The Institute for Policy Studies entered 2009 determined to help transform the hope that surrounded Obama’s historic victory into meaningful change.

The Institute’s 35 public scholars united behind a new strategy of building “outside” pressure among activists for key changes, supplemented by an “inside” strategy of delivering analysis and fresh ideas directly to policymakers in Congress and the new administration.

By the end of the year, the Institute’s “inside/outside” strategy would lead staff into high-level meetings at the White House, the Capitol, and the Pentagon, as well as into the streets of Washington, Europe, Africa, South America, the Middle East, and Asia, and onto the editorial pages of newspapers across our country.

The work of IPS public scholars resonated with their key audiences, altering policy, budgeting, and even democracy in ways that were sometimes behind-the-scenes and sometimes highly visible. Following are just a few highlights of the impact of the Institute’s work in 2009.
Phyllis Bennis, along with co-author David Wileman, released *Ending the U.S. War in Afghanistan: A Primer*. The book equipped antiwar activists and others with a cogent analysis linking the costs of war with the rising economic crisis in the U.S.

Daphne Wysham and Janet Redman helped create and release a hit mini-documentary by Annie Leonard called “The Story of Cap and Trade.” It was viewed by half a million people in the first few weeks of its release, and created an international debate prior to the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. The cap-and-trade system as originally conceived is no longer being considered a viable approach in the U.S. Senate.

The Institute took over Minuteman Media in 2009 under the leadership of Emily Schwartz Greco, distributing commentary and cartoons aimed at making progressive analysis more accessible across the nation. Over 1,700 newspaper editors subscribed to the weekly editorial package, and IPS staff and other progressive voices reached over 3.5 million readers a week.

Scholars helped pilot and support the emergence of over 100 Common Security Clubs—self-help social action clubs that bring people together for support during the economic downturn through job networking, sharing money-saving strategies, and studying the roots of the financial crisis.

*Forbes* magazine on IPS’ 16th annual Executive Excess Report:

The most definitive look at who made the most money during the most troubled years on modern Wall Street.
The Institute collaborated with YES Magazine, the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies, and the People Centered Development Forum to launch a New Economy Working Group that is developing an integrated vision of a new economy that supports people and the planet. The Group offered visionary framing, new thinking, resources, and campaigns on ten key components of a new economy.

The Institute began a strategic partnership with the Inter-Alliance Dialogue — six major national grassroots networks including longtime ally Jobs with Justice and new ones like the National Domestic Workers Alliance. Out of this collaboration came a report, *Battered by the Storm: How the Safety Net is Failing Americans and How to Fix it.* Many of the report’s recommendations showed up in Obama’s budget proposal and in congressional legislation.

John Feffer established a new coalition — the Network for Okinawa — that brought together representatives of more than two dozen peace and environmental organizations to lobby against a new U.S. military base on Okinawa. IPS briefed the chairman of the Asia Pacific subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs committee, and helped design his itinerary for a trip to Japan so that he met with opponents of the U.S. basing proposal.

Karen Dolan’s in-depth analysis on the health care debate was seen as a bridge between the advocates of single payer and those who were playing inside-the-beltway politics with the public option.

John A. Moseley, Managing Editor, *Big Spring (TX) Herald* on the weekly op-eds provided by the Institute’s Minuteman Media service: I’m very pleased. Here in the most conservative part of Texas, it’s nice to have a differing viewpoint to offer our readers.
A team of the Institute’s veteran pay analysts played a key role in the raging debate over reforming executive pay. Their work informed lawmakers who eliminated some of the existing executive-friendly tax loopholes, and contributed to the growing public pressure to reform Wall Street.

Miriam Pemberton led a taskforce that briefed congressional staffers on the need for shifting resources from military to non-military foreign engagement. The Congressional Progressive Caucus’ alternative budget included taskforce recommendations on cuts in military spending. In the final budget, an unnecessary weapons system — the F-22 fighter jet — was eliminated, and expansion of the Pentagon budget was substantially curtailed.

Chuck Collins organized hundreds of wealthy Americans to speak out in support of rolling back the Bush tax cuts for households with annual incomes over $250,000. This helped change the conversation about how to pay for health care and broadcast a new narrative of shared prosperity and economic health.

The work of Institute scholar Bob Alvarez influenced the elimination of congressional funding for a risky and expensive program to deploy spent nuclear fuel reprocessing.

In June 2009 Congress, in a rider on a $106 billion defense appropriations bill, compelled the U.S. Treasury to do full greenhouse gas accounting. This followed pressure from IPS, including a report on the World Bank and fossil fuels.

The Institute — which co-produced the documentary “Shoveling Water” with Witness for Peace — brought three Colombians featured in the film about the consequences of aerial fumigation to Washington. Sanho Tree took them to meet with officials in the State Department, the drug czar’s office and members of Congress to provide eyewitness testimony about the reckless and counterproductive nature of the failed drug war in Colombia.

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT):
_Battered by the Storm_ should be essential reading for members of Congress, policymakers, and anyone who wants to understand the plight of the millions of Americans currently falling through the seams of our social safety net. It is a powerful reminder that welfare reform may have worked to get people off the rolls in a boom economy, but not anymore — and certainly not in this Great Recession.
Sarah Anderson served on an Obama administration advisory committee on bilateral investment treaties, and helped facilitate participation of U.S. and international activists at a State Department public hearing. More than 130 members of Congress have endorsed a bill that would eliminate the right of foreign investors to sue governments in international tribunals.

The Institute arranged for Domestic Workers United (DWU), recipients of the 2009 Letelier-Moffitt Award, to meet with top officials in the Labor Department. They presented key reforms that would improve working conditions for nannies, maids, and other caregivers in the U.S. The meeting was the start of an ongoing dialogue between DWU, the National Domestic Workers Alliance, IPS, and the Labor Department.

Phyllis Bennis spent the three weeks of the 2009 Gaza crisis at the United Nations, working alongside the team of General Assembly President Miguel d’Escoto to help craft possible responses to the crisis. That work helped shape the UN’s response, including creation of its Fact-Finding Mission, led by South African Justice Richard Goldstone. The Goldstone Report — which calls for full investigation, if necessary, by the International Criminal Court of potential war crimes committed by Israel and by Palestinian armed groups — continues to transform both civil society and governmental discourse regarding the applicability of international law and human rights to the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

The Institute advanced its goal of ending child labor and environmental destruction in the world’s largest rubber operations, Firestone Liberia. Emira Woods traveled to Liberia to join the nation’s leading environmental justice activists as they met with its newly formed Environmental Protection Agency, urging attention to the issue of toxic waste. Following a toxicology study, the EPA condemned Firestone’s dumping of toxins.
All of us at IPS draw great strength from our community of donors, including those whom we might have missed in this listing. We are deeply grateful.
The work of IPS scholar-activists in 2009 was strategic, built on existing relationships with elected leaders, social movements, and other organizations moving forward an ambitious and hopeful agenda. The impact of that work continues to reverberate today. As Washington changes, so too does the Institute for Policy Studies. Small enough to be agile yet prescient enough to be strategic, the Institute’s “inside/outside” strategy continues to carry the torch for ideas large and small while never capitulating to special interests. We are proud of our work in 2009 and look forward to making even greater impacts in the coming years.

**Financials**

IPS Net Assets as of 1/1/2009 = $1,824,234  12/31/09 = $ 1,939,139

**2009 Income**

Total = $3,520,390

- Grants and contributions $3,303,566
- Events and other income, including investment income $216,824

**2009 Expenditures**

Total = 3,404,485

- Program $3,100,745 (91%)
- Overhead (non-program/general & admin) $104,122 (3%)
- Development $199,618 (6%)

**IPS Staff in 2009**

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<th>IPS Staff</th>
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<td>Tamar Abrams</td>
<td>Miriam Pemberton</td>
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<td>Robert Alvarez</td>
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<td>Diana Alonzo</td>
<td>Marcus Raskin</td>
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<td>Sarah Anderson</td>
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<td>Phyllis Bennis</td>
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<td>Jen Deak</td>
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<td>Karen Dolan</td>
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<td>John Feffer</td>
<td>Robin Weiss</td>
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<td>Farrah Hassan</td>
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<td>Nate Kerksick</td>
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<td>Saul Landau</td>
<td>Andrei Zaleska</td>
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<td>Adwoa Masozi</td>
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**IPS Board of Trustees**

- E. Ethelbert Miller, Chair
- Saul Landau, Vice Chair
- Andy Shallal, Treasurer
- Lewis Steel, General Counsel
- Daphne Wysham, Secretary

**IPS Staff in 2009**

- Steve Cobble
- Antonio Juhasz
- Ben Manski
- Nadia Martinez
- Lael Parish
- Paul Paz y Miño
- Manuel Pérez-Rocha
- Sam Pizzigati
- Caleb Rossiter
- Usagyelo Sekou

**IPS Associate Fellows**

- Carlos Albacete
- Beverly Bell

**In Memoriam**

Some champions of a just society we lost in 2009:

- Shirley Fingerhood
- Murray Karpen
- Ed Newman
- Anne Pennybacker Watts

They made IPS and our world better. We miss them all.
As the Institute for Policy Studies set about the challenge of turning hope into meaningful change in 2009, we were guided by lessons from the past century, when powerful social movements armed with bold ideas pressed wide-ranging government action. The first, in the mid 1930s, involved labor, community, and farm activists demanding that FDR and his majorities in Congress pass laws to protect basic worker rights and provide for the elderly, culminating in what Roosevelt called his “Second Bill of Rights.” The second, in the mid 1960s, happened when coalitions of civil rights advocates, labor unions, and senior citizens pushed LBJ and Congress to enact landmark civil rights, voting rights, and public health laws.

Today we are mired in an economic crisis that demands transformative vision. Just as the civil rights movement made racism the subject of national debate, IPS has forged alliances with a broad range of movements devoted to turning extreme inequality into a target of national scorn. We are working with these movements to transform the economy into one that is more equal and more protective of the planet.

The Institute’s model of “public scholarship” recognizes that research, writing, and filmmaking are much more powerful activities if they are linked with dynamic social movements. In 2009, IPS public scholars fostered linkages among the peace movement around the Afghanistan war, advocates for a transition from military jobs to green jobs, and grassroots groups pressing for economic and environmental justice. We also built close connections between the worlds of art and politics through our partnership with the Split This Rock Poetry Festival, and through a new arts emphasis in our Foreign Policy In Focus project. In a progressive landscape where too many groups are separated by issues and expertise, we are proud to unite seemingly diverse issues and organizations for effective change.

Finally, the Institute is dedicated to training the next generation of public scholars, and to communicating our ideas as effectively as possible. We now have an endowed Carol Jean and Edward F. Newman Fellowship for young public scholars, and we have a vibrant program of internships year-round. And we have built a strong communications team under the capable leadership of Tamar Abrams. As always, we welcome your ideas and your collaboration at feedback@ips-dc.org.

Sincerely,

E Ethelbert Miller, Board Chair
John Cavanagh, Director

“Jump off the cliff and build your wings on the way down.”
- Ray Bradbury
The Institute for Policy Studies is a community of public scholars and organizers linking peace, justice, and the environment in the U.S. and globally. We work with social movements to promote true democracy and challenge concentrated wealth, corporate influence, and military power.