Alexander Wendt (left), Ralph D. Mershon Professor of International Security Studies at the Mershon Center, and Raymond Duvall, Associate Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, University of Minnesota, spoke on “Sovereignty and the UFO” on Jan. 19, 2006. They sought to explain why modern states systematically resist the notion that extra-terrestrial life forms might exist and travel to Earth. They took no position on whether UFOs are extra-terrestrial, instead focusing on why governments around the world refuse to acknowledge them.