Tuesday, January 25, 2011

M. Taylor Fravel  
*Explaining the Evolution of China's Military Strategy*  
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

M. Taylor Fravel is Cecil and Ida Green Career Development Associate Professor of Political Science and member of the Security Studies Program at MIT. He studies international relations, with a focus on international security, China and East Asia. His current projects examine the evolution of China's military strategy since 1949 and the relationship between material capabilities and political influence in China’s rise as a great power. Fravel is author of *Strong Borders, Secure Nation: Cooperation and Conflict in China’s Territorial Disputes* (Princeton, 2008). [Read more and register](#)

Thursday, January 27, 2011

Heather Raffo  
*The Sounds of Desire*  
7:30 p.m., Thurber Theater, 1849 Cannon Drive

Heather Raffo, author and actress of the award-winning one woman show *9 Parts of Desire*, teams up with Amir ElSaffar, accomplished jazz trumpeter and Iraqi santoor player, for a dramatic evening of spoken word and melodic solos. Together they present a concert of urban and classical sounds that spring from both their Iraqi and American roots. Heather's *9 Parts of Desire* details the lives of nine ordinary and extraordinary Iraqi women. Both mythical and contemporary, the women’s words weave in and out of the ancient quarter tone scales of Amir’s classical santoor and the improvisational heart of jazz, resulting in a melody decidedly Iraqi and American. [Read more and register](#)

Friday, February 18, 2011

Geoffrey Brennan  
*Causal Responsibility and Voting*  
3:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Geoffrey Brennan is distinguished research professor of philosophy at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill as well as professor of economics at Australian National University and research professor in political science at Duke. Brennan works on issues at the intersection of economics, rationality, and political philosophy. He is editor of the journal *Economics and Philosophy* and recently co-edited the *Collected*

Friday, February 25, 2011

Mary Sarotte
The International Politics of the European Ordering Moment, 1989-91, and Their Legacy Twenty Years Later
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Mary Sarotte is professor of history and international relations at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Her most recent book, 1989 (Princeton, 2009), appeared on the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. In addition to receiving the DAAD Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in German and European Studies, 1989 is also the first book to become the winner of both SHAFR's Ferrell Prize, awarded to the best book on U.S. foreign policy, and AAASS' Shulman Prize, awarded to the best book on Communist foreign policy (co-winner). Sarotte has been a White House Fellow as well as postdoctoral fellow at the Mershon Center. She is now a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Read more and register

Other events

Thursday, February 3, 2011

A.K. Nandakumar
Global Health Spending: Learning to do More with Less
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

Join us for a discussion on global health efficiencies and spending with A.K. Nandakumar, Professor of the Practice at Brandeis University and director of the Institute for Global Health and Development at the Schneider Institutes for Health Policy. Nandakumar has over 20 years of experience in health care financing in the United States and developing countries with a focus on long-term care financing, aging and its impact on health systems, national health accounts, and other health care financing issues. His recent research has focused on fungibility of donor assistance, understanding the linkages between health expenditures and maternal and infant mortality, and studying the relationship between growth in a country’s income and spending on health. Nandakumar is interested in developing methods to track resource flows to understand the efficiency of health spending. Register HERE or by calling Rhonda Nicholas at 614-229-4599, x401.

Previous events available for viewing

**Mershon Center panel discusses wars in Middle East**

Watch a [streaming video](#) of the Mershon Center faculty panel on "America’s Wars: The Way Forward in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq," held May 10, 2010. Panelists included (left to right) Peter Mansoor, Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair in Military History; Mershon Center Director Richard Herrmann; John Mueller, Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies; Fred Andrle, Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities; Alam Payind, Director of the Middle East Studies Center; and Sean Kay, Chair of International Studies at Ohio Wesleyan University.

**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 News**

**Mershon Center offers faculty, student research grants**

Each year, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies holds a competition for Ohio State faculty and students to apply for research grant funds. Grants may be used for a variety of purposes including travel, research, seminars, conferences, interviews, experiments, workshops and more. Applications must be for projects related to the study of national security in a global context. We are also interested in projects related to Ohio State's global gateways in China (2010), India (2011) and Brazil (2012), as well as policy issues in biosecurity and cybersecurity.

For more information, including an application form and instructions, please see [http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/grants/grants.htm](http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/grants/grants.htm). The deadline is [January 31, 2011](#).

**Glenn School offers Washington Academic Internship Program**

The John Glenn School of Public Affairs offers an exciting opportunity for Ohio State students to study and work in the nation's capital. The Washington Academic Internship Program selects outstanding undergraduates from any major to spend a
quarter in Washington, D.C., as John Glenn Fellows. Students work in field placements that reflect their particular areas of academic interest.

While in Washington, John Glenn Fellows remain fully registered Ohio State students. Students earn academic credit hours for their internship, the research seminar in which a policy paper is developed, and a course on policymaking and public service in the Washington community.

Participants in the program meet policy professionals and interact with Ohio State alumni in the region. This interaction has value far beyond the quarter in which the students are involved in the program. Real opportunities are presented for career advice, professional development, and cross-generational exchange.

Learn more about the Washington Academic Internship Program at an information session on Wednesday, January 19, at 6 p.m. or Tuesday, February 8, at noon. All sessions will be held in 110B Page Hall, 1810 College Road. For more information, see http://glennschool.osu.edu/programs/washington/

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Follow the Mershon Center on Twitter

Need a quick way to keep up with news and events at the Mershon Center? Consider following us on Twitter.

Twitter is a microblogging service that lets users send out “tweets” of 140 characters or less. The Mershon Center uses this to send out news, publicize events, and link to stories and articles that quote affiliated faculty members.

By joining Twitter, you can subscribe to feeds from many of your favorite organizations and think tanks. The Mershon Center follows Twitter feeds from units across The Ohio State University and in the international studies community.

Social media services such as Twitter allow users to create their own news feed and aggregate information from the organizations that most interest them all in one place. They can also use Twitter to spread their own news or "retweet" items from others.

If you are a member of Twitter, you can follow Mershon at http://twitter.com/#!/mershoncenter. If you are not a member, consider joining Twitter today.

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