

“BIARI was the most exciting academic work I ever did.

The opportunity to meet fellow researchers from all over the world, the collaborative work developed among our groups, the attention and care from the faculty and organizers... everything was beyond expectations.”



BIARI BROWN
INTERNATIONAL
ADVANCED
RESEARCH
INSTITUTES

June 2014

BIARI@brown.edu

Watson Institute for International Studies

Brown University

Providence, RI, 02912 USA

T +1 401.863.3969 F +1 401.863.9733



WATSON INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
BROWN UNIVERSITY



“It was like we were becoming the world.”

“It was amazing to meet people from other countries and realize that we’ve got one thing in common: [a desire] to save the world.”



THE PROGRAM

Brown University’s International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) initiative convenes participants from around the world to address pressing global issues through collaboration across academic, professional, and geographic boundaries. Applications 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, residential program gives participants a unique opportunity to interact with their global peers and benefit from Brown University’s world-class campus and facilities.

OBJECTIVES

Research That Matters

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

Global Exchange

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

Sustainable Network Building

Each year’s BIARI participants join a dynamic alumni community that already has over 700 members from 92 countries. Alumni teams can apply for seed funding for longer-term research, teaching, and outreach collaborations that are outgrowths of BIARI initiatives.

THE INSTITUTES

Human Security and Humanitarian Response

Increasing Effectiveness and Accountability in the Age of Complex Emergencies

“Natural” disasters and political unrest pose chronic threats to human security. Separately or together, they turn citizens into refugees, stretch government capacity, and, increasingly, spark instability and conflict. This institute will convene an interdisciplinary and international group of academics and practitioners to develop better understandings of the underlying political, social, and environmental factors that affect human security. Topics will include the effectiveness of existing welfare systems in different regions; best practices in humanitarian assistance; and the politics of compassion in disaster and conflict zones. Discussions will focus in particular on the ethical issues that arise at the intersection of human security and humanitarian assistance; rights-based approaches to humanitarian relief; and the potential of new technologies to transform humanitarian response.

Ethnicity, Conflict, and Inequality in Global Perspective

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



Population and Development

New Approaches to Enduring Global Problems

With the world’s population officially surpassing 7 billion, this institute will address the crucial and interlinked issues of population and development, particularly as they affect people in the Global South. What are the most significant population issues in the 21st century? How do population dynamics and the policies designed to address them contribute to or detract from equitable development? How can theories and methods in the social sciences contribute to understanding the relationship between population and development, and how can this scholarship contribute to better policies and programs? Participants will engage with cutting-edge theory, innovative and tested research methods, and first-rate scholarship upon which to build their own research programs.

Connections and Flows

Water, Energy, and Digital Information in the Global South

Water, energy, and digital information are key resources for all societies in the 21st century, demanding a range of products, services, and infrastructure to provide secure, equitable distribution and delivery. Operating in a studio format built around participants’ ongoing projects, and with input from visiting practitioners and scholars, this institute has two main goals: first, to explore emerging concepts in engineering, design, and development through a focus on platforms, prototypes, and projects; and second, to delve into the implications of their design and development in society. Applications for this innovative interdisciplinary institute are welcome from young engineers and engineering faculty, as well as from engineering education policymakers and those working in agriculture, environmental studies, urban studies, or related fields.

APPLICATIONS FOR BIARI 2014

BIARI will take place June 7-21, 2014.

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

Please visit watson.brown.edu/biari to apply.

Thanks to generous support from Santander Universities, BIARI covers the full cost of tuition, meals, and university housing for the duration of the program, and air travel in cases of need.

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

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT

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*“I felt I had planted a seed...
Now my contacts and collaborations will continue
to receive water and the results will be lifelong.”*