2019 HIGHLIGHTS

SHAPING THE NEW ERA OF GLOBALIZATION

CENTER FOR COMMERCE & DIPLOMACY
ADVANCING PROSPERITY

Today, the open world economy, which has bolstered global economic growth, is under threat. Populist pressures, nationalism and financial crises have weakened the base of support for global integration even at its core. We at the Center for Commerce and Diplomacy (CCD) can think of no better time to reassess the relationship between commerce and diplomacy. We seek to design institutions that allow the two to interact for the advancement of worldwide peace and prosperity.

We support originating and disseminating scholarly research with this aim. In addition, we look forward to engaging with business and government leaders who share these objectives.

RESEARCH

Our research aim is to understand the causes and consequences of the institutions engaged in trade diplomacy. By shedding light on the process of how and why policymaking institutions change, we gain a better understanding of how this affects commercial and diplomatic interests. This will help answer questions about the welfare and distributional consequences of these institutions and, ultimately, result in the better design of them.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The center aims to connect local and national communities by providing a regular forum for dialogue among opinion leaders, academic, business, government and policy experts. We accomplish this through conferences, workshops, speaker series and public events that emphasize both scholarly research and interactive engagement.

Key topics planned for discussion include:
» The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)
» The World Trade Organization
» The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement
» Brexit
» The role of multilateral and bilateral trade agreements
2019 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

» Political Economy Lunch Group seminar series features leading scholars in economics and politics presenting new research from across the globe.

  Speakers:
  Luis Martinez, University of Chicago       Francesco Trebbi, University of British Columbia
  Anqi Li, Washington University St. Louis   Cecilia Testa, University of Nottingham
  Romain Wacziarg, UCLA                    Isabela Mares, Yale University
  Thomas Fujiwara, Princeton University     Horacio Larreguy, Harvard University
  Konstantin Sonin, University of Chicago

» Rational Inattention and Political Economy Conference (Nov. 9, 2019) brought together experts to examine cutting-edge tools in behavioral economics and their application to pressing political problems.

» Global Leaders Forum features panel discussions by world leaders such as former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

» Postdoctoral Research Program aims to build a cadre of scholars working on the causes and consequences of the institutions of economic globalization. Postdoctoral research on the institutions of economic globalization will help answer questions about the welfare and distributional consequences of these institutions and, ultimately, result in the better design of these institutions. As CCD affiliates, they will interact with faculty and Ph.D. students, present their own research and participate in events.

» Redesigning Globalization Symposium (April 23-24, 2020) will be a dialogue between academics, policymakers and business leaders on how to respond to the forces that are threatening globalization. The research is to survey the various challenges to globalization from the perspective of the domestic, regional and global institutions that support globalization and to recommend policy and institutional solutions to these challenges. Participants will assess proposed solutions and the degree of consensus around them. Sessions include:

  • Multilateralism versus Bilateralism
  • Labor Standards and Global Supply Chains
  • Experimental Governance
  • National Security, Innovation Policy and Trade Agreements
  • China and the Multilateral Trading System
  • Redesigning Regional Agreements: USMCA

» United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Conference (November 2020) will be organized with the Center for U.S.-Mexico Studies and focus on understanding the domestic politics of these countries, including regional politics. Leveraging GPS’s role as a leading expert in U.S.-Mexico relations and Canada, we will explore the role of “neutral parties,” for example, Switzerland, Belgium and Canada, in international negotiations, stalemates, moving things forward and mediating.

Convening these signature events and implementing these programs will help establish UC San Diego’s intellectual leadership on the future direction of global commerce and diplomacy.
There is no question that a global mindset is key to student education in international affairs, business, and policy and strategy. Responsive to this learning imperative, CCD will provide the following student engagement experiences:

» Coordinate study trips designed to engage students in intercultural experiences throughout the world, promote learning on an international scale, and develop skills for success in the modern global business and diplomacy landscape.

» Host students from countries and universities throughout the world, broadening campus opportunities for cross-cultural understanding.

» Assist in recruiting undergraduates to GPS for graduate studies, building the pipeline of student talent prepared to advance new solutions to global challenges.

VISION
Diplomacy recognizes that trade and foreign investment are engines of economic prosperity and national security, not zero-sum outcomes where one nation wins at the other’s expense. Yet diplomacy also recognizes the need to ensure sustainable prosperity and security. Business leaders share this vision and want to partner with diplomats to advance their joint interest in reducing policy barriers to economic integration.

Going forward, our aim is to facilitate and improve the public-private partnership that underlies international business. With tensions in the world economy rising and the rules-based trading order under scrutiny, understanding the link between commerce and diplomacy is more important than ever.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

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UC SAN DIEGO LEADERSHIP

Renee Bowen, Director and Associate Professor, GPS
Lawrence Broz, Associate Director and Professor, Department of Political Science
Alexandra Hubenko, Interim Executive Director and Program Manager, Qualcomm Institute