

## 2010-11 Princeton Global Scholar

### **Giacomo Luciani**

Giacomo Luciani is the director of the Dubai-based Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRC), a nonprofit organization that gathers and disseminates knowledge about the Gulf region through scholarly research on political, economic, social and security issues. He has held several visiting professorships, and serves as an adjunct professor of international relations at the Johns Hopkins University Bologna Center in Italy.

A leading specialist in the political economy of the Middle East, as well as the economics of energy in the Persian Gulf and the Arab world, Luciani focuses on understanding the political and economic context in the Middle East and how it affects the rest of the world. He currently leads research on security of oil supplies within the SECURE project (Security of Energy Considering its Uncertainty, Risk and Economic implications), and participates in the POLINARES (POLIcy for NATural RESources) project led by the University of Dundee.

Luciani convened a series of conferences in Florence between 2001 and 2004 to discuss the evolution of the geopolitics of energy. He has participated in the MEDSUPPLY project that explores development of energy supplies, led by the Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie association of leading Mediterranean energy companies, for which he wrote a paper on the evolution of oil and gas supplies from the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. He also has participated in the INDES project led by the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS) of Brussels, writing a paper on the security of gas supplies. In addition, he organized a joint conference titled "Caspian Oil and Gas Scenarios" in April 2003.

As an internationally renowned consultant, Luciani has worked extensively in the development of successive five-year development plans for Saudi Arabia since 1995 and has consulted for major international oil companies. He is a member of the Oxford Energy Policy Club, the Geneva Petroleum Club, and the Energy, Oil and Gas Club of the Institut français du pétrole.

At Princeton, Luciani will teach and mentor students, co-advising undergraduates on their junior papers and senior theses, as well as Ph.D. candidates on their dissertations, and he will deliver lectures on his most recent work. His leadership at the Gulf Research Center Foundation will provide faculty, students and postdoctoral researchers from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, with a research base from which to conduct fieldwork in the region.

Through these activities and his collaboration with faculty, undergraduate and graduate student researchers on the project "Oil, Energy and the Middle East," spearheaded by the Department of Near Eastern Studies and the Princeton Environmental Institute, Luciani will further strengthen Princeton's role in the study and research of energy and the Middle East.