Erin Jenne, Associate Professor of International Relations and European Studies at Central European University in Budapest, receives the Edgar S. Furniss Book Award from Richard Herrmann, Director of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, on May 4, 2009.

Erin Jenne received the Edgar S. Furniss Award for Ethnic Bargaining: The Paradox of Minority Empowerment (Cornell University Press, 2007). In this book, Jenne describes a theory of minority politics that that combines field research and comparative analysis with the insights of rational choice and bargaining.
About 45 people listened as Jenne discussed her book Ethnic Bargaining: The Paradox of Minority Empowerment (Cornell University Press, 2007). Jenne finds that even though nation-states have been, on average, more responsive to minority groups than in earlier years, claims by ethnic minorities have become more frequent since 1945. She argues that minorities who perceive an increase in their bargaining power will tend to radicalize their demands.

Erin Jenne builds her theory of ethnic bargaining from research completed in the post-communist countries of East Central Europe. Her work focuses on ethnic cleavage in the cases of Sudeten Germans in interwar Czechoslovakia; Slovaks and Moravians in post-communist Czechoslovakia; the Hungarians in Romania, Slovakia, and Vojvodina; and the Albanians in Kosovo.