



# Mershon Memo

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

April 13, 2009

## In this issue

1. Coming up at the Mershon Center
2. Other events

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## Coming up at the Mershon Center

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

**Jason Brownlee**

*"Authoritarianism in the 21st Century: More than Rents, Religion, or Repression"*

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



**Jason Brownlee** is Assistant Professor of Government and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Texas. He teaches undergraduate courses on U.S. foreign policy and Mideast politics, and graduate seminars on democratization and modern Islamic movements. Brownlee is author of *Authoritarianism in an Age of Democratization* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), which examines the historical sources of electoral contestation and regime change during the last 30 years. He is currently dividing his time between two large projects.

The first addresses major cases of U.S. occupation abroad, while the second looks comparatively at local challenges to the Egyptian government. [Read more and register](#)

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Friday, April 17, 2009

**Frank Costigliola**

*"The Perils of Intimacy: Harry Hopkins as Franklin D. Roosevelt's National Security Adviser"*

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



**Frank Costigliola** is Professor of History at the University of Connecticut specializing in 20th century U.S. history and U.S. foreign relations. His recent publications include "Broken Circle: The Isolation of Franklin D. Roosevelt in World War II" (*Diplomatic History*, November 2008); "Reading for Meaning: Theory, Language, and Metaphor" in *Explaining American*

*Foreign Relations History*, 2nd ed., ed. by Michael Hogan and Thomas G. Paterson (Cambridge University Press, 2003); and "'I Had Come as a Friend': Emotion, Culture, and Ambiguity in the Formation of the Cold War" (*Cold War History*, August 2000). Costigliola is currently writing a book called *Lost Alliances: How Personal Politics Helped Win World War II and Form the Cold War*, about the impact of emotions and perceived cultural differences in the shaping of U.S., British, and Soviet foreign policy during and immediately after World War II. [Read more and register](#)

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Saturday-Sunday, April 18-19, 2009

### Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop

Organized by Jane Hathaway, Department of History

168 Dulles Hall, 230 W. 17th Ave.



The **Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop** was launched in 2005 as a more intimate and intensive supplement to the Middle East Studies Association meeting. It encourages exchange among scholars of the history, art, architecture, and folklore of the Ottoman Empire from the Great Lakes region and beyond. Emphasis is on intensive discussion of pre-circulated papers. Since its inaugural meeting at Northwestern University in March 2005, GLOW has met every spring (after initially meeting twice in 2005) at a major Midwestern institution. Past hosts have been (in order) Northwestern University, DePaul University, University of Toronto, University of Michigan, and University of Notre Dame. Given Ohio State's strength in Ottoman studies, we expect a rich and rewarding program in 2009. [Read more](#)

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Monday, April 20, 2009

### Man-houng Lin

*"The Neglected Taipei Treaty: A New Perspective of Taiwan's Legal Status"*

4 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Co-sponsored by the [East Asian Studies Center](#)



**Man-houng Lin** has been a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica since 1990 and Professor of History at National Taiwan Normal University since 1991. In 2008, she was named president of Taiwan's Academia Historica, or State History Academy. Lin's main area of research focuses on treaty ports and modern China, native opium of late Qing China, currency crisis and early 19th century China, various empires and Taiwanese merchants' Great East Asian overseas economic networks, 1860-1961. She has published five books and about 70 papers in Chinese, English, Japanese and Korean in these areas. Her book, *China Upside Down: Currency, Society and Ideologies, 1808-1856* (Harvard East Asian Series, 2006) links China's topsy-turvy change from the center of the East Asian order to its modern tragedy with the Latin American Independence Movement. [Read more and register](#)

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Tuesday, April 21, 2009

## Saskia Sassen

*"Neither Global nor National: Novel Assemblages of Territory, Authority and Rights"*

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

Co-sponsored by the [Center for Latin American Studies](#)



Saskia Sassen is Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology and a member of the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University. Her new books are *Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages* (Princeton University Press, 2008,) and *A Sociology of Globalization* (W.W.Norton, 2007). Other recent books are the third fully updated edition of *Cities in a World Economy* (Sage, 2006), the edited *Deciphering the Global* (Routledge, 2007), and the co-edited *Digital Formations: New Architectures for Global Order* (Princeton University Press, 2005). Working for UNESCO, she has just completed a five-year project on sustainable human settlement with a network of researchers and activists in more than 30 countries; it is published as one of the volumes of the *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems* (EOLSS Publishers). [Read more and register](#)

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Friday, April 24, 2009

## Women in Politics: Global Perspectives

Organized by Pam Paxton, Department of Sociology

Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.



**Women in Politics: Global Perspectives** is a one-day workshop featuring three panels of speakers with planned discussion and extended opportunity for informal communication. Three panels will be convened: (1) Women and Democracy, National Security, and Conflict, (2) Women's Global Organizing, and (3) Women in Politics - Gaining Access, Changing Institutions. The goal of the panels is to demonstrate multiple approaches to the same topics, spark conversations about fruitful ways to explain women's representation in regions and countries where traditional explanations are less helpful, and provide the backdrop for facilitated discussions of practical concerns in researching women in politics globally. [Read more](#) or register at the [conference web site](#).

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Tuesday, April 28, 2009

## Leonardo A. Villalón

*"Negotiating Democracy in Muslim West Africa: Sahelian Trajectories"*

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



Leonardo A. Villalón is Director of the Center for African Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Florida. His research specialization is in contemporary

African politics, and he has focused in particular on issues of Islam and politics and on democratization in the Sahelian countries of Senegal, Mali, and Niger. Villalón is author of *Islamic Society and State Power in Senegal* (Cambridge University Press, 1995), and co-editor of *The African State at a Critical Juncture: Between Disintegration and Reconfiguration* (Lynne Rienner publishers, 1998), and *The Fate of Africa's Democratic Experiments: Elites and Institutions*. (Indiana University Press, 2005), as well as of numerous articles and book chapters on politics and religion in West Africa. [Read more and register](#)

## Other events

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

### Stephen Buser

*"The Global Economy: The G20, the Stimulus Bill, and Ohio"*

7:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. Breakfast program

Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E Broad St.

Sponsored by the [Columbus Council on World Affairs](#)

**Stephen Buser** is Professor Emeritus of Finance at Ohio State's Fisher College of Business, as well as a member of the Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team. He was co-founder of the Student Investment Management Program and has been a visiting professor at the University of Chicago and MIT. Buser has consulted for numerous corporations, has served on editorial boards for various academic journals, and is the current Historian for the American Finance Association. He has bachelor's and doctorate degrees in economics from Princeton and Boston College. [Read more and register](#)

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Thursday-Saturday, April 16-18, 2009

### Midwest Slavic Conference

Blackwell Inn and Conference Center, 2110 Tuttle Park Place

Sponsored by the [Center for Slavic and East European Studies](#)

Please join us for the **Midwest Slavic Conference**, which will be held simultaneously with the Association for Women in Slavic Studies Conference. Presentations include a keynote address by Dina Iordanova of the University of St. Andrews on "History for Losers: Cultural Historiography and Popular Culture in the 'New' Europe" (5 p.m. Thursday, Wexner Center for the Arts); a screening of the Wajda film *Katyn* (7 p.m. Thursday, Wexner Center Film/Video Theater, tickets cost \$7 for the general public and \$5 for students, seniors and Wexner members); and a luncheon address by Beth Holmgren of Duke University on "Modern Russian Feminism; Twenty Years Forward" (1 p.m. Friday, tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at the registration table). For more information, see the [conference web site](#).

## About Mershon Memo

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