Coming up at the Mershon Center

Thursday, October 7, 2010

Michael Fischerkeller
The Science Behind COIN: Iraq and Afghanistan as Doctrinal Testbeds
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Michael Fischerkeller serves as director of the Joint Advanced Warfighting Division (JAWD) at the Institute for Defense Analyses. JAWD was established in 1998 to serve as a catalyst for stimulating innovation and breakthrough improvements in joint military capabilities. Fischerkeller is an Ohio State PhD and former Mershon fellow who now consults regularly with top commanders in the Department of Defense. In this presentation, he will summarize recent and ongoing efforts to develop an evidence-based approach for assessing to what degree operations and capabilities designed for and applied through the Clear, Hold, and Build framework are generating intended (or unintended) effects. He will also discuss how students can pursue potential employment in the field of national security.

Read more and register

Friday, October 8, 2010

Robert Rubinstein
Back to the Future?: Peacekeeping and the Return of Imperial Policing
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Robert Rubinstein is professor of anthropology and international relations at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. His work focuses on cross-cultural aspects of conflict and dispute resolution, including negotiation, mediation and consensus building. He is a founder of the field of the anthropology of peacekeeping. He examines the ways that the success of peace operations depend upon cultural considerations, and how organizational and institutional cultures can facilitate or frustrate coordination in peace operations. Rubinstein has collaborated with the International Peace Academy, U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and U.S. Army Peacekeeping Institute.

Read more and register

Thursday-Friday, October 14-15, 2010

Methodology in Political Psychology
Organized by Corrine McConnaughy and Ismail White
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

The field of political psychology seeks to address one overriding question: How do people make decisions in the realm of politics? Answers to this question involve explanations of how people come to understand what is at stake in domestic and international politics, how they construct and interpret who is on their side, and how they evaluate what they can or should do about it. Methodology in Political Psychology will gather scholars to discuss issues of measurement, technology, research design, and data analysis that are of particular interest to those working in the field of political psychology. Research topics include the use of eye-tracking and fMRI technology; measurements of emotions, attitudes, and ideology; sampling strategies; and estimation of causal mediation.

Read more

Monday, October 18, 2010

Nicholas Lambert
Self-Interest and the Politics of Neutrality: Woodrow Wilson and British Economic Warfare in 1914
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Nicholas Lambert is an associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute (Whitehall) and visiting fellow at Australian National University. His first book, Sir John Fisher’s Naval Revolution, won the Distinguished Book Prize from the Society for Military History. His forthcoming book is Taming Armageddon: Economic Warfare Planning and Practice, 1906-1916 (Harvard University Press, 2011). It offers a new account of British naval and grand strategic planning before World War I; major insights into globalization and the transformation of the world financial and commercial systems, and their implications for international law; and a highly original account of Woodrow Wilson’s diplomacy. His lecture, which will focus on the last of these topics, is relevant to military and diplomatic historians, as well as political
China's rapid development and Sino-American relations have a direct impact on the lives of just about everyone in the United States. CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections is a national day of programming designed to provide Americans across the United States and beyond the opportunity to discuss these issues with leading experts. The National Committee is pleased to present this program, which will feature a webcast by Jon M. Huntsman Jr., U.S. ambassador to China. The webcast will be moderated by Stephen A. Orlins, president of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. Preceding the webcast will be a presentation by Cathy Barbash of Barbash Arts Consulting Services on "From One to Many: The Evolution of U.S.-China Cultural Exchanges from Single to Multi-Stream Practice."

Craig Calhoun

Craig Calhoun has been president of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) since 1999. He is also University Professor of the Social Sciences at New York University and founding director of its Institute for Public Knowledge. Calhoun has written on culture and communication, technology and social change, social theory and politics, and the social sciences themselves. His most recent books include Nations Matter: Culture, History, and the Cosmopolitan Dream (Routledge, 2007) and Cosmopolitanism and Belonging (Routledge, 2009).

Throughout his career, Calhoun has been involved in projects bringing social science to bear on issues of public concern. Most famously, he provided an award-winning sociological analysis of the student revolt in Tiananmen Square, in his most popular work to date, Neither Gods nor Emperors: Students and the Struggle for Democracy in China (California, 1994).

Gary E. Payton

Gary E. Payton served as deputy under secretary of the Air Force for space programs in Washington, D.C., until his retirement in July. He provided guidance, direction and oversight for the formulation, review and execution of military space programs. This included oversight of all space and space-related acquisition plans, strategies and assessments for research, development, test, evaluation and space-related industrial base issues. In this talk, Payton will provide background for the recent Space Posture Review, a legislatively-mandated review of U.S. national security space policy and objectives, conducted jointly by the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence. The Space Posture Review analyzes the relationship between military and national security space strategy and assesses space acquisition programs, future space systems, and technology development.

Richard Herrmann

The Afghanistan "surge" and the related efforts to pacify Kandahar and Helmand Province have yielded mixed results, and the July 2011 target date for beginning to hand over responsibility to the Afghanistan security forces is fast approaching. Richard Herrmann, director of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, discusses the prognosis for eventual success and whether it is likely to be achieved within a timeline acceptable to eroding American public confidence in our lengthy military commitment in Afghanistan.

Kenneth Thorpe

We are proud to announce that Kenneth Thorpe, one of America’s foremost experts in health care policy, financing and reform, will be speaking at the 19th Annual Midland
Lecture. Thorpe is the Robert Woodruff Professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University. He is also the executive director of the Emory Institute for Advanced Policy Solutions at Emory University. He served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1993 to 1995. This is an opportunity to hear from one of the most knowledgeable and influential figures in American health care. For more information please contact Beth Rowley at 292-9708 or browley@cph.osu.edu.

Tuesday, October 19, 2010
Charity: Water
12 p.m. and 4 p.m., U.S. Bank Conference Theatre, Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St.

Almost 1 billion people on the planet don’t have access to clean, safe drinking water. Come learn about one of the most important environmental issues facing our world, the lack of clean water. Charity: Water is a service-learning collaboration supported by the Office of International Affairs, Office of Outreach & Engagement, Medical Center’s Health Sciences Center for Global Health, FAPE, International Program for Water Management in Agriculture, and Upper Arlington Schools. This presentation is FREE and open to all. To help build a well or learn more, visit http://mycharitywater.org/osu-ua.

Monday, October 25, 2010
Artemy Troitsky
5:30 p.m., Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.
Sponsored by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies

Artemy Troitsky is well known Russian rock-journalist, music critic, actor and broadcaster. In addition to hosting a popular weekly radio show, Echo of Moscow, Troitsky runs a concert event agency and a record label. Described as “the leading Soviet rock critic,” Troitsky is the author of several books, including Back in the USSR: The True Story of Rock in Russia, Tusovka: Who’s Who in the New Soviet Rock Culture, and most recently Let Me Take You Down to the World of Pop. In 1980, Troitsky organized a rock festival in the Soviet Union, considered the "Soviet Woodstock.” Currently he teaches in the Journalism Department at Moscow State University. For more information, please contact the Slavic Center at csees@osu.edu or (614) 292-8770.

Monday, November 15, 2010
Donna Brazile
3:30 p.m., Archie M. Griffin Ballroom, Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St.
Sponsored by the John Glenn School of Public Affairs

The John Glenn School of Public Affairs invites you to attend the Barbara K. Fergus Women in Leadership Lecture series. Political strategist Donna Brazile is a university professor, author of the best-selling book Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics, a columnist, a political contributor on CNN and ABC as well as “This Week with Christiane Amanpour” and the Democratic National Committee’s vice chair of Voter Registration and Participation. In 2000, Brazile made history when she served as campaign manager for Vice President Al Gore, becoming the first African-American woman to manage a presidential campaign. Read more and register

Previous events available for viewing

Ira Katznelson, Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University, spoke at the Mershon Center on May 5, 2010. His lecture, titled “Shaded by Fear: The New Deal and Its Legacies,” was based on his forthcoming book Fear Itself, which deals with American democracy from the New Deal to the Cold War.

Katznelson on America since the New Deal

Watch a streaming video of the keynote address by Ira Katznelson, Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University, who spoke about “Shaded by Fear:
2010 International Photography Competition announced

All current students, faculty, staff and visiting scholars at The Ohio State University are invited to submit their photos to the 2010 International Photography Competition. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your original photographs from around the world! All entries must have been taken outside the United States and should be creative, original, and of high quality. A “Best of Show” will be selected, as well as 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place awards in the following categories: People, Places, and Animals. The winning photographs will be exhibited in the East Art Lounge in the Ohio Union during November and December. The deadline for entries is 4 p.m., Monday, October 11, 2010. Visit http://oia.osu.edu/photo-contest for the 2010 International Photography competition rules and entry form.

Ohio State video features research applications in Haiti

A new video feature is now available on osu.edu, osu.edu/outreach and osu.edu/international. “Resilience: Ohio State’s Haiti Empowerment Project” focuses on Professor Terri Teal Bucci’s long-term commitment to education in Haiti. The piece shows how Ohio State research can be applied around the world and illustrates the university's commitment to international service. It also highlights important work done at a regional campus; funding sources available for projects; and represents the valuable global experiences that Ohio State offers students, faculty, and others in the community.

The segment is included in the current Big Ten Network show; it will be included in Connect e-news for alumni and posted to Ohio State social media outlets. You can see it at http://www.osu.edu/features/2010/haiti.

About Mershon Memo

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