



INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

## **Assemblée générale hybride de l'Association des anciens étudiants de l'Institut**

### **Procès-verbal de la séance du 16 septembre 2023 à 14h Auditorium Ivan Pictet/en ligne – Maison de la paix**

|                      |                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Présidence</b>    | Mme N. Africa                                                                                                    |
| <b>Présent.e.s</b>   | Mmes J. Danzeisen, J. Byron, J. Tossoukpe, MM. T. Fang, M. Samandari, M. Stephensen, M. Tourinho, W. Abdelnasser |
| <b>Excusés</b>       | Mme B. Burrows, Mme S. Umathevan, M. Jason Shellaby                                                              |
| <b>Procès-verbal</b> | Mme C. Leu-Bonvin                                                                                                |

#### **Mots de bienvenue de la présidente**

Natalie Africa salue l'assemblée et dit sa joie d'être à nouveau à Genève pour la réunion. Elle demande l'approbation du PV.

#### **Approbation du projet de procès-verbal de l'AG 2022.**

Adoption du procès-verbal à l'unanimité.

Le programme de la journée est rappelé. Les réunions internationales des Alumnae-i à Genève sont l'occasion de reconnaître et célébrer les étudiant.e.s et les alumnae-i de l'Institut.

14:00 Alumnae-i Association General Assembly (AAID)

#### **UNVEILING OF THE LATEST INSPIRING ALUMNAE-I PORTRAITS**

15:30 - 16:45 **Festivities Begin**

Opening and closing act by Ophélie Lou and Brice Arside from **Kaland Dance Company**.

#### **La Danse des Colibris**

Dance, an art form perfectly suited to new narratives raising awareness of climate change and the need to take action.

In this performance, two dancers take us on a journey, between gentleness and chaos, to the heart of climate change. The human body is delicately intertwined with nature, and it is

all a matter of subtle balances. A small change here leads to a cascade of changes there. The natural harmony between nature and humanity is in jeopardy.

MARIE-LAURE SALLES, Director of the Institute

Panel discussion: “**From Environment to Sustainability - Time to rethink everything?**” with Alumnae-i featured in the Inspiring Stories Hall

LAURE WARIDEL, LAURENCE BOISSON DE CHAZOURNES, JACQUES GRINEVALD

16:45 - 18:00 **Look Forward, Give Back**

Unveiling of the latest inspiring alumnae-i portraits  
Icebreaker and exchanges between students and alumnae-i  
Music and drinks with Loïc Vallaëys, **Pianist**, and Jocelyn Erard, **Saxophonist**

18:45 Appetiser on the Beau-Rivage Hotel's Terrace

19:45 Gala Dinner at Beau-Rivage Hotel, Alumnae-i Awards Ceremony, Tombola Raffle

22:30 Dance Party and Cash Bar. Possibility for students to join this part of the evening at no cost **with their Institute badges**

01:00 End of the Event

## Highlights 2022-23

- Regular virtual meetings every 2 months – Committee and Alumni Office
- Meetings and communication with Director of the Institute
- 10<sup>th</sup> year of Alumni Reunion
- 8<sup>th</sup> year of Alumni Awards – 9 this year!
- 7<sup>th</sup> year of annual Chapter Heads and Ambassadors Call - 3 regional calls took place to accommodate the growing number of chapters/ambassadors, now groups, in our network
- 2<sup>nd</sup> “Alumni Month” in March 2023 (3 events/2 with students initiatives: 193 students registered, 122 participated (63%))
- Prizes and scholarships: Best thesis in Development Economics; US Scholarship; Alumni community (10<sup>th</sup> year)
- Inspire Students: monthly thematic roundtables, aimed at connecting current students and alumni of the Institute around shared interests and to share experiences, best practices for navigating job search and entering the workforce. (2 organised (+ 3 Alumni Month) for 60 registered, 41 participated (68,3%), 161 views of videos)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Alumni Newsletter (every two months - #9 issues)

- Creation of 16 more portraits of inspiring alumnae-i in the perspective of 100th Anniversary of the Institute + Rising Stars
- Statistics by cohorts after 1 year, 5 years and 10 years to measure evolution
- Launch of the First-ever Platform for the Alumnae-i Community (15.6)

## Reconnaissance des ancien.ne.s

\*En 2016, l'Association a créé les Alumni Awards dans quatre catégories : Alumnus/Alumna of the Year, Young Alumnus/Alumna, Commitment to the Institute and Alumni Association et Lifetime Professional Achievement. En 2021, quatre nouveaux Awards ont été lancés, en lien avec les initiatives stratégiques lancées par Marie-Laure Salles, directrice de l'Institut depuis le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2020, à savoir Art & Culture, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Peace, Sustainability.

Dans la perspective du 100<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de l'Institut, une deuxième série de 16 portraits d'alumnae-i a été dévoilée avec les portraits de Catarina de Albuquerque, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, Saul Friedlander, Jacques Grinevald, Philipp Hildebrand, Nobuyuki Idei, María Teresa Infante Caffi, Michel Kafando, Maurice Kamga, Vera Michalski, Jacques Piccard, Kazem Radjavi, Nilly Sikorsky, Nina Vajić, Laure Waridel

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, Jacques Grinevald, Nobuyuki Idei, María Teresa Infante Caffi, Michel Kafando, Maurice Kamga, Nilly Sikorsky, et Laure Waridel reçoivent un **Lifetime Achievement Award** pour l'ensemble de leur carrière.

Une première série de portraits d'Outstanding Young Alumnae-i est proposée avec les portraits de Sandrine Cina, Antonio Hodgers, Baher et Bazem Higazy, Felix Staehli, Marcos Dourinho et Jacqueline Kossiwa.

## Engagement des anciens

La communauté compte désormais près de 22'000 membres, 4'800 d'entre eux sont connectés sur LinkedIn. Nous sommes représentés sur la carte du monde grâce à 84 groupes (dont 8 « programmes d'études ») créés sur la plateforme alumni et ne cessons de nous étendre. Les class leaders sont désormais 116.

## Bourses et prix

The **Alumni Community Scholarship** was established in 2013 to fund the academic and living expenses of a student in financial need for a year. Funds for the scholarship are collected through direct donations on the Alumni Scholarship webpage and also during a raffle and silent auction held at the annual Alumni Reunion, which reunites alumni from around the world each year. This year, the scholarship goes to

**Gloria Efua Nkrumah** completed her BA in Sociology at the University of Cape Coast (Ghana). She then worked as a Teaching and Research Assistant in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and served as a Peer Facilitator for the Centre for Gender

Research, Advocacy and Documentation at the same institution. She is now pursuing a master's degree in Anthropology and Sociology at the Institute, with her thesis focusing on help-seeking behaviours of victims of gendered violence. Through her work, she aims to improve access to healthcare, education and social services for marginalised communities, particularly empowering young girls and providing support systems for victims of gendered violence. Ultimately, Gloria hopes to run for president someday.

*“Thanks to the scholarship awarded to me by the Alumnae-i community, I am now in Geneva, where I can envision a society with easy access to quality health care and free of gendered violence. I eagerly look forward to the day when I can also help other students fulfil their dreams.”*

The 19th AAID prize (CHF2,000) for the best doctoral thesis is awarded this year to

**Rohit Ticku**, Research Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute for his thesis in development economics entitled ***Empirical Essays on Conflict and Corruption*** co-directed by Nicolas Berman et Lore Vandewalle.

*Abstract: Social conflict and corruption are arguably the two most significant challenges to economic development. Rohit Ticku’s doctoral research studies the processes leading to these detrimental outcomes to derive fresh insights for contemporary policy. The dissertation comprises of four papers that combine innovative data collection and causal inference strategies to study problems of conflict and corruption:*

- *Economic Shocks and Religious Conflict in Medieval India*
- *Riot Rewards? Religious Conflict and Electoral Outcomes*
- *Votes for Sale*
- *Reducing Tariff Evasion: the Role of Trade Facilitation*

### **Présentation des priorités pour 2022-2023**

Les axes d’efforts pour l’année à venir demeurent, les moyens évoluent :

#### **Nurture collegiality among the alumni community**

- Continue to advise on and support **annual alumni reunion** and related activities, including virtual events
- Support **chapter/ group development** (sharing experiences, annual chapter call, regular communications, webinars)
- Leverage potential of the **Geneva alumni group/ chapter**
- Continue **Alumni Awards**
- Activate 10% of the network on the **Alumni Portal**

#### **Promote solidarity with the Institute and its reputation**

- Support **Director on implementing the strategy** for the Institute and **celebration of the 100 years** of the Institute
- Promote **professor-alumni connections**, including through virtual webinars
- Support **recruitment of students**

- Encourage further **alumni scholarships**

## **Support and network with students**

- Facilitate **alumni-student networking** during the alumni reunion
- Continue to explore support for a **mentoring programme**

## **Election of a Committee member and moves**

Après deux mandats consécutifs et une présidence assumée, Natalie Africa cède les rennes à Jasmin Danzeisen à la tête de l'Association. Jason Shellaby quitte également le comité après deux mandats et Walid Abdelnasser après un mandat.

Nous les remercions sincèrement pour leur travail, leur soutien, leur énergie, leurs réflexions, leur bonne humeur et leur sourire tout au long de ces respectivement 8 et 4 années.

En remplacement, quatre nouveaux membres sont présentés et élus au Comité de l'AAID :

**Suba Umathevan** was born in Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka, in 1982. At the age of two, she fled the war-torn country with her family and arrived in Bern. She holds a Master's degree in International Affairs with a specialization in International Law from the Institute, and an Honours degree in International Studies and Modern Languages from the University of Ottawa. She began her international career as a research fellow at UNESCO-International Bureau of Education, where she assessed mother tongue and bilingual education programmes in Sub-Saharan African countries. Suba has spent nearly a decade in Nonprofit management and has dedicated her work to women's and children's rights. Suba was Programme Executive at Soroptimist International of Europe, where she helped develop Programme and Advocacy of the organization. She led development programmes in a number of countries in Africa, Asia and South America. Her thematic expertise is in women's economic empowerment, education in emergencies, gender-based violence, female genital mutilation/cutting, and early marriage.

Suba spent a few years designing and leading learning programmes for people and strategy development with executives across the globe, identifying global megatrends and preparing leaders to transform.

Suba was the CEO of Plan International Switzerland, an organization that advances children's rights and equality for girls. Before, she joined Plan International Switzerland as the Head of Major Partnerships, developing a clear fundraising strategy and building multifaceted foundation, corporate and institutional partnerships. Plan International Switzerland focuses on delivering high-impact programs to create the conditions for adolescent girls and young adults to be educated, safe and economically empowered in over 75 countries across the world.

Today, Suba is the CEO of DROSOS FOUNDATION. The Foundation supports projects aimed at promoting life skills of disadvantaged children and young people. With offices in Berlin, Cairo, Casablanca, Ramallah, and Zurich, DROSOS FOUNDATION co-creates projects to promote economic independence and creative skills of young people in the MENA region, Switzerland and Germany.

Suba Umathevan is a member of the Assembly of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

**Mahmud Samandari** holds a PhD in International Law from the Institute. He co-founded and presided over the first national alumni chapter of the Institute, in Quito, Ecuador. He is the Secretary General of the Global Governance Forum, as well as founder and Secretary General of ebbf (ethical business building the future). He oversees the international expansion of soul.com in several continents. A serial entrepreneur, he was a pioneer in establishing the first satellite-based interactive distance-learning platform in Latin America in the 90's, built joint ventures, set up PPP projects, and several startups in the fields of IT, telecommunications, public transportation, mobile applications, and education both in Europe and Latin America.

He is a coach and as such collaborated with the startup program of the Swiss government's Commission for Technology and Innovation. A team-builder and alliance-maker he has set up several partnerships with corporations, universities, international organizations and government entities. A firm believer in the nobility of human beings, his passion is to help people and organizations realize their vast and untapped potential. Working with youth is of particular interest to him. For years, he was a mentor and advisor to AIESEC in different countries. As a world citizen, he speaks 5 + languages and has travelled extensively around the world, has lived in 3 continents and has had the pleasure of being exposed to multiple cultures and realities, which he considers a privilege and the best school for life. Married, he has three children and two granddaughters.

**Jacqueline Kossiwa Tossoukpe** is a global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) advisor at UBS. She started her career in 2009 as the first black female police officer in Zurich. This experience sparked her drive to specialize in diversity and inclusion policy development and management. During her studies at IHEID, she worked for the Geneva Center of Security Sector Policy (DCAF) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to support policy implementation and train-the-trainer initiatives to advance gender diversity in the police, military, and peacekeeping operations in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. She followed on to work for the Swiss Embassy in South Africa and the Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to UNESCO as a diplomatic attaché and scientific officer. There she contributed to strengthening Switzerland's foreign policy as well as gender equality strategy.

Jacqueline is also the Founder and former CEO of the diversity-consulting firm Kesecurix, which she started as a blog during her studies in Geneva. From 2017 until 2021 she advised local and international companies on sustainable policies to advance their diversity and inclusion strategy. In her current role at UBS, she provides strategic DE&I advisory for the business functions to execute UBS Global DE&I Strategy. She is also the lead for Switzerland's Race and Ethnicity Inclusion initiatives and is the liaison partner with external diversity business stakeholders.

She was born in Ghana and migrated with her single mother to Zurich in 1990. She holds a master's degree in International Affairs from the Institute and a bachelor's degree in International Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). In her free time, she enjoys travelling, is a fitness enthusiast, and likes reading and watching documentaries.

**Matthew Stephenson** is Head, Investment Policy and Practice, at the World Economic Forum, where he manages the Global Investment Policy and Practice initiative, including projects in five countries and plans to launch an alliance to Enable Action on Sustainable Investment (EASI). He has developed the concept of Digital FDI and SusTech. Previously he worked at the International Finance Corporation on advisory services for investment policy, where he led the work stream on outward FDI (OFDI), and co-authored the World Bank Group's first publication on OFDI. He has also worked at the OECD on Africa and on investment and was a diplomat with the US Department of State, where he led the economic team on Afghanistan and managed economic programmes in the Middle East.

He is a member of the T20 Task Force on Trade, Investment & Growth and T20 Task Force on Digital Transformation, providing policy proposals to the G20. He is also co-chair of the Investment Facilitation Commentary Group, which advises the WTO, represents the World Economic Forum at APEC's Investment Expert Group, and is part of the U.S. Speaker Program through which the United States sends experts to speak around the world. Matthew has a PhD from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, a master from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a bachelor from the University of Oxford.

Nous leur souhaitons la bienvenue à bord et nous réjouissons de travailler ensemble à l'avenir de la Communauté des alumnae-I de l'Institut!

La nouvelle présidente ouvre le débat avec la salle. Celui-ci est bien animé et dure plus d'une demi-heure. La séance est levée à 14h50.

clb/28.09.2023