

MILANO NEWS

MILANO THE NEW SCHOOL FOR MANAGEMENT AND URBAN POLICY

Fall 2010



Denise Beal '03 (center), Blaise Rastello '04 (right), and colleagues from Milano and the University of New Orleans visit the Minisink Townhouse site in Harlem. Photo: Marty Heitner

A Model Program: the Community Development Finance Lab

The complex urban challenges facing communities across America require decisive leaders and organizations.

Community-based nonprofits, however, are often stymied by lack of funding or knowledge as they try to advance their community economic development projects. To plan, manage, and implement these projects, nonprofits need dedicated professionals with a thorough understanding of the planning, management, community engagement, and financial know-how necessary to implement projects successfully.

To address the problem, many nonprofits look to partner with universities to provide technical assistance and analysis that help advance their economic

development plans. These types of relationships have a significant impact on the overall health and vitality of cities. But while this is a cost-effective and efficient way for garnering temporary assistance, progress made by these nonprofits is often hindered once the partnership with the school ends. Milano's Community Development Finance Lab (CDFL) and its director, Blaise Rastello '04, are committed to changing this model.

The CDFL seeks to have a "deep engagement" with communities and the nonprofit groups who serve them.

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ALUMNI NEWS

Send news about your latest achievements to alumni@newschool.edu and see more news about your fellow alumni on the Class Notes page at www.newschool.edu/alumni.

1974

Andre Juneau, MA Urban Policy Analysis and Management, worked for the Canadian federal government after he graduated from Milano. He is now in charge of a university-based think tank on intergovernmental relations.

1976

Stephen Bogart, MA Urban Policy Analysis and Management, is retiring from his position as executive vice president at St. Francis College in Brooklyn. Bogart also served as associate dean for administration at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

1983

Anthony Mannarino, MA Urban Policy Analysis and Management, was recently named the executive vice president of Extell. Previously Mannarino was the managing director for Tishman Speyer.

1991

Robert Stoneking, BS Human Resources Management, was recently named vice president in charge of the client services and operations group at Echo360.

2000

Christina Lagdameo, MS Urban Policy Analysis and Management, received the AAUW/NASPA Women of Distinction Award during the 2010 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. Lagdameo has worked for the federal government since she was named a presidential management intern in 2000. She recently left her position in India to serve in the Obama Administration, where she is deputy director for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Message from the Dean

NEIL GRABOIS

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you as dean of the newly merged school that Milano The New School for Management and Urban Policy has formed with The New School's graduate program in International Affairs (GPIA). As I begin my inaugural year as dean, I want to introduce myself to you and express my delight in having the opportunity to work towards bringing together two powerful educational centers at The New School.

This newly merged school recognizes our domestic and international responsibilities to educate the next generation of leaders. I am excited by the challenge to contribute to the betterment of society and to ensure Milano's proud record of accomplishment continues unabated. Given today's complex social, economic, and political climate, the ability to develop solutions to the problems faced by organizations, communities, and cities is perhaps more crucial than ever to our collective well-being.

I am confident that we are well prepared for this challenge. As members of our community, you already know that Milano excels at producing leaders with a deep understanding of both management and policy—leaders who demonstrate the ability to engage the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Our community understands the fundamental role that social responsibility and professional ethics play in creating lasting and positive change. Thus, as we continue



Neil Grabois Photo: Matt Sussman

to improve our offerings, our programs are becoming even stronger and their value more recognized with each academic year and graduating class.

But our vitality depends upon strong support from our alumni and friends. I want to encourage you to play an active role in the process of nurturing the school. Consider taking the time to visit the campus, attending lectures and programs, making yourself available as a resource to students, following us online, contacting me to talk, or making a financial contribution, if you haven't already done so. Better yet, why not do all of the above?

I look forward to seeing and hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Grabois".

Neil R. Grabois
Dean

Read more from Dean Neil Grabois at "Milano eNRGy," www.newschool.edu/milano/graboisblog.aspx.



Lorie A. Slutsky '77, president of the New York Community Trust and member of the board of governors, hosted a reception for Neil Grabois in July. Photo: Michael DiVito

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Anonymous
Candace Corlett '88
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Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
Michael Patrick
Temple and Barney Schauble
Mark Willis

2002

Shana Brodnax, MS Nonprofit Management, is the senior manager of the Harlem Children's Zone. Last spring, Brodnax delivered a lecture at Indiana University, "From the Cradle to College: Building an Empowered Black Community in the Harlem Children's Zone," as part of its Critical Issues Lecture Series.

2003

Lee Davenport, MS Urban Policy Analysis and Management, is program director at National Financial Partnerships, One Economy Corporation, where he directs the creation of an online financial coach with chat- and phone-based credit counseling and debt management components.

Chasson Gracie, MS Urban Policy Analysis and Management, is the research manager at DrafftFCB, an advertising agency, and has been responsible for the strategy and research behind the 2010 Census advertising and marketing campaign. He also works on the White House's Office of National Control and Drug Policy's "Above the Influence" and "Anti-Meth" advertising and marketing campaigns.

2005

Elvira Chaush, MS Nonprofit Management, works for Chemonics International, which started a Local Investments National Competitiveness project in Crimea, Ukraine, in 2009. The project is funded by USAID, where Chaush holds a position as communications coordinator.

2007

Joshua Cohen, MS Nonprofit Management, is the assistant regional director for community affairs in the Eastern Pennsylvania/Delaware Regional Office of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). He has also been selected as a 2010 Political Leaders Fellow with the Center for Progressive Leadership.

Janine Jansen, MS Urban Policy Analysis, recently joined Fried Frank as their diversity programs coordinator.

Lisa Malley, MS Nonprofit Management, is executive director of Choices in Childbirth, an organization that provides information to the public about women's rights and options in giving birth. Malley has 10 years of nonprofit experience, which ranges from working in reproductive health and rights organizations (including Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Alan Guttmacher Institute) to university fundraising at Columbia Law School.

2008

Ashok Kamal, MS Nonprofit Management, started the company Benu, which makes backpacks out of recycled plastic bottles. They also have a variety of other eco-friendly products in their pipeline.

2009

David Benzaquen, MS Nonprofit Management, is the campaign coordinator at Farm Sanctuary, an animal advocacy group that promotes anti-cruelty laws for farm animals.

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www.newschool.edu/giving.

First Alumni Association Board Members Appointed

The New School Alumni Association is pleased to announce its first cohort of board members. Drawing from a strong pool of candidates, the university has appointed 11 alumni representing all aspects of the university. The new members began serving two-year terms on July 1, 2010. With advisement from this new group, a full 40 member board will be in place by July 2012.

One of the group's first tasks is to help recruit future board members. They will also develop board objectives and goals and help shape an alumni program that provides alumni with even more opportunities to network, socialize, and connect with and support the university.

The first group of board members come from a wide range of professional backgrounds and graduation years. Their expertise in various fields and their common desire to build a strong alumni presence within the New School community will be invaluable.

To learn more about the new board of directors, visit www.newschool.edu/alumni/about.

The New School Alumni Association Board of Directors

Martha Alexander '79 (Parsons, BFA, Communication Design)

Mark Cajigao '08 (New School Drama, MFA, Acting)

Colin Dean '06 (New School Jazz, BFA, Jazz Performance)

Angela Gadeliya '05 (Mannes, PDPL, Performance)

Chasson Gracie '03 (Milano, MS, Urban Policy)

Michelle Hartman '06 (The New School for Social Research, PhD, Political Science)

Jahmila Joseph '06 (Eugene Lang College, BA, Liberal Arts)

Dee MacDonald-Miller '75 (Parsons, BFA, Environmental Design)

Michael McKinnon '05 (Parsons, Cert., Interior Design)

James Stenerson '80 (The New School, MA, Media Studies)

Morris Yankell '86 (Milano, MA, Human Resources) ↻



Anthony Mannarino Photo: James Anthony

Milano Alumnus Joins the Board of Governors

Anthony J. Mannarino '83 joined the board of governors of The New School for General Studies and Milano The New School for Management and Urban Policy in spring 2010. He has been an active member of the Milano Dean's Alumni Council since 2008. Mr. Mannarino earned his BA from The New School for General Studies in 1981 and his master's degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management from Milano in 1983. His work in real estate and economic development in the U.S. and abroad lies at the intersection of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Mr. Mannarino is executive vice president of Extell Development Company, a national developer of commercial, residential, retail, hospitality, and mixed-use properties. Previously he was managing director at Tishman Speyer Properties, where he oversaw development and new business initiatives in the New York region. Mr. Mannarino was also the first executive vice president and acting president of the New York City Economic Development Corporation, an agency formed through the merger of several nonprofit corporations that performed economic development services for New York City.

"I am delighted that Tony has joined the board of governors," said Chair Steve Bloom. "His engagement and insight have been so valuable to our Dean's Alumni Council, and I know that his perspective as an alumnus and his own remarkable talents and experience will enhance the board's work to serve the school." ↻

Milano Students Participate in Solar Decathlon

Bridging theory and practice is a hallmark of the Milano education. For Milano students on The New School's Solar Decathlon team, this means translating what they've learned into a solar-powered house that will be displayed on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and will also serve as a home to two families.

Comprised of students and faculty from Milano and Parsons The New School for Design as well as Stevens Institute of Technology, The New School team was selected as one of 20 finalists in the Solar Decathlon, the U.S. Department of Energy's international competition to design and build a solar-powered exhibition house. First held in 2002, the biennial Solar Decathlon challenges university teams to design, build, and operate a model of affordable housing, which employs innovation in energy conservation and related systems.

What distinguishes The New School's entry is its "whole-life" approach and emphasis on community engagement. The New School's entry will consist of two symbiotic home modules. One will be assembled on a lot made available by the District of Columbia government in the underserved Deanwood neighborhood of Ward 7; the other will be situated on the National Mall as part of the Solar Decathlon competition and then moved to the Deanwood property. Each module will be sustainable on its own, but when joined together in Ward 7 they will achieve peak energy efficiency. The modules will comfortably accommodate two families in need through a partnership with D.C. Habitat for Humanity, whose volunteers will assemble the Deanwood house.

The New School team will directly engage federal lawmakers and policymakers by presenting facts and statistics related to The New School's model. This outreach and other aspects of the project are linked to graduate-level classes at Milano.

Milano has long emphasized the need for comprehensive, integrated solutions to problems like affordable housing, urban development, and environmental sustainability. The New School's Solar Decathlon team has fully embraced these lessons and is bringing them to the Washington, D.C. community and beyond. ↻

Faculty News

Dennis Derryck's visionary and innovative work in community-supported agriculture garnered in-depth coverage in the *New York Times* in June 2010. As the founder of Corbin Hills Road Farm in Schoharie County, Derryck brings produce from upstate New York to the South Bronx and offers city residents the opportunity to own shares in a farm.

Sakiko Fukuda-Parr received a prestigious appointment to the Committee on Development Policy, a body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Comprised of 24 internationally-renown economists and social scientists, the committee is responsible for advising the council on major global development challenges and has been the source of many innovative policy proposals.

Alec Gershberg is co-authoring a report for the United States Agency for International Development, "Using a Backward Mapping Approach to Examine how the Guatemalan Primary School Administrative System is Supporting Education Quality." Gershberg is also serving as an expert on education finance and management capacity on education policy in the nations of El Salvador and Georgia.

Darrick Hamilton has authored several chapters in the forthcoming book *Crowded Out? The Racial Composition of American Occupations* (Oxford University Press) and has contributed to the National Urban League report, *The State of Black America 2010: Jobs—Responding to the Crisis*.

Antonin Wagner's article, "Back to the Roots of the Modern Welfare State: Citizenship and Education in Postindustrial Societies," was published in *The Welfare State in Postindustrial Societies*.

... Continued from cover

This approach is grounded in a curriculum model that is built upon:

- Implementing equity in policy, planning, and development
- Recognizing value in the diversity of all communities and those who live, learn, work, and play therein
- Recognizing value in social and public benefits, as well as financial return
- Leveraging opportunities and innovation across public, private and nonprofit sectors

Drawing upon 10 years of experiential teaching methods and nonprofit community partnership projects, the CDFL was recently awarded more than \$450,000 in grant support from the Ford Foundation, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, and the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation to share this valuable model with the University of New Orleans (UNO). Milano and CDFL graduate **Denise Beal '03** has been instrumental in guiding and assisting the project. Together Beal and Rastello are providing technical assistance to UNO. Ultimately this two-year initiative will strengthen UNO's existing Master's of Urban and Regional Planning program and produce professionals who advance pivotal community development projects in New Orleans and urban markets across the country.

Nearly 100 students have been through the CDFL. All combined, they have worked with more than 30 nonprofit clients and produced work valued at more than \$1.1 million to nonprofit and public agency clients. While these outcomes are strong and the model is receiving attention from funders, it is the work on the ground and the impact on communities that inspires Rastello to continue to invest in his alma mater.

"It is very gratifying to go to a place like Harlem, have coffee with your mentors and professors like **Dennis Derryck** (who continue to teach you about the area), and see a project that you worked on as a student completed," Rastello says. "You know the work is making a small difference in the lives of those often overlooked or left out of our current economic and political systems." ↻

The Dean's Alumni Council Welcomes Shawn Robinson '98

The Dean's Alumni Council is pleased to welcome **Shawn F. Robinson '98** as its newest member. Mr. Robinson is managing director of the Private Placement Group at RBS Greenwich Capital, where he originates, structures, and markets cross border and U.S. private placement transactions. Before joining RBS in August 2001, Mr. Robinson spent three years as an investment banking analyst for J.P. Morgan Securities, Inc., where he gained investment banking, quantitative, marketing, and research experience. Previously he served as a management consulting intern for the National Executive Service Corps. He was recognized by *Investment Dealers Digest* in 2006 as one of its "Forty Under Forty" investment banking leaders. Mr. Robinson received a Bachelor's of Science degree from Binghamton University and earned his master's degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management from Milano in 1998. He is also a graduate of the J. P. Morgan Investment Banking Program.

"I am delighted to welcome Shawn to the Dean's Alumni Council," said **Emily Youssouf '77**, the group's chair. "Shawn has achieved a great deal and has been remarkably successful in his career thus far. I know that his perspective will be valuable to our work. I'm grateful to him for his service and his support of the school, our current students, and our fellow alumni." ↻



Shawn F. Robinson Photo: Latoya Crump



Manfred Pastrano Photo: Latoya Crump

Alumni Spotlight: Manfred Pastrano '96

Manfred Pastrano '96, is president and founder of Global Investment Group, a boutique investment firm that specializes in residential homes throughout the east coast of North America, and its subsidiary, Multiple Management. The organization's mission is to contribute to diverse neighborhoods that are thriving by selling affordable properties to young professionals who want to contribute to the community. He credits Milano, where he earned a master's degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management, for helping him on his way to success. "I went to a career fair at my alma mater, Columbia University, looking for another job, and instead I met a recruiting representative from The New School. After speaking with her, I decided to go back to school and develop my skills further." He continues, "Milano is not just a school. Here you work in the field, you do internships, and you take courses like Public and Real Estate Finance, Community and Economic Development, Non-profit Accounting, Grant Writing, and most importantly Laboratory Analysis, which is the epitome of what the program stands for: You take what you learn in the classroom and put it into practice." Mr. Pastrano has utilized the skills he developed at Milano at every level of government (local, state, and federal) and in all three sectors (public, private, and nonprofit).

In addition to a fascination with the growth and development of cities, Mr. Pastrano has always been attracted to numbers and the ways in which they can tell a story. Milano allowed him to find ways to combine his interests. "At Milano, you learn that numbers and policy go together; they are

interconnected. I found that my life started taking me into these sectors where I was using the finance and math skills that I already had in addition to the ones I was taught at The New School." Prior to attending Milano, Mr. Pastrano worked as an investigator for the Fair Housing Equal Opportunity Office within the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Since graduating, he has worked as a budget analyst for the New York City Board of Education, where his team monitored a \$1 billion budget for the division of high school; a financial analyst for New York City Office of State Deputy Comptroller under Carl McCall, where he was an integral part of a team responsible for monitoring the City of New York's fiscal expenditures; and assistant treasurer for the Bank of New York, where he analyzed municipal bonds used in the portfolios of wealthy investors. He also held a position for the Corporation for Supportive Housing that resulted from the work he and classmates did during Milano's Laboratory Analysis class. He says, "By learning these transferable skills, I believe that Milano graduates can go almost anywhere and be successful."

And yet Mr. Pastrano also knows that finding the right career requires more than skill and knowledge. He says, "I know students want to believe that a job is waiting for them once they get their degrees, but sometimes you really have to hustle for it!" While Mr. Pastrano was willing to do the leg work, he credits the Milano career services staff with teaching him how to stand out from other applicants. Through his job searches, Mr. Pastrano has discovered that some of the best approaches are to keep in touch with the people on your networking list; tailor every cover letter for the specific job you are applying to; and be proactive, such as by attending resume building workshops and conducting informational interviews at companies you are interested in. He says, "Reach out to individuals and see if they are willing to talk to you about their work, career path, or thoughts on the field. You never know where the conversation will lead."

After a decade managing the affairs of his own business, Mr. Pastrano is strongly considering seeking new challenges and re-entering either the corporate, nonprofit, or government sector. But first he is following his own advice and taking some time to assess the opportunities that may exist for him. ↻



Programs and Events

At the Milano commencement ceremony in May, **Katrina vanden Heuvel**, editor and publisher of *The Nation*, described the Class of 2010 as “change makers” and their work as “doing the gritty and difficult work to make this country better.”

In January, **Chris Ward** of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and Seth W. Pinsky of the New York City Economic Development Corporation, delivered remarks to a packed house at “The Growth Catalyst: Reviving New York City’s Economy Through Infrastructure,” the latest program in the annual Port Authority Speaker Series.

In February, **Ann Tenenbaum** hosted a dinner for Milano’s Tenenbaum Leadership Initiative Fellows—nonprofit executives who have succeeded their organization’s founder or replaced a highly respected leader who had been in place for at least a decade—to meet them and discuss the impact the program has had on their work.

In April, at “Cities Respond to Climate Change: Locating Leadership in an Uncertain World,” the second program in the Con Edison Speakers series, **Stephen Heintz** of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Vancouver Mayor **Gregor Robertson**, and other leaders discussed approaches to sustainability. The program also celebrated Milano’s Con Edison Scholars, tomorrow’s leaders in the arena of sustainable urban management.

Through the generosity of the Taconic Foundation and the Green Fund, Milano held the third annual Bill Green Forum in May. “Marching in Place: The Great Recession, Low-Income Women and Economic Inequality,” featured a welcome by **Patricia F. Green** of the Green Fund, remarks from former U.S. Representative **Sue Kelly** of New York, and a discussion with a distinguished panel, and also celebrated the Green Scholars at Milano. The Green Forum Series and Green Scholarship Fund commemorate the late Chairman of Milano and trustee of The New School, US Representative Bill Green (R-NY).

In June, **Lorie Slutsky '77**, a member of the board of governors, delivered opening remarks at “Putting Principals to the Test: Transforming NYC Schools in the Age of Data-Driven Accountability.” **Merryl Tisch**,

chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents, spoke and joined in on a discussion with prominent experts and leaders in the public education arena.

Several alumni returned to campus this year for a series of panel discussions for current and prospective students and alumni. These talks focused on the job market and career progression in various industries, including leadership and organizational change, finance, and health and social policy. To view photos from these and other alumni events, visit www.flickr.com/photos/newschoolalumni. ☺



(6) Merryll H. Tisch, Chancellor, New York State Board of Regents; Ramón González, Principal, MS 223, The Laboratory School of Finance and Technology; Shael Polakow-Suransky, Deputy Chancellor for Performance and Accountability, NYC Department of Education Photo: Melissa Hom (7) Milano alumni Desiree Dancy '98, Matthew Jagoda '00, Jeanine D. Liburd '95, and Jennifer Rivera '00 speaking about leadership and organizational change management at the first Milano Alumni Panel in March Photo: Latoya Crump

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Produced by Communications and External Affairs

(1) Mark Lipton, Professor of Management; Ann Tenenbaum; Lisa Servon, Associate Professor Photo: Janine Cibellis (2) Chris Ward, Executive Director, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Photo: Marty Heitner (3) Gregor Robertson, mayor of Vancouver, British Columbia; David W. Kreutzer, Research Fellow in Energy Economics and Climate Change, The Heritage Foundation’s Center for Data Analysis; Miquela Craytor, Executive Director, Sustainable South Bronx Photo: Deborah Zeolla (4) Katrina vanden Heuvel, Editor and Publisher, *The Nation* Photo: Melissa Hom (5) Soledad Ursea '09, Bill Green Scholar; and Pat Green of the Green Fund Photo: Marty Heitner

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Save the Date

Saturday, April 16, 2011

The New School Reunion
New York City

For more information and updates, visit www.newschool.edu/alumni/reunion.

Questions? Call or email us at 212.229.5662 x3784 or alumni@newschool.edu.

What's New

New School Alumni Directory: Ready in 2012

The next alumni directory will be ready in 2012. Harris Connect will start contacting alumni next year. If you do not wish to be part of the list, email alumni@newschool.edu or call 212.229.5662 x3784.