

MEASURING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:

BIARI's Impact beyond Brown

2009-2013



What is BIARI?

BROWN UNIVERSITY'S INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED RESEARCH INSTITUTES (BIARI) convene participants from around the world to address pressing global issues through collaboration across academic, professional, and geographic boundaries. Applicants are invited from early-career scholars and practitioners, especially those based at institutions in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe, to participate in intensive, residential two-week institutes at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies.

The four institutes are convened by Brown University professors, and feature lectures, seminars, and workshops led by distinguished international guest faculty. This highly selective program gives participants a unique opportunity to interact with their global peers and benefit from Brown University's world-class campus and facilities.

Objectives of BIARI

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 Engagement

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, growing alumni community of more than 800 members from nearly 100 different countries. Alumni teams can apply for seed funding for longer-term research, teaching, and outreach collaborations that are outgrowths of BIARI initiatives.

About This Report

THIS REPORT WAS CREATED BY NATASHA BLACKADAR, Development Studies '15, with the guidance of Keith Brown, BIARI director, and the input of hundreds of dedicated BIARI alumni. The goal of this report is to evaluate the impact of BIARI on the trajectories, successes, and stories of alumni, and to showcase the work and projects of alumni.

While BIARI just finished its sixth year, the data for this report was gathered from the first five years of alumni, 2009-2013, as they have been out of the program for at least one year and have had opportunities to receive BIARI alumni funding. In addition to BIARI's internal reporting over the last five years, additional data for this project was gathered via surveys, which 240 alumni completed, and interviews.

Photos at BIARI were taken by Rythum Vinoben; all others were provided by alumni.

Partnership with Santander Universities

SINCE 2009, BIARI has worked closely with Santander Universities to promote global academic dialogue and, in particular, to support promising younger scholars from the global south. BIARI Central works closely with Santander personnel to ensure we are reaching out across the Santander Universities network for outstanding applicants.

In the first five years of BIARI, **32 percent** of participants have come from **103 different Santander Universities.**



BIARI by the Numbers

BETWEEN 2009 AND 2013, there were

722 participants

from **92** countries,

and **374** institutions,

321 of which are academic institutions, **103** of which are Santander-affiliated, and **51** of which are non-academic institutions

participating in **8** institutes

run by **24** faculty conveners.

25% of alumni have received further support and funding from BIARI through seed grants and residencies at Brown. Seed grants provide up to \$10,000 of support for alumni to work on research or other types of projects. Residencies allow alumni to return an extended period of time at Brown University in the Watson Institute.

174 alumni have been funded by BIARI for **37 projects**

13 alumni have returned to Brown for short-term, BIARI-sponsored residencies.

4 alumni have participated in **Brown's Graduate Program in Development.**

When asked to identify their most important gain from BIARI,

67% of alumni surveyed identify the most important gain from BIARI as new ideas

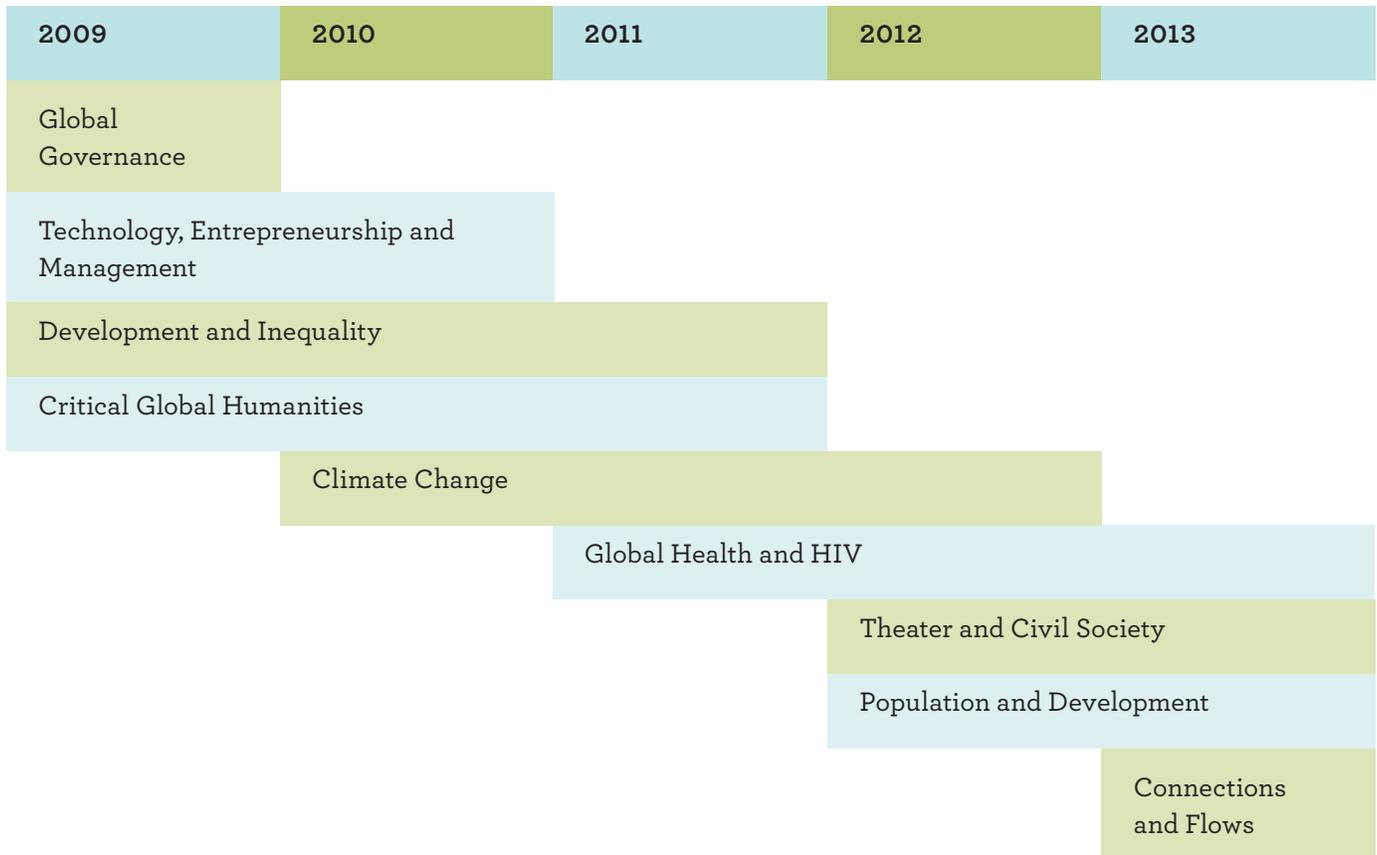
65% said relationships

62% said new perspectives

From lifelong friendships to academic partnerships, BIARI facilitates connections all around the world for years after participants leave Providence. These relationships span from social networks to journal publications, from sharing academic resources to planning workshops together.

41.7% of surveyed BIARI alumni are still in touch with five or more of their BIARI colleagues, **69.6%** are in touch with three or more, and **92.5%** with one or more.

Brown International Advanced Research Institutes, 2009-2013



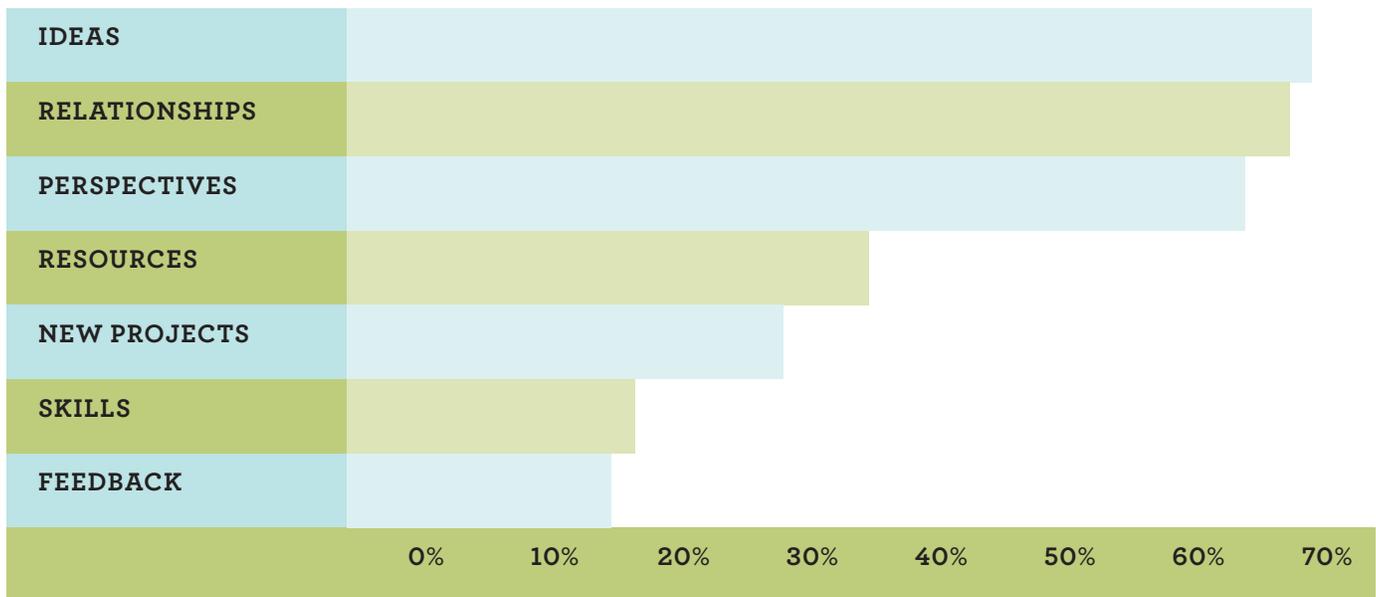
“BIARI represented an important stage in my career, allowing me to delve further into action research on climate change and water....I can credit this path with helping me secure my current job with the Collective Leadership Institute in Germany.”

—Dominic Stucker, *Climate Change*, 2010

Immediate Impressions

When asked,

“What are the three most important things you took away from BIARI?”



67% said new ideas, concepts, or knowledge

“BIARI is not merely the transfer of state-of-the-art knowledge from the Global North to the Global South, but the other way around as well, [which] is equally important. BIARI is one way of keeping that conversation going, and to me, that is an intrinsically global public good.” —Siddharth Mallavarapu, *Critical Global Humanities*, 2009

After attending BIARI in 2012 and participating in the Theater and Civil Society institute, **Surafel Wondimu Abebe** helped bring the BIARI model to Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia through a yearly seminar, Critical Conversations on Humanities, led by **Professor Anthony Bagues**, and attended by BIARI faculty and previous participants. [Watch a video about this group here.](#)



“BIARI for me is not a one- or two-time scholarly undertaking confined in Providence at Brown University, but a life-changing experience that continues to unfold in different parts of the globe at different times, in many different, creative ways.”

—Surafel Wondimu Abebe, *Theater and Civil Society*, 2012

62% said new perspectives

“I used to be like any economist—mainly working through numbers, equations and variables... At BIARI 2010, I remember one of the participants from Argentina was talking about the psychological variables...of investment. For me, this was something strange and new... From that day on I started always to think of other things, not only numbers. You should look into everything, from a bigger perspective, to take into account different things that might explain these issues.”

—Assem Abu Hatab
Development and Inequality, 2010



Eric Manalastas was given a gift of 10 books during a visit to Brown’s LGBTQ Center during BIARI 2010. After he returned to the University of the Philippines, where he is a psychology professor, he turned those 10 books into the **first LGBT Studies Library in the Philippines**. It now holds over 300 books, is open to the public, and has become a launch pad for LGBT-related workshops, trainings, and other initiatives.

“BIARI brought home the point that our voices from the Global South matter, and that we, too, could actively participate in the creation of research-based knowledge and...shaping the policies in our respective countries towards more humane, inclusive, and equitable societies.”

—Clarence Batan, Population and Development, 2012

Next Steps: BIARI Seed Grants and Residencies

PARTICIPANTS IN BIARI HAVE THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY to share their own research and ideas, as well as identify shared interests and concerns, in a vibrant, face-to-face community of engaged scholars. Each year, BIARI invites proposals from program alumni to convert such conversations into viable research, pedagogical, or public outreach projects. To date, 174 alumni have been funded for 37 projects.

BIARI Children and Youth Cluster

IN MAY 2014, A GROUP OF NINE BIARI ALUMNI from the Population and Development and Theater and Civil Society institutes gathered for a week in Bogota, Colombia, along with four faculty (including one BIARI alumnus and one BIARI convener) to work on a book project titled *Young Voices from the Global South: Stories of Vulnerabilities and Resilience*. This project was started when they met at BIARI in 2013, and will be published with an accompanying visual documentary teaching aid by July 2015.



Academic Network for Development & Inequality Research (ANDIR)

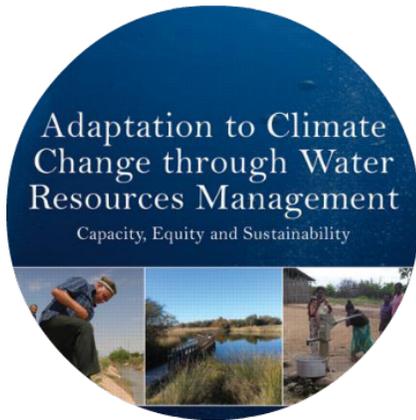
ANDIR WAS FORMED BY FIVE BIARI ALUMNI in the 2010 Development and Inequality Institute to strengthen and collaborate research initiatives among young scholars from various regions in the Global South. ANDIR held four meetings (in South Africa, Spain, Mexico, and Japan), organized an international conference in Mexico in 2012. [Watch a video about ANDIR at their meeting in Mexico.](#)

“The most important outcome is the connections we made... and listening to new perspectives on problems.”

—Chaochao Gao, *Climate Change*, 2012



In 2012, **Cecilia Trannin** (Brazil), **Kendra Gotango** (Philippines), and **Chaochao Gao** (China) attended the Climate Change institute at BIARI. By the end of the two weeks, the three of them had formed a partnership that they would maintain from their respective home countries while working on an international research project. They applied for and received BIARI seed funding for other ongoing project, An International Survey Initiative: “Students, Consumption, and the Environment.”



Water Rights and Water Wrongs

IN 2010, 15 BIARI PARTICIPANTS in the Climate Change and Development and Inequality institutes began a global, interdisciplinary research project to identify successful water management principles that basins around the world have in common, and highlight successful local adaptation projects in an effort to stimulate dissemination and further innovation. In 2014 they published a book, *Adaptation to Climate Change through Water Resources and Management*.

BIARI Alumni in Nigeria

BETWEEN 2009 AND 2013, 53 attendees have come from Nigeria, making it one of the most-represented countries at BIARI. Started by Morenike Ukpong, Edward Oladele, and Bose Ironsi, who all participated in the 2013 Global Health institute, the BIARI Alumni in Nigeria group has held two meetings and is working on several projects, including the co-authoring of a paper on Biomedical HIV Prevention and the establishment of the group Change Movement Nigeria, which is working to translate the Nigerian constitution into indigenous languages, provide libraries for local communities, and create opportunities for street theater and social networks that promote social change.



“We know that our proposals are competitive, because they are truly interdisciplinary.” —Lucas Gonzalez, *Development and Inequality*, 2010



Lucas Gonzalez (Argentina), **Saumya Chakrabarty** (India), and **Oliver Mtapuri** (South Africa) met in the Development and Inequality institute at BIARI 2010, and since then have held two conferences, *Poverty, Redistribution, and Formal-Informal Conflicts in Developing Economies in Argentina*, and *Representing Development: The Process and Role of Informalization in India*. In addition to a current book project, they have received funding from the Ministries of Science and Technology in South Africa and Argentina, where they are beginning a three-year research initiative that provides opportunities for PhD students from their universities.

Residencies and GPD

SINCE 2012, BIARI has provided the opportunity for alumni to return to the Watson Institute for periods of one to four months to work closely with one or more faculty members. To date, 13 alumni have returned to Brown for short-term, BIARI-sponsored residencies.



Simon Mariwah attended the Population and Development institute in 2012, and returned to Brown in the spring of 2014 for an extended residency to work on a research project called “Sanitation: The neglected Siamese twin of water in achieving the MDGs in Ghana.” Through his residency, Simon was able to attend seminars, update his skills in Geographic Information Systems, and work closely with his mentor, sociology professor **Michael White**, all of which greatly contributed to his research.

Residencies provide young scholars with opportunities to build partnerships and collaborations, hone in on their research topics, and develop further career opportunities.

“A few weeks before the period of residency began I received notice about a new, prestigious fellowship being offered to South Africans from the National Research Foundation with two years of postdoctoral experience... I therefore shifted almost all of my time at Brown [during my residency] to working on this proposal. In March of 2014, I was awarded the five year grant. I don’t believe I would have been awarded this fellowship without dedicated time at Brown to focus on the application, or without the incredible assistance from several of the Brown faculty.”

—Brendan Maughan-Brown, Global Health, 2011

Additionally, **4 alumni** have participated in Brown’s Graduate Program in Development, which brings international graduate students to Brown for a semester to support their PhD research.

“The visibility I got from BIARI absolutely influenced the decision of accepting me for the [GPD] scholarship. Through BIARI, I had a chance to talk to professors at Brown and the Watson Institute, and this had a really important impact on my career.”

—Matias Bruno, Population and Development 2013,
Graduate Program in Development, Spring 2014



SEE APPENDIX for complete list of funded BIARI projects and residencies.

In the Long Term: Post-BIARI Products

Books, articles, and exhibitions created via alumni collaboration and projects:

- Human Rights from a Third World Perspective: Critique, History, and International Law—José-Manuel Barreto
- A chapter in Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Subsistence Agriculture, Climate Risk Management, and Mitigation—Casim Tolo, Shimelis Setegn
- An exhibition on Spring Queen pageants in South Africa that has been displayed at the Iziko Annexe Gallery, the Good Hope Convention Centre, and the District 6 Museum in Cape Town—Bryce Lease, Siona O’Connell, Danai Mupotsa, Ho Yin Fong
- Water for Food Security and Wellbeing in Latin America and the Caribbean—Juliana Farinaci, Barbara A. Willaarts
- Partner Age Differences and Concurrency in South Africa: Implications for HIV-Infection Risk Among Young Women—Brendan Maughan-Brown, Mark Lurie
- Opening Science Frontiers: The BIARI 2012 Experience—Maria Cecila Trannin, Juliana Farinaci, Glauco Umbelino, Eduardo Marandola Jr.
- Climate Change in the Brazilian Undergraduate Students Mind: Brazilians’ Global Warming Beliefs, Attitudes and Trust in 2013—Juliana Farinaci, Maria Cecilia Trannin



“BIARI has been a valuable resource to me for bringing together young Ethiopian scholars, some of whom I have had contact with in Ethiopia and others whom I had never met. The opportunity provided by BIARI to network with a diverse group of the next generation of Ethiopian scholars has helped me sustain some existing collaborations and led to the formation of new ones.

—David Lindstrom, Professor of Sociology

Read [“Going Global at Brown: Five Years of BIARI”](#) in the June 2014 Faculty Bulletin.

What's next for BIARI?

ON JUNE 7, 2014, 132 BIARI ATTENDEES arrived in Providence to participate in one of four two-week institutes: Population and Development, Connections and Flows, and, for the first time, Ethnicity, Conflict & Inequality, and Human Security & Humanitarian Response. [Watch a video about the Human Security & Humanitarian Response institute here.](#)

Four new faculty joined the group of conveners this year.

50 of the attendees have already applied for seed funding to work on 12 different projects.



In a feedback survey, one participant from 2014 wrote,

“Don’t stop doing BIARI: you are leaving a long-term mark on most of the participants, and building and strengthening networking across the Global South.”

Appendix: Complete List of BIARI-Funded Projects and Residencies

DEVELOPMENT AND INEQUALITY

- Poverty, Redistribution and Formal-Informal Conflicts in Developing Economics
- Academic Network for Development and Inequality
- Employment Guarantee
- Social Justice Challenges in Latin American Welfare
- Impact of Climate Change on Water Access at the Household Level
- South South Migration
- Federalism and Inequality in the Global South

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- Urbanization in Globalizing South Patterns & Processes
- Population, Development, and the Environmental Network
- Children and Youth Studies Cluster

CLIMATE CHANGE

- Towards a Climate Policy for World Cities
- Climate Change Website
- Atmosphere: Air Pollution and Atmospheric Processes
- Water Rights and Wrongs
- Water in a Changing Climate
- Interdisciplinary Discourse on Climate Change Adaptation
- Snapshooting Vulnerability
- Socio-Economic Vulnerability to Flood Risk in Informal Urban Settlements
- Local Farmers' Perception of Climate Change: The Case of Benin
- Impact of Climate Change on Water Access at the Household Level
- Forest Transition in Brazil and Spain
- Opening Science Frontiers: The BIARI 2012 Experience
- Population, Development and the Environment Network
- An International Survey Initiative on "Students, Consumption and Environment"
- An Integrated Approach to Sustainable Crop Production in the Face of Changing Climate and Land Use in Eastern and Western Africa

GLOBAL HEALTH: HIV/AIDS

- Impact of SMS Reminders on Mothers for PCR Test Results in South Africa
- Counseling Tool on Safer Conception Choices for HIV-Positive Women in Rural Zimbabwe
- Assessment of Effectiveness of P2P Mobilization and Testing
- BIARI Alumni in Nigeria
- Access to Care and Treatment Among Older Persons in Uganda

CONNECTIONS AND FLOWS

- OURS CITIES—Network

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

- Analyzing Cosmopolitans in Enlightenment Europe

CRITICAL GLOBAL HUMANITIES

- Human Rights Beyond the Law
- Human Rights from a Third World Perspective
- Speaker Series: Conversations on Humanities
- A Queer Nation? Public Space, Citizenship & Alternative Sexuality

TECHNOLOGY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- Entrepreneurial Potential Assessment Website
- BIARI Entrepreneurship Research Project

THEATER AND CIVIL SOCIETY

- The Rivonia Trial: 50 Years On
- Access to Care and Treatment Among Older Persons in Uganda
- Intersections: HEMI 2.0

RESIDENCIES

- Dr. Admir Créso de Lima Targino—Climate Change
- Hussein Sulieman—Climate Change
- Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues—Development and Inequality
- Pablo Sebastián Gómez—Development and Inequality
- Jean-Pierre Karegeye—Development and Inequality
- Lorena Moscovich—Development and Inequality
- Simon Mariwah—Development and Inequality
- Mariana Prats—Development and Inequality
- Clarence Batan—Population and Development
- Assem Abouhatab—Population and Development
- Morenike Ukpong—Global Health: HIV/AIDS
- Brendan Maughan Brown—Global Health: HIV/AIDS
- Ines Pousadela—Theater and Civil Society