GUEST SPEAKERS

John Robinson
Professor, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, School of the Environment

Kris Hornburg
Manager, Program & Strategic Initiatives, Solid Waste Management Services, City of Toronto

Garima Tilokani
Graduate Student, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

Hannah Rundle
Graduate Student, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

Juliana Forner
Graduate Student, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

Joshua Folkema
Business Development Manager, Canada World Vision

Joseph Wong
Founder, Global Ideas Institute

Benjamin Scott
Technology Manager, GreenMantra Technologies

Asif Raza
Manager of Engineering, GreenMantra Technologies

Dilip Solman
Canada Research Chair in Behavioral Science and Economics, Rotman School of Management
In our global economy, it is becoming increasingly important for students to learn about the world and to think in a global context. This cutting-edge program provides students with the tools, knowledge, and guidance to develop innovative solutions to complex world issues. Over the course of the year, students gain exposure to leading global experts, develop complex problem-solving skills, and deliver pitches to a panel of distinguished experts. Students receive guidance from University of Toronto experts, community and graduate-level mentors during this year long learning process.

Now entering its ninth year, the Global Ideas Institute (GII) is an initiative of the Munk School of Global Affairs. The GII was conceived by Professor Joseph Wong and Professor Janice Stein to provide intensive research and learning opportunities for secondary students. Starting this year, the Global Ideas Institute is an ongoing collaborative program between the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto Schools, Rotman School of Management’s Integrative Thinking, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and World Vision Canada.

This year the Global Ideas Institute (GII) challenge focuses on the issue of global plastic waste management. The growth of plastics production in the past 65 years has outpaced that of almost every other manufactured material. Much of the plastic produced is designed for single-use, such that it is disposed of immediately following its initial use. As a result, plastic packaging accounts for about 50% of plastic waste globally. Although most of this waste is generated in Asia, America, Japan and the European Union are the world’s largest producers of plastic packaging waste per capita. The many benefits of plastic are undeniable. The material is cheap, lightweight, easy to make, and versatile, with innumerable applications. These same properties have led to a boom in the production of plastic over the past century, a trend that is projected to skyrocket over the next 10 to 15 years. However, due to the durability of the material and because most plastic do not biodegrade, it makes it impossible for nature to assimilate. With billions of metric tons of plastic being produced and accumulated globally, we need to rethink the way plastic is manufactured, used and disposed of. As one of the most critical environmental burdens of our time, this challenge requires concerted actions from “governments to regulate, businesses to innovate and individuals to act”.

This symposium brings together and showcases the work the remarkable Global Ideas Institute students have produced in just a few short months. The work students did is fully integrated across the many fields and disciplines involved in such a complex problem. They read and grappled with everything from academic research papers to news clippings, from sophisticated demographic materials to personal stories of those working in the field. They struggled with real-world problems through a multidisciplinary lens. They, along with their U of T mentors, receive no credit for their work, other than the gratification of studying a pressing problem yet to be resolved, and generating solutions that can potentially better the lives of hundreds of millions.
Final Symposium Agenda

8:00AM  Breakfast & Registration  University of Toronto Schools (UTS)
9:00AM  Opening Keynote  UTS Auditorium
9:30AM  Transition to Breakouts  Breakout Rooms (see below)
10:00AM  Session I: Student Pitches  Breakout Rooms
11:50AM  Lunch & Poster Session  1 Devonshire Place
1:15PM  Transition to Breakouts  Breakout Rooms
1:30PM  Session II: Student Pitches  Breakout Rooms
2:10PM  Coffee Break  Breakout Rooms
2:30PM  Expert Debrief  Breakout Rooms
3:30PM  Transition to Plenary  UTS Auditorium
3:40PM  Closing Remarks  UTS Auditorium
4:00PM  End

Breakout Room Locations

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE FACILITY  UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCHOOLS  OISE NEXUS LOUNGE
1 Devonshire Place  Room 135  Nexus Lounge (Floor 12)
Toronto, ON  371 Bloor St W  252 Bloor St W
M5S 1V6  Toronto, ON  Toronto, ON

OISE NEXUS LOUNGE
252 Bloor St W
Toronto, ON
M5S 1V6
# LOCATIONS

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## Lunch Break

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![Map of University of Toronto and周边区域](image)
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Bayview Glen
Presentation Title: Rumah Roof – Building a future for you and the Earth

Bishop Marrocco Thomas Merton
Presentation Title: REC-MODE

Bloor Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: Fuel The Future

Branksome Hall
Presentation Title: Addressing Plastic Waste Accumulation in Iloilo, Philippines

Don Mills Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: Plastic Waste in Toronto

East York Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: Plastic Reduction in the Philippines

Havergal College
Presentation Title: EcoSystems Inc.

Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: Upcycling in Guangzhou

LAWS - Harbord Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: PACE (Plastic Accumulation Circular Economy)

Malvern Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: EcoCloset – Keeping the Great Lakes Great

Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute
Presentation Title: ORU - Biodegradable single-use packaging

North Park Secondary School
Presentation Title: Bag the Bag – A Solution to Excessive Plastic Bag Usage

Northern Secondary School
Presentation Title: Aquaponic Systems – A Solution for Food Security in Arviat, Nunavut

Pickering College
Presentation Title: Purā: Microplastic Pollution in Farmed Produce

Pickering High School
Presentation Title: Pollution Solution in Iloilo

Sandalwood Heights Secondary School
Presentation Title: Plastic Waste Management

St Clements School
Presentation Title: Global Ideas Institute 2019 Proposal

The York School
Presentation Title: The Home Press

University of Toronto Schools
Presentation Title: Social Enterprise Solution to Plastics in Tamil Nadu

Upper Canada College
Presentation Title: greenplaNET – Treating the microplastic epidemic one filter at a time
Paul Cadario joined the World Bank in 1975 and played a number of diverse roles worldwide, including nearly two decades with the World Bank’s frontline development programs in Western Africa and China and then with public sector management throughout Asia. After his retirement from the World Bank in 2012, Cadario was appointed Distinguished Fellow in Global Innovation at the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering and the Munk School of Global Affairs. In addition to working with faculty and students in the MGA program and PhD candidates at CGEN, he co-teaches a Civil Engineering capstone design course, Sustainable Global Communities.

Joshua Folkema is a Business Development Manager at World Vision Canada. World Vision Canada (WVC) is a Christian development, relief and advocacy charity working with communities, families and children around the world to overcome poverty and injustice.

Susan Debreceni studied Zoology at the University of Guelph and holds a diploma in Ecosystem Management through Fleming College. She has spent the last 10+ years with the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup’s Toronto office, connecting citizens across Canada to shorelines in need. She is passionate about connecting individuals with meaningful opportunities to become more active in their local community and is thrilled to lend her experience and insight with others.

Paula Gallo manages Evergreen’s Professional Learning for Educators, working collaboratively with educators and organizations across Canada to explore innovative approaches to experiential learning with children and youth. Paula works with a team of Evergreen facilitators, landscape architects, teachers and community engagement experts to lead workshops and engagement opportunities, exploring Nature Play, Community Connections and Child Led Participatory Design. Her work is designed to enrich our understanding of how to create sustainable, inclusive and participatory communities for children and young people. She has worked with UNICEF Canada and Save the Children Sweden, designing programs and delivering professional learning opportunities for educators across Canada and internationally. Previously, she worked in British Columbia as the Metro Vancouver Sustainability Education Manager, and was a secondary teacher in Scarborough for 10 years, engaging her students in the outdoors and building in opportunities for meaningful community connections. She is currently based in Toronto, goes for long walks in the Don Valley with her dog and her family, and loves to work in her pollinator garden, complete with beehives!
**Kris Hornburg** is currently the Manager of Program and Strategic Initiatives for the City’s Solid Waste Management Services divisions. He previously worked as a Project Lead for the City, working on resource utilization and green revenue opportunities. Kris first started his career with the City as part of the Toronto Urban Fellows Program, and prior to that he worked for the Drive Clean Office with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. Kris holds a Master of Arts (M.A) in Legal studies from Carleton University, as well as a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Queen’s School of Policy Studies.

**Pam Miller** is presently the EcoSchools Instructional Leader with the Toronto District School Board and has over 28 years of experience working in education as an outdoor and environmental educator and a classroom teacher. In her current role, she works with a wide variety of education professionals and youth, supporting them as they engage in environmental programs and actions that contribute to a healthier, greener, more sustainable future. She is most passionate about cultivating practices at schools that foster deep relationships with nature, place and communities and helping champion issues that matter to students.

**Sam Gawron** is a graduate of the Environment, Sustainability & Society and International Development programs at Dalhousie University and the University of King’s College. Since 2015, she has been working as a Project Coordinator at Learning for a Sustainable Future, a Canadian charity whose goal is to integrate the practices and principles of sustainable development into the education system. She is interested in food and agriculture issues, as well as education, community development, global health, and social justice.

**Nandita Bajaj** is the Head of Admissions at University of Toronto Schools. She was a teacher of physics and math at Northview Heights Secondary School, where she taught for seven years. During that time, she was also the coordinator of the school’s Honours Math, Science, and Technology program, a specialty program that offers an accelerated curriculum to students in these subject areas. She was also the staff supervisor for Northview’s GII team for three years. With a strong background and work experience in engineering and environmentalism, she is passionate about inspiring students to pursue careers in science, technology, and engineering with a focus on sustainability. She will be starting her M.Ed in Humane Education through the Institute of Humane Education which focuses on how to effect systemic change by learning about the interconnected issues of environmental ethics, animal protection, and human rights.

**Dr. Tara Etherington** is the Program Manager for International Scholarships at the University of Toronto. She has worked in the UK and Canada at three international institutions in the fields of academia, student employability, and global learning initiatives. She specialized in cultural studies and contemporary theory during her academic training and is passionate about global programs that support student growth and innovation. At the University of Exeter, she coached a team of students in the first Grand Challenges program, which sought to tackle real-world global challenges concentrating on problem solving and pragmatism. Dr. Etherington joined the University of Toronto in 2017 and currently supports students awarded the Lester B. Pearson Scholars Enrichment Program, the Laidlaw Scholars Programme and the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Program that all promote innovation, global learning and personal development.
Zoë David-Delves was the Valedictorian of UBC’s Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice, Class of 2015 and the winner of the University of Toronto’s Janice Stein Student Leadership Award, Class of 2018. Her lived experience as a queer Black woman, as well as her education and professional experience, has allowed her insight into the social justice and advocacy fields both in Canada and abroad. Zoë is a Program Assistant at Taking IT Global, an NGO that supports youth-led projects across Canada. She also works at Sherbourne Health as a Black Queer Youth Leader designing mentorship programming for Black queer youth across the GTA.

Joseph Wong is the Ralph and Roz Halbert Professor of Innovation at the Munk School of Global Affairs, Professor of Political Science, and Canada Research Chair in Health, Democracy and Development. He was the Director of the Asian Institute at the Munk School from 2005 to 2014. Professor Wong has been a visiting scholar at institutions in the US (Harvard), Taiwan, Korea, and the UK (Oxford); has worked extensively with the World Bank and the UN; and has advised governments on matters of public policy in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe. Professor Wong teaches courses in the department of Political Science, the Munk One program and the Munk School of Global Affairs. Professor Wong’s current research focuses on poverty and innovation. Professor Wong is also the founder of the Global Ideas Institute.
Warsan Hagiyusuf, Somali Youth Support Initiative

When applying for university I noticed my Somali peers were struggling with the application process. Many Somali students in my community come from households where they would be the first one in their family to attend a postsecondary institution. Due to the lack of resources and experience many of them were not applying for schools because they did not understand the application process. I also had a similar issue when applying for schools but I was able to get answers from my mother, who completed postsecondary education after immigrating to Canada. However, many of my classmates were not as lucky and really struggled with the process and lacked the support they needed. This issue inspired me to create the Somali Youth Support initiative (SYS). Working alongside my mother the SYS program works on providing support to Somali youth that are transitioning from high school to postsecondary. This initiative helps Somali youth in the community receive support and guidance when applying to college and university. By organizing workshops at local spaces; we have received lots of support from the community and we are working towards creating more events to service our community. Once accepted to a program, the Somali Youth Support initiative connects the student to a Somali professional in the field that they want to pursue. This support is vital as the student will have a mentor in their community to share their concerns about entering a new environment and receive adequate support. Although, I began this program with my mother; I am actively involved in the process and have my own mentor to help me pursue a career in social work. This initiative has made a positive change in my neighbourhood giving my peers the opportunity to have access to education and receive support from members in their community. In the future, my goal for the Somali Youth Support program is to extend the resources and support to other communities in the GTA. I am very passionate about this initiative because I believe that education is a human right and should be accessible for individuals everywhere.

Winnie Lin, Paint for the Planet

Paint for the Planet is an environment-focused art workshop that seeks to promote youth involvement in environmental discourse. We will direct participants to explore their creativity by painting their visions of our future community while learning about the human impacts on our planet. We decided to incorporate an artistic component to our event because it helps reduce the stress many high school students face in their daily lives. We believe this event will not only allow youths to express their ideas through various forms of art but will also encourage them to acknowledge and think critically about fundamental environmental issues in their community and around the world. It is our hope for this event to be a night of fun, learning, relaxation, and creativity.
CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR

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