The Human Rights and Technology Program (https://cis.mit.edu/programs/human-rights-technology) explores how technology impacts human rights reporting, and how rights are challenged by technological advances. It supports student research and public discourse on these topics. Contact executive director John Tirman (tirman@mit.edu), Room E40-447, 617-253-9861.

The Policy Lab at the Center for International Studies (PL@CIS) (http://policylab.mit.edu) works to enhance the impact of MIT research on public policy, in order to best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century. The PL@CIS provides funding and staff assistance to translate and disseminate research findings to public policy makers. It is available through an annual call for proposals, which is open to any faculty or research staff with principal investigator status. For more information, contact Daniel Pomeroy (dpomeroy@mit.edu), E40-451, 617-324-7496.

The Inter-University Committee on International Migration (http://cis.mit.edu/programs/international-migration), created 30 years ago, organizes the Myron Weiner seminar series, honoring the late MIT professor and pioneer in migration studies. The committee also undertakes other projects on an ad hoc basis. Member institutions are Boston University, Brandeis University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Harvard, MIT, Tufts University, and Wellesley College. The committee is hosted at MIT by CIS. For more information, contact executive director John Tirman (tirman@mit.edu), Room E40-447, 617-253-9861.

The Program on Emerging Technologies (PoET) (http://poet.mit.edu) encourages responsible technological innovation, with research on the political economy of innovation and on adaptive risk governance. Work on synthetic biology is conducted in partnership with technologists at the MIT Synthetic Biology Center and the Harvard Wyss Institute. Work on biomedical issues is conducted in partnership with the MIT Center for Biomedical Innovation and the Tufts Center for Translational Medicine. Work on information security and privacy is conducted in partnership with the Internet Policy Research institute of the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). PoET provides policy recommendations to a wide range of governmental and nongovernmental organizations, including the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, NIH National Science Advisory Board on Biosecurity, Environmental Protection Agency, Defense Intelligence Board, UN World Health Organization, UN Biological Weapons Convention, European Medicines Agency, and the National Academy of Sciences. For more information, contact PoET director Kenneth Oye (oye@mit.edu), E40-437, 617-253-3412.

The Persian Gulf Initiative (http://cis.mit.edu/programs/persian-gulf-initiative) was launched in 2005 and has now held workshops on political violence, stability and legitimacy, energy security, the regional impacts of the Iraq war, and other topics. It sponsors research such as the Iraq mortality study, publications, and public forums, several of which have been held in Washington, DC, and New
York. For more information, contact executive director John Tirman (tirman@mit.edu), Room E40-447, 617-253-9861.

CIS offers the Summer Study Grants and the Jeanne Guillemin Prize (http://cis.mit.edu/about/funding/fellowships-grants/summer-study-fellowship), intended for advanced doctoral students at MIT working in close collaboration with faculty members on any international aspect of energy, environment, and international affairs. The Guillemin Prize is a new offering with the same criteria, exclusively for women.

Fellows

The center also offers fellowships and educational experiences to individuals who have held senior positions in public life; journalists; current and future leaders in the US armed forces, governments agencies, NGOs, and private companies. Fellowships are awarded to students and scholars who are working on a range of global security issues. For more information, contact executive director John Tirman (tirman@mit.edu), Room E40-447, 617-253-9861.

Events and Seminars

The MIT Starr Forum is the center’s flagship public event series. The forum brings to campus leading academics, policymakers, and journalists to discuss pressing issues in the world of international relations and US foreign policy. Individual programs host seminars on a range of international topics, such as migration, national defense, and cultural immersion. Others are focused on specific regions and explore domestic and foreign policy issues in Russia, the Middle East, and South Asia. For more information, contact Michelle English (http://english7@mit.edu), Room E40-443, 617-253-1965.