

For Immediate Release

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New International, Interdisciplinary Professorship Announced at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies

February 4, 2002. New Haven, CT ♦ Professor Arjun Appadurai has been appointed Professor of International Studies at Yale University, a new international, interdisciplinary professorship created by Yale University at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies (YCIAS). He will join the Yale faculty in July of 2002.

This professorship is the first of its kind at the University, and the first of three professorships to be filled. Professor Appadurai will have a primary appointment in anthropology and secondary appointments in sociology and political science. His current primary research focus is on globalization in the context of urbanization in developing countries and he will lead a Center Initiative on "Global Cities"; he will also help to further strengthen South Asian Studies at YCIAS.

"This new international, interdisciplinary professorship is a milestone for YCIAS and for the University," said Gustav Ranis, the Henry R. Luce Director of YCIAS. "It is unique in that faculty from throughout the University were consulted in identifying top scholars who can hold cutting-edge joint professorship appointments between arts and science departments and/or professional schools and departments. We are very pleased to have a scholar of Professor Appadurai's caliber on board as the first incumbent of this new type of professorship."

Professor Appadurai comes to Yale from the University of Chicago where he has taught in the Departments of Anthropology and South Asian Languages and Civilizations. He is also the Director of the Globalization Project there. He taught previously at the University of Pennsylvania and has held visiting appointments at the University of Michigan, the University of Iowa and New York University. He serves on numerous scholarly and advisory committees in the United States, Latin America and Europe.

Professor Appadurai was born and educated in Bombay. He received his B.A. from Brandeis University in 1967, and his M.A. and Ph.D. (1976) are from the University of Chicago.

YCIAS is Yale University's principal agency for encouraging and coordinating teaching and research on international affairs, societies and cultures around the world. YCIAS seeks to make understanding the world outside the borders of the U.S., and America's role in the world, an integral part of the liberal education and professional training at the University. It sponsors more than 500 lectures, conferences, workshops and roundtables each year (most of which are free and open to the public). YCIAS includes nineteen research and educational affiliates, specializing in interdisciplinary and problem-oriented, comparative studies of different world regions. It also administers six undergraduate majors and four Master's degree programs.

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