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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is my pleasure to introduce the inaugural issue of *Latitude*, ISID’s newest publication. *Latitude* will be published two to three a year in order to highlight the rich and diverse nature of development-related activities at ISID. In addition to announcements of important achievements and events, each issue will profile the ongoing research of several of ISID’s faculty members and graduate students. In this way, ISID’s growing community of supporters will be aware of what we are up to, and our members will get the recognition they deserve.

This first issue features Manuel Balan who came to McGill last September in the first joint position between ISID and the department of Political Science. In addition, this issue presents other McGill researchers such as Matthieu Chemin from the Economics department, Donald Taylor from Psychology and Shelley Clark from the Sociology department. Any feedback is most welcome, including announcements and other suggestions for future issues. You can also find more about ISID by going to: <http://www.mcgill.ca/isid/> and our [Facebook Page](#).

Philip Oxhorn
Professor of Political Science and Founding Director

SPOTLIGHT ON DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

MANUEL BALÁN:

Comparative Politics and Corruption in Latin America



Why do corruption scandals in Latin America come to light? Under which conditions are they most likely to occur? Prof. Manuel Balán tries to answer these questions in his doctoral dissertation (University of Texas, Austin) by analyzing cases of Argentina, Brazil and Chile from 1989 to 2007. He finds that corruption scandals in

these countries are a consequence of the way in which political systems channel conflict and dissent within government coalitions. In other words, scandals are a byproduct of political competition.

Prof. Balán joined McGill in 2011. He is an Assistant Professor at McGill's Department of Political Science and at ISID, the first to hold a joint position at ISID and a department. His research addresses questions of comparative politics, with a regional emphasis on Latin America. In particular, Prof. Balán investigates issues of corruption and development, political competition, politics of the media and scandals, transparency and anti-corruption policies, political parties and political systems, and constitutional design. Currently, he is studying the media coverage of corruption scandals in Latin America and investigating the role of control agencies in denouncing corruption.

Prof. Balán is also a Senior Research Assistant for the Comparative Constitutions Project, directed by researchers at UT Austin, University of Chicago and IMT Lucca (Italy). This project uses data on the formal characteristics of written constitutions for most independent states since 1789 in order to investigate sources and consequences of constitutional choices. It aims at providing a systematic catalog of institutional options that can be used for hypothesis-testing, but even more importantly for advising the design of constitutions in developing and transitioning democracies.

LINKS

His website at McGill:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/politicalscience/faculty/manuel-balán>

The Comparative Constitutions Project:

<http://www.comparativeconstitutionsproject.org/>



Protest against corruption in Latin America

PUBLICATIONS

Balán, E. (2011). [Competition by Denunciation: The Political Dynamics of Corruption Scandals in Argentina and Chile](#). *Comparative Politics*. Volume 43, Issue 4, Pages 459 – 478.

MATTHIEU CHEMIN:

The Importance of Institutions, Infrastructure and Markets



Prof. Chemin is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at McGill. His research explores the conditions that foster economic growth and development, such as the quality of institutions, infrastructure and markets. He focuses particularly on small-scale entrepreneurs and uses rigorous microeconomic techniques on secondary data or data collected by his research teams in the field. Prof. Chemin's research agenda can be divided into three areas: judiciary, infrastructure and markets in

Kenya, and evaluation of public policies. His studies on India and Pakistan reveal the importance of a well-functioning judiciary for economic growth. Weak judiciaries reduce farmers' access to credit markets, impede agricultural development and hamper the development of entrepreneurship.

Prof. Chemin's second research area focuses on the impact of infrastructure, insurance and credit markets on development and is largely inspired by fieldwork in Kenya. In cooperation with Joost de Laat (World Bank) and a Kenyan NGO, Prof. Chemin operates a research office in Kianyaga, Kenya. The office's first project aims at determining the impact of rural electrification on economic activity by using a randomized controlled experiment. The second evaluation examines if training activities with leaders of local community-based organizations affect the information transfers to locals and can engage local members to contribute to the micro-hydro rural electrification projects in their community. The third project investigates how education, assistance, subsidies and peer pressure affect the take-up of micro-insurance. Studies in the area of public policy evaluation intersect with the second area and focus on microfinance in developing countries.

LINKS

His website at McGill:

<http://matthieuchemin-research.mcgill.ca/index.html>



Kiangurwe micro-hydro dam

PUBLICATIONS

Chemin, M. (2010/1). [Entrepreneurship in Pakistan: government policy on SMEs, environment for entrepreneurship, internationalization of entrepreneurs and SMEs](#). *International Journal of Business and Globalization*. Volume 5, Issue 3, Pages 238 – 247.

Chemin, M. (2010/2). [Does Court Speed Shape Economic Activity? Evidence from a court reform in India](#). Forthcoming, in *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*.

Chemin, M., and J. de Laat, (2009). [Can Warm Glow Alleviate Credit Market Failures? Evidence from Online Peer-to-Peer Lenders](#).

DONALD M. TAYLOR:



Community-based Research in Aboriginal Communities

Prof. Taylor is a Professor for Social and Personality Psychology at the Department of Psychology at McGill. His research focuses on the conditions under which members of disadvantaged groups will accept their situation, take individual action, or instigate collective action.

The groups he studies include aboriginal groups, such as the Inuit of Arctic Quebec and the Mohawks, refugees in Canada and racial groups in urban centres of Canada, the US, South Africa and Indonesia.

Prof. Taylor is the head of the Intergroup Relations and Aboriginal Peoples Research Group (IRAP), which studies a variety of topics concerning intergroup relations and aboriginal people. He leads two long-term projects that focus on community-based research in aboriginal communities. The first project, a 20-year program, explores the use of the Inuit language Inuktitut as the primary instruction language in schools in Inuit communities. First results reveal that Inuit students learn better in their own heritage language and develop a more positive view of themselves and of Inuit as a group.

The second project is a cooperation with researchers from the University of Montréal and Inuit governments and communities across Canada. It examines how parents and community members can be engaged in the education of their children. Prof. Taylor and his colleagues identify five major obstacles to parental involvement that are unique to Inuit parents, such as the lack of trust in formal education due to own negative experiences or lacking awareness about the importance of formal education in the Inuit communities. Community-based research is proposed as a tool to encourage parents to make small commitments to partner with their children's school as a starting point for further involvement.

LINKS

His website at McGill:

<http://www.psych.mcgill.ca/faculty/taylor.html>

The Intergroup Relations and Aboriginal Peoples Research Group:

<http://www.spresearch.ca/irap/>



Students at Kiilinik High School use computers in Inuinnaqtun lessons.

PUBLICATIONS

Usborne, E., Caouette, J., Qumaluk, Q., and Taylor, D. M. (2009). [Bilingual Education in an Aboriginal Context: Examining the Transfer of Language Skills from Inuktitut to English or French](#). *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*. Volume 12, Issue 6, Pages 667 – 685.

Taylor, D. M., Caouette, J., Usborne, E., and Wright, S. C. (2008). [Aboriginal languages in Quebec: Fighting linguistic with bilingual education](#). *Diversité Urbaine, Special Issue Autumn 2008*. Pages 69 – 89.

SHELLEY CLARK:



Health, Gender and Life Course in Sub-Saharan Africa

Prof. Clark holds the Canada Research Chair in Youth, Gender and Global Health in the Department of Sociology at McGill. Her research areas are global health, HIV/AIDS, gender, adolescent transitions, family structure, life course research, social demography, and reproductive health. In particular, Prof. Clark investigates how adolescents in sub-Saharan

Africa make key transitions to adulthood in an environment that is strongly influenced by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. One important research question is how the transition into marriage shapes the risks of contracting HIV/AIDS among young women. Studies in 29 African and Latin American countries show that marriage does not protect adolescent girls from the risk of contracting HIV, since married adolescent girls are more likely to have frequent unprotected sex with usually much older husbands. Prof. Clark's studies also show that the search for a suitable spouse is linked to sexual behaviours and, therefore, HIV risks.

Currently, Prof. Clark is conducting a collaborative project in Kenya, Burkina Faso and South Africa which investigates how being a single mother affects women's vulnerability with respect to poverty and their children's health over the life course.

Many of Prof. Clark's studies use data from a novel instrument called the Relationship History Calendar (RHC). In addition to data on monthly changes in residence, schooling, employment and household composition, the RHC gathers retrospective information on youths' romantic and sexual life histories. Prof. Clark also directs the Life History, Health and HIV/AIDS Data Laboratory. The laboratory aims at making longitudinal and retrospective data on life histories, HIV/AIDS and other critical health issues from developing countries more accessible and user-friendly. It also provides a forum where researchers and practitioners can share ideas and experience with collecting and analyzing data.

LINKS

Her website at McGill:
<http://www.mcgill.ca/sociology/faculty/clark>

Life History, Health and HIV/AIDS Data Laboratory:
<http://www.mcgill.ca/lifehistoriesandhealth/>



Health Survey among youth

PUBLICATIONS

Luke, Nancy, Shelley Clark, and Eliya Zulu (2011). [The Relationship History Calendar: Improving the Scope and Quality of Data on Youth Sexual Behavior](#). *Demography*. Volume 48, Issue 3, Pages 1151 – 1176.

Clark, Shelley, Caroline Kabiru, and Rohini Mathur (2010). [Relationship Transitions Among Youth in Urban Kenya](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*. Volume 72, Issue 1, Pages 73 – 88.

Clark, Shelley, Michelle Poulin, and Hans-Peter Kohler (2009). [Marital Aspirations, Sexual Behaviors and HIV/AIDS in Rural Malawi](#). *Journal of Marriage and the Family*. Volume 71, Issue 2, Pages 396 – 416.

INSIDE ISID – WHAT’S NEW?

ISID BOARD: NEW MEMBERS

ISID’s ultimate success as a major research and teaching institute is closely linked with the quality guidance we receive from our International Advisory Board. ISID’s International Advisory Board is composed of distinguished individuals whose experience, expertise, and commitment to ISID’s mission mean they are an invaluable source of counsel and guidance. In particular, the Board provides ISID with irreplaceable advice relating to issues of significant impact on the accomplishment of the ISID’s mission, as well as in the development and review of the ISID’s long-term planning and special initiatives.

So we are very pleased to announce its five newest members:

Lloyd Bernhard, CEO, Ethical Bean Coffee Company

Lloyd Darlington, Former Senior Executive, Bank of Montreal

Patricia Erb Delfin, President and CEO, Save the Children Canada.

Joanne Freeze, President and CEO, Candente Copper Corporation

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Director of the Democratic Governance Group, United Nations Development Program.

Michael Hawes, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America and Executive Director, Fulbright Canada.

Their bios, along with those of our other International Advisory Board members, can be found <http://www.mcgill.ca/isid/staff/advisory>

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

ISID is pleased to announce the creation of a Leadership Council to help advance our mission of creating research and teaching programs that address important international development challenges. This carefully selected group of Founding Members will support the Institute by helping us build bridges between academia, policy makers, and business and community leaders. The Leadership Council brings a broad range of influence and expertise to the Institute by including community and business leaders, philanthropists, high ranking public officials, International development practitioners, media figures, and others who share our interest in finding practical solutions for some of the world’s most pressing international development issues.

The idea for the Leadership Council grew out of the strategic planning undertaken as part of the creation of the Institute. In consulting with our broad range of stakeholders, including members of ISID's International Advisory Board, McGill faculty, department heads and several external partners, we realized that the Institute needed to establish an elite volunteer group that is broad in scope and interested in contributing their time and resources to advance the overall mission of the Institute. As ambassadors of the Institute, Leadership Council members will have the opportunity to contribute to and engage in a number of ISID activities that include conferences, workshops, teaching opportunities, project work, and applied research. Council members will also be able to connect with other Leadership Council members, as well as benefit from a variety of learning opportunities and intellectually stimulating research associated with being members of one of the world's leading centres for research and teaching. Please click below to see a list of Founding Members.

<http://www.mcgill.ca/isid/staff/leadership-council>

Leadership Council Graduate Student Field Research Awards

As a result of generous funding from the ISID's new Leadership Council, ISID was awarded 2 Leadership Council Graduate Student Field Research Grants. Each award is valued at \$4,000 and is to be used to help finance field research required for the successful completion of the applicant's thesis or dissertation. The first two recipients were Mr. Emilio Dirlikov, a Political Science Ph.D. student and Ms. Ellen Moscoe, from the M.A. program in Economics, with an option in Development Studies offered by ISID. Mr. Dirlikov travelled to China to pursue his research project "Global Health Assemblages: An Ethnography of Tuberculosis Control in China", while Ms. Moscoe is currently in East Africa working on her own project, "Who Wants Hospital Insurance: An Investigation into Low Insurance Take-Up Rates in Kenya".

PROFESSORS OF PRACTICE

ISID has recently named 3 new Professors of Practice. This formal title is granted to a select number of practitioners who work with us. The Right Honorable Joe Clark was our first Professor of Practice, followed by Dr. Eliane Ubalijoro. We have since appointed Mark Berlin, former Director General for International Programs at the Department of Justice as well as 2 Leadership Council members: Dr. Marie-Hélène Adrien (President of Universal Management Group) and Dr. Rick Stapenhurst (Senior Advisor to the World Bank, Parliamentary Affairs and Anti-Corruption).

OUTSIDE ISID

INTERNSHIPS FOR MCGILL STUDENTS IN PERU

The Institute for the Study of International Development (ISID) and the Internship Offices Network (ION) are pleased to announce that McGill University was awarded five Students for Development awards in the summer of 2011, through the CIDA-funded AUCC (Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada) Students for Development competition. The AUCC Students for Development program supports internships for senior-level Canadian students (upper-level undergraduate to PhD) to work with partner organizations in developing and emerging countries for a minimum of three months, for academic credit.

McGill's program is a partnership between the ISID, the ION and Nexos Voluntarios, an organization promoting social development through volunteer work in Peru. Each summer from 2011 to 2015, the program supports five McGill students with a \$6,500 stipend to fund an internship with Nexos Voluntarios, working on the CIDA development priority themes of either securing the future of children and youth or stimulating sustainable economic growth. The interns will be assigned to a position with one of Nexos Voluntarios' projects in the community of Medialuna, in the Urubamba region of Peru. While the results will not always be immediately obvious, students' work will contribute to powerful and sustainable change in a community in need, while furthering their own education and careers.



The students awarded in summer 2011 are Nicole Waldston (U3, Social Work), Laura McKeeman (MSW, Social Work), Kirsten Joe (U2, International Development Studies), Kayleigh Youngman and Carlene Bates (both U3, International Development Studies). The internship gave them hands-on experience in a variety of areas of international development. While Laura McKeeman supported a community development project in the Sacred Valley, Kirsten Joe worked in a UNFPA Reproductive Health Program and Nicole Waldston interned in a project that aims to educate teenagers on reproductive health. Kayleigh Youngman and Carlene Bates both gained experience in promoting sustainable economic growth. Carlene worked with the newly formed Tourism Commission in Urubamba. Kayleigh taught English in order to increase the opportunity for local citizens to benefit from the region's growing tourism industry and progress out of poverty. All students described the internship as an invaluable experience that fostered their skills and a more comprehensive understanding of their chosen topic in international development. This experience will also help them to make future decisions in their study and career path.



Interested students are encouraged to apply with the Internship Offices Network. More information can be found here: <http://www.mcgill.ca/internships/aucc-sfd>

CIDA COOPERATION: RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

We are very pleased to announce that the Institute for the Study of International Development has recently been awarded a major grant from the Canadian International Development Agency. The multi-year “Research to Practice: Strengthening the Contributions of Universities to Evidence-Based Policymaking” grant is unprecedented and is intended to develop innovative methodologies for harnessing university research in the pursuit of better evidence based policies. Drawing on a wide range of expertise from across McGill University, ISID will engage in a series of activities with the specific goal of generating research that is directly relevant to CIDA’s priority areas. In particular, it will allow ISID to fund up to 12 *Research to Practice Fellows Awards* for graduate students each year, as well as several faculty research projects. The grant will also allow ISID to host a major international conference each spring that will bring together prominent people from academia, the public and private sectors, and civil society for an in-depth, multidisciplinary discussion of an issue related to CIDA priority areas.

NEWS FROM FORMER DSO STUDENTS

The Development Studies Option (DSO) is a cross-disciplinary M.A. program designed to provide students with a strong practical and theoretical foundation for engaging in genuinely cross-disciplinary research. The DSO is a reflection of McGill University’s long-standing tradition of research and education in international development. Successful applicants to the DSO must first be admitted into the MA programs of one of six participating departments: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science and Sociology. Within the six participating departments alone, there are approximately 30 professors and 100 graduate students currently working on development issues - undoubtedly one of the largest concentrations of development scholars and students at any university in Canada. Researchers in these units have well-established international reputations and are recognized by their peers as leaders in their fields.

The DSO program started 4 years ago. A former student, **Emily Janson**, (MA 2010, History with a Development Studies Option) won a Research Award from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The aim of the Research Awards is to provide exposure to research for international development, and hands-on learning experiences in research program management, and in the creation, dissemination, and use of knowledge from an international perspective, under the guidance of IDRC program staff. The IDRC, based in Ottawa with six regional offices, supports research in developing countries to promote growth and development. Ms. Janson’s Research Award will be held in the IDRC President’s Office, contributing to research on how the idea of

development is changing, and the evolving concepts of international development, through the successes and challenges of developing countries. With her academic background in History and International Development Studies and time spent in China and India, her proposed research topic is on the “Motivations and Implications of Domestic Philanthropic Efforts in India” through which she will produce an original study on philanthropy in India among business leaders. Congratulations to Emily!

After her DSO experience (with a Master’s Degree in Development Economics), **Christine Lalonde** has put her expertise to use in both the public and the private sector. As a volunteer for numerous NGOs, Christine raised awareness about people’s needs in developing countries. From research projects on structural adjustment programs, developing countries’ public debt or corporate social responsibility, to organizing events for disadvantaged communities here in Montreal, as well as to publishing articles around good governance in the NGO sector, her dedication to social justice spans from local to global programs. Christine’s research interests include water privatization, social and environmental impacts of liberalization policies, as well as microfinance initiatives and youth-oriented development programs. She recently returned from a five-month placement in Bolivia through Crossroads International, during which she worked as a Youth Entrepreneurship and Microfinance Advisor.

PROGRAMS & CONFERENCES

EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

ISID has launched a new executive education certificate program, *International Development: Bridging the Worlds of Theory, Policy and Practice*. This intensive course is a practical program designed to provide participants with the requisite knowledge, skills and strategies to prepare themselves for opportunities to work in the expanding field of international development in a number of international development settings. These opportunities may include government agencies, non-government organizations, multilateral organizations, international development consulting firms, humanitarian organizations, business organizations and educational institutions and think tanks.

Program Objectives and Key Themes

Based on ISID’s proven formula of the highest academic standards for multidisciplinary research with the vast

array of practical development experience represented by our networks in the public, private and civil society realms, the program will cover a number of specific issues ranging from roles of different international actors and program management principles to the important role of culture and the current employment landscape in international development.

- An introduction to international development theories, concepts, approaches, and policy frameworks relating to international development taught by some of the leading university professors in the field in North America;
- Insights into thematic and sectoral issues, including important trends, emerging issues and challenges in international development taught by experienced international development professionals;
- Insights into how best to leverage one's existing skills and expertise to pursue opportunities to work in the field of international development including post program support to develop tailor made work-plans and ongoing mentorship for each participant.

Following the tremendous success of our first offering of our first executive education program in Montreal in October 2011, we are pleased to announce the next offering that will be held in downtown Vancouver, British Columbia from June 18 – 21, 2012. For more information on the Vancouver offering, please visit our website: www.mcgill.ca/isid/executive. We have also begun negotiations with the Secretariat of the Society for International Development for a similar course in Rome that would target primarily the EU and are in negotiations to develop related courses focusing on the specific requirements of developing countries with the University of Witwatersrand and with the University of the West Indies in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank, targeting Africa and the Caribbean, respectively.

FALL CONFERENCE

In November 2011 ISID held an international conference entitled *The Challenge of Respecting Indigenous Peoples' Rights Comparing Experiences from Africa, Latin America and North America*. The conference was intended to start a process for understanding this complexity more fully by bringing together indigenous peoples from Africa, Latin America and North America, along with key actors at the national and international levels actively involved in trying to find practical solutions to problems of poverty, exclusion and victimization faced by indigenous peoples everywhere. Given the growing importance of urbanization for indigenous peoples around the globe, particular attention will be paid to the consideration of the urban dimensions of the chal-

allenges facing indigenous communities as a crosscutting theme of the conference. The conference has two more immediate goals: 1) establishing a more dynamic dialogue between those directly involved in these matters and university researchers who might make more positive contributions to their solution; and 2) establishing a platform for comparing relative successes and better understanding the shortcomings of less successful policies. Longer goals include finding the most effective policy approaches for addressing issues of greatest concern to indigenous peoples and laying the foundation for more positive relations between indigenous and other peoples wherever they might live. In other words, are there identifiable dynamics that determine the relative “success” or “failure” of distinct approaches to the issues of greatest concern to indigenous peoples and can knowledge of these dynamics provide new insights for designing better policies in the future?

The report of the conference can be read here: [The Challenge of Respecting Indigenous People’s Rights \[pdf\]](#). As a result of this event, we are in preliminary stages of developing collaborative projects and ISID will be an official observer at the UN Forum on Indigenous Peoples in New York in May.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

From 29-31 March 2012, ISID will be holding an international conference entitled “Toward New Public-Private Sector Partnerships for Sustainable Development in Resource Extraction Industries”. This conference is intended to start laying out a framework for a new form of *public-private sector partnerships for sustainable development in resource extraction industries*. Through the participation of industry experts, policymakers, and local and transnational civil society actors, the conference will bring together a myriad of experiences intended to generate a rich but critical discussion of more effective strategies for using for-profit economic activity to generate sustainable economic development. The conference will focus on 3 questions:

- 1) What are the challenges faced in trying to establish effective medium and long-term collaborations for promoting sustainable development between extractive industries and the communities they work in;
- 2) Are there effective practices or models that can be identified for achieving this goal; and
- 3) How can government policies and the activities of relevant non-governmental organizations facilitate such public-private sector partnerships?

Participants have been invited because of their relevant experiences in the public, private and civil society sectors with the expectation that they will address these three questions from the perspective of those experiences.

Full information on the conference can be found on the [ISID website](#).