

MIT Center for International Studies

The Center for International Studies (CIS), now in its 65th year, has long been valued as one of the world's premier, university-based research and education centers. It is home to several widely respected programs, such as the MIT Science & Technology Initiative (MISTI), a unique contributor to international education, and the Security Studies Program, a leading academic research platform. Several other research projects and seminars add to the Center's portfolio.

The Center's work in problem-solving, in the MIT tradition, on issues of international security, international political economy and technology, the Middle East, migration, and Asian security has long been its hallmark. In addition, the Center mounts a rich public forum series, bringing to campus an array of intellectuals and practitioners to address issues of global concern. And MISTI has helped bring the world to 3000 students through internships abroad and educational events on campus.

Richard J. Samuels, Ford International Professor of Political Science, has directed the Center for 16 years with the participation of about 30 faculty and researchers, 40 staff, and 20 graduate students, along with numerous distinguished affiliated scholars. CIS's innovative exploration of international issues enriches MIT, the nation, and the world. Its renowned scholars are frequent contributors to public policy debates, and graduates have gone on to significant posts in government, corporations, civil society, and universities.

Leadership of the Center includes Professor Samuels, director; Ford International Professor of Political Science Stephen Van Evera, associate director; and Dr. John Tirman, executive director.

Highlights of the academic year include:

- The Center organized and hosted Consuls General and colleagues from 15 countries stationed in the Boston area for a day of briefings on Asian security, cybersecurity, Mideast turmoil, and nuclear-weapons issues in the first of what is expected to be an annual event.
- Senior Research Fellow Joel Brenner, formerly a leader in the U.S. intelligence community, published a major report on the security of critical infrastructure, in conjunction with MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab. The report was widely cited in the news media and led to a number of policy briefings in Washington.
- Lourdes Melgar was the year's Robert E. Wilhelm Fellow. Dr. Melgar, an MIT alumna, has served in several high-level posts in the Mexican energy industry

and government, including deputy secretary of energy, and served in Mexico's diplomatic corps.

- The International Policy Lab fielded its second open call for proposals and supported 18 projects from across the MIT campus in environmental science, energy, Middle East politics, and other fields.
- MISTI Global Seed Funds awarded funding of \$1.65 million to 84 projects in 24 MIT departments.
- MISTI facilitated 1,249 international opportunities, a 25 percent increase over the previous year, for MIT students.
- Ban Ki-moon, who just retired as U.N. Secretary General, joined CIS scholars for a discussion of security issues, a visit facilitated by Professor Shin-wha Lee of Korea University, a CIS Visiting Scholar.
- Barry Posen, Ford International Professor of Political Science and Director of the Security Studies Program, served as Henry A. Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Library of Congress John W. Kluge Center.
- Associate Professor of Political Science M. Taylor Fravel was awarded the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship for 2016-17 by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.
- Jacie Fortin, a freelance journalist who has published in *The New York Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Africa Report*, and Agence France-Presse, among others, served as the 2016-17 IWWMF Elizabeth Neuffer Fellow in residence at the Center. The award is offered through the International Women's Media Foundation (IWWMF) and is cosponsored by CIS.
- The Starr Forum continued to inform and enliven broad audiences at MIT and online, with speakers such as former UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, former defense and foreign minister of Brazil Celso Amorim, Undersecretary of State Sarah Sewall, and renowned author Rafia Zakaria.

MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI)

MISTI provides international education opportunities for MIT students and faculty through student internship, research, entrepreneurship, and teaching abroad programs; faculty funds; international events on campus; and partnerships with companies, research institutions, universities, and government agencies around the world.

In addition to its 25 country and regional programs, MISTI continued to grow through pilot internship programs in Turkey and the United Kingdom this year. The Global Teaching Labs (GTL) program added opportunities in Kazakhstan and Russia. MIT Global Startup Labs (GSL) ran workshops in Brazil, Germany, Mauritius, Peru, Russia, and South Africa, and the MISTI Global Seed Funds (GSF) introduced new funds for Turkey and Korea.

Associate Professor of Political Science Chappell Lawson is faculty director of MISTI. Each country program has a MIT faculty director and altogether represent every MIT school. April Julich Perez is executive director.

MISTI student programs

MISTI offers MIT undergraduate and graduate students opportunities to intern, research, and teach abroad. These experiences are provided at no cost to the students. Students prepare for their placements through MIT courses in the language, history, and politics of the host country and a series of six to ten not-for-credit training modules developed by MISTI staff.

In 2016-2017, MISTI facilitated 1,249 international opportunities, a 25 percent increase over the previous period. Of these placements, the majority were internships or research in companies, research institutions, or university laboratories. The GTL program sent 222 students over IAP to Brazil, Germany, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, MEET, Mexico, Russia, Scotland, South Africa, and Spain, and 2 over the summer to Armenia, to teach STEM subjects. In addition, 68 students taught STEM subjects and entrepreneurship during the summer through the China Educational Technology Initiative (CETI), Global Startup Labs (GSL), Middle East Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow (MEET), Resonance, and Make in India. The remaining placements were various opportunities made possible through MISTI.

MISTI student placements 2016-2017:

546 internships (companies, research institutions, NGOs, government, universities)

224 Global Teaching Labs

68 long-term teaching (CETI, GSL, MEET, Resonance, Make in India)

14 other short-term teaching

92 course abroad (for credit)

25 externships

1 full-time position

3 graduate school/postdoc placements

4 study abroad

160 short-term research

29 trainings

83 workshops

MISTI Global Seed Funds

MISTI GSF enables MIT faculty and research scientists to launch early-stage international projects and collaboration with colleagues abroad. Through an annual call for proposals, MISTI GSF awards funds that can be used for international travel and meetings with international colleagues. Grantees are expected to involve MIT undergraduate and graduate students in their projects. MISTI GSF comprises a general fund for projects in any country, and several country funds for projects in a particular country.

In 2016-2017, MISTI offered new funds for Turkey and Korea, bringing the total number of funds available to 23. MISTI received 241 applications from faculty and research scientists and awarded a total of \$1.65 million to 84 projects in 24 MIT departments

Collaborations

MISTI expanded its partnership with the the Legatum Center and Martin Trust Center, as they created and facilitated a training for the MIT Global Startup Labs. The Innovation Initiative also selected 25 part-time iDiplomats in MISTI countries. During their MISTI internships, the iDiplomat students engage with regional/national innovation ecosystems and meet with alumni and others in the region to continue their in-the-field analyses. These experiences allow students to learn from leaders in government, the corporate sector, entrepreneurship, risk capital, and academia.

MISTI continued collaborations with other departments at MIT to offer additional student opportunities. MISTI-IRIP Internships enabled students to do research connected to MIT faculty collaborations at MISTI partner universities around the world. MISTI-PKG interns worked on public service internships throughout the MISTI country programs.

Training and on campus events MISTI's country programs offer dozens of pre-departure and public events on international topics in politics, culture, science, technology, history, industry, and the humanities for the MIT community. The trainings for the 2016-2017 academic year totaled over 140 hours. This year, as a part of its pre-departure training programs for outgoing students, MISTI offered a general training that covers health, safety, and strategies for making the most of

your internship abroad. MISTI is also collaborating on a video with MIT's International Coordinating Committee to bring cultural resources to the community.

Security Studies Program (SSP)

SSP is a graduate-level research and education program. Its senior research and teaching staff include social scientists and policy analysts. A special feature of the program is the integration of technical and political analyses of national and international security problems. Security Studies is a recognized field of study in the Department of Political Science, where courses emphasize grand strategy, causes and prevention of conflict, military operations and technology, and defense policy. Ford International Professor of Political Science Barry Posen is Director of the program. In 2016-17, Arthur and Ruth Sloan Political Science Professor Roger Petersen served as acting director.

On September 29, 2016, SSP held a roundtable discussion at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C., on Insurgency, Counterinsurgency and Terrorism; and Nuclear Weapons and Terrorism. Professor Petersen, Dr. Jim Walsh, SSP Research Associate, and SSP alum Sameer Lalwani, Deputy Director, South Asia Program at the Stimson Center, were invited to speak to the Bureau of Counterterrorism.

On October 21, 2016, SSP held its Ruina Nuclear Age Speaker Series with guest speaker Ambassador Laura S. H. Holgate, Senior Fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and former U.S. Representative to the Vienna Office of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The topic of her presentation was "Multiculturalism and Threat Reduction: Strengthening the Global Security Architecture."

SSP hosted its third Seminar for Senior Congressional and Executive Branch Staff titled "Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century: Dangers, Strategies and Policymaking." April 19-21, 2017. The seminar was a project of the Frankel (MIT) Global Policy Program Fund. Panels included discussions on US Nuclear Strategy in the 21st Century; Policymaking; Nuclear Problem States; Allies and Adversaries in Asia; and Preventing another Iran. Rebecca Hersman, Director, Project on Nuclear Issues, and Senior Adviser, International Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies was the luncheon keynote speaker. Siegfried Hecker, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and Research Professor of Management Science and Engineering, Stanford University, was the keynote speaker at the dinner.

On April 27, 2017, SSP held its Doolittle Award Dinner. National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Director Betty J. Sapp, was presented with the 2017 Doolittle Award. Her address on the history and role of the NRO was followed by a question and answer session with the SSP community.

SSP held a seminar series titled “Focus on Russia,” which considered a number of current issues in Russian politics and society. The sessions were:

- “Moscow and the Middle East: What Does Putin Want?” March 9, 2017, with Professor Mark Katz, George Mason University
- “US-Russian Relations in the Trump Era,” May 1, 2017, with Dr. Andrey Kortunov, Director General, Russian International Affairs Council

SSP held three talks at MIT Lincoln Laboratory:

- “A New President and Congress: The Nuclear Weapons Agenda for the Next 4 Years,” March 31, 2017, with Dr. Walsh.
- “To Which Victor Go the Spoils? Explaining which Insurgent Groups Capture the Government Regime Change,” April 14, 2017, with Professor Peter Krause of Boston College and a graduate of SSP.
- “Chinese Air and Naval Forces in Historical Perspective,” May 26, 2017, with Senior Research Scientist Owen Cote.

Awards and scholarships received by SSP faculty during 2016-17:

- Associate Professor of Political Science M. Taylor Fravel, was awarded the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship for the 2016-17 academic year by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.
- Associate Professor Richard Nielsen was also awarded an Andrew Carnegie fellowship.
- Professor Posen was appointed the Sixteenth Kissinger Chair for the Henry A. Kissinger Program in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Library of Congress.
- In February 2017, Professor Posen was the recipient of the 2017 ISSS Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Studies Association.
- In May 2017, Professor Posen was one of four MIT faculty members given the Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising.
- Professor Samuels received a fellowship from the Smith Richardson Foundation to support the completion of his current book project on the history of the Japanese intelligence community.

Three members of the program organized and participated in “Japan’s Pivot in Asia,” which took papers from the 2016 workshop and the 2017 conference held at the Free University Berlin for a July 2018 *International Affairs* special issue on Japanese grand strategy. The papers explore Tokyo’s new muscularity in its security policy beyond the simple security dilemma with China. In addition to reacting to Beijing’s new assertiveness in regional affairs, Tokyo is adjusting its perceptions of the U.S. commitment and capabilities, and is dealing with shifts in its domestic politics as well as with rapidly evolving geo-economic dynamics across Asia. Authors explored Japan’s evolving defense posture, its renovated security institutions, and the economic and diplomatic dynamics of its enhanced regional strategic partnerships. Strengthening the alliance with the United States in the short- to medium-term is essential if the Japanese government is to generate and deploy the full spectrum of strategic tools to position it to achieve its longer-term foreign policy goals—particularly enhanced autonomy. Professor Samuels, Principal Research Scientist Eric Heginbotham, and doctoral candidate Mayumi Fukushima participated.

Sustaining a long tradition, SSP continued the Wednesday Seminar Series, 20 in total, which offers talks on topics relevant to national defense and international relations, including cyber security, China, Iraq, national security decision making, military technology, military history and nuclear topics. Speakers included academics, military officers, and think tank analysts. The speaker series is open to the entire MIT community and general public.

SSP publishes an annual report <http://ssp.mit.edu/about/annual-report>; a quarterly digital newsletter, <http://sspearlywarning.mit.edu> and a working paper series. In addition, several members of the program have made themselves available for a variety of media appearances. Program research is built around the interests of the faculty, the dissertations of the graduate students, and occasional commissioned projects. Key research areas are:

Nuclear Strategy and Statecraft

Examining the underlying logic of current nonproliferation strategies:

- Iran and North Korea
- Resource allocation and counter-proliferation policy

Middle Power Nuclear Strategies

Nuclear History

Change and Stability in Asia

How China will manage active territorial disputes as a rising power:

- The role of nationalism in shaping China's foreign policy
- Implications of China's growing engagement within the Asian region

Securing Japan

The India-Pakistan Competition

U.S. Foreign and Defense Policy

Reassessing U.S. grand strategy

The nature and limits of U.S. military power

The future of conventional warfare

Internal Conflict

Identity politics

Political violence

- Civil war
- Counterinsurgency
- Post-conflict reconstruction

The program has visiting fellows, including military fellows that rotate annually from all four U.S. armed services. The Stanton Foundation has awarded funds to support several scholars on nuclear issues, and a chair in political science. The program just completed its fifth year of the fellowship, which included one junior faculty fellow and one post-doctoral fellow.

The program receives major support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, which awarded SSP a 36 month, \$1 million grant (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018) to support our research on the global "Diffusion of Power." It also received funding from the Stanton Foundation, and the Frankel (MIT) Global Policy Fund, among other foundations and donors, and in January 2016 received a one-year award from

Lincoln Laboratory. In April 2017 SSP received a generous gift from the Pierre and Amy Chao Fund to support and sustain SSPs annual Doolittle Award dinner.

SSP launched a new website in fall 2016: <http://ssp.mit.edu/>

International Policy Lab (IPL)

The mission of the International Policy Lab (IPL) is to enhance the impact of MIT research on public policy to best serve the nation and the world in the twenty-first century. Specifically, the IPL (a) identifies policy-relevant research on campus, (b) works with faculty to articulate the policy implications of their work and distill it for policymakers, (c) connects them directly with the relevant policymakers, and (d) provides the necessary coaching and communication training. Through this effort, the IPL ensures that the time researchers invest in policy outreach has the greatest possible effect.

Associate Professor of Political Science Chappell Lawson directs the Lab. Dr. Dan Pomeroy is program manager.

Call for Proposals

As of the start of FY16, the IPL was supporting 13 projects from its first Call for Proposals - six of them fully (\$10,000 plus staff assistance) and seven of them partly (on average, \$3,000 plus staff assistance). The second Call for Proposals, conducted from October 2016 to February 2017, received 22 new submissions. Five of the 22 submissions represented extensions or deepening of earlier IPL projects; five were wholly new projects from faculty members that had already worked with IPL; and twelve were from PIs submitting proposals for the first time. Thus, almost all of those who were selected in the First Call sought to deepen their collaboration with the IPL, and an equal number of faculty members sought to initiate a relationship with the IPL.

Of the 22 submissions received in the second Call, the IPL selected 11 projects for full support (on average, \$9,000 plus staff assistance) and seven for partial support (on average \$4,300 plus staff assistance).

Faculty Training

In January, the IPL organized a communications training program with an outside organization (COMPASS) aimed at communicating research to a public policy audience. The program included two COMPASS trainers, a panel of public policy professionals and one journalist. Participants included 12 PIs and the Executive

Director of the Environmental Solutions Initiative. The PIs included junior and tenured faculty (and one principal research scientist) from across all 5 schools.

Partnerships

At the start of FY2016, IPL leadership consisted of one Faculty Director, three core faculty members or senior researchers, and six affiliated faculty and senior researchers. In the past year, the IPL added one core faculty member (Noelle Selin) and one affiliated faculty member (John Fernández); one core faculty member, Jessika Trancik, became Faculty Co-Director. The IPL also expanded its internal and external partnerships to include MIT's Environmental Solutions Initiative and the DC-based law firm Sullivan and Worcester, LLP (which has provided pro bono services to IPL-supported faculty in crafting public comments on agency regulations).

In order to provide wider access to international policy making bodies, the IPL applied for observer status at two United Nations intergovernmental bodies. Both the International Seabed Authority, which governs international deep sea mining, and the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which is a global treaty designed to reduce the impacts of mercury pollution, have accepted these applications and will be formally granting observer status to the IPL over the course of the next year.

Project Activities

Through its supported projects, the IPL facilitated many new connections between MIT faculty and policy makers both within the United States and abroad. For example, Atlantic Richfield Assistant Professor of Energy Studies Elsa Olivetti in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering was able to connect with people in the Taiwanese government and the appropriate people in the Environmental Protection Agency to discuss her research on carbon foot printing of electronics could lead to labeling requirements.

Supported IPL faculty also engaged in a wide variety of policy outreach activities, such as presenting research to development organizations or preparing public comments for federal regulations. Associate Professor of Economic Geography and Planning Janelle Knox-Hayes in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, for example, presented her work on the cultures of carbon marks to the World Bank. Associate Professor at the Center for Global Change Science Noelle Selin's work was cited in the final finding of an EPA rule on mercury pollution. Every awardee is aided in making such policy impacts by IPL staff.

Funding

In FY2016, the IPL renewed a foundation grant for \$25,000. One MIT alumnus generously provided a year of operational support (\$165,000) which was matched by funding from the Center for International Studies.

Program on Emerging Technologies (PoET)

PoET activities included prospective studies on benefits and risks of biological and information technologies and retrospective studies on how risks have been managed in the past. Of necessity and by choice, PoET research, education, and policy work is collaborative, with teams of technologists, natural scientists, and social scientists and policymakers working jointly on responsible innovation.

PoET serves as hub for the Synthetic Biology Policy Group, a network linking MIT, Harvard, Tufts, Stanford, North Carolina State, Oxford, and Arizona State. MIT-based projects focused on evaluation of safeguards to limit potential security, safety and environmental effects of applications. One project, conducted with Assistant Professor Kevin Esvelt of the MIT Media Lab, evaluates ways to localize effects of gene drives. A second project, developed with Farren Isaacs of Yale and Vitor Martins dos Santos of Wageningen University, evaluates technical measures to limit lateral gene flow and fitness of micro-organisms used in industrial applications of synthetic biology.

PoET fosters responsible conduct directly, by providing leadership for the Broad Institute Bio Foundry Safety Committee and the iGEM safety committee. PoET provided expert analytic support on security and safety issues at the invitation of organizations including the OECD, International Expert Group on Biosecurity and Biosafety Regulations, Eagleson Institute, Netherlands Ministry of Mines and Environment, and U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Finally, PoET's director, Professor of Political Science Kenneth Oye, testified before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission "On Sources and Implications of Accelerating Innovation in Biotechnology: US Opportunities and Challenges."

PoET initiated research on how policies addressing risks associated with medical innovation affect the pace and location of innovation. A study on "Pharmaceuticals Licensing and Reimbursement in the European Union, United States, and Japan" was conducted with officials from FDA, EMA, MEXT, and OECD. The paper was published in *Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics* and used as a sectoral case study in an EU Directorate-General for External Policies volume on "Free Trade Agreements and Patterns of Risk Regulation in the EU and the US." PoET has launched work at the interface between information technology and medicine, beginning with expert advice on "Impacts, Risks and Benefits of Precision Medicine – Governance Issues,"

at a Conference on Personalized Health in the Digital Age at Campus Biotech Geneva. PoET also developed a project jointly with KAIST on how national policies on consent, privacy and ownership of genomic data, medical records and social media affect utilization of data for public and private purposes.

Finally, PoET continued its work on planned adaptation and risk regulation. CIS Research Affiliate Lawrence McCray directed a working group of graduate and undergraduate students writing papers on this theme for the course on Science, Technology and Public Policy. Professor Oye presented on the capacity of formal intergovernmental and transnational institutions to govern biosecurity, cybersecurity and nuclear risks at the Lorentz Center at Leiden University.

Seminar XXI: Outreach to the Washington, D.C., Policy Community

For more than three decades, CIS has hosted Seminar XXI, an educational program for senior military officers, government officials, and executives in non-governmental organizations in the national security policy community. The program provides future leaders of that community with the analytic skills needed to understand other countries and foreign relations in general. A cohort of about 85 meets throughout the academic year in Washington, DC, and northern Virginia.

Fellows learn to recognize the assumptions that underlie assessments of foreign societies and to explore policy issues critical to American interests through a variety of lenses. At each session, eminent speakers present alternative perspectives from which to understand a given country or problem. The fundamental criterion for choosing fellows is that they currently hold or are expected to hold top posts in the military or government within the next three to five years.

The program just completed its 31th year and now has more than 2,200 alumni. Robert Art, Christian A. Herter professor of international relations at Brandeis University and a senior fellow in CIS SSP, directs Seminar XXI.

Persian Gulf Initiative

This research work is intended to examine the U.S. role in security and stability of Persian Gulf countries. Since 2005, the project has undertaken two major research assignments: the study of violence, mortality, and displacement in Iraq, and the U.S.-Iran relationship. The latter is a joint effort with scholars at George Washington University's National Security Archive, Indiana University's School of Global &

International Studies, and the University of Waterloo's Balsillie School of International Affairs.

The work on the human cost of war has progressed to a new phase in which the principal investigator, John Tirman, is developing indices and means for measuring war mortality, displacement, loss of livelihoods, educational deficits, effects on infrastructure, and so on—actual ways to measure war's effects in real time and with assessments for remedies.

The U.S.-Iran project, which has examined “missed opportunities” in the relationship, proceeded to its third book project with interviews and small group meetings, including a two-day conclave in London to interview British policy makers. The extensive archive of documents is being organized on a unique online platform developed by HyperStudio, MIT's Digital Humanities center. This project is mainly supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Seminar Series

In addition to SSP's Wednesday Seminar and the Focus on Russia series, the Center sponsors or co-sponsors other regular series of seminars open to the public.

Myron Weiner Seminar in International Migration is sponsored by the Inter-University Committee on International Migration, a consortium of Harvard, Tufts, Boston University, Wellesley College, Brandeis, and MIT. CIS has hosted the Committee since the early 1970s, and one of its founders was Professor Myron Weiner, a leading migration theorist and one-time director of the Center. The seminar named in his honor is a principal activity of the Committee. This year's presentations were:

- Michael J. Wishnie, Deputy Dean for Experiential Education at Yale Law School, "State DAPA? And Other Thoughts on U.S. Immigration Policy in the New Administration"
- Justin Steil, Assistant Professor of Law and Urban Planning, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, on "Immigration, Democracy, and Discrimination in Small Town America"
- Professor Shin-wha Lee, Korea University, "'China's 'Refugee Policy Divide' and the Predicament of North Korean Defectors"
- "The Fight over Foreigners: Visas & Immigration in the Trump Era," moderated by Professor Steil, with Baher Azmy, legal director of the Center for Constitutional Rights; Laura Rotolo, staff counsel at the ACLU of

Massachusetts; and Jia Lynn Yang, deputy national security editor at the *Washington Post*. This event was co-sponsored by the Starr Forum.

The chairs of the Committee are Professors Reed Ueda (history) and Anna Hardman (economics), both of Tufts University. The Center is represented on the Committee by Dr. Tirman.

Bustani Seminar on the Middle East, in its thirty-first year, features outstanding scholars to speak at MIT on pertinent issues of the Middle East and North Africa. Funded by Myrna Bustani of Beirut, Lebanon, it celebrates the life of her father, Emile M. Bustani, an MIT alumnus who headed the leading engineering firm in the Arab world and was a prominent Lebanese statesman until his untimely death in 1963. This year, the Bustani Seminar featured:

- Marc Lynch, Professor of Political Science, George Washington University, on “The New Arab Wars: Anarchy And Uprising in The Middle East.”
- David Commins, Professor of History, Dickinson College, on “Saudi Arabia's Sectarian Strategy At Home and Abroad: Rallying the Base.”
- Ali Banuazizi, Professor of Political Science, Boston College, on “Which Way for U.S.-Iran Relations under Trump – And Within the Middle East Cauldron?”
- Nadim Shehadi, Director, Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, on “Lebanon Skipped the 20th Century; Is it Ahead of the Game?”

Philip Khoury, Associate Provost and Ford International Professor of History, organizes and hosts the Bustani Seminar.

Joint Seminar on South Asian Politics is co-organized by CIS, Harvard University, and Brown University. Associate Professor of Political Science Vipin Narang leads the effort for MIT. This year’s seminar included:

- Adam Ziegfeld, George Washington University, “Why Regional Parties? Clientelism, Elites, and the Indian Party System”
- Dean Spears, RICE Institute, “Neighborhood Sanitation and Infant Mortality”
- Christopher Clary, Brown University, “Voters and Foreign Policy: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Pakistan”
- Atul Kohli, Princeton University, “East India Company Revisited”
- Pavithra Suryanarayan, Johns Hopkins, “Hollowing Out the State: Status Inequality and Fiscal Capacity of Colonial India”
- George Perkovich and Toby Dalton, Carnegie Endowment, “Not War, Not Peace: Motivating Pakistan to Prevent Cross-Border Terrorism”

- Emmerich Davies Escobar, Harvard University, “The Lessons Private Schools Teach: Using a Field Experiment to Understand the Effects of Private Schools on Public Behavior”
- Yusuf Neggers, Brown University, “Enfranchising Your Own? Experimental Evidence on Bureaucrat Diversity and Election Bias”

Public Programs

In 2016-2017, CIS mounted a rich and varied public education program. The Center’s Starr Forums and public lectures continued to offer events on pressing global issues with leading academics, policymakers, and journalists. With the election of a new U.S. president, several events focused on the new administration. All events were well attended by the MIT community and beyond, and the dialogues were spirited and informed. Videos of the events are posted on the Center’s YouTube channel and livestreamed via Facebook. Several forums are watched online by thousands of viewers. When possible, CIS involves like-minded organizations on campus and the local community, as well as local media outlets.

Starr Forum highlights include:

“Trump’s Victory: What does it mean for you?” with MIT professors Heather Hendershot & Kenneth Oye, CIS Wilhelm fellow Lourdes Melgar, and Cambridge City Councilman Nadeem Mazen.

“National Security & Civil Liberties: 1942 & 2017,” with Professor Oye along with scholars and activists addressing the 75th anniversary of internment of Japanese Americans, then turning to issues raised by the current wave of Islamophobia and xenophobia.

“Racing to the Precipice: Global Climate, Political Climate,” with MIT Institute Professor of Linguistics Emeritus Noam Chomsky.

“U.S. & Mexico in the Trump Era,” with CIS Wilhelm Fellow Lourdes Melgar and Arturo Sarukhan, a former Mexican ambassador to the US.

“Solving the North Korea Problem,” with Professor Samuels; Professor Victor Cha, Department of Government and School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University; and Terence Roehrig, Professor of National Security Affairs and director of the Asia-Pacific Studies Group, U.S. Naval War College; and Professor Shin-wha Lee.

“Security, Privacy, & the Internet,” with Dr. Brenner, Deborah Hurley, Fellow of the Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University; Daniel Weitzner, Principal Research Scientist in CSAIL; and Professor Oye.

“Racism, Violence, & Democracy,” with Professor Samuels; David Art, Professor of Political Science, Tufts University; Heidi Beirich Intelligence Project Director, Southern Poverty Law Center; Jolyon Howorth, Jean Monnet Professor of European Politics, University of Bath, UK, and visiting professor, Yale University.

“Honor Killings: Why They Won't End,” featuring Rafia Zacharia, journalist and author of *The Upstairs Wife*.

“The Warming Arctic: Site of a New ‘Cold War’?” with Professor of Environmental and Urban Planning Lawrence Susskind; and Kenneth Yalowitz, former ambassador to Belarus and Georgia and director, Conflict Resolution Center, Georgetown University; senior fellow, Arctic Studies at Dartmouth.

The Starr Forum featured two talks with former foreign secretaries: Jack Straw of the United Kingdom and Celso Amorim of Brazil.

Jack Straw, who was Britain's foreign secretary under Prime Minister Tony Blair, gave a talk on “Brexit, Europe, and President Trump.” Among the themes of his talk were the Brexit and Trump phenomena and the potential for extreme nationalist gains in upcoming European elections. In addition to the public talk, Straw met with faculty and students.

Brazil's longest serving foreign minister Celso Amorim discussed his recent book, *Acting Globally: Memoirs of Brazil's Assertive Foreign Policy*. He also weighed-in on the current political crises in Brazil.

The program hosted multiple film screenings, including:

Somaliland: The Abaarso Story: A feature-length documentary about five Somali Muslim students pursuing dreams of education in America, including the following speakers: Jonathan Starr, founder, Abaarso School; Mubarik Mohamoud, MIT student and Abaarso School alum; and co-directors of the film: Ben Powell and Harry Lee.

IAP film series, featuring three films by Michael Haneke, including *Caché*, *White Ribbon*, and *Amour*.

Other projects included: a new web site; a new intranet site, new email newsletters for both external and internal communications; live-streaming via FacebookLive for our public events; ongoing media support, including the announcement of the Center's Cybersecurity Report, and the production of both video and news items to promote the Center's work.

The program continues to use social media, including Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, to help publicize the Center's work. Also, *précis*, the CIS biannual newsletter, was published both in print and on the web.

More information about events and experts can be found at <http://cis.mit.edu>.