The Mortara Center for International Studies

ANNUAL REPORT
2010-2011

Edmund A. Walsh
School of Foreign Service
Georgetown University
Dear Friends of the Mortara Center,

From my ground floor office at Mortara, I am privileged to see a townhouse that is full of activity each day. In the quiet of the early morning, a rotating group of scholars usually gathers together in the small upstairs conference room turned “Scriptorium” to pursue their individual writing projects. As the campus wakes up, the Mortara Center does too. Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright’s seminar on national security policy meets in the main conference room, with lively debates among undergraduates about the pros and cons of humanitarian intervention in Libya and elsewhere. Then, over a lunch of Thai food, an informal weekly gathering of political economy professors and graduate students meets to discuss a draft paper on the evolution of public opinion on US trade policy, while later on in the afternoon a larger gathering of students, staff, faculty and community members hears a lecture by prominent thinker on the history of diplomacy or discusses the impact of the disastrous floods in Pakistan. A wine and cheese reception for a visiting Chinese delegation could round out the day.

All the while, Mortara faculty plan their classes, meet with students, blog on foreign policy, and carry out high profile research. The vision of the Mortara family, to create and sustain a community of thinkers to grapple with key global issues, truly plays out every day here at the Mortara Center. 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 best,

Kathleen R. McNamara
Director, Mortara Center for International Studies
Associate Professor, Government and International Affairs
The Mortara Building is home to the Mortara Center for International Studies, as well as the Center for Peace and Security Studies. The building features office facilities, meeting rooms, and a conference room.

The Mortara Center for International Studies was founded through the generosity of the late Mr. Michael P. Mortara and his wife, Mrs. Virginia Mortara. At the time of his death in November 2000, Michael Mortara was president and chief executive officer of Goldman Sachs Ventures.

Officially opened in January 2003, the Mortara Center for International Studies is a site for scholarly research that addresses broad issues of global change and American foreign policy choices. The Center’s purpose is to stimulate and support internationally-oriented university research and exchange.

The Mortara Center for International Studies seeks to advance scholarship and inform policy by combining the expertise of scholars and the experience of international affairs practitioners to illuminate the fundamental forces — political, economic, cultural, ideological — that shape international relations. To realize this mission, the Center organizes and co-sponsors lectures, seminars, and conferences and provides support for research and publications.
The Mortara 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**

Directly addressing our core mission, the Mortara Center hosted five working groups that fostered intellectual exchange and scholarly research in some of the key academic disciplines of the School of Foreign Service.

This year, the Mortara Center continued to expand the activities of the Faculty Working Groups in partnership with the Departments of History, Government and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute.

The working groups unite faculty and students in ongoing and sustained dialogue on cutting-edge research in international studies in the fields of international relations theory, international political economy, international development studies, comparative government, and international history.

**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 that focus on critical theoretical issues in IR.

James Vreeland, Associate Professor of International Relations and Government, chaired the series. During the 2010-2011 academic year, the series held 14 sessions, with presentations including “Informal Influence in the Asian Development Bank” by Professor Christopher Kilby, “Nuclear Superiority or Minimum Deterrence? Nuclear Force Posture, Deterrence, and Militarize Interstate Disputes” by Professor Matthew Kroenig and Georgetown PhD Student Michael Weintraub, “Regional Organizations and International Politics: Trading Asian Development Bank Loans for United Nations Security Council Votes” by Professor James Vreeland and Georgetown Undergraduate, Dianel Lim, and “How Prior Military Experience Influences the Future of Militarized Behavior of Leaders” by Michael Horowitz of the University of Pennsylvania, among others.

**CRITICS**

The Current Research on Issues and Topics In Comparative Scholarship Series (CRITICS), co-sponsored by the Department of Government, was chaired by Desha Girod, Assistant Professor
Participants in the conference on Germany and the Financial Crisis discussed the complex and challenging politics that face German and European leaders in the face of the global financial crisis.

More than two years after the worst global financial crisis since the Great Depression, Kathleen McNamara, Chris Brummer, and Randall Henning assess change in the international political economy.

The Mortara Center and the Government Department co-sponsor CRITICS to discuss issues of comparative government.

Participants gathered for ten sessions to discuss working papers on various topics of comparative government.

Highlights of the series included “Executive Power and Electoral Contestation in Authoritarian Regimes” by Professor Marc Howard, “The Perfect Dictatorship: South Korea vs. Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico” by Professor Jorge Dominguez of Harvard University, “Winning Hearts and Minds? Evidence From a Field Experiment in Afghanistan” by Professor Fotini Christia of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and “Criminility and Incumbency of Candidates to the National Legislature in India” by Professor Miriam Golden of the University of California Los Angeles, among others.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

The International Political Economy Workshop, led by Professor Marc Busch, continued to meet regularly during the 2010-2011 academic year. The workshop brings together Georgetown faculty and students from across various disciplines to discuss political economy research in an informal setting.


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 ten presentations by Georgetown faculty and development practitioners.

Highlights of the series included: “The Impact of M-PESA: Results From a Panel Survey of Mobile Banking Use Among Kenyan Households” by Professor Billy Jack, “Indigenous Peoples, Poverty and Development” by Professor Gillette Hall and Harry Patrinos of the World Bank, and “Emerging Africa: How 17 Countries Are Leading the Way” by Steve Radelet of USAID.
The International History Seminar Series, co-sponsored by 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 “Anticipating the Enemy: A History of Prediction in the 20th Century” by Zachary Shore of the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, “Tonight at the Empire: Cinema and Society in the British Empire, 1895-1940” by James Burnes of Clemson University, and “Soldiers, Smugglers and Pirates: Chinese Military Families and Maritime Asia Trade under the Ming Dynasty (14th to 17th Centuries” by Michael Szonyi of Harvard University, among others.

The International Relations Theory Book Group gathered for a second year 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.


Andrew Natsios, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy, discussed the secessionist movement in Southern Sudan in his lecture “The Future of Sudan.”
The 2009 Lepgold Book Prize was awarded to Patrick McDonald, professor in the Government Department at the University of Texas at Austin for his work The Invisible Hand of Peace.

The Invisible Hand of Peace shows that the domestic institutions associated with capitalism, namely private property and competitive market structures, have promoted peace between states over the past two centuries. It employs a wide range of historical and statistical evidence to illustrate both the broad applicability of these claims and their capacity to generate new explanations of critical historical events, such as the emergence of the Anglo-American friendship at the end of the nineteenth century, the outbreak of World War I, and the evolution of the recent conflict across the Taiwan Straits.

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: Alexander B. Downes (Targetting Civilians in War) 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).

Andrei Markovits, Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies at the University of Michigan, delivers a lecture on his book “Gaming the World: How Sports are Shaping Global Politics and Culture.”
In the 2010-2011 academic year, the Mortara Center introduced three year-long lecture series “The Politics of the Global Economy Series,” “The Culture and Politics Series,” and the “In the News Series.”

In the first series, speakers such as Dr. Carmen Reinhart of the Peterson Institute for the International Economy deconstructed the history of financial crises and provided needed clarity to the pressing issues of where the international economy might be going. In February, the Center convened the roundtable “The Global Financial Crisis: Cleaning Up the Mess?” Professors Chris Brummer of Georgetown Law Center, Randall Henning of American University, and Kathleen McNamara of the Mortara Center for International Studies discussed the dynamics of the 2008 global financial crisis and assessed what has changed, and what has not, in the international political economy, in the years since the crisis. Richard Baldwin visited the Center in March for a lecture titled “21st Century Regionalism: Filling the Gap Between 21st Century Trade and 20th Century Trade Governance.”

The second series cast a particularly wide net over the School of Foreign Service and related departments by focusing on the fascinating ways in which culture both reflects and shapes political life. Sessions ranged from a presentation by Professor Katrin Sieg of SFS/German Language and Literature on the politics of the Eurovision Song Contest, to Professor Daniel Nexon’s discussion of “Broomstick Diplomacy” in the Harry Potter book series, to Professor Andy Markovits of the University of Michigan on the...
globalization of sport and political identities in the 21st century.

Mortara’s “In the News Roundtable Series” convened roundtables highlighting current events and issues in international affairs. During the Fall semester, the Center partnered with the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy and the South Asia Society to host a series of panel discussions related to disaster relief and post-flood reconstruction in Pakistan. Following the unauthorized release of American cables by Wikileaks, the Center convened a Working Group to discuss the ramifications for scholarship and U.S. foreign policy processes.

In March, faculty experts gathered for “A Town Hall on Japan: The Earthquake and Its Aftermath.” Panelists included Michael Green, Associate Professor of International Affairs and Japan Chair of the Center for Strategic International Studies; Andrew Natsios, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy and former Administrator of USAID; Matthew Carnes, S.J., Assistant Professor of Government; Marko Moscovitch, Professor of Radiation Medicine and Director, Health Physics and Nuclear Nonproliferation Program, Georgetown Medical Center; and Wes Mathews, Associate Professor of Physics. Victor Cha, D.S. Song Professor of Government and Director of Asian Studies. Each of the panelists assessed the crisis by drawing on their vast experience and expertise in a broad array of fields ranging from the politics and economics of Japan, to medicine and health, physics, and emergency relief.

The Mortara Center continued the tradition of offering annual speeches by distinguished scholars, authors, dignitaries, and practitioners in the field of international studies.

**WHATEVER HEADING YOU WANT HERE**

On October 19th, 2010, the Mortara Center for International Studies, the Center for Peace and Security Studies, and the African Studies Program hosted Andrew Natsios for a lecture titled “The Future of Sudan.” Natsios, former Administrator of USAID and Distinguished Professor on the Practice of Diplomacy in the School of Foreign Service, discussed the successionist movement in Southern Sudan.

**ILLUMINATI DINNER SERIES**

The Illuminati Dinner Series at the Mortara Center is a formal dinner series that provides an opportunity for students to spend an intimate evening conversing with Georgetown’s distinguished visiting scholars and faculty practitioners.

On March 23rd 2011, Mortara Director, Kathleen McNamara, hosted former President of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe Vélez and his wife, Lina Maria Moreno de Uribe for a formal dinner with students representing each graduate program in the School of Foreign Service. President Uribe, Distinguished Scholar in the Practice of Global Leadership, shared his experience and expertise in public service and engaged students in an informal discussion of Latin American politics and regional security.

**EMERGING ISSUES CONFERENCES**

On April 14th, 2011 the Mortara Center for International Studies and the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy convened a panel on “The Future of Internet Freedom: Promoting Abroad...but Losing at Home?” The panelists, including Jacob Applebaum of the Tor Project, Daniel Baer of the Department of State, Jim Harper of the Cato Institute, and Siva Vaidhyanathan of the University of Virginia, and moderator, Alexander B. Howard, discussed the opportunities and contradictions of Internet freedom, at home and abroad.

Professor Patrick McDonald receives the 2010 Lepgold Book Prize for his book *The Invisible Hand of Peace*.

Rochelle Davis signs copies of her book *Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced*. 
The opportunity to discuss and receive feedback on a book in draft form can be invaluable for any scholar, particularly for junior faculty members. The Mortara Center organized and funded two such events. In March 2011, Professor Matthew Carnes of the Government Department discussed his manuscript on the labor regulation dynamics of Latin American states, while in May, the Center co-sponsored a Book Lab for Government Professor Desha Girod for her manuscript on the relationship between post-conflict aid and development outcomes.

**FACULTY BOOK LAUNCHES**

The Mortara Center seeks to recognize the finest work at the end of the research cycle by hosting lectures that allow scholars to present recent publications. The Mortara Center sponsored ten book launch events in the 2010-2011 academic year featuring discussions of recent or forthcoming works by Georgetown faculty.

The particularly fruitful year included presentations by Georgetown Faculty: J.P. Singh’s Globalized Arts: The Entertainment Economy and Cultural Identity, Rochelle Davis’ Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced, and Charles King’s Odessa: Genius and Death in a City of Dreams. Presentations by non-Georgetown authors included Gideon Rose’s How Wars End, Daniel Keleman’s Eurolegalism: The Transformation of Law and Regulation in the European Union, and Esther Duflo’s Poor Economics: Rethinking the Way to Fight Global Poverty.

**THE MORTARA WORKING PAPER SERIES**

As Georgetown continues to gain in research prominence, it is vital to promote the worldwide visibility of faculty research and publications. In Spring 2011, the Mortara Center launched the Mortara Working Paper series to provide a mechanism for the distribution and dissemination of faculty research. The Series serves as a repository to showcase research at the forefront of the field of international affairs, broadly conceived. Articles in the series advance scholarship on the fundamental forces - political, economic, cultural, and ideological - that shape international relations. The Working Papers are available on the Mortara Center website at http://mortara.georgetown.edu/papers/.
The Mortara Research Workshop Series offers members of the Georgetown community the opportunity to enhance and further their research through engagement with outside scholars and practitioners from around the world.

In December 2010, the Mortara Center and the BMW Center for German and European Studies sponsored a day-long research workshop on Germany’s new foreign policy. Participants discussed the complex and challenging politics that face German and European leaders who must address financial crises at home and a new lack of cohesiveness at the regional level. Convened as a model of public policy advocacy, the workshop enabled scholars to debate and discuss current topics and to contribute to advancing debate in the public sphere. Participants brainstormed and discussed political and developments in Germany in order to systematically place informed opinion pieces on notable blogs and in op-eds. Several such pieces came out of the workshop, and were published on ForeignAffairs.com and CrookedTimber.com.

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 interactive, multi-panel conference brought together students, policymakers, and prominent scholars to participate in sessions on such topics as “The Future of the OAS in Latin America,” “China in Africa: Actions and Consequences,” “The Contribution of Multilateral Institutions in Reforming the Global Financial System” and “The Normative Role of Non-State Actors in International Diplomacy.”

The Center also co-sponsored the Tenth Annual Carroll Round Conference. The conference on international economics fosters the exchange of ideas among participants and prominent members of the academic and policy-making communities through presentations, discussions, and lectures. Undergraduate students present journal length articles based on original research in panels moderated by economics professors and practitioners, which are then followed by engaging discussion.
MORTARA DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT

Mortara Distinguished Professor and former Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright taught America’s National Security Toolbox to graduate students in the fall semester and then to undergraduates in the spring semester. Students in both classes participated in dynamic role-play exercises that culminated in day-long simulations at the Mortara Center.

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

The Mortara 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 next century.

In the coming year, we plan to deepen and institutionalize our new programs and lecture series, partner with other centers and programs to reduce duplication and increase the impact of our events, and continue to reach out to underserved scholarly communities in the School of Foreign Service. Substantively, we plan to focus more on issues of global governance, emerging policy challenges, and new global actors. We will continue our focus on upgrading the material, intellectual and collegial infrastructure needed to make sure our faculty and students perform at the highest level as scholars of international studies, while continually engaging with the critical issues facing the world.

The Mortara Center is now even more connected.

Visit us at:
mortara.georgetown.edu
Follow us on Twitter at:
http://twitter.com/#!/MortaraCenter
and join us on Facebook:
www.Facebook.com
(Mortara Center for International Studies)
Please sign up for our mailing list to receive email invitations to our events:
http://sfs.georgetown.edu/mail/
The Mortara Center enjoyed another strong year in 2010-2011. Moving from an emphasis on one-time events, the Center offers sustained, regular seminar series around a particular theme, or in a particular scholarly area. We look for ways to disseminate the knowledge that we are helping to build, through public outreach, placement of pieces in mass publications, and an increased web and social media presence.

Finally, the Mortara Center has sought to expand 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. The Center continues to be an initiator and convener of academic events on campus, creating the conditions for sustained intellectual engagement across the School of Foreign Service (SFS) the University, and the intellectual community beyond its gates.
MADELEINE ALBRIGHT
Mortara Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy

KATHLEEN MCNAMARA
Director

ADAM OLSZOWKA
Assistant Director

EVA ZAMARRIPA
Program Assistant

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