



India Legislators Engagement Program

University of Chicago · May 8-12, 2022



In partnership with



COVID POLICY

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Please note that this is a mask-optional convening. We strongly encourage unvaccinated individuals and those preferring to wear masks to do so.

Respected Member of Parliament,

Welcome to the University of Chicago! We are thrilled that you accepted our invitation to join us at the University for a week of engaging presentations, discussions, and special events. The visit is organized by the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) in partnership with the Development Innovation Lab (DIL) and the Becker Friedman Institute for Economics (BFI) at the University of Chicago.

EPIC is an interdisciplinary research center with scholars from across the University, including the College, the Harris School of Public Policy, the Booth School of Business, and the University of Chicago Law School. Our research addresses the most important challenge the world faces: How to provide sufficient, affordable energy to power human development while minimizing the effects of climate change and the damaging impacts of pollution.

While a significant portion of this year's agenda will focus on energy and environmental topics, our partnership with DIL and BFI allows us to connect you with leading researchers on a variety of timely and important issues. We have curated sessions keeping in mind varied interests and the diversity of topics an Indian policymaker may confront in their time as a lawmaker. The topics we will explore range from pollution and climate change to the pandemic, economic development, conflict, health science, and cryptocurrency. With the broad aim of facilitating capacity building and strengthening future collaboration, we expect that numerous engagements planned under this program will help us understand your priorities better, and how the University of Chicago can assist with the important work undertaken by you and your team in India.

We thank you for entrusting EPIC with your valuable time, and we hope that you find the discussions over the next week engaging and intellectually stimulating.

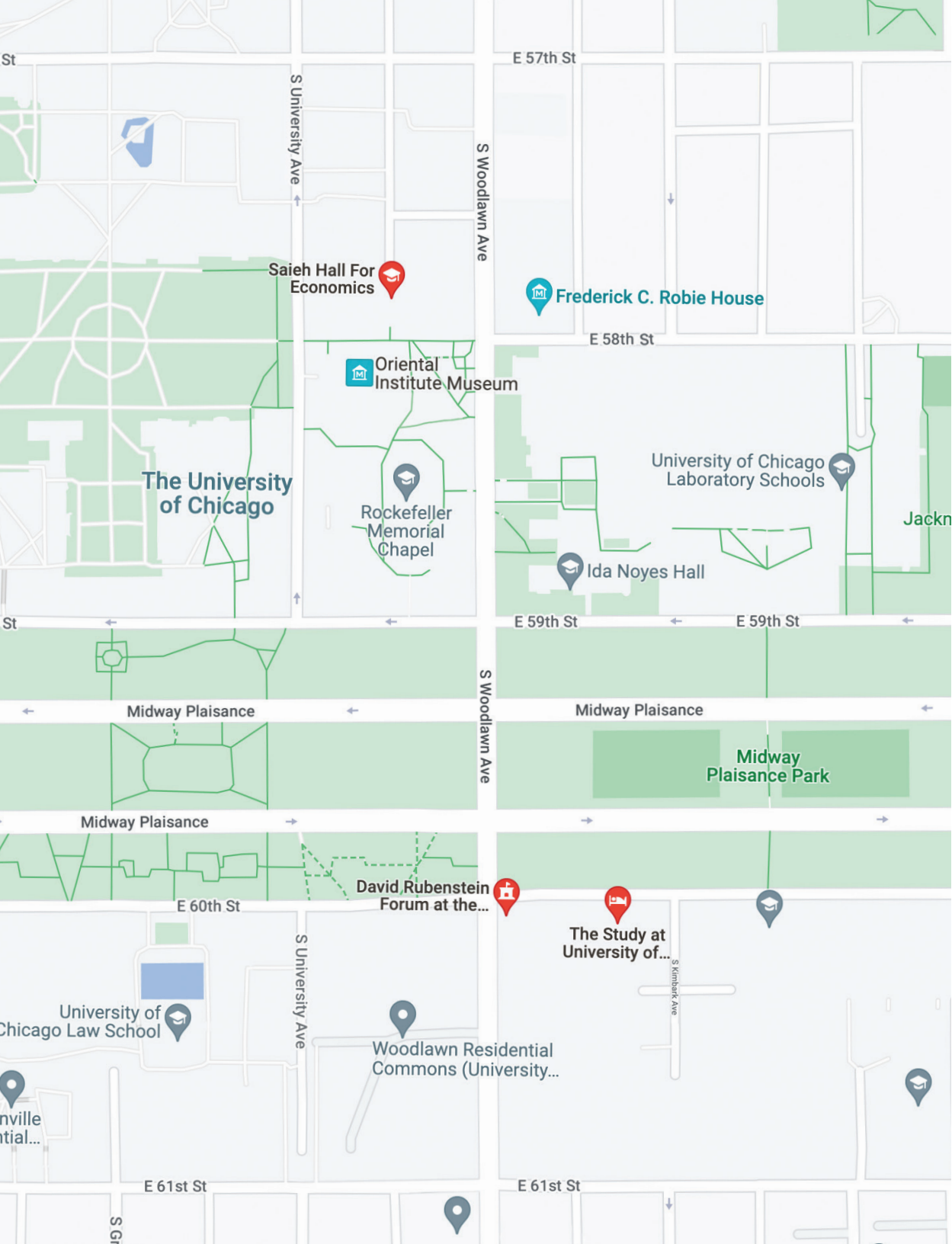
Warm Regards,



Samuel Patrick Ori
Executive Director
Energy Policy Institute at the
University of Chicago (EPIC) &
Becker Friedman Institute (BFI)



Sidhartha Vermani
Executive Director
Energy Policy Institute at the
University of Chicago (EPIC India)



CONTACTS

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MEETING & EVENT LOCATIONS



David Rubenstein Forum
 University of Chicago
 1201 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637
 WiFi Network: [uchicago-guest](#)
 Username: [MayDRF](#)
 Password: [May2022](#)



Saieh Hall for Economics
 University of Chicago
 5757 S. University Ave., Chicago, IL 60637
 WiFi Network: [uchicago-guest](#)
 Username: [epic@uchicago.edu](#)
 Password: [eqyzf](#)

HOTEL



The Study at University of Chicago
 1227 E. 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637
 WiFi Network: [The Study at University of Chicago](#)
 Automatically connected once enabled; no username or password needed.

Agenda

SUN, MAY 8 The Study Hotel

4:00pm **Welcome Briefing**
Sidhartha Vermani is Executive Director of EPIC-India. He will provide an overview of the program and logistical briefing.
Sam Ori is the Executive Director of the Becker Friedman Institute for Economics (BFI) and the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC). He will provide an overview of BFI and EPIC, the mission and work of each institute, and their portfolios in India.

MON, MAY 9 Rubenstein Forum

9:30am **Presentation and Discussion: India's Climate Challenge**
Amir Jina, Assistant Professor, Harris School of Public Policy
Professor Jina will discuss the Climate Impact Lab, a groundbreaking collaboration between economists, climate scientists, data engineers, and risk analysts that are building the world's most comprehensive body of research quantifying the impacts of climate change, sector-by-sector and community-by-community, around the world. Professor Jina will discuss the Lab's insights on India, with a particular focus on highly-localized estimates of climate damages across the country. In this context, he will also discuss key policy considerations.

10:30am **Break**
Refreshments will be available.

11:00am **Presentation and Discussion: Geospatial IoT: Sensor Networks for Water, Agriculture and Ecology**
Supratik Guha, Professor and Senior Advisor to Argonne Physical Sciences and Engineering
Recent progress in electronics, wireless systems, and cloud curation have enabled powerful sensor networks that be useful for measuring environmental and other parameters for land and water. Professor Guha will describe the successful development of two such robust pilot networks over the past five years: one for high resolution mapping of water quality across rivers in India (Ganga, Godavari, Yamuna); and the other for terrestrial ecology and agriculture in the Midwestern part of the U.S. She will describe how these powerful class of tools could be useful for regulatory and environmental management for the future.

12:00pm **Lunch and Walking Art Tour**

1:30pm **Briefing: Air Quality Life Index (AQLI)**
Christa Hasenkopf, Director, Air Quality Life Index
The Air Quality Life Index, or AQLI, is an award-winning initiative that establishes air pollution as the single greatest threat to human health globally, with its effect on life expectancy exceeding that of devastating communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, as well as behavioral killers like cigarette smoking. The AQLI's findings are based on frontier research that for the first time quantifies the causal relationship between human exposure to air pollution and life expectancy.

Combining this analysis with highly localized pollution measurements yields unprecedented insight into the true cost of air pollution in communities around the world. In addition to providing critical information to the public, the AQLI is intended to serve as a vital tool for policymakers who can use the interactive platform to determine the impacts of air pollution policies on perhaps the most important measure that exists: life expectancy.

2:15pm **Presentation and Discussion: A Growth-Friendly Approach to Reducing India's Pollution**
Anant Sudarshan, Executive Director, South Asia, EPIC
India faces a difficult environmental challenge. On the one hand, its levels of air pollution are among the highest recorded in human history, resulting in shorter lifespans, poor health, and lower worker productivity. At the same time, fast economic growth is essential to alleviate poverty in India. Ideally, environmental regulation would be consistent with both these objectives. Instead, it may be achieving neither—pollution levels are high and rising, while industry complains that environmental regulation is inflexible, expensive, and anti-growth.

Sudarshan will discuss a 10-year collaboration between the University of Chicago and the MoEFCC and Government of Gujarat. The goal was to design and test modern “market-based regulation” as an alternative to the status quo of “command and control” methods. The project is as an example of a fruitful research policy partnership that has led to India's first cap-and-trade market in Surat. The market cut factory emissions by about 24 percent all without raising costs. It also provided clean firms a pathway to higher profits through permit sales. The Surat emissions trading scheme is now expanding across Gujarat. The partnership shows the value of carefully designing and testing ambitious new policy ideas.

3:15pm **Virtual Meeting: USAID**

3:30pm **Book Talk: Why We Fight: The Roots of War and the Paths to Peace**
Chris Blattman, Ramalee E. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies, Harris School of Public Policy
Most people think war is easy and peace is hard. In a new book, Why We Fight, Professor Chris Blattman argues that, in fact, war is hard and finding peace is easier than you think. From warring states to street gangs, violence is not the norm, and there are five reasons why conflict wins over compromise.

5:00pm **Dinner at Le Petite Folie**
Hosted by the Development Innovation Lab
Shuttle pick-up outside The Study at 5:00 pm. Transfer to Le Petite Folie Restaurant (1504 E. 55th Street, Hyde Park). Return transfer back to The Study after dinner.

TUES, MAY 10 Rubenstein Forum

7:30am **Breakfast**

9:00am **Discussion: Sanskrit Studies and the Challenges of the Past and Future**
Gary Tubb, Anupama and Guru Ramakrishnan Professor, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations
Sanskrit studies, which have been a part of the intellectual life of the University of Chicago since its founding, face a changing array of challenges and opportunities involving both the continuing importance of the great accomplishments of the past recorded in Sanskrit sources, as well as increasing difficulties and evolving new approaches in the study and uses of the language in the future. Several forms of cooperation between scholars in the University and persons and institutions in India hold the promise of fostering important progress in the tasks of preserving the knowledge produced in the past and understanding it in ways that can lead to the development of further knowledge going forward.

10:00am **Break**
Refreshments will be available.

10:30am **Presentation & Discussion: Sustainable Mining and Separation**
Chong Liu, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Molecular Engineering
The presentation will start with a brief overview of PME and the current research areas, followed by the Liu group's recent research on sustainable resource mining and separation. The demand for lithium has grown tremendously over the past decades due to the development of Li-ion batteries for electric vehicles, portable electronics, and stationary energy storage. The lithium supply issue mainly lies in the inability of current mining methods to access lithium sources of dilute concentrations and complex chemistry. A new platform electrochemical method will be introduced.

11:30am **Break**
Refreshments will be available.

12:00pm **Presentation and Discussion: Early Detection of Brain Disease**
Yamuna Krishnan, Professor, Department of Chemistry
By the year 2050, everyone in this room will either be suffering from neurodegenerative disease like Alzheimer's or Parkinson's Disease, or be taking care of someone with it. Dementias are forecast to be our biggest unsolved healthcare problem. While in Bangalore, India, Professor Krishnan invented a DNA-based nanotechnology that could differentiate between healthy and diseased cells taken directly from patients. She moved to UChicago in 2014 to commercialize this technology and deploy it to detect brain diseases like Alzheimer's disease about 20 years before the patient starts manifesting the symptoms. They are on the verge of getting an FDA-breakthrough device approved and believe it will go a long way in designing treatments to prevent the brain from degenerating.

1:00pm **Lunch**

2:00pm **Presentation and Discussion: Prevention, Screening, and Earlier Diagnosis of Oral Cancer in India**
Nishant Agrawal, Professor of Surgery; Section Chief, Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology
Oral cavity cancer impacts a significant portion of the Indian population, with cases in India making up a third of all oral cancer cases globally. The high incidence is mostly due to a high prevalence of tobacco use. One central problem is that there are no current screening techniques outside of physical examination and invasive biopsies. As a result, more than half of oral cancer cases in India are detected at advanced stages, cutting the survival rate to 25-40 percent and leading to more than 5 people in India dying every hour from oral cancer. Professor Nishant Agrawal will discuss a painless, at-home saliva-based screening process that can catch cancer early with a 93 percent accuracy.

3:00pm **Break**
Refreshments will be available.

3:30pm **Discussion: The Causes of the Ukraine Crisis**
John Mearsheimer, R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Political Science
It is widely believed in the West that Russia—mainly Vladimir Putin—is responsible for the crisis over Ukraine. He is said to have imperial ambitions. Specifically, he is said to be bent on creating a greater Russia or re-creating the Soviet Union. Ukraine, which he plans to absorb into Russia, is just his first target. The available evidence, however, does not support this line of argument. Instead, it is clear from the evidence that the west—especially the United States—is principally responsible for precipitating this crisis. The taproot of the trouble is the west's decision to try to make Ukraine a western bulwark of Russia's border by 1) bringing it into NATO, 2) bringing it into the EU, and 3) turning it into a pro-American liberal Democracy. Russia viewed this policy as an existential threat and said it would destroy Ukraine before it would let it join NATO and become part of the west.

4:30pm **Meeting: Climate Policy in the Developing World**
Lisa Friedman, Reporter, *The New York Times*;
EPIC Journalism Fellow, 2021-2022
Lisa Friedman is a climate policy reporter with *The New York Times* who has covered several international climate conferences. This meeting will provide an opportunity for Friedman and all MPs to talk about climate policy, with the MPs able to share their local view.

5:30pm **Public Discussion: Can the World Phase Out Fossil Fuels?**
A Look at Climate Policy in the Developing World
Priyanka Chaturvedi, Honorable Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Maharashtra, India); Deputy Leader, Shiv Sena
Jonathan Pershing, Program Director of Environment, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; former U.S. Deputy Climate Envoy
Michael Greenstone, Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics, the College & the Harris School; Director, EPIC; Director, BFI
Moderated by Lisa Friedman, Reporter, *The New York Times*;
EPIC Journalism Fellow, 2021-2022
Developing countries represent a large source of potential future carbon emissions as they seek to rapidly industrialize their economies. Yet, if the world is to hold future warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, these countries must identify a cleaner model of growth that relies on low- or zero-carbon fuels instead of fossil energy. This tension between maintaining access to inexpensive energy and addressing climate change was on full display last fall when countries met at the COP26 international climate talks in Glasgow, Scotland. India, already the world's third-biggest emitter, committed that half of its energy come from clean sources by 2030. At the same time, the country pushed for a key change to the final agreement: weakening language from a "phase out" of coal to a "phase down." India is part of a cohort of countries seeking aid from richer nations to help them make the transition away from fossil fuels.

How can developing countries balance their need for reliable energy with goals to transition away from fossil fuels? Are there signs of progress? And, what responsibility do developed nations bear for helping developing countries confront climate change?

7:15pm **Private Dinner at Mesler**
Shuttle pick-up outside Rubenstein at 6:45pm. Transfer to Mesler Restaurant (1401 E 53rd St.). Return transfer back to The Study at 9:00pm.

WED, MAY 11 **Rubenstein Forum**

7:30am **Breakfast**

9:00am **Presentation and Discussion: Innovation, Experimentation and Development**
Michael Kremer, University Professor in the Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics
Commercial incentives for innovation often do not align with social needs. Moreover, investment in innovation is largely driven by needs in high-income countries. In this talk, Michael Kremer will discuss three ways to spur innovation: 1) the experimental method, 2) tiered, evidence-based social innovation funds and 3) advanced market commitments. He will also share his practical experience applying these in partnership with governments, firms and nonprofits to positively impact the lives of hundreds of millions of people around the world. Finally, he will detail how his new Development Innovation Lab at UChicago is now actively engaging with several governments and major philanthropists to adapt these approaches to their respective contexts.

10:00am **Presentation and Discussion: Incentivizing Innovation for Climate Change**
Rachel Glennerster, Associate Professor of Economics
Tackling climate change will require substantial innovation, but the traditional market incentives that motivate innovation are low. In particular, many of the benefits of innovations that help reduce climate change go to the general population of the world rather than to the individuals who buy the technology. This has led to less innovation than is needed to make sufficiently rapid progress against climate change. Rachel Glennerster will discuss ways to incentivize innovation to address climate change, including the idea of using governments purchasing power to create an Advance Market Commitment for technologies that fulfill important innovation gaps.

11:00am **Presentation & Discussion: The Global Energy Challenge in India**
Michael Greenstone, Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics; Director, EPIC; Director, Becker Friedman Institute
This lecture will provide an overview of the Global Energy Challenge: the need to balance access to reliable affordable energy with policies that can effectively limit emissions of pollutants that harm human health and carbon emissions that are causing climate change. Greenstone will discuss the Global Energy Challenge in the specific context of India, outlining the challenges and opportunities the country faces over the coming decades.

12:30pm **Lunch Event: Perspectives from India**
Hosted by EPIC and the South Asian Students Policy Association (SASPA)
India—the second-most populous country and the most populous democracy in the world—has become a major, growing economy. At the same time, it faces the significant challenge of protecting the environment and limiting climate change while prioritizing this fast-paced development.

Please join the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) and the South Asian Students Policy Association (SASPA) for a roundtable discussion with several Indian Members of Parliament on the challenges and opportunities India holds and their place in the global economy moving forward. The event is part of EPIC's annual Legislators Program that invites Indian Members of Parliament to interact with University of Chicago faculty and experts on wide-ranging policy areas.

- 2:00pm** **Discussion: Blockchain in Finance**
Bala Srinivasan, Global Head of Business Development, DRW
Blockchain technologies hold an intriguing combination of promise and threat for the financial system as we know it. The talk will introduce these concepts and give you a framework to understand their impact on the financial landscape.
- 3:00pm** **Presentation & Discussion: Tracking COVID and its Consequences in India**
Anup Malani, Lee and Brena Freeman Professor of Law
Knowing the progression of a pandemic can help policy response. This presentation will discuss how Malani and his team tracked COVID using viral, serological and excess death surveys over the pandemic. He shows how this can be done in a cost effective and timely manner. He will discuss how these data can and has informed suppression and vaccination policies.
- 4:00pm** **Meeting: Labor Economics**
Marianne Bertrand, Chris P. Dialynas Distinguished Service Professor of Economics, Booth School of Business
Marianne Bertrand directs Chicago Booth's Rustandy Center for Social Sector Innovation and is the Pritzker Director of the Inclusive Economy Lab at the University of Chicago Urban Labs. She will provide an overview of research conducted during the first year of COVID in India, as well as ongoing work on contract labor in India and on gender norms in India.
- 5:30pm** **Dinner at the Agrawal Residence**
Shuttle pick-up outside The Study at 5:30 pm. Transfer to Agrawal Home (363 E. Wacker Drive Unit 2703). Return transfer back to The Study after dinner.

THURS, MAY 12 Saieh Hall, Rubenstein Forum

- 7:30am** **Breakfast**
- 8:30am** **Certificate Ceremony**
- 9:30am** **Transit to Saieh Hall**
- 10:00am** **Video Sessions**
Members will individually meet with Sidhartha to share their take-aways from the visit through video interviews.
- 12:30pm** **Lunch Event: EPIC Energy & Climate Club: Climate Justice**
Ritesh Pandey, Member of Parliament, Uttar Pradesh
The term "climate justice" acknowledges that climate change can have different social, economic, public health, and other adverse impacts on underprivileged populations. This is a challenge India confronts head on, often suffering the brunt of climate impacts. Addressing these inequities will take short- and long-term mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- This event will be an opportunity for undergraduate students to explore this topic with Indian Member of Parliament Ritesh Pandey. Pandey can give his take on the issue and solutions to confront it, while students ask questions in a conversation-style event. Students may also ask about Pandey's experiences as a policymaker, how he got to where he is today, as well as his efforts to confront climate, energy and environment challenges in India more broadly.
- 1:30pm** **Transit to Rubenstein Forum**
- 2:00pm** **Book Talk: China's Continuing Covid Challenge**
Dali Yang, William Claude Reavis Professor, Department of Political Science
Dali Yang, William C. Reavis Professor of Political Science has been working on a book on China and Covid-19. He will review how China has managed Covid and the challenges of exiting from the dynamic zero-Covid strategy.
- 3:00pm** **Meeting: Globalization, Trade, and Economic Growth**
Austan Goolsbee, Robert P. Gwinn Professor of Economics, University of Chicago Booth School of Business
Professor Goolsbee served as a Member and then Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers from 2009 to 2011 in the Administration of President Barack Obama. This will be an interactive session focused on the outlook for globalization, trade, and global economic growth.
- 4:00pm** **Break and Transit to The Study**

4:30pm

Special Event: Global Economic Outlook

Raghuram Rajan, Katherine Dusak Miller Distinguished Service Professor of Finance, Chicago Booth School of Business

Moderated by Eduardo Porter, New York Times economics reporter

BFI will host its Advisory Council of senior business officials and thought leaders for a special on-campus meeting at Winter Garden, The Study at University of Chicago. The audience for this private event will include Advisory Council members, and a group of UChicago economists in leadership positions within BFI.

5:30pm

Reception with BFI Advisory Council, BFI Leadership and Special Guests, and President Paul Alivisatos

6:30pm

Dinner Discussion with President Alivisatos

Paul Alivisatos, President, The University of Chicago

Ka Yee C. Lee, Provost, The University of Chicago

Moderated by Michael Greenstone, Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics, the College & the Harris School; Director, EPIC; Director, BFI

Biographies

INDIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT



Priyanka Chaturvedi is a Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra. In the 12 years of her journey as a politician, she has played an essential part in shaping the media campaign for several state elections. Priyanka Chaturvedi recently submitted a private member's bill on Climate Change Council in the winter parliamentary session.



Heena Gavit is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Nandurbar (Lok Sabha constituency), Maharashtra. A doctor by profession, Heena Gavit has highlighted the public health implication of air pollution at multiple forums. Heena Gavit is also a member of the Parliamentarian Standing Committee on Water Resources.



Rahul Kaswan is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Churu (Lok Sabha constituency), Rajasthan. He has raised questions on energy poverty in the Indian Parliament on multiple occasions. Rahul Kaswan is also a member of the Parliamentarian Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.



Ritesh Pandey is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Ambedkar Nagar (Lok Sabha constituency), Uttar Pradesh. Ritesh Pandey's core interests lie at the intersection of caste, gender, and climate change. Ritesh Pandey is also on the Parliamentarian Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Power and New & Renewable Energy.



Dr Amar Patnaik is a Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha from Odisha. With a PhD in Institutional Economics, he often writes on issues relating to economics, finance, technology, and environment. Dr Patnaik has also authored a book, "Institutional Change and Power Asymmetry in the Context of Rural India."



Chintakunta Munuswamy (CM) Ramesh is an Indian Politician from the BJP Party, representing Andhra Pradesh in Rajya Sabha. He is also the founder of a leading infrastructure development company which has interests in energy, roads, irrigation, and property development.



Brijendra Singh is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Hisar (Lok Sabha constituency), Haryana. Before joining politics in 2019, he was an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from Haryana state cadre. His latest position within Haryana government was of the Managing Director of Haryana State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED), the apex co-operative federation in Haryana.



Kotagiri Sridhar is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Eluru (Lok Sabha constituency), Andhra Pradesh. His focus area is in renewable energy and alternatives to single use plastic. Kotagiri Sridhar is also on the Parliamentarian Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



Shivkumar Udasi is a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha from Haveri (Lok Sabha constituency), Karnataka. He has raised questions on the status of renewable energy penetration and government's stand on purchasing stubble as a fuel alternative. Shivkumar Udasi is also a member of the Parliamentarian Standing Committee on Energy and Water Resources.

LECTURE AND MEETING PARTICIPANTS



Nishant Agrawal is a Professor of Surgery, Section Chief for Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, and Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology. He specializes in the management of patients with benign and malignant tumors of the head and neck. Dr. Agrawal's work has achieved international recognition in the field of head and neck surgical oncology and head and neck cancer genetics. Under his leadership, a team of researchers completed a landmark study that examined the genome of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. His group then followed up by publishing the genomic landscapes of the remaining major head and neck cancers, including esophageal squamous cell carcinoma, esophageal adenocarcinoma, medullary thyroid cancer, adenoid cystic carcinoma, and mucoepidermoid carcinoma. Dr. Agrawal then applied these findings to identify tumor DNA as a biomarkers that improve cancer diagnostics in the saliva and plasma of patients with head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. Through the Tata Centre for Development, he is piloting and launching a novel approach to diagnosing Oral Cavity Squamous Cell Carcinoma (OCSCC), which is a leading cancer and cause of death in India.



Marianne Bertrand is the Chris P. Dialynas Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. She is a Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, the Center for Economic Policy Research, and the Institute for the Study of Labor. Professor Bertrand is Faculty Director of Chicago Booth's Rustandy Center for Social Sector Innovation and the Pritzker Director of the Inclusive Economy Lab at the University of Chicago Urban Labs. Professor Bertrand also serves as co-editor of the American Economic Review. She has received several awards and honors, including the 2004 Elaine Bennett Research Prize, awarded by the American Economic Association to recognize and honor outstanding research in any field of economics by a woman at the beginning of her career, and the 2012 Society of Labor Economists' Rosen Prize for Outstanding Contributions to Labor Economics. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Chris Blattman is the Ramalee E. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies at the Harris School of Public Policy. He is a faculty member in The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts where he focuses on why some people and societies are poor, unequal and violent, and how to tackle these issues. His book, *Why We Fight*, is scheduled for release by Viking Press in April 2022. Most people think war is easy and peace is hard. Blattman synthesizes decades of social science and policymakers' practical experiences to argue the opposite: War is hard and finding peace is easier than you think. In his day-to-day research, Blattman works with governments and civil society to design and test approaches to reduce violence and poverty.



Lisa Friedman is EPIC's journalism fellow (2021-2022) and a reporter on The New York Times climate desk, focusing on climate and environmental policy in Washington. She has covered eight international climate talks and chased climate-related stories from the bottom of a Chinese coal mine to the top of snow-capped Himalaya Mountains. She previously worked for Climatewire where she led a team of twelve reporters focused on the business and politics of the changing climate. Before Climatewire, Friedman was the Washington bureau chief for The Oakland Tribune and later The Los Angeles Daily News.



Rachel Glennerster is an Associate Professor of Economics in the Division of Social Science at the University of Chicago. She uses randomized trials to study democracy and accountability, health, education, microfinance, and women's empowerment mainly in West Africa and South Asia. She has also written on strategies to stimulate innovation, promoting more equitable access to vaccines, and the response to Ebola and COVID-19 pandemic. Professor Glennerster helped establish the Deworm the World Initiative, a program that targets increased access to education and improved health for children at risk of intestinal parasites. Ongoing research includes collaborative studies of adolescent empowerment and early marriage in rural Bangladesh, the impact of mass media campaigns on family planning in Burkina Faso, and optimizing the design of incentives for immunization in Karachi.



Austan D. Goolsbee is the Robert P. Gwinn Professor of Economics. He previously served in Washington as the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers and a member of the President's cabinet. His research has earned him recognition as a Fulbright Scholar and an Alfred P. Sloan fellow. In prior years he was named one of the 100 Global Leaders for Tomorrow by the World Economic Forum, and one of the six "Gurus of the Future" by the Financial Times. His ability to explain economics clearly has made Goolsbee popular in the media. Jon Stewart describes him as "Eliot Ness meets Milton Friedman" and he has twice been named as a "star" professor by BusinessWeek's "Guide to the Best Business Schools."



Supratik Guha is Professor at the Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering, University of Chicago; and a scientist at the Argonne National Laboratory. His interests are in new materials and systems for future information processing systems, including sensor networks. Prior to joining academia, and till 2015, he was at IBM Research where he last served as its Director of Physical Sciences. At Argonne he was Director of their Center for Nanoscale Materials and also ran Argonne's science strategy between 2018-2019. He is a member of the US National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Physical Society and Materials Research Society. He has a B.Tech from IIT Kharagpur, and a Ph.D. from the U. of Southern California.



Amir Jina is an assistant professor at the Harris School of Public Policy. He previously served as a postdoctoral scholar at the Economics Department of the University of Chicago. An environmental and development economist, his research focuses on the role of the environment and environmental change in shaping how societies develop. He uses applied economic techniques combined with methods from climate science and remote sensing to understand the impacts of climate in both rich and poor countries, and has conducted fieldwork related to climate change adaptation with communities in India, Bangladesh, Kenya, and Uganda. Prior to University of Chicago, Amir was a visiting scholar at the Goldman School of Public Policy in University of California, Berkeley where he worked on the economic analysis of the Risky Business initiative, an independent assessment of the economic risks posed by a changing climate in the U.S. commissioned by co-chairs Michael R. Bloomberg, Henry Paulson, and Tom Steyer. Amir received his Ph.D. in Sustainable Development and M.A. in Climate and Society both from Columbia University, B.A.s in Mathematics and Theoretical Physics from Trinity College, Dublin, and previously worked with the Red Cross/Red Crescent in South Asia.



Michael Kremer is the University Professor in the Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics. He is the 2019 co-recipient of the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. He is a Member of the National Academy of Sciences, a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and a Presidential Faculty Fellowship, and was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. Kremer's recent research examines education, health, water, and agriculture in developing countries.



Yamuna Krishnan is a professor in the Department of Chemistry. Yamuna earned her Bachelor's in Chemistry from Women's Christian College, Chennai in 1994. She secured MS in chemical sciences in 1997 and PhD in organic chemistry in 2002 both from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. She worked as a post doctoral research fellow and an 1851 Research Fellow from 2001 to 2004 at department of Chemistry at University of Cambridge, UK. Yamuna and her team spent about 8 years at National Centre for Biological Sciences, TIFR, Bangalore, India pursuing cutting edge research in the areas related to structure and dynamics of nucleic acids, nucleic acid nanotechnology, cellular and subcellular technologies. She moved in August 2014 as Professor of Chemistry at the University of Chicago.



Chong Liu is the Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Molecular Engineering. Chong Liu received her PhD in materials science and engineering at Stanford University in 2015 and her BS in chemistry from Fudan University. From 2015 to 2018, Prof. Liu was a postdoctoral researcher at Stanford University. She joined the Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering in 2018 as a Neubauer Family Assistant Professor. Liu Group's research focuses on design and synthesis of materials as well as development of electrochemical and optical tools to address the challenges in water-energy nexus. Areas include resource extraction from water systems, separation in liquid and gas phases, and catalysis. We study phenomena that span enormous length scales from molecular interaction to mass transport. Our work aims to develop advanced characterization tools to understand and correlate the materials microscopic properties to macroscopic performance.



Anup Malani is the Lee and Brena Freeman Professor of Law. His research presents tools that can provide actionable policy advice, with estimates to help governments select optimal vaccination plans on a range of metrics. Importantly, these metrics consider economic factors that influence politicians, even though they may not be what the public health community recommends. Most importantly, these estimates recommend how many doses would be cost effective for governments to procure at different levels of vaccine efficacy and price.



John J. Mearsheimer is the R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 1982. He graduated from West Point in 1970 and then served five years as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He then started graduate school in political science at Cornell University in 1975. He received his Ph.D. in 1980. He spent the 1979-1980 academic year as a research fellow at the Brookings Institution, and was a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard University's Center for International Affairs from 1980 to 1982. During the 1998-1999 academic year, he was the Whitney H. Shepardson Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.



Bala Srinivasan is the Global Head of Business Development for DRW, a diversified, dynamic trading firm working to transform markets around the world. Prior to this, he was executive vice president for science, innovation, and strategy, and deputy provost at the University of Chicago. There he helped to coordinate and integrate the collective science, engineering, and technology activities, their external representation, and support at the University. As chief international officer, Srinivasan worked with faculty and staff leadership to oversee the University's global locations and programs, and to strengthen the University's connections with foreign partners. Prior to joining the University, Srinivasan served as managing director of Och Ziff Capital Management, based in India and Hong Kong; executive director of Goldman Sachs Hong Kong; and associate director of Jardine Fleming in Singapore, Hong Kong, and Mumbai. He received a BS in mathematics from Caltech in 1989 and a PhD in mathematics from the University of Chicago in 1995.



Gary Tubb is the Anupama and Guru Ramakrishnan Professor in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. Tubb previously served as the faculty director for the University of Chicago Center in Delhi and chair and director of graduate studies in the South Asian Languages and Civilizations Department. He was also the chair of the Indian Ministry of Culture Vivekananda Visiting Professor search committee. Tubb earned a PhD in Sanskrit and Indian studies from Harvard University in 1979, where he was previously a professor, chair of Sanskrit and Indian studies and editor of the Harvard Oriental Series. He also taught at Brown University, Vassar College and Columbia University before joining the University of Chicago faculty in 2007. A leading Sanskrit scholar, Tubb examines the tradition's poetics, grammatical forms and commentarial traditions, and draws insights across the culture's philosophy, religion and literature. Tubb can speak Sanskrit, German, Hindi, and Urdu and is familiar with Marathi, French, Latin, Spanish, and Prakrit. Tubb is the author of *Scholastic Sanskrit: A Handbook for Students*.



Dali Yang is the William Claude Reavis Professor in the Department of Political Science and the College and Senior Advisor to the President and the Provost on Global Initiatives at the University of Chicago. His research is focused on the politics of China's development and governance and their global implications. His current projects include China's public health crises, regulation, environmental governance, social and political trust, and state-society relations. He also continues to examine the political economy of the Great Leap Famine (1959-1961).

STAFF



Shruti Bhimsaria leads Research and Strategic Partnerships for EPIC India. In this role, Shruti develops research partnerships related to energy and environmental policy, forms strategic alliances for AQLI, manages research, and develops and expands EPIC-India's pipeline of applied economics research projects. Shruti recently served as the Head of Research at Climate Vault, a non-profit founded at the University of Chicago that leverages existing carbon markets to help organizations and individuals meet their carbon reduction goals. Before this, Shruti spent several years at J-PAL South Asia, where she managed the Energy and Environment Portfolio. She has experience working on energy access issues, air pollution, net-zero strategies, and carbon markets. She has also briefly dabbled in health and governance research. Shruti completed her MPP degree from the University of Chicago and holds a Masters in Economics from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics and a Bachelors in Maths & Statistics from Banasthali University.



Susie Dordek is the Senior Manager of Events and Operations. She has over 15 years' experience in events and operations. Prior to joining the EPIC team, she helped manage and operate hundreds of events ranging from executive board meetings to large trade shows. She has a degree in Broadcast Communications from Western Illinois University.



Michael Greenstone is the Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics, the College, and the Harris School, as well as the Director of the Becker Friedman Institute and the interdisciplinary Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago. He previously served as the Chief Economist for President Obama's Council of Economic Advisers, where he co-led the development of the United States Government's social cost of carbon. Greenstone also directed The Hamilton Project, which studies policies to promote economic growth, and has since joined its Advisory Council. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the Econometric Society, and a former editor of the Journal of Political Economy. Before coming to the University of Chicago, Greenstone was the 3M Professor of Environmental Economics at MIT.



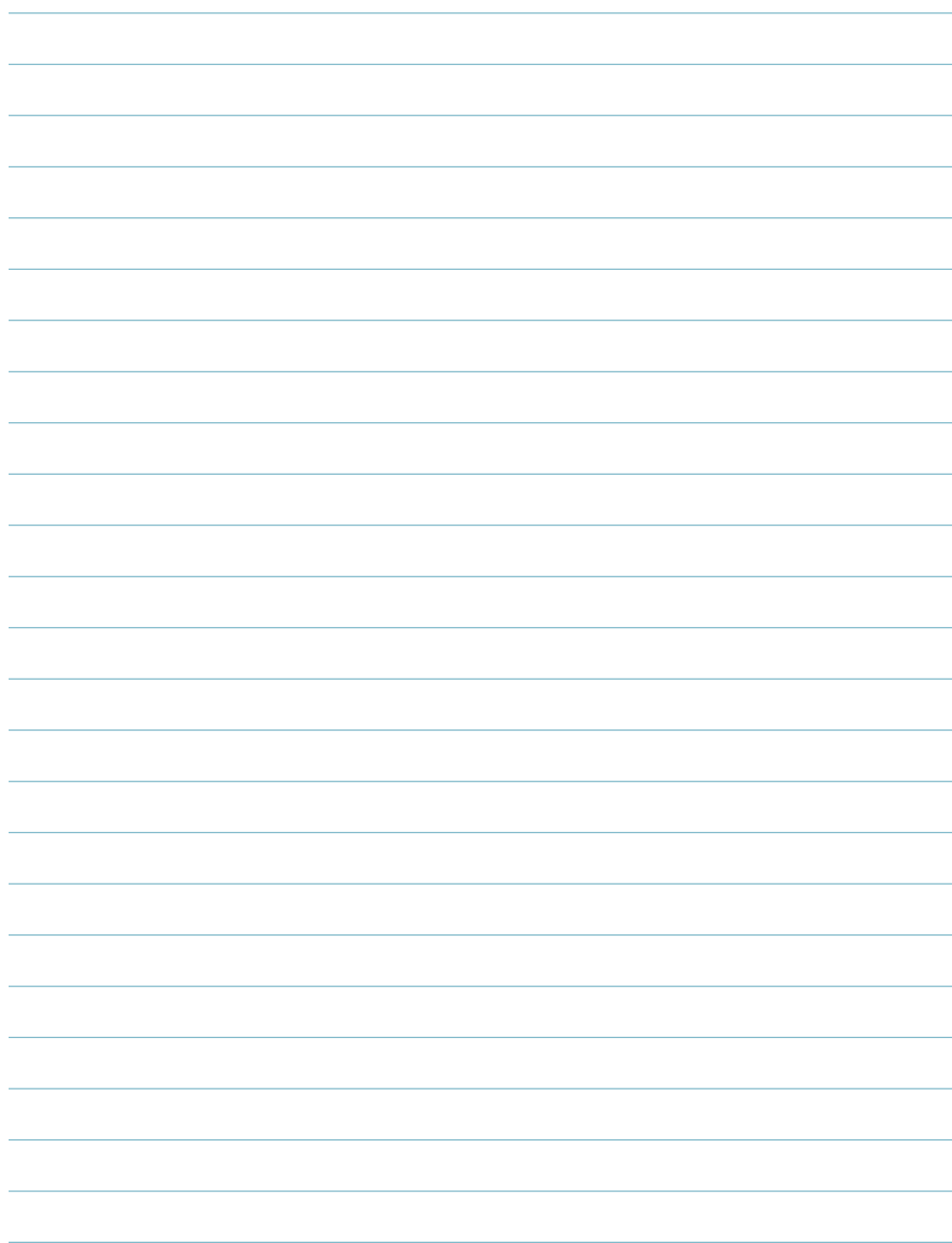
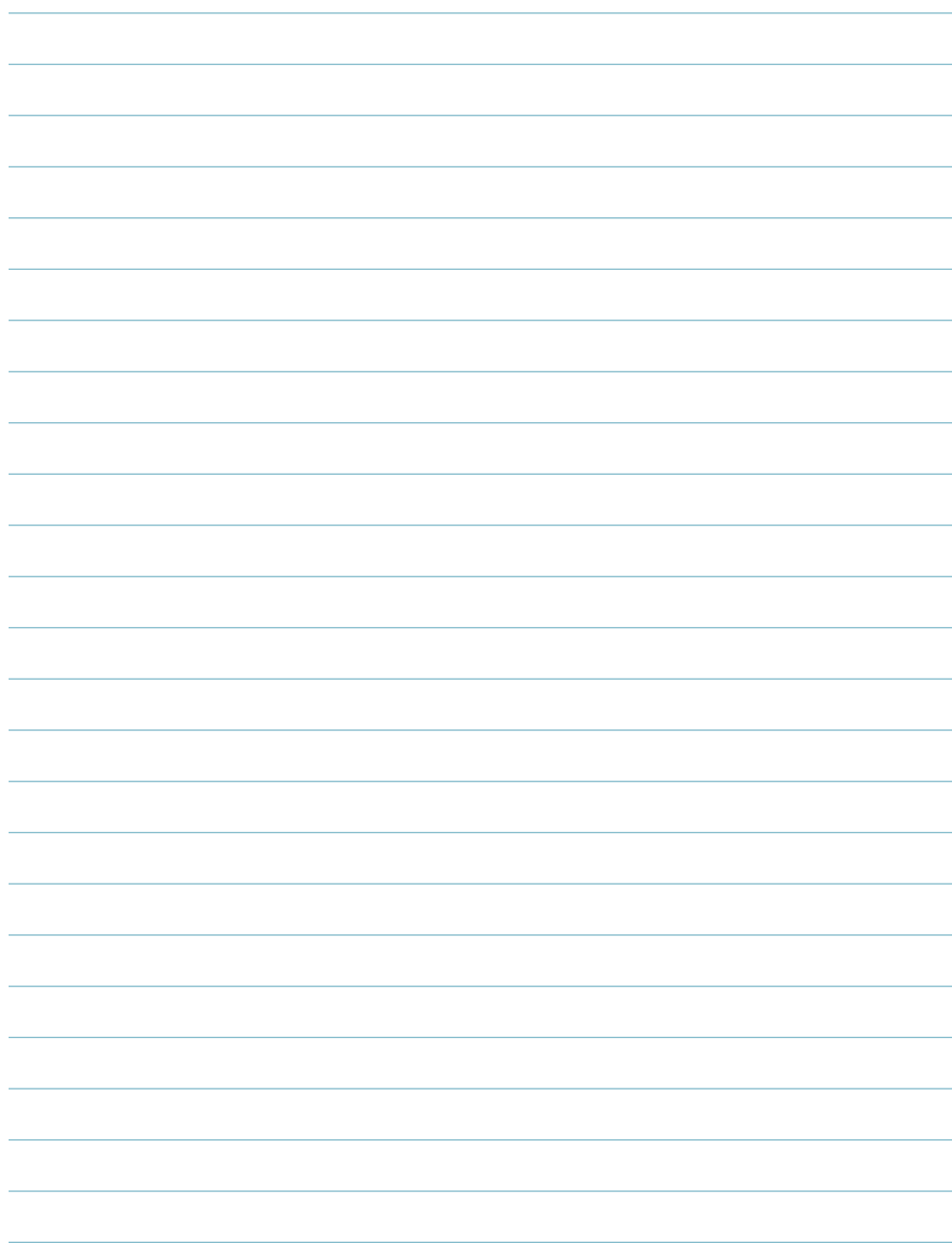
Christa Hasenkopf is the director of Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) and Air Quality Programs at EPIC. Her career focuses on efforts that open up information, resources, and networks so that more people in more places can help make the air they breathe healthier. Previously, she co-founded and was the CEO of OpenAQ, an environmental tech non-profit, which fosters a global community around the world's largest open database of air quality information. She has also served as the Chief Air Pollution Advisor to the Office of Medical Services at the US Department of State and in multiple positions at the US Agency for International Development. Hasenkopf received a PhD in Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences from the University of Colorado and a BS in Astronomy & Astrophysics from The Pennsylvania State University.



Sam Ori is the Executive Director at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC). From 2013 to 2015, he served as Executive Vice President at Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE), a Washington, DC-based organization dedicated to reducing American oil dependence in order to enhance economic and national security. From 2007 to 2013, Sam led SAFE's policy work on a variety of topics, ranging from global oil and natural gas markets to transportation technology. Prior to joining SAFE, Sam spent four years working in the federal government at the Broadcasting Board of Governors and Department of State, including at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India.



Anant Sudarshan is the Executive Director (South Asia) for EPIC. He is also a Senior Research Associate at the Department of Economics, University of Chicago. Prior to working at EPIC, Anant was the Giorgio Ruffolo Post-doctoral Fellow in the Sustainability Science Program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He received his PhD in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University and he holds undergraduate and masters degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) and Stanford University respectively. Anant works at the intersection of environmental economics and engineering, with on-going research on a variety of areas including environmental regulation, air-pollution, climate change, energy efficiency, electricity and renewable energy. His present work includes collaboration with India's Ministry for Environment and Forests to design and evaluate a pilot emissions trading program to regulate industrial air pollution. He is also working with the Government of Bihar on electricity distribution reforms designed to reduce losses and enhance the supply of power.





The Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) produces data-driven research that advances society's understanding of the global energy challenge: ensuring that markets supply the energy needed for human development without risking human health or climate change. It translates research insights into real-world impacts through strategic outreach and training for the next generation of global energy leaders.

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