



Fall 2007

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Mershon Memo

A newsletter of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Office finds undergrads to help with research

While faculty in biology and chemistry hire plenty of undergraduates to work in their research labs, those in the social sciences and humanities can't offer research opportunities so readily.

That's where the Undergraduate Research Office comes in. The office can advertise research opportunities for faculty to students, and help match the right kind of student to each project.

About a third of the opportunities advertised are in the social sciences or humanities. Most do not pay, though the student can often get academic credit or present results at the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum.

Faculty seeking undergraduates to work on their projects can request help from the Undergraduate Research Office by filling out a form on its website.

Faculty can specify the type of students they need, with criteria such as year, major, previous research experience, and grade point average.

For more information, see <http://ugresearch.adm.ohio-state.edu>.

OUTDOOR CONFERENCE



Students working on the Dissent/Repression Nexus project speak about preliminary results with principal investigator Katherine Meyer of Ohio State (center right in brown) and project consultant Nazek Nosseir of American University in Cairo (center left in red) at a June 21 meeting outside the Mershon Center. At far left are principal investigator Craig Jenkins of Ohio State (in blue) and Helen Rizzo of American University in Cairo. Meyer and Jenkins said the project was an extremely effective way to involve students in their research.

Mershon Center welcomes new post-docs, visiting scholars

Three post-doctoral fellows and two visiting scholars will take up residence at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies this fall, joining two ongoing visitors.

Anja Jetschke, Assistant Professor of International



Jetschke

Relations at the University of Freiburg, will use her fellowship at the Mershon Center to work on her second book, *Explaining Variation and Persistence: Asia's Cultural Approach to International Cooperation*.

The project explores how and why cultural preferences

among Asian states appear consistently to lead to a less institutionalized form of international collaboration.

Jetschke argues that previous explanations of the Asian approach to international cooperation don't take context into account, and she uses comparative case studies to explore areas such as economics, security and human rights.

Jetschke is also author of *Arguing for Change: The Power and Effects of Transnational Public Spheres on Human Rights Practices in Indonesia and the Philippines*, currently under review at Cornell University Press.

Andrew A.G. Ross, most recently a Visiting Assistant



Ross

Professor of Political Science and Government at the University of Puget Sound, will spend his

time at the Mershon Center working on his book *Economics of Affect: Memory, Emotion, and International Politics*. The book puts forward a new perspective on passion in international politics, seeing it not as a psychological state but as emotion-laden environments, or "circulations of affect."

See **Post-Docs** on back page

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			SEPTEMBER 19 <i>Fall quarter begins</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	OCTOBER 1	2 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Thomas Homer-Dixon	3	4 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Maj. Gen. R. Mike Worden	5 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Erez Manela	6
7	8	9 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Strobe Talbott	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Andrew Ross	18	19	20
21	22	23 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Warren Hoge	24	25	26 Mershon 120 Women in War Conference	27 Mershon 120 Women in War Conference
28	29	30	31	NOVEMBER 1 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Anja Jetschke	2	3
4	5 12 p.m., Mershon 120 Derek Penslar	6	7	8	9 3:30 p.m., Mershon 120 Dennis Thompson	10
11	12	13 3:30 p.m., Mershon 120 Birgit Brock-Utne	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	23 <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	24

For more information and to reserve your spot, please see the Mershon Center website at <http://mershoncenter.osu.edu>
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201, (614) 292-1681

Fall 2007 Calendar of Events



Homer-Dixon

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2007

Thomas Homer-Dixon
Director, Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Toronto

"A Theory of Societal Collapse: Convergent Shocks, Thermodynamic Disequilibrium, and Brittleness"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Hashamova

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 26-27, 2007

Women in War International Conference
Yana Hashamova, The Ohio State University
Helene Goscilo, University of Pittsburgh

Mershon Center Room 120

This two-part conference explores the role of women in war from World War II to the present. It focuses geographically on Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and the Soviet Union, and the Balkans; and historically on World War II, the wars in Afghanistan (1979-1989) and secessionist Chechnya (1994-96, 1999-present), and the Bosnia/Croatia/Serbia war (1992-95). The first part of the conference, held at University of Pittsburgh, dealt mainly with World War II, while the second part, at The Ohio State University, will emphasize more recent military conflicts (Afghanistan, Chechnya, and the Balkans).



Worden

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007

Maj. Gen. R. Mike Worden
Commander, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center,
Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada

"Strategy, Military Transformation, and the Role of Air Power"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Goscilo



Manela

Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

Erez Manela
Dunwalke Associate Professor of American History, Harvard University

"The Wilsonian Moment and the Origins of the Postcolonial World"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Jetschke

Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

Anja Jetschke
Post-Doctoral Fellow,
Mershon Center for International Security Studies

"Explaining Variation and Persistence: Asia's Cultural Approach to International Cooperation"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Talbott

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2007

Strobe Talbott
President of the Brookings Institution

"The Election of the Century: The American Presidency and the World"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Penslar

Monday, Nov. 5, 2007

Derek Penslar
Director of the Jewish Studies Program,
University of Toronto

"When May We Kill our Brethren? Jews at War in Europe, 1848-1918"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Ross

Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2007

Andrew Ross
Post-Doctoral Fellow,
Mershon Center for International Security Studies

"Economies of Affect: Memory, Emotion and International Politics"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Thompson

Friday, Nov. 9, 2007

Dennis Thompson
Alfred North Whitehead Professor of Political Philosophy, Harvard University

"Deliberative Democracy"

3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120



Hoge

Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2007

Warren Hoge
United Nations Bureau Chief,
The New York Times

"The United Nations in a Time of Change"

Noon, Mershon Center Room 120



Brock-Utne

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2007

Birgit Brock-Utne
Director of Comparative and International Education, University of Oslo

"Women Protesting Against War, Writing and Acting for Peace"

3:30 p.m., Mershon Center Room 120

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Post-Docs

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Ross explores these circulations of affect in three areas: ethnic conflict and nationalism in Rwanda and Yugoslavia; institutions concerned with justice after a conflict, such as war-crimes trials and truth commissions; and public responses to terrorism after 9/11.

While at the Mershon Center, **Zachary Zwald**, who just earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley, will work on turning his dissertation into a book. The project, *Solving an Imaginary Problem: Why 'Should' Determines 'Can' on U.S. National Missile Defense*, argues that because policymakers lack experience with nuclear conflict, they fall back on one of two belief systems: that nuclear weapons assure mutual vulnerability and should be used only for arms control, or that nuclear weapons create a technological edge and should be used for fighting wars.

Zwald will examine the role of these belief systems in two key debates: first, whether the balance in offensive and defensive weapons affects the likelihood of military attack, and second,

whether the nuclear revolution makes the balance between offensive and defensive weapons moot.

He will also explore whether the uncertainty about nuclear conflict leads policymakers in the Middle East, Indian subcontinent, and East Asia to invoke the same arms control and war fighting beliefs as those in the United States.

Myon Woo Lee, Senior Research Fellow at the Sejong Institutes in South Korea, is a visiting scholar working on two projects. The first compares the leadership of Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun.



Lee

It uses statistical analysis and newspaper reports to explore why Koizumi enjoyed immense popularity while Roh did not. Lee's second project examines conservative politicians in Japan such as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who denied that the military forced women into sexual slavery during World War II.

Visiting scholar **Saiful Mujani** is founder of the Lemnaga Survei Indonesia, the premier survey institute in that country, as well as Director of Political Studies of the Freedom Institute, and Associate Professor of Political Studies at the Universitas Islam Negeri, Jakarta.

Mujani has been principal investigator in mass opinion surveys on voting behavior, religion, democracy, and public policy in Indonesia since 1999.



Mujani

While at the Mershon Center, he will work with Professor Bill Liddle on projects about democratic culture and political participation, leadership and party choice, religion and voting behavior, and consolidating Indonesian democracy.

Jetschke, Ross, Zwald, Lee and Mujani join ongoing visitors, CIA Officer in Residence **Anita Bucknam**, and Peace Studies Coordinator **Julie Clemens**.

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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.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this newsletter, please send your name and address to:

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