PRACTITIONERS-IN-RESIDENCE AT THE SIÉ CHÉOU-KANG CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DIPLOMACY

Description and Selection Process

The University of Denver’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies prides itself on its dynamic, intellectually rigorous environment in which prospective leaders immerse themselves in experiential, policy-oriented research and learning. Among its innovative programs, the School’s Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy has launched a Practitioners-in-Residence program to bring prominent practitioners from government and non-governmental organizations to the Sié Center for a set time—whether several days, weeks, or a quarter—to share practical insight and expertise with students and faculty. Practitioners hold public lectures, share field knowledge or policy conundrums, and give career advice to students. Equally important, practitioners-in-residence advise on the relevancy of particular approaches to research to ensure that Sié Center research responds to contemporary policy concerns and strategies.

Practitioners-in-residence may be nominated by any member of the Korbel School faculty but must be endorsed by a member of the Sié Center team. Nominations can be sent by email to Jill Hereau, Associate Director of the Sié Center, at jill.schmiederhereau@du.edu and should be accompanied by a message of support that discusses the professional accomplishments of the practitioner, the relevance of the practitioner’s experience to Sié Center research, and the expected contributions the practitioner would make to the intellectual life of the School. A line-item budget should also be appended.

During the term of their appointment, practitioners-in-residence will receive a stipend, a travel allotment, access to the University facilities, office space, and the opportunity to meet and work with students and faculty. Among other activities, practitioners may be asked guest lecture in a course related to their work, give public lectures, and give a presentation in the Sié Center Research Seminar Series.

The Practitioners-in-Residence program at the Sié Center is part of a larger project made possible the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The project, titled “Nonviolent Action in Violent Settings: Practices and Implications for Policy” explores the changing trends in conflict and violence, with a focus on the impact non-state actors and their nonviolent actions have on the course of conflict. Academics and policy leaders alike often see violent action the only serious, effective action against global crises. With the support of the Carnegie Corporation, researchers at the Sié Center aim to demonstrate the conditions under which nonviolent strategies are effective, thereby building a more robust repertoire of strategies on which policymakers can draw to prevent, contain, and respond to violence.
Policymakers have a key role in the “Nonviolent Action in Violent Settings” project through the practitioners-in-residence program. We ask practitioners-in-residence to comment on and contribute to the project and draw upon their professional experience and networks to further develop research in this area. With that in mind, a practitioner-in-residence nomination will be given priority if the nomination specifically addresses how the practitioner will help the Sié Center generate and disseminate new collaborative, engaged research on the understudied role of nonviolent action in violent settings.

Decisions on whether to invite a practitioner to the School will be made based on several factors, including:

- Record of professional accomplishments;
- Ability of the practitioner to bring unique perspectives and experiences to bear on “Nonviolent Action in Violent Settings” research project;
- Willingness of the practitioner to share insight and experiences with faculty, students and community members at public events and meetings;
- Willingness and ability of the practitioner to contribute to other aspects of the “Nonviolent Action in Violent Settings” project (blog, publications, collaborative research, etc.)

Questions about the program may be directed to Sie.Center@du.edu.