

Fall 2006

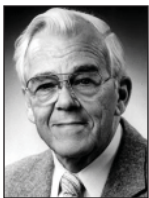
Vol. 1, Issue 1

Mershon Memo

A newsletter of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Mason creates endowed chair

In 1997, Major General Raymond E. Mason Jr. (ret.) gave \$500,000 to fund an endowed professorship in military history at the Mer-shon Center for International Security Studies. Allan R. Millett held the position until he left The Ohio State University in Spring 2006.



Lt. Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr.

Now, the Ma-son Foundation has gener-ously given an additional \$600,000 to turn the pro-fessorship into an endowed

chair. The Mer-shon Center and Department of History are conducting a joint search to fill the new position.

We welcome applicants who approach the field broadly, including those examining military policy and institutions, wartime operations, and relationships between the military, soci-ety, and culture. Applicants must be senior scholars with distinguished publica-tion and teaching records.

Please see **Mason** on Page 3

McMahon serves on committee that declassifies U.S. documents

Robert McMahon was thrilled to get an invitation in 2002 from Secretary of State Colin Powell to serve on the State Department's Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation.

That's because McMahon knew exactly what the advisory committee does; for four years, he worked under its direction in the State Department's Office of the Historian.

As a member of the com-mittee, McMahon, the Ralph D. Mer-shon Professor of History, oversees publica-tion of the *Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS)* documentary series, the nation's official record of foreign affairs, and advises on sensitive issues surround-ing the declassification of government documents.

FRUS has been published continuously since 1861 and now comprises more than 350 volumes focusing on various topics and countries. For example, 34 volumes on the Johnson presidency cover topics such as Viet-nam, national security policy, arms control, Western Eu-rope, the Soviet Union, the Arab-Israeli dispute, and the United Nations.



Robert J. McMahon, Ralph D. Mer-shon Professor of History, shakes hands with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice during a meeting of the State Department Historical Advisory Committee in December 2005. The committee meets four times a year to make recommendations for declassifying government documents on U.S. foreign policy.

Declassifying documents

In order to publish a complete account of U.S. foreign relations, the Office of the Historian relies on the declassification of govern-ment documents. Federal law requires all government documents to be declassified after 25 years unless specifi-cally exempt.

The State Department His-torical Advisory Committee's job is to make sure executive branch departments such as State, Defense, Treasury, Energy and the CIA declas-sify their documents in a timely manner. Each year, committee members write

a report to Congress stating how well these agencies are doing in declassifying their documents for selection and inclusion in the *FRUS* series.

The advisory committee has been around since the 1970s, but gained clout with a Congressional mandate in 1991, McMahon said. This mandate requires other government departments to cooperate in declassifying documents for the Office of the Historian's documentary series, and allows the advi-sory committee to step in if there is a problem.

Please see **McMahon** on Page 3

Mershon launches program for undergrads

One of the purposes of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies is to enhance the student experience at Ohio State. To that end, Mershon seeks to involve undergraduates in center activities. In the past, the center has done this by supporting student travel and employing student assistants.

This year, the Mershon Center is launching a new program to boost undergraduate involvement: Mershon Undergraduate Fellows.

The center is inviting the best students in a variety of departments to participate by meeting our top speakers and being kept informed about opportunities for travel and research support.

Faculty affiliated with the Mershon Center have already nominated about 80 students to participate in the program. While many of these are honors students, nominations are open to any interested and engaged undergraduates majoring in a variety of fields.

If you would like to nominate a student for the Mershon Undergraduate Fellows program, please send the student's name and email address to Cathy Becker, Public Relations Coordinator, at becker.271.

Mershon Center welcomes 06-07 visitors, post-doctoral fellows

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies is pleased to welcome a variety of post-doctoral fellows, visiting scholars, and other guests in residence during 2006-07. Seven are arriving for the fall quarter, with two more coming in the winter and spring.

Jason Parker, who received his Ph.D. in history at the University of Florida under Robert McMahon in 2002, will be a post-doctoral fellow.



Parker

He will use his time at Mershon to complete "The Contest: Hearts, Minds, and the History of American Public Diplomacy in the 'Third World,'" which examines U.S. public diplomacy during the Cold War through eight case studies in four regions.

Parker argues that although U.S. public diplomacy in the Third World had mixed success and unintended consequences, it was an integral part of the Cold War struggle, was conducted systematically, and was relatively inexpensive and effective.

Darrin Mortenson joined the Mershon Center in August as journalist in residence.



Mortenson

Mortenson, a reporter for

the *North County Times*, the paper for Camp Pendleton in California, spent three tours of duty as a reporter embedded with Marines in Iraq. His second tour took place in 2004 with the first Marine battalion in Fallujah, where he witnessed the violence leading up to the brutal slaying of four American contractors and the month-long siege of the town afterward.

During his time at Mershon, Mortenson plans to finish a book analyzing the 2004 events in Fallujah. He argues that 11 months of occupation by U.S. Army troops preceded the contractors' slayings, and that Marines attacked the town as early as March.

Anita Bucknam began a two-year stint this fall as CIA Officer in Residence. She is one of only four such appointments to U.S. universities this year.



Bucknam

Bucknam has a bachelor's from Cornell University in Russian Language and Literature, and a master's in Soviet Studies from Harvard. She joined the CIA in 1992, working on Russian economic and political issues until 9/11, when she started working on counter-terrorism. She also served short tours in the National Security Agency, State Department, White House, and in Moscow.

Julie Clemens joined the Mershon Center this year as Graduate Research Associate in Peace Studies. Clemens, a doctoral candidate at the



Clemens

School of Educational Policy and Leadership, is writing her dissertation on "Peace and the Politics of Truth in U.S. Higher Education."

This is a critical analysis of the condition of peace scholarship in the United States, seeking to identify areas where peace studies is located in higher education, its contributions to international relations and education, and ways it can improve its standing.

Taehyun Kim, a professor at the Graduate School of International Studies in Chung-Ang University in South Korea, will be a visiting scholar.



Taehyun Kim

Among other projects, he is working on a book on South Korean foreign policy after democratization.

Kim argues that while democratization has been a blessing for the South Korean people and contributed to international peace and security, it also poses serious challenges for political

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Visitors

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leadership, resulting in an indecisive and disorganized foreign policy.

The Mershon Center will host another visiting scholar



Yong Cheol Kim

from South Korea, **Yong Cheol Kim**, professor of political science at Chonnam

National University.

Kim's main scholarly interests are Korean politics, cyber-politics, democratic transition and consolidation, and Korea-U.S. Relations. While at the Mershon Center, he will work on a project, "Online Social Movements: Comparing South Korea and the United States."

Finally, the Mershon Center is pleased this fall to host

Justin Tighe,

a post-doctoral fellow sponsored by the East Asian Studies Center.



Tighe

A lecturer in Chinese Studies at the University of Melbourne, Tighe is the author of *Constructing Suiyuan: The Politics of Northwestern Territory and Development in Early Twentieth Century China* (Brill 2005).

During his time at OSU, Tighe will conduct research on late Qing/Republican constructions of Inner Asia and their significance in the making of empire and nation state.

McMahon

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Problems do arise, even with the best of intentions. "Resources are limited, classification issues are complicated, and there is a great body of important documents," McMahon said. Moreover, he noted that in recent years there has been a resurgence in anti-openness attitudes within certain key agencies.

Nixon tapes

Most recently the committee has been reviewing volumes that cover foreign policy during the Nixon administration. "Nixon was unique because foreign policy was centralized in the White House to an almost unprecedented extent," McMahon said. "Nixon and Kissinger are where you have to go to find U.S. foreign policy because they made it."

Much information about Nixon's foreign policy is stored on the famous tapes he made while in office, McMahon said, tens of thousands of hours of which have never been transcribed. These tapes contain not just official government records, but private family affairs as well as Nixon's well-known sarcasm, vulgarity, and even

anti-Semitic remarks.

In discussing what to include in the *Foreign Relations of the United States*, McMahon said, the editors decided to "let Nixon be Nixon. If it's an important government conversation, it will be published regardless of the crudeness of some of the language."

Reclassification

Another controversy the committee has dealt with is the reclassification of many government documents by the current Bush administration – sometimes decades after they had already been declassified.

In one case, a 1950 intelligence report that had incorrectly predicted the Chinese would not intervene in the Korean War was withdrawn.

This reclassification effort came to light with a front-page story by Scott Shane of *The New York Times* in February 2006. The story alarmed professional organizations such as the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations, which passed a unanimous motion opposing the initiative.

The story also prompted the Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein to



Robert McMahon

call for a moratorium on reclassification of documents until an audit could be completed. The Historical Advisory Committee unanimously passed a resolution supporting his decision.

The National Archives' audit found that while 64 percent of the reclassified documents contained information that warranted classified status, withdrawing documents that had already been published did not mitigate damage to national security. In fact, the audit said, withdrawal could damage national security by drawing attention to the document.

Committee membership

The State Department Historical Advisory Committee is comprised of nine members drawn mostly from scholarly and professional societies concerned with foreign affairs. McMahon represents the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

McMahon is not the first person from The Ohio State University to serve on the committee. Michael Hogan, former chair of the History Department and dean of the College of Humanities, is its former chair.

Mason

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A specialization in modern America is preferred.

Responsibilities include teaching undergraduate

courses in the History Department and participating in the programs and activities of the Mershon Center.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, a current curriculum vitae, and the

names of three references to Robert McMahon, Chair, Mason Search Committee, 106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210. Review of applications will begin Nov. 1.

1501 Neil Ave.
Columbus, OH 43201
www.mershoncenter.osu.edu

Mershon Center launches new website

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies is pleased to announce the launch of its new website at www.mershoncenter.osu.edu.

This user-friendly website features all-new design and navigation, along with accurate and timely information about the Mershon Center and its contributions to faculty and students at The Ohio State University and beyond.

The new website will give users easy access to information about the Mershon Center's upcoming lectures,

workshops and conferences. Users will see current events listed on the home page, then can click inside to find monthly calendars with links to speaker biographies and conference websites.

One feature of the new Mershon Center website not available on the previous version is information about ongoing faculty research projects. This research is one of the key ways the Mershon Center fulfills its mission to advance the understanding of national security in a global context.

The new website also has information about the Mershon Center's faculty and student grants, post-doctoral fellowship, and visiting fellows program.

Finally, its News area features a fact sheet, list of experts and press releases, while its People section includes contact information for Mershon affiliated faculty, visitors and staff.

If you have comments about the new Mershon Center website, please contact Cathy Becker, public relations coordinator, at becker.271@osu.edu.

Faculty Book Awards

Carter Findley's *The Turks in World History* was chosen as winner of The British-Kuwait Friendship Society Prize for Middle East Studies.

Carole Fink's *Defending the Rights of Others: The Great Powers, the Jews, and International Minority Protection, 1878-1938* won the George Louis Beer Prize of the American Historical Association for best book in European international history.

Marcus Kurtz's *Free Market Democracy and the Chilean and*

Mexican Countryside was named an Outstanding Academic Title by *Choice*, the magazine of the American Library Association.

John Mueller's *The Remnants of War* won Georgetown University's Leggold Prize for best book on international relations published in 2004.

Alexander Wendt's *Social Theory of International Politics* was named the best book in international studies in the past decade by International Studies Association.

Mershon Memo

Mershon Memo is a publication of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, whose mission is to advance the understanding of national security in a global context.

We are currently building a mailing list for this newsletter. If you would like to be included, please send your name and address to:

Cathy Becker
Public Relations Coordinator
becker.271@osu.edu

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17	18	19	20 Fall quarter begins	21	22	23
24	25 Theda Skocpol <i>"Voice and Inequality: The Transformation of American Civic Democracy"</i>	26	27	28 Jillian Schwedler <i>"Rethinking Moderation: The Politics of Participation in the Middle East"</i>	29	30

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Jeffrey Sachs <i>"The End of Poverty"</i>	6	7
8	9	10 Peter Singer <i>"Wired for War: Science Fiction, Science Reality, and the 21st Cen- tury Battlefield"</i>	11	12 Robert Brenner <i>"Prosperity and Crisis in the World Economy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"</i>	13 Richard Ned Lebow <i>"The Politics of Memory in Post- War Europe"</i>	14 Conference 1956: Race, Neutralism and National Liberation
15 Conference 1956: Race, Neutralism and National Liberation	16	17	18	19 Michael Doyle <i>"Preventive Self-Defense"</i>	20 Jeremy Black <i>"Could the British Have Won the American War of Independence?"</i>	21
22 Frank Luntz <i>"Framing the Message from American Elections to the Middle East"</i>	23	24	25 Jason Parker <i>"The Contest: Hearts, Minds, and the History of U.S. Public Diplomacy in the 'Third World' "</i>	26	27 Frederick Cooper and Jane Burbank <i>"Empire and Citizenship, 212-1946"</i>	28
29	30 Stefan Talmon <i>"Security Council as World Legislator"</i>	31				

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Ann Tickner <i>"Gendered Insecurities, Religion and Contemporary International Theorizing"</i>	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Conference War for the American South, 1865-1965	10 Conference War for the American South, 1865-1965 Conference Peace Science Society (International)	11 Conference War for the American South, 1865-1965 Conference Peace Science Society (International)
12 Conference Peace Science Society (International)	13	14 Andrew Cottey <i>"The End of Humanitarian Intervention? Norms and International Politics after 9/11"</i>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 William Perry <i>Joseph J. Kruzel Memorial Lecture</i>	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26	27 Conference Living Jerusalem: Cultures and Communities in Contention	28 Conference Living Jerusalem: Cultures and Communities in Contention	29	30		

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Conference U.S. Foreign Policy under Nixon, Kissinger & Ford	2 Conference U.S. Foreign Policy under Nixon, Kissinger & Ford
3 Final exams	4 Final exams	5 Final exams	6 Final exams	7 Final exams	8	9

Mershon Center for International Security Studies



Skocpol

Monday, September 25, 2006

Theda Skocpol

**Professor of Government and Sociology
Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Harvard University**

"Voice and Inequality: The Transformation of American Civic Democracy"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Fink

Saturday-Sunday, October 14-15, 2006

1956: Race, Neutralism, and National Liberation

**A Mershon Center Conference
Carole Fink, Rajiv Khanna, Amanda Rothey,
Organizers**

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

In 1956, the world witnessed two upheavals: a major rift in European communism, with the revolutions in Poland and Hungary; and the onset of decolonization after the abortive Suez invasion by France and Great Britain. In this 50th anniversary of that momentous year, we propose to look beyond these seminal events and explore their impact on three significant issues – race, neutralism, and national liberation – which have affected the world until today.



Schwedler

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Jillian Schwedler

Assistant Professor, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland

"Rethinking Moderation: The Politics of Participation in the Middle East"

1:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Sachs

Thursday, October 5, 2006

Jeffrey Sachs

**Director, U.N. Millennium Project
Director, Earth Institute, Columbia University**

"The End of Poverty"

3 p.m., Ohio Union West Ballroom

Co-sponsored by First Year Experience

Admission is free but tickets are required



Doyle

Thursday, October 19, 2006

Michael Doyle

**Professor of U.S. Foreign and Security Policy,
Columbia University**

Former Special Advisor to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan

"Preventive Self-Defense"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Singer

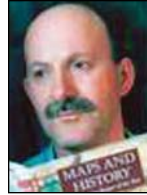
Tuesday, October 10, 2006

Peter Singer

Director, Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, Brookings Institution

"Wired for War: Science Fiction, Science Reality, and the 21st Century Battlefield"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Black

Friday, October 20, 2006

Jeremy Black

**Professor of History, University of Exeter
Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Research Institute**

"Could the British Have Won the American War of Independence?"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Brenner

Thursday, October 12, 2006

Robert Brenner

Director, Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, UCLA

"Prosperity and Crisis in the World Economy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Co-sponsored by the OSU History Department



Luntz

Sunday, October 22, 2006

Frank Luntz

**President of Luntz Research Companies,
Public Affairs Firm in Washington**

"Framing the Message from American Elections to the Middle East"

6:30 p.m., OSU Hillel, 46 E. 16th Ave.

Co-sponsored by OSU Hillel



Lebow

Friday, Oct. 13, 2006

Richard Ned Lebow

**James O. Freeman Presidential Professor of Government, Dartmouth University,
Former Director of the Mershon Center**

"The Politics of Memory in Post-War Europe"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Parker

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

Jason Parker

Post-Doctoral Fellow

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

"The Contest: Hearts, Minds, and the History of U.S. Public Diplomacy in the 'Third World'"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

For more information and to reserve your spot, please see the Mershon Center website at www.mershoncenter.osu.edu

Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201, (614) 292-1681

Fall 2006 Calendar of Events



Cooper

Friday, October 27, 2006

Frederick Cooper and Jane Burbank
Professor of African History
Professor of Russian History
New York University

"Empire and Citizenship, 212-1946"

3:30 p.m., Dulles Hall Room 168

Co-sponsored by the OSU History Department, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Department of Comparative Studies, and Center for African Studies



Burbank



Pollins

Friday-Sunday, November 10-12, 2006

Peace Science Society (International)
2006 North American Meeting

Brian Pollins, President

Irfan Nooruddin, Local Coordinator

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Columbus Convention Center

For more information, please see <http://pss.la.psu.edu>



Cottey

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Andrew Cottey

Senior Lecturer in European Political Integration
University College Cork

"The End of Humanitarian Intervention?

Norms and International Politics After 9/11"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Talmon

Monday, October 30, 2006

Stefan Talmon

Lecturer in Public International Law
University of Oxford

"Security Council as World Legislator"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Co-sponsored by the Moritz College of Law



Perry

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

William Perry

Former Secretary of Defense
Co-Director, Preventive Defense Project
Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International
Studies, Stanford University

Joseph J. Kruzel Memorial Lecture

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Tickner

Thursday, November 2, 2006

Ann Tickner

Professor of International Relations, USC
President, International Studies Association

"Gendered Insecurities, Religion and Contemporary

International Theorizing"

12 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

Co-sponsored by OSU Women in Development



Horowitz

Monday-Tuesday, November 27-28, 2006

Living Jerusalem: Cultures and
Communities in Contention

Amy Horowitz, Organizer

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

This is a working session for three Israeli and three Palestinian scholars to review and revise a publication begun at the Smithsonian Institution in 1993.



Grimsley

Thursday-Saturday, November 9-11, 2006

The War for the American South,
1865-1965

A Mershon Center Conference

Mark Grimsley and Hasan Kwame Jeffries,
Organizers

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

This conference examines the struggle between white supremacy and black liberation in the American South through the lens of an extended war of decolonization. It takes the form of a dialogue between historians who deal mainly with military history and historians who deal mainly with the African-American liberation struggle of the 19th and 20th centuries. The purpose is to examine how the two fields -- military history and African American history -- can inform each other's perspectives.



McMahon

Friday-Saturday, December 1-2, 2006

U.S. Foreign Policy under Nixon,
Kissinger and Ford

A Mershon Center Conference

Robert McMahon and Peter Hahn, Organizers

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

This conference will examine U.S. foreign policy during the Nixon and Ford administrations. Topics include American grand strategy, nuclear issues and arms control, the opening to China, U.S.-Soviet relations, and the Vietnam War. Attending will be the contributors to *The Dilemmas of Power: American Foreign Policy Under Nixon, Kissinger and Ford*, to be published in 2007 by Oxford University Press, as well as commentators from a variety of departments at OSU and other universities.

For more information and to reserve your spot, please see the Mershon Center website at www.mershoncenter.osu.edu

Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201, (614) 292-1681