

Message from Jeff Sachs

Real Video (9:13) 

Quicktime Video (9:13) 

In this October newsletter address to the Earth Institute community, director Jeff Sachs gives an update on the outcomes of the recent Earth Institute Retreat, where the discussion centered around several important goals: bringing resources to the Earth Institute by recruiting a significant number of professors in critical areas; launching a number of cross cutting thematic programs in water, energy, and urbanization; and undertaking some important joint research projects, and publication projects. Place-based research was again emphasized as crucial to the Earth Institute mission, and ideas were discussed to launch and intensify research in Africa and Latin America.

Jeff also encouraged all staff to recommend any "stars" who are working on their dissertations to the Earth Institute Fellows Program, which has an application deadline for the Fall 2004 semester of December 1, 2003

And in congratulating Pedro Sanchez on his recent MacArthur prize, we learned that Pedro is on his way to Ethiopia this month to meet with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, who has agreed to host with the Earth Institute a major meeting of African leaders in June 2004 to talk about agriculture and how the Earth Institute can help make a breakthrough in agriculture productivity.

In the News**WNYC -- October 7, 2003**

In "Degrees of Concern - Part II," Dr. Klaus Jacob, Senior Research Scientist at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, emphasized how 21st-century builders need to plan for the effects of global warming while rebuilding the World Trade Center. [more](#)

The Rockland Journal News -- October 7, 2003**The New York Times -- October 6, 2003**

Pedro Sanchez was chosen for a \$500,000 "genius award," announced by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The Journal News -- October 5, 2003

This year's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Open House drew over 3,000 people. [more](#)

The New York Times -- September 30, 2003

Published research by Center for Environmental Research and Conservation scientists found that elephants isolated in northeastern Borneo have followed an independent evolutionary path for at least 18,000 years. [more](#)

The Washington Times -- September 25, 2003**Continuity Central -- September 25, 2003**

Drs. Roger N. Anderson and Albert Boulanger are quoted on their work on the " Smart Electric Grid" -- a lean and efficient electricity grid that can meet the nation's future energy and security demands.

[more recently in the media](#)



**New York in the 21st Century
Workshop leads to cross-pollination
throughout the Earth Institute**

Over 70 people from all over the Earth Institute participated in an all-day workshop on New York City

**Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
Will Co-Lead Multi-Million Dollar
Research Program to Explore Earth
Processes Beneath the Ocean Floor**

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Alliance of the Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc., Texas A&M University, and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University announced today that they have signed a contract to operate a scientific drillship as part of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP). The contract has an estimated cost of \$626 million over ten years. [more](#)



**Barbara Noseworthy Arrives as Director
of Funding Initiatives**

"It's a privilege to be here—I don't know of any other organization that so boldly takes on what to my mind are the biggest issues of the day," says Barbara E. Noseworthy, who arrived at the Earth Institute in August as Director of Funding Initiatives. With building long term private support for the Earth Institute as an overall goal, Noseworthy has big plans for her first year. [more](#)



Dee Breger Wins First and Second Prize in First Annual NSF/Science Magazine Award For Visualization

Dee Breger, of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, has won both first (detail above) and second prize in the photography category of the first annual 2003 Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge. [more](#)

Ben Orlove Elected Fellow of AAAS

Ben Orlove, Adjunct Senior Research Scientist at the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, was recently elected to be a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Fellows of AAAS are elected by their peers, and are recognize for their meritorious effort to advance science or its applications. Orlove is being honored "for distinguished contributions to the understanding of human adaptations to environmental conditions, particularly in the High Andes and with respect to Lake Titicaca and ethnoclimatology." He has had visiting and adjunct senior research scientist titles at Lamont and the IRI since 1997. [more](#)



Pedro Sanchez Receives MacArthur Foundation 'Genius Award'

Pedro Sanchez, director of Tropical Agriculture at the Earth Institute and 2002 World Food Prize recipient, has been named a MacArthur Fellow for 2003. [more](#)

Comments and Suggestions

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research held on Thursday, October 7th. Topics discussed ranged from building an ecopark at Hunt's Point to the importance of bee diversity in the surrounding countryside to the convergence of diabetes and obesity statistics to the infrastructure that supports New York's energy, water, and other basic needs. [more](#)



Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Internship Program Puts Undergraduates In The Middle Of Groundbreaking Research

The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory internship program engages undergraduates in groundbreaking research projects that have led to co-authorships on published papers and pairs them for study with Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory scientists. In turn, these scientists receive valuable assistance from students with their research. [more](#)

Deadline Approaches for Inclusion in Society for Conservation Biology Annual Meeting Publication

The 18th Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology, hosted by the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC), will be held in New York City from July 30 to August 2, 2004. This year's theme is "Conservation in an Urbanizing World." All proposals for symposia, workshops, and organized discussions for inclusion in the 2004 meeting must be submitted to 2004@conservationbiology.org by October 31, 2003. For more information, please visit <http://cerc.columbia.edu/scb2004/>.

NOAA Update: Federal Fiscal Year Begins With Few Agencies Funded

The Federal Fiscal Year 2004 (10/02/03-9/30/04) began with passage of three of the 13 annual funding or appropriations bills that fund governmental agencies. The three bills (Homeland Security, Department of Defense and Legislative Branch) were signed into law. Other agencies are funded by a so-called Continuing Resolution to keep the government running. Reports suggest that some of the agencies may not have their budgets until the end of November. [more](#)



Arctic Researcher and Longtime Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Scientist Receives Polar Society Medallion

Dr. Kenneth Hunkins, Special Research Scientist at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, was awarded the American Polar Society Medallion for his lifelong research in the Arctic region. Dr. Hunkins was on the first IGY Arctic floating "Station Alpha" (where Hunkins is pictured above, circa 1957) when celestial navigation (instead of satellites and Global Positioning System) was used to tell if the station had drifted out of range for supply drops. The Alpha station was the first to discover the Alpha Rise, a submarine ridge named for the ice camp, using the Precision Depth Recorder invented by Maurice Ewing, the founder of Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. [more](#)

Jeffrey Sachs and Pedro Sanchez to Speak at 2003 World Food Prize International Symposium

Jeffery Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, and Pedro Sanchez, director of Tropical Agriculture and recent MacArthur Foundation 'Genius Award' Fellow, will be in Iowa to speak at the 2003 World Food Prize International Symposium on "Defeating Hunger and Famine" on October 16-17, 2003. Sanchez was awarded the World Food Prize last year for his groundbreaking contributions to reducing hunger and malnutrition throughout the developing world by transforming depleted tropical soils into productive agricultural lands. [more on 2003 Food Prize Winner Catherine Bertini](#)



A visitor to this year's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory's Open House examines a bathtub half-full of corn starch where Professor Marc Spiegelman had just been dancing. Spiegelman was showing how materials can act differently depending on circumstances, like force of impact.