March 29, 2011

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Coming up at the Mershon Center

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Charles Kupchan
Enemies Into Friends: How Peace Breaks Out
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Charles Kupchan is professor of international affairs in the School of Foreign Service and Government Department at Georgetown University. He is also Whitney H. Shepardson Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Kupchan was director for European Affairs on the National Security Council during the first Clinton administration. Among many other books, Kupchan is author of How Enemies Become Friends: The Sources of Stable Peace (Princeton, 2010). For his talk, Kupchan will discuss when and how adversaries are able to find their way from enmity to amity. He will draw on a wide range of historical cases to explore the sources of rapprochement and expose prevalent myths about the causes of peace. Read more and register

Friday, April 1, 2011

Christine Korsgaard
The Origin of the Good and Our Animal Nature
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Christine Korsgaard is Arthur Kingsley Porter Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University. Her work focuses on moral philosophy and its history, practical reason, the nature of agency, personal identity, normativity, and the ethical relations between human beings and the other animals. Korsgaard is author most recently of Self-Constitution: Agency, Identity, and Integrity (Oxford, 2009), an expansion of her 2002 Locke Lectures and is about the foundation of morality in the nature of agency. In her talk, Korsgaard will consider several theories and criteria for evaluating the good in animal and human nature. Read more and register

Friday, April 1, 2011

Cybersecurity: Shared Risks, Shared Responsibility
Organized by Peter M. Shane, Jacob E. Davis and Jacob E. Davis II Chair in Law, and Jeffrey Hunker, Principal at Jeffrey Hunker Associates LLC Saxbe Auditorium, Moritz College of Law, 55 W. 12th Ave.
Cybersecurity: Shared Risks, Shared Responsibility looks at how cybersecurity -- whether in contexts as gripping as "cyberwar" or as mundane (but potentially devastating) as identity theft -- is now the stuff of daily headlines. The conference approaches the subject with two ambitions. The first is to move beyond generalities in specifying the roles and responsibilities both the public and private sectors will have to shoulder in order for the United States to share global leadership in cybersecurity. The second is to bring together the many sub-communities of researchers, policy makers, and professionals around the globe who focus on cybersecurity from its many angles into a larger community interested in developing this analysis. You can register to attend, make a comment, or watch via webcast on the official conference website.

Friday-Saturday, April 8-9, 2011

Migration, Religion and Germany
Organized by Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Georges Tamer, M.S. Sofia Chair in Arabic Studies
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Migration and religion have shaped in particular the United States but also the German-speaking territories of Central Europe during the religious wars in the wake of the Reformation. Immigration (especially from Islamic countries) has taken again an important role in present political debate in Germany (and in the EU). A first group of lectures at Migration, Religion and Germany will present recent research on the historical phase of early German transatlantic migrations and colonization by Pietists and Moravians in North America, especially Pennsylvania and Ohio, from a post-colonial vantage point. The second conference day will address individual and group migrations from Turkey and Islamic countries in the 20th and 21st centuries and the political and religious controversies and cultural clashes as well as efforts at resolution in Germany. Read more and register

Other events

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Kurt Tong
U.S.–Asia Pacific Economic Trends and Issues
Noon, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St.
Council supporters: $25 (free lecture only); General public: $30 ($5 lecture only); students: $15
Sponsored by the Columbus Council on World Affairs

Kurt Tong is economic coordinator for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, organizing bureau-wide efforts on economic policy issues. He is also U.S. senior official for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), managing all aspects of U.S. participation in that organization. APEC’s 21 member economies, which represent nearly 40 percent of the world’s population and 50 percent of the world’s GDP, are not just in Asia. Russia, the United States, Canada and Mexico are also standing members. Come hear the United States’ ranking APEC official discuss the group’s most pressing issues. Register HERE or by calling Rhonda Nicholas at 614-229-4599, x401.

Wednesday, April 20, 2011
Corporate Power: The Legacy of Santa Clara
Noon, Saxbe Auditorium, Moritz College of Law, 55 W. 12th Ave.
Sponsored by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity

May 10 will be the 125th anniversary of Santa Clara vs. Southern Pacific RR, inaugurating the doctrine of corporate personhood. The 14th Amendment was not intended to apply to corporations, yet Santa Clara became the precedent for the legal fiction that corporations are people, and therefore enjoy equal protection under the 14th Amendment and many other constitutional rights, resulting in corporations exerting never-intended political power. Gain insight from a variety of perspectives on the impact of this decision. Featured speakers include Jennifer Brunner, former Ohio secretary of state, and john powell, executive director of the Kirwan Institute. For more information, see the event flier.

Previous events available for viewing

Over 300 people joined a panel of Ohio State faculty experts and a moderator to discuss the revolutions in the Middle East.

Mershon faculty panel discusses revolutions in Middle East

Watch a streaming video of the March 8, 2011, faculty panel on "Revolution in the Middle East and the Future of US Foreign Policy: What's Next?" On stage from left to right were moderator Mark Grimsley, associate professor of history; Carter Findley, Humanities Distinguished Professor of History; Richard Herrmann, director of the Mershon Center; Peter Mansoor, Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair in Military History; Georges Tamer, M.S. Sofia Chair in Arabic Studies; and Sabra Webber, associate professor of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures.

Full Archive

Visit the Event Recordings page for the full list of streaming videos from previous events sponsored by the Mershon Center. Note: Streaming videos recorded before Fall 2010 require RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can download it free.
Mershon Center offers study abroad scholarship

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies has established the Ralph D. Mershon Study Abroad Scholarship to support undergraduates who wish to enhance their educational experience by studying in a foreign country.

Students are encouraged to take foreign language courses, especially those deemed critical for national security, such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi, Farsi, and others. Priority will be given to students who are preparing for a career related to international security. As many as 12 scholarships of up to $2,000 each will be awarded.

For more information, including an application form and instructions, see Undergraduate Scholarships on the Mershon Center website. The deadline to apply is Monday, April 4, 2011.

'Origins' examines history, meaning of populism

Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective is pleased to announce the publication of its April 2011 issue, featuring "American Populism and the Persistence of the Paranoid Style" by Marc Horger.

The Populists are back! Since the late 19th century, "populist" is the name we've given to any American political movement that challenged either of the two major parties. But who exactly are the populists? What does the label actually mean? And how has the meaning changed over the centuries? This month historian Marc Horger looks at the history of the term to put the current crop of populists in historical perspective.

Origins is a free, non-commercial publication from the Public History Initiative and eHistory in Ohio State University's History Department. Each month, an academic expert analyzes a particular current issue -- political, cultural, or social -- in a larger, deeper historical context. In addition to the analysis provided in each month's feature, Origins also includes podcasts, images, maps, graphics, timelines, and other material to complement the article.

Origins can be found at http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/. The podcast is found at http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/podcasts.cfm. You can also follow Origins on Twitter: OriginsOSU

Recent topics include culture wars, Haiti, Brazil’s elections, U.S. immigration policy, and the concept of alienation. Next month: "Frenemies: Iran and America Since 1900" by Douglas Little.

About Mershon Memo

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