From the Director

Dear Friends of the Mortara Center

The Mortara Center enjoyed yet another full year, with panel discussions, book presentations, public lectures, faculty working groups, and luncheon seminars. To produce outstanding, high impact scholarship, the Center developed new programming supporting the entire research life cycle of scholarly work, from the most preliminary brainstorming, through the presentation of rough drafts in a workshop format, to more general interest public presentations of polished work and book launches. These activities contribute to the creation of “thought communities” of various faculty and students on campus in interaction with scholars, practitioners, and other experts outside of Georgetown. We continue to look for ways to disseminate the knowledge and scholarship that we are helping to build through public outreach, placement of pieces in mass publications, increased web and social media presence, and regular roundtables on breaking news issues.

In the years since its founding in 2003, the Mortara Center for International Studies has grown to be an integral part of the School of Foreign Service’s mission to provide a rigorous global education combining theory and practice. To better serve that mission, the Center continues to broaden set of activities that create the conditions for sustained intellectual engagement across the Georgetown community. The pages that follow illustrate in more detail the vibrancy of intellectual life and the community that has developed around this vision. I hope you will join us in this journey in the years to come!

All the Best,
Kathleen R. McNamara
Director, Mortara Center for International Studies
The academic year 2009-2010 was a period of transition and continuing evolution for the Mortara Center for International Studies. The year witnessed the departure of Carol Lancaster, who brought expertise and dedication to her role as Director of the Center from 2005 to 2009. After a semester of valued service by John McNeill as Interim Director, in January the Center welcomed Kathleen McNamara, Associate Professor of Government and International Affairs, to the position of Director. Under her leadership the Center has sought to clarify its mission and organize its programming to further deepen the robust and vibrant scholarly community at Georgetown while reaching out to the broader world.
The Center sponsored and cosponsored over one hundred academic events and supported the activities of five Faculty Working Groups in the field of International Studies.

**FACULTY WORKING GROUPS**

The last academic year saw a great expansion of the Mortara Center’s Faculty Working Groups in partnership with the Departments of History, Government and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute.

These Working Groups unite faculty and students in ongoing and sustained dialogue about cutting-edge research in international studies in the fields of international relations theory, international political economy, comparative government, international development studies, and international history. The five working groups successfully fostered intellectual exchange and research among faculty and students in some of the key academic disciplines of the School of Foreign Service.

**GUITARS**

The Georgetown University International Theory and Research Seminar Series (GUITARS) gathered biweekly to discuss the research and working papers of Georgetown faculty and visiting scholars.

James Vreeland, Associate Professor of International Relations and Government chaired the series. During the 2009-2010 academic year, the series held 15 sessions, with presentations including “Assimilation and its Alternatives: Caveats in the Study of Nation-building Policies” by Professor Harris Mylonas, “Explaining Public Support for the Use of Military Force: The Impacts of Reference Point Framing & Prospective Decision Making” by Professor Hector Perla, “How Much is Enough: Testing Theories of Nuclear Deterrence” by Keir Lieber and Daryl Press, and a presentation by Georgetown’s Desha Girod entitled “Can External Actors Succeed in Post-Conflict Reconstruction? Comparing Lessons from Africa,” among others.
Professor JP Singh discusses the meaning of Yatra - The Journey, a movie partnership between the Mortara Center and the Indian Film Society.

Dr. John McNeill, Interim Director of the Mortara Center, visits the Center to present his book: *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914.*


**CRITICS**

The Current Research on Issues and Topics in Comparative Scholarship Series (CRITICS), co-sponsored by the Department of Government and the Mortara Center for International Studies was chaired by Harley Balzar, Associate Professor of Government and International Affairs. Participants gathered for nine sessions to discuss working papers on various topics of comparative government. Highlights of the series included “How Institutionalized is Chinese Authoritarianism?” by Bruce Dickson and Minxin Pei, “The European Union, Gender and Deliberative Democracy” by Yvonne Galligan, and “Move Over, Bismarck: Explaining Cross-National Change in the Design of Social Policies” by Georgetown Professor Matt Carnes.

**INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY**

The International Political Economy Workshop, led by Professor Marc Busch, continued to meet regularly during the 2009-2010 academic year. The workshop brings together Georgetown faculty and students from across various disciplines to discuss political economy research in an informal setting. Presentations included David Leblang, “Harnessing a Diaspora: The Political Economy of Dual Citizenship,” “Time to Join? Explaining Membership in Transgovernmental Networks” by Abraham Newman, and “Buying Bretton Woods” by James Vreeland.

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH SERIES**

As part of an ongoing focus on International Development, the Center continued to sponsor the International Development Research Series with the Georgetown Public Policy Institute (GPPI). Chaired by Professors Jennifer Tobin and James Habyarimana, the series consisted of seven presentations by Georgetown faculty and development practitioners. Highlights of the series included: “A Model of Constitutional Coup and its Welfare Implications: The Case of Honduras” by Jose Cuesta, “How Visas Affect Skilled Labor: A Randomized Natural Experiment” by Michael Clemens, and “The Role of Self-Help Groups in Community Development” by Raj Desai and Shareen Joshi.
INTERNATIONAL HISTORY SEMINAR SERIES

The International History Seminar Series, co-sponsored by the Mortara Center and the Georgetown University Institute for Global History, brought scholars to present working papers on the subject of global history and discuss their research with Georgetown faculty and students.

Convened by Professors Aviel Roshwald and John McNeill, the series included such presentations as “NATO and the UN: A Peculiar Relationship” by Lawrence Kaplan, “Russia in the First World War” by Melissa Stockdale, and “The International History of Nation-Building Since the First World War” by Jeremi Suri.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

The Mortara Center continued the tradition of offering annual speeches by distinguished scholars, authors, dignitaries, and practitioners in the field of international studies. On April 20, 2010 Dr. Margaret MacMillan, a prominent contemporary historian, delivered the Distinguished Lecture in Modern International History entitled “Is History Any Use in International Relations?” In her remarks, Dr. McMillan argued that history is useful in international relations for the insight it provides as to the motives, hopes, and fears of key players and actors. Dr. MacMillan also cautioned against drawing on history to mobilize hatred and prejudice or to justify unreasonable claims.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY BOOK GROUP

The International Relations Theory Book Group was launched in Spring 2010 to foster an exchange of ideas on contemporary international relations scholarship among faculty and students. Led by Professor Daniel Nexon, the book group meets regularly to read and discuss important new academic books, creating a sense of community and engagement outside the classroom.

REGIONAL FORUMS

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the South Asia Forum, chaired by Professors Aparna Vaidik and Shareen Joshi, continued to bring together scholars and students from all disciplines to share research and discuss various issues related to South Asia. The Khayaal Book
Club, an initiative of the Forum and the South Asian Society at Georgetown, and co-sponsored by the International Certificate for Development and the Asian Studies Certificate Program, convened students to examine literary works related to South Asia in order to cultivate interest in literature and authors from the region.

In Spring 2010, the South Asia Forum also launched the Indian Film Society. Students, faculty and staff were invited to attend a series of film screenings followed by discussions of their thematic content. The objective of the film series is to screen films for the enlightenment, education and enjoyment of the audience, with a focus on films not generally shown in local commercial theaters or TV channels, and to collaborate with local educational and cultural organizations.

In addition to the Khayaal Book Club and the Indian Film Society, the South Asia Forum hosted a number of lectures and panel discussions on contemporary developments in the region. Presentations on the US-India relationship included Binod Khandria and Mary Breeding’s policy brief entitled “Migration of Highly Skilled Indians: Current Policy Trends and Future Insights on India-US Migration” and a lecture by Satish V. Kulkami entitled “US-India Partnership in Science, and Technology, Environment and Health.” Pawan Khera and Mary Breeding gave a lecture on “National Elections in India” offering insights into the leading candidates and campaign tactics. The Forum also hosted a book launch for journalist and author Justine Hardy and her recent book *Kashmir: One Family in a Changing World (In the Valley of the Mist).*
South Asia Forum

Novelist Justine Hardy presents a family portrait of a unique and gentle culture that has been shattered by decades of warfare. *In the Valley of the Mist* follows the life and struggles of the Dar family in Kashmir.

Maher Ali lead a discussion with the Khayaal Book Club on Daniyal Mueenuddin’s book: *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders*. The book provides insight into the daily lives of average Pakistanis.

The Mortara Center and the Institute for the Study of International Migration partnered to look at the future trends and insights for India-US migration.

Associate Vice President for Special Initiatives and Partnerships, Satish V. Kulkarni, discussed the shared values between the US and India. He highlights the importance of this relationship for future global development.
Pawan Khera, a distinguished member of the Indian National Congress, discussed the importance of the national elections in India and the wider ramifications for democracy in the region.

The Khayaal Book Club discussed Khaled Hosseini’s breathtaking book *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, a chronicle of friendship amid the chaos of war in Afghanistan.

Eight term Member of Parliament Jaswant Singh examines the relationship between the US, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and future prospects for peace in the region.

The Khayaal Book club looked at Aravind Adiga’s book *Between the Assassinations*. The book is a series of short stories from modern Indian life, struggling with modernity and development.
MORTARA DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT

Mortara Distinguished Professor and former Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright presented her book Read My Pins: Stories From a Diplomat’s Jewel Box to a large audience at Gaston Hall. Secretary Albright also taught America’s National Security Toolbox to graduate students in the fall semester and then to undergraduates in the spring semester.

LEPGOLD BOOK PRIZE

This year’s Lepgold Book Prize was awarded to Alexander B. Downes for his work Targeting Civilians in War. Alexander B. Downes is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Duke University specializing in international security.

Downes’ book Targeting Civilians in War was published by Cornell University Press in 2008. The book argues that civilian victimization is a function of desperation to win, to conserve on military casualties, and the desire to eliminate actual or potential threats to control over territory in wars of territorial annexation.

The Georgetown University Lepgold Book Prize honors Joseph S. Lepgold, a Georgetown University Government and School of Foreign Service professor who died in a tragic hotel fire in Paris in December 2001. The prize honors exceptional contributions to the study of international relations. Past winners of the prize include: Nina Tannenwald (The Nuclear Taboo), Robert Kagan (Dangerous Nation), Jack Snyder and Edward Mansfield (Electing to Fight), James Goldgeier and Michael McFaul (Power and Purpose: US Policy Towards Russia After the Cold War), Samantha Power (A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide), and John Mearsheimer (The Tragedy of Great Power Politics).

MAJOR SCHOLARLY CONFERENCES

On January 28-30, 2010, the Mortara Center hosted the third annual Political Economy of International Organizations
(PEIO) Conference. Economists, political scientists and other scholars from all over the world convened to address political economy issues related to international organizations including the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and the European Union, as well as other regional organizations and non-governmental organizations. The McDonough School of Business and Princeton University’s Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance co-sponsored the conference. The annual international conference seeks to examine the role and governance of international organizations, the incentives of governments dealing with international organizations, as well as the incentives of the bureaucrats who staff them, and to gauge the effects of international organizations on policy outcomes. Attendees also considered the interaction of various international organizations with transnational actors such as commercial lobbies and NGOs. Participants also studied the interaction of the international political economy with the domestic political economy of members of international organizations.

MORTARA RESEARCH WORKSHOP SERIES

The Center hosted two Research Workshops in the last academic year. These events offered members of the Georgetown community the opportunity to enhance and further their research through engagement with outside scholars and practitioners from around the world. Digital Power and Its Discontents, a one-day conference co-sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, explored the ways in which digital technologies disrupt the balance of power between and among states, their citizens, and the private sector. The International Politics of the Financial Crisis Workshop, organized by Professors Kathleen McNamara and Daniel Drezner, convened leading international political economy scholars to prepare papers for inclusion in an edited volume on the global financial crisis.

Secretary of State and Mortara Distinguished Professor of Diplomacy Madeleine Albright recounts her diplomatic accomplishments with Professor Kathleen McNamara in a celebration of her new book Read My Pins in Gaston Hall.

Professor Daniel Drezner and Professor Kathleen McNamara lead a group of scholars in identifying the main causes and solutions to the global financial crisis. The workshop is part of the Mortara Center’s Research Workshop Series.

Attendees of the PEIO Conference, organized by Georgetown University and Princeton University, listen to the effects of international organizations on global politics in the Rafik B. Hariri Building.
FACULTY BOOK LAUNCHES

The Mortara Center sponsored book launch events featuring discussions of recent or forthcoming works by Georgetown faculty and to highlight important and groundbreaking research at Georgetown. John McNeill, Professor of Environmental and International History, lectured on his new book, *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914*. Charles King, Professor of Government and international affairs, discussed his book *Extreme Politics: Nationalism, Violence, and the End of Eastern Europe*. The school year concluded with the launch of *How Enemies Become Friends: The Sources of Stable Peace* by Professor Charles Kupchan. The Center also hosted a number of lectures by authors from outside of the University including the discussion of *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* with authors William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer.

UNDERGRADUATE OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT

During the last year, the Mortara Center expanded its efforts to develop programming for Georgetown undergraduates. The Center co-sponsored the Georgetown Diplomacy and International Security Conference organized by the Georgetown International Relations Association. The conference brought together 20 policy experts and over 300 students to participate in sessions on such topics as “The Future of Trade
Relations in the Asia-Pacific,” “The Geopolitics of Energy Security,” and “Islam and the West: Religion, Culture, and Politics.” In February, the Center hosted a breakfast meeting with women in the Bachelor’s of Science in Foreign Service Program to discuss leadership and professional development. The breakfast marked the beginning of Mortara’s involvement in Georgetown Women in International Affairs, a new initiative of the School of Foreign Service to prepare and connect the next generation of women leaders.

**LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE**

The Center will continue to serve as a major focal point and stimulator of intellectual debate and discussion on the spectrum of critically important international issues challenging the world. Bringing together scholars and students inside and outside of Georgetown while engaging with prominent practitioners and bridging to the world of policy and politics will allow us to address the key emerging issues of the new century.

The Mortara Center administration, faculty and staff will continue to develop and expand partnerships beyond the School of Foreign Service and to reach out to academic programs across Georgetown with the McDonough School of Business, the Medical Center and the Law School, as well as the broader Washington community. We also plan to develop thematic programming to draw together SFS and other communities around a series of particular topics, knitting together and strengthening our sense of intellectual community while pushing forward research on areas of policy challenge in a globalizing world. Finally, we will continue outreach to students, enriching their Georgetown experience and making sure the next generation of leaders is prepared to lead.

Professor Andrew Natsios, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy and former Administrator of USAID, teaches on contemporary issues in international development.

The former President of Poland, Alexander Kwasnieski, returns to Georgetown to talk with students during an Illuminati Dinner.
The Mortara Center enjoyed another strong year in 2009-2010. It continues to be a focal point on campus for debate and discussion of current ideas and issues in international affairs and activities.

It has expanded its partnerships and collaboration of elements within the University, including academic programs, faculty groups, graduate and undergraduate student organizations; and within the broader Washington community. It has become an initiator and convener on campus while not replicating the many types of activities organized by existing Georgetown departments and organizations.

The Center is now well established at the University and beyond as a center of intellectual exchange on a wide range of topics related to international studies and a place to host prominent experts of interest to the entire University community. With this strong foundation, the Center is positioned to have a dynamic future and to continue to make a major contribution to the faculty, staff and students of Georgetown and the intellectual community beyond its gates.
The Mortara Center is now even more connected.
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