

Early Warning, October 2017

SSP Welcomes New Fellows



Back row: **Lieutenant Colonel Randy “Laz” Gordon, Captain Peter Mirisola, Douglas Copeland**

Front row: **Lieutenant Colonel Warren Sponsler, Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Brown**

Lieutenant Colonel Brown is the 2017-2018 Commandant of the Marine Corps Fellow at the MIT Security Studies Program. He is a 1995 graduate of Swarthmore College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a dual major in Philosophy and Religion. Commissioned in August 1996, Lieutenant Colonel Brown has served as an F/A-18 pilot in the operating forces with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (All Weather) 224, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115, and Marine Aircraft Group 12. In the supporting establishment, he completed a tour as an instructor pilot with Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One. In addition, Lieutenant Colonel Brown has served two tours as a Fire Support Officer and Joint Terminal Attack Controller for a Joint Special Operations Task Force. He has completed four deployments to the Western Pacific, one combat tour in Iraq, as well as four combat deployments to Afghanistan. His most recent assignment was as the Commanding Officer of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115, the Silver Eagles. He is a graduate of the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course and the Joint Combined Warfighter School, Joint Forces Staff College.

Douglas Copeland

Lieutenant Colonel Copeland is one of the two 2017-2018 US Army War College Fellows at the MIT Security Studies Program. He splits his time between the MIT Security Studies Program and MIT Lincoln Labs. A Distinguished Military Graduate of Texas Christian University, LTC Copeland was commissioned into the US Army in 1997 and branched Infantry. For over 20 years, he has served in various command and staff positions in the Infantry, Acquisition and Special Operations communities. He has commanded Soldiers in combat as well as led both Soldiers and Civilians in the pursuit, development and deployment of cutting edge military technology. He has completed three combat deployments, one in Iraq, and two in Afghanistan. His most recent assignment was the Program Manager for Special Programs, United States Special Operations Command and Commander, Ground Applications Program Officer, United States Army Special Operations Command. LTC Copeland has a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Texas Christian University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the US Naval Postgraduate School. He is also a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College and the Defense Acquisition University's Program Manager's Course.

Lieutenant Colonel Randy "Laz" Gordon, PhD is a decorated, multi-discipline leader with a demonstrated 19-year track record of professional excellence. He commanded a developmental flight test force consisting of 330+ contractor, civilian, and military personnel responsible for modernization of the F-22A Raptor. In that role, he managed a \$37 Million annual operating budget and oversaw \$1.6+ Billion in national security assets. Prior to his command assignment, he led future capabilities, innovation, and experimentation for the US Pacific Command. There he managed a \$2.5+ Billion dollar portfolio of advanced technology programs. Furthermore, he developed state of the art aerospace technologies as an experimental test pilot with experience in the F-22A, F-15C/E, A-10A/C, and the Bombardier BD-700 Global Express business jet as well as 70 other military and civilian aircraft. He also is a combat veteran with several air medal decorations from combat missions in support of Operations NORTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM. Colonel Gordon holds a Strategy PhD and Masters of Philosophy (summa cum laude) from the USAF School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, as well as a graduate aeronautical engineering degree and mathematics/systems engineering studies (magna cum laude) from the Air Force Institute of Technology and United States Air Force Academy. He was competitively selected as a Presidential Fellow, DARPA US Air Force Service Chief Fellow, 2 time MIT Sloan Fellow admit, 2 time White House Fellowship finalist, USAF Thunderbirds Commander finalist, and 2 time NASA Astronaut finalist. He is a published writer for Air & Space Smithsonian/Flying magazine, mentors children, and serves as an award winning public speaker/published photographer.

Captain Mirisola is the 2017-2018 Navy Federal Executive Fellow at MIT Security Studies Program. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from The Citadel, a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from The George Washington University and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and is a graduate of the Joint Forces Staff College. His career as a Surface Warfare

Officer include assignments in USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7), USS SCOTT (DDG 995), USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50), USS McCAMPBELL (DDG 85), the staff of Commander, Destroyer Squadron FIFTY in Bahrain and Commander, U.S. SECOND Fleet staff. Captain Mirisola was Executive Officer in USS HAWES (FFG 53) and Commanding Officer, USS UNDERWOOD (FFG 36). Following command he served as Director, Current and Future Operations for Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/FIFTH Fleet in Bahrain. Most recently, Captain Mirisola was the Perspective Commanding Officer Course Director at the Naval Leadership and Ethics Center in Newport, Rhode Island.

Warren Sponsler

Lieutenant Colonel Warren Sponsler is an Army War College Fellow with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Security Studies Program. He was commissioned as an Armor Officer from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1996. His troop command and staff assignments include multiple US and overseas tours with experience in Bosnia, Kuwait and three deployments to Iraq between 2003 and 2011. LTC Sponsler most recently served as the Senior Brigade Combat Team Trainer at the Army's National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, preparing Army Brigades for contingency operations around the world. He has commanded maneuver units from the platoon through battalion level and last commanded a combined arms Armor and Infantry battalion in Fort Carson, Colorado, and deployment to the Middle East.

Stanton Nuclear Fellows



Taka Daitoku is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Security Studies Program within the Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Taka's research fields are: post-1945 international history; the United States in the world in the twentieth century; and modern East Asia. He received his Ph.D. from the

Department of History, Northwestern University. His dissertation is titled “‘Same Bed, Different Dreams’: The G-5 and an Emerging Interdependent World, 1971-76.” Taka is currently developing a book manuscript with the working title *Unceasing Desire for Nuclear Independence: The Genesis of Another “Japan Model,” 1940-77*. He is also preparing to launch a documentation project for Japan's 3/11 nuclear crisis, in collaboration with the then-ruling Democratic Party.

Sara Bjerg Moller is Assistant Professor at the School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Modern War Institute at West Point. Her work explores the dynamics of cooperation in military alliances, with a focus on organizational learning and combat effectiveness. She is currently working on a study of the new NATO Force Structure (NFS) in Eastern Europe, as well as a project on the evolution of the Alliance’s nuclear sharing doctrine. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University and has a Masters in Security Studies from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service.

Dani Nedal is a PhD Candidate at the Government Department at Georgetown University. He studies International Relations, with a focus on international security and international relations theory. His dissertation explores the relationship between urban geography and international security. In particular, it focuses on the constraining effects of urban concentration on conflict proneness, bargaining effectiveness, and nuclear doctrine and strategy. Before joining MIT, he was a Smith Richardson Fellow at Yale International Security Studies.

Visiting Assistant Professor



Jennifer L. Erickson is an Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Boston College. Her research deals with new weapons and the creation of laws and norms of war; sanctions and arms embargoes; and the conventional arms trade. Her book, *Dangerous Trade: Conventional Arms Exports, Human Rights, and International Reputation*, explains states’ commitment to and compliance with arms export criteria articulated in the UN Arms Trade Treaty and related multilateral initiatives. She has previously been a Nuclear Security Faculty Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University; a faculty affiliate at the

Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard University; a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth College; and a research fellow at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik and the Wissenschaftszentrum in Berlin. She received her Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University.

Where We Spoke

Jonathan Caverley, Research Associate

Workshop on “International Technological Cooperation,” St. Andrews University and Korean Acquisition and Procurement Agency, August 15, 2017.

Eugene Gholz, Alum '00

“Oil, Hegemonic Stability Theory, and U.S. Grand Strategy,” at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, September 2, 2017.

Jeanne Guillemin, Senior Advisor

On September 13, Guillemin presented a talk at the New York University School of Medicine Division of Medical Ethics Colloquium on her new book, *Hidden Atrocities* on the suppression of charges of Japanese germ warfare and long-term medical experiments on Chinese civilians at the Tokyo war crimes trial.

On September 18-19, Guillemin was an invited participant in Washington DC at the National Academy of Sciences Symposium of Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Programs for the Next Twenty Years.

Gregory D. Koblentz, Alum '04

“Assad’s Red Lines: The Strategic Logic Behind Syria’s Use of Chemical Weapons,” Presentation at the Security Policy Studies Program, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington, DC, September 26, 2017.

“Maintaining Innovation and Security in Chemistry: Lessons from Homeland and International Security,” presentation at the *Maintaining Innovation and Security*

in Biotechnology: Lessons Learned from Nuclear, Chemical and Information Technologies workshop, Center for Global Security Research, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA, August 1, 2017.

“Dictators and Weapons of Mass Destruction: The Influence of Regime Security on Proliferation Decision-Making,” presentation to the Center for Global Security Research, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA, July 31, 2017.

Jennifer Lind, Alum '04

In September, Lind spoke at the British International Studies Association's US Foreign Policy Working Group in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Dave Pendall, Army Fellow '16

“Mobilizing People and Power, in Russia,” The Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House, London), June 5, 2017.

Sara Plana, Graduate Student

“Loyalty Can't Be Bought: Explaining Military Defection During Civilian Uprisings in Autocracies,” Olympia Summer Academy.

Joshua Rovner, Alum '08

Commentator, “Truth to Power: A History of the U.S. National Intelligence Council,” Washington, DC, September 2017.

“Intelligence and U.S. Grand Strategy,” Institute for Humane Studies, San Francisco, CA, August 2017.

“Thinking Ahead: What Issues will Matter Most for U.S. Grand Strategy after Trump?” Williams College, July 2017.

Paul Walker, Alum '78

Interview with Brian Todd, CNN, Washington DC, for Wolf Blitzer's "The Situation Room," Friday, August 4, 2017 re: terrorist threat of chemical weapons in Australia.

Live interview on France 24 TV, Wednesday, August 23, 2017 re: use of sarin chemical agent in Khan Shaykhoun, Syria, on April 4, 2017.

Live interview on TRT World (Turkish) TV, Wednesday, September 27, 2017 re: Russia's completion of its CW destruction program.

Tim Wolters, Alum '04

"Penetrating the Labyrinth of Records Access at the U.S. Navy Archives: A Commentary," Biennial Naval History Symposium, Annapolis, Maryland.

What We Wrote

Matthew Cancian, Graduate Student

with Kristin E. Fabbe, "What Iraq's Kurdish Peshmerga Believe: And How it will Affect the Country's Post-ISIS Future," [*Foreign Affairs*](#), August 25, 2017.

Jonathan Caverley, Research Associate

with Yanna Krupnikov, "Aiming at Doves: Experimental Evidence of Military Images' Political Effects," *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 61, No. 7, August, 2017, pp. 1482-1509.

with Jesse Dillon Savage, "American Training of Foreign Militaries and Coup Propensity," *Journal of Peace Research* 54, No. 4, July 2017, pp. 542-55.

with Jesse Dillon Savage, "Training the Man on Horseback: The Connection between U.S. Training and Military Coups," *War on the Rocks* blog, August 9, 2017.

Jeanne Guillemin, Senior Advisor

“The Origins of Today’s Chemical Weapons Controversy in China-Japan Relations,” *The RUSI Journal*, September Issue.

“The 1925 Geneva Protocol: China’s CBW Charges Against Japan at the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal” in Bretislav Friedrich, et al., *One Hundred Years of Chemical Warfare: Research, Deployment, Consequences*, Springer International Publishing, September 2017, based on the proceedings of an April 2015 conference of the Fritz Haber Institute of Max Planck Society, Berlin, Germany.

Michal Ben-Josef Hirsch, '09

with Manjari Miller, “How Identity Issues Keep India and Israel Apart; And Why Modi’s Visit May Not Signal a Transformation in Ties,” [*Foreign Affairs*](#), July 10, 2017.

Gregory D. Koblentz, Alum '04

“The *De Novo* Synthesis of Horsepox Virus: Implications for Biosecurity and Recommendations for Preventing the Reemergence of Smallpox,” [*Health Security*](#), Vol. 15, No. 5 (2017), pp. 1-9.

with Mahdi F.H. Al Jewari, “Strengthening Biosecurity in Iraq: Development of a National Biorisk Management System,” in Jeanne M. Fair, Hillary H. Carter, and Nathan Wolfe, eds., [*Biological Engagement Programs: Reducing Threats and Strengthening Global Health Security Through Scientific Collaboration*](#) (Frontiers Media SA, 2017), pp. 59-62.

Alan Kuperman, Alum '02

“Our African Friend, the Mass Murderer,” [*New York Daily News*](#), op-ed, August 7, 2017, p. 26.

“Japan’s Intentional Plutonium Surplus,” [*Kyodo News*](#), op-ed, August 17, 2017.

with Edwin Lyman, "Why is NASA Testing Bomb-grade Materials for its Mars Mission?" [Baltimore Sun](#), op-ed, August 21, 2017.

Peter Liberman, Alum '92

with Linda J. Skitka, "Revenge in US Public Support for War Against Iraq," *Public Opinion Quarterly* 81 (3), Fall 2017, pp. 636-660.

Jennifer Lind, Alum '04

"Why China Won't Solve the North Korea Nuclear Problem," *CNN Opinion*, August 7, 2017.

Jon Lindsay, Alum '11

"Target Practice: Counterterrorism and the Amplification of Data Friction," [Science, Technology, & Human Values](#), August 28, 2017.

"Restrained by Design: The Political Economy of Cybersecurity," *Digital Policy, Regulation and Governance* Vol. 19, No. 6 (July 26, 2017), pp. 493-514.

Joseph O'Mahoney, Stanton Fellow '16-17

"Proclaiming Principles: The Logic of the Nonrecognition of the Spoils of War," *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 2(3), pp. 204-219.

Joshua Rovner, Alum '08

with Tyler Moore, "Does the Internet need a Hegemon?" *Journal of Global Security Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (July, 2017), pp. 184-203.

"Are Cyber Weapons Too Dangerous to Use?" *War on the Rocks*, August 22, 2017.

"The ABCs of Deterring North Korea," *War on the Rocks*, September 13, 2017.

"Intelligence, Politicization, and the Russia Probe," *Lawfare*, September 17, 2017.

Review of Austin Long, *The Soul of Armies: Counterinsurgency Doctrine and Military Culture in the US and UK* (Cornell, 2016), in *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 132, No. 2 (Summer 2017), pp. 348-351.

Review of John M. Schuessler, *Deceit on the Road to War: Presidents, Politics, and American Democracy* (Cornell, 2015), in *H-Diplo* roundtable review 9-21 (2017).

Paul Staniland, Alum '10

“Armed Politics and the Study of Intrastate Conflict,” *Journal of Peace Research*, Vol. 54, No. 4 (July, 2017), pp. 459-467.

“Whither ISIS? Insights from Insurgent Responses to Decline,” [*Washington Quarterly*](#), Vol. 40, No. 3 (Fall 2017), pp. 29-43.

Paul Walker, Alum '78

“A Century of Chemical Warfare: Building a World Free of Chemical Weapons,” in Bretislav Friedrich, et al., *One Hundred Years of Chemical Warfare: Research, Deployment, Consequences*, Springer International Publishing, September 2017, based on the proceedings of an April 2015 conference of the Fritz Haber Institute of Max Planck Society, Berlin, Germany.

Rachel Whitlark, Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow '12-13

“Nuclear Beliefs: A Leader-focused Theory of Counter-proliferation,” *Security Studies* 26, No. 4 (2017), pp. 545-574.

with Rupal Mehta, “The Benefits and Burdens of Nuclear Latency,” *International Studies Quarterly* (2017).

Tim Wolters, Alum '04

“Reading Submarine History,” *The Submarine Review*, vol. 35, no. 2, pp. 135-145.

Notes From All Over

Shalom Flank, Alum '93

Flank will be back in Boston in November for the Microgrid 2017 conference to present a paper on the new Microgrid Extension Service he has helped to create in Washington DC. This is a topic that was kindled through what he learned from Harvey Sapolsky about the start of Agricultural Extension Services in the 19th century.

Jeanne Guillemin, Senior Advisor

On September 10, CNN/HLN televised a special program on the 2001 terrorist anthrax letter attacks (“Medical Detectives: Something’s Killing Me” series). Guillemin, whose 2011 book *American Anthrax* documented the attacks, was a consultant for the program and appears in it as a commentator.

On September 29, Guillemin’s publisher, Columbia University Press, nominated her new book, *Hidden Atrocities: Japanese Germ Warfare and American Obstruction of Justice at the Tokyo Trial*, for a Pulitzer Prize.

Jennifer Lind, Alum '04

Lind was awarded the Nakasone Award for her studies of Japanese and East Asian international affairs from the Institute of International Policy Studies, Tokyo. Lind is spending the fall as Associate Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Joshua Rovner, Alum '08

In August, Rovner started a new position as Associate Professor in the School of International Service at American University in Washington, DC.

Vikram Mansharamani, Alum '04

Mansharamani is now a Lecturer in Engineering Sciences at the Harvard John Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Laura Holgate, Alum '90

["Ambassador Laura Holgate brings nuclear security expertise to Third Way,"](#) *Third Way: Fresh Thinking*, September 27, 2017.

David Weinberg, Alum '12

David Weinberg started a new job this September as the Anti-Defamation League's Washington Representative for International Affairs. In this capacity, he will be serving as the organization's main point of contact with Congress, the administration, and foreign officials in Washington on ADL's international agenda, seeking to protect Jewish communities overseas and serve as a Jewish voice for equal treatment for all people.

Andrew Miller, Graduate Student

Miller was named a Graduate Research Fellow by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

Awards and Scholarships

Mark Bell, Alum '16

Bell received the 2017 APSA Kenneth Waltz dissertation award for best dissertation in international security at the APSA annual meeting in San Francisco in August.

Tim Wolters, Alum '04

Wolters was awarded the 2017 Award for Excellence in Under-graduate Introductory Teaching from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at Iowa State University.