

THE GLOBAL IDEAS INSTITUTE

ADVANCING HEALTH
EQUITY DURING THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC &
BEYOND

FINAL SYMPOSIUM
2022

APRIL 29TH, 10AM - 1:45 PM (ET)

GLOBAL IDEAS
INSTITUTE (GII)

munkschool
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



WELCOME TO THE GLOBAL IDEAS INSTITUTE

In our global economy, and more-so than ever in our current state of affairs, it is becoming increasingly important for students to learn about the world and to think in a global context. The Global Ideas Institute 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 stakeholders, and graduate-level mentors during this year long learning process. Now entering its eleventh year, the Global Ideas Institute (GII) is an initiative of the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. The GII was conceived by Professor Joseph Wong and Professor Janice Stein to provide intensive research and learning opportunities for Secondary students. The Global Ideas Institute involves ongoing partnership between the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto Schools, Integrative Thinking, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), TD Insurance and MBNA.

This year the Global Ideas Institute (GII) challenge focuses on advancing health equity during the COVID-19 pandemic and as we build back better. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines health inequities as "differences in the health status or the distribution of health resources between different population groups, arising from the social conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age." It is important to note that these differences in health status are unjust, unfair and unavoidable. Researchers have found that the pandemic has significantly widened the gap in pre-existing health inequities because groups that have faced discrimination or historical social injustices are at the greatest risk of contracting the virus (e.g. poor working and living conditions that limit opportunities for physical distancing, limited access to water for hygiene and sanitation, etc.). The WHO cautions that the socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic can not only worsen existing vulnerabilities but create new ones, with effects on long-term health outcomes of populations within and between nations.

The GII challenges participants to develop innovative approaches to this challenge. GII students are encouraged to look at what governments, businesses and individuals can achieve in order to help advance health equity. Students are encouraged to develop innovative technical, policy, education and/or socioeconomic interventions to tackle these issues. This Final Symposium showcases the work that these remarkable students have produced in just a few short months. They struggled with real-world problems through a multidisciplinary lens, conducting research using academic and grey literature sources, interviewing experts and stakeholders, and applying problem-solving and design thinking frameworks to the development of their solutions. They, along with their U of T mentors, undertake this project not for academic credit, but for the purpose of studying a pressing problem and developing innovative solutions which can improve the lives of countless people throughout the world.

It is also important to note that this year's Final Symposium will be our second ever conducted online, with the addition of international school participants. We would like to commend the students, teachers, and mentors for their hard work and dedication in the face of this transition. We thank you for joining us for this exciting moment in the GII's history! We would also like to thank our Partner Council and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy for their assistance throughout the year and their consistent support.

GII CHALLENGE STATEMENT

Advancing Health Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond:

Socioeconomic status is a significant determinant of the health and wellbeing of populations worldwide. In particular, marginalized (e.g. low-income, racialized, Indigenous, and newcomer) communities face systemic and unjust barriers to accessing opportunities, supports, health and social services needed to be healthy. Environmental, political and socio-economic conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated these barriers and deepened health inequities.

How can we advance health equity for marginalized communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, and as we build back better from the pandemic?



GUEST SPEAKERS

Thank you to this year's guest speakers:

Erica Di Ruggiero

Director, Centre for Global Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

Nasra Hussein

Health Equity Lead, Guelph Neighbourhood Coalition.

Peter Singer

Special Advisor to the Director General, World Health Organization (WHO).

José Zea

Founder, Ark Angel AI.

Madeline Barber Dal Molin

Founder, Sante Suite.

Joseph Dal Molin

Founder, Sante Suite.

Joseph Wong

Founder, Global Ideas Institute.

Dilip Soman

Director, Behaviour Economics in Action at Rotman (BEAR).

Maja Djikic

Director, Self-Development Laboratory at Rotman School of Management.



FINAL SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

Date: Friday, April 29th, 2021

Time: 10:00AM-1:45 PM EST

Location: Zoom

Time	Activity
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Opening Remarks & Keynote Address
10:30 - 10:45 AM	15 MINUTE BREAK
10:45 - 12:30 PM	Student Pitches There will be 3 breakout rooms, with participating schools divided evenly into each. Each breakout room will consist of approximately 6-8 student teams, 3 expert judges, and a moderator.
12:30 - 12:45 PM	15 MINUTE BREAK
12:45 - 1:15 PM	Networking & Discussion - "Unconference"
1:15 - 1:20 PM	Transition to Closing Remarks
1:20 - 1:45 PM	Closing Remarks

FINAL SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Presentation Time	Breakout Room 1	Breakout Room 2	Breakout Room 3
10:55 - 11:07	Strathcona 1	Tabor	Ryensteen
11:07 - 11:19	Strathcona 2	Carl-Schurz-Schule	University of Toronto Schools 1
11:19 - 11:31	Trafalgar 1	Monarch Park 1	University of Toronto Schools 2
11:41 - 11:53	Trafalgar 2	Monarch Park 2	Runnymede
11:53- 12:05	Bayview Glen	St. Michael's College School	Branksome Hall
12:05 - 12:17	Bishop Strachan	Upper Canada College	St. Joseph Morrow Park
12:19 - 12:29	Lakefield College		



PRESENTATION INFORMATION

Students will have 5 minutes to present their pitch, and judges will have 7 minutes for Q&A for each team of students. Students will be expected to prepare a slide deck for their pitch and present this on the webinar by sharing their screen on Zoom.

Students will present their innovative solution to a panel of three judges. It is important to note that the Global Ideas Institute is not a competition, but rather an exchange of ideas. Presentations should include information about the solution including: the stakeholders required to implement the solution; the funding model at a high-level (i.e. charity, non-profit, government program); and the underlying assumptions and deep thinking that contributed to the development of their new and innovative model. Students should also present the rationale behind why this solution was developed, along with the value and benefit of the solution.

Student pitches will receive descriptive feedback from the experts along the following criteria:

- Problem: Team clearly identifies a problem and the critical issues to be addressed. Team states relevant challenge question that they are addressing.
- Background: Team's analysis shows appropriate understanding of the contributing causes to the problem.
- Rationale: Team clearly identifies the reasoning behind the development of their solution.
- Solution: Solution is innovative and clearly helps to address the problem.
- Feasibility: Solution is feasible (political, fiscally, culturally) and suitably tailored to a target audience for implementation.
- Presentation Delivery: Team delivers the presentation persuasively. The team projects unity as a group. Slides/visuals are clear and easy to understand.
- Q&A: Answers during Q&A are clear, thoughtful and relevant. More than one teammate responds appropriately and with confidence.



OPENING REMARKS



Joseph Wong is the founder of the Global Ideas Institute. Professor Wong is also the PI and founder of the Reach Alliance at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, where he is also the Ralph and Roz Halbert Professor of Innovation, and Professor of political science. He has published academic articles in leading journals in political science, development studies, political economy and global health, including recent articles about the Reach Alliance in the Bulletin of the WHO. Professor Wong has published four books, and is currently working on two book projects with Princeton University Press and Cambridge University Press. Wong's 2017 TEDx talk provides a short and compelling introduction to the challenges of "reaching the hardest to reach." Professor Wong has been a visiting scholar at leading universities in Asia (Seoul National University), the US (Harvard) and the UK (Oxford). He has advised international organizations such as the United Nations, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the World Health Organization, as well as for governments in Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia. In 2021 Professor Wong was appointed to be the University of Toronto's Vice-President, International.



OUR JUDGES (I)



David McRae is a Senior Program Consultant with the Laboratories and Diagnostics Branch in the Ontario Ministry of Health. He leads the provincial laboratory licensing modernization initiative and consults on policies related to the quality, accessibility and safety of clinical laboratory testing. Prior to joining the public service, David worked in the pharmaceutical sector as a technical writer, a project lead, and a clinical study manager where he oversaw the research and development of drug products, vaccines and medical devices.



José Zea is the founder of ArkAngel AI. Arkangel AI helps health care organizations detect diseases in seconds to make faster decisions, decrease cost, and increase care reach. Jose founded Arkangel AI with the goal of helping people detect diseases faster, increasing their fighting chances. The startup has won many awards since 2018, including Google Accelerator: Top-9 Startups in Canada (2020), Novartis innovation International Competition (2020): First place globally, Google Global Spark Program, Next-36 Top 35 startups in Canada (2020) among others.



Joseph Dal Molin is a co-founder of SanteSuite Inc. SanteSuite is one of the world's most experienced teams in global digital health systems research, development and implementation around the globe. Their team has led national-scale digital health system deployments in Canada, Jordan, Tanzania, and Southeast Asia. SanteSuite has enabled tens of millions of patients to be cared for through leveraging digital solutions.



Paul Cadario joined the World Bank in 1975 and played a number of diverse roles world- wide, 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, has co-taught a Civil Engineering capstone design course, Sustainable Global Communities and Public Policy.



OUR JUDGES (II)



Madeline Barber Dal Molin is a co-founder of SanteSuite Inc. SanteSuite is one of the world's most experienced teams in global digital health systems research, development and implementation around the globe. Their team has led national-scale digital health system deployments in Canada, Jordan, Tanzania, and Southeast Asia. SanteSuite has enabled tens of millions of patients to be cared for through leveraging digital solutions.



Sheryl Thingvold is the senior advisor of Health Venture Services at MaRS. Sheryl supports the medical device and diagnostics companies that work with MaRS. Sheryl has extensive experience in the medical device field, including experience working with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at the National Research Council Canada in Winnipeg. Most recently, Sheryl was one of the founding team members at Synaptive Medical, a company focused on developing and commercializing medical devices to support neurosurgery. After working on the product side, she later undertook marketing and strategy functions for the company.



Siddhartha Sengupta is currently a Product Manager and digital strategist for financial innovation products at CIBC. In his role, he is responsible for creating new digital experiences to move banking technology and user experience forward. Prior to entering the financial technology space, Siddhartha had an entrepreneurship and applied research background. He has had startups and conducted primary research across four countries (Mexico, US, India and Colombia). Beyond his professional expert, Siddhartha is a graduate from the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy and was also once an Operations Manager for the Global Ideas Institute.



Stanley Zlotkin is the Chief at the Centre for Global Child Health at the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids). Dr. Zlotkin has focused on research and advocacy to control micronutrient malnutrition in children. It is estimated that as many as 750 million children in developing countries suffer from micronutrient malnutrition. Challenged by UNICEF to come up with a viable and reproducible solution to the problem of micronutrient malnutrition, Dr. Zlotkin and his research team developed the concept of micronutrient powders for “home-fortification” of complementary foods. Home fortification now reaches over 15 million children every year in more than 50 countries. His current research focuses on delivery science to enhance the implementation of public health programs and products.



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GREAT YEAR!

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