



# Mershon Memo

An e-newsletter of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

February 25, 2008

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## Coming up at the Mershon Center

Friday, February 29, 2008

**Christina Davis**

*"The Politics of Opening Markets: A Comparison of Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Negotiation Strategies"*

3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.



Christina Davis is Assistant Professor at the Department of Politics and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Her teaching and research bridges international relations and comparative politics, with a focus on trade policy. Her interests include the politics and foreign policy of Japan and the European Union, and the study of international organizations. She is currently doing research on a book about how domestic institutions influence the choice of trade negotiation strategies and adjudication

cases at the World Trade Organization. Davis is author of *Food Fights Over Free Trade: How International Institutions Promote Agricultural Trade Liberalization* (Princeton, 2003). [Read more and RSVP](#)

Monday, March 3, 2008

**Gen. John D. Altenburg Jr.**

*"Military Commission Process: November 2001 to March 2008"*

Noon, Moritz College of Law Barrister Club, 25 W. 11th Ave.



Gen. John D. Altenburg is former Appointing Authority for Military Commissions. In this role, he was responsible for reviewing charges and evidence against people detained by the United States in Afghanistan and held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. Altenburg was a major force behind changes in Military Commission procedures from the time of the first presidential order until today. He is currently a principal with the Washington, D.C., law office of Greenberg Traurig. [Read more and RSVP](#)

Thursday, March 6, 2008

**Anita Bucknam**

*"Historical Origins of U.S. Intelligence"*

Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.



Anita Bucknam is the CIA Officer in Residence for 2006-07 and 2007-08 at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. She joined the CIA in 1992 to conduct analytic assessments of Russian economic and political issues. After the events of 9/11, Bucknam transferred her analytic work to counterterrorism issues, particularly related to homeland security. She also served short tours in the National Security Agency, the State Department, and the White House, and she served overseas in Moscow. During this lecture, Bucknam will discuss ancient uses of intelligence from Sun Tsu and the Bible through Medieval times, the use of intelligence in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, and how World War II and the Cold War shaped the U.S. intelligence community. [Read more and RSVP](#)

Friday, March 14, 2008

### **Online Consultation and Public Policy Making: Democracy, Identity, and New Media**

*Organized by Peter Shane and Stephen Coleman*

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Barrister Club, Moritz College of Law, 25 W. 11th Ave.



The Internet now offers the world an unprecedented capacity to foster the sharing of information and to facilitate sustained, many-to-many communication. The networking of citizens with their governments, with each other, and with the organs of civil society has created new opportunities for popular engagement in the public sphere. The International Conference on Online Consultation and Public Policy Making: Democracy, Identity, and New Media will feature researchers from Australia, England, France, Israel, Italy, Korea and Slovenia, as well as the United States, addressing a variety of e-democracy issues from a diverse interdisciplinary background and both theoretical and applied research. [Read more and RSVP](#)

## **Mershon welcomes two new visiting scholars**

You may have seen a couple of new faces around the Mershon Center, as two new visiting scholars joined us this winter.



[Roxanna Sjöstedt](#) is a visiting Ph.D. candidate from the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University.

Sjöstedt is visiting the Mershon Center to work with [Alex Wendt](#) on her doctoral dissertation, which examines the social construction of threats and why issues sometimes are framed in terms of national security by the central decision-making units of states.

She analyzes how norms and identity formations at the international and domestic levels interact with the individual belief systems of decision-makers in creating initial interest in a particular problem, as well as the subsequent securitization of it.

The more explicit focus of the dissertation concerns the issues of HIV/AIDS and terrorism in the decision-making contexts of Russia and the United States.



[Marie-Jose Tayah](#) is a Fulbright Scholar from the Graduate Program in Conflict Resolution at the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia, where she expects to receive a master's degree this year.

The program requires students to complete academic training at a U.S. institution. To fulfill this requirement, Tayah is spending six months at the Mershon Center to gain an

interdisciplinary research experience in peace studies, international relations, and security studies.

She plans to develop syllabi for three peace-building classes that merge conflict resolution and international relations paradigms. Tayah is working with Mershon Peace Studies Coordinator [Julie Clemens](#).

## Featured organization: Joan B. Kroc Institutes

The [Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice](#) at the University of San Diego and the [Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies](#) at the University of Notre Dame were both established through donations from philanthropist Joan B. Kroc. Both institutes are committed to the mission of peacemaking and peace building throughout the world.

The Institute for Peace and Justice offers programs that advance scholarship and practice in conflict resolution and human rights through education, research, and peacemaking activities both locally and globally. Local programs include distinguished lecture series; WorldLink, an initiative to promote discussion and awareness among youth; and internship and volunteer opportunities.

Global programs include Women Peacemakers, U.N. connection, and projects in Nepal and Uganda. In addition, the University of San Diego offers masters and undergraduate programs in Peace and Justice Studies that take full advantage of the institute's resources.

The Institute for International Peace Studies conducts research, education, and outreach programs on the causes of violence and the conditions for sustainable peace. Its research focuses on the religious and ethnic dimensions of conflict and peacebuilding; the ethics of the use of force; and the peacemaking role of international norms, policies and institutions, including a focus on economic sanctions and enforcement of human rights.

The master's program equips scholar-practitioners with theoretical and practical skills needed for diverse careers in peacebuilding. The institute also offers an undergraduate major as well as a Ph.D. program in peace studies, launched in partnership with the departments of history, political science, psychology, and sociology.

## About Mershon Memo

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