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[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Areas of Expertise](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Grants](#) [People](#) [Publications](#) [Contact Us](#)

[home](#) > [events](#) > [november 2009](#) > afghanistan: the choices

[September](#)

Mershon and Humanities Institute Faculty Panel

[October](#)

Afghanistan: The Choices

[November](#)

[December](#)

Monday, November 9, 2009

[January](#)

5 p.m.

[February](#)

Saxbe Auditorium

[March](#)

Moritz College of Law

[April](#)

55 W. 12th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210

[May](#)

See a [streaming video](#) of this event. This streaming video requires RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can [download it free](#).

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Participants

[Fred Andrle](#), Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities; former WOSU *Open Line* radio talk show host

[Richard Herrmann](#), Social and Behavioral Sciences Distinguished Professor of Political Science

[Peter Mansoor](#), Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair in Military History

[John Mueller](#), Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies

[Alam Payind](#), Director, Middle East Studies Center

Should we alter our strategy, stay the course, bring our troops home, increase their number? **Afghanistan: The Choices** is an interdisciplinary discussion of the way forward for the United States in Afghanistan, with a panel of leading Ohio State experts (Richard Herrmann, Peter Mansoor, John Mueller, and Alam Payind), moderated by Fred Andrle.

In August 2009, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, submitted a report to be reviewed by President Barack Obama and his top national security advisers. In his report, Gen. McChrystal gave a grim assessment of the conflict in Afghanistan and later requested 40,000 more troops be sent to fight the Taliban-led insurgency, bringing the total number of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan to 108,000.



Fred Andrle
Institute for
Collaborative Research
and Public Humanities



Richard Herrmann
Director of the Mershon
Center
Social and Behavioral
Sciences Distinguished
Professor



Peter Mansoor
Raymond E. Mason Jr.
Chair in Military History



John Mueller
Woody Hayes Chair of
National Security Studies

The possibility that more troops will be needed to ensure success in Afghanistan has presented the Obama administration with a number of challenges and new considerations in dealing with a conflict that Obama has called the central front in the war on terror. Besides facing pressure from both conservatives and members of his own party, Obama is also facing new questions over the credibility of the Afghan government compounded with mounting American and NATO casualties.



Alam Payind
Director of the Middle
East Studies Center

Afghanistan: The Choices will explore the future of the United States involvement in Afghanistan through an interdisciplinary discussion of strategies for success in Afghanistan. The panelists will discuss and answer questions relating to the application of a more comprehensive counterinsurgency strategy, implications of the U.S. presence on the Taliban insurgency, the level of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and the national security interest of the United States in Afghanistan.

This event is co-sponsored by the [Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities](#) and the [Mershon Center for International Security Studies](#)

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