Dear Friends of the Mortara Center,

This year we celebrated a decade of extraordinary accomplishment at the Mortara Center for International Studies. Our programs have spanned cutting edge scholarly work, deep engagement with global policy challenges, the training of the next generation of researchers and practitioners, and vibrant public debate and outreach. Our ongoing research seminars brought together faculty and students in intellectual communities across key areas of global studies, while book workshops, large conferences, and public lectures across a variety of critical topics kept Mortara buzzing. We have also hosted superb doctoral research fellows, and expanded our innovative undergraduate research program, which pairs exceptional students with faculty mentors. We also continued to showcase the best in international relations scholarship with our award of the annual Lepgold Book Prize.

A few examples of the topics explored this year demonstrate our reach. From mid-twentieth century Korean industrialization, to the politics of climate change, to Pakistan’s military culture, to the impact of the financial crisis on American power, to the International Political Economy Society Conference (hosting over 200 participants from around the world), we have truly covered the globe.

Mortara has become a prominent intellectual hub for global studies, and we hope that you will find your way inside the doors of our townhouse to one of our events soon!

Best wishes,

Kathleen R. McNamara
Director, Mortara Center for International Studies
Associate Professor, Government and International Affairs
About the Mortara Center

Officially opened in January 2003, the Mortara Center for International Studies was founded through the generosity of the late Michael P. Mortara and his wife, Virginia Mortara. At the time of his death in November 2000, Michael Mortara was president and chief executive officer of Goldman Sachs Ventures and a recent member of the University’s Board of Directors.

Mortara envisioned a center of scholarly inquiry at the School of Foreign Service that would embody the mission of the School and its focus on the intersection of theory and practice in international affairs. With the help of his wife, Virginia, the School of Foreign Service is continuing his noble vision by developing the center he imagined.

**Mission:** 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, and cultural — that shape international relations. To realize this mission, the Center organizes and cosponsors lectures, workshops, and conferences; provides support for research and publications; and generates communities of research.
On Thursday, April 23rd the Mortara Center for International Studies celebrated a decade of extraordinary accomplishment with a festive cocktail reception held at the Mortara building. The 10th anniversary was attended by Georgetown University President John DeGioia, former Secretary of State Madeline Albright, three generations of the Mortara family, School of Foreign Service Board of Visitors members, Georgetown alumni, and current and former students, faculty, and staff.

Established in honor of the late Michael Mortara (SFS ’71), the Mortara Center serves as a vital hub for research on issues of global impact. Mortara’s work traverses disciplinary boundaries, from history to economics to anthropology to political science, and encompasses an international community of scholars and practitioners. Mortara Director Kathleen McNamara, President DeGioia and Secretary Albright each raised a glass to toast the achievements of the Mortara community, past, present and future.
The draft proposal for the Center in 2002 listed the following goals for the Mortara Center for International Studies:

- Research colloquium: outside scholars and Georgetown faculty and graduate students will be provided a forum for presentations of cutting edge research

- The Center will organize and host major research conferences, sometimes culminating in edited books

- A working paper series

- Post-doctoral fellowship to support a one-year visitor who has just finished his/her PhD

- Support for small research workshops

- Annual distinguished lecture

Remarkably, all of the above have been accomplished, and only one final goal, the creation of funds for faculty and student research and travel grants, has not yet occurred. Such grants are on the top of our wish list for the next decade of Mortara growth and expansion.

Former Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright with two of her 2015 teaching assistants Kathleen Bouzis and Michelle Lillie and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi at the Mortara 10th Anniversary Celebration
In 2014-15, the Mortara Center continued its tradition of offering annual speeches by distinguished scholars, authors, dignitaries, and practitioners in the field of international studies.

**Illuminati Dinner Series**

The Illuminati Dinner Series provides an opportunity for students to spend an intimate evening conversing over dinner at Mortara with highly distinguished practitioners teaching at Georgetown.

In February of this year, Mortara Director Kathleen McNamara hosted former Walsh School of Foreign Service Dean, Ambassador Robert Gallucci, for a dinner with both graduate and undergraduate students from the School of Foreign Service. The dinner provided a unique opportunity for an informal and lively conversation about Iranian nuclear ambitions, the making of American foreign policy, and Ambassador Gallucci’s professional experiences spanning the academy, diplomacy, international negotiation, and leadership of a major foundation.
Distinguished Lectures

Starting off a year of notable experts speaking at Mortara, on January 13th, 2015 Andy Moravcsik (Princeton University) spoke about “Transparency: The Coming Revolution in Qualitative Methods.” On February 18th, National Medal of Science recipient Robert Axelrod was the guest speaker in this series discussing historical perspectives on cyber security, and on April 9th Robert Jervis (Columbia University) gave a talk entitled “Why We Get Things Wrong: Reflections on the Inevitable and the Avoidable in Intelligence” followed by a discussion with Center for Security Studies faculty member and CIA veteran Paul Pillar.

National Medal of Science recipient Robert Axelrod discusses cybersecurity on February 18th, 2015


Robert Jervis discusses “Why We Get Things Wrong” in a moderated discussion with SSP faculty members Paul Pillar and Elizabeth Arsenault on April 9th, 2015
This popular series focused on ways culture reflects and shapes political life. On December 3rd, 2014 Professor Daniel Nexon discussed political themes in *The Hunger Games* trilogy.

### In the News

This timely series highlighted current events and issues in international affairs. On January 14th, 2015 Ambassador William Leurs (Columbia University), Paul Pillar (Georgetown University) and Robin Wright (Princeton University), January 14, 2015
Paul Pillar (Georgetown University), and Robin Wright (Princeton University) discussed the Iran Project in a panel moderated by Ambassador Barbara Bodine and co-sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy.

Cosponsorships

The Mortara Center also cosponsored a number of high-caliber events across campus. Through cosponsorship, we are able to collaborate with other departments on campus to combine resources and audiences to deepen discussions and broaden event scope. This year we were pleased to coordinate, among others, a panel on the “The Role of US Foreign Policy in the Rise of ISIS” with the Georgetown IR Club, a talk by Dr. Bassem Youssef, the “Jon Stewart of the Middle East” with the GU Lecture Fund and a talk by Alex Their from USAID on “Ending Extreme Poverty - A Story of Trajectories and Choices” with the Master of Science in Foreign Service program.
The Mortara Center supported five ongoing research seminars in the field of International Studies over the 2014-15 year. Directly addressing the Center’s core mission, these working groups fostered intellectual exchange and scholarly research in some of the key academic disciplines of the School of Foreign Service.

The research seminars unite faculty and students in ongoing and sustained dialogue on cutting-edge research in the fields of International Relations, International Political Economy, Comparative Government, International History, and Energy & Climate Change Policy.

**GUITARS**

Chaired by Professor Abraham Newman, The Georgetown University International Theory and Research Seminar series (GUITARS) gathered approximately every three weeks to discuss in-progress international politics research of Georgetown faculty and visiting scholars. Of the 10 seminars held this past year, highlights included talks by Jordan Branch (Brown University) exploring “Territorial Conflict in the Digital Age: Mapping Technologies and Negotiation”, Joshua Busby (University of Texas, Austin) discussing “Social Movements and Market Transformations: The Contrasting Cases of HIV/AIDS and Climate Change.”
CRITICS

The Current Research on Issues and Topics in Comparative Scholarship series (CRITICS) also met every third week to discuss working papers in the study of comparative government. Co-Chairs, Kristen Looney and Yuhki Tajima hosted nine guests for the series including Mary Gallagher (University of Michigan) in her talk “Getting Schooled: Legal Mobilization as an Educative Process” and Sheri Berman (Barnard College) on “The Ancient Regime and State Building in Early Modern Europe.”

International Political Economy

The International Political Economy Workshop brings together Georgetown faculty from various disciplines to discuss political economy research in informal sessions over lunch. Hosted by Professor Marc Busch, the group met nine times over the course of the year to discuss papers in progress on bilateral investment treaties, the politics of trade protection, macroeconomic policy and other critical topics in political economy.

International History Seminar Series

The International History Seminar Series, co-sponsored by the Georgetown Institute for Global History, brought scholars from across the country to present working papers and discuss their research with Georgetown faculty and students. Convened by Professors Aviel Roshwald and John McNeill, the series featured four presentations, including, Bradley Simpson (University of Connecticut), discussing “The Global History of Self-Determination since 1945” and Charles Armstrong (Columbia University) speaking about “Industrialization and its Consequences in North Korea and Northeast China, 1930s - 1960s.”
Energy and Climate Policy Research Seminar

Cosponsored by the Mortara Center and McCourt School of Public Policy, the Energy and Climate Policy Research Seminar held six seminar meetings in its third year. This seminar series, led by STIA Professor Joanna Lewis and McCourt Professor David Konisky, aims to enhance intellectual exchange among faculty and students whose research focuses on the international and domestic dimensions of energy and climate change policy.

Some of the highlights from this past year included: “Putting the Cart Before the Horse: Effective Climate Change Communication Starts with People, Values, and Solutions” with Ezra Markowitz (University of Massachusetts-Amherst), Dana R. Fisher (University of Maryland) discussing “American Climate Politics and the Echo Chamber Effect,” and “Climate Risk Governance in the US States” with Mark Stephan (Washington State University).

The Mortara Center thanks the Department of History, the Department of Government and the McCourt School of Public Policy for their partnerships on these seminars.
The Lepgold Committee awarded the 2013 Lepgold Prize to Professor Julia Gray (University of Pennsylvania) for her book *The Company States Keep* (Cambridge University Press, 2013). In this book Gray argues that joining regional institutions shapes how investors view countries, far beyond what pragmatic economic conditions would warrant. Instead, the “company states keep” impacts both positively, and negatively, the financial terms given to states by investors. Combining meticulous empirical work with a striking argument in support of the role of perceptions in international political economy, Gray’s book represents the best of international relations research.

The Georgetown University Lepgold Book Prize honors Joseph S. Lepgold, a Georgetown University Government and School of Foreign Service professor who died in Paris in December 2001. The prize celebrates exceptional contributions to the study of international relations, with particular emphasis on the resolution of critical policy challenges. Recent winners include: Fotini Christia (Alliance Formation in Civil Wars, 2012), Giacomo Chiozza and H.E. Goemans (Leaders and International Conflict, 2011).
In 2014-2015, Mortara Distinguished Professor and former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright taught America’s National Security Toolbox to both graduate and undergraduate students. Students participated in a dynamic, day long role-play simulation at the Mortara Center.

During this annual tradition, students portray US foreign policy actors, representatives from nation-states around the world, leaders of international organizations, and NGOs grappling with an emergent international crisis. This year’s scenario focused on tensions with Russia and the crisis in Ukraine. Students were responsible for constructing regional and international responses to manage the situation. Students in Secretary Albright’s class gained an understanding of the process of real world decision making, global governance, and the “tools” used at the highest levels of government.

Students rave about Secretary Albright’s class and the role play experience:

“The role-play was a wonderful opportunity to learn from a functional and practical perspective, emphasizing analytical skills and enhancing our abilities to work in teams and solve complex problems...It is by far one of the greatest experiences I had at Georgetown.”

“As a prospective student I was told that one of the primary reasons to study at Georgetown was the opportunity to learn from world leaders, not simply about them. The opportunity to learn from Secretary Albright was an invaluable addition to my education in the School of Foreign Service.”
The Mortara Center’s programming supports the entire research life cycle, from preliminary brainstorming, through the presentation of rough drafts in workshops, to the unveiling of published books. These activities contribute to the development of “thought communities” between faculty and students on campus and promote interaction with scholars, practitioners and experts outside of Georgetown.

The Center also supports undergraduate student research endeavors through the Mortara Undergraduate Research Fellows program, by advising the Walsh Exchange Undergraduate IR Research Conference, and financially cosponsoring the Symposium for Undergraduate Research.

Mortara Undergraduate Research Fellows

2014-2015 marked the fourth year since the founding of the Mortara Undergraduate Research Fellows Program (MURFs) sponsored by the Mortara Center and the SFS Dean’s Office. As part of the University’s commitment to undergraduate research, a select group of students in the School of Foreign Service have the opportunity to partner with professors as research assistants and potential coauthors on research projects throughout their undergraduate career.
By empowering students as generators, not just consumers, of knowledge, MURFs emerge from the program with the in-depth skills and training to tackle a range of issues in foreign affairs. The group now includes three representatives each from the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior classes.

This past year, Sophomore and Senior research fellows presented their research and shared their experiences at the second annual MURF Symposium, giving those who attended an opportunity to hear firsthand about the impact of the program. They emphasized the unique critical tenets of their experience: community, faculty mentorship and the opportunity to do in-depth research in ways unmatched by any other program on campus.

Post-Doctoral Research

With support from a grant received by Professor Charles Kupchan, the Center has hosted a series of research fellows over the past three years. The 2014-15 Mortara Research Fellow, Brooke Coe, focused on sovereignty norms in the global south. On May 5th, 2015, Ms. Coe presented her dissertation research in a talk entitled “Sovereignty in the South: The Norm of Non-Interference Across Time and Space.”
Workshops

This year saw a continuation of the Mortara Center’s commitment to research support in the form of workshops to develop faculty book and publication projects. Mortara hosted three workshops this year on topics including interdependence and complex governance, how great powers deal with rising challenger states, and the political economy of rural development in East Asia.

Outside the gates of Georgetown, Mortara Director Kate McNamara, in conjunction with Elizabeth Saunders of The George Washington University, organized the Third Annual DC IR Workshop held at American University. The workshop brought together dozens of faculty members and doctoral students from across the Washington Metropolitan Region.

Guest speaker Dani Rodrik spoke to guests of the International Political Economy Society Conference as they enjoyed a dinner cruise on the Potomac.

Professor Abraham Newman leads a discussion at his workshop on May 21–22, 2015 on The New Interdependence Approach.
International Political Economy Society 2014 Conference

The ninth annual meeting of the International Political Economy Society (IPES) was held November 14-15, 2014 at Georgetown University in the Rafik B. Hariri Building. This prestigious international conference brought together over 200 political economists from across the globe to discuss their cutting edge research papers. In addition to a keynote speech by Harvard economist Dani Rodrik, topics included the political economy of trade, financial liberalization (and crisis), and distributional impacts of globalization. IPES was spearheaded by Professor Nita Rudra, Associate Professor in the Government Department, and co-sponsored by the Center for Business and Public Policy at the McDonough School of Business and the Department of Economics.

Book Talks

The Mortara Center sponsored nine book talk events in the 2014-2015 academic year. By inviting authors to discuss their work and methods of research, the Mortara Center is able to share the end of the research cycle, publication, with a broader community audience.
In September, Daniel Drezner presented his newly published book, *The System Worked: How the World Stopped Another Great Depression*, about the global financial crisis of 2008 and the institutions that helped to mitigate its effects. Jonathan Kirshner presented *American Power after the Financial Crisis* on Halloween, arguing for a less sanguine view of the impact of the financial crisis. Archie Brown shared insights from his recent *The Myth of the Strong Leader* in November in which he argues that the most effective world leaders are not those perceived as all-powerful, but instead have to negotiate contingent and sometimes uncertain political terrain.

The Center was pleased to host the book launches of six Georgetown Faculty, including Mortara’s own James Vreeland presenting his book *The Political Economy of the United Nations Security Council*. Two Security Studies Program faculty, Chair Bruce Hoffman and Christine Fair presented their books *The Evolution of the Global Terrorist Threat: From 9/11 to Osama bin Laden’s Death* and *Fighting to the End: The Pakistan Army’s Way of War*. Charles King also presented his newly published work *Midnight at the Pera Palace*, a history of the making of modern Istanbul after World War II.
2014-2015 was a great year for Mortara Events. Below are just some of the highlights of the year’s programming.

38 Research Seminars:
10 GUITARS; 9 CRITICS; 9 IPE Seminars; 6 Energy and Climate Policy Seminars; 4 International History Seminars

1 Lepgold Book Prize Lecture:

3 Undergraduate Research Symposia:
March 3rd MURFS Symposium
April 10th & 12th Walsh Exchange
April 17th Symposium for Undergraduate Research

3 Distinguished Guests:

January 13th Andy Moravcsik
“Transparency: The Coming Revolution in Qualitative Methods”

February 18th Robert Axelrod
“Historical Perspectives on Cyber Security”

April 9th “Why We Get Things Wrong: The Inevitable and the Avoidable in Intelligence” with Robert Jervis, Paul Pillar and Elizabeth Arsenault

1 Illuminati Dinner:
February 10th with Robert Gallucci, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy
9 Book Talks:

**September 11th**  *Fighting to the End: the Pakistan Army's Way of War* with Christine Fair

**September 30th**  *The System Worked: How the World Stopped Another Great Depression* with Daniel Drezner

**October 2nd**  *The Political Economy of the United Nations Security Council: Money and Influence* with James Vreeland

**October 16th**  *Human Dignity and the Future of Global Institutions* with Tony Arend and Marc Lagon

**October 28th**  *Midnight at the Pera Palace: The Birth of Modern Istanbul* with Charles King

**October 31st**  *American Power after the Financial Crisis* with Jonathan Kirshner

**November 5th**  *The Myth of the Strong Leader: Political Leadership in the Modern Age* with Archie Brown

**November 13th**  *The Evolution of the Global Terrorist Threat: From 9/11 to Osama bin Laden's Death* with Bruce Hoffman

**October 26th**  *The Institutional Origins of Communal Violence: Indonesia’s Transition from Authoritarian Rule* with Yuhki Tajima

3 Research Workshops:

**January 23rd**  - The Ominous Shadow: Time and Great Power Politics

**May 21st & 22nd**  - The New Interdependence Approach

**June 5th**  - The Politics of Rural Development in East Asia

1 Major National Conference:

**November 14th-15th**  
International Political Economy Society (IPES) Annual Conference

33 Cosponsored Events with Other SFS Programs
Home to the Mortara Center for International Studies, as well as the Center for Security Studies, the Mortara building features a beautiful and high tech conference room, small group meeting space and offices. It serves as one of the main event spaces on campus for the School of Foreign Service convening academics and policy makers from all the disciplines for faculty meetings, interactive workshops, and distinguished events.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2014-2015

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT
JEFFREY ANDERSON
MARC BUSCH
ROCHELLE DAVIS
DAVID EDELSTEIN
MARK GIORDANO
BRUCE HOFFMAN

SHAREEN JOSHI
KATHLEEN R. MCNAMARA
JOHN MCNEILL
ABRAHAM NEWMAN
KATRIN SIEG
JAMES R. VREELAND

FACULTY AND STAFF

MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT
Mortara Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy

KATHLEEN R. MCNAMARA
Director

JAMES R. VREELAND
Associate Professor of International Relations

BROOKE COE
Mortara Research Fellow

MOIRA TODD
Assistant Director

ALEX PHELAN
Program Assistant

CONNECT WITH THE MORTARA CENTER ONLINE:

Visit us online at:
mortara.georgetown.edu

Follow us on Twitter:
@MortaraCenter

Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Mortara-CenterforInternationalStudies