Mershon Center events

Tuesday Jan. 30, 2007

Graduate Student Veterans Panel
"War in the 21st Century: The Graduate Experience"
12 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies

**John Guilmartin**, Professor of Military History at The Ohio State University and retired Lieutenant Colonel from the Air Force, will lead a panel of three graduate students who are veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The veterans will talk about their experiences, with plenty of time for question and answer. Among those speaking will be Sergeant First Class **Valerie Hudson** (left), Captain **Pete Rayls**, and Major **Thomas Spahr**. Read more and RSVP

Friday, Feb. 2, 2007

**Steven Davis**
"War in Iraq vs. Containment"
12 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies

**Steven Davis** is William H. Abbott Professor of International Business and Economics at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. His research specializations include employment outcomes, labor market flows, the structure of wages and earnings, tax effects on work activity, demand for risky assets, and product pricing and design. In this lecture, Davis analyzes two policy options in Iraq -- war versus containment -- with attention to three questions: Is war more or less costly for the United States than a policy of continued containment? Would a continuation of the containment policy have saved Iraqi lives? Is war likely to bring about an improvement or deterioration in the economic well being of Iraqis? Read more and RSVP

Citizenship Lecture Series
Friday, Feb. 2, 2007

**Charles Beitz**
“Is Democracy for Everyone?”
Charles Beitz is Professor of Politics at Princeton University specializing in international political theory, democratic theory, the theory of human rights and legal theory. His works include Political Theory and International Relations and Political Equality: An Essay in Democratic Theory, as well as articles on a variety of topics in political philosophy. He co-edited International Ethics and Law, Economics, and Philosophy. His current work includes projects on the philosophy of human rights and the theory of intellectual property. Beitz is editor of Philosophy & Public Affairs. His talk is part of the Mershon Center’s Citizenship Lecture Series.

New event!
Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2007
Jeffrey Lewis
“Precision Terror: Suicide Bombing as Control Technology”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Jeffrey Lewis received his bachelor’s in history from Case Western Reserve University in 1992, and his master’s and Ph.D. in European history from The Ohio State University in 1994 and 2002. His dissertation was on the history of molecular biology in 20th century Germany. Lewis’s research focuses on the history of science and technology, particularly their importance for national security policy. He is currently revising his dissertation for publication as a book tentatively titled Scientists after Hitler: Molecular Biology Research in the Federal Republic of Germany. Lewis received a Fulbright Grant in 1999-2000, a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) grant in 2001, and a guest scholar post at Germany’s Max-Planck-Society for the Advancement of the Sciences in 2002. His article “Precision Terror: Suicide Bombing as Control Technology” will appear in Terrorism and Political Violence this spring.

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007
Aaron Friedberg
“Is the Unipolar Moment Over?”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Aaron Friedberg is Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University, where he has taught since 1987. He also served from June 2003 to June 2005 as Deputy Assistant for National Security Affairs in the Office of the Vice President. Friedberg is the author of two books, The Weary Titan: Britain and the Experience of Relative Decline, 1895-1905 (Princeton, 1989), which received received the Mershon Center’s Edgar S. Furniss Book Award, and In the Shadow of the Garrison State: America’s Anti-Statism and its Cold War Grand Strategy (Princeton, 2000). In 2001-02 Friedberg was selected as the first occupant of the Henry A. Kissinger Chair at the Library of Congress. In 2004 he received the National Bureau of Asian Research Director’s Award for excellence in research.
Other events

*Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2007*

**Juan Cole**

"The Ayatollahs of Iraq and Resource Mobilization"

4 p.m., Humanities Institute, 105 East 15th Ave.

*Juan R. I. Cole* is Professor of Modern Middle East and South Asian History at University of Michigan. He has written extensively about modern Islamic movements in Egypt, the Persian Gulf, and South Asia. He has given numerous media and press interviews on the War on Terrorism and the Iraq War. His current research focuses on two contemporary phenomena: Shiite Islam in Iraq and Iran and the “jihadi” or “sacred-war” strain of Muslim radicalism, including al-Qaeda and the Taliban among other groups. Cole’s most recent book is *Sacred Space and Holy War* (IB Tauris, 2002). This volume collects some of his work on the history of the Shiite branch of Islam in modern Iraq, Iran and the Gulf. More information can be found on his [home page](#).

*Thursday, Feb. 1, 2007*

**Bruce Masters**

"Arab Responses to the Ottomans in Greater Syria from the 16th through the 18th Centuries"

1:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies

*Sponsored in part by the Middle East Studies Center*

*Bruce Masters* is Professor of History at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. He received his doctorate from The University of Chicago. Masters’ publications include *Christians and Jews in the Ottoman Arab World: The Birth of Sectarianism* (Cambridge University Press, 2001); *The Ottoman City between East and West: Aleppo, Izmir, and Istanbul*, co-authored with Edhem Eldem and Daniel Goffman (Cambridge University Press, 1999); and *The Origins of Western Economic Dominance in the Middle: Mercantilism and the Islamic Economy in Aleppo, 1600-1750* (New York University Press, 1988). Masters’ latest project is *Arabistan: Ottomans and Arabs, 1516-1916*, a book length manuscript exploring the political and cultural interactions between the Ottomans and their Arabic-speaking subjects from the initial conquest through World War I. *Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Catalina Hunt at hunt.351@osu.edu*

*Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007*

**Tahir al-Bakaa**

Roundtable: “Iraqi Intellect in a Troubled Ocean”

3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies

*Sponsored in part by the Middle East Studies Center*

*Tahir al-Bakaa* is former Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and former president of Al Mustansiriya University in Iraq. He also served on Iraq’s National Assembly and Constitution Writing Committee. After four attempts on his life, al-Bakaa came to the United States in 2005 through the Scholar at Risk program to be visiting professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Suffolk University in Boston. Al-Bakaa has a Ph.D. in Iranian History from Baghdad University, specializing in Middle Eastern
history and politics; he is author of four books and 58 research papers. He will take part in a roundtable on
the state of higher education in Iraq moderated by Mershon Center Director Richard Herrmann. More
information about al-Bakaa is available at http://www.gse.harvard.edu/impact/stories/other/al-bakaa.php

More faculty achievements

**Professor Emeritus Chad Alger** recently published a book, *The United Nations System: A
stated, “This book should be in all libraries that need up-to-date information on
globalization, the United Nations, and the interrelationship between countries. This would
include all university libraries.” Alger also has published several chapters, including “Peace
Studies as a Transdisciplinary Project,” in Johan Galtung and Charles Webel, eds.,
*Handbook of Peace and Conflict Studies* (Routledge, forthcoming); “Widening Participation,” in Thomas G.
Press, forthcoming); “Expanding Involvement of NGOs in Emerging Global Governance,” in Oliver P. Richmond and Henry F.

**Richard Gunther** has published two books: *Democracy, Intermediation, and Voting on Four
Continents*, co-edited with José Ramón Montero, and Hans-Jürgen Puhle (Oxford University
Press, 2007); and *Democracy and the State in the New Southern Europe*, co-edited with P.
Nikiforos Diamandouros, and Dimitri Sotiropoulos (Oxford University Press, 2007). In
addition, he won an Ohio State University Distinguished Scholar Award in 2006.

**Ted Hopf** was named a Senior Research Fellow at Harvard University’s Davis Center for
Russian and Eurasian Studies for 2006-07. He also published “Identities, Institutions,
Information, and Interests: Moscow’s Foreign Policy, 1945-2000,” in *Cambridge History of

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