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DOI FEATURED AT YALE CONFERENCE AS MODEL ON ANTI-CORRUPTION SYSTEMS

The anti-corruption mission and methods of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”) were highlighted at Yale University’s Conference on *Practitioners and Researchers: Collaboration for Good Governance in Africa*. The two-day summit on April 26 – 27, 2013, brought together scholars and practitioners to discuss how academics and policy makers can best work together to improve anti-corruption efforts on the ground. DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn was the only representative from an anti-corruption agency in the United States. She joined integrity proponents and government officials from five African nations – the Republic of South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, and South Africa – the Executive Chairman of the Mandela Institute for Development studies in South Africa, and scholars from Yale University.

Workshops focused on how accountability and integrity affect governance in Africa and how research can best be used by practitioners on the front lines of anti-corruption work. Commissioner Gill Hearn spoke on DOI’s investigative techniques and proactive efforts to combat corruption in New York City, the agency’s broad mandate and mission, and the impact of DOI’s work. Commissioner Gill Hearn’s attendance at the conference is part of her continuing initiative to promote collaboration and best practices among integrity professionals and generate innovative strategies to anti-corruption investigations and work.

The program also featured presentations by Global Integrity, a nonprofit advocating transparent and accountable government through research, and scholars from Yale who spoke on their work. These included Paul Lagunes, a postdoctoral associate at Yale, who focuses on corruption and politics in Latin America and discussed his recent accountability study in a government agency.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, “The Yale conference was a singular opportunity for the participants to discuss how we approach the corruption work each of us does and how research can assist those of us investigating corruption on a daily basis. This kind of information sharing helps us find innovative solutions to the challenges integrity professionals and their governments encounter. I am gratified that DOI’s work was included and recognized at such a prestigious forum.”

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Yale University, in particular Ian Shapiro, Sterling Professor of Political Science at Yale University and the Henry R. Luce Director of the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, and Paul Lagunes, for inviting DOI.

The conference was sponsored by the Stephen and Ruth Hendel Fund and the MacMillan Center at Yale University.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City.

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