

Alumni Reception and Seminar in Washington, DC

A special seminar on “The Nuclear Crisis with North Korea”, and the biennial Security Studies Program Alumni Reception highlighted a trip to Washington, DC on April 26, 2018.



Chaired by SSP Director, Barry Posen, the seminar addressed nuclear issues on the Korean peninsula. Panelists Jim Walsh, Vipin Narang, and Taylor Fravel spoke to the 60 attendees. The seminar was followed by a lively question and answer session.

Associate Professor Vipin Narang highlighted the speed and determination with which North Korea sprinted in the past year to develop its nuclear arsenal, which now includes a thermonuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile capability that can likely target the United States. Given the cost and effort of the program along with the deterrence benefits,

Narang argued that there was little chance of Kim Jong Un voluntarily surrendering his nuclear weapons. Instead, the path forward, he argued, is better spent on talking to the Kim regime about limits on the program and deterring it, rather than on the hope of unilateral disarmament. Principal Research Scientist Jim Walsh's presentation began with the historical context, where North Korea found itself strategically after the fall of the Soviet Union and how the pace of testing has evolved across three different N Korean leaders. He then reviewed the strengths and weakness of policy options like diplomacy and preventive war. He concluded with reflections on whether there could be a conflict on the peninsula, even if all the players want to avoid one. War is improbable, he noted, but improbable events happen -- they just happen less often. Professor Fravel examined China's role on the peninsula. China's interests, Fravel argued, include the future disposition of the Korean Peninsula and the U.S. presence there, instability within North Korea that could spill into China, and supporting one of the last other remaining socialist states in the world. Fravel then noted the meeting between Xi Jinping and Kim Jong Un, which reflected the normalization of ties between China and North Korea and signaled China's support for its neighbor and unwillingness to support any further increase in maximum pressure, much less regime, thus placing constraints on U.S. policy.

Several SSP alums who are now in the DC area, as well as invited guests from Capitol Hill and many members MIT Club of Washington DC attended the event. The MIT Club serves undergraduate and graduate student alumni in the area.

Following the seminar, the group adjourned to take part in the SSP alumni reception. The popular reception is held in DC every two years and provides a chance for former students, including military fellows, to renew old ties and to meet current members of the program.

Harlene Miller Retirement

After 18 years of working at SSP, Harlene Miller retired on May 30, 2018. SSP sent her off with a party at which we celebrated her many years of service and exquisite care behind many events

which she helped to coordinate. James Wynn joins the administrative staff at SSP taking on the roles which Harlene coordinated previously.



SSP Graduates 2018

Tim Wright, Lena Andrews, and Marika Landau-Wells graduated with their doctoral degrees in June, 2018. Marika Landau-Wells' thesis, *Dealing with Danger: Threat Perception and Policy Preferences* won the Lucian Pye Award for Outstanding Political Science Ph.D. Dissertation.

2017-18 Fellows Move on

Stanton Fellow **Dani Nedal** will be a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Politics and Strategy at Carnegie Mellon University. Stanton Fellow **Sara Moller** will be headed to the NATO Defense College in Rome as an Eisenhower Fellow in the fall, before returning to Seton Hall University in January 2019. After leaving MIT, Stanton Fellow **Takaaki Daitoku** is going back to Japan and will search for a job there. Army Fellow **Lieutenant Colonel Douglas William Copeland** will be Executive Officer to LTG Paul Ostrowski, the Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics & Technology) or ASA(ALT). Marine Fellow **Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Brown** will be Staff of Marine Aviation. Headquarters Marine Corps in the Pentagon, Navy Fellow **Captain Peter Mirisola** will be Commander of Destroyer Squadron 50 in Manama, Bahrain. Airforce Fellow **Lieutenant Colonel Randel James Gordon** will remain in Cambridge and work for the Air Force's new technology accelerator "AFWRX," and Army Fellow **Colonel Warren Sponsler** will be Deputy Director, Next Generation Combat Vehicle (NGCV) Cross Functional Team (CFT), U.S. Army Futures Command.

Where We Spoke

Kevin Benson (Army Fellow, 2001-02)

On May 20, 2018, Benson presented a talk on global warming and national security to the Johnson County Kansas chapter of Move On.

Jonathan Caverley (Research Associate)

International Security Colloquium, University of Washington, May 11, 2018.

Institute for Security and Conflicts Studies, George Washington University, April 30, 2018.

Yonsei University, Seoul, April 19, 2018.

Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, May 4, 2018.

M. Taylor Fravel (Faculty)

“China and North Korea,” MIT and Washington, D.C., April 2018.

“China’s Calculus in the South China Sea,” MIT, April 2018.

“Chinese Views of Nuclear Escalation,” George Washington University and International Studies Association, April 2018.

Eugene Gholz (Research Affiliate)

“Rare Earth Elements: Simple Commodity or Strategic Vulnerability?” Presentation at the Energy Council’s 2018 State and Provincial Trends in Energy and the Environment Conference, Regina, SK, June 22, 2018.

“The Future of US-China Relations: A Debate,” Public Debate with Bonnie Glaser, Ryan Hass, and David Kang organized by the Brookings Institution, the Charles Koch Institute, and *Politico*, Seattle, WA, May 21, 2018.

“The Very Healthy US Defense Innovation System,” Paper presented at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments Conference on Comparing Defense Innovation in Advanced and Catch-up-Countries, Washington, D.C., May 3, 2018.

“The Grad Strategy of Restraint,” Dinner Salon with the U.S. Foreign Policy Club of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, April 13, 2018.

“Oil and U.S. National Security,” Presentation to the Tufts University John Quincy Adams Society, Medford, MA, April 13, 2018.

“Oil, Hegemonic Stability Theory, and U.S. Grand Strategy,” Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 4, 2018.

Kelly Greenhill (Research Affiliate)

“Extra-factual Information and Science Denialism,” as part of the panel, “Science Denialism, Public Policy and Global Health,” moderated by *Science Friday’s* Ira Flatow, at the New York Academy of Sciences, New York, New York, June 2018.

“Fear and Present Danger: Extra-factual Information in International Politics,” invited address at Tufts Medical School, Boston, MA, June 2018.

“Trump’s America” as part of an invited panel at the 2018 E’storia Festival, Gorizia, Italy, May 2018.

“Weapons of Mass Migration,” as part of invited panel discussion devoted in part to the Italian translation of Greenhill’s book at the 2018 E’storia Festival, Gorizia, Italy, May 2018.

“The Strategic Deployment and Manipulation of Rumors, Conspiracy Theories and Other Forms of Extra-factual Information (EFI) in International Politics,” Interview with Aroop Mukharji on *Snack Break*, filmed in Cambridge, MA, My 2018.

“Coercion: The Power to Hurt in International Politics,” with co-author and co-editor Peter Krause, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, April 2018.

“Countering Disinformation: Lessons from History and Cognitive Science,” as part of a panel moderated by Ambassador Rick Stengel, at the Council on Foreign Relations, New York, New York, April 2018.

“Extra-factual Information as a Threat to the Liberal International Order,” as part of an invited roundtable at the ISA annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 2018.

Jeanne Guillemin (Senior Advisor)

Jeanne Guillemin spoke with Chris Lydon on Radio Open Source (WBUT) on June 14, 2018 in a discussion of the US-North Korean meeting on denuclearization. In the conversation were Ambassador Chas Freeman, Jim Carroll, and Richard Rhodes.

Paul Heer (CIS Robert E. Wilhelm fellow, ’16)

On June 12, 2018 Paul Heer discussed North Korea and China on the [“Intelligence Matters”](#) podcast hosted by former CIA Acting Director Michael Morell.

Gregory Koblentz (Alum ’04)

“Dictators and Weapons of Mass Destruction: The Influence of Regime Security on Proliferation Decision-Making,” presentation at the *2018 Symposium on Weapons of Mass Destruction: Weapons of Intimidation, Coercion, and War*, Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction, National Defense University, Washington, D.C., June 20, 2018.

“The Future of Strategic Stability in a Multipolar Asia,” presentation at the Korea National Diplomatic Academy, Seoul, South Korea, June 1, 2018; Asan Institute for Policy Studies, Seoul, South Korea, May 31, 2018; *Symposium on International Security Issues and Concerns: Asia and Beyond* at George Mason University Korea, Songdo, South Korea, May 31, 2018.

“Strategies for Strengthening the BWC,” presentation at the *NGO Roundtable on Institutional Strengthening of the BWC* at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Washington, D.C., May 1, 2018.

Peter Krause (Research Affiliate)

“Rebel Power: Why National Movements Compete, Fight, and Win,” Williams College, April 2018.

“Israelis and Palestinians in Jerusalem,” École Biblique et Archéologique Française, Jerusalem, June 2018.

Alan Kuperman (Alum, '02)

“Converting Next-Gen Navy Nuclear Vessels from HEU Fuel to LEU Fuel,” US House of Representatives, April 18, 2018.

“How to End an Ethical Civil War: The 2003 Intervention in Liberia,” ISA Convention, San Francisco, CA, April 4-7, 2018.

“Plutonium for Energy?” at International House of Japan, Tokyo, June 28, 2018; Parliament (Diet) of Japan, Tokyo, June 27, 2018; George Washington University, Nuclear Security Boot Camp, June 14, 2018; [George Washington University, Nuclear Policy Talk, June 11, 2018](#); [Stimson Center, Washington, D.C., June 12, 2018](#).

Marika Landau-Wells (Alum, '18)

Panelist at “Climate Science in a Time of Political Disruption,” a workshop hosted by the Program on Science, Technology, and Society at the Harvard Kennedy School, April 6, 2018.

Speaker at “Accelerating Nuclear Threat in the Midst of a Diplomacy Vacuum,” an event hosted by PopTech, Beyond Conflict, and N Square Collaborative, April 27, 2018.

Philip Martin (Graduate Student)

Philip Martin presented “The Politics of Rebel Authority in Postwar States: Theory and Evidence from Cote d’Ivoire,” with Giulia Piccolino and Jeremy Speight at the International Studies Association, annual convention in San Francisco in April, and at the Canadian Association of African Studies’ annual conference in Kingston.

Timothy McDonnell (Graduate Student)

“Diplomatic Wallop: Nixon and the Return of Counterforce,” at ISA.

Rachel Esplin Odell (Graduate Student)

Rachel Esplin Odell presented “Freedom of Navigation in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: A Case Study of Japan’s Maritime Jurisdictional Claims,” April 5, 2015, in a Junior Scholar Symposium at the International Studies Association annual conference held in San Francisco, CA.

Reid Pauly (Graduate Student)

Reid Pauly spoke at the U.S. Naval War College on “Elite Aversion to the Use of Nuclear Weapons: Evidence from Wargames” on June 29, 2018.

Barry Posen (Faculty)

Presentations on Two Panels at the International Studies Association annual conference, San Francisco, April 6-7, 2018.

“Illiberal Hegemony,” Center for International Studies, MIT, seminar for Boston Consuls General, April 10, 2018.

Panel Discussion on Intervention and Civil War, for American Academy of Arts and Sciences Study Group, US Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C., April 13, 2018.

“Restraint, A New Foundation for US Grand Strategy,” Lunch speaker at Notre Dame, School of Arts and Sciences Advisory Council meeting, Harvard Club, Boston, April 20, 2018; European Union Institute, Florence, Italy, May 7, 2018.

“Nuclear Weapons and the Great Powers,” Foreign Policy Institute (and US Nobel Committee), New York, New York, June 6, 2018.

Richard Samuels (Faculty)

In June, Richard Samuels gave a lecture at the Free University of Berlin on the subject of his forthcoming book, *Special Duty: A History of the Japanese Intelligence Community*.

Apichai W. Shipper (Alum, '01)

Apichai Shipper presented the keynote address, “How the US Trains its Diplomats” at the Philippines’ Foreign Service Institute, Manila, May 2018.

In March 2018, Shipper was invited to speak at Columbia University, New York, on “Thailand’s Foreign Relations with ASEAN, China, and the US.”

Joel Sokolsky (Senior Advisor)

“On the Future of NORAD,” RCAF 1st Wing Commander’s Training Session, Kingston, Ontario, April 6, 2018.

Spoke as a part of a panel on the Canadian commitment to NATO’s Enhanced Forward Presence in Latvia at Macdonald-Laurier Institute, Ottawa, Canada, June 13, 2018.

Spoke as a part of a panel on US Foreign Policy at Norwich University, Residency Conference, June 20, 2018.

David Weinberg (Alum, '12)

Congressional testimony, “Grading Counterterrorism Cooperation with GCC States,” Joint Hearing, House Foreign Affairs Committee’s Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, April 26, 2018.

Council on Foreign Relations, “The Current State of Hate in the Gulf: Challenges and Opportunities,” Roundtable Series on U.S. Foreign Policy and Countering Violent Extremism, Washington, D.C., June 7, 2018.

What We Wrote

Kevin Benson (Army Fellow, 2001-02)

Kevin Benson, "Whither SAMS?: A proposal for a New Direction for the School of Advanced Military Studies," *Military Review*, June 2018.

Mark Bell (Alum, '16)

Mark Bell with Julia Macdonald (SSP Stanton fellow, '14-15), "Toward Deterrence: The Upside of the Trump-Kim Summit," *War on the Rocks*, June 15, 2018.

Jonathan Caverley (Research Associate)

Jonathan Caverley, "The Economics of War and Peace," *Oxford University Press Handbook of International Security*, eds. Alexandra Gheciu and William Wohlforth (London: Oxford University Press, 2018)

Jonathan Caverley with Sam J. Tangredi, "Amphibs in Sea Control and Power Projection," *Proceedings* 144, no. 4 (April, 2018), pp. 18-22.

Jonathan Caverley, "America's Arms Sales Policy: Security Abroad, Not Jobs at Home," *War on the Rocks* blog, April 6, 2018.

Mayumi Fukushima (Graduate Student)

Richard Samuels and Mayumi Fukushima, "Japan's National Security Council: Filling the Whole of Government?" *International Affairs* 94:4 (July 2018), pp. 773-790.

Eugene Gholz (Research Affiliate)

Harvey M. Sapolsky (Faculty) and Eugene Gholz, "Calm Down, Folks: Enemies Still Fear US Military Tech Innovation," *Defense One*, May 17, 2018.

Eugene Gholz and Harvey M. Sapolsky (Faculty), "The Very Healthy US Defense Innovation System," in Tai Ming Cheung, ed., *Leaders, Laggards, and Followers: The Global Competition for Defense Innovation*, UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Research Briefs, 2018, pp. 49-52.

Jeanne Guillemin (Senior Advisor)

Guillemin's most recent book, *Hidden Atrocities: Japanese Germ Warfare and American Obstruction of Justice at the Tokyo Trial* addresses the historical consequences of US post-war intervention in East Asian politics.

Paul Heer (CIS Robert E. Wilhelm fellow, '16)

Paul Heer, "[Containment and East Asia: What Would Kennan Do?](#)" *The National Interest*, April 17, 2018.

Alan Kuperman (Alum, '02)

Alan Kuperman, "[Constitutional Reform: Intelligent Design or Evolution?](#)" *H-Diplo/ISSF Roundtable*, vol. X, no. 13 (2018), pp. 16-19.

Philip Martin (Graduate Student)

Philip Martin, "Security Sector Reform and Civil-Military Relations in Postwar Côte d'Ivoire," *African Affairs*, May 2018.

Timothy McDonnell (Graduate Student)

Timothy McDonnell, "[Prove It: Nuclear Posture and the Fear of Surprise Attack](#)," *War on the Rocks* blog, June 22, 2018.

Jeremy Pressman (Alum, '02)

Jeremy Pressman, "[Horizontal Inequality and Violent Unrest in Jerusalem](#)," *Terrorism and Political Violence*, May 1, 2018.

Jeremy Pressman with Megan Berhold and Kathryn Libal, "[We Must Protect Immigrant Children's Rights](#)," *The Harford Courant*, June 17, 2018.

Richard Samuels (Faculty)

Richard Samuels and Eric Heginbotham, "Active Denial: Redesigning Japan's Response to China's Military Challenge," *International Security* (Spring, 2018)

Richard Samuels, co-editor, "Japan's Pivot in Asia," *International Affairs* (July, 2018)

Richard Samuels and Mayumi Fukushima, "Japan's National Security Council: Filling the Whole of Government?" *International Affairs* 94:4 (July 2018), pp. 773-790.

Apichai W. Shipper (Alum, '01)

Apichai W. Shipper, "Activism for Harmony? Immigrants Rights Activism and Xenophobic Activism," in David Chiavacci and Julia Obinger, Eds., *Social Movements and Political Activism in Contemporary Japan* (London: Routledge, 2018), pp. 93-112.

Apichai W. Shipper, "Democratization," in Akihiro Ogawa, Ed., *Routledge Handbook of Civil Society in Asia* (London: Routledge, 2018), pp. 327-343.

Marsha Simon (Alum, '05)

Marsha Simon with Michael Adelberg, "[Non-Emergency Medical Transportation: Will Reshaping Medicaid Sacrifice an Important Benefit?](#)," *Health Affairs*, September 20, 2017.

Marsha Simon with Eliot Fishman, "[Budget Proposal Would Allow States to Drop Medicaid Transportation Benefits Across the Entire Program](#)," *Health Affairs*, June 12, 2018.

Joel Sokolsky (Senior Advisor)

Christian Leuprecht, Joel Sokolsky, and Jayson Derow, [On the Baltic Watch: The Past, Present and Future of Canada's Commitment to NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence in Latvia](#) (Ottawa, Ontario, Macdonald-Laurier Institute, 2018).

[North American Strategic Defense in the 21st Century: Security and Sovereignty in an Uncertain World](#), Christian Leuprecht, Joel J. Sokolsky, Thomas Hughes, ed. (Cham Switzerland, Springer International Publishing AG, 2018).

[Brian Taylor \(Alum, '98\)](#)

Brian Taylor, *The Code of Putinism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018)

Brian Taylor with Mickhail Strokan, "Intelligence," in Andrei Tsygankov, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of Russian Foreign Policy* (Routledge, 2018)

General announcements

[Boaz Atzili \(Alum, '06\)](#)

Boaz Atzili has been nominated the Director of Doctoral Studies Program at the School of International Service, American University.

[Jonathan Caverley \(Research Associate\)](#)

Jon was elected to the International Security Studies Section of the International Studies Association, and will serve, with Monica Duffy-Toft, as the section program chair for next year's conference.

[M. Taylor Fravel \(Faculty\)](#)

Taylor has been promoted to Full Professor and has become the Arthur and Ruth Sloan Professor of Political Science, effective July 1, 2018.

[Marika Landau-Wells \(Alum, '18\)](#)

Marika received a on-year postdoctoral fellowship from the Beyond Conflict Innovation Lab to study the neural bases of threat perception. During the fellowship, she will be based at MIT in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences in the lab of Prof. Rebecca Saxe.

[Austin Long \(Alum, '10\)](#)

On June 21, 2018 Long testified to the House Foreign Affairs Committee Sub-committee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade on "Russian Nuclear Forces and Prospects for Arms Control."

[Philip Martin \(Graduate Student\)](#)

Philip Martin was awarded a 2018-19 Pre-doctoral Research Fellowship at the Belfer Center's International Security Program at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

[Timothy McDonnell \(Graduate Student\)](#)

Tim McDonnell received a pre-doctoral fellowship at George Washington University's Institute for Security and Conflict Studies for the 2018-19 academic year.

[Yoni Shimshoni \(Research Affiliate\)](#)

Starting September for the academic year 2018-19, Shimshoni will be a Research Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center in D.C., working on society-centric warfare and strategy, a project he began at SSP in 2016.

Timothy Wright (Alum, '18)

After successfully defending his dissertation, "From Predators to Providers: The Role of Violence and Rules in Establishing Social Control," Tim will move on to his next job commanding 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment and a NATO Battle Group in Poland.

Awards and Scholarships

Mayumi Fukushima (Graduate Student)

Mayumi Fukushima won a Smith Richardson Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship from Yale University's International Security Studies Program, which will begin on September 1, 2018.

Marika Landau-Wells (Alum, '18)

Marika received the Lucian Pye Award for Outstanding Political Science PhD Dissertation. Her dissertation title is: *Dealing with Danger: Threat Perception and Policy Preferences*.

Austin Long (Alum, '10)

Austin Long and Brendan Green won the 2018 Outstanding Article Award in International History and Politics from the American Political Science Association International History and Politics Section for "The MAD Who Wasn't There: Soviet Reactions to the Late Cold War Strategic Balance."

Rachel Esplin Odell (Graduate Student)

At the annual International Studies Association conference in San Francisco in April, Rachel Esplin Odell was awarded the Alexander George Award for Best Graduate Student Paper from ISA's Foreign Policy Analysis Section for her paper entitled "Maritime Hegemony and the Fiction of the Free Sea: Explaining States' Claims to Maritime Jurisdiction," presented at the ISA 2017 conference in Baltimore.

Apichai W. Shipper (Alum, '01)

Apichai Shipper was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Government of the Philippines for his talk "How the US Trains its Diplomats," which has been written up in the website for the [Philippines' Department of Foreign Affairs](#).