Visiting Scholars

Each year, the Mershon Center hosts visiting scholars for residential appointments at the Mershon Center. For information on applying for these fellowships, click here.

2005–2006 Mershon Center Visiting Scholars

Carol Atkinson

Carol Atkinson (PhD, Duke University, 2003) is a post-doctoral fellow in political science at the Mershon Center. Her research focuses on the political socialization of states. She is currently working on a study that assesses the long term influence of US military engagement activities on democratization. Before joining Mershon, she served as the director of the research elective program at the Air Force's Command and Staff College where she also taught courses on national security, military strategy, and airpower doctrine and history. Before assignment to the staff college, she was assistant professor of military studies at the Air Force Academy teaching senior level courses in military organization, operations, and strategy. Carol is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm (1991) where she served on the intelligence staff in Riyadh, and, subsequently, on the contingency planning staff in Dhahran/Khobar, Saudi Arabia. She retired from the US military in 2005.

Markus Kornprobst


Homeira Moshir-Zadeh

Homeira Moshirzadeh (PhD, University of Tehran, Iran, 1999) is an assistant professor in the Department of International Relations and an associate faculty at the Center for Women's Studies, University of Tehran. Her main scholarly interests are international relations theory, theories of social movements, and women's studies.

Dr. Moshirzadeh has published many books in Persian. She is the author of Social Movements: A Theoretical Introduction (2001), From a Social Movement to a Social Theory: History of Feminism (2002), An Introduction to Women's Studies (2005), and Theories of International Relations (forthcoming). She has...
edited the books Caspian Sea: An Overview (2002) and Dialogue of Civilizations (2005), and has translated some of the major IR texts into Persian, including Hans Morgenthau's Politics among Nations and Alexander Wendt's Social Theory of International Politics.

Her articles on international relations, Feminism, Iran's foreign policy, dialogue of civilizations, etc. have been published in Persian and English journals, including Siasat Khareji (Foreign Policy), Majalleh Daneshkadeh Hoghoog va Olum Siasi (Journal of the Faculty of Law and Political Science) and The Iranian Journal of International Affairs. Some of her articles on dialogue of civilizations, cultural studies, and women's studies have appeared in edited volumes in Persian and English.

Dr. Moshirzadeh's From a Social Movement to a Social Theory: History of Feminism won the Women's Library Prize in 2005.

Daniel Nexon

Daniel Nexon is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government and the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. He specializes in international-relations theory and comparative-historical international relations. During the 2000-2001 academic year, he was a MacArthur Consortium Fellow at Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation. His most recent publications are "Zeitgeist? Neo-idealism and International Political Change," Review of International Political Economy, 12,4 (2006) and "Paradigm Lost? Structural Realism and Structural Functionalism," European Journal of International Relations, 10,1 (2005) [with Stacie E. Goddard].

While at the center, he intends to finish his book manuscript: "Religious Contention, Imperial Rule, and International Relations in Early Modern Europe." He is also co-investigator for an upcoming conference at the Mershon Center, "Realism and Constructivism: From Debate to Dialogue." In addition to these projects, he is currently working on issues involving hierarchy and international politics, empires and imperialism, and relationship between dynastic norms and the balance of power in early modern European politics. He received his PhD from Columbia University in 2004 and his AB from Harvard University in 1995.

Mary Sarotte

Dr. Mary Elise Sarotte is a tenured University Lecturer in Politics at Cambridge and a Fellow of St. John's College. She teaches international relations in both historical and current perspectives, with an emphasis on transatlantic relations in the Cold War. Prior to coming to Cambridge, she served as a White House Fellow; her first day of work for the White House was September 4, 2001. Sarotte received her BA from Harvard. After writing for The Economist and Time, she went on to earn her doctorate in History from Yale. Her PhD thesis, researched in the Stasi and SED archives in former East Berlin as well as in US and Russian sources, received the Hans Gatze Prize.

Sarotte also won a Humboldt Scholarship and a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard, and has worked for Die Zeit in Hamburg and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London. Her publications include Dealing with the Devil: East Germany, Detente, and Ostpolitik, 1969-1973 (University of North Carolina Press, 2001) and German Military Reform and European Security (Oxford University Press, 2001), as well as popular and scholarly articles. She is currently working on her third monograph, on international relations at the end of the Cold War. Sarotte, who appears as a political commentator on CNN International and Sky, is a Senior Visiting Scholar at the Mershon Center of International Relations until the spring of 2006.

Guinia Gatta
Giunia Gatta is spending this year at the Mershon Center working on her dissertation. She is a Ph.D. student at the University of Minnesota.