



Mershon memo

An e-newsletter of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

November 1, 2010

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Mershon Center
for International
Security Studies

Coming up at the Mershon Center

Wednesday, November 3, 2010

Elizabeth Kassab

What is Enlightenment? Arab and Postcolonial Perspectives

Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.



Elizabeth Kassab is a research fellow at the University of Erfurt in Germany. Her interest is in the philosophy of culture, both Western and non-Western, with a particular focus on postcolonial debates. Her latest book, *Contemporary Arab Thought: Cultural Critique in Comparative Perspective* (Columbia University Press, 2009), is an examination of critical thinking in Arab and postcolonial debates on culture in the second half of the 20th century. Her current research centers on the notion of enlightenment in these debates, especially among post-Ottoman Arab, Greek and Turkish intellectuals. [Read more and register](#)

Friday, November 5, 2010

Thomas Schwartz

Henry Kissinger and the Dilemmas of American Power

Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.



Thomas Schwartz is professor of history, political science and European studies at Vanderbilt University. He is the author of *America's Germany: John J. McCloy and the Federal Republic of Germany* (Harvard, 1991), which won the Stuart Bernath Book Prize of the Society of American Foreign Relations and the Harry S. Truman Book Award, given by the Truman Presidential Library. He is currently working on two books: a biography of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, and *The Long Twilight Struggle: A Concise History of the Cold War*. [Read more and register](#)

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Jason Lyall

State Coercion and Civilian Victimization in Civil War: Evidence from Airstrikes in Afghanistan

Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jason Lyall is assistant professor of political science at Yale University. His research focuses on the dynamics of violence in both conventional and guerrilla warfare, with emphasis on Afghanistan and Chechnya. His work draws on diverse methods, ranging from historical and cross-national comparisons to field experiments at the subnational and local level. His work has been published in the *American Political Science*



Review, *International Organization*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *World Politics*. [Read more and register](#)

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Nancy Fraser

Marketization, Social Protection, Emancipation: Toward a Neo-Polanyian Conception of Capitalist Crisis

5:30 p.m., 180 Hagerty Hall, 1770 College Road



Nancy Fraser is the Henry A. and Louise Loeb Professor of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research. Her areas of concentration include social and political theory, feminist theory, contemporary French and German thought. From 2008 to 2010 she was the Blaise Pascal International Research Chair at l'Ecole des hautes études en science sociales in Paris. Her recent publications include *Scales of Justice: Reimagining Political Space in a Globalizing World* (Columbia, 2008) and *Adding Insult to Injury: Nancy Fraser Debates*

Her Critics (Sage Publications, 2008). [Read more and register](#)

Other events

Monday, November 8, 2010

Larry Rohter

Brazil on the Rise: The Story of a Country Transformed

11:30 a.m., COSI, Gallery 1 (first floor), 333 W. Broad St.

Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies

Larry Rohter served as a correspondent in Rio de Janeiro for 14 years for *Newsweek* and later as *The New York Times* bureau chief. He is widely considered a top expert on Brazil. Currently he is a culture reporter for *The New York Times* and a commentator for Brazilian media. His new book, *Brazil on the Rise*, has obtained critical acclaim. Two decades ago Brazil had a substantial debt, but today it has the world's eighth-largest economy, poised to overtake France. It has achieved energy independence and, with the discovery of the largest oil field in the last century, is becoming a major exporter of crude oil to the United States. With its successful bid for the 2016 Olympics, Brazil, at last, is ready to take its place on the world stage. In this richly narrated and textured look at the country today, Rohter provides an authoritative account of the culture and politics of a country that endlessly fascinates Americans. To register, visit <http://www.columbusworldaffairs.org>.

Friday, November 12, 2010

Gen. Lester L. Lyles

Preparing a Stronger America: Perspectives on National Security, Aerospace Technology and Diversity in the Military

11 a.m., 020 Page Hall, 1810 College Road

Sponsored by the President and Provost's 2010-11 Diversity Lecture & Cultural Arts Series

In 2009, four-star **Gen. Lester L. Lyles** served on the NASA's Augustine Space Committee developing the agenda for the human space flight missions, chaired the National Research Council's Roles and Rationale Study of the U.S. Civil Space Programs and chaired the U.S. Department of Defense Military Leadership Diversity Commission. He entered the Air Force as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force

ROTC program, and after a 35-year career, Lyles retired in 2003 as Commander of Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Lyles serves on many boards, including General Dynamics Corp., Battelle Labs and United Service Automobile Association. For more information about this event, contact Edie Waugh at waugh.2@osu.edu or (614) 688-3638. [Read more](#)

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



Robert Rubinstein, professor of anthropology and international relations at Syracuse University, speaks about "Back to the Future?: Peacekeeping and the Return of Imperial Policing" on October 8, 2010.

Rubinstein discusses peacekeeping and policing

Watch a [streaming video](#) of Robert Rubinstein, professor of anthropology and international relations at Syracuse University, speaking on "Back to the Future?: Peacekeeping and the Return of Imperial Policing" at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. Rubinstein is an anthropologist with expertise in political and medical anthropology. He is a founder of the field of the anthropology of peacekeeping who has collaborated on policy applications of his work with the International Peace Academy, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, and U.S. Army

Peacekeeping Institute.

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 co-sponsors Undergraduate Research Forum

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies and the Undergraduate Research Office will co-sponsor **Recipe for Success: Basic Ingredients for Undergraduate Research**, a symposium for undergraduates on Wednesday, November 3, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 130 Page Hall, 1810 College Road.

An interdisciplinary panel of Mershon affiliated faculty will discuss the basic ingredients of a good undergraduate research project. Panel members will cite examples of good undergraduate research projects and address such questions as:

- How do you develop good research questions?
- What types of methodologies should you use in your research?
- What foundation do you need to have before undertaking a research project? What theories and facts do you need to know? What classes do you need to take?
- How can undergraduates work with the Institutional Review Board?
- How can undergraduates make connections with faculty members?

Panelists include William "Chip" Eveland Jr., professor of communication; Dorothy Noyes, associate professor of English, comparative studies, and anthropology; and Alexander Thompson, associate professor of political science.

This is one of the most successful undergraduate events sponsored by the Mershon Center every year, with more than 70 percent of respondents rating it as extremely valuable. Undergraduates can register by Monday November 1 by sending an email to uro@osu.edu with "11/3" in the subject line.

Glenn School to hold 2010 Election Night Extravaganza

The John Glenn School of Public Affairs and the Politics, Society, and Law Scholars Program cordially invite you to the **2010 Election Night Extravaganza**. This event will provide a nonpartisan viewing environment where students, faculty, and staff can come together to watch the reporting of the election results and have some fun in the process. Join us on Tuesday, November 2, from 7 to 10 p.m., on the first floor of Page Hall, 1810 College Road. Food and drinks will be provided, guest speakers will be on hand, and a number of games and contests will take place throughout the night. Questions? Contact Chris Adams at adams.615@osu.edu.

Indian Studies institute offers language programs

The American Institute of Indian Studies welcomes applications for its summer 2011 and academic year 2011-12 language programs.

Programs to be offered include Hindi (Jaipur), Bengali (Kolkata), Punjabi (Chandigarh), Tamil (Madurai); Marathi (Pune), Urdu (Lucknow), Telugu (Vizag), Malayalam (Thiruvananthapuram) and Sanskrit (Pune) and Pali/Prakrit (Pune). We will offer other Indian languages upon request.

All academic year applicants should have the equivalent of two years of prior language study. For regular summer Sanskrit, we require the equivalent of two years of prior

study; for summer Bengali, Hindi and Tamil we require the equivalent of one year of prior study. For summer Urdu, we require the equivalent of one year of either Hindi or Urdu. We can offer courses at all levels, including beginning, in other Indian languages for the summer.

Summer students should apply for FLAS (graduate students) if available for funding to cover the costs of the program. Funding for Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi and Urdu may be available through the U.S. State Department's CLS program (see www.clscholarship.org).

Academic year students are eligible to apply for an AIIS fellowship which would cover all expenses for the program. AIIS is also offering a fall semester program. We offer Hindi and Urdu at all levels for the fall; we require two years of prior language study for other languages for the fall.

The application deadline is **January 31, 2011**. Applications can be downloaded from the AIIS web site at www.indiastudies.org. For more information, call 773-702-8638 or e-mail aiis@uchicago.edu

About Mershon Memo

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