

## Message from Jeff Sachs



### New Appointees at the Earth Institute

As part of an ongoing expansion of activities, we are pleased to announce two senior appointments—Professor John C. Mutter as Deputy Director of the Earth Institute and Professor Peter Schlosser as Chair of the Earth Institute's Academic Committee.

Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences John C. Mutter has been appointed Deputy Director of The Earth Institute, having served in leadership positions at the Earth Institute since December 2000. John has the academic and administrative expertise the Earth Institute needs at this enormously exciting juncture when the Institute will expand its activities to take on some of the biggest global challenges in sustainable development. During the next six months the Earth Institute will be formulating a 10-year strategy for this unique academic undertaking, and John will play a critical role in that process.

Working with myself and Mutter will be Peter Schlosser, Vinton Professor of Earth and Environmental Engineering, as Chair of the Earth Institute's Academic Committee. The Academic Committee's primary responsibility is the intellectual guidance of the Earth Institute. The Academic Committee will take the lead in formulating the 10-year strategic plan. The Academic Committee will expand its scope, membership, and responsibilities under Professor Schlosser's leadership.

Peter is a renowned researcher in Earth Sciences and a key leader of the Earth Institute. Under his direction, the Academic Committee will formulate new strategies for tackling the complex challenges of sustainable development. The expanded task of the Academic Committee is very large, and I can think of no one better equipped to lead it than Professor Schlosser.

Wishing you the best this holiday season,

Jeff Sachs

### Comments and Suggestions

## In the News

### Nature (12/12/02): Malaria Rise in Africa Parallels Warming Trends; New Analysis Challenges Results of Previous Research

Researchers from several institutions, including the Earth Institute, conclude that the increase in the incidence of malaria in East Africa parallels warming trends over the last several decades. The new findings challenge the results of a study, "Climate Change and Resurgence of Malaria in the East African Highlands," which was previously published in the journal *Nature*. [more](#)

### Science (11/29/02): Seismotectonics of Mid-Ocean Ridge Propagation in Hess Deep

The site of extensive volcanic activity and sea-floor spreading, the Galapagos Rise in the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean has yielded groundbreaking research results for the field of plate tectonics. Jacqueline Floyd and her colleagues, all from Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, are introducing a new model for the process of mid-ocean ridge propagation (lengthening), which is responsible for seafloor spreading and the consequent formation of ocean basins. [more](#)

## On the Web



### Map Tool Launched

Created by EI webmaster Ravi Rajakumar, the new map tool shows ongoing EI research projects all over the world, and with just one click ([go to map tool](#)). Researchers who want to add their projects to this amazing tool can enter them into the database using this online form:

[http://webcenter.ideo.columbia.edu:81/CEI\\_DA.nsf/CEIProject](http://webcenter.ideo.columbia.edu:81/CEI_DA.nsf/CEIProject)

### Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Works with New York State to Establish a Real-Time Monitoring System for the Hudson River

This November, Governor Pataki announced plans to establish a real-time observation and monitoring system for the Hudson River, which will help to protect this historic waterway. The nearly \$1 million monitoring

## Climate Change and Public Policy in 2002

EI's Dr. Lewis Gilbert looks back at climate research and the response and policies of the United States over the past year, and shows how it will influence policies in the future. [go to article](#)



## Fellows Program Deadline Approaching

The Fellows Program has significantly expanded, and the deadline for applications is January 17. Designed to provide young innovative scholars with the opportunity to build a foundation in one of the core disciplines represented within the Earth Institute, the program offers a unique intellectual surrounding that fosters cross-disciplinary interaction, research and education. Specifically, candidates are sought who have demonstrated intellectual excellence and commitment and who desire a research career, within or across disciplines, that addresses sustainable development. Senior scientists interested in redirecting their career paths may also apply to the Program. [more](#)

## New EI Brochure



The new Earth Institute brochure is gorgeous, and ready to be distributed. If you'd like to have some handy, or need a quantity for an event, send us an email at [ceieditor@ideo.columbia.edu](mailto:ceieditor@ideo.columbia.edu).

## Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Prepares Students for the United States Academic Decathlon

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project, Hudson Riverscope, is the first incubator research project of the Rivers and Estuaries Center on the Hudson. [more](#)

On December 17, 2002, nearly 200 high school students from across New Jersey visited the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory to learn about the world's oceans from the world's experts. This was in preparation for the rigorous testing they will undergo in order to select the team to represent the state of New Jersey in the United States Academic Decathlon (USAD). [more](#)

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