Announcement from
Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society

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CENTER ON PHILANTHROPY AND CIVIL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES THE 2009 EMERGING LEADERS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAM (ELIFP)

The Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at the CUNY Graduate Center is pleased to announce that it will soon welcome six new Emerging Leaders International Fellows. Since its inception twenty years ago, the International Fellows Program has sponsored 130 fellows from 49 countries, helping to build an international network of researchers and practitioners working on philanthropy and civil society.

The three-month Emerging Leaders International Fellows Program provides training through applied research and professional mentorships to young scholar-practitioners from overseas, as well as from communities of color under-represented in the U.S. grantmaking sector. This year’s program will focus on community foundations, corporate citizenship and diaspora philanthropy.

The Fellows, who will be here from March 2 to May 29, 2009, are: Ms. Eva Achieng Maina Ayiera from Nairobi, Kenya; Ms. Rana Zincir from Lefkosa, Cyprus; Mr. Anderson Giovani da Silva from Florianópolis, Brazil; Ms. Zuzanna Karolina Komornicka from Kraków, Poland; Mr. Charles E.B. Ugalde, Oakland, California, USA; and Ms. Paola Maria Vallejo from Quito, Ecuador.

In addition to writing an original research paper, Fellows will participate in seminars on US and international voluntary-sector activities; learn about the work of key agencies; meet with leading nonprofit representatives and scholars in the field; and attend the Council on Foundations annual conference which will be held in Atlanta Georgia.

This year’s cohort of Emerging Leaders brings an impressive array of skills and experience to the program.

Ms. Eva Achieng Maina Ayiera (Head of Collaborative Initiatives, Urgent Action Fund-Africa) will explore strategies for sustaining community philanthropy for women’s projects in resource-challenged settings generally and in Kenya specifically.
Ms. Rana Zincir (Vice-President, Programs, The Chrest Foundation) will consider philanthropy as practiced in North Cyprus and identify a strategy for developing and promoting corporate citizenship in the Turkish Cypriot community.

Mr. Anderson Giovani da Silva (Consultant, Community Fund for Youth Social Entrepreneurship, ICom - Instituto Comunitário Grande Florianópolis) will investigate strategies to engage small and non-traditional donors in community foundations for community development.

Ms. Zuzanna Karolina Komornicka (Coordinator, “Act Locally” Program, The Snow Mountain Community Fund) will examine the adaptability of U.S. experiences in cross-sectoral partnerships and individual giving to the emerging capitalist environment in Central Europe.

Mr. Charles E. B. Ugalde (Program Officer, United Way of the Bay Area) will research approaches used by community foundations to create new initiatives, funding strategies or organizational priorities in support of under-represented communities.

Ms. Paola Maria Vallejo (Independent Consultancy/Corporate Communications Advisor, IRSE - Instituto de Responsabilidade Social Empresaria) will study Ecuadorian diaspora giving patterns and identify communication mechanisms for promoting philanthropy to support development in the home country.

Funders of the 2009 Emerging Leaders Program include: W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the U.S. Embassy's Bicommunal Support Program in Cyprus.

The Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society is dedicated to strengthening philanthropy and civil society, through education, research, and leadership training. It is based at The Graduate Center, The City University of New York, the largest urban public university system in the United States.

Established in 1961, The Graduate Center is the doctorate-granting institution of The City University of New York (CUNY). An internationally-recognized center for advanced studies and a national model for public doctoral education, The Graduate Center offers more than thirty doctoral programs in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and the natural sciences, as well as a number of master's programs. Many of its faculty members are among the world's leading scholars in their respective fields. Ten of The Graduate Center's doctoral programs place among the top ten in the country, six are ranked in the top five, and in the broad category of humanities, The Graduate Center is rated fourth, according to a new method of assessing the relative strength of doctoral programs by scholarly productivity. The school currently enrolls over 4,000 students from throughout the United States, as well as from about eighty foreign countries, and its alumni hold major positions in industry and government, as well as in academia. The Graduate Center is also home to twenty-nine interdisciplinary research centers and institutes focused on areas of compelling social, civic, cultural, and scientific concerns. Located in a landmark Fifth Avenue building, The Graduate Center has become a vital part of New York City's intellectual and cultural life with its extensive array of public lectures, exhibitions, concerts, and theatrical events.

Further information on The Graduate Center and its programs can be found at www.gc.cuny.edu. We also invite you to visit the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society’s website at www.philanthropy.org.