May 10, 2010

In this issue

1. Coming up at the Mershon Center
2. Other events
3. Findley to give University Distinguished Lecture tomorrow

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Coming up at the Mershon Center

Monday, May 10, 2010

America's Wars: The Way Forward in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq
A Mershon Center and Humanities Institute Faculty Panel
5 p.m., Wexner Center For the Arts, Film/Video Theatre, 1871 N. High St.

America's Wars: The Way Forward in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq will provide an in-depth look at the issues surrounding America's increased military commitment in Afghanistan, military activity in Pakistan, and the planned withdrawal of United States combat troops from Iraq. Panelists include Richard Herrmann, Social and Behavioral Sciences Distinguished Professor and director of the Mershon Center; Sean Kay, chair of International Studies, Ohio Wesleyan University, and Mershon associate; Peter Mansoor, Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair in Military History; John Mueller, Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies; and Alam Payind, director of the Middle East Studies Center. The event will be moderated by Fred Andrle, Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities and former WOSU Open Line radio talk show host. Read more and register

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

William Hitchcock
"Liberation: The Human Cost of Allied Victory in World War II Europe"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

William Hitchcock is professor and chair of History at Temple University. He is also director of the International History Workshop. His research focuses primarily on the international history of Europe since 1939. He has written on French diplomacy of the post-WWII era and published a survey of Europe's history from the end of World War II to the present. Hitchcock's most recent book, The Bitter Road to Freedom: A New History of the Liberation of Europe (Free Press, 2009), explores the civilian experience of liberation in Europe at the close of World War II. It was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and won the 2009 George Louis Beer Prize from the American Historical Association. He is presently working on a collection of essays, with Petra Goedde, on the international history of human rights. Read more and register

http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/publications/emailnewsletter/MershonMem... 1 of 7 6/15/2010 1:38 PM
Wednesday, May 12, 2010

**Isa Blumi**
"Why Yemen Now? Reassessing South Arabia’s Recent Past"
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

**Isa Blumi** is assistant professor of Middle East and East European history and Middle East studies at Georgia State University. His primary fields of research are modern Balkan history including Kosova, Albania and identity politics; Islam in Europe and Southeast Asia; modern imperialism in the Ottoman, Italian, French and Austro-Hungarian Empires; the Middle East from 1800; and migration, comparative state systems and the dynamics of state/society interactions. Blumi is author of *Political Islam Among the Albanians: Are the Taliban Coming to the Balkans?* (Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development, 2005), and *Rethinking the Late Ottoman Empire: A Comparative Social and Political History of Albania and Yemen, 1878-1918* (ISIS Press, 2003). He is currently working on *Chaos in Yemen: Societal Collapse and the New Authoritarianism* (forthcoming from Routledge). [Read more and register](#)

Thursday, May 13, 2010

**Andy Rotter**
"Narratives of Bombing: Tokyo and Hiroshima, 1945"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

**Andy Rotter** is Charles A. Dana Professor of History at Colgate College. He is a specialist in U.S. diplomatic history, recent U.S. history, and the Vietnam War. His research interests focus on U.S.-Asia relations, the Cold War, and history of the senses. Rotter is author of *Hiroshima: The World’s Bomb* (Oxford, 2008), *Comrades at Odds: Culture and Indo-U.S. Relations, 1947-1964* (Cornell, 2000), and *The Path to Vietnam* (Cornell, 1987). He is editor of *Light at the End of the Tunnel: A Vietnam War Anthology* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2010). His numerous distinctions include president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Gandhi Peace Foundation Fellowship, Harry S Truman Library Institute grant, and American Council of Learned Societies Senior Fellowship. [Read more and register](#)

Friday-Saturday, May 14-15, 2010

**Hybrid Warfare: The Struggle of Military Forces to Adapt to Complex Opponents**

*Conference organized by Peter Mansoor*
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Hybrid warfare, a combination of conventional and irregular forces fighting against a common foe, has been an integral part of the historical landscape since the ancient world, but these conflicts have only recently been categorized as a unique type of conflict. Informed defense analysts believe that hybrid wars are the most likely conflicts in the 21st century. An historical examination of hybrid wars will help to illuminate the various aspects of these conflicts, how great powers have dealt with them, and potential prospects for the future of these types of wars. The United States is currently engaged in extended counterinsurgency conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan and has significant military and other national assets assisting other states and regions against insurgencies. We must study and understand the strategic, operational, tactical, and doctrinal parameters of hybrid conflicts and prepare to apply lessons from them. [Read more and register](#)

Monday, May 17, 2010

**David Messenger**
"Beyond War Crimes: Denazification, National Security and American Deportation and Internment of SS Agents after World War II"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

David Messenger is assistant professor of history and graduate director for international studies at the University of Wyoming. He is currently a visiting scholar at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. Messenger's research focuses on the transition from war to peace in Europe following World War II. He is particularly interested in how the international system, domestic politics, and societies at large dealt with issues of justice and democratization following the experience of Nazi atrocities and the collaboration of many non-Germans in these crimes over the course of the war. During his time at Mershon, he will be preparing a study of Nazi party agents repatriated from Spain and Portugal to Germany in 1946 and 1947 following American and British investigations into their wartime and postwar activities. Read more and register

Tuesday, May 18, 2010
Eva Bellin
"Arbitrating Identity: Courts and the Politics of Religious-Liberal Reconciliation in the Middle East"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Eva Bellin is associate professor of political science at City University of New York, Hunter College. She is a comparativist with specialization in the Middle East and North Africa. Her research interests center on issues of democratization and authoritarian persistence, political and economic reform, civil society, religion and politics, and the politics of cultural change. Bellin is author of Stalled Democracy: Capital, Labor, and the Paradox of State Sponsored Development (Cornell, 2002). She is currently working on a second book, Arbitrating Identity: High Courts and the Politics of Cultural Reconciliation in Egypt, Israel, and Pakistan, of which her presentation at the Mershon Center is based. Bellin has been named a Carnegie Scholar (2006-2008) by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, supporting her research on high courts in the Middle East and Islamic World. Read more and register

Thursday, May 20, 2010
Bernard Haykel
"The Salafis, the Wahhabis and the Nature and Doctrines of Global Islamic Movements"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Bernard Haykel is professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University. He also directs the Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia and leads a project on Oil and Energy in the Middle East. Haykel's primary research interests center on Islamic political movements and legal thought as well as the politics and history of Saudi Arabia and Yemen. He has published extensively on the Salafi movement in both its premodern and modern manifestations, explored in his book Revival and Reform in Islam (Cambridge, 2003). He is presently completing a second book on the Global Salafi movement and, once completed, hopes to turn his attention to a monograph on the modern history of Saudi Arabia. Haykel is considered one of America's leading experts on the Arabian Peninsula and his commentary appears frequently in print and broadcast media, including CNN, ABC, National Public Radio, Guardian, and The National. Read more and register

Monday, May 24, 2010
Shinobu Kitayama
"Ethos of Independence Across Regions in the United States: The Production-Adoption Model of Cultural
Change
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Shinobu Kitayama is professor of psychology and director of the Culture and Cognition Program at the University of Michigan. His current research focuses on cultural variations in various psychological processes such as self, cognition, emotion, and motivation as well as cultural neuroscience. Kitayama is co-author of Handbook of Cultural Psychology (Guilford Press, 2007), The Heart’s Eye: Emotional Influences in Perception and Attention (Academic Press, 1994), and Culture and Emotion: The Study of Mutual Influences (APA Press, 1994). His collaborative work with Hazel Markus on culture and self has had seminal influences in not only psychology but also related disciplines. Kitayama currently serves as editor-in-chief of Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, and is recipient of a 2010 fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Read more and register

Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Francisco E. González
"The War on Drugs in Mexico: Chronicle of a Failure Foretold"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Francisco E. González is Riordan Roett Associate Professor of Latin American Studies at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University. His current research focuses on energy issues in the Americas and the political impacts of the worst financial and economic crises of the 20th century in the Southern Cone countries. His early research focused on economic and political transitions in Latin America, as well as on the growing influence of the Hispanic/Latino community in the politics of the United States. González is the author of Dual Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Institutionalized Regimes in Chile and Mexico, 1970-2000 (Johns Hopkins, 2008). He is currently working on the book Economic Shocks and Democracy from the Great Depression to the Great Recession: Evidence and Lessons from Latin America. Read more and register

Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Chris Bobonich
"Plato on Action and Knowledge"
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Chris Bobonich is professor of philosophy and classics at Stanford University. His research primarily focuses on Plato and has been supported by a number of awards and fellowships. Bobonich is author of Plato's Utopia Recast: His Later Ethics and Politics (Oxford, 2002). He is co-editor of Akrasia in Greek Philosophy: from Socrates to Plotinus (Brill, 2007) and A Guidebook to Plato's Laws (Cambridge, in press). Bobonich is currently working on an entry on "Plato" for the International Encyclopedia of Ethics (Blackwell). His chapters on "Images of Irrationality" in A Guidebook to Plato's Laws and "Socrates and Eudaimonia" in The Cambridge Companion to Socrates are both forthcoming. Read more and register

Thursday, May 27, 2010
Jessica Chen Weiss
"Powerful Patriots: Nationalist Protest in Chinese Foreign Relations"
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jessica Chen Weiss is assistant professor of political science and research fellow at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale University. Her research
interests include Chinese politics and international relations, nationalism, and social protest. In her presentation, Weiss will provide an analysis of why the Chinese government sometimes allows and sometimes suppresses nationalist anti-foreign demonstrations and explore the consequences of this choice for China’s international relations. Her research presents a mechanism by which authoritarian regimes can utilize domestic public opinion to gain international leverage. Weiss will illustrate this logic with a case study of the 2005 anti-Japanese protests in China and the negotiations over U.N. Security Council reform. Read more and register

Other events

Monday, May 10, 2010

Maria Todorova
"What is Weak Nationalism and Are Weak Nationalisms Tolerant?"
5 p.m., 060 Jennings Hall, 1735 Neil Ave.
Sponsored by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies

The Slavic Center invites students, faculty and the general public to the Spring Discussion Group, which will consist of the lecture "What is Weak Nationalism and Are Weak Nationalisms Tolerant?" by Maria Todorova, professor of history at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A discussion of her latest book, Bones of Contention: The Living Archive of Vasil Levski and the Making of Bulgaria’s National Hero, will follow. A historical study, taking as its narrative focus the life, death and posthumous fate of Vasil Levski (1837-73), arguably the major and only uncontested hero of the Bulgarian national pantheon, the book gives a specific understanding of the relationship between nationalism and religion in the post-communist period, by analyzing the recent canonization of Levski. At another level, the work engages in a variety of general theoretical questions. It offers insights into the problems of history and memory: the question of public, social or collective memory; the nature of national memory in comparison to other types of memory; the variability of memory over time and social space; alternative memories; and memory’s techniques like commemorations, the mechanism of creating and transmitting memory. Selected readings from the book will be available prior to the discussion. For more information or to RSVP, please contact CSEES@osu.edu.

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mississippi Chicken
7 p.m., Gateway Film Center, 150 N. High St.
Hosted by Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity

Mississippi Chicken, a film about Latin American immigrants living in rural Mississippi and working in the poultry industry, will make its Ohio debut. The film screening will be followed by a panel discussion exploring issues of race, workers’ rights, and exploitation and featuring the filmmakers and organizers from the Ohio-based Immigrant Worker Project. The event is hosted by the Kirwan Institute and sponsored by the Migration Transnationalism, and Border Politics Working Group; Center for Latin American Studies; Department of Sociology; Reform Immigration for America-Ohio. It is free and open to the public.

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Aurelio Ramos
“The Elegant Solution: How Clean Water Funds Conservation in Latin America”
8 a.m., Scioto Room, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, 111 Liberty St., Suite 100, Columbus
Sponsored by Columbus Council on World Affairs

Aurelio Ramos is director of the Northern Tropical Andes Program for the Nature Conservancy. He will
be discussing how, treating water as a commodity, the Nature Conservancy has launched programs that
make its usage part of the solution instead of part of the problem, creating mechanisms for long term
conservation success. To register, contact Rhonda Nicholas via e-mail or at (614) 229-4599, x401.

Friday, May 21, 2010

**Gayle Smith**

*"Women, Development & Global Security"

11:30 a.m., Atrium, The Ohio Statehouse, 1 Capitol Square, Columbus

Cost: $15 students; $25 members/free lecture only; $30 non members/$5 lecture only

Sponsored by Columbus Council on World Affairs

**Gayle Smith** is special assistant to the president and senior director of the U.S. National Security
Council. Her current responsibilities at the White House include global development, stabilization and
humanitarian assistance issues. She was previously a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress,
co-chair of the ENOUGH Project, and co-founder of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network. Smith
also served under the Clinton administration; was based in Africa for over 20 years as a journalist
covering military, economic, and political affairs for outlets such as the BBC, Associated Press and
Reuters; and has wide consulting experience for entities such as UNICEF and the World Bank. To register,
contact Rhonda Nicholas via e-mail or at (614) 229-4599, x401.

**Findley to give University Distinguished Lecture tomorrow**

**Carter Findley**, Humanities Distinguished Professor in History, is one of the world's leading
scholars in Ottoman and Turkish history, politics, and culture. His work has contributed to
tremendous growth in the field while also bringing an isolated field onto the larger
landscape of world history.

Findley is the author of four books, including *The Turks in World History*, which won the
2006 Al Mubarak Book Prize awarded by the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies. In
2005 he was elected an honorary member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences, only one of three
foreigners to receive that distinction. He is also past president of the World History Association and the
Turkish Studies Association.

Findley will present his University Distinguished Lecture, “Turkey, Islam, Nationalism, and Modernity,” on
**Tuesday, May 11, at 4 p.m.** in the US Bank Conference Theater in the Ohio Union. The lecture is based
on his latest book, forthcoming from Yale University Press, which the **Mershon Center has long
supported**.

In his book, Findley focuses on the interaction between two powerful currents of change — the radical,
secularizing and conservative, Islamic movements that clashed and converged to shape late Ottoman
Empire and modern Turkish history.

His work is the first to examine the interaction over time between these two currents, with the global
advent of modernity defining the context of his analysis. Visual images will accompany the talk. For
more information or to watch the lecture live, please see the **event web page**.

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