February 8, 2010

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Coming up at the Mershon Center

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Amin Tarzi
“The Internal and Regional Dimensions of the Afghan Conflict”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Amin Tarzi is director of Middle East Studies at Marine Corps University in Quantico, Va. His research and teaching interests focus on the Middle East with emphasis on Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. His areas of expertise include counter- and nonproliferation, history and historical narratives, the impact of regional politics in the greater Middle East on U. S. interests and national security, the role of justice in state-building, and Track II diplomacy. His most recent publications include Taliban and the Crisis of Afghanistan (Harvard, 2008), a co-edited volume with Professor Robert D. Crews of Stanford, and The Iranian Puzzle Piece: Understanding Iran in the Global Context (MCU Press, 2009). Read more and register

Friday, February 12, 2010

Lisa Martin
“International Institutions as Signaling Devices”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Lisa Martin is professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research is focused on the role of institutions and international organizations in world politics. She views institutions through a strategic lens, examining how their functions and design influence state interaction. Her current interests include examination of the signaling and commitment properties of international institutions; comparative analysis of the international financial institutions; and the application of political economy models of trade to trade in services. Martin is editor of Global Governance (Ashgate Publishing, 2008) and International Institutions in the New Global Economy (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2005). She is the author of Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation (Princeton, 2000) and Coercive Cooperation: Explaining Multilateral Economic Sanctions (Princeton, 1992). Read more and register

Monday, February 22, 2010
Jesse Crane-Seeber
“Multiple Masculinities in U.S. Military Culture”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jesse Crane-Seeber is a postdoctoral fellow in the Global Integration Field in the International Graduate School of Social Sciences at the University of Bremen in Germany. His research focuses on social and political theories of agency, power, and conflict; epistemology, meaning-making, and empirical social science methodologies; the cultural politics of U.S. military deployments; gender and the U.S. military; and political economy of the U.S. military. Crane-Seeber is co-author with Betsy Crane of “The Four Boxes of Gendered Sexuality: Good Girl/Bad Girl Tough Guy/Sweet Guy,” published in Sexual Lives: A Reader on the Theories and Realities of Human Sexuality (McGraw-Hill, 2002). His most recent article, co-authored with Betsy Crane, “Contesting Essentialist Theories of Patriarchal Relations: Evolutionary Psychology and the Denial of History,” is currently under review by the Journal of Men's Studies.

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Susanne Schmeidl
“Military Intervention and the Protection of Civilians in Afghanistan”
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Susanne Schmeidl is the co-founder and senior advisor of the Liaison Office in Afghanistan. She is also a visiting fellow at the Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy at Australian National University and non-resident research associate at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies of the University of Otago, New Zealand. Schmeidl has worked on Afghanistan since 2000. She managed the swisspeace office in Kabul between 2002 and 2005, supporting civil society development and civilian peace building mainly through the Afghan Civil Society Forum, which she co-founded. She has written over 40 research publications in the areas of early warning/conflict prevention, civilian peacebuilding/state building, protracted displacement, human security, and gender and civil society. Her most recent publications and research focus on the impact on the private security sector on the local peacebuilding process, a critique of top-down state building and displacement in Afghanistan.

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mark Bradley
“The United States and the Global Human Rights Imagination”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Jonathan Landay
"It’s The Region, Stupid: The Real Dangers of U.S. Failure in Afghanistan-Pakistan"
3:30 p.m., Saxbe Auditorium, Moritz College of Law, 55 W. 12th Ave.

Jonathan Landay is senior national security and intelligence correspondent for McClatchy Newspapers. He is a veteran foreign affairs reporter and has written on U.S. defense, intelligence and foreign policies for nearly 25 years. Landay writes regularly on issues such as the Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs, the U.S. missile defense program, U.S. intelligence matters and U.S. interrogation and detainee policy. Landay writes regularly on issues such as the Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs, the U.S. missile defense program, U.S. intelligence matters and U.S. interrogation and detainee policy.

He covered the 2001 U.S.-led intervention in Afghanistan, including the Battle of Tora Bora, and in 2003, he spent four months in northern Iraq covering preparations for the U.S.-led invasion and later, the invasion itself. Landay has been nominated three times for a Pulitzer Prize for his investigative work with Warren P. Strobel and Bureau Chief John Walcott on the Bush administration’s use of exaggerated and bogus pre-war intelligence on Iraq and the lack of post-invasion stability operations planning. Read more and register

Friday-Saturday, February 27-27, 2010
The Cold War in the Third World
Conference organized by Robert McMahon
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

The first generation of Cold War scholarship was overwhelmingly Eurocentric, concentrating on the Soviet-American confrontation in Europe while paying cursory attention to non-Western areas. In recent years, that imbalance has been righted as most scholars now recognize that the Cold War was a truly global phenomenon. One of the central paradoxes of the Cold War is that it ushered in the longest sustained period of peace in modern European history at the same time that Asia, Africa, and the Middle East were convulsed by unprecedented amounts of violence and conflict. The Cold War in the Third World will address two questions. First, how did the Third World affect the course of the Cold War and the behavior and priorities of the two superpowers? Second, what impact did the Cold War have on the developing states and societies of Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America? This conference will bring together leading younger and established scholars from international, diplomatic, and Third World history to produce an integrative, broadly focused approach to this large and complex subject. Read more

Other events
Wednesday, February 10, 2010
The Singing Revolution
7 p.m., 100 Mendenhall Laboratory, 125 S. Oval Mall
Sponsored by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies
With short video about research by Mershon-supported graduate student Elo-Hanna Seljamaa

A single nation. A million voices. The fall of an empire. Estonia’s coveted position between Europe and Russia has lured wave after wave of occupiers. The nation’s darkest chapter, though, dawned in 1939 with the arrival of the Soviets. It seemed this time that the Estonian nation might vanish completely; yet the Estonians waited, and fought, and sang -- and ultimately survived. The Singing Revolution narrates the remarkable story of this tiny nation’s struggle for independence, illuminating how the Estonians kept their identity alive -- even under the oppressive weight of the Iron Curtain - through a rich tradition of song. The Singing Revolution celebrates a people who revolted with no weapons but their songs, no force but their unstoppable dream. Documentary by James Trusty and Maureen Castle Trusty, 97 minutes, 2008.
Friday, February 19, 2010

Japan's Political Earthquake: Sources and Consequences
1:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.
Sponsored by the Institute for Japanese Studies and East Asian Studies Center

The Institute for Japanese Studies is pleased to announce a symposium that will address issues of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), including the DPJ's electoral success and the domestic and international issues of the DPJ's policy performance. The symposium will feature three panelists. Bradley M. Richardson is a professor emeritus of political science and author of *Japanese Democracy, Power, Coordination and Performance*. He was honored in 2009 with The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, for his significant contributions to the introduction of Japanese culture and promotion of the understanding of Japan within the United States. Takashi Oka is a journalist and author of *A Political Biography of Ozawa Ichiro*. He has lived and traveled in East Asia since 1960. Jeffrey Hornung is postdoctoral researcher with the East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University, specializing in comparative politics and international relations. He received his Ph.D. from George Washington University with his dissertation, *Learning How to Sweat: Explaining the Dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces in the Gulf War and Iraq War*. For more information, see the event flyer (pdf) or call (614)292-3345.

Thursday-Saturday, March 11-13, 2010

Transforming Race: Crisis and Opportunity in the Age of Obama
The Hyatt on Capitol Square, 75 E. State St., Columbus
Sponsored by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity

February 15 is the Early Bird Registration deadline for the Kirwan Institute's upcoming conference, *Transforming Race: Crisis and Opportunity in the Age of Obama*. Some 600 advocates, activists, scholars, students, spoken-word performers, and practitioners from all stripes will engage in roughly 50 plenary sessions and panels, workshops and performances, tackling the pressing issues of our time with a focus on race. As optional Friday-evening entertainment, Sarah Jones, Tony-award winning Broadway performer, will be on hand with an insightful one-woman performance. For more information, go to transforming-race.org.

International Human Rights Exchange seeks applicants

The International Human Rights Exchange (IHRE) is the world's only full-semester, multidisciplinary program in human rights. The program is housed at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is a joint venture with Bard College. Each year -- starting in July and ending in November -- students and faculty from Africa and North America come together to participate in a deep and multifaceted intellectual engagement in human rights. In addition to a required core course, students choose from 12 or more electives exploring human rights from the perspective of a variety of academic disciplines.

IHRE also opens up possibilities for substantive participation in human rights work. Students enrolled in the *Engagement with Human Rights* course intern with an NGO working on contemporary rights in post-apartheid South Africa. Students also explore human rights challenges in rural South Africa through a Community Human Rights Workshop, visit the Apartheid Museum and other relevant sites, and attend guest lectures from human rights experts from South Africa and around the world.

Application deadline is March 1, 2010. For more information on the International Human Rights Exchange: [http://www.ihere.org](http://www.ihere.org)
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