Ted Hopf (right), associate professor of political science, introduced Mark Beissinger, professor of politics at Princeton University. Beissinger spoke on "Imperial Reputations: How Sovereignty and Self-Determination Norms Have Altered the Politics of Empire" at the Mershon Center on October 21, 2009.

Mark Beissinger opened his lecture by giving concrete definitions of empire, imperialism and imperial reputation. Beissinger spoke at Mershon on "Imperial Reputations: How Sovereignty and Self-Determination Norms Have Altered the Politics of Empire."
Mark Beissinger illustrated the percentage of World News Connection articles from 1996 to 2004 that represented a contemporary state as imperial. Beissinger, who spoke at Mershon on October 21, 2009, is currently working on a book tentatively titled Imperial Reputation: The Politics of Empire in a World of Nation-States.

Mark Beissinger answered important questions from an audience of more than 60 graduate students and faculty from a variety of disciplines. Beissinger’s main fields of interest include nationalism, state-building, imperialism, and social movements, with special reference to the Soviet Union and the post-Soviet states. He spoke about "Imperial Reputations: How Sovereignty and Self-Determination Norms Have Altered the Politics of Empire," at the Mershon Center on October 21, 2009.