

Elliott School of International Affairs

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

A global **EDUCATION**

2017-2018 STATE OF THE SCHOOL



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

THE ELLIOTT SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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A message from the Dean

What is an international affairs education?

International affairs practitioners work at the frontline of the world's problems. That makes us problem solvers. At the Elliott School, our students bring skill sets from a wide range of disciplines to bear on global challenges. We teach them to examine difficult situations from multiple perspectives while considering the opportunities to resolve them. We encourage them to be thoughtful, strategic and resilient. We expose them to global viewpoints to help them build the cross-cultural competencies required by creative problem solvers. In addition to rigorous academics, we embed leadership, ethics and practical training into our curriculum. That is what distinguishes the Elliott School from other international affairs programs. You will read more about the LEAP (leadership, ethics and practice) Initiative inside.

As someone who attended universities on two continents, served my country as a naval officer, worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State—first as a deputy assistant secretary of state and later as the U.S. ambassador to the African Union—I hold a strong opinion of the real-world value of a degree in international affairs. I know first-hand how important it is to have a global perspective. Without it, our collective goal for a better and more peaceful world would be impossible to achieve.

The past year has been busy and productive. We hosted over 370 events and welcomed

distinguished guests, including Gen. David Petraeus and former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper. And we facilitated a town hall event with French President Emmanuel Macron. Many more of our activities are detailed in this annual State of the School report.

We thank the members of our Elliott School community—alumni, parents and friends—for all that you do. Your philanthropy provides generous fellowships that enable our students to attend GW. It supports unpaid internships that offer invaluable work experience. It provides for student travel to conduct field research.

You know and understand the value of an international affairs education. With your continued support, we will deliver on our mission to develop the next generation of global leaders.

Thank you.

REUBEN E. BRIGETY II, PhD, U.S. Ambassador (ret.)

Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs
The George Washington University

A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a light purple shirt, is sitting on the left. A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a black top, is sitting on the right. They are both looking towards the right. Behind them are bleachers with a blue and white geometric pattern. A large banner in the background reads "#ELLIOTT PROUD" and "#WEAREELLIOTT".

A Global *Education*



I had an amazing experience last summer—an internship at the Atlantic Council’s Eurasia Center, where I conducted intensive research on critical and timely issues. I also attended so many fascinating talks, including an off-the-record discussion with a former Russian prime minister. Thanks to this internship, I decided to declare a second concentration focused on Eurasian affairs.

—Margaret Meiman, BA ’20

What is Capstone?

Global Capstone, a signature program at the Elliott School, is the culminating experience for graduate students in the International Affairs, Security Policy Studies, Global Communication and Asian Studies programs. All master's degree programs at the Elliott School require a capstone project. Every year, the Global Capstone program provides some 250 students in 13 thematic sections the opportunity to work with client organizations, identifying feasible and ethical policy solutions to current global challenges.

Capstones teach students to think critically, solve challenging problems and develop essential skills, among them oral communication, public speaking, research

abilities, media literacy, teamwork, planning, self-sufficiency and goal setting. These abilities ensure that students are prepared for life and careers in today's fast-changing world.

Each capstone team conducts in-depth policy analysis, often taking field-research trips to other countries to gather needed information. The teams then present policy recommendations to some of the most prestigious institutions in Washington, D.C. Previous Global Capstone clients include, the U.S. Department of State, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the World Bank Group and other international private, public and nonprofit organizations.



The Elliott School's distinctiveness derives from our emphasis on a mandatory capstone project, a culminating fieldwork-based, intensive, group research project; the extensive practical skills curriculum; and our emphasis on leadership, ethics and practice as the fundamental building blocks of an international affairs education.

—Lisa Stephenson, Associate Dean
Academic Affairs and Student Services

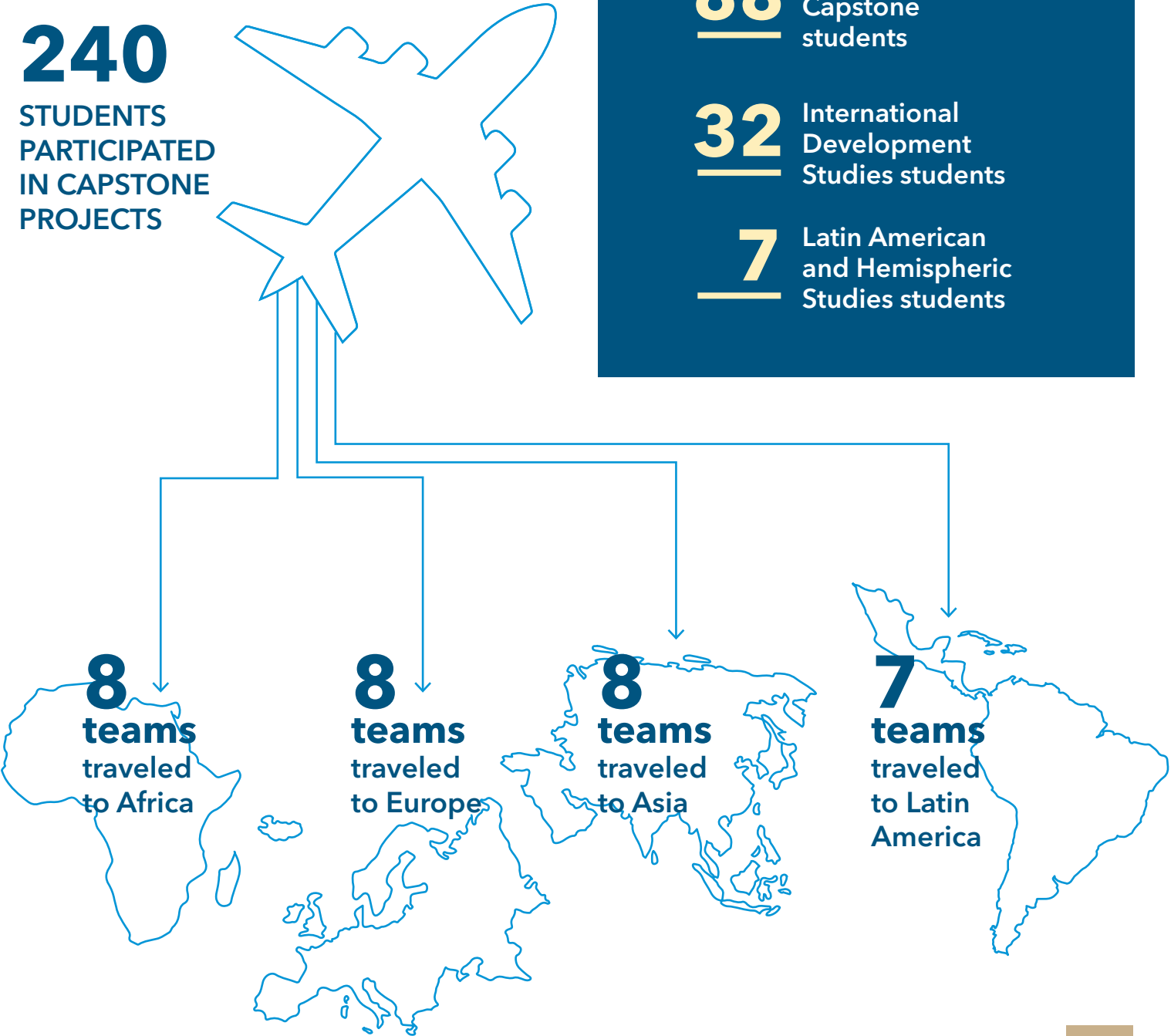
Capstone Destinations

AS A RESULT OF GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE DEAN'S FUND AND OTHER FUNDS...

78%
of students received financial assistance for international travel

- 88** Global Capstone students
- 32** International Development Studies students
- 7** Latin American and Hemispheric Studies students

240
STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN CAPSTONE PROJECTS



Capstone *in Action*



SHEN WANG, MA '18,
Asian Studies

Building an International Coalition for “Comfort Women” Based on Universal Women’s Rights

Halfway across the world in China, Shen Wang and his capstone team sought to share the stories of social actors who devote themselves to advocating for the rights of Chinese comfort women. The team interviewed journalists, visited a street where numerous comfort stations were located and conducted interviews with several local people. They had the opportunity to visit the Chinese Comfort Women Museum in Shanghai and the Research Center for Chinese Comfort Women. **“We were lucky enough to meet and talk to Professor Su Zhiliang, China’s most prestigious professor and activist on the comfort women issues,”** Shen says. The team was met with a pleasant surprise when the museum and the research center posted a story of the visit of four Elliott School students on their official social media platforms.



GISEL NUÑEZ, MA '18,
International Affairs

Indigenous Property Rights Protection in the Peruvian Amazon

“Our research trip began in Lima, Peru, where we had the opportunity to conduct interviews with organizations that work on behalf of indigenous peoples’ property rights. Our goal was to create solid policy recommendations by studying current initiatives and doing field work. We visited the indigenous peoples in the mountains of Cusco and were able to witness the sustainable skills and economic integration of indigenous groups. Through our interactions with indigenous communities, we came to better understand their secluded lifestyle and livelihoods. **This cultural research allowed us to meet the individuals directly affected by existing policies and gave us a field test of how realistic our policy recommendations were in order to propose the options that would benefit the people most.”**



ARIANA MOLINA, MA '18
Global Communications

Disinformation Campaigns in the Dominican Republic

“The goal of our project was to conduct field research and analyze disinformation campaigns conducted by Venezuela targeting the Dominican Republic. Through in-person interviews in Santo Domingo, the team gained valuable insights that fulfilled our client’s expectations. The Dominican Republic and Venezuela have a long history of cooperation, and our original assessment of the situation in the DR grew more nuanced as a result of the in-person interviews. They also gave us insight into how the people of the Dominican Republic consume and interpret media. **The team’s understanding and grasp of the history and culture of the Dominican Republic and its relationship with Venezuela greatly increased due to this research trip.”**



JIAYU (BEVERLY) LI, MA '18,
International Development Studies

Measuring the Efficacy of Beneficiary Targeting in Swaziland During the Emergency Security Food Program

“The main goal of our field research was to assess the efficiency and accuracy of beneficiary targeting in Swaziland during the Emergency Security Food Program, created as a result of the El Niño phenomenon in 2015-2016. We conducted focus group discussions and interviewed key informants such as political leaders, traditional leaders, members of the Food Committee and other partners, such as the Red Cross and the World Food Program. **It was a very valuable learning experience as the field work presented me with challenges that were so different from the classroom setting.”**



Capstone Students Go Global



A Focus on: *Ethics, International Relations, and Leadership*

A task force, created last spring with the goal of increasing the focus on ethics and scholarship among students studying international affairs and directed by former chairman of the National Intelligence Council, Chris Kojm, has culminated in the **Leadership, Ethics and Practice (LEAP) Initiative**. The new initiative will prepare future Elliott leaders for challenges relating to leadership and the complex ethical and moral quandaries they will encounter during their careers.

“Under Dean Brigety’s leadership, the Elliott School recognizes the need to address issues ranging from ethical relativism to ethical imperialism,” said Kojm. “We examine whether a single set of acceptable behaviors can apply to every situation and to every culture. Our initiative aims to embed the practice of ethics throughout the international affairs curriculum, a feature that sets the Elliott School apart.”

The LEAP Initiative will design and implement new courses on leadership and revise existing ones to emphasize ethics-related topics. The school has already established a “Why Ethics Matter” speaker series that has featured topics from sexual assault in the military to the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar to the #myflag social justice protest in Zimbabwe.

As part of the initiative, the Elliott School established a retreat for incoming undergraduate students to discuss topical issues of ethical importance. They are also required to take a one-credit *First Year Experience* course focused on leadership, ethics, practice and professional development.

The LEAP Initiative builds upon the Elliott School’s record of success and further distinguishes the Elliott School—a leader among schools of international affairs—as a place that prioritizes ethics as a critical component of leadership.

LEADERSHIP, ETHICS, AND PRACTICE INITIATIVE ELLIOTT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Prof. Chris Kojm, Director, LEAP Initiative, and former Chairman of the U.S. National Intelligence Council

The Kakehashi Project: *Building Bridges with Japan*



Nine graduate students from the Elliott School spent seven days in Japan this year as part of a project to learn more about U.S.-Japan trade investment and policies. The trip was part of **the Kakehashi Project, a cross-cultural exchange funded by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.**

The students attended lectures and met with officials from the Japanese Ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs and found themselves in gatherings with business leaders from Panasonic Corp. and Toyota Motor Corp. They also gathered insight from researchers at the Japanese External Trade Organization and Canon Institute for Global Studies.

“The Kakehashi Project, launched in 2013, is a people-to-people exchange program that builds friendship and understanding between the United States and Japan,” according to a representative from the Embassy of Japan in the United States. “Participants range from high school to graduate students and also include researchers, members of Congress and their staffs, Asian American leaders and more. We hope the program will continue to foster a deeper understanding of Japan and our close friendship with the United States.”



I was extremely impressed by the culture and hospitality and the generous nature of the Japanese. We were treated so warmly by the Kakehashi Program and everyone that we met.

—Christine Kobza,
MA ’19

Students *of Elliott*



Shelby Ashe, MA '19, Global Communication

Shelby Ashe is truly a team leader. At the University of Georgia, she was captain for the women’s track and field team and a private coach for the hammer and weight throw. **Her passion, however, is global communications.** After arriving at the school last year, she quickly found an internship with a small public affairs firm and then moved to crisis response for a larger public relations company, Edelman. Determined, dedicated and inspiring, Ashe personifies the team spirit and entrepreneurship found at the Elliott School of International Affairs.



Amber Herrle, BA '18, Middle East Studies

Amber Herrle watched the Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville turn violent from Amman, Jordan, where she was studying abroad. The events on the screen inspired her to conduct qualitative research on white hate groups in the United States. Since then, she has sat with leaders of the white nationalist movement, researched their literature, analyzed their propaganda and tracked their development. **“The same curiosity that drove me to study Middle East Studies at the Elliott School led me to the rural Midwest, where I met with white nationalists to better understand the shifting American political landscape.”** Her research culminated in a presentation entitled, “Man-made Radical? Interrogating Manhood in the White Nationalist Movement.” The work analyzes the social dynamics within white nationalist groups that help to recruit and retain members.



Matthew Ibarra, MA '19, Security Policy Studies

Matthew Ibarra, a U.S. Air Force veteran and current Air Force Reserve officer, received a travel grant from the Elliott School’s Office of Graduate Student Services to continue with his development studies overseas. After exposure to the work of international development through a virtual internship with USAID in Nicaragua and a study-abroad year in Switzerland, Ibarra obtained an internship in Mexico enabled by the Elliott School travel grant. **After serving in the military, Ibarra looks forward to pursuing a career focused on policy and diplomacy.**



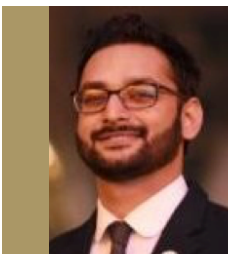
Armand Jhala, BA '18, International Affairs

Armand Jhala’s research centers on the efficacy of Twitter suspensions of Islamic State (IS) sympathizers as a counter-terrorism policy. Social media platforms have vastly improved the ability of extremist organizations to spread their ideology, recruit new members and coordinate actions. Through the Elliott School Undergraduate Scholars Program, the GW Program on Extremism and the GW Scholarly Technology Group, Jhala was able to create his own dataset of IS sympathizers on Twitter to provide a snapshot of the inner workings of the IS community during a highly-scrutinized period of Twitter’s policies. **“The snapshot approach can be used to extrapolate lessons for the inevitable future iteration of foreign terrorist organizations like IS in a dynamic technological landscape,”** says Jhala.



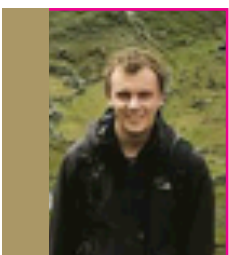
Lizzette Marrero, MA '18, Security Policy Studies

When Lizzette Marrero entered the Elliott School, she hoped to establish a career at an agency such as the CIA or the NSA. After graduating, she has a more refined passion and focus: countering violent extremism. During her time at the Elliott School, Marrero interned at the nonprofit Search for Common Ground. **By leveraging her personal network and previous experiences, she attained a temporary position within the Department of Homeland Security’s Office for Community Partnerships.** She now works as an analyst at VASA Strategies, a boutique consulting firm specializing in preventing and countering violent extremism.



Ahmed Shayan, MA '18, Global Communication

Ahmed Shayan of Pakistan believes in the power of conflict resolution to bridge differences. This past summer, he traveled on a Freeman Foundation grant to Myanmar, where he undertook work to lessen ethnic divides. **Through his volunteer work on Muslim-Jewish relations, Shayan has shown himself to be an effective communicator dedicated to grassroots organizations and interfaith dialogue.** He is a born negotiator with a bright future in diplomacy.



Eric Teller, BA '18, International Affairs

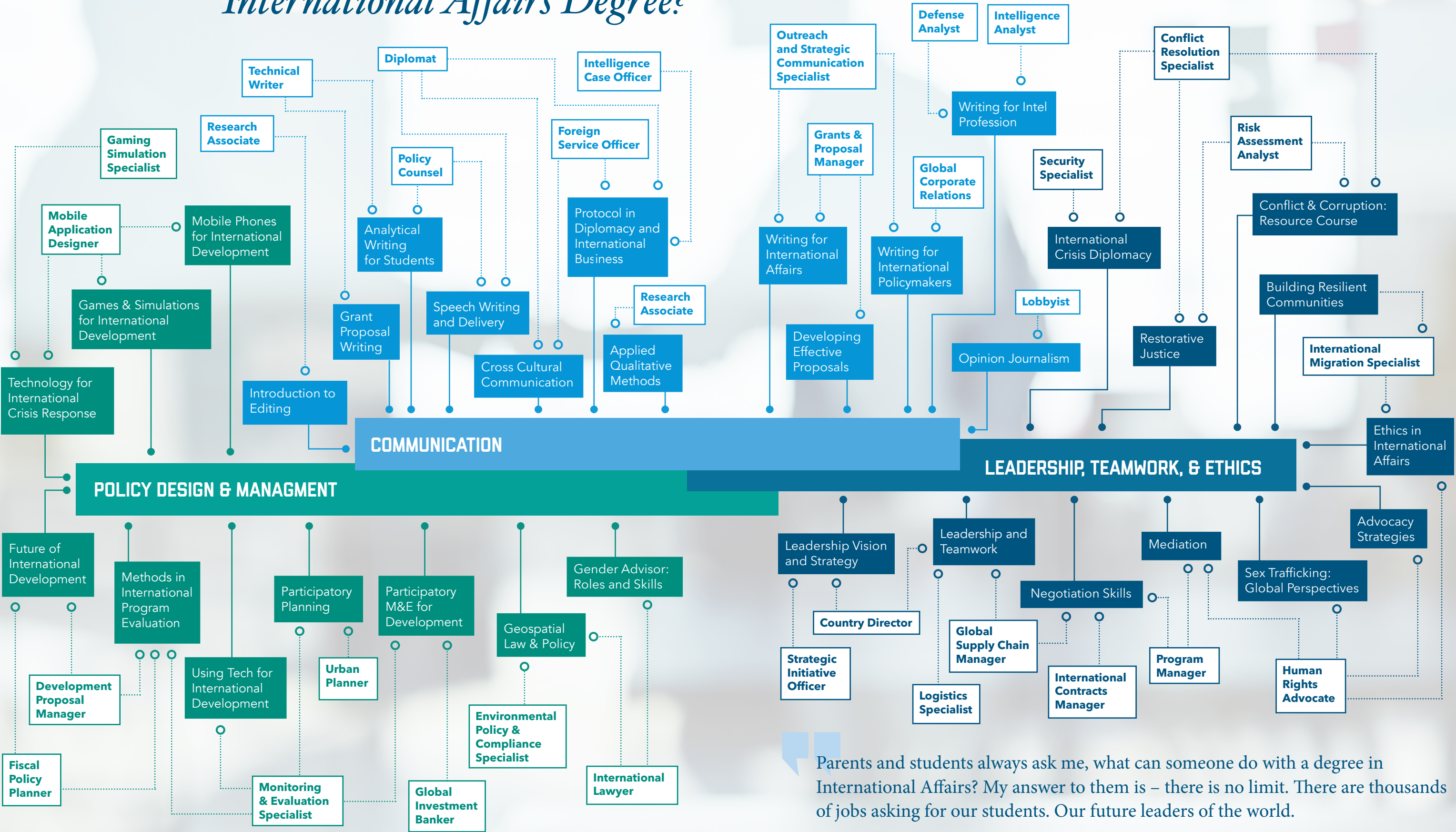
While studying abroad in Peru as an undergraduate scholar, Eric Teller began a research project examining how Quechua farmers in the Cusco region respond to the degradation of native forests. Teller received support from the Elliott School to return to Cusco and further investigate the relationship between indigenous communities and the Andean Ecosystems Association, a local NGO working to restore the forests. He spent several weeks in the area visiting reforestation sites and interviewing key stakeholders. As a result, Teller says, **“I came away with an understanding of how NGOs can create sustainable development programs that foster local investment and empower communities.”**



Anna Wieger, MA '19, International Science and Technology Policy

Anna Wieger arrived at the Elliott School with a passion for science policy and global affairs. In California, where she grew up, she worked for the American Red Cross as a disaster action team lead and coordinated humanitarian relief efforts in Oakland during fire emergencies. Wieger also won two Volunteer Service Awards for her work with AmeriCorps. **But her real dream was to get to NASA and to expand, literally, her horizons.** She interned at NASA while studying space policy at the Elliott School, and in summer 2018, she was a space policy fellow at the Commercial Space Flight Federation.

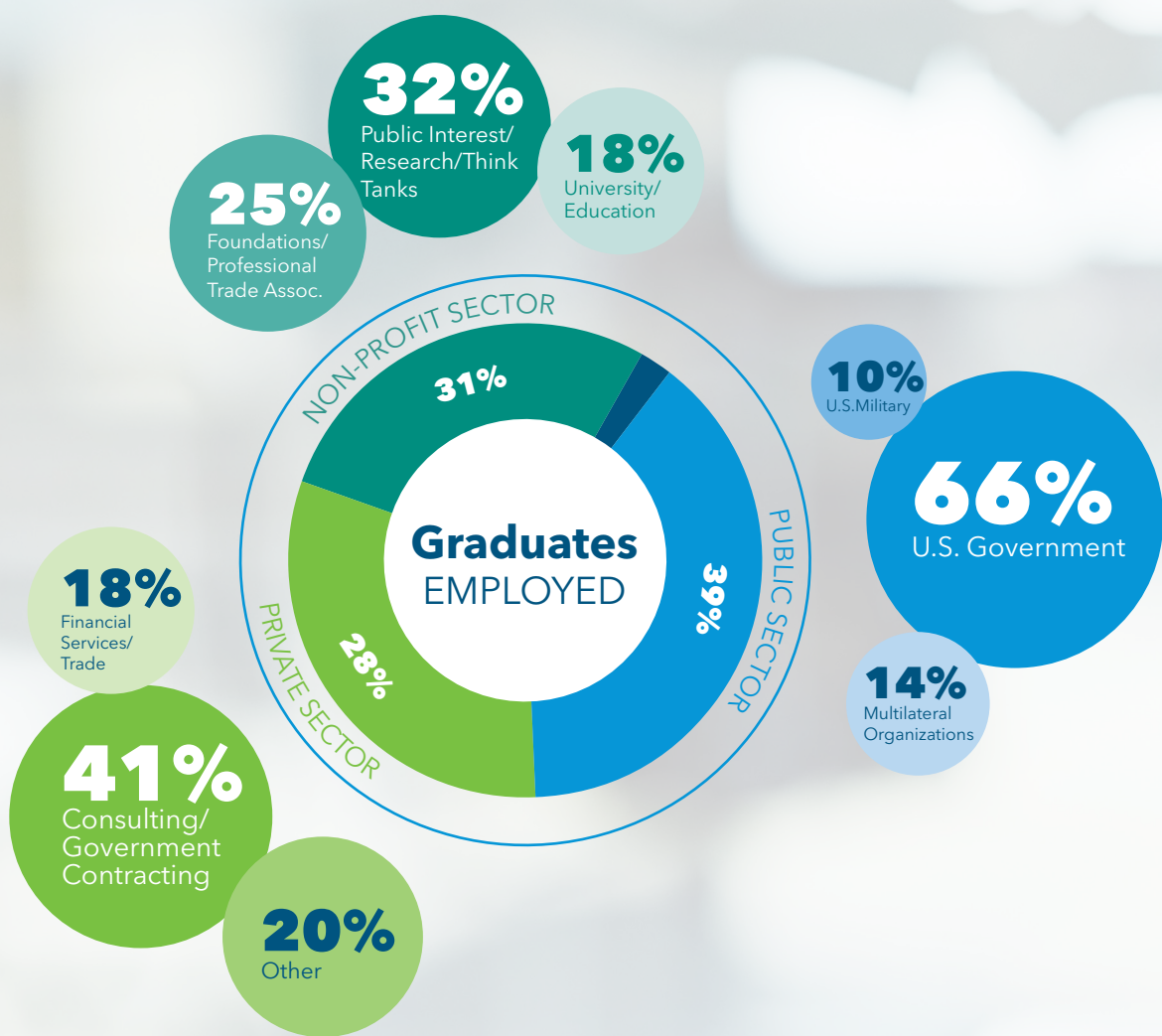
What can You do with an *International Affairs Degree?*



Parents and students always ask me, what can someone do with a degree in International Affairs? My answer to them is – there is no limit. There are thousands of jobs asking for our students. Our future leaders of the world.

Graduate Employment Survey

BY THE NUMBERS



SALARY RANGES BY SECTORS



TOP EMPLOYERS OF ELLIOTT GRADUATES





A World Class *Faculty*



Our faculty stand out because they combine commitment to excellence in scholarship with a passion to have real-world impact in international affairs policy and practice.

—Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Associate Dean for Faculty and Research

Understanding Life Lived in Relief



Humanitarian assistance is meant to be a crisis response, with the goal of saving lives and moving on. However, global conditions make rapid departures increasingly difficult. The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that two-thirds of the global refugee population face protracted displacement.

—Ilana Feldman



ILANA FELDMAN
Professor of Anthropology, History and International Affairs

In 1948, some 750,000 Palestinians were displaced from their homes. They ended up in neighboring Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, as well as the areas of the Palestine Mandate that became the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Today, 5 million Palestinian refugees are registered with the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), the body charged with providing assistance to Palestinians across the Middle East. Approximately 1.5 million of these refugees live in one of the 58 official UNRWA camps.

In my forthcoming book, *Life Lived in Relief: Humanitarian Predicaments and Palestinian Refugee Politics* (University of California Press), I describe the establishment and extension of a humanitarian assistance apparatus over 70 years and across five “fields” of operation. The book explores the particular challenges that result when a crisis intervention continues for decades. It investigates the “politics of living” in a humanitarian condition for such a long time. For example, how does a formally neutral, non-political apparatus become a site for political engagement by refugees?

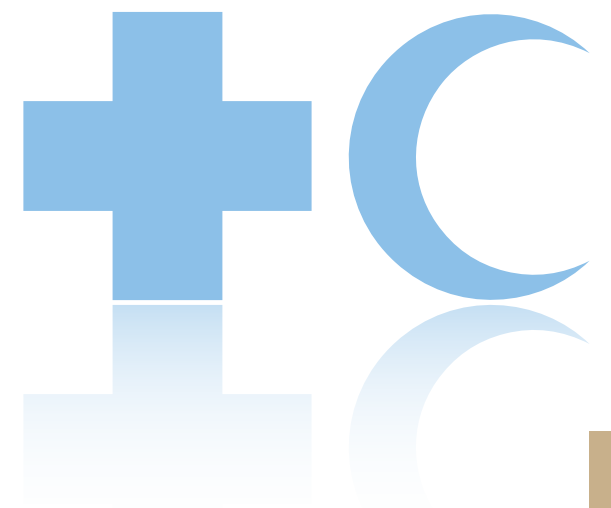
The sources for the book are both archival and ethnographic. UNRWA’s archive anchors the documentary record, which includes material from every decade and field. I also conducted ethnographic fieldwork from 2008 to 2014, primarily in

four refugee camps: Jerash and Al-Wihdat in Jordan, Burj al Barajneh in Lebanon, and Dheisheh in the West Bank. I interviewed hundreds of people in the camps, refugees from multiple generations and humanitarian workers. I also observed several humanitarian projects in action.

Humanitarian assistance is meant to be a crisis response, with the goal of saving lives and moving on. However, global conditions make rapid departures increasingly difficult. The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that two-thirds of the global refugee population face protracted displacement. The Palestinian case offers an extremely important window into this widespread phenomenon.

Humanitarian actors cannot alleviate the causes of people’s suffering, but in crises they work to effect a change in the circumstances under which refugees live. In the chronic conditions usually facing Palestinians, however, it often seems that humanitarian actors cannot do even that. Grappling with unsolvable dilemmas is central to humanitarian action. Extended displacement adds yet more layers to these challenges.

Palestinian refugees have managed to maintain community and make political claims despite the longevity of their displacement and the many barriers erected before them. They have insisted that their lives matter and their existence as Palestinians must be recognized. At the same time, humanitarian agencies and assistance, central to the Palestinian existence over the past seven decades, have also been a source for these claims.



Candidate Debates Promote Political Moderation in Ghana



Despite their increasing prevalence, however, there exists almost no evidence as to whether—or how—debates influence voters' attitudes in new democracies.

—Eric Kramon



ERIC KRAMON
Assistant Professor of Political Science
and International Affairs

Candidate debates have long been a feature of political campaigns in the world's older democracies. Increasingly, government and non-governmental organizations are organizing debates in newer democracies in Africa, Asia and Latin America in an effort to promote policy-based campaigning, enhance electoral accountability and diminish the partisan and ethnic tensions that can arise during campaigns.

Despite their increasing prevalence, however, there exists almost no evidence as to whether—or how—debates influence voters' attitudes in new democracies.

To address this essential gap in information, Sarah Brierley and George Ofori from Washington University in St. Louis and I conducted a randomized, controlled field experiment analyzing the impact of parliamentary candidate debates held in the run-up to Ghana's 2016 elections. The debates were organized by Ghana's National Commission for Civic Education—a constitutionally mandated, non-partisan government institution—and the Ghana Center for Democratic Development, a leading non-governmental organization.

We worked with the organizing institutions to videotape debates and disseminate them to potential voters where the

debates were held. We randomly assigned some participants to view the debates and some participants to a placebo control condition, thus allowing us to identify how exposure to the debates affected voter attitudes. Participants were surveyed immediately after watching the debates.

To investigate why participants were influenced by the debates, we used a platform that captures participants' real-time, second-by-second positive and negative reactions to the debates. To our knowledge, this study is the first to present data of this kind gathered from a new democracy.

One of our most important findings is that exposure to the debates *moderated* the political preferences of committed partisan voters. Specifically, strong supporters of Ghana's two major parties became more favorable to opposition politicians and less likely to want to vote for their party's candidate. Importantly, our results suggest that policy-centered discourse during the debates was central in driving this moderation effect.

To investigate whether these effects lasted, we revisited a random sub-sample of our participants 48 hours after they viewed the debates. The moderation effect only persisted among participants who live in electorally competitive communities. The effect disappears completely among those

who live in communities that strongly support one of the two major parties.

Together, these results highlight that candidate debates have the potential to moderate political attitudes and reduce partisan polarization in new democracies. However, the persistence of these effects is conditioned by the local social and political context in which voters reside.



Can We Have Nuclear Energy without Nuclear Weapons?



All major countries worry about the development of “strategic weapons” in the non-nuclear realm...hypersonic weapons, cyberweapons, artificial intelligence and weapons using other emerging technologies. Could those weapons gradually make nuclear weapons obsolete?”

—Sharon Squassoni



SHARON SQUASSONI
Research Professor of Practice, Institute for International Science and Technology Policy

Can we have nuclear energy without nuclear weapons? Can we have security without nuclear weapons? These two simple questions form the basis of my research at the Institute for International Science and Technology Policy.

Nuclear energy and nuclear weapons are 20th century discoveries that may need a major overhaul to survive beyond the 21st century. In 70 years, nuclear energy has not yet found lasting solutions to four basic challenges: cost, safety, waste and the risk that peaceful nuclear energy can be converted into nuclear weapons. The need for low-carbon electricity generation has renewed interest in fission—and even fusion. Still, without solutions to those four stumbling blocks, nuclear power is unlikely to bring a major reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the time the world needs it to.

Nuclear weapons, meanwhile, may be on a trajectory for revitalization as traditional holders of such weapons modernize their arsenals. Even though the coalition that helped negotiate a nuclear weapons ban treaty received the Nobel Peace Prize last year, China, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom and France are proceeding as planned with their modernization programs. Russian President Vladimir Putin has

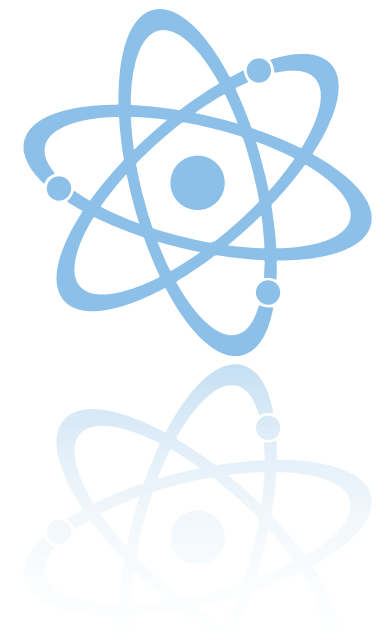
boasted publicly about new nuclear capabilities, whether real or imagined. Quietly, the arms race between India and Pakistan also continues. And it is too soon to tell which direction North Korean nuclear weapons will take—reduction and possible elimination or continued rampant development?

At the same time, all major countries worry about the development of “strategic weapons” in the non-nuclear realm. These are weapons that have the potential to threaten countries’ vital interests. For the moment, they are defined as hypersonic weapons, cyberweapons, artificial intelligence and weapons using other emerging technologies. Could those weapons gradually make nuclear weapons obsolete?

While addressing those longer-term challenges, my research responds to more immediate policy questions related to keeping Iran within the framework of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and how to achieve long-lasting nuclear risk reductions with North Korea.

As a former negotiator in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the U.S. State Department, as well as a weapons of mass destruction specialist in the Congressional Research

Service, advising members of Congress, I focused my research on how to shore up consensus about the value of global regimes, enhance U.S. leadership in nuclear nonproliferation and develop creative regional solutions to compensate for gaps in the global regimes.



Increased Environmental Scarcity Leads to Weaponization of Water



It had minimal effects in the tactical theater of operations, but was relatively effective as a strategic tool, and the Islamic State's systematic and sustained deployment of the water weapon was unprecedented in modern conflict.

—Marcus King



MARCUS KING
John O. Rankin Associate Professor of International Affairs; Director, MA Program in International Affairs

The preponderance of research finds water shortages are more likely to engender cooperation between nations, especially where there are shared river basins, than conflict. Many scholars go so far as to say that the last war fought entirely over water occurred in ancient Mesopotamia.

Dr. Marcus King, the John O. Rankin Associate Professor of International Affairs and director of the MA Program in International Affairs, is exploring whether that is still true.

With funding from an anonymous donor, his research looks at drought-stricken areas of Syria, Iraq, Somalia and Nigeria and subnational violence perpetrated by insurgents or terrorist groups.

His findings show that these conflicts are accelerated or perpetuated by the "weaponization" of water. Water is a strategic weapon when, for example, a dam is seized to coerce a population or control territory. It can also be used as a tactical weapon to destroy opposing forces on the battlefield.

King created a workbook on how water weaponization was used in the wars in Iraq and Syria. "It had minimal effects in the tactical theater of operations, but was relatively effective as a strategic tool, and the Islamic State's systematic and sustained

deployment of the water weapon was unprecedented in modern conflict," he said.

In Nigeria, one of the most fragile states in the world, three large-scale conflicts impact water quality or scarcity. King developed an analytical approach linking ecological and social changes to human responses in order to map these changes.

He found changing rainfall patterns and a reduction of land in Nigeria's arid "Middle Belt" region are aggravating ethnic tensions, as nomadic herders in the Hausa Fulani Tribe increasingly encroach on settled farms in search of places to graze their cattle. When cattle damage crops, farmers often retaliate by poisoning the water or the grass or by attacking the herders. Casualties have exceeded those of the infamous struggle against Boko-Haram.

Collecting reliable data in conflict zones is challenging. King has participated in workshops that bring together scholars and policymakers from the affected regions. In addition to media accounts, he has used analysis of extremist groups' communiques and their tweets and other social media.

"The Elliott School is an ideal place to pursue this research due to its recognized strength in security studies and its tradition of policy-relevant research," King said. His research has informed the Department of Defense and the U.S. Agency for International Development as they consider environmental factors in planning conflict prevention strategies and conflict-sensitive development assistance.

King's work has been published as book chapters and articles. It also has been made public through other channels, such as the Netflix series *Bill Nye Saves the World*, the National Geographic documentary *Parched* and the film *Age of Consequences*.



How Poverty Maps are Driving the Sustainable Development Goals



It is time to think more transnationally about poverty, to challenge the archaic view that it is a “developing country” problem and to situate poverty as part of a post-colonial landscape of development.

—Mona Atia



MONA ATIA

Associate Professor of Geography and International Affairs;
Director, Middle East Studies Program

In launching its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, the United Nations called for a “data revolution” that would provide the metrics it needed to help lift the world’s 1.2 billion poorest people out of poverty by 2030. What resulted is the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, a network that is mapping poverty.

Poverty mapping relies on aggregate statistics to estimate local poverty levels. The maps use consumption indicators to rank villages and enable governments to target the poorest of the poor when implementing poverty interventions, such as basic infrastructure upgrades; creation of national, provincial and municipal development plans; grant money allocations; and conditional cash transfer pilot programs.

Most research on poverty mapping addresses the methodological question of how to improve its precision and reliability through a focus on data sources, techniques or more detailed maps on a smaller scale. In contrast, my research is concerned with the forms of measurement, the nature of the knowledge and expertise mobilized and the political impacts the maps have on the people and places labeled as the poorest of the poor. Using comparative case studies, I dissect the mapping approaches in Morocco and France and analyze the consequences.

My selection of these two countries was driven by a puzzle: Given the global nature of the SDGs, why is Morocco moving toward a multi-dimensional poverty map while France is pushing toward an income-based one?

A 2004 World Bank poverty-mapping pilot project in Morocco formed the basis for King Mohammed VI’s National Initiative for Human Development (INDH), a state-led plan to reduce poverty by improving basic infrastructure and access to services. Despite the turbulence of the Arab Spring, the INDH helped the king address international concerns about Morocco’s poor performance in the Human Development Index and bolstered the government’s public image.

France, meanwhile, had used multi-dimensional poverty mapping to target public policy dealing with social exclusion and urban renewal. However, recent terrorist attacks and rising Islamophobia prompted the government to redraw the maps based solely on income.

Technocrats who produce poverty maps argue that they are objective, apolitical and efficient tools, but my research finds the maps and their associated interventions to be highly politicized. For this reason, I highlight the contextual aspects of poverty hidden behind the maps and aggregate indicators, the

patterns associated with the poverty map as an intervention, and how poverty maps mask layers of politics. Given the colonial legacy, the strong migration circuits and the transfer of policy between Morocco and France, my research offers a fascinating comparison across the global North-South line.

SDGs are global in nature. It is time to think more transnationally about poverty, to challenge the archaic view that it is a “developing country” problem, and to situate poverty as part of a post-colonial landscape of development.



Public Opinion and Human Rights Abuses



We hope our work will inform academic and policy debates about why individuals support violence and how legal rules can shape those opinions in the years to come.

—Yonatan Lupu



YONATAN LUPU
Assistant Professor of Political Science

One of the core responsibilities often mandated to governments, especially democracies, is the guarantee of basic rights and freedoms. When governments breach this trust, human rights violations often enjoy broad popular support. This presents an important puzzle: Under what conditions are individuals more likely to approve of human rights abuses?

In collaborative work with Geoffrey P.R. Wallace from the University of Washington, I sought to answer this question by conducting a series of survey experiments in Argentina, India and Israel.

Individuals who responded to our survey were told stories about recent conflicts in their countries. Some were told about a non-violent movement opposed to the government, while others were told about a violent movement. We then detailed how the government responded. Some participants were informed that the government engaged in non-violent human rights abuses, such as censorship and curfews. Others were told that the government used violent repression. Half of the individuals were also told that their government's actions violated international law.

We then asked all our subjects to what extent they approved of the government actions. This allowed us to analyze whether this

approval depended on the scenario they were given. Several of the results were especially striking. In all three countries, individuals who were told that the opposition movement was non-violent were less likely to approve of human rights abuses, regardless of whether such abuses were non-violent or violent. For decades, leaders from Mahatma Gandhi to Martin Luther King Jr. have emphasized the advantages of non-violent social movements. Our results provide the first experimental evidence to support the micro-foundations of their theories.

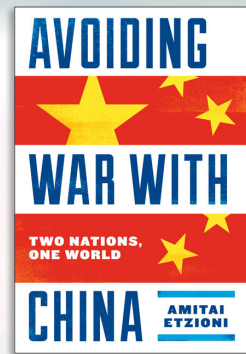
We also found that participants' responses differed by country. When told that their government violated international law, respondents in India appeared less likely to support their government, consistent with prominent theories that international law works by shaping norms and public opinion against human rights abuses. Yet in Israel, we found that the same information appeared to make individuals more likely to support their government. This suggests that the long, rocky relationship between Israel and international institutions has led to a backlash effect among the public.

In our ongoing work, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, Wallace and I are investigating whether individuals respond differently to discriminate violence versus indiscriminate violence and, if so, why? We are also conducting

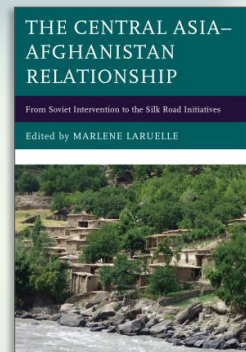
a cross-national study that investigates whether different types of legal rules—international versus constitutional—have competing effects on public perceptions of government abuses.

We hope our work will inform academic and policy debates about why individuals support violence and how legal rules can shape those opinions in the years to come.

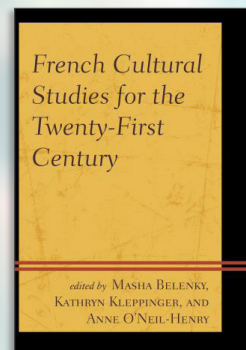




Amitai Etzioni
University Professor and
Professor of International Affairs



Marlene Laruelle (ed.)
Research Professor of
International Affairs

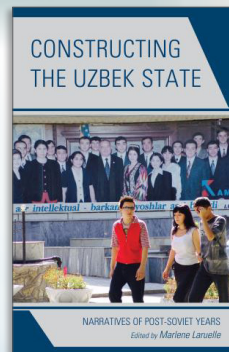


Kathryn Kleppinger (ed.)
Assistant Professor of French and
Francophone Studies

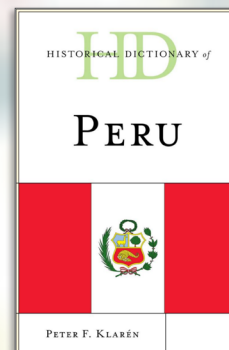


Robert W. Ortung
Associate Research Professor of
International Affairs
Sufian N. Zhemukhov
Senior Research Associate

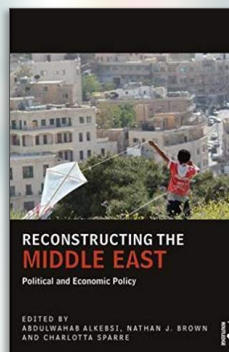
Faculty Books 2017-2018



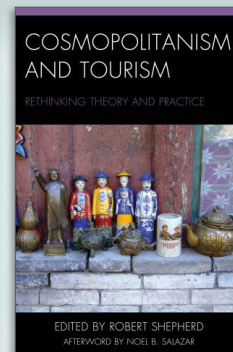
Marlene Laruelle (ed.)
Research Professor of
International Affairs



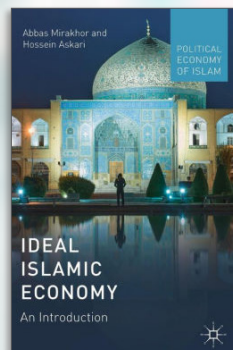
Peter F. Klaren
Emeritus Professor of History and
International Affairs



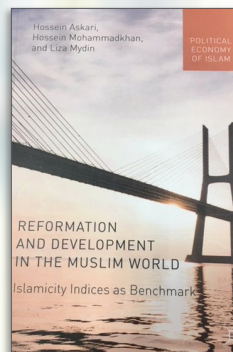
Nathan J. Brown (ed.)
Professor of Political Science and
International Affairs



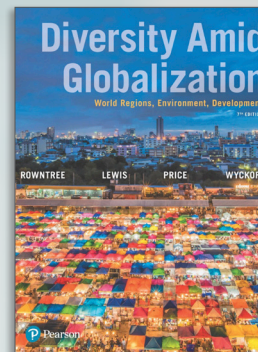
Robert Shepherd (ed.)
Visiting Associate Professor of
Anthropology and International Affairs



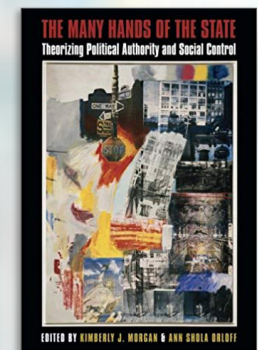
Hossein Askari
Iran Professor of International
Business and International Affairs



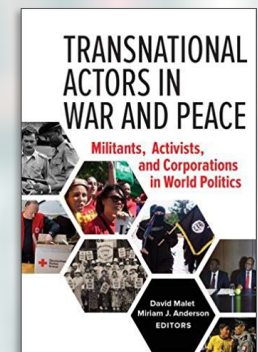
Hossein Askari
Iran Professor of International
Business and International Affairs



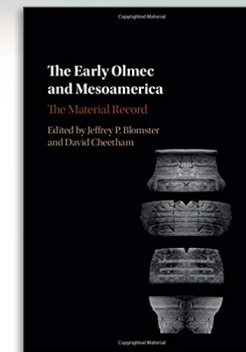
Marie Price
Professor of Geography and
International Affairs



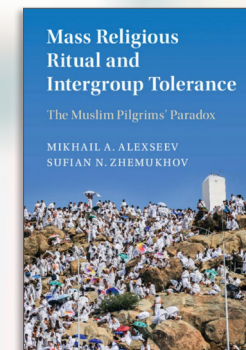
Kimberly J. Morgan (ed.)
Professor of Political Science and
International Affairs



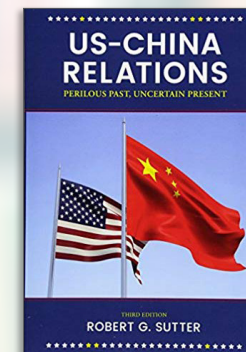
David Malet (ed.)
Visiting Associate Professor of
International Affairs



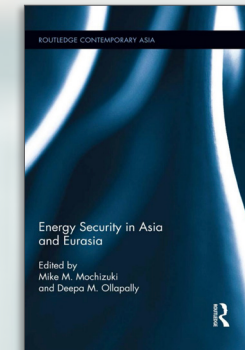
Jeffrey P. Blomster (ed.)
Associate Professor of Anthropology
and International Affairs



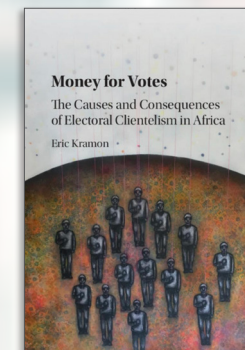
Sufian N. Zhemukhov
Senior Research Associate



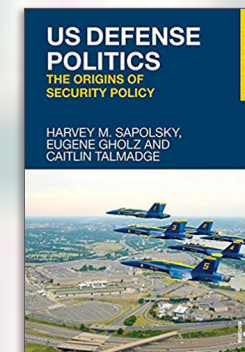
Robert Sutter
Professor of Practice of
International Affairs



Mike M. Mochizuki (ed.)
Associate Professor of Political
Science and International Affairs
Deepa M. Ollapally (ed.)
Research Professor of International
Affairs



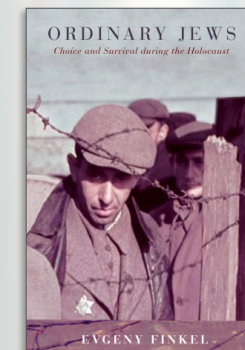
Eric Kramon
Assistant Professor of Political
Science and International Affairs



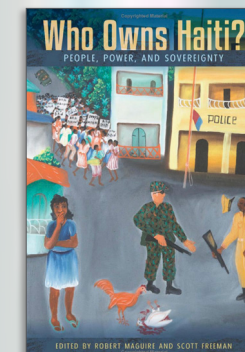
Caitlin Talmadge
Assistant Professor of History and
International Affairs



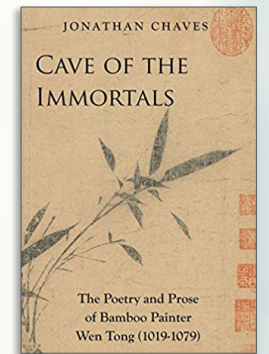
Attiya Ahmad
Associate Professor of Anthropology
and International Affairs



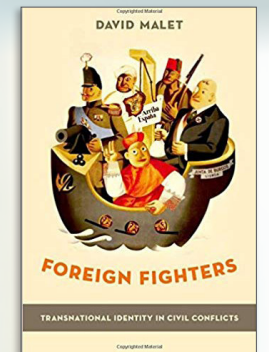
Evgeny Finkel
Assistant Professor of Political
Science and International Affairs



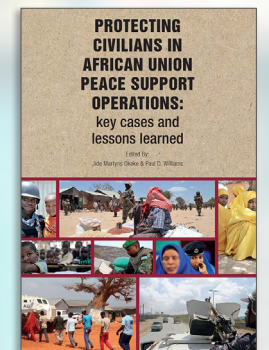
Robert Maguire (ed.)
Professor of Practice of
International Affairs



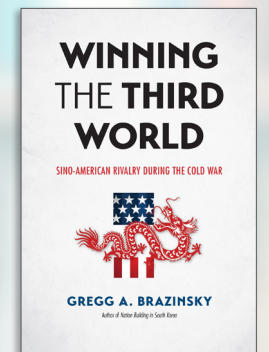
Jonathan Chaves
Professor of Chinese



David Malet
Visiting Associate Professor of
International Affairs



Paul D. Williams (ed.)
Associate Professor of International
Affairs



Gregg A. Brazinsky
Associate Professor of History and
International Affairs

Research Institutes & Centers



With the Elliott School's support, I was able to see firsthand how African Union peacekeepers and their partners are trying to secure Somalia from one of the world's most deadly insurgencies. By collaborating with research partners across three continents, we were able to offer practical recommendations to help overcome some of the mission's key challenges.

—Paul D. Williams

Associate Professor of International Affairs





The Institute for African Studies

The Institute for African Studies (IAfS) serves as the Elliott School's primary hub for students, faculty and researchers who share an interest in examining contemporary issues in Africa. GW currently boasts more than 50 faculty members with expertise in and engagement with the African continent.

Interdisciplinary by design, the institute brings together studies in African comparative politics, history, economics, anthropology, geography, language and security. It is arguably the most significant academic institution in Washington, D.C., for research, scholarship, education and debate on African issues.

Highlights:

- In April 2018, the Institute for African Studies **announced the selection of Jennifer Cooke as its new director.** Cooke is the former director of the Africa Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where she led research and analysis on political, economic and security dynamics in Africa. She is a frequent writer and lecturer on U.S.-Africa policy and provides briefings, testimony and policy recommendations to U.S. policymakers, the U.S. Congress and the U.S. military.
- IAfS also announced the arrival of a visiting scholar, Dr. Miriam Anderson. She is an associate professor in the Department of Politics and Public Administration at Ryerson University in Toronto.
- The Institute for African Studies last year hosted over 40 events spanning a wide range of topics. These gatherings included presentations sponsored by the institute's **African Speaker Series** and addresses by ranking diplomats, among them **African Union Commission Chair Moussa Faki** and former ambassador and current acting assistant secretary of state in the Bureau of African Affairs, Donald Y. Yamamoto.
- The Darfur Women's Action Group, in co-sponsorship with IAfS, hosted its annual "Symposium on Women & Genocide in the 21st Century: The Case of Darfur." The symposium included panel discussions with experts on genocide, gender and the effects of violence against women in conflict.



Acting Director, Amb. (ret.)
Liberata Mulamula



The Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience

The Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience (IDFR) aims to strengthen the capabilities of people and systems in countries where humanitarian and development outcomes are affected by conflict, fragility and violence.

Through its interdisciplinary approach and rigorous academics, research and on-the-ground training, the institute aims to equip students with the tools needed to strengthen leadership, enable an environment for progressive change, and foster disaster resilience within developing countries

Highlights:

- IDFR's Dr. Apollo Nkwake, associate research professor of international affairs, received the **2017 AEA Marcia Guttentag Promising New Evaluator Award.**
- **Young Disaster Resilience Leaders** is IDFR's program to protect and empower young people in conflict and fragile settings in partnership with UNICEF and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The program works with local communities to develop a multi-faceted adolescent and youth protection and empowerment program in affected areas.
- **The Disaster Resilience Leadership** program, jointly funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Bank addresses three priorities:
 - » Strengthening existing disaster leadership capacity; enhancing organizational resilience; and developing a regional and global network of practitioners, faculty and facilitators to foster knowledge creation, exchange, collaboration and resource-sharing. The network spans 39 countries across Africa, South and Southeast Asia and the Caribbean.
 - » The Program to Enhance Resilience in Somalia, funded by USAID, aims to increase the resilience of 16,000 Somali households.
 - » The ResilientAfrica Network, funded by USAID, focuses on creating an analytical framework to assist in identifying and cultivating data-driven solutions to strengthen resilience and improve development efforts in Africa.



Executive Director
Ky Luu

A detailed map of Europe and Eurasia, showing various countries and cities. The map is color-coded and includes labels for major cities like Helsinki, Stockholm, Riga, Vilnius, Minsk, Warsaw, Kiev, Bucharest, and Athens. It also shows geographical features like the Baltic Sea and the Danube River.

The Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies

The Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES) promotes and supports the study of Europe and Eurasia by combining academic rigor with policy engagement; promoting interdisciplinary perspectives; and drawing together students, scholars, policymakers and culturally important figures from around the globe for activities that advance education, research and practice.

The institute's permanent multidisciplinary faculty travel regularly to their regions of study, publish prize-winning books and articles in leading journals, and provide insight to media and policymakers.

Highlights:

- IERES recruits approximately 20 visiting scholars annually to share their experiences directly with students in the classroom as instructors and guest lecturers.
- The institute was proud to host a Model NATO event in November 2017. **In this full-day interactive simulation of a NATO summit, 30 students played the roles of secretary-general and country representatives to NATO from each of its 29 member states.** Students demonstrated their informed perspectives through spirited debate and respectful disagreements.
- IERES hosted several prestigious international conferences, including "The New Russian and U.S. Nuclear Doctrines" in May 2018.
- IERES member Professor Sarah Wagner received a prestigious Public Scholar Award from the National Endowment of the Humanities.
- **The Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies recently was ranked sixth in the world in the category of regional studies centers (university affiliated), ahead of all other comparable U.S. institutes.**



Director
Peter Rollberg

A composite image featuring financial charts, including a candlestick chart and a line graph, overlaid on a city skyline at night. The word "iStock" is visible in the center.

The Institute for International Economic Policy

The Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP), serves as a catalyst for high quality, multi-disciplinary and non-partisan research on policy issues surrounding economic globalization. The institute research program helps develop effective policy options and academic analysis in a time of growing controversies about international integration in many countries around the world. The institute's work also encompasses policy responses for those who face continued poverty and financial crises despite worldwide economic growth.

Highlights:

- **In 2018, IIEP celebrated its tenth anniversary** with a special series of international economic policy fora. The series featured leading policymakers and thinkers from USAID, the World Trade Organization, IBM, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank and covered critical issues of the global economy.
- IIEP also achieved a major milestone in spring 2018 with receipt of its first endowment fund. **The newly established Ning Li Family Endowment is dedicated to supporting the institute's signature initiative on U.S.-China Economic Relations.**
- IIEP's **Global Economic Governance Initiative** hosted several major events on topics from NAFTA renegotiations to economic security and rising protectionism, among other topics.
- The institute's initiatives on **Ultra-Poverty** and the **Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change in Low-income Countries** continue to produce highly influential research and policy analysis. The institute held its fourth Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Conference, widely recognized as the premier conference of the subject area.
- In 2017-2018, **IIEP also successfully launched executive education**, including two inaugural programs on U.S.-China Relations and Digital Trade, respectively, which attracted over 60 participants from private and public sectors in China and Washington.



Director
Maggie Chen

The Institute for International Science and Technology Policy

The Institute for International Science and Technology Policy (IISTP) facilitates collaboration among scientists, policy experts, government and industry leaders on science and technology related issues. The institute conducts cutting-edge research on the policy issues that affect science and technology around the world. The institute faculty, who teach the MA program in International Science and Technology Policy (ISTP), bring the theories and methods of this research to students who use these ideas to shape future policies and plans here and abroad.

Highlights:

- IISTP welcomed research professor of practice, **Sharon Squassoni, a former senior associate for nuclear policy programs at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and a member of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists Science and Security Board.**
- IISTP continued its **Nuclear Policy Talks series**, including Amb. Laura Holgate's discussion on "Nuclear Reactions: Iran, Russia, the Weapons Ban, and Other Hot Topics," and Frank von Hippel's talk on a "A Fundamentalists Approach to Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Weapons Reductions: Get Rid of the Fissile Material!"
- IISTP conducted a two-week **GW Nuclear Security Policy Boot Camp in 2018**, attended by 15 student participants, who were exposed to presentations by leaders in the nuclear policy and related fields.
- IISTP continued its cooperation with the **2018 ST Global**. The ST Global Consortium is a group of universities with students interested in science and technology studies, science and technology policy and related topics. The conference provides graduate students opportunities to present original research, gather critical feedback from experts and network with students in related fields.



Director
Allison Macfarlane

The GW Institute for Korean Studies

The mission of the **GW Institute for Korean Studies (GWIKS)** is to strengthen and grow the Korean studies program at GW and raise awareness for its work in the greater D.C. area.

GWIKS enhances academic programs and scholarly activities by promoting collaboration and partnerships across the university, expanding the depth and breadth of Korean Studies and integrating humanities with policy. The establishment of GWIKS in 2016 was made possible by a generous grant from the Academy of Korean Studies.

Highlights:

- The institute hosts several prestigious events annually, including the Hahn Moo-Sook Colloquium in the Korean Humanities and the Soh Jaipil Circle on Contemporary Korean Affairs.
- **GW alumnus Tom Chong Hoon Kim, BA '58, MA '61, and his wife, Mrs. Pearl Chungbin Kim, have made a generous gift to GW to support GWIKS.** The fund creates the Tom and Pearl Kim Endowment, which will enhance the institute's work, especially in forging links among the humanities and other disciplines and schools at GW. The institute also promotes collaboration among scholars and policymakers who are critical to the overall field of Korean studies.



Director
Jisoo Kim



The Institute for Middle East Studies

The Institute for Middle East Studies (IMES) was founded in 2007 as part of a university-wide initiative to support academic work on the Middle East. IMES embraces a spectrum of disciplines, from political science to media and public affairs to religion to international business. The institute hosts workshops and conferences at which Middle East scholars from across the United States and around the world discuss academic trends and developments. IMES also supports extensive programming aimed at an academic audience, the policy community and interested members of the public.

Highlights:

- The **Middle East Policy Forum**, hosted by Ambassador Edward W. Gnehm Jr., brings leading experts and diplomats to GW to discuss pressing policy issues.
- The **Project on Middle East Political Science**, a collaborative network, enhances the field of political science in the Middle East and the region's engagement with the broader academic discipline, public policy and the public sphere.
- **IMES makes extensive outreach efforts to educators, journalists and military veterans.** Since 2016, IMES has cultivated strategic partnerships with other organizations (among them the Middle East Studies Association and World Affairs Councils) in order to reach communities that are far from existing Middle East studies centers but have a strong interest in—or are deeply affected by—issues related to the Middle East.



Director
Nathan Brown



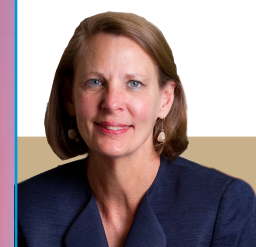
The Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication

The Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication (IPDGC) is a leading organization in the field of public diplomacy and global communication. Based at GW's School of Media and Public Affairs, it is jointly administered by the Elliott School. The institute was established in 2005 through the generous support of the Walter Roberts Endowment.

The institute provides a forum for faculty, students and working professionals on global issues in the following areas: interactions between new media, national security, and public diplomacy; U.S. foreign policy priorities in the developing world; challenges to whole-of-government public diplomacy and strategic communication; global perspectives and approaches to public diplomacy; and gender issues in security, communication, and diplomacy.

Highlights:

- **U.S. Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, received the institute's first annual Walter Roberts Award for Congressional Leadership in Public Diplomacy at a ceremony on Capitol Hill.**
- **The institute co-hosted the U.S.-China Social and Cultural Dialogue, with the Sigur Center for Asian Studies.** With opening remarks by GW President LeBlanc, and guest speakers U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, People's Republic of China Vice Premier Liu Yandong, and U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, **the program consisted of a wide-ranging dialogue between "next-gen" American and Chinese special guests on education, environment, health, media and arts and culture.**
- The Annual Walter Roberts lecture featured retired U.S. Ambassador D. Bruce Wharton, who spoke on "Public Diplomacy in an Era of Truth Decay: Constructive Responses."
- The institute launched a podcast series, "Public Diplomacy Examined," better known as PDX. PDX podcasts are student interviews with public diplomacy practitioners.



Director
Janet Steele

The Institute for Security and Conflict Studies

Launched in the fall of 2009, **the Institute for Security and Conflict Studies** (ISCS) is dedicated to furthering the study of international security. As its mission, ISCS seeks to advance scholarly research on international conflict and strengthen the field of security studies through graduate education, improving public understanding of key international security issues, and informing policy debates related to U.S. national security.

The institute also houses the Nuclear Security Working Group, chaired by Dr. Janne Nolan, and runs the Elliott School's Security Policy Studies MA program.

Highlights:

- **Dr. Charles Glaser, director of ISCS, recently received the International Studies Association International Security Studies Section 2018 Distinguished Scholar Award.** The award is given for life achievement in international security studies. Nominees for this honor have made major contributions to scholarship in the field both via their own research and writing and their mentorship of others.
- Dr. Marcus King, who works extensively with the institute, was recently featured on an episode of *Bill Nye Saves the World!* and on Vox's new Netflix show, *Explained*, in an episode about the global water crisis.
- **The Nuclear Security Working Group was awarded \$3.5 million from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to expand a pilot program that encourages informed consensus in Congress on nuclear issues.** The fellowship program places experts in congressional offices for one-year terms. This year, the program increased to seven fellows, up from two in its inaugural year.



Director
Charles Glaser

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is the academic home of the Asian Studies Program at the Elliott School. It promotes research and policy analysis on East Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia. The center's Asian Studies Program is the largest such program in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region, bringing together some 70 faculty members across GW.

Founded in 1991, from the Sino-Soviet Institute and later named for Gaston Sigur, a Japan specialist with a long career at GW, the center has been designated a GW signature program since 2003.

Highlights:

- **The Sigur Center, along with the GW Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication and the U.S. Department of State, co-sponsored the inaugural U.S.-China Social and Cultural Dialogue.** Former director Bruce Dickson co-moderated the discussion featuring four "next-gen" Americans and four Chinese special guests, including former NBA player Yao Ming. Among the notable speakers were Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao and U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos.
- The Sigur Center convenes five major roundtables and conferences each year on a wide range of Taiwan-related topics. Its most recent such conference, "How Does Taiwan's Defense and Security Status Stack Up?" included notable intellectuals and former U.S. government officials.
- The Sigur Center's Partnership for International Strategies in Asia recently launched the "Principled Engagement with North Korea" event series in an effort to shift the paradigm from security threats to engagement and peace.
- **Faculty member Shawn McHale was awarded the 2018 Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Research Fellowship in Buddhist Studies for his research into Theravada Buddhism in Vietnam.**



Director
Ben Hopkins

The Space Policy Institute

The Space Policy Institute (SPI) celebrated its 30th anniversary this year.

Founded by John Logsdon, professor emeritus of political science and international affairs, its research is deeply integrated into a robust academic program. SPI has developed generations of students, scholars and professionals engaged in space-related work in government, industry and academia.

Its faculty—including affiliated faculty in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, GW Law and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences—bring deep experience in space policy, law, economics and history.

Highlights:

- **NASA astronaut Jack D. Fischer talked to Elliott School students and faculty about his work aboard the International Space Station, then had an intimate conversation with SPI students.**
- SPI held a public workshop and colloquium, in cooperation with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, on issues that underscore the value of U.S.-Japan collaboration on space.
- SPI hosted a series of space policy dinners featuring individuals from across the global space policy community. This year's speakers included Heather Wilson, secretary of the U.S. Air Force; Jan Woerner, director-general of the European Space Agency; John D. Hill, principal director for space policy in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; and **former SPI Director Scott Pace, currently serving as executive secretary of the National Space Council.**
- SPI and the Universities Space Research Association co-hosted a symposium on "Return to the Moon," featuring talks by Robert Lightfoot, then NASA administrator; Harrison Schmitt, former Apollo 17 astronaut and U.S. senator; and David Parker, head of human and robotic exploration for the European Space Agency. Portions of the event were broadcast by C-SPAN.
- **Hosted in cooperation with Explore Mars Inc., the three-day "Humans to Mars Summit," on the future of Mars missions, attracted a large audience at the GW Lisner Auditorium and via webcast.**



Director
Henry Hertzfeld

2017-2018 *Major Grant Sponsors*

Centre for International Governance Innovation
Carnegie Corporation of New York
European Commission
Freeman Foundation
Henry Luce Foundation
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
LSE Enterprise Ltd.
Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation
NATO
National Science Foundation
Open Society Foundation
Smith Richardson Foundation
U.S. Agency for International Development
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation



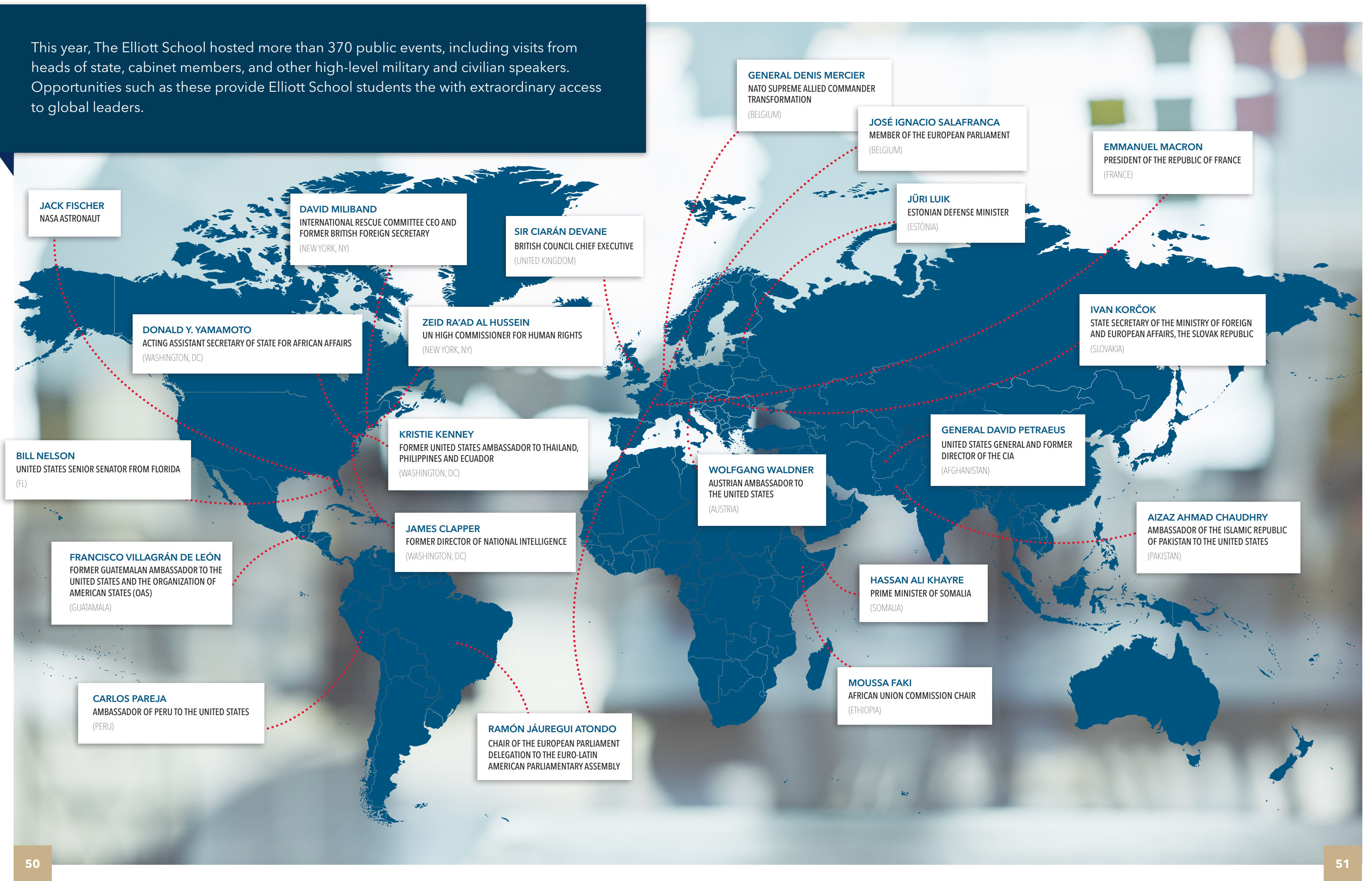
Events *that* Influence



Studying at the Elliott School is a comprehensive experience that allows me to engage with Washington, D.C., as well as learn directly from experts in international affairs. I can go to class, work part-time and attend symposiums or events of interest. The opportunities are unparalleled!

—Shirley Song, BA '20

This year, The Elliott School hosted more than 370 public events, including visits from heads of state, cabinet members, and other high-level military and civilian speakers. Opportunities such as these provide Elliott School students the with extraordinary access to global leaders.



The Elliott School *Makes Headlines*



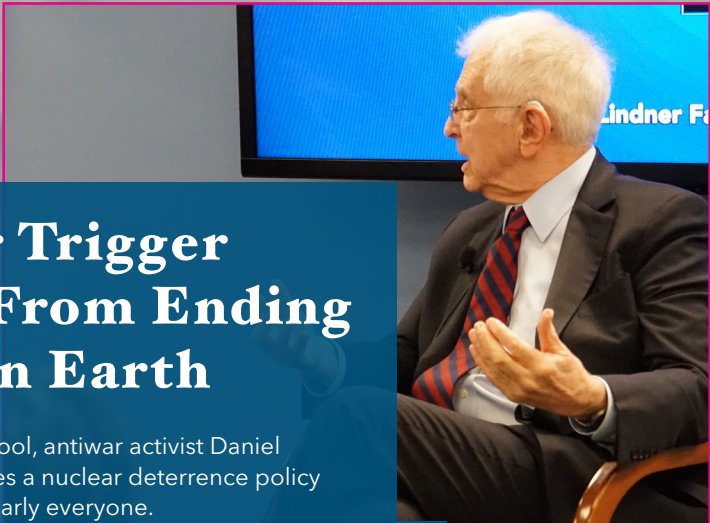
Emmanuel Macron: ‘You Will Be The One To Decide’

The president of the Republic of France encouraged GW students to look to the future and challenge the traditional rules of how things get done in politics.



Somalia Moves Forward After Decades Of War

GW’s Elliott School of International Affairs hosts conversation with Somali prime minister on prospects for peace and prosperity in the African nation.



A Hair Trigger Away From Ending Life On Earth

At the Elliott School, antiwar activist Daniel Ellsberg discusses a nuclear deterrence policy that threatens nearly everyone.



North Korea Craves Attention With Nuclear Tests

James Clapper, former director of national intelligence, spoke about his career and threats facing the United States.



Nuclear Security Fellows Fill Information Void On Capitol Hill

The Nuclear Security Working Group was awarded \$3.5 million in renewal funding to support its expanding fellowship program.



‘Surge Of Ideas’ Critical To Iraq War Operation

Retired Army General David Petraeus talked about the Iraq War at GW to mark the 10-year anniversary of the surge.

A large blue photo frame is held up by three people. Inside the frame is a photo of three people (two men and one woman) smiling, with the Washington Monument in the background. The woman in the center has a name tag that says "CHRISTINA MA. I.A. 2015". The frame has the hashtag "#WeAreElliott" at the top and "THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY" and "GW Elliott" at the bottom.

#WeAreElliott

An Engaged Community



I credit the education I received at George Washington University during both my bachelor's and master's degrees in international affairs for preparing me to pass the rigorous entry requirements into the U.S. Foreign Service, where my career spanned 37 years. My PhD in political science from GW came after I joined the Foreign Service, but also contributed to a successful career. It is simply payback time.

—Ambassador David Shinn, BA '63,
MA '64, PhD '80; Professorial
Lecturer, GW Elliott School

Enriching the Student Experience

The world faces urgent challenges – from civil unrest to cybersecurity, from ultra-poverty to trade disputes. These threats place at risk the lives billions of our fellow human beings.

At GW's Elliott School of International Affairs, students learn to go beyond the headlines to learn what triggers unrest and how to identify solutions – helping to shape policies that ensure stability, prosperity, and justice across our planet.

Speaking in May to the Elliott School class of 2018, Dana Miliband, president of the International Rescue Committee, captured the Elliott goal. "The mission of this school is to build

the leaders of tomorrow," Miliband said. "We need you to be better than the leaders of today."

Thanks to tremendous support from the worldwide Elliott community, our students advance toward this goal each day. To all those who have helped us to amplify the Elliott student experience in the past academic year – our heartfelt thanks. Your loyalty has enormous impact on so many students. You strengthen and energize our community, which truly has no borders.



Spotlight: Fellowships

Philanthropic support ensures that top students from around the world – many of whom lack financial resources – have the opportunity to study at GW's Elliott School. Especially important to a well-rounded education in international affairs are fellowships for students from developing nations.



What I want to do with my Elliott School master's degree is to go back home – South Sudan – and work to promote peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution.

—Atem Malek, M.A. '18



Elliott School alumna and GW trustee Diana Henriques, B.A. '69, a Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and member of GW's Board of Trustees, dedicated her annual gift to a fellowship that made it possible for Malek to earn his degree.

Spotlight: Dean's Fund

Thanks to annual gifts from our loyal community, the Elliott Dean's Fund is a huge force in building and shaping the Elliott student experience, both in the classroom and beyond campus. Among the many academic and professional experiences the fund makes possible are study abroad, student research, and career development. The infographic below depicts just a few of these student-focused activities.

- New York City Career Trek
- Graduate Student Field Research
- Enhanced Language Studies
- Nonprofit Internships
- Dinner with Alumni Program

Spotlight: New York City Career Trek

To get the inside scoop on New York's vast career options, 16 Elliott graduate students spent part of spring break in the Big Apple, where they visited high-profile firms and agencies where Elliott alumni hold positions. On the go from dawn past dusk, the students toured major firms and agencies, such as the UN Population Fund and Citi Public Sector Group. For some, the career trek opened windows onto new career paths. For others, the journey was a reminder of rich opportunities in the nation's capital.



Elliott students gather for the NYC Career Trek



The NYC trip made me realize two things. First, the value of a degree from the Elliott School. This is something each employer we met highlighted multiple times. Second, how lucky I am to be an Elliott student, surrounded by federal agencies and organizations of all types from every corner of the globe. While New York is very diverse and exciting city, I realized there is likely no better place in the United States for me, someone who is passionate about international development and public service, to study and intern than D.C.

—Grayson Shor, M.A. '18

Building a Better World

Philanthropy enhances faculty research and extends the Elliott School's outreach to the larger policy community. Thanks to generous gifts from alumni and friends, we are always evolving, always innovating, always increasing our interactions with and impact on those who shape policies to build a more peaceful and just world.

In 2017-18, the Elliott School was fortunate to receive two notable gifts that boost our capacity to engage in research that breaks new ground and to share our work with government, business, and thought leaders from around the world.

Spotlight: The Ning Li Family Endowment

The Ning Li Family Endowment supports education, research, and outreach related to issues central to the US-China economic relationship. This generous investment from Elliott School alumnus Ning Li and his wife, Patty Liu, recognizes the Elliott School's substantial work to deepen understanding of relations between China and the United States. In particular, the endowment provides a tremendous boost to one of the Elliott School's most prominent events, the annual US-China Conference, organized by the school's Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP).



IIEP director Maggie Chen opens the 2017 US-China Conference, which Mr. Li attended.



I believe a strong and stable US-China economic relationship is beneficial not only to the people of both nations but also to the prosperity of the global economy. That is why I made this commitment.

—Ning Li, MA 2000, MBA 2000

Spotlight: The Tom and Pearl Kim Endowment for GW's Institute for Korean Studies

For alumnus Tom Chong Hoon Kim and his wife, Mrs. Pearl Chungbin Kim, GW runs in the family. Their grandson, Russell Kim, BA '17, introduced Mr. and Mrs. Kim to the work of GW's Institute for Korean Studies at the Elliott School. This visionary gift will "help make GW the hub of Korean studies in the nation's capital and beyond," said Professor Jisoo Kim, the institute's director.



I feel a strong attachment to GW and have many fond memories of the years I spent at the university. We are pleased to support the Institute for Korean Studies and its mission to enhance understanding of Korean history and of the country in general.

—Tom Chong Hoon Kim, BA '58, MA '61 (GW Columbian College)

Elliott Without *Borders*

We strive to be where you are to connect and strengthen our global community. This year, Elliott School Alumni Programs offered 55 events, meetings and gatherings for alumni in D.C., Accra, Atlanta, Boston, Brussels, Lagos, London, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco and Tokyo. Alumni volunteers also met with prospective students in Austin, Chicago, Minneapolis, Portland (OR), Salt Lake City, San Diego and Taipei. Where will this coming year take us next?

► **D.C.**
Dean Brigety chats with alumni at the Colonials Weekend Elliott School Reception, October 2017.



► **D.C.**
The 2016 cohort of alumni celebrate the 25th anniversary of the International Development Studies (IDS) program, April 2018.



► **Brussels, Belgium**
Alumni snap a quick selfie with Dean Brigety, June 2018.

► **Accra, Ghana**
U.S. Ambassador Robert Jackson, MA '97, hosts Dean Brigety and GW alumni, June 2018.



► **Lagos, Nigeria**
Dean Brigety gathers GW alumni in October 2017.



► **D.C.**
Alumni celebrate the 20th anniversary of the International Trade and Investment Policy (ITIP) program, February 2018.



► **Los Angeles**
Dr. Rod Camp (left), BA '66, MA '67, chats with fellow alumni before providing his insights on the Mexican election, June 2018.



► **D.C.**
Current students and young alumni of the Washington Area Model UN Conference reconnect with Scott Fagan, BA '99, a founder of the 20-year-old program, in March 2018.



► **New York**
Alumni, students and parents discuss ethics in international affairs with Dean Brigety and faculty, May 2018.



Volunteer Spotlight:

Jeff Fair, BA '97



After graduation, Jeff Fair joined the U.S. Army and has served as an infantry officer and now an intelligence officer, with assignments in South Korea, Iraq, and Afghanistan. At GW, Jeff has served for six years on the GW Alumni Association Board of Directors, as the Elliott School Representative. He actively supports GW's Valor Program and organizes events for GW Army ROTC students. During his many moves, he has also been able to engage with several U.S. regional and international alumni groups.

What prompted you to volunteer your time and give back to your alma mater?

When I was a student, I had so many people help me. I wanted to help students and other alumni succeed. Successful careers are built through not only capable work and dedication, but also through the help, mentorship and coaching of experienced friends and colleagues. I believe building and improving a strong alumni network will be a great resource to students and alumni of the Elliott School.

Why is volunteering important to you?

Philanthropy is extremely important. It enables students to attend GW, allows for amazing facilities and brings the best faculty and staff to campus. Volunteers, however, add a personal component to helping students and fellow alumni that is as valuable as any donation. The community of alumni volunteers at the Elliott School enables students to make a personal connection and provides a bridge to a career, an internship, academic opportunities and mentorship prospects.

What would you recommend to alumni who are interested in volunteering?

There are many great programs for alumni to volunteer and engage with current students. I have always enjoyed the Dinner with Alumni Program. I usually co-host with other alumni, adding to the diversity of conversation and career advice we can provide. I also enjoy the Summer Send-Off program, where newly admitted students and parents meet alumni before heading to Washington to start college.



Have You Visited the Elliott School lately?

Our lobby now features prominent alumni from around the world who work in various industries. We hope these images inspire current students and alumni alike to dream big, work hard and celebrate our community's accomplishments.



