Institute, Schwartz will teach an international relations course in the fall and another one in the spring. In addition, he will work on the Middle East Environmental Futures Project.


**WINIFRED LOUISE TATE** is a postdoctoral fellow. She was previously a visiting scholar at American University’s Anthropology Department and adjunct professor at the School for International Service. Before that, she was a senior fellow at the Washington Office on Latin America.

She received her BA in Latin American studies from Wesleyan University and her MA and PhD in anthropology from New York University. Her areas of interest are political culture and human rights institutions in Colombia, globalization and transnational movements, violence and law, and nationalism and state in Latin America.
Business groups are increasingly becoming major players in global climate change politics. How is the role of the private sector changing and what effects does this have on international environmental politics? Simone Pulver, assistant professor (research) with the Institute’s Global Environment Program and a member of the university-wide Environmental Change Initiative, aims to find out with the Climate Change Participant Data Project.

This project is being conducted in collaboration with the UN Climate Change Secretariat in Bonn, Germany, a coordinating body that provides liaison, logistical, and administrative support to the broad range of actors participating in the international climate negotiations. The project also has received generous support from the Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award.

As principal investigator of the project, Pulver spent much of the summer creating a database that she will use to analyze and document patterns of participation in the multilateral, international negotiations about climate change. She was assisted by Zarah Rahman, a sophomore and Development Studies concentrator, through an international summer undergraduate training and research assistantship (UTRA), and Slavina Zlatkova, a 2005 International Relations graduate.

Pulver and Rahman met in July with their collaborators at the UN Climate Change Secretariat in Bonn.

“We are in the process of analyzing data over the 14-year period from 1991, when the international community first met as the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC), to 2004, the tenth meeting of the Conferences of the Parties to Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP),” Pulver noted.

She will use the participant data to seek answers to such questions as:

- What trends characterize the growth in participation by business associations in the climate debates? Has there been a shift in absolute numbers of observers from environmental groups to business associations? How does business association participation vary by country of origin?
- How has membership by foreign affairs, environmental, and finance ministries on national delegations changed over time? How does this vary by country of origin?
- How high is the turnover rate among attendees and is there a revolving door between state delegate and nonstate observers?

The project is part of a larger research effort aimed at understanding the consequences of increased business involvement in international environmental governance.

During the past 30 years, environmental regulation has been undergoing a transformation away from traditional command-and-control strategies of environmental protection toward the use of innovative economic tools to achieve environmental policy goals. Recent innovations include trading emissions permits and voluntary environmental agreements. Underlying the shift from government-directed to market-based forms of environmental regulation is a reconfiguration of the relationships among the private sector, the state, and civil society organizations. In the past, business actors were the primary targets of environmental regulation, but they are now presenting themselves and being viewed as necessary partners in devising solutions to environmental problems.

What are the likely effects of increased business involvement in the regulatory process? Some scholars predict a zero-sum game where business involvement undermines environmental advocacy. Others suggest that cooperation between private sector firms and environmental groups will generate new knowledge, respectively strengthening the position of each group in the policymaking process.

“Using the UN climate negotiations as a case study of the marketization of environmental regulation, I propose to evaluate these divergent predictions. Compiling the participant data is a first step in tracking private sector involvement in the international climate debates,” Pulver explained.

Simone Pulver

Zarah Rahman and Simone Pulver
Elizabeth Dean Hermann

Hermann Compares New Orleans and Dhaka

Elizabeth Dean Hermann is professor of urban design, landscape architecture, and Islamic architectural history at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). She is in her second year with the Watson Institute as a visiting scholar in the Global Environment Program.

She received her PhD in Islamic architecture and urbanism from Harvard University, where her work focused on premodern cities in the Muslim world and their response to prolonged periods of environmental and political upheaval and outbreaks of epidemic disease.

Hermann has been visiting faculty at Harvard's Graduate School of Design, the Visiting Aga Khan Associate Professor of Islamic Architecture at MIT, and a SPURS Fellow in Urban Studies and Planning at MIT.

Her research and consulting practice focuses on South Asia, in particular Bangladesh, and on rapid urban growth, poverty, environmental infrastructure, and, in the case of the capital city Dhaka, devastating annual flooding. In the summer of 2005, Hermann co-founded the Institute for Sustainable Urban Societies (ISUS Design) with colleagues in Bangladesh, India, and North America.

Under the auspices of ISUS’s Urban Water Project and in collaboration with RISD and the Institute’s Global Environment Program, Hermann is preparing a conference to be held in Providence in June 2006. The conference will focus on hydrological issues and strategic planning for the deltaic cities Dhaka and New Orleans in light of global warming, sea-level rise, and the increased potential for physical, social, and economic disaster.

Briefings editor, Fred Fullerton, interviewed Hermann about her work.

FF: How did you become interested in urbanism?

EH: I had no real interest in or understanding of cities until after I graduated from college and took a job at Johns Hopkins University, where I was involved in research on diseases in the developing world and graduate studies in public health. I lived in the middle of Baltimore, surrounded by poverty, decaying neighborhoods, and real social and economic differences, and it began to get under my skin.

While there, I was part of a lab studying a parasitic disease that affects roughly 80 percent of the rural population of Brazil. At this time, I began to believe that the diseases were not ultimately medical issues. They were social issues that had to do with how people built their houses and cities, the density with which they were built, the materials they used, their sanitation habits, and their relationship with the environment.

This led me to study landscape architecture, architecture, and urban design, so I could continue to address the issues I had been involved in at Johns Hopkins.

In time, I became involved in the Islamic world, which is primarily an urban society. Historically, land holdings and production in rural districts were connected to cities and institutions through religious endowments or waqfs that create financial and legal urban-rural relationships quite different from those in the West.

FF: Your current work focuses on flooding, water management, urban poverty, and sustainable development in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Why did you focus on Dhaka and what have you learned from your research?

EH: Bangladesh has been the perfect place to work because it has one of the fastest growing megacities in the world. Its large-scale environmental systems, especially water, affect all aspects of society internationally, regionally, and locally, and it’s a small enough country that the study is manageable.

I began to focus on Bangladesh about four years ago when I was involved in discussions at Harvard about a new Aga Khan professorship being defined at the Design School. A conversation about the country and how its urban history fit into earlier scholarly interests I had in the region. Its contemporary urban issues paralleled many of those I had focused on previously in American postindustrial cities.

By redirecting my work toward South Asia, I had an opportunity to finally bring my interests as a historian...
together with my research and practice in contemporary urbanism.

Bangladesh has been the perfect place to work because it has one of the fastest growing megacities in the world. Its large scale environmental systems, especially water, affect all aspects of society internationally, regionally, and locally, and it’s a small enough country that the study is manageable.

At RISD, I teach a graduate design studio called “Urban Systems,” which is about how social and environmental systems interface and influence each other. My co-instructor and I have tried to shift the focus of this course toward global issues and international sites where we work with local professionals and institutions.

One value of working with students in places like Bangladesh is that the environmental and social issues are much more transparent there. Both cause and effect are readily visible. Maybe this is because governments are less able to camouflage what goes on in society, but whatever the reason, everything is exposed and raw. Here, if our water systems are polluted, we may read about it and be told of the potential danger if we don’t correct it, but we rarely see an immediate impact on the population around us or on our way of life.

In Bangladesh, it’s very visible. You see the diseases among the people, the effects of arsenic, and the things that are being burned in the brick factories. It’s all visible—there’s no place to hide.

It also has given me a better lens through which to see and consider the effect of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans, and the problems that existed before but have been largely ignored, such as more than a third of the city’s population living below poverty level.

**FF:** How do untapped urban resources of megacities contribute to solving poverty, growth, and environmental degradation?

**EH:** We can look at waste. In Bangladesh, a group called Waste Concern has won international awards from the United Nations (UN) and other groups for the work they have done in Dhaka’s slums. They started small-scale composting programs in poor neighborhoods, working with local residents. It helped deal with the huge waste management issue in Dhaka and address the immediate need to get decaying organics off the street where they were providing breeding grounds for disease.

Waste Concern trained slum dwellers to manage the composting centers and become owners of the businesses, which eventually made profits from selling compost back to rural villages desperately in need of fertilizer.

The lack of fertilizer resulted from flood control measures that the World Bank and others have helped support. Building embankments and channeling rivers—as in New Orleans—increased river speeds, deposited sediment loads far out in the Bay of Bengal, and eliminated the annual inundation that supplied agricultural lands with badly needed nutrients.

Since the embankment-building projects of the late 1980s, agricultural lands must be artificially fertilized, which is a huge problem when you consider that agriculture is the base of the national economy. At the same time, sediment deposits dumped further out in the bay have brought an overload of nutrients, altering ecosystems essential to the fishing industry.

By expanding their system to take the compost from the slums and sell it to rural farmers, Waste Concern created a kind of reverse system where the city fed the country, which in turn fed the city. Waste was a resource that had never been tapped before and has now provided for the growth of an entirely new industry.

Waste Concern’s achievements have inspired our own work. We are trying to understand how the protection and better management of Dhaka’s water systems can help alleviate flooding problems in the capital while adding to economic growth,
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

help eliminate poverty, and provide healthy living situations for all.

We’ve also looked at FDR’s New Deal public works programs of the 1930s, which took an integrated approach to solving the nation’s problems and combined skills training and work opportunities with social well-being.

In Bangladesh, or anywhere else in the developing world, are such programs possible without government taking the lead? Is this something that can happen at a grassroots level or can it be a partnership between government, industry, and the public whose goal is making the city or country as a whole function better? It means doing the most basic tasks such as cleaning drains, collecting waste, managing squatter settlements, and not letting government get away with the claim that such activities don’t happen because they don’t have resources.

FF: How does what happened with Katrina in New Orleans compare to Dhaka?

EH: For once, calamity at such a scale is not there it’s here. We need to confront our long-held belief that we are somehow invincible because we’re a First World country. Nature is the great equalizer as it is more powerful than all of us.

There are differences between Dhaka and New Orleans, even though Dhaka is in the middle of the country and not near the coast. At the same time, Bangladesh, like New Orleans and the rest of the Mississippi Delta, is deeply affected by the loss of the mangrove swamps that stabilize coastlines and help absorb tidal flooding. This loss in Bangladesh is less the result of channelized rivers and more the product of waters being diverted by building dams in India.

Like in New Orleans, a major problem in Dhaka is that when it rains or floods, the drainage system doesn’t work well because the city is so much lower than everything around it. In the best of situations the city’s pumping stations handle the excess water, but if the drains aren’t kept clean and are clogged with debris, the water backs up.

A river that can rise more than 30 feet above the city’s level when loaded with Himalayan melt water and held by embankments presents a situation very much like New Orleans. The city sits in a bowl ready to be filled when something goes wrong. Building more embankments is the worst thing that can be done.

The best thing is to adjust the city, its land-uses, lifestyles, and economy to the environmental forces and conditions they face. For Dhaka and the rest of the roughly 3.2 billion people living along the world’s coasts, it will be increasingly difficult to ignore reality as centers of human settlement become ever more vulnerable to rising sea levels, erosion, and frequent, powerful storms resulting from global warming.

There are predictions that by 2015 the Bay of Bengal will be at the edge of Dhaka, which is not below sea level like New Orleans but close to it. With increased flooding and loss of infrastructure, a rising sea level means salt water intrudes into fresh-water wells, which most of the population depends on, among other related problems. Moreover, there will be the issue of displaced populations moving inland from submerged coastal areas.

Because New Orleans is a coastal city, the issues are more immediate and there are questions about its future after Katrina. There will be much secondary devastation—not structural damage from the storm itself, but from things like mold and rot.

FF: How do you rebuild the Mississippi Delta after years of manmade degradation and neglect? How do you rebuild a city?

EH: The canals that have been kept open within the urban area are important because they play the role of the old tributaries. Yet there are probably not enough of them. It’s really the land from New Orleans out into the Gulf that is in question since much of this has been lost through changes in sediment patterns that are essential for mangroves to take hold.

Elizabeth Dean Hermann in Dhaka with Bangladeshi children.
In collaboration with Rhode Island School of Design and the Institute’s Global Environment Program, Hermann is preparing a symposium/workshop, “Dhaka–New Orleans: Urban Waters/Alternative Futures” to be held in Providence in June 2006. Work from this and the 2005 symposium held in Dhaka will be exhibited at the UN Habitat World Urban Forum to be held in Vancouver in the summer of 2006.

Under consideration is a plan to artificially rebuild the ground as they have been doing in Indonesia. Re-establishing and maintaining mangrove swamps is essential because they break the impact of any storm hitting the coast, and their elaborate root system stabilizes the ground and prevents rapid erosion of the coast line.

The problem is that the city is below sea level. It is difficult to drain a city with a barrier, such as the swamps, between the area of settlement and the Gulf. The only way to correct this is to gradually raise the level of the city with dredged material from flow-through channels and Lake Ponchartrain.

In Dhaka, we are proposing that material gained by regularly dredging transportation channels be deposited in targeted sections of the city so that the ground level is gradually raised. At the same time, buildings need to be taller so that more people are settled on less land. Currently, a vast part of this city of 13.5 million is housed in 1- or 2-story structures. This endless sprawl necessitates filling in more and more wetlands, which only worsens the problem of urban flooding. With this plan, the city can keep its transportation channels open, slowly raise the floor of the city, and have open space for flood management, waste management, food production, and recreation.

In Bangladesh, we’ve also looked at different kinds of architecture to replace what exists there now. You can already find that urban buildings—even high rises—are all, in effect, stilt structures. While the ground level appears solid from the street, it is always an open void used only for parking. Occupation begins a level up, some 13 feet above ground.

Many poor people live in bamboo stilt houses, and when these houses become waterlogged, the bamboo is easily replaced or eventually dries out. Even more expensive homes in Bangladesh are beginning to test bamboo because of its affordability and because it “breathes” by letting air through and, when used correctly, can greatly reduce energy expenses.

What is fascinating is the idea of designing for a shorter lifespan of building materials where architectural components are easily replaceable. If this were done in neighborhoods or whole cities, events such as Katrina might be viewed and managed differently.

I teach a housing course that I situated in New Orleans long before the hurricane hit. What surprised me in doing background research was how low the architectural profile of the city really is. With the exception of the business district, most buildings are two to three stories.

When the city’s defenses breach, most of the built environment is beneath water, which contributes to problems later. It really does look like Bangladesh after a flood. And both Dhaka and New Orleans face similar challenges with industrial waste in their water supplies—especially when the cities are flooded.

Should serious consideration be given to relocating New Orleans? This actually has been considered in places like Dhaka in the past. Before Katrina struck, I looked at worst-case scenario flood maps of New Orleans, and these predictions proved to be true.

There have been proposals to build a huge wall around the French Quarter because it’s on the highest ground, but this would operate like cyclone shelters in Bangladesh, where the whole community relocates, instead of going to the Superdome, which was in a vulnerable part of the city.

If New Orleans is to rebuild, it must be done with respect to natural systems and dynamic processes—not that levee systems are eliminated, but mangrove swamps need to be restored, and quickly, and any other kind of natural defenses that can be established. It also suggests a new kind of urban form, density, and even architectural type that can accommodate these natural rampages.

If relocation is a real possibility, New Orleans will have to move far away from its current location since Baton Rouge and other cities also are vulnerable. Yet where does it go? Moving inland means dislocating other land uses and other populations.

Our research also has looked at the Netherlands and other places where people are experimenting with alternative housing such as modified house boats. Some of these can interlock to form floating communities. In a storm, they can separate and be less vulnerable to wind and changing water levels. There is also housing set within structural frames, which have a mooring and move up and down with the water levels, much like a floating dock.

With the exception of their cemeteries, New Orleans’ architecture has been unimaginative and built much like that in the rest of the U.S. If you rebuild, do you build a very different kind of city?

“With the exception of their cemeteries, New Orleans’ architecture has been unimaginative and built much like that in the rest of the U.S. If you rebuild, do you build a very different kind of city?”

Elizabeth Dean Hermann
The Watson Institute’s Global Security Program held a two-day workshop in early June to challenge and expand the security discourse by adding new voices, ideas, and imperatives. Organized by program director James Der Derian, “Beyond Terror: A New Security Agenda” brought together a group of international experts to consider a new global security agenda that better addresses critical issues overshadowed by the “war on terror.”

Among the issues that the participants assessed were the dangers of organized warfare and transnational terrorism against the threats and vulnerabilities created by collapsed states, resource conflicts, transnational crime, environmental degradation, pandemics, weapons proliferation, information warfare, and genocide.

Eugene Jarecki, an award-winning documentary filmmaker, gave the keynote address at the workshop and screened his most recent film, *Why We Fight*, which won the 2005 Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival.

The documentary takes its name from a series of propaganda films that Hollywood director Frank Capra began making in 1942 to embolden the American war effort against Nazism. Jarecki uses the film and President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s farewell address to critique the contemporary use and justification of military force by the U.S.

As an innovative tool, each of the participants received a memory stick containing presentations, background research, and other relevant materials for the workshop.

Watson Institute Director Thomas J. Biersteker opened the conference by asking, “Are we too focused on terrorism?” He then went on to list many of the issues that fall under the rubric of global terror.
Watson Institute Collaborates on Workshop in Macedonia

The Watson Institute collaborated with two southeast European research institutions by offering a workshop during the summer in the Republic of Macedonia titled “Evaluating International Democracy Promotion: Qualitative Research Methods for Policy Impact in the Southern Balkans.”

Watson Assistant Professor (Research) Keith Brown, who is a member of the Institute’s Politics, Culture and Identity Program, coordinated the workshop, the latest development in his Muabet Project, established in 2001 to examine international efforts to positively influence postconflict transition in the former Yugoslavia.

Funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the workshop brought together for two weeks of intensive work participants from across the region—including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Serbia—and from the United States and Western Europe.

The participants were a mix of advanced graduate students and professionals in the civil society sector. The main collaborators were the Euro-Balkan Institute in Skopje and the Jefferson Institute in Belgrade, with faculty from Ithaca College, Leeds University, the University of Sheffield, Aarhus University, and the University of Mannheim, as well as professionals from a range of other institutions, including the Washington DC-based Center for Global Development and the Balkan Trust for Democracy.

The workshop, held under the auspices of the Ohrid Summer University, responded to pressing questions facing scholars, practitioners, and donors concerned with the state of democracy in the region. In a period of prosperity during the past 15 years, Western Europe and North America devoted substantial resources to promoting market democracy in the Balkans.

The scale of the intervention and the density and duration of interaction far exceeded that in other “nation-building” projects. Shifts in international attention (to the Middle East) and in economic performance will certainly lead to reduced levels of support over the next decade, and funders concerned with cost-effectiveness are looking at the lessons of the past to guide future investments. Opinion is still sharply divided, often on strongly ideological grounds, on the effects of past spending.

The workshop set out to integrate academic and practical approaches to the challenges of monitoring and evaluating international efforts to promote democracy, drawing on expertise from development studies, anthropology, sociology, political science and philosophy, as well as methods of policy analysis.

Participants examined such key concepts as cosmopolitanism, participation, accountability, and civil society as components of democracy.

The final goal of the workshop was to foster robust and enduring networks among the attendees—whether scholars or practitioners, senior or junior—identify key research, which might influence policymaking either directly or indirectly, and launch that research. The workshop’s aim was to set into motion a chain of research and collaboration long after it ends.

Muabet Project Update

The Muabet Project’s Keith Brown will participate in two upcoming events that represent the project’s efforts to enlist the energies of the wider academic community to focus on issues of common concern. At the National Slavic Association meetings in November in Salt Lake City, Brown will host a panel to examine innovative forms of foreign assistance in Bosnia and Serbia. Chip Gagnon of Ithaca College will serve as chair and Janine Wedel of George Mason University’s School of Public Policy as discussant.

In December, Brown will host a panel together with Paul Nuti at the American Anthropological Association meetings in Washington, DC. Brown intends to “draw policy people to the session from Washington.” Nuti also has arranged for a special interest section in the Anthropology Newsletter, which goes out to all AAA Members, to focus on the ethnography of democratization. Brown will contribute a piece about the Muabet Project’s findings of the Ohrid Summer University seminar.
James N. Green, associate professor of Brazilian history and culture in the History Department, has been appointed the new director of the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS), which is housed at the Watson Institute. He replaces former interim director, Julio Ortega, professor of Hispanic studies.

Since taking over as CLAS director, Green has kept a busy schedule, meeting and interacting with faculty, visitors, and students. “We have a challenging year ahead for the center. The executive committee has decided to apply for Title VI Undergraduate Area Resource Center funding from the Department of Education to expand and enrich our program. We will emphasize Brown’s excellence in Brazilian studies and an initiative to expand Caribbean studies, in addition to our strengths in research, teaching, and programs in Mexico. The center will involve the Latin American Studies concentrators in more activities and events, and we have planned a faculty colloquium so that specialists can share their work with members of the Brown community,” he said.

Among his current work, he is completing a manuscript, “We Cannot Remain Silent: Opposition to the Brazilian Military Dictatorship in the United States, 1964–85.” He is also editing the English-language version of Lina Penna Sattamini’s memoir, A Mother’s Cry: A Personal Account of Politics, Prison, and Torture under the Brazilian Military Dictatorship.

Green is the immediate past president of the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA), chair of the Committee on the Future of Brazilian Studies in the United States, and a member of the Committee on Women Historians of the American Historical Association.

He is the author of the prize-winning social history, Beyond Carnival: Male Homosexuality in Twentieth Century Brazil (University of Chicago, 1999), published in Brazil as Além do carnaval: a homossexualidade masculina no Brasil do século XX (UNESP 2000). He is also a member of the editorial boards of Latin American Perspectives and Estudios Interculturalistas sobre América Latina y el Caribe.

Green received his BA in political science at Earlham College, his MA in Latin American studies at California State University, Long Beach, and his PhD in Latin American history at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Cogut Fellowship Awarded to vom Hau

The Craig M. Cogut Dissertation Fellowship in Latin American Studies has awarded Matthias vom Hau a 12-month fellowship. The award provides a stipend, enrollment, and health fees.

Vom Hau, a doctoral candidate in sociology is currently writing his dissertation, “A Comparative Study of Nationalism in Twentieth-Century Argentina, Mexico, and Peru.”

He is also an editorial associate with Studies in Comparative International Development, which is housed at the Watson Institute.
Puterman Is New Development Studies Program Director

Economics Professor Louis Puterman has been named the new director of the Development Studies Program, replacing Patrick Heller, associate professor of sociology. He has been associated with the Development Studies Program since its inception in the early 1980s and has directed its master’s degree program since 2000.

When asked about the challenges he faces and his goals as the new director, Puterman responded, “It’s not surprising that the number of Brown undergraduates attracted to the Development Studies concentration has grown over the years. Departments such as Economics and Sociology, while conducting general searches for the best candidates in their disciplines without especially seeking development specialists, continue to add dynamic young scholars with research interests in the developing world. The poorer 80 percent of the world’s people can’t help but concern those who align their studies with their desires to make a difference.

“Even so, we face many challenges in making an interdisciplinary concentration without its own faculty sustainable and coherent. I’ve done my best to help past directors meet that challenge, but its enormity is much clearer to me now that I occupy the position myself. My hope is to begin finding ways to tackle the structural problems of the concentration for the long term.”

He received his BA in economics from Columbia University, and then earned an MA in international relations and an MPhil and PhD in economics, all from Yale University.

New GPD Students Selected

The Graduate Program in Development selected four new students for the 2005–2006 academic year. The program offers an interdisciplinary focus and collaboration among faculty and graduate students.

The students are Ruben Durante, economics; Christopher Gibson, sociology; Eduardo Moncada, political science; and Cecilia Perla, also political science.

GPD is an interdisciplinary initiative that was launched in 2004 and sponsored by the Watson Institute and the departments of Anthropology, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology at Brown University.

The program is affiliated with the Institute’s Instructional Programs and the Political Economy and Development (PED) Program.

Its principal investigators are Barbara Stallings, director of the PED Program, and Patrick Heller, associate professor of sociology.

Fellows successfully finishing the program are awarded a Certificate in Development Studies.

For more information, visit www.watsoninstitute.org.

“...the number of Brown undergraduates attracted to the Development Studies concentration has grown over the years.” Louis Puterman
Elliott Colla has been named the director of both Middle East and South Asian Studies concentrations. He is also an assistant professor of comparative literature. He replaces William Beeman, professor of anthropology, as director of Middle East Studies, and Sumit Guha, professor of history, as director of South Asian Studies.

He received his PhD in comparative literature from the University of California at Berkeley, and has taught courses on modern Arabic literature at Brown since 1999.

With research interests in Arabic literature, Egyptology, and colonial rule in modern Egypt, Colla’s many scholarly publications have investigated the persistent relations between colonial forms of domination and literary expression in the Arab world.

His most recent accomplishments include completing the manuscript for his first book, *Conflicted Antiquities: Egyptology, Egyptomania, Egyptian Modernity* (Duke University Press, forthcoming), a study of the connections linking antiquities, literature, and colonial rule in modern Egypt.

Colla spent 2004–2005 as a Mellon Fellow at New York University Law School, launching a new research project on the connections between crime, law, and literature in colonial Egypt. He also has translated Arabic poetry, short stories, and Ibrahim Aslan’s novel, *The Heron*, (American University/Cairo Press, 2005).

Moreover, he recently completed an extended research trip in the West Bank, Egypt, and Lebanon.

Beth Adler ’06, development studies, interned at Healthwise in South Africa and ran focus groups as part of her internship.

Lee Gilman ’06, also development studies, interned with the Pachamama Alliance in Quito, Ecuador.

Julia McDowell ’06, development and Latin American studies, interned with UNESCO, also in Quito, Ecuador.

Caroline Mailloux ’07, biology and development studies, interned with the Community Agency for Social Enquiry in South Africa.

The Ringer intern, Thuy Nguyen ’05, human biology, worked at the Thien Binh Orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

The Richard Smoke Summer Internships are open to undergraduate students currently enrolled at Brown, and must relate to contemporary global problems. The students may be involved in research, advocacy, service, or any combination thereof.

The Jack Ringer ’52 Summer Internship, administered by the Watson Institute, is made possible through the generosity of Jack Ringer ’52, who served in Burma after graduating from Brown.

The award provides Brown students with unique opportunities to work or do research in Southeast Asia.
Slavery in New England Is Subject of New Choices Curriculum Unit

The legacy of slavery and the slave trade casts a long shadow across an international landscape. In an ongoing effort to develop innovative curricula that address contested current international issues and decisive turning points in history, the Watson Institute’s Choices Program released recently a new unit, *A Forgotten History: The Slave Trade and Slavery in New England*.

This latest addition to Choices’ extensive curricular library for secondary education was developed in partnership with Brown University’s nationally recognized Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice.

Acclaimed author and journalist Frances FitzGerald mentioned the curriculum in “Peculiar Institutions—Brown University Looks at the Slave Traders in Its Past,” a feature article in the September 5 edition of *The New Yorker*.

Slavery in the United States is often thought of as a “Southern problem.” Indeed, many students, and even teachers, are unaware of the extent of slavery in the North, particularly in New England. *A Forgotten History: The Slave Trade and Slavery in New England* explores the triangle trade and the extent of slavery in colonial and early nineteenth century New England.

The curriculum also examines the effects of the trade in slaves and of slavery itself for the new Americans of that period and helps students understand how history and telling it affect us today.

The Choices method engages students in this decisive period in U.S. history by examining the slave trade itself and Rhode Island’s role in it, the institution of slavery in New England, and the arguments of those who sought to continue or abolish the trade. High school students explore four options or positions that were actually considered by the people of the New England colonies. Finally, an epilogue reveals how the slave trade in the region ended and how freed slaves lived in the North.

As an institution whose early benefactors included both slave traders and pioneering abolitionists, Brown has an intimate relationship to the history of American slavery. This history, according to Brown University President Ruth J. Simmons, gives the University “a special opportunity and a special obligation to provide thoughtful inquiry.”

To meet this challenge, two years ago President Simmons formed the Committee on Slavery and Justice “to organize academic events and activities that might help the nation and the Brown community think deeply, seriously, and rigorously about the questions raised by this controversy.”

Choices Program’s partnership with Brown’s Steering Committee has been a unique opportunity to extend the University’s work on this issue to the nation’s high schools.

“While the focus of *A Forgotten History* is on slavery and the slave trade in New England, the topic is of national significance,” said Choices Program Director Susan Graseck. “It is important for students in the nation’s northeast to understand this history, but it is also important that we develop a shared understanding of our past with those in other regions of the country.”

Professor James Campbell, chair of the Steering Committee, said, “It seems to me that one of the most obvious forms of ‘repair’ available to an institution such as Brown is education—to encourage teaching, research, and reflection on a part of our history that has been nearly erased from our collective memory. This curriculum prepared by the Watson Institute’s Choices Program is a vital piece of our committee’s effort.”

Choices introduced the unit to educators in Rhode Island at a Choices Summer Institute titled “Slavery in New England” at the Watson Institute. An excerpt from this unit is in the October issue of *Social Education*, the professional journal of the National Council for the Social Studies. The unit is available nationally at www.choices.edu.

“It is important for students in the nation’s northeast to understand this history, but it is also important that we develop a shared understanding of our past with those in other regions of the country.”

Susan Graseck
Choices Receives Grant for Teaching Institutes

The Choices Program will continue professional development work with the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) over the next three years. Omaha Public Schools just received a $975,000 Teaching American History (TAH) grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Working with OPS, the Choices Program will receive $255,000 to run three summer teaching institutes at Brown and to work with participating teachers as they offer professional development leadership to peers in the district.

The three summer institutes will explore three periods of American history and provide teachers with the in-depth knowledge about American foreign policy needed to help their students understand America’s changing role in the world. This new grant builds on work that has taken place over the past three years under a previous TAH grant.

Teaching with the News—Iraq: What’s Ahead?

The Choices Program has recently published a new teaching resource titled, *Iraq: What’s Ahead?*, which engages students in a balanced range of views on the question of U.S. presence in Iraq. These include: What is our purpose? How long should we stay? What does this mean for the larger question of America’s role in the world today?

*Iraq: What’s Ahead?* is the fourth in a series of resources on this topic. It was published in early September and used by about 2,000 classrooms in the first month since publication. This online resource is available from “Teaching with the News” on the Choices Program web site www.choices.edu.

Kelly Keogh leads a TAH session with teachers from across the U.S.

James G. Blight and Janet M. Lang lead TAH discussion on Vietnam.

James G. Blight and James M. Hershberg exchange views on the use of documents.

James Toby, a teacher from Lansing, MI, considers documents for use in his classes.
Watson Scholars Keep on the Go

During the past several months, Watson Institute faculty have received honors, been in the news, and traveled worldwide to share their expertise on various issues related to international affairs.

In May, Associate Director and Watson Fellow Geoffrey Kirkman ’91 was invited as one of six international experts to participate in a high-level information and communication technologies (ICT) workshop in China. The World Bank and China’s State Council Informatization Office (SCITO) and Advisory Committee for State Informatization co-organized the meeting, which was titled “Informatization Strategy and Economic Transformation: Trends, Experiences, and Outlooks” and was held in Suzhou.

The purpose of the workshop was to share international experiences about ICTs within the context of China’s overall information strategy, including implementation challenges and economic impacts. It brought together IT leaders from across China, representatives from the private sector, World Bank officials, and international experts.

During the workshop, Kirkman presented a paper titled “Information and Communication Technologies and Education.” Five other international experts joined him for the consultation: Paul David of Stanford’s Knowledge Networks and Institutions for Innovation Program; Nobou Tanaka of the OECD; Matti Pohjola of the Helsinki School of Economics; Eulogio Naz of the University of Madrid’s Telecommunications School and an advisor to the Spanish ICT Office; and Don McLean, formerly of the International Telecommunication Union.

Former President of Burundi Pierre Buyoya, an Institute visiting senior fellow, was a guest on the Voice of America’s Washington Forum on August 25. The interview, which was in French, focused on the presidential elections in Burundi and featured Buyoya, Glenn Slocum of Global Associates for Social Change, Ferdinand Ferella of VOA’s Francophone Service, and Charles Ndayiziga of the Center for Conflict Prevention in Burundi.

Buyoya expressed hope that the Arusha Agreements and the drafting of a new constitution will help in the political transformations underway in Burundi. But, he also suggested that the new government should encourage inclusivity of all political parties—Tutsi and Hutu—and he called on the international community to support the new Burundian government in its negotiations with the Forces nationales de liberation (FNL).

Xu Wen-Li, a Watson Institute senior fellow, was the guest of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 10. He was the featured speaker for the center’s “Gallery Talk with Everyday Freedom Heroes.”

When the center opened a year ago, it named Xu as a “Freedom Hero” and honored him with a media display chronicling his work for the pro-democracy movement in China. His September visit to the museum was his first opportunity to see the display and to discuss current human rights issues in China and across the globe. He also addressed America’s role in protecting human rights through our foreign policies.

Adjunct Assistant Professor (Research) Jarat Chopra, who most recently has been working in Jerusalem with the Washington-based group, Strategic Assessments Initiative, was quoted in a New York Times article, titled “Palestinian Security Forces Are Found Unfit,” by Steven Erlanger on July 25. (Note: The article is available through the NYTimes’ archives for a fee).

Chopra has worked with SAI to produce an 83-page report titled “Palestinian Security Assessment.” The report found, according to Erlanger, that the Authority’s security forces are “divided, weak, overstuffed, badly motivated, and underarmed.”

He was quoted as saying that the “critical gap is in command and control....There’s a blurring between state actors and non-state actors, and that’s very difficult from the military point of view.”

Finally, Patrice Dabrowski, who recently was a postdoctoral fellow with the Institute’s Politics, Culture, and Identity Program, has received a Fulbright Scholar grant in Ukraine at the Ivan Franko National University. She will use her Fulbright funding to continue research on a book-length project tentatively titled “Discovering the Carpathians: Episodes in Imagining and Reshaping Alpine Borderland Regions.” While at the Watson Institute, Dabrowski worked with the Borderlands Project.
IN THE NEWS

Two Watson Scholars Featured on Chris Lydon’s “Open Source Radio”

NPR’s Chris Lydon, a senior visiting fellow at Watson, featured two of the Institute’s scholars on his nationally syndicated public radio program, “Open Source Radio” during the summer.

James Der Derian, director of the Watson Institute’s Global Security Program, commented on the “media battlefield” on July 27, discussing the effect that vivid media images, such as those from Abu Ghraib, have on public opinion. Listeners had the opportunity to call or log in online to offer their views on a variety of questions: Can the public still be shocked by photos of brutality? Have such photos become so commonplace that the public no longer takes notice? What ramifications do these images have for the Bush administration?

Der Derian is an expert on international security, information technology, and media studies. Among other books, he is the author of Virtual War: Mapping the Military-Industrial-Media Entertainment Network (Westview, 2001).

Abbott Gleason, senior fellow at the Watson Institute and Barnaby Conrad and Mary Critchfield Keeney Professor of History Emeritus, was a featured guest on the radio program on August 24.

Gleason discussed one of the world’s most widely read texts, George Orwell’s Nineteen Eighty-Four, commenting on the impact that the novel still has on its audience. He also discussed Orwell’s life, ideas, and writing.

Gleason’s latest work, On Nineteen Eighty-Four: Orwell and Our Future (co-edited with Harvard University’s Jack Goldsmith and the University of Chicago’s Martha C. Nussbaum), was published by the Princeton University Press earlier this year.

Gleason is an internationally recognized expert on Russia and the Soviet Union from 1830 to 1930 and on totalitarianism. He is the author of the noted work Totalitarianism: The Inner History of the Cold War, (Oxford University Press, 1995).

To hear “Open Source Radio” live locally in the greater Boston area, listeners can tune in weekdays at 7:00 p.m. to WGBH radio, 89.7. To listen live on the web, or to hear the archived broadcasts, please visit www.radioopensource.org.

Gleason also was featured in August on “Perspective,” a program broadcast on Australia’s ABC Radio National. He had prerecorded a 600-word essay about Orwell, which was broadcast before its news program.

Lutz’s Op-Ed on BRAC Commission in LA Times


Published as the BRAC Commission announced its decisions about U.S. base closings and realignments, the op-ed challenged some prevailing assumptions underlying the deliberations—that the presence of a military base always translates into an economic benefit for a community in which it resides.

Lutz stated, “In Washington and in places where base closings mean job losses—such as Ventura, Calif., and Forest Park, Ga.—the proceedings have been encased in flawed assumptions about what military bases do for and to surrounding communities. These flawed suppositions are symptomatic of the nation’s failure to question and understand the military’s role in our society.”

To read the entire op-ed, visit the LA Times website archives.

Lutz is an expert on the military, war, and society. She is well-known for her work Homefront: A Military City and the American 20th Century, (Beacon Press, 2001). She is the principal investigator for two Watson Institute research projects: U.S. Military Bases and Global Response and The Ending of War: Arguments and Strategies of Global Peace Movements.
Summer/Fall BJWA Features Notable Authors

The Brown Journal of World Affairs (BJWA) Summer/Fall 2005 issue features articles by such notables as Pulitzer Prize-winner Samantha Power, former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, and Harvard scholar and former Defense Department official Joseph S. Nye, Jr.

Themes explored in the issue include power politics, personality and proliferation, identity in the European Union, alternatives to democracy, and patents and piracy.

BJWA, staffed entirely by Brown undergraduates, is a nonprofit, semi-annual publication produced on campus. Its office is housed at the Watson Institute, and Institute faculty serve as advisors. The BJWA editors-in-chief are Barron YoungSmith ’06 and Jillian Moo-Young ’06.

The journal responds to the need for a clear, incisive, and dynamic examination of contemporary international issues. BJWA provides a forum for world leaders, policymakers, and prominent academics to engage in vigorous debate that bridges the gap between academic discourse and mainstream media.

Every issue of BJWA is composed of two to three thematic sections, each dedicated to exploring different yet complementary international topics. In addition, each issue features an essay section that provides a discussion of diverse international issues.

Subscriptions to BJWA are available online by visiting www.watsoninstitute.org/bjwa.

Cardoso Memoir to be Published in Early 2006 by PublicAffairs

Former Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso’s memoir, The Accidental President of Brazil, will be published in early 2006 by PublicAffairs. Cardoso is currently a Brown University professor-at-large in residence at the Watson Institute.

Elected to two consecutive terms as president of Brazil, Cardoso writes primarily about his years in public life—first as a senator, then minister of finance, and finally president of one of world’s largest countries. Yet, this work also reveals Cardoso’s deeply personal links to Brazil. He says, “My family’s story and my own have been inextricably connected to Brazil’s over the last century.”

Cardoso continues, “Brazil is an unknown giant. It is the world’s fifth-biggest country, yet most foreigners know only ‘The Girl from Ipanema.’ So I wanted also to write a book to introduce ‘the country of the future’ whose time, in my view, has finally come, and tell the marvelous story about how the land of Carnival and the favela, of futebol and caiçarinhinhis slowly overcoming its legacy of dictatorship and slavery to become a modern, powerful, and vibrant society.”

For more information about The Accidental President of Brazil and order information, contact PublicAffairs at www.publicaffairsbooks.com.

“My family’s story and my own have been inextricably connected to Brazil’s over the last century.”

Fernando Henrique Cardoso
Tannenwald Focuses on End of Cold War and Weapons

The Watson Institute's Nina Tannenwald, director of the International Relations Program and the Joukowsky Family Assistant Professor (Research), recently published three articles in the *International Security* and *Journal of Cold War Studies*. The articles highlight Tannenwald's extensive research into weapons stigmatization and the end of the Cold War.

“Stigmatizing the Bomb: Origins of the Nuclear Taboo” was published in *International Security* 29, no. 4 (Spring 2005): 5–49. Tannenwald explains in the article the origins of a “nuclear taboo”—a normative inhibition against the use of weapons of mass destruction. She argues that the taboo evolved because of “the role of a global antinuclear weapons movement and nonnuclear states, as well as Cold War power politics.” The article is available at the MIT Press website (mitpress.mit.edu).

She also published two other articles in the *Journal of Cold War Studies* 7, no. 2 (Spring 2005): 3–12 and 13–42 respectively—a special issue that examined the role of ideas and the end of the Cold War. She co-authored “Introduction: The Role of Ideas and the End of the Cold War,” with William C. Wohlforth, and she authored the second article, “Ideas and Explanation: Advancing the Theoretical Agenda.” These articles can be purchased online from the MIT Press (ingentaconnect) website.

More information about Tannenwald's work and publications is available at www.watsoninstitute.org.