

Mershon Memo

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

May 18, 2009

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Coming up at the Mershon Center

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Isis Nusair

"Gendered Bodies/Gendered Wars: Iraqi Women Refugees in Jordan"

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

Co-sponsored by [Women in Development](#)

Isis Nusair is Assistant Professor of International Studies and Women's Studies at Denison University. She graduated from the Women's Studies Ph.D. Program at Clark University with a dissertation on "Gendered Politics of Location: Generational Intersections of Palestinian Women in Israel, 1948-1998." She previously served as a researcher in the Middle East and North Africa at the Women's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch. She also worked as a researcher with the Euro-Med Human Rights Network. This presentation is based on extensive research with Iraqi women refugees in Jordan during 2007 and 2008. It traces the causes that prompted the women to leave Iraq after 2003. It also traces the transition they went through and the economic, social, and political challenges they currently face as urban refugees in Jordan. [Read more and register](#)

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Elliott Abrams

"The 18th Knesset: Obama, Netanyahu, and the Future of the U.S.-Israel Relationship"

Ohio State University Hillel Center, 46 E. 16th Ave.



Elliott Abrams is senior fellow for Middle Eastern studies at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C. He served as deputy assistant to the president and deputy national security adviser in the administration of President George W. Bush, where he supervised U.S. policy in the Middle East for the White House. Abrams joined the Bush administration in June 2001 as special assistant to the president and senior director of the National Security Council (NSC) for democracy, human rights, and international organizations. From December 2002 to February 2005, he served as special assistant to the president and senior director of the National Security Council for Near East and North African affairs. Abrams was president of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C., from 1996 until joining the White House staff. He was a member of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom from 1999 to 2001, and chairman of the commission in the latter year. Abrams is currently a member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, which directs the activities of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. [Read more and register](#)

Other events

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Change Through Humanitarian Action

3:30 p.m., 180 Hagerty Hall, 1775 College Road

Sponsored by the [Undergraduate International Studies Program](#)

Join us as four expert panelists discuss how the world is changing through humanitarian action via their work on the ground in advocacy campaigns, as servants in the medical field, or in humanitarian mission work. Panelists include **Sadia Aden**, writer, human rights activist, and co-founder of the Somali Diaspora Network; **Anna Forbes**, deputy director of Global Campaign for Microbicides; **David Ives**, executive director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute; and a representative from Doctors Without Borders. The event will be moderated by **Alex Thompson**, Assistant Professor of Political Science. For more information and to register, contact Nadia Auch at auch.3@osu.edu or (614) 247-4590. [Read more.](#)

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Diane Lim Rogers and Jason Seligman

6 p.m., Wexner Center Film/ Video Theater, 1850 College Road

Sponsored by the [John Glenn School of Public Affairs](#)

Join us for a film screening of *I.O.U.S.A.* followed by an interactive discussion on the new fiscal challenges facing the presidential administration, the nation, and the world with **Diane Lim Rogers**, Chief Economist with the Concord Coalition, and **Jason Seligman**, Assistant Professor at the John Glenn School. *I.O.U.S.A.* boldly examines the rapidly growing national debt and its consequences for the United States and its citizens. This event is free and open to the public, but limited seating is available. An RSVP is required by Friday, May 29. Please contact glennschool@osu.edu or call 614.688.3206, ext. 1.

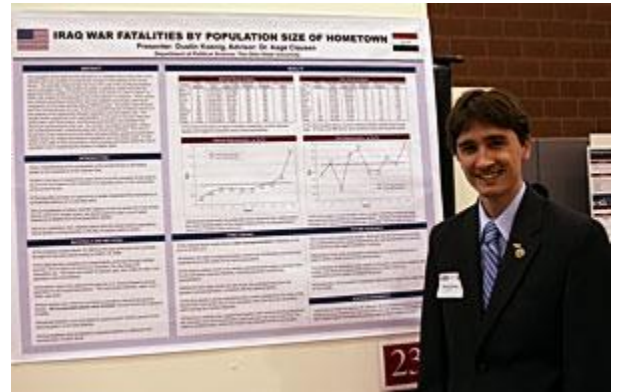
Undergraduates display research at Denman Forum

The 14th Denman Undergraduate Research Forum, an event that provides Ohio State undergraduate students an opportunity to showcase their research, took place May 13.

The annual event brings together some of the best and brightest undergraduates on campus, showing off high-level research that is usually reserved for graduate study.

More than 500 students displayed presentations outlining their research projects. Among students and advisors affiliated with the Mershon Center were:

- Dustin Koenig (pictured), "Iraq War Fatalities by Population Size of Hometown." Advisor: Aage Clausen, Political Science
- Bethany Morrison, "Maquiladoras and Migration: Mexico's Export Economy and Undocumented Migration." Advisor: Matthew Coleman, Geography
- Devyn Paros, "Individual Decision Making and Economic Growth in South Africa and Kenya." Advisor: Kelechi Kalu, African and African American Studies
- Michael Newell, "Crisis Authority, the War on Terror and the Future of Constitutional Democracy." Advisor: Jennifer Mitzen: Political Science
- Todd Juran, Leah Taylor, and Eric Soma, "A Study of Grazing Intensity of Cattle in Northern Cameroon." Advisor: Mark Moritz, Anthropology
- Kristen Ritchey, "Hired Herding in Northern Cameroon: Motivations and Sustainability." Advisor: Mark Moritz, Anthropology
- Sarah McBee, "The History and Meaning of the Jamestown Colony." Advisors: Margaret Newell and Heather Tanner, History
- Katelyn Crawford, "Interactions of Majority and Minority Groups in Society and the Military." Advisor: Irfan Nooruddin, Political Science
- Glennon McAdams, "Policy Recommendations for Economically Integrated Housing Communities." Advisor: Irfan Nooruddin, Political Science
- Leanna Packard, "The Scottish Revolution in its International Context, 1639-1640." Advisor: Geoffrey Parker, History
- Nicholas Holtkamp, "To Decide to Ride or Bide: Information Processing Among Bus Riders." Advisor: Bruce Weinberg, Economics



A panel of university and corporate judges reviewed the presentations, and awards were given to winners in each category. For more information, visit <http://denman.osu.edu>.

'Origins' looks at history of pirates in Horn of Africa



[Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective](#) is pleased to announce the publication of its May 2009 issue, featuring "Pirates of Puntland, Somalia" by Andrew Carlson.

In the first week of April, Somali pirates raided an American-flagged ship in the Indian Ocean and took the captain hostage. It was only one of several raids along the Somali coast in a 48-hour period. In recent months and years, pirates have made the Horn of Africa the most dangerous place to navigate in the world. This month, historian Andrew Carlson examines the very long history of piracy in the region, and explores how the political problems of Somalia as a 'failed state' have contributed to the current wave of maritime brigandage.

Origins is a free, non-commercial publication from the Public History Initiative and eHistory in The Ohio State University's History Department. Each month, an academic expert analyzes a particular current issue -- political, cultural, or social -- in a larger, deeper historical context. In addition to analysis, *Origins* also includes podcasts, images, maps, graphics, timelines, and other material to complement the article.

Origins can be found at <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/>. The podcast is at <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/podcasts.cfm>. You can also subscribe to the [Origins RSS Feed](#).

Recent topics include Detroit and the fate of urban America, marriage debates, Kosovo, the Darfur conflict, coalition warfare, North Korea in the nuclear age, and the Georgian-Russian conflict. Next month: "Building a New Silk Road? Central Asia in the New World Order" by Sébastien Peyrouse.

About Mershon Memo

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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES