Interim Director

• Mark Lycett

Founded in 1966, the Center for International Studies (http://cis.uchicago.edu) (CIS) sponsors and coordinates a wide variety of activities related to research, teaching, curriculum, and public outreach on global and international topics. The Center, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2016, hosts the Program on the Global Environment; provides an administrative home for several regional studies programs; and organizes a robust slate of public and scholarly events that address global issues.

• The Program on the Global Environment (PGE) was officially launched in 2007-08. The program integrates perspectives on key environmental issues coming from the sciences, social sciences, and the policy community. The program includes an undergraduate major and minor in Environmental Studies and a faculty and graduate workshop on the global environment as well as support for internships, research, conferences and other events. Among the innovative offerings of the undergraduate program is the Calumet Quarter, a hands-on, intensive field program in the Calumet, Chicago’s own back yard.

• CIS also serves as a the coordinator for regional studies programs not covered by Department of Education National Resource Centers on campus, including African Studies and (with the Centers for Middle East Studies and East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies), Central Eurasian Studies. CIS is also the institutional home of the Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS), a faculty interest group whose members work in South and Southeast Asia. We also work closely with Chicago’s area centers: the Centers for East Asian Studies; East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies; Latin American Studies; Middle Eastern Studies, and the South Asian Language and Area Center.

• CIS sponsors a wide range of public programs from scholarly conferences and workshops to teacher training programs. Our signature series, The World Beyond the Headlines, focuses on events of outstanding contemporary importance, bringing an international lineup of scholars, journalists, and world leaders to the Chicago campus. Through its Norman Wait Harris fund, CIS sponsors supports a wide range of conferences, lectures, invited speakers, and other events on international topics aimed at both university and broader audiences.

CIS also serves as a the coordinator for regional studies programs not covered by Department of Education National Resource Centers, including African Studies (https://africanstudies.uchicago.edu) and (with the Centers for Middle East Studies and East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies), Central Eurasian Studies (http://centralasia.uchicago.edu). CIS is also the institutional home of the Committee on Southern Asian Studies (http://southasia.uchicago.edu) (COSAS), a faculty interest
group whose members work in South and Southeast Asia. We also work closely with Chicago’s area centers: the Centers for East Asian Studies; East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies; Latin American Studies; Middle Eastern Studies; and the South Asian Language and Area Center.

Through its Norman Wait Harris fund (http://cis.uchicago.edu/nwh), CIS supports a wide range of conferences, lectures, invited speakers, and other events on international topics aimed at both university and broader audiences. In recent years, the Center has utilized new technologies to increase the reach and impact of its programming through its online CHIASMOS (http://chiasmos.uchicago.edu) multimedia content delivery site featuring podcasts and other audio and video feeds of public lectures and other events.