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Contact: Jason Warburg
(831) 647-3516
jason.warburg@miis.edu

New Students, Bold New Approach for Monterey Institute
Fall Class First to Experience Revamped Academic Structure and Advising Program

Monterey, CA – For the 385 students going through orientation at the Monterey Institute of International Studies right now, it’s a new day at what is -- in more ways than one -- a new school. In the works for over a year, the Institute’s reorganization reached full flower over the summer, transforming the 54-year-old graduate school to deliver a cutting-edge focus on interdisciplinary teaching and learning, and combining its academic and career advising functions into a single, one-stop center.

The focus on the academic transformation, which brought the Institute’s nine degree programs under two schools – the Graduate School of International Policy and Management, and the Graduate School of Translation, Interpretation and Language Education -- is on fostering closer collaboration than ever before among both faculty and students in the Institute’s policy, business, language education, and translation and interpretation programs.

“We believe the value of this approach is clear,” commented Institute President Sunder Ramaswamy. “Whether the issue is armed conflict in Asia or land use in South America or economic development in Africa, real-world problems are not one-dimensional. They aren’t simply policy problems or business problems or language problems or environmental problems -- they grow out of a complex and unique set of circumstances. Our graduates are exposed to multiple disciplines and think in multiple dimensions, enabling them to discern, develop and implement practical solutions that work.”

Students in each of the Institute’s programs will work side by side with colleagues in other programs on interdisciplinary projects addressing real-world concerns, while faculty are encouraged to collaborate on interdisciplinary research and teaching efforts.

“Global problems can’t be addressed by business or government or NGOs alone; collaboration is essential to finding solutions. Our unique cross-sectoral approach encourages students to see issues in multiple dimensions and work collaboratively across the board,” added Yuwei Shi, dean of the Graduate School of International Policy and Management.

“Bringing all of our language programs together promises to make us even more exceptional in developing pedagogy for language education,” said Renee Jourdenais, dean of the Graduate School of Translation, Interpretation, and Language Education,
“but equally as valuable is the fact that our language teaching and translation and interpretation graduates are exposed to policy and business issues and graduate with a broad knowledge base that enables them to be more effective within their specific disciplines.”

The launch of the new Center for Advising and Career Services represents a major innovation for the Institute, combining the traditionally separate functions of academic and career advising into a comprehensive campus resource intended to ensure students receive a constant flow of support, advice, and training from the day they register to the day they graduate.

“Our job is to look at students’ career objectives, skills and abilities and then overlay that information onto a degree program and curriculum that will help them achieve their professional goals,” said Tate Miller, dean of Advising, Career, and Student Services. “We’re here to provide students the best information, resources and guidance possible to help them make decisions about their academic and professional careers.”

Graduates of the Monterey Institute typically go on to careers as diverse as translating for the United Nations, launching global business enterprises, managing development initiatives in Africa, joining the U.S. Foreign Service, teaching English to students from China to Chile, and combating the spread of weapons of mass destruction around the world.

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*The Monterey Institute of International Studies is at the forefront of international professional education, preparing students for global careers in the private, public, nonprofit and educational sectors. A private graduate institution located in Monterey, California and affiliated with Middlebury College, the Institute offers fully accredited degree programs in international business, translation and interpretation, international policy studies and language teaching. The Institute’s approximately 800 students come from more than 50 countries. For more information about the Monterey Institute, visit [www.miis.edu](http://www.miis.edu).*