CAN WE BE SURE OF ANYTHING?

2016–2017 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
People are divided over what brought us to where we are today – even unsure about what’s happening right now – and above all, anxious over what may be coming next.

There are no simple answers. But we deepen our understanding just by searching for the best questions to ask. As we examine complex, often contradictory issues, we gradually gain the insights we need to begin figuring out the future. And that in turn builds confidence in the one thing that matters most: our own resilience.

IN AN ERA OF

instant information and alternative facts
economic nationalism and vanishing borders
global migration and nativist retreat
identity politics and the celebration of difference
the common thread running through human experience is uncertainty.
The challenges that confront us are stubborn and complicated, and they seem to multiply daily. Navigating our way toward the best opportunities for change starts with a simple conviction – *we can do this* – followed by the vital next step in any effort to reinvent the world: *understanding how it works*.

This is our fundamental purpose at the Munk School of Global Affairs. We’re a forum for exchanging breakthrough ideas, a catalyst for opening up new possibilities and, above all, a vantage point for looking beyond traditional boundaries to help foster political, social and cultural resilience on a global scale.

Through innovative education, collaborative research and robust public engagement, the Munk School has become a leading hub for study and debate, and for dialogue that leads to action. The projects and partnerships we inspire are advancing the field of global affairs – and helping to define it – as we work together to determine what the future can be.

**People** voting against plans they fear may exclude them. Migrant families hoping to make a fresh start. Innovators disrupting routines we’ve taken for granted. Data thieves eroding the foundations of trust. Shoppers and concertgoers becoming terrorist targets. Farmers finding new ways to thrive in the face of climate change.
Over the last few years, we have entered a new age of anxiety. Much of the world seems fraught: the Middle East, obviously, but also Europe as it struggles with mass migration and right-wing extremism. Russia’s economy is failing, but its president projects a malign external influence. China’s government actively suppresses dissent, but it also seeks to position the country as a global leader, with massive investments throughout the global South. India struggles to mesh economic reform with ethnically based politics.

Meanwhile, right-wing populism, anti-immigration sentiment and nationalist rhetoric are on the rise in many parts of the world. Some commentators see these movements as a response to globalization of markets and to economic dislocation caused by an uncritical commitment to free trade that has actually undermined the poor and the middle class.

Globalization has indeed prompted economic changes that eliminate or downgrade the jobs of some workers. Call centres in the Philippines and auto factories in Mexico exist. But every shred of evidence suggests that the real disruption in Western countries has been prompted by technological change that isn’t going away. Recurrent patterns of globalization since medieval times have produced benefits, but also huge costs that are borne unequally. Reactions to these historic eras of globalization – colonialism, the spread of industry, distribution of new communications technologies – coincide almost perfectly with the re-emergence of strong nationalistic sentiments, usually resulting in deep social conflict, even war. No wonder our era feels anxious.

At the Munk School of Global Affairs, we explore behind these headline sources of anxiety, not only excavating causes, but trying to figure out the future. Our students are a constant inspiration because they come to us strongly motivated to improve the world economically and socially. They are a source of intellectual and moral resilience. Perhaps that is why our faculty are so committed to research that is not merely descriptive but that seeks to inspire and prompt change. Whether it is by testing creative ways to deliver services to the most marginalized people, exploring the growing role of information technology in espionage, examining how innovation policy can better include people with disabilities, or assessing how to improve homicide investigations in Latin American police forces, Munk School researchers are trying to shape a better future in Canada and around the globe.

It has been an honour to lead such a remarkable collection of scholars and students, and as I pass the baton to Interim Director Prof. Randall Hansen, I am confident that the Munk School will continue to thrive as it builds the dynamic field of global affairs from Canada.

Stephen J. Toope
Director, Munk School of Global Affairs
May 31, 2017
MUNK SCHOOL IN NUMBERS

- 7 AMBASSADORS VISITED THE MUNK SCHOOL THIS YEAR
- 1 NOBEL LAUREATE WHO SPOKE AT A MUNK SCHOOL EVENT THIS YEAR
- 2 CANADA GEESE THAT CALL THE SCHOOL’S FOUNTAIN HOME EACH SPRING
- 640 UNDERGRAD & 270 GRAD STUDENTS FROM 17 COUNTRIES
- 186 FORMAL INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS
- 235 AFFILIATED FACULTY FROM A WIDE RANGE OF DISCIPLINES
- 6 AMBASSADORS VISITED THE MUNK SCHOOL THIS YEAR
- 5 STUDENTS WHO TRAVELLED TO JORDAN TO STUDY SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES
- 39 SPEAKERS FROM 39 COUNTRIES
- 34 STUDENT INTERNSHIPS OR RESEARCH TRIPS IN 34 COUNTRIES
- 5 STUDENTS WHO TRAVELLED TO JORDAN TO STUDY SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES
- 640 UNDERGRAD & 270 GRAD STUDENTS FROM 17 COUNTRIES
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Munk School of Global Affairs
The promise of a better future typically invokes a past that never was. Around the globe, widespread disillusionment has given rise to populist leaders who romanticize the past and incite unease in the face of social change. Their simple answers vary: Barring and expelling newcomers. Swift, brutal justice for lawbreakers. Blocking trade with nations that supposedly steal jobs. What these leaders share in common is a troubling disdain for tolerance, inclusion, due process and the basic assumptions of democracy.
Emerging threats to democracy around the world are a key focus of inquiry for Prof. Lucan Ahmad Way, who teaches in the Munk School’s Ukrainian Studies Program of the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies. On the one hand, Prof. Way’s research has led him to conclude that the democratic tradition – contrary to widespread belief – has not undergone a recent rapid decline. By virtually any measure, the number of states that can be called democratic has remained unchanged since the beginning of the current century. That said, seemingly well-established democracies such as Hungary have become “competitive authoritarian regimes,” retaining traditionally democratic institutions but compromising their intent with significant authoritarian abuse. And in a January 2017 op-ed article in The Washington Post, Prof. Way and Prof. Dan Slater of the University of Chicago warned that American democracy on the eve of the Trump inauguration was likewise under significant threat, following an election beset by rampant misinformation, claims of FBI interference and repeated efforts to manipulate voting rules at the state level.

Moreover, in Prof. Way’s view, democracy has been under threat in the U.S. since well before the rise of Donald Trump – and indeed does not have the deep historical foundation that many assume. In an April 2017 article in Foreign Affairs entitled “Is America Still Safe for Democracy? Why the United States Is in Danger of Backsliding,” he and two co-authors argued that it was only in the early 1970s, once the civil rights movement and changes in federal law managed to stamp out authoritarianism in southern states, that the U.S. truly became democratic. Yet this very process had the effect of polarizing Congress, realigning voters along racial lines and radicalizing the Republican party. The resulting political divisions have both facilitated President Trump’s rise and left democratic institutions more vulnerable.
Is This How It Ends?
Terrorist attacks. The Brexit vote. The rise of populism. Economic inequality. The brutal Syrian conflict. Endless streams of refugees. With these and so many other bleak challenges confronting us daily, it’s tempting to bundle all the uncertainties together and ask, “Is the world really falling apart?”

Ignatieff on Human Rights
When Eleanor Roosevelt proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, she envisioned a day when its high-minded principles would be grounded in an implicit ethic shared by people everywhere. Seven decades on, how close are we to seeing that vision become a reality?

The many threads within that complicated question were unravelled in a September 2016 visit to the School by Munk Distinguished Fellow Michael Ignatieff – writer, scholar, former political leader and recently appointed president and rector of Central European University in Budapest. In a talk entitled “Human rights, global ethics and the ordinary virtues,” Dr. Ignatieff drew on three years of field work with the Carnegie Council for Ethics and International Affairs to examine the global reach of human rights and the values that guide people’s day-to-day conduct in a world of relentless change.

Hasty Brexit
When U.K. voters shocked most pundits by supporting withdrawal from the European Union, experts at the Munk School were quick to respond to media requests for help in decoding the outcome and its long-term implications. Prof. Randall Hansen, for example, contributed Brexit-related commentary to the Toronto Star and The Globe and Mail, and he joined discussions on CBC Television’s The National, BBC News and CTV’s Canada AM. Prof. Stephen Toope, director of the Munk School, the program featured insights and illuminating exchanges from a trio of experts: Prof. Janice Stein, the Munk School’s founding director and a renowned expert on international conflict and global governance; Prof. Randall Hansen, director of the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies and now interim director of the Munk School; and Prof. Michael Blake, professor of philosophy, public policy and governance at the University of Washington.

This was the question explored by the CBC Radio program Ideas in December 2016, as the latest collaboration in a multi-year partnership with the Munk School. Recorded before a live audience, the two-part episode was shared via network radio, web streaming and podcasts to a combined Canada-U.S. audience averaging well over a million listeners weekly. Moderated by Prof. Stephen Toope, director of the Munk School, the program featured insights and illuminating exchanges from a trio of experts: Prof. Janice Stein, the Munk School’s founding director and a renowned expert on international conflict and global governance; Prof. Randall Hansen, director of the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (and now interim director of the Munk School); and Prof. Michael Blake, professor of philosophy, public policy and governance at the University of Washington.

Huge U.S. Election Analysis
In the weeks before and after the U.S. election on Nov. 8, 2016, the Munk School presented a series of events to help make sense of the presidential race, while faculty members contributed to the wider conversation through media interviews, op-eds and articles and commentary.

Pre-election
A well-attended Sept. 19 event – part of the F. Ross Johnson-Connaught Speaker Series – brought together Marcus Brauchli, a former editor at The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal, and Johnstackhouse, former editor of The Globe and Mail, for an informal chat about the U.S. campaign, Donald Trump’s ascent and the part played by the media in his success to that point.

A week later, the Centre for the Study of the United States (CSUS) presented “Trump or Hillary? Forecasting the U.S. Election,” featuring Natalie Jackson, senior polling editor, Huffington Post; Michael Lewis-Beck, professor emeritus of political science, University of Iowa; Helmut Norpoth, professor of political science, Stony Brook University (one of the only forecasters to predict a Trump victory); and Matthew Lebo, professor of political science, Stony Brook University, and visiting professor at the University of Toronto.

In addition, CSUS co-sponsored a public lecture by Prof. Theda Skocpol of Harvard University on the Tea Party and the rise of the Republican party, as well as a special event for students in the American studies undergraduate program featuring two former members of Congress.

Election night
CSUS co-sponsored an event at Toronto’s Albany Club organized by the consulting firm Navigator, and also collaborated with the U.S. Consulate on an “election watch” that drew a large audience from the Toronto area.

The panel discussion, broadcast live on CPAC, included Prof. Christopher Sands, director of the Center for Canadian Studies at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University; Laura Dawson, director of the Canada Institute at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.; and Deanna Horton, a fellow of the Munk School.

The Munk School partnered with the Public Policy Forum to host a Nov. 21 event in Ottawa examining the implications of the election for Canada-U.S. relations.

Post-election
The Munk School partnered with the Public Policy Forum to host a Nov. 21 event in Ottawa examining the implications of a Trump presidency for Canada. Panelists included David Jacobson, former U.S. ambassador to Canada; Laura Dawson of the Wilson Center; former Republican congressman Robert Smith Walker; and Michael Coutes, president and CEO of Hill+Knowlton Strategies Americas.

A January 2017 CSUS event, co-sponsored with U of T’s School of Public Policy & Governance and Samara Canada, featured Jocelyn Kiley, a lead researcher with the Pew Research Center, who presented preliminary findings derived from the massive amount of election-related data gathered by her polling organization.

And just prior to the new president’s Jan. 20 inauguration, CSUS hosted a videoconference with representatives from Sciences Po in France to consider the question on millions of people’s minds: “What now?”
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

RESPONDING TO GLOBAL MIGRATION

It’s hard to leave a life behind. And even harder to start a new one. Chronic poverty. Falling bombs. Relentless persecution. Migrants around the world have many reasons to flee their homes, but they share a common goal: a more prosperous, secure and hopeful future. The obstacles along that journey can be daunting, requiring sacrifice and compromise. And those who welcome the newcomers must be equally ready to make adjustments – and gain new perspectives – as we build a better future together.
Refugees: The Next Generation

While the Munk School offers students many opportunities to gain direct experience in their fields of study, some have also witnessed first-hand how major global issues affect individual lives. For example, MGA alumna Bushra Ebadi and MGA student Mustafa Sayedi both have parents who escaped the conflict in Afghanistan to resettle in Canada. The students bring this personal perspective on the refugee experience to their bid for the Hult Prize, the prestigious global award aimed at fostering social entrepreneurship. Joining with fellow MGA students Zain Punjwani and Tessa MacNeil, their Sonder Labs team was chosen from among 50,000 applicants to compete at the Hult Prize regional finals in Boston at the beginning of March 2017.

Adopting the theme “Refugees – Reawakening Human Potential,” the 2017 Hult Prize program challenges competitors to build a scalable, sustainable startup that meets the needs of people who have been forced to flee social injustice, political and economic pressures, climate change or war. Winning proposals must demonstrate the potential to restore, within five years, the rights and dignity of 10 million refugees currently living in illegal or informal settlements around the globe.

The solution proposed by Sonder Labs will help to integrate refugees into “arrival cities,” mitigating the risk of mistrust and potential hostility by fostering meaningful interactions between newcomers and community members. The team proposes to develop a website and a smartphone app designed, first of all, to provide an e-commerce platform where refugees, migrants and asylum seekers can sell their goods and services. At the same time, these online and mobile connections will help to build empathy and understanding between groups of people who might not otherwise meet.

“I was inspired to get involved in the Hult challenge as a result of my own family’s experience as refugees,” says Bushra Ebadi. “I also gained valuable insights from my MGA Capstone Project on refugee housing in Toronto. The MGA program has helped me develop the communication, analytical thinking and research skills necessary to successfully pursue these endeavours.”

Making Every Dollar Count

As international agencies continue to cope with huge numbers of refugees fleeing the conflict in Syria, a key challenge is ensuring that precious aid dollars reach those who are most in need. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Jordan has been particularly effective in this regard, directing nearly 98% of donated funds to people who have been carefully vetted, and then confirming their identities through the innovative use of biometric technology. In April 2017, as part of the Munk School’s Reach Project, five U of T student researchers travelled to Amman to study the UNHCR’s successful strategy up close.

Two-thirds of the Syrian refugees in Jordan live below the poverty line, and many are in financial distress. To prioritize where limited funds should be allocated, UNHCR representatives visit refugees’ homes, assess their vulnerability and establish an ongoing dialogue. Then, before any money is distributed, recipients’ identities are reconfirmed using iris scans. The UNHCR follows up with monitoring and evaluation to confirm that refugees are gaining the maximum benefit from this financial help.

After seeing the program in action, the Munk School team – Daniel Chan Park, MGA students Elizabeth Assella and Marin MacLeod, and Munk One alumni Natalie Boychuk and Adam Sheikh, both now students in the Peace, Conflict and Justice program – returned to Canada to continue their research on the UNHCR’s success in Jordan and the lessons it offers to other refugee assistance programs worldwide.

Asian Pathways

How do micro-politics shape life in an urban immigrant community? What diverse paths bring people from around the world to be part of a complex, multicultural university? How is identity shaped by the stories passed down from one generation to the next?

These are the kinds of questions being explored by the Asian Pathways Research Lab, founded in 2016 by the Munk School’s Asian Institute with support from the Richard Charles Lee Directorship. By examining individual life histories and experiences, the lab aims to foster qualitative research, student education and public dialogue on various dimensions of migration from Asia to Canada, including climate-driven mobility, the evolution of urban communities and the impact of gender and religion.
The History of Flight
In September 2016, the Munk School's Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies hosted a conference on the global history of expulsion and flight from the early 20th century through the decade following the Second World War. Organized by the centre’s Joint Initiative in German and European Studies, the conference – and funded in part through continuing support from the German Academic Exchange Service – was held at the University of Toronto to identify research priorities and potential sources of funding. It also secured a two-year grant from the German Academic Exchange Service that will support, among other projects, future conferences on refugee issues.

Through publications, conferences and broader platforms such as the CBC Radio program Ideas, Prof. Hansen has investigated diverse aspects of the crisis, from the shortcomings of the global asylum system, to political tensions around immigration in Europe, to the effects of post-traumatic stress on people who’ve fled the repressive regime in North Korea. At a time when the plight of refugees is magnified by misunderstanding and outright xenophobia, this is the kind of considered, evidence-based inquiry that the world expects from the research community.

Including Muslims
The question of where Muslims feel welcome around the globe – and why – is clearly a timely one. It’s a topic that has been helpfully illuminated by the work of Prof. Jeffrey Reitz, director of the Munk School's R.F. Harney Program in Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism Studies. Prof. Reitz studies the social, economic and political experiences of immigrant and ethnic populations, focusing in particular on the integration of Muslim immigrants in France and Quebec, as well as other parts of Canada. Over the past year, he shared his latest research through various publications and forums, including conferences on the future of Canada’s immigration system to be held at Waterloo University and U of T. He also contributed to a November 2016 forum at the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research in Germany, presenting a paper entitled, “Muslims’ social inclusion and exclusion in France, Quebec and Canada: Does national context matter?”

Responding to the Crisis
Munk School researchers by definition are engaged with the current sociopolitical context – and this has been more than evident during the continuing global refugee crisis. A case in point is the work of Prof. Randall Hansen, director of the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (and interim director of the Munk School as of June 2017). His 2016 report, Population Displacement & the Global Refugee Crisis, generated a high degree of interest among leaders in government, UN agencies, NGOs and other international organizations. Drawing on those constituencies and representatives from the private sector, Prof. Hansen put together a 46-member investigative team and organized a meeting in Toronto to identify research priorities and potential sources of funding. He also secured a two-year grant from the German Academic Exchange Service that will support, among other projects, future conferences on refugee issues.

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Straight Outta Pyongyang
Day-to-day life in the closed society of North Korea has long been a topic of interest – and curiosity – for scholars and journalists alike. But we know relatively little about those who’ve escaped the autocratic regime to start new lives in South Korea and elsewhere. To help grow that area of knowledge beyond the merely anecdotal, in March 2017 the Munk School hosted a public meeting billed as “The Resettlement of North Korean Refugees in South Korea and Beyond: What Do We Know?”

The event was organized by Synergy: The Journal of Contemporary Asian Studies, founded in 2016 by undergraduate students at the Munk School’s Asian Institute. The journal’s goal is to stimulate discussion of political, historical, societal and economic developments throughout the Asia region. In addition to publishing articles, book reviews, opinion pieces and reports on current events, Synergy welcomes online submissions and will compile a selection of highlights in a print publication at the end of each academic year.

Fear of Islamophobia
During the 2016 presidential campaign, Donald Trump sparked controversy with his promise to block future Muslim immigrants and potentially take action against those already living in America. The Munk School’s Islam and Global Affairs Initiative, co-directed by Profs. Aisha Ahmad and Edward Schatz, responded with an October event called “Banning Muslims? Explaining Xenophobia and Islam in Europe and the U.S.” Co-sponsored by the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies and the Centre for the Study of the United States, the session assembled a panel of experts and invited the public to join the conversation at the School and via live webcast.

The new president-elect continued to espouse sentiments that were often perceived to be anti-Islamic. Within days of his inauguration, he issued an executive order barring citizens of seven primarily Islamic nations from entering the U.S. Once again the Munk School, through the Islam and Global Affairs Initiative, responded with “The Muslim Ban: Trump’s First Legal, Political and Security Crisis of 2017?”, a discussion of the immediate issues and, more generally, how global migration challenges affect not only refugees fleeing persecution but also those seeking new opportunities – and indeed all global citizens.
The technology that connects us also makes us more vulnerable. The digital revolution has given us unprecedented control over our lives. We have instant access to vast amounts of information. We can connect with each other anywhere. And we’re able to manage everything from personal finances to health care on the move. But the same liberating technology opens a potential door for others – from aggressive marketers to intrusive governments to criminal hackers – to take some of that control away.
The digital revolution, for all the social and economic benefits it has brought, has also created a climate of perpetual debate. People who cherish their online privacy argue with those who feel that domestic surveillance is vital to a society faced with terrorist threats. In the military realm, some experts warn of an imminent “cyber–Pearl Harbor,” while others contend that the risk of digitally enabled warfare has been exaggerated.

To explore the theoretical and practical questions around these conflicting points of view, in March 2017 the Munk School hosted “Decoding the Digital Debate,” a conference on cybersecurity and human rights. Organized by recent graduates and final-year students in the MGA program, the one–day event drew participants from academia, research institutes, government, the private sector and civil society to explore topics ranging from cyberespionage and state censorship to the impact of technology on international law.

Calling Security

The MGA program curriculum was further enhanced this year with two new courses focusing on security – both taught by Prof. Jon Lindsay, an expert in modern technological warfare. The first, Intelligence and Special Operations, explores the increasingly blurred boundaries between military and civilian affairs as policy-makers and generals turn to non-traditional sources of intelligence whose sources are harder to pin down. The other new course, Grand Strategy and Global Threats, looks at how states of all sizes – and even some non-state actors – use various instruments of power to advance their security interests. New technologies, economic globalization and dramatic changes in states’ political fortunes have created a complex and uncertain threat environment. Within this context, students examine the proliferation of nuclear weapons among new players, the development of autonomous and conventional weapons, the growing dependence of many nations on satellites and cyberwarfare, and the rise of global terrorism – all through the lens of national security policy. In this radically changed world, traditional great-power politics may not loom as large as it did a generation ago, but in many ways it’s more important than ever.

New technologies, economic globalization and dramatic changes in states’ political fortunes have created a complex and uncertain threat environment.

The China Syndrome

Users of digital technology in China have long been aware that their personal data is not protected and all communications are subject to official censorship. This lack of security and confidentiality has been widely criticized abroad and has led to growing discontent at home. Yet a pair of 2016 reports from the Munk School’s Citizen Lab revealed that the vulnerabilities faced by Chinese web users are as problematic as ever. And a third study found that government monitoring of a popular chat application has simply become more nuanced, enabling authorities to pinpoint specific topics they don’t want discussed while allowing conversations they consider innocuous to continue uninterrupted.

The Citizen Lab research team examined the performance of two leading Chinese web browsers, Baidu and QQ. Both were found to have extensive privacy and security issues that put millions of users’ communications at risk. Specifically, researchers determined that the Windows and Android versions of the browsers transmit personally identifiable data with weak or non-existent encryption. Moreover, neither application adequately protects against so-called “man-in-the-middle” cyber-attacks as software updates are relayed between servers and users’ devices.

A parallel investigation of WeChat, the popular social media platform operated by Internet giant Tencent, showed the unmistakable intervention of Chinese government censors – and a previously unrecognized difference in their treatment of domestic and international users. People with phone numbers registered in mainland China find that references to topics deemed sensitive by the authorities simply disappear from their chats. This is particularly evident in group discussions as opposed to two-way exchanges, presumably because wider conversations are perceived to be potentially more subversive.

WeChat’s browser also blocks China-based users from many websites, including those devoted to the Falun Gong spiritual movement and news reporting critical of the Chinese government. Significantly, accounts linked to international phone numbers have virtually free access to the same sites (albeit with some intermittent blocking), and WeChat conversations among international users are not subject to the same censorship. The conclusion of Citizen Lab researchers is that the authorities have deployed more sophisticated systems to target perceived threats – and are apparently using artificial intelligence to analyze clusters of keywords and assess the degree of risk. In other words, China’s online intrusions are no less aggressive; they’re just more technologically subtle.

Hacking Human Rights

The text message was clearly meant to pique the interest of Ahmed Mansoor, promising to reveal “new secrets” about the torture of political detainees in his native United Arab Emirates (UAE), but the well-known human rights defender was immediately suspicious, and instead of clicking on the embedded link, he forwarded the message from his iPhone to researchers with the Munk School’s Citizen Lab. They quickly recognized a hacking attempt and connected the link back to NSO Group, an Israel-based cyberwarfare company that sells “lawful intercept” spyware products exclusively to governments.

After alerting Mansoor that his caution was well founded, the researchers notified Apple of their discovery. The company responded by releasing the iOS 9.3.5 patch, which closed the vulnerabilities that NSO appeared to have been exploiting to remotely hack iPhones. This was the first known instance of governmental spyware being used to target iOS devices with what are called “zero-day exploits,” referring to malware that becomes active without prior warning. The update, applicable to over 800 million iOS devices worldwide, was released outside of Apple’s usual patch schedule, just two weeks after the warning – a clear indication of the seriousness of the hack.
**Amplifying Impact**

Over the past year, Citizen Lab expanded its role as a global hub for sharing knowledge and coordinating initiatives to protect human rights in a digital landscape. At the annual Summer Institute on Monitoring Internet Openness and Rights, held in Toronto, researchers and practitioners from around the world met to exchange ideas and explore potential collaborations.

The lab also launched new partnerships with a number of civil society, advocacy and research organizations as part of the Cyber Stewards Network. Linking researchers and activists across the global North and South, this initiative applies evidence-based research to promote a secure and open Internet. The network now includes partners in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, South Korea, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

**Technology as a Weapon**

Prof. Jon Lindsay continues to share his influential research on warfare in the digital age through publications, expert panels, workshops and media coverage. Among the topics that captured wide attention in 2016:

- **Technology and warfare** – from concerns over the North Korean missile program to space-based weapons systems and the threat of thermonuclear cyberwar.
- **Cybersecurity and intelligence** – the growing role of information technology in statecraft and espionage, including potential Russian interference in the U.S. presidential election.
- **Cross-domain deterrence** – countering traditional threats with those from other domains of conflict, such as cyberwarfare or space-based defence systems.

The Cross-Domain Deterrence Project is a collaboration between Munk School researchers and colleagues at the University of California, Berkeley and San Diego, as well as scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. At a May 2016 conference held in Washington, D.C., policymakers, military strategists, weapons scientists and scholars came together to tackle the all-too-plausible escalation challenges of a complex crisis scenario involving NATO and Russia in the Baltic region.

**Code Black**

A film adaptation of Prof. Ron Deibert’s book *Black Code: Inside the Battle for Cyberspace* had its world premiere at TIFF, the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2016. Directed by respected filmmaker Nicholas de Pencier, the documentary has since been showcased at festivals in London, New York and elsewhere.

**The Big Data Idea**

For every call we make or email we send, and with each website visit or media download or online transaction, we leave a digital trail containing a wealth of information about our relationships, preferences, habits and movements around the planet. The exact nature of this “big data” – and the opportunities, trade-offs and risks it presents – were explored by the CBC Radio program *Ideas* in May 2016 as part of the broadcaster’s continuing partnership with the Munk School.

**Food for Thought**

In the fall of 2016, the Digital Public Square – a Munk School initiative offering global audiences enhanced online access to information and research insights – launched a citizen engagement project focusing on public awareness of food-safety issues in China. A simple game called “What’s in the Bun?” tested people’s knowledge of food-based risks, explained the effects of common contaminants and encouraged critical analysis of food-incident rumours on the web. A viral sensation, the game attracted more than four million visits from inside China in its first four months. When a live Q&A platform was added, some 17,000 users logged in anonymously to ask questions and share concerns about their ability to obtain reliable information. As this report goes to press, nearly one million queries about food rumours have been answered by the project’s panel of experts.
UNDENIABLE

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Doubts don’t cloud the climate change issue. They are the issue. Protecting the environment is more than a scientific and technological challenge. It requires new ways of thinking about policy, politics and our established models of governance and judicial oversight. This is the perspective we bring to sustainability at the Munk School as we explore promising solutions and their potential benefits for the diverse array of stakeholders who share this planet.
Green Capstones

In 2016–2017, MGA students had the opportunity to tackle environmentally themed research right in the Munk School’s backyard. Prof. John Robinson, a leading climate change expert with a cross-appointment to U of T’s School of the Environment, guided four Capstone Projects on environmental sustainability, all in association with the City of Toronto:

- **Greenhouse gas consumption**
  Toronto currently uses a production-based approach to greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory. This measures direct emissions from the burning of fuels for heating, transportation and other uses, as well as indirect emissions – from purchased electricity, for instance, or power generation using heat or steam. MGA students are helping city officials explore a consumption-based inventory approach that will account for all GHG emissions – both direct and product-life-cycle – associated with the goods and services residents use.

- **Commercial building retrofits**
  Toronto has set ambitious goals to shrink its carbon footprint and improve sustainability by 2050. And because buildings are the largest source of GHG emissions, retrofits are a key component of carbon reduction efforts. The city’s strategy aligns with a province-wide priority to optimize the sustainability of buildings, which accounted for 15% of Ontario’s GHG emissions in 2015. MGA students are helping to evaluate retrofit programs and regulations that have successfully increased sustainability in other cities.

- **Diversion of textile waste**
  The average Toronto household throws out about 20 kg of clothing and other textiles each year. Diverting three-quarters of that unnecessary waste is a priority of the city’s long-term waste management strategy, which aims to divert up to 15 million kg of discarded textiles annually by 2026. MGA students are conducting research to support a comprehensive approach, looking at recycling policies and practices in other jurisdictions.

- **Financing low-carbon resilience**
  The City of Toronto has developed a comprehensive plan to reduce GHG emissions and energy use, transform infrastructure and implement other innovative steps to address climate threats. The main challenge, as always, is money. MGA students are helping to identify the best ways to raise capital in the city’s unique fiscal and political landscape, investigating how other jurisdictions have accessed private capital and developed scalable solutions while delivering solid financial, social and environmental returns.

School of Sustainability

Many universities are not only placing more emphasis on education and research in the area of sustainability but are also adding explicit green goals to their operating strategies. Few schools, however, have committed at the executive level to fully integrating academic and operational sustainability, transforming their campuses into working models of sustainable research, teaching and day-to-day practices.

Recognizing the important role that educational institutions can play in this broader social transition, U of T President Meric Gertler has appointed Prof. John Robinson of the Munk School as presidential advisor on the environment, climate change and sustainability. In this newly created role, Prof. Robinson has unveiled an innovative plan to turn the three U of T campuses into a “living laboratory” for researching, implementing, testing and refining a wide range of sustainability practices.

The plan calls for 1,000 students to tackle sustainability projects on campus, working with U of T staff. Another 5,000 will pursue similar initiatives in the wider community, collaborating with public and private partners. Potential projects will be as diverse as students’ areas of study – because while the sciences may have more obvious links to sustainability issues, the humanities bring vital insights as well. “How we think about the world is in some sense the deep sustainability question,” Prof. Robinson explains. “Literature and fine arts have struggled with that question forever.”

After assembling a list of courses that touch on some aspect of sustainability – from civil engineering to medieval literature – the University will publish a catalogue offering potential pathways for students interested in environmentally focused studies. In addition, Prof. Robinson is exploring the living laboratory concept in a joint undergraduate and graduate course offered through the Munk School and the School of the Environment. Prof. Robinson and three colleagues have also received approval in principle to help develop several courses within the Faculty of Arts & Science aimed at deepening student engagement in this innovative approach to sustainability studies.

Less Carbon This Way

The daunting political puzzle created by climate change is the focus of Transformative Policy Pathways to Decarbonization, a six-year project spearheaded by the Munk School’s Environmental Governance Lab. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the project marked its halfway point in 2016 by producing a wide array of research insights.

Topics illuminated by the project’s researchers include: how cities enact carbon action plans and participate in transnational networks; efforts by North American states and provinces to link renewable energy targets, emissions trading systems and carbon tax policies; the development of national goals for carbon neutrality and renewable energy industries; and how companies and NGOs have joined forces to promote smart grids, carbon accounting and clean technology deployment across international borders.

The project has yielded five new case studies in the past year, for a total of 30 to date. The research team has also produced a number of working papers and the first scholarly publications related to the initiative. An article in Global Environmental Politics, for example, focused on The Carbon Trust and the fact that its product labelling program failed to change consumer behaviour but has nevertheless prompted many companies to embrace low-carbon supply chains and production processes.

Taken together, these activities have significantly raised the visibility of Transformative Policy Pathways to Decarbonization in academia and among policy-makers. Stakeholders such as the Government of Ontario and the MaRS Discovery District have responded with requests for more information and invitations to exchange ideas and collaborate. This widening interest is expected to intensify throughout the second half of the project, as the team produces additional case studies, insights and publications.
Cities at Risk
What is the impact of climate change on cities – not just on people and physical infrastructure, but on the mechanisms of municipal finance and governance? And equally important, how can city governments mitigate or adapt to dramatic environmental changes? The Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance (IMFG), based at the Munk School, made questions such as these the focus of its research efforts in the past year.

The result is a pair of influential IMFG publications: Prof. Sara Hughes, in a paper entitled “Reducing Urban Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Effective Steering Strategies for City Governments,” reviews the strategies of Toronto, New York and Los Angeles – three cities that are seen as leaders in reducing GHG emissions. And in “Climate Change, Floods and Municipal Risk Sharing in Canada,” University of Waterloo professors Daniel Henstra and Jason Thistlethwaite look at tools that cities can use to reduce their exposure to extreme weather events.

Who’s in Charge Here?
A key challenge in assessing sustainability initiatives around the world is determining who, exactly, should be held accountable for specific actions – or the lack of action.

Since 2014, Prof. Teresa Kramarz of the Munk School’s Environmental Governance Lab has been the co-leader – alongside Prof. Susan Park of the University of Sydney – of a research network devoted to Accountability in Global Environmental Governance. After a series of international meetings, panels and workshops, in the past year the network produced a series of articles addressing a fundamental paradox: despite significant investment in new systems of accountability worldwide, most global indicators show that the environment has further deteriorated. As Prof. Kramarz and her colleagues continue to examine the role of accountability in creating more effective action, their network is growing. Its success has helped to cement the Environmental Governance Lab’s role as one of two North American research centres for the Earth Systems Governance Project, the largest global network of social scientists working on environmental policy issues.

The Latest Issue
Prof. Steven Bernstein and Prof. Matthew Hoffmann, co-directors of the Environmental Governance Lab, have joined with a colleague at Duke University as the editors of the new journal Global Environmental Politics, which promises to be the premier source of academic insights in the field. The journal will focus in particular on the interface between scholarly research and practical solutions.

Aiming for Goals
“We don’t have a plan B, because there is no planet B.” This famous remark by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon – shared at the COP22 climate change conference at Marrakesh in 2015 – inspired member nations’ subsequent endorsement of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, which define clear objectives for addressing the global environmental crisis. The governance challenges presented by the goals have been the subject of much international discussion and are a key focus for the Munk School’s Environmental Governance Lab. Prof. Steven Bernstein produced a series of briefs that informed the UN policy-making process. He also contributed to the 2017 book Governing through Goals, the first comprehensive analysis of goal-based global governance.

Talking about the Weather
The national conversation around climate change, and the more pointed debate about oil and gas pipelines, dominated Canadian news over the past year and sparked a recent event hosted by the Munk School’s Environmental Governance Lab. A March 2017 workshop brought together scholars, students, activists and practitioners to discuss Canada’s evolving energy policy, the prospects for a just transition away from carbon sources, and the impact of the incoming Trump administration and other international political shifts on Canadian efforts. The workshop included closed-door exchanges between academics and other experts, as well as an open forum on future policy directions, attended by more than 100 members of the public.
Old barriers slow down – but can’t stop – new ways of thinking. Can free trade ever be truly free? Do immigration measures threaten long-term prosperity? How do forward-looking cities replace decaying infrastructure? What defines intellectual property in an increasingly fluid world? When should governments invest in new and emerging sectors – and how do we gauge their success? These are the kinds of questions that drive our multidisciplinary studies in innovation and economic growth.
**Life in the Big Chinese City**

In May 2017, Prof. Alana Boland travelled to Chengdu, China, with 10 students from the Dr. David Chu Program in Contemporary Asian Studies and U of T’s Geography & Planning program. The trip was an opportunity to see first-hand the effects of economic development in a city that is trying to balance the interests of a large rural population while building a globally oriented, tech-based economy. The visiting students gained insights into a range of complex, sometimes contradictory issues, including urban-rural integration, sustainability challenges, changes in the built environment, the impact of new freight infrastructure and transit systems, initiatives to attract foreign direct investment, and the role of public spaces in the life of the city.

**MGA Capstone Projects**

**Branch plants that are vulnerable to relocation** *(client: Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Growth)*

When a factory or other business operation relocates, the impact can be dramatic – especially on a smaller community that is already under economic strain. MGA students are identifying leading indicators for vulnerable sites, helping local leaders and provincial officials move proactively to engage with employers before it’s too late.

**Innovation hubs** *(client: MaRS Solutions Lab)*

Recognizing the emergence of vital innovation districts in major cities around the world, the federal government is working to create and nurture dynamic innovation ecosystems in cities and regions across Canada. MGA students are examining the economic and social impacts of these hubs, both within this country and internationally.

**Pursuing global market opportunities through innovation** *(client: Ontario Ministry of International Trade)*

MGA students are investigating how connecting Ontario-based technology innovators to opportunities in foreign markets can help commercialize creative ideas and build fruitful partnerships while boosting trade in goods and services. Areas of focus include artificial intelligence, bioengineering, robotics, renewable energy and the Internet of Things.

**Building a Canadian pro bono marketplace** *(client: MaRS Social Innovation)*

This project is studying how pro bono work – providing services at no cost – could be coordinated through a national marketplace, to the benefit of charities and other social change organizations across Canada. MGA students are examining all facets of the challenge, from federal policy development to private sector collaboration to the contribution of Indigenous communities.

**Who Pays for Cities?**

A key focus of ongoing research at the Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance (IMFG), based at the Munk School, is the fiscal health of cities and their ability to fund infrastructure needs. In 2016, two of the institute’s publications received significant attention from policy-makers and the media: IMFG Director Enid Slack co-authored a report with Harry Kitchen, professor emeritus at Trent University, entitled New Tax Sources for Canada’s Largest Cities: What Are the Options? And historian Richard White, a professor at U of T Mississauga, highlighted lessons for today’s leaders in his article “Financing the Golden Age: Municipal Finance in Toronto, 1950 to 1975.”

The IMFG also welcomed speakers and delegates from around the world to an October 2016 conference called “Financing Infrastructure: Who Should Pay?” Chaired by Enid Slack and IMFG Senior Fellow Richard M. Bird, the event looked at the merits of user versus taxpayer funding across a spectrum of municipal services, from water and sewage systems, to subsidized housing, to roads and transit networks. A book of conference contributions will be published by McGill-Queen’s University Press in late 2017.

**Rewarding Inquiry**

MGA candidate Brendan Hills received a 2016 University of Toronto Excellence Award in social science and humanities, including $6,000 to support his work on the impact of the modern research university. Guided by Prof. Shiri Breznitz, Hills examined the direct financial outputs of research – using data on patents awarded and the creation of spinoff businesses – as well as broader social benefits. He is now working with Prof. Breznitz on a study of innovation accelerators at U of T.

**Pushing the Accelerators**

How do university-sponsored business accelerators contribute to local economic development? And what is the larger role of the research university in fostering both commercialization efforts and teachable insights at these campus innovation hubs? Prof. Shiri Breznitz has received a grant from the Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development to study the 11 accelerators and incubators at U of T. Leading a research team that includes an MGA student, a Peace, Conflict and Justice program student and a post-doctoral fellow at the Innovation Policy Lab, Prof. Breznitz has taken a case-study approach in assessing the best ways to measure universities’ regional impact, including the specific benefits to enterprises that have emerged from U of T accelerators.
Keeping Innovation Healthy

The Innovation Policy Lab is working with Global Affairs Canada on a two-year project to analyze key challenges facing the federal Innovation Agenda and help ensure the country’s future social and economic well-being. During the past year, MGA students supervised by Prof. Dan Breznitz produced three policy briefs:

Brain circulation: Canada and Israel (Creed Atkinson and Jinhui Jia)

Countries striving to sustain economic competitiveness try to attract highly skilled people of prime working age while encouraging those already living within their borders to stay. This study concluded that Canada, which has no trouble attracting skilled workers, and Israel, which suffers from a “brain drain,” should both focus on better circulating the talent they already have.

Expanding the freedom to operate: developing a Canadian intellectual property strategy (Helen Broom and Alessandra Jenkins)

This brief highlights key barriers that could be overcome if the Government of Canada developed a national intellectual property (IP) strategy as a key component of its Innovation Agenda. The report includes recommendations for commercializing technological innovations more quickly, as well as securing and maintaining patent protection in global markets.

Innovation policy for people with disabilities (Nicole Gladstone and Tessa MacNeil)

This brief – co-authored by Prof. Amos Zehavi of Tel Aviv University, a visiting professor at the Munk School – investigates policy-making in support of a steadily growing yet often marginalized group in society: people with disabilities. It illuminates the intersection between policy and innovation in this crucial area of social change, especially as it relates to the Canadian government’s Inclusive Innovation agenda.

Trade Deadlines

In March 2017, the Munk School hosted an event with Cecilia Malmström, Trade Commissioner of the European Union, who set out the agenda of the world’s largest trading bloc in light of the uncertain fate of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and of the proposed agreement between the EU and the U.S. known as TTIP. In pursuing an ambitious program of trade deals, European nations hope to work with major partners to “shape globalization” through effective, transparent, values-based policy. The commissioner also highlighted the benefits of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada, which she has described as the most progressive and ambitious deal ever concluded.

Opportunity’s Still Knocking

Work continued over the past year on Creating Digital Opportunity, a project that brings Munk School researchers together with colleagues from 16 universities and 12 partner organizations, with support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Prof. Elena Goracinova of McMaster University has been collaborating with Prof. David Wolfe, co-director of the Innovation Policy Lab, to study the growing integration of information technology into the automotive industry. They have shared their insights on the industry’s future – captured in a paper entitled “Diversifying the Southern Ontario automotive cluster” – in presentations to automakers and parts manufacturers, in a workshop at the Automotive Policy Research Centre in Ontario and at a conference in Italy focused on building resilience in vehicle manufacturing regions.

Other activities under the banner of Creating Digital Opportunity include work by two PhD students associated with the Innovation Policy Lab – Travis Southin, a recent MGA graduate, and Steven Denney, a doctoral fellow at the Munk School’s Asian Institute – who have researched the high-tech startup environment in Toronto. This past year, Southin and Prof. Wolfe also contributed to TechToronto’s report, “How Technology is Changing Toronto Employment.” And Prof. Wolfe is working with Prof. Zachary Spicer of Brock University and Nicole Goodman, director of the Centre for e-Democracy and a senior associate with the Innovation Policy Lab, on a survey of municipal administrators and citizens gauging attitudes toward government e-services.

Don’t Give It Away

As Canadian officials and federal leaders discuss both new and existing trade agreements around the globe, Prof. Dan Breznitz, co-director of the Munk School’s Innovation Policy Lab, has been expressing concern about the intellectual property (IP) provisions in many of these deals, and the risk that the government may be “giving away” valuable ideas instead of doing more to help innovators commercialize them at home.

In November 2016, Prof. Breznitz advised the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on the changing landscape around bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements, noting that their evolution into “partnerships” creates more asymmetric relationships in which the protection of IP assets is critical. Moreover, the steady integration of global trade in recent decades has meant that international and domestic issues have become blurred for citizens in democratic countries as they consider the type of society they prefer to live in.

How successful is Canada’s support for innovation in the competitive global landscape? (Helen Broom and Alessandra Jenkins)

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How successful is Canada’s support for innovation in the competitive global landscape? (Helen Broom and Alessandra Jenkins)

Prof. David Wolfe, co-director of the Innovation Policy Lab.
Poverty is not a shortage of funds. It's a lack of opportunity. Despite signs of social change that hold so much promise, the divide between rich and poor remains as stark as ever. The reasons are complex: environmental degradation, regional conflicts, oppressive regimes, narrow-interest politics, structural imbalances in the global economy. Solving such problems is far from simple. But it starts with restoring the greatest loss that poverty exacts: people’s ability to realize their own potential.
Students on the Move

In the summer of 2016, Munk School students once again ventured overseas to investigate poverty and development challenges first-hand, supported by internships and sponsored research trips.

Munk One students Quinn Underwood and Jillian Speengr journeyed to Myanmar, where they put their classroom insights into practice investigating childhood malnutrition and the use of mobile technology in health care. And James Madhier, a student in the Peace, Conflict and Justice program, travelled to Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire to research child labour and poverty on cocoa farms. A winner of the Global Challenge on Leadership and Sustainability organized by Netherlands-based Nudge Global, Madhier was sponsored by a Dutch chocolate company and the Trudeau Centre for Peace, Conflict and Justice.

Cool Vests

When the heat-related deaths of more than 3,000 migrant workers in Qatar made international news in 2015, Adam Sheikh, a student in the Dr. David Chu Program in Contemporary Asian Studies and the Peace, Conflict and Justice program, was deeply upset and wanted to help find a solution. After winning financial support from the Richard Charles Lee Insights through Asia Challenge – a competition organized by the Asian Institute – Sheikh purchased cooling vests and in the summer of 2016 travelled to Qatar to arrange field-testing at construction sites. Joining forces with Jordan Imahori, a fellow Munk One alumnus and the Asian Institute – Sheikh purchased cooling vests and in the summer of 2016 travelled to Qatar to arrange field-testing at construction sites. Joining forces with Jordan Imahori, a fellow Munk One alumnus and

Asia Challenge

In 2016, the Munk School’s Asian Institute invited all interested U of T Arts & Sciences students to compete in the Richard Charles Lee Insights through Asia Challenge, which promotes research into a wide range of issues affecting the region. A dozen Munk School students in four teams won funding to launch projects such as a summer camp for the children of migrant workers in China, providing protective cooling vests to South Asian migrant workers in the Middle East (see “Cool Vests,” below) and the distribution of affordable devices to monitor and purify polluted air in India, reducing the risks to children’s health.

What Do Men Know?

In the Middle East and North Africa, men are at a crossroads. A growing proportion of young men say they support the equality of women in many aspects of public and private life. However, they find themselves caught between the traditions of the past and an uncertain future, struggling to provide for their families and often fearful for their safety.

This is the conclusion of a groundbreaking study published in May 2017 by UN Women and the not-for-profit Promundo, co-led by Sheerene El Feki, a professor of global practice at the Munk School. Entitled IMAGES MENA – the International Men and Gender Equality Survey, Middle East and North Africa – the study polled 10,000 men and women aged 18 to 29 in Egypt, Morocco, Palestine and Lebanon (including Syrian refugees). Its findings challenge many stereotypes about men in the Arab region and, in showing how views are shifting in a changing world, highlight new pathways toward gender equality.

The study looks at the day-to-day lives of men – in public and private life, as sons, husbands and fathers. It is also among the first attempts to gauge attitudes toward domestic violence and sexual harassment. Through their interview responses, men showed they are struggling to fulfill conventional breadwinner roles as economic pressures mount, and as the advance of women’s rights leave many wondering if their traditional male powers and privileges will be further eroded. Cutting through the prejudices that too often characterize perceptions of both men and women in the MENA region, Ms. El Feki’s work has been heralded as a landmark piece of research.
Poverty Within Reach

Even the most sophisticated development initiatives, from innovative policy-making to advanced uses of technology, have no real impact if they don’t reach the people who need them most. In many countries, the poorest of the poor are homeless or live in the distant countryside. They may lack formal identity documents, and many are socially marginalized because of their ethnicity or gender. As Anthony Lake, executive director of UNICEF, has said: “Our statistical national successes are masking moral and practical failures. People are left behind simply because they live in rural communities or urban slums, in conflict zones, as part of indigenous groups, with disabilities or because they are girls.”

Ensuring that health, education, social services and other development initiatives have the intended impact on their target populations is the goal of the Reach Project, led by Prof. Joseph Wong of the Munk School, with funding from the MasterCard Center for Inclusive Growth. The project recruits student researchers from many disciplines – including international relations, political science, global health, immunology, indigenous studies, economics and law – to investigate all dimensions of extreme poverty and its root causes. Unusual for such a program, the students are all undergraduates. They prepare for about 10 months before making an intensive one-week visit to their country of study; on their return, they spend another few months writing up and presenting their findings.

So far the Reach Project has produced two comprehensive case studies. The first focused on Bola Fumí, a conditional cash-transfer program in Brazil, which was profiled in last year’s annual report. In 2016, students looked at South Africa’s efforts to improve birth registration. Prof. Wong accompanied five students to Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg, where they interviewed several dozen policy-makers and program staff.

The researchers identified a number of factors that have driven growth in demand for birth registration, including increased efforts to reach out to poor and geographically isolated communities, as well as the birth certificate requirement for enrollees in social welfare programs. Their conclusion is that streamlined administrative processes and improved access to the health system have made it far easier for parents and guardians to register their children’s births. The findings, shared in a report published in November 2016, point to potential strategies for improving registration in other communities around the globe.

Meanwhile, the Reach Project continues to gain momentum. Upcoming research destinations include India, to study a successful biometric identification program; Jordan, to examine cash transfers by the UNHCR to Syrian refugees (see “Making Every Dollar Count” page 27); Thailand, to investigate the government’s success in eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV; and Rwanda, to study that country’s highly effective early childhood vaccination program.

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– Anthony Lake, executive director of UNICEF

Affairs on Film

In September 2016, the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) partnered with the Munk School to present the fifth annual Contemporary World Speakers series, which brings together filmmakers from around the globe and experts from the Munk School. A screening of the Israeli-French film *In Between*, about three Palestinian women sharing an apartment in Tel Aviv, was followed by a discussion between director Maysaloun Hamoud and Prof. Janice Stein, founding director of the Munk School. Other screenings showcased the Polish film *Zatona* (Blindness), with Prof. Stephen Toope; *The Patrician* from New Zealand, with Prof. Ritu Birla; the Israeli production *Past Life*, with Prof. Ron Levi; and the Colombian feature *The Animal’s Wife*, with Prof. Teresa Kramarz.

The State of Mexico

Political corruption, widespread violence, human rights violations and other ills that plague contemporary Mexico were among the topics covered in a September 2016 keynote talk by Denise Dresser, the renowned political analyst and writer. A professor at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México – and one of the Mexican government’s most vocal critics – Prof. Dresser examined the current state of affairs under President Enrique Peña Nieto and speculated on Mexico’s future beyond the 2018 elections.

Taking the Field

In early 2017, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) announced the appointment of Georgette Gagnon, a fellow of the Munk School, as director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division. In this role, she will be responsible for the UN’s human rights efforts on the ground.

An international human rights lawyer, Ms. Gagnon served from 2010 to 2015 as director of human rights for the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. In 2012, she joined the UN Supervision Mission in Syria, serving in Damascus as an advisor to former Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his role as UN-Arab League Special Envoy. Throughout her career – in senior roles with Human Rights Watch and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and earlier as an investigator and advisor on human rights projects in China, India, Sudan, Rwanda and Bosnia-Herzegovina – Ms. Gagnon has established herself as an expert on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, torture and arbitrary detention, violence against women, the rule of law and counter-terrorism. At the Munk School, she shares her wealth of experience with MGA students as both a lecturer and mentor, and she also engages with student and faculty researchers in the Global Justice Lab.
FAIR ENOUGH?

GLOBAL JUSTICE UNDER STRESS

Justice is more than deciding what’s right. But that’s a good start. Around the world, justice systems are under pressure to keep pace with social change. Rapid economic and demographic shifts. Growing political demands and perceptions of inequality. Concerns over traditional approaches to policing and governance. Changing patterns of criminal and violent behaviour, including the threat of terrorism. All of these stressors call for new responses – and new insights into what we expect justice to mean.
2016–2017 Annual Progress Report

CLIENT: Global Affairs Canada

Foreign policy implications of online hate international institutions. This project is developing performance indicators to assess Canada’s role on digital platforms.

digital platforms.

to the troubling proliferation of hate speech in social media and on other digital platforms.

MGA Capstone Projects

Far-right extremism in Canada (CLIENT: RCMP)

In the wake of the U.K. election, this project examines the far-right in Canada, which has long been influenced by American developments in ideology, recruiting and organization.

Urban access to justice (CLIENT: International Development Research Centre)

MGA students help to identify concerns around justice for poor citizens – specifically those living in informal urban settlements in Kenya, Ghana, Argentina and Ecuador.

Measuring Canada’s leadership internationally (CLIENT: Global Affairs Canada)

This project is developing performance indicators to assess Canada’s role in advancing human rights, fostering peace and security, and building strong international institutions.

Foreign policy implications of online hate (CLIENT: Global Affairs Canada)

Students on this project are considering how policy can – and should – respond to the troubling proliferation of hate speech in social media and on other digital platforms.

What Causes Bubbles?
The housing bubbles in Toronto, Vancouver and elsewhere are not economic problems. They reflect a failure to respect basic human rights.

This was a key conclusion of Leilani Farha, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, following a global study of the issue. Writing in The Globe and Mail in March 2017, she suggested how policy-makers should approach overheated real estate markets: “Whether it is taxation policy, land-use planning, zoning, or broader housing policy, decisions must be guided by the needs of residents for adequate, affordable and secure housing, as opposed to the financial security and gain of investors. . . . What is presented as the private market gone mad is, in fact, something far more deliberate: the failure of governments to govern in a manner that is consistent with human rights.”

Providing research assistance to Ms. Farha were students from the Global Justice Advocacy class in the Munk School’s MGA program, as well as from the International Human Rights Clinic within U of T’s Faculty of Law. MGA student Yasminine Shivanand, after internning in Toronto, travelled to Geneva in early 2017 for a session of the Human Rights Council, where the special rapporteur presented her first report.

Students of the World

Over the past year, Munk School students supported a wide range of organizations abroad as interns and researchers. A few examples:

• Spencer McMurray, a student in the Peace, Conflict and Justice (PCJ) program, was a research consultant for the UN Development Programme in Israel during the summer of 2016 and returned to East Jerusalem in early 2017 to investigate how indigenous forms of peace building can transform social conflict.

• Another PCJ student, Joshua Gold, journeyed to Estonia in March 2017 to research how improving the situation of the country’s Russian minority might affect its relations with Russia, the U.S., the EU and NATO.

• Another PCJ student, Naveeda Hussain and international relations student Taha Shah (both also majors in contemporary Asian studies) interned at the Cambodian embassy in Myanmar as that country continues its transition to democracy following years of military dictatorship.

• Three MGA students, whose identities must be protected, interned with the Global Coalition against Daesh (or ISIS/ISIL) at the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

• MGA student Nicola Plummer worked at Brussels-based Finance Watch through the Open Society Internship for Rights and Governance (OSIRG), a key Munk School partner.

• Our OSIRG partnership also enabled MGA student Moyo Areva to intern at the Institute for Security Studies in Pretoria, focusing on security issues in southern Africa.

• And in an OSIRG first, MGA students Helen Broom and Heather McAllister received joint funding to work with Médecins Sans Frontières, assessing Canadian research on infectious diseases that could improve outcomes at the NGO’s conflict-zone hospitals.

All of our OSIRG candidates also took part in a summer session at the Central European University in Budapest, where Munk School faculty members Stephen Toope, Ron Levi and Carmen Cheung joined a diverse team of academics in helping to prepare exceptional students from around the world for the intensive internship program.

Putting Terrorism in Its Place

Confronted with escalating terrorist attacks and threats to public safety and security, justice systems worldwide face intense pressure from communities and political leaders to respond effectively. As justice practitioners try to manage events amidst heightened anxiety, they often lack a base of evidence for decision-making. To address this need, the Global Justice Lab has created the Global Counter-Terrorism Law and Policy Group.

Formally launched in October 2016 – and introduced with an op-ed article in The Globe and Mail – the group studies the responses of justice actors and institutions to terrorist events and evaluates security policy in light of contemporary, historical and comparative research. It provides an impartial, academically rigorous hub for analyzing counter-terrorism practice, inviting researchers, policy-makers, practitioners and representatives of civil society to engage in candid conversations on challenges around the globe.

What’s Going on Inside Justice?

Led by Prof. Todd Foglesong, the Inside Justice project is an experiment in collaborative, peer-based research that brings together government officials and other experts to address persistent problems in criminal justice around the world. Supported by the Open Society Foundations, the project aims to train and support a global team that can help resolve justice, security and legal problems in countries facing urgent challenges in these areas.

In the past year, the Inside Justice team hosted a workshop for senior justice officials from Latin America on innovative approaches to investigating homicides. Another workshop on justice reform convened a group of senior representatives from Nigeria, including justice officials and members of the judiciary and the federal executive.
Watching the Watchdogs

Over the past year, various Munk School researchers contributed to a range of forums and initiatives examining Canada’s response to global terrorism and other threats to national security and public safety.

- The Global Justice Lab convened meetings – led by Prof. Kent Roach, director of the lab’s Global Counter-Terrorism Law and Policy Group, and Carmen Cheung, the lab’s executive director – with senior policy-makers, academic researchers and civil society experts, focusing on three areas:
  - The accountability of the Canadian government regarding security issues.
  - Bill C-22 – a new federal law establishing an independent committee of parliamentarians to oversee national security and intelligence operations.
  - Security challenges in the digital realm (co-chaired with Christopher Parsons from the Munk School’s Citizen Lab).

- Members of the Global Justice Lab consulted with terrorism researchers and policy-makers throughout the federal government and also provided expert testimony before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

- Citizen Lab researchers Christopher Parsons and Prof. Roach joined with Tamir Israel, a lawyer in the Samuelson-Glushko Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic at the University of Ottawa, in raising concerns that the national security consultations held by Public Safety Canada showed minimal regard for protecting privacy and civil liberties.

The Secret Drone Memos

In November 2016, the Munk School hosted an event centred on the U.S. government’s controversial use of drones for covert surveillance and targeted assassinations. Leading the discussion was Jameel Jaffer, a distinguished fellow of the Munk School and director of the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University. His book on the secret “drone memos” draws on his experience as one of America’s foremost advocates and litigators in the area of national security and civil liberties.

Discerning Discrimination

How do people in different cultures respond to discriminatory or stigmatizing incidents? On their own or as a group, through confrontation or changing their own behaviour? These were the kinds of questions explored at an October 2016 forum entitled “Getting respect: Responding to stigma and discrimination in the United States, Brazil and Israel.” It was the first event presented at the Munk School by newly appointed Distinguished Fellow Michele Lamont – who has since received the prestigious Erasmus Prize for 2017 in recognition of her research on the links between knowledge, power and diversity. Prof. Lamont is a professor of sociology and of African and American studies, and the Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies at Harvard University.

Calling the Police

From charges of violence, abuse and bias against minority groups to calls for greater transparency and accountability, today’s police forces face unprecedented public scrutiny and outright antagonism. At the same time, society expects law enforcement agencies to take on challenges such as counter-terrorism, cybercrime and the sensitivities of highly diverse communities. In May 2016, these issues were explored in a two-part episode of the program Ideas, produced by CBC Radio One in partnership with the Munk School, with expert panels moderated by Prof. Ron Levi, director of the Global Justice Lab.

A Rage for Order

The 2017 Lionel Gelber Prize was awarded to veteran American journalist Robert F. Worth for his masterful study A Rage for Order: The Middle East in Turmoil, from Tahrir Square to ISIS. Established in 1989 to honour the year’s best non-fiction book in English on foreign affairs, the prize is administered by the Lionel Gelber Foundation in partnership with the Munk School and Foreign Policy magazine.

Understanding Islam

The emergence of networked jihadist and terrorist organizations across the Middle East and North Africa has transformed the world. And so too have xenophobic reactions in Europe, in America and elsewhere to Muslim migrants – including refugees fleeing their jihadist tormentors. With so many conflicting opinions and misperceptions clouding public discourse, there has never been a greater need for a robust, interdisciplinary approach to understanding Islam and finding new ways to explore its many dimensions of influence around the world.

This was the impetus behind the launch, in the fall of 2016, of the Islam and Global Affairs Initiative at the Munk School. Led by Prof. Aisha Ahmad and Prof. Edward Schatz, the initiative is building a network of U of T-based scholars whose work examines complex, often urgent questions relating to the modern Muslim world and its neighbours. Through collaborative projects and provocative, issues-driven events, the Islam and Global Affairs Initiative encourages scholars from diverse theoretical and methodological traditions to connect with one another – and the general public – illuminating the often-contentious politics inside Muslim-majority countries, as well as those nations’ challenging relations with the wider world.
The Munk School brings together top scholars, accomplished professionals, passionate global citizens and some of the world’s most talented students. They form a unique community devoted to understanding and meeting the challenges of a fast-changing world. At the heart of that community are the School’s 15 teaching programs and specializations, where our approximately 640 undergraduate and 270 graduate students gain the hard and soft skills they need to excel in their fields, as well as an understanding of the broader economic, political and social issues at play in global affairs.

**WORLD-LEADING TEACHING**

The complexity of the world’s challenges is growing constantly. Emerging leaders are choosing the Master of Global Affairs (MGA) program because it equips graduates with a deep understanding of global issues, and the resiliency to navigate unprecedented change.

**NEW DUAL MASTER’S PROGRAM WITH SCIENCES PO**

This year, the Munk School of Global Affairs launched a dual degree program in partnership with the Sciences Po School of Public Affairs in Paris. Beginning in 2018, students will be able to pursue an intensive 24-month course of study to earn both an MGA from the Munk School and a Master in Public Policy (MPP) from Sciences Po.

Through complementary studies at these two leading institutions, students will gain access to richly varied European and North American perspectives on international issues. “This dual master’s degree is a first for the Munk School, and we’re thrilled to have an experienced partner in Sciences Po,” said Stephen Toope, director of the Munk School.

**Attracting Top Students**

This year the Munk School’s MGA program continued to grow its pool of outstanding applicants, both domestic and international, even as many professional schools saw declining enrolments. One standout international applicant was Linda De Gouveia (MGA ’18) of South Africa, the first MGA student to receive a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship. The Munk School was also proud to celebrate three graduating MGA students – Emile Lavergne, Bojana Radan and Michael Thomas – for winning 2017 Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Awards. Named for an esteemed U of T leader, this award recognizes students who have made outstanding extracurricular contributions to their college, faculty or school, or to the University as a whole.

**MGA Professional Internships**

This year, MGA students gained valuable experience at world-leading organizations and connected with key networks through professional internships in 18 countries. Over half of our students undertook their internships in global innovation cities like London, Bangkok and New York; a quarter were in diplomatic centres like Geneva, The Hague and Washington; and the final quarter were in cities located in developing regions, such as Buenos Aires, Cape Town and Kampala.

**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

**2016–2017 MGA INTERNSHIPS 2016–2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Applicants</th>
<th>DOMESTIC Applicants</th>
<th>INTERNATIONAL Applicants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MGA 2015-16</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>354 (79%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGA 2016-17</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>409 (74%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOY GROWTH</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **DOMESTIC APPLICANTS**
  - 450 (MGA 2015-16)
  - 550 (MGA 2016-17)
  - 22% YoY growth

- **INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**
  - 354 (MGA 2015-16) (21%)
  - 409 (MGA 2016-17) (26%)
  - 47% YoY growth

- **AVERAGE CGPA OF ADMITTED APPLICANTS**
  - 3.4

- **MGA 2016 + 2017 STUDENTS**
  - 157 students

- **34% HOLD A PASSPORT FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY**

- **62% SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH**

**SEGMENT BREAKDOWN**

- **DOMESTIC**
  - 96 applicants
  - 52 countries
  - 26% YoY growth

- **INTERNATIONAL**
  - 354 applicants
  - 47 countries
  - 47% YoY growth

**REGION BREAKDOWN (2016–2017)**

- **CENTRAL EURASIA**
  - 35 applicants
  - 28% of all MGA students

- **SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA**
  - 62 applicants
  - 35% of all MGA students

- **EAST & SOUTH ASIA**
  - 20 applicants
  - 19% of all MGA students

- **UNITED STATES**
  - 3 applicants
  - 2% of all MGA students

- **EUROPE**
  - 20 applicants
  - 13% of all MGA students

- **CANADA**
  - 1 applicant
  - 6% of all MGA students

- **MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA & CENTRAL EURASIA**
  - 14 applicants
  - 9% of all MGA students

- **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**
  - 1 applicant
  - 2% of all MGA students

- **THAILAND**
  - 1 applicant
  - 1% of all MGA students

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN (2016–2017)**

- **GOVERNMENT**
  - 28% of all MGA students

- **PRIVATE**
  - 25% of all MGA students

- **NGO**
  - 21% of all MGA students

- **MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATION**
  - 20% of all MGA students

- **ACADEMIC/THINK TANK**
  - 6% of all MGA students
A Different Kind of Incubator

This year saw the launch of the Munk One Incubator, a program that encourages students to develop entrepreneurial approaches to global challenges. While many institutions have developed incubator programs in recent years, they tend to focus on seeding and scaling viable enterprise ideas. Munk One is a foundation-year program that offers first-year students the opportunity to develop a strong grounding in global issues through specialized seminars and labs. Successful students can extend their learning with summer study abroad. This year, supported by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, five students, Kathryn Condon, Sonja Dobson, Abigail Lendvai, Adam Sheikh and Eilish Sibalis, travelled to the university for intensive field-based courses that reflect the specific dynamics within the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The appeal of Munk One’s innovative offerings is evident in the caliber of students the program attracts. This year, the University welcomed four Loran Scholars, recipients of a top entrance scholarship valued at $100,000, two of these exceptional incoming students, Sayeh Yousefi and Aidan Harold, chose Munk One. “[It] was one of the reasons I came to U of T,” Yousefi said.

In 2017 the program celebrated its fourth year, and so we saw the first cohort of Munk One students graduate. We welcomed these talented graduates to the program’s first alumni event in April, and we’re excited to see their next steps.

TRUDEAU CENTRE FOR PEACE, CONFLICT AND JUSTICE

In an increasingly interconnected world where understanding the roots of both conflict and peace is an urgent shared challenge, students in the Trudeau Centre’s Peace, Conflict and Justice (PCJ) undergraduate program are making a real difference.

Partnering for Peace

By delving into both classroom theory and the daily practice of a diverse range of organizations, students gain nuanced insights into the work of nurturing peace, justice and well-being. For several years, PCJ students have undertaken internships with organizations like GreenPAC, The Mosaic Institute and Médecins Sans Frontières. They also connect directly with people and internships with organizations like GreenPAC, The Mosaic Institute and Médecins Sans Frontières. They also connect directly with people and organizations on the front lines of peace-building; this year PCJ students visited the Canadian Forces Peace Support Training Centre in Kingston, Ont., for insight into how Canadian troops prepare for a peacekeeping mission.

FELLOWSHIP IN GLOBAL JOURNALISM

The Munk School’s Fellowship in Global Journalism (FGJ) is building a new kind of journalist. Unlike conventional journalism schools, the program attracts professionals working in diverse fields—fellows have included emergency room doctors, environmentalists, security specialists, entrepreneurs, neuroscientists and architects—and teaches them to practise outstanding journalism in their own disciplines and professional environments.

Getting the Story Out

Tackling everything from water security in Latin America to the spread of HIV in Russia, the Munk School’s fellows in global journalism have published over 120 news stories and weekly columns for leading global outlets in the past year, including Al Jazeera, The Globe and Mail, The Irish Times and The Atlantic.

New Partners

This year the FGJ’s slate of media partners was larger than ever, with outlets like New York-based Quartz and U.K.-based Foreign Policy. quartz and U.K.-based Foreign Policy. As the FGJ’s reputation for nuanced coverage on complex issues continues to grow, our expanding network of partnerships will bring our fellows’ uniquely situated reporting to new audiences.

Top of the Field

Dr. Seema Yasmin (FGJ ’14) was a finalist for the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in Breaking News Reporting for her work in the Dallas Morning News during the July 2016 targeted shootings of 14 police officers in Dallas, Tex. Her story profiled a Black doctor who worked to save the wounded police officers (five ultimately died), and it traced the doctor’s own complex relationship with his city’s police department.
CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

The Munk School’s research and teaching centres cultivate deep, nuanced thinking about countries and regions that constantly shape world events in new ways. These centres of regionally focused expertise are vital complements to our academic programs and labs, and vice versa. Working collaboratively across disciplines and geographies, our students and researchers illuminate emerging realities with relevant contextual and historical insights.

ASIAN INSTITUTE

Asia is home to more than half the world’s population and to some of the fastest-growing economies on earth. Understanding this vast and diverse continent is key to understanding the international landscape. The Asian Institute at the Munk School conducts cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and teaching on Asia and its global impact. Balancing regional specialization with pan-Asian and global approaches, the institute has over 100 affiliated scholars whose work spans a broad range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences.

"Event of the Year"

"Worlding South Asia Beyond Borders," a conference conceived and organized by the INDePTh (Interrogating Notions of Development and Progress) Student Group, was recognized by the University of Toronto Students’ Union as the 2017 Event of the Year. Students this year used "South Asia" as a regional frame for critical interdisciplinary discussions.

Global Careers Through Asia

This year once again, the Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union hosted an engaging conference that offered students from across the University guidance and inspiration on careers connected to Asia. The conference featured lectures on dynamics and opportunities across the region today, as well as networking opportunities and exposure to our own programs’ Asia-based alumni.

Leaders in Asia-Pacific and Contemporary Asian Studies

The leadership and engagement of Asian Institute students was highlighted again this year as:

- Two students graduating from the Dr. David Chu Program in Contemporary Asian Studies, Kourosh Houshmand and Arnold Yung, won the Gordon Creasy Student Leadership Award.
- Two undergraduate and 17 graduate students based in the Asian Institute and the Faculty of Arts & Science received Dr. David Chu Scholarships in Asia-Pacific Studies for research travel in the summer of 2016.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN, RUSSIAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES

The Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (CERES) at the Munk School is at the forefront of research, teaching and policy conversations on EU member countries, as well as countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The centre draws on the expertise of more than 15 departments as it promotes interdisciplinary work in the social sciences and humanities. Partnering with the European Commission, the German Academic Exchange Service, Toronto communities, and institutions of higher learning across Europe, Ukraine and Russia, CERES supports the exchange of ideas and scholars across the Atlantic.

Reflections on Europe Take on New Urgency

At a time when many Europeans are debating the value and meaning of EU membership, one remarkable opportunity CERES offered students was the course Expanding Europe. Each year, undergraduates accompany the instructor, Prof. Robert Austin, on a research visit to a prospective EU member country. This year students travelled to Georgia to meet representatives of government, civil society, industry and academia, hearing their perspectives on the EU and on Georgia’s experience at the intersection of East and West.

Supporting Academic Excellence

This year once again key funding bodies affirmed the value and relevance of CERES students’ research with substantial funding awards. Nine students received awards from Canada’s Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, which supports post-secondary-based research, training and knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities: Delilla Bilić; Anna Helfernan; Aishe Jamal; Siobhan Birckland; Emily Koller; David Lipsitz; Danijela Stajic; Daniel Graef and Elisbät Hart. Two other CERES students, Carley Campbell and Alysha Zawaduk, received Ontario Graduate Scholarships, merit-based scholarships that support Ontario’s best graduate students in all disciplines.

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES

As America undergoes a period of social and political upheaval, the Munk School’s Centre for the Study of the United States (CSUS) acts as a vital centre of U.S.-focused research and instruction. Bridging the social sciences and humanities, CSUS represents the largest group of U.S.-focused scholars in Canada. In its contributions to public conversations about America’s domestic affairs and role in the world, this vibrant centre of expertise offers important context and delivers rare depth of analysis on some of the most urgent debates of our time.

New Fellowships for Outstanding Young Scholars

This year the first Bissell-Heyd Fellows in American Studies were recognized for their exceptionally promising research. The Bissell-Heyd faculty fellows program promotes research on the U.S. by younger scholars at U of T. CSUS is pleased to recognize the inaugural fellows:

- Jooyoung Lee of the Department of Sociology researches gun violence, health disparities and urban poverty in the United States. In May 2017, Prof. Lee hosted a symposium on U.S. gun violence that attracted leading experts in the field; topics included gun violence and social media, and emergency and trauma care for gunshot victims.
- Sara Hughes of the Department of Political Science (UTM) studies urban politics and climate change in North America (for more on her work, please see “Cities at Risk,” page 30).
Our Founding Donors

In 2010, Peter and Melanie Munk established their bold vision to create a unique, world-leading academic enterprise through a landmark gift to the University of Toronto. In just seven years, the Munk School of Global Affairs has taken great strides to make their vision a reality.

Peter and Melanie Munk are two of Canada’s greatest philanthropists. Their generosity to U of T exceeds $51 million, including a landmark donation in 2010 of $35 million – the largest single gift from an individual in the University’s history at the time – to create the Munk School of Global Affairs.

Peter Munk is the founder and Chairman Emeritus of Barrick Gold Corporation. He was born in Hungary and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1952 (B.A.Sc., Electrical Engineering). Melanie Munk is his partner in many philanthropic initiatives, championing innovation in patient care at the University Health Network’s Peter Munk Cardiac Centre. Together, Peter and Melanie Munk have made significant contributions to support higher education, improve health care and advance public policy.

Mr. Munk has an Honorary Doctor of Laws (1995) from the University of Toronto. He and Melanie Munk were each awarded an Honorary Doctor of Sacred Letters from Trinity College, University of Toronto, in 2004. Peter Munk has received numerous awards, including being named as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1993. In 2008, he was promoted to Companion of the Order of Canada. The most prestigious level of the Order, this recognition is given to Canadians who have demonstrated the highest degree of merit to Canada and humanity, on the national or international scene. He has been inducted into The Canadian Mining Hall of Fame and The Canadian Business Hall of Fame, and he was the first Canadian to receive the Woodrow Wilson Award for Corporate Citizenship. Mr. Munk was the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, and in 2016 he was awarded the Commander’s Cross with Star of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary. Also in 2016, Peter and Melanie Munk received the Outstanding Philanthropists Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Toronto Chapter.

Melanie Munk is his partner in many philanthropic initiatives, championing innovation in patient care at the University Health Network’s Peter Munk Cardiac Centre. Together, Peter and Melanie Munk have made significant contributions to support higher education, improve health care and advance public policy.

Building a space for world-leading research, teaching and public engagement on the global issues that matter most is an ambitious long-term endeavour. The work of the Munk School of Global Affairs would not be possible without the support of visionary philanthropic collaborators. The gift of insight. This year Ipsos Corp. gave an important trove of data to the Munk School: the original data files from the Ipsos Global Advisor survey from 2008 onward. Valued at $8.2 million, this unique dataset covers public attitudes on current events, country reputations and other topics relevant to Munk School students and faculty, and to the U of T research community at large.

From the Tokyo summit to the Munk School. During a 2016 summit, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzō Abe told Prime Minister Justin Trudeau he hoped to foster mutual understanding between Japan and Canada through Canadian universities. This year a gift of US$5 million from the government of Japan will create a new Chair in Japanese Politics and Global Affairs and launch a Centre for the Study of Global Japan. In 2016 Mr. Munk was named the Most Important Mining Man in Canadian History by the Canadian Mining Journal, and he was recognized as one of 18 leaders (and the only Canadian) celebrated on the New York Stock Exchange’s inaugural Wall of Innovators. Peter and Melanie Munk live in Toronto.

“The world continues to become more complex and defined by forces beyond the nation state,” Meric Gertler, president of the University of Toronto, said recently. “Peter and Melanie Munk have given Canadians a powerful means to understand and navigate this fluid global reality. In fulfilling Peter and Melanie Munk’s original vision, the Munk School of Global Affairs has become one of the world’s leading contributors to the global conversation on the most important issues of our time.”
The Munk School brings together people from different backgrounds, research interests and areas of professional expertise – through classes, professional events and talks. I find this vibrancy and diversity very useful, in that I can channel a lot of this inspiration straight into the work I’m doing at the United Nations Development Programme."

— Murad Javed, MGA ’18
Recipient of the Paul Cadario Fellowship in Global Affairs

The Centre for the study of the United States is proud to honour the memory of an admired businessman, philanthropist and U of T alumnus, Ross Johnson, by devoting his recent bequest to the eponymous Ross Johnson Internship in American Studies. The fund will help attract top scholars to the University of Toronto.

The Nordic Council of Ministers, a new donor to the Munk School and the University of Toronto, has made a generous gift in support of a pilot Nordic Studies curriculum, at the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (CERES), which includes support for teaching, student exchange, travel and outreach activities.

Munk School students and faculty will benefit in many ways – scholarships, research visits, lectures and publications – from a five-year commitment of support from the Ministry of Education, Republic of China (Taiwan) for the Global Taiwan Studies Initiative. The initiative includes a Global Taiwan Studies Seminar course.

Sukanya Pillay is an international lawyer, a human rights journalist and the inaugural recipient of the Maytree Human Rights and Poverty Fellowship, supported by a gift from the Maytree Foundation. Maytree has made a five-year commitment to this unique fellowship, in the Fellowship in Global Journalism program, designed to recognize and support the work of a journalist covering poverty in a rights framework.

In addition to establishing the fellowship, the foundation also supported the activities of the Institute for Municipal Finance and Governance.

The Munk School, which is working to establish a permanent presence for studies in Czech history, culture, language, politics and society, found outstanding partners this year in Mildred and Ivo Syptak, who made a generous pledge in support of an endowment for The Syptak Family Fund for Czech Studies at CERES.

This year, family and friends of Adrian and Donald Macdonald substantially enhanced a scholarship to recognize the couple’s leadership and hard work. The annual Adrian and Donald Macdonald Intern Scholarship recognizes an undergraduate student in the Peace, Conflict and Justice program for academic merit and internship participation. Tea Cimini, a talented student from Italy and editor-in-chief of the European Studies Journal, was the inaugural recipient (2016).

DONORS

The Munk School of Global Affairs would like to express our sincerest gratitude to our generous donors for their support.

The following listing includes all philanthropic donations made to the Munk School of Global Affairs from May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017.

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Daniel and Elizabeth Damov
Yiling Ding
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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Munk School adopts innovative approaches not only to teaching and research but also to public dialogue. Every year, people in Canada and around the globe gain new insight into global affairs through our public engagement activity – whether from a media appearance by a top scholar, a podcast or livestreamed lecture on new research findings, or a social feed that contextualizes breaking news.

MUNK SCHOOL IN THE MEDIA

The Munk School has rapidly grown its reputation as a trusted source of insight on global issues – from complex regional dynamics to technology-driven threats to privacy and security. Journalists across Canada and around the world increasingly turn to Munk School–affiliated experts to help them bring depth and context to current events and ongoing challenges.

MUNK SCHOOL 2016–2017 MEDIA

11,916 MEDIA ARTICLES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

2.9 BILLION TOTAL CIRCULATION

501 904 2,605 4,677 10,691 10,714

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 12,000


GROWING THE CONVERSATION

The Munk School is doing more thinking in public – not only through expert media appearances and scholarly publications but by sharing more of the reflections, conversations and questions that emerge as we go about our work at this vibrant hub for global affairs. This year we launched three new offerings:

• A reboot of our bi-weekly e-newsletter News and Views, which gives subscribers a window into the life of the School, as well as timely access to Munk School–affiliated experts’ insights into world events.

• From Where I Sit, a new essay series by the Munk School director, offers monthly commentary on issues in global affairs – both political events dominating the media landscape and matters the director believes are being neglected in the mainstream press. From Where I Sit gives our engaged public audience a uniquely situated and uniquely Canadian take on events.

• Munk School Meets, a series of conversations with diverse members of the Munk School community – from students and faculty to fellows and donors – about their ideas, their influences and the change they’re trying to make in the world.

DISRUPTING THE GLOBAL ORDER

In November 2016, Prof. Janice Stein – an eminent political scientist and the Munk School’s founding director – launched a new podcast: Disrupting the Global Order. Episodes to date have featured interviews with authors of newly released books on international issues; guests have included Foreign Affairs editor Jonathan Tepperman on The Fix: How Nations Survive and Thrive in a World in Decline and Pulitzer Prize–winning investigative reporter David Cay Johnston on The Making of Donald Trump. In the months ahead, Prof. Stein plans to add panel discussions on global affairs to the podcast’s programming mix. Disrupting the Global Order is available on iTunes, Google Play and Stitcher.

SUBSCRIBERS TO MUNK SCHOOL’S NEWS AND VIEWS

6,790 35% YOY INCREASE

FACEBOOK LIKES ACROSS MUNK SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

123,000 2,345% YOY INCREASE

TWITTER FOLLOWERS ACROSS MUNK SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

52,871 69% YOY INCREASE

PEOPLE VISITED MUNK SCHOOL WEBSITES

2,524,100

HITS TO MUNK SCHOOL WEBSITES

6,122,630

445 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS HELD AT THE MUNK SCHOOL’S TWO LOCATIONS AND MUNK SCHOOL EVENTS HELD OFF-SITE

23,750 ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AT MUNK SCHOOL PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND OFF-SITE EVENTS

2,000 PEOPLE VISITED THE SCHOOL DURING 2017 DOORS OPEN TORONTO

Unless otherwise stated, all figures are for the time period from April 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017.
The Munk School is increasingly well known as not only an outstanding centre of research, teaching and public engagement, but as a dynamic environment where great minds can work together in new ways – exercising an entrepreneurial spirit and collaborating across traditional boundaries. This year once again we have been pleased to work with top academics and accomplished professionals from around the world.

**NAMED CHAIRS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MUNK SCHOOL**

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OUR ASPIRATION

TO CREATE A WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH, TEACHING AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SITE THAT BUILDS THE NEW FIELD OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS FROM CANADA.