Proceedings of the 2015 Doctoral Conference
The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

EDITED BY JENIFER BURCKETT-PICKER
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

2015 Fletcher Doctoral Conference

CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS
The International Security Studies Program  
The Fletcher Ph.D. Program

CONFERENCE CHAIR
Mr. Stephen Bergey

PANEL ORGANIZERS
Mr. Avner Golov, Ms. Meg Guliford, Ms. Lami Kim, and Mr. Michael Sullivan

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
Dr. Jenifer Burckett-Picker and Ms. Kristin Sarkisian

CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS
Ms. Megan Rounseville and Ms. Jamilah Welch

PHOTOGRAPHER
Dr. Jenifer Burckett-Picker

Conference Chair Steve Bergey (right) and Panel Organizer Avner Golov (left) check out AV setup in Cabot 702 at 8:30am along with IT specialist, Brad Macomber
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Dean Stavridis welcomes participants to the Doctoral Conference

Participants enjoy the dean’s remarks about PhD students
ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

On September 18, 2015 the ninth annual Fletcher Doctoral Conference was held at the Fletcher School, Tufts University. The conference is an opportunity for scholars and practitioners in the field of international relations to exchange perspectives on the most important issues facing policymakers today. The conference proceedings describe the keynote presentation and panel discussions on a wide range of subjects, from civil and military use of nuclear energy to perspectives on recent developments in the Middle East, and from security paradigms and local capacity building to special ops in a non-kinetic world. A diverse set of participants, from Fletcher faculty and Ph.D. candidates to distinguished alumni and colleagues, brings their knowledge and experience to this interdisciplinary forum.

Academic Dean Steven Block opens the conference
Dean Stavridis with Ph.D. Director Jenifer Burckett-Picker and Conference Coordinator Steve Bergey before panel sessions start

Megan Rounseville and Jamilah Welch greets conference attendees in the Hall of Flags
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Querine Hanlon

“Prioritizing Security Sector Reform: A New U.S. Approach”

Dr. Querine Hanlon makes a point during her keynote on Security Sector Reform
After a brief introduction by Fletcher professor Richard Shultz, Dr. Hanlon delivered the Keynote Address for this year’s Fletcher Doctoral Conference on “Prioritizing Security Sector Reform (SSR): A New U.S. Approach,” in which she called for a revision of the current U.S. approach to security assistance and the adoption of a new Security Sector Reform (SSR) policy focused on reforming security sector forces and institutions.

In the address, Dr. Hanlon gave an overview of how the U.S. could employ its security assistance and capacity building tools to strengthen security sector capacity of countries where the United States has vested interests and provide the needed means that could help guard against threats to the U.S. and its allies.

Dr. Hanlon questioned the utility of focusing primarily on training and equipment transfers, stating that “training alone is not going to give you effectiveness, and it certainly is not going to give you lasting and accountable institutions.” She advocated for a more comprehensive security sector reform approach as the only viable way to ensure that security is enhanced in fragile and failing states.

Dr. Hanlon called for the US to develop more consistent policy on security sector reform to “define why we’re doing it, what the goals are, what the principles are…to ensure it has an impact.” She recommended a host of US SSR policy reforms including the creation of a Policy Hub tasked with the coordination, design and implementation of SSR policy. She also called for future security force assistance to include the imbuing of principles such as professionalism and accountability. The most important recommendation she gave was that SSR assistance should go towards building institutional reform capabilities to ensure that SSR interventions are sustainable.
Dr. Querine Hanlon is the founding President and Executive Director of Strategic Capacity Group (SCG), a nonprofit corporation dedicated to supporting U.S. interests by providing guidance, developing rigorous analysis, and designing and implementing programs to enhance security sector capacity in the U.S. and its key security partners. Dr. Hanlon is an expert on security sector reform (SSR) and governance and has published and worked extensively on Arab Spring transitions in North Africa. She has developed key projects for the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), where she served as the Special Advisor for Security Sector Initiatives before creating SCG. At USIP she created an innovative regional program focused on sharing knowledge and best practices for security sector transition and reform in North and West Africa and led projects on North African border security. Dr. Hanlon has served on security sector assessment trips to Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco for the U.S. government and has advised the U.S. Departments of State and Defense, the German Foreign Federal Office, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe how to design security assistance programming to deliver strategic and sustainable results. Previously, Dr. Hanlon served as the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the College of International Security Affairs (CISA) at National Defense University, where she created a satellite campus for the college’s counterterrorism program for the special operations community.
at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She has also taught at the Naval War College and currently teaches for Georgetown’s MSFS program.


*Prioritizing Security Sector Reform: A New U.S. Approach*, is the outcome of three years of field research focused on how the U.S. can employ its security assistance and partner capacity building tools to strengthen the security sector capacity of countries where U.S. interests are at stake. As the U.S. withdraws from a more interventionist policy, it cannot wholly ignore the growing disorder. In place of large, boots-on-the-ground interventions, the U.S. needs a smarter tool that can address both the effectiveness and accountability of host nation security forces and institutions. Properly designed and implemented, SSR can be that tool.

*Prioritizing SSR* develops a new approach to security assistance and partner capacity building that brings existing tools like Security Force Assistance (SFA), Train and Equip, and Defense Institution Building (DIB), to name but a few, under the conceptual umbrella of an SSR approach that focuses on enhancing operational effectiveness and accountability and oversight. Effective, professional, and accountable forces under appropriate oversight are less likely to operate with impunity, destabilize the security sector, and generate new and unforeseen security sector challenges that could damage U.S. interests.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The conference chair, Stephen Bergey, would like to thank the International Security Studies Program and the Ph.D. Program Office for providing the funding for this year’s conference. We are also grateful to the Conference Committee, comprised of Dr. Jenifer Burckett-Picker and Ms. Kristin Sarkisian, for their guidance and support. We also appreciate the hard work of panel organizers Mr. Avner Golov, Ms. Meg Guliford, Ms. Lami Kim and Mr. Michael Sullivan in bringing together our distinguished panel participants. Finally, thank you to our many conference volunteers for their assistance on the day of the conference.

This year’s conference is dedicated to AF Col. (ret.) Christopher Wrenn who died earlier this semester. Chris was a recent graduate of the Ph. D. Program who had been working at the Pentagon as Deputy Director of the Asia-Pacific Cell. He was a cherished member of the Ph.D. student community while at Fletcher and was a former Doctoral Conference Coordinator.
SCHEDULE
The 9th Annual Fletcher Doctoral Conference
Friday, September 18, 2015

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

8:00 am – 9:00 am  Registration (Hall of Flags) and Breakfast (Cabot 7th Floor Lounge)

9:00 am – 9:15 am  Welcome and Opening Remarks (Cabot 702)
Welcome: Jenifer Burckett-Picker, Fletcher PhD Program Director; Dean James Stavridis; Academic Dean Steven Block

9:15 am – 10:45 am Panel Session 1
1A: U.S., Israeli, and Arab Perspectives on Recent Developments in the Middle East (Cabot 702)
1B: Security Paradigms and Local Capacity Building (Cabot 703)

10:45 am – 11:00 am Break (Cabot 7th Floor Lounge)

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Panel Session 2
2A: Civil and Military Use of Nuclear Energy (Cabot 702)

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Networking Lunch with Keynote Speaker (Cabot 703)

Keynote Introduction: Prof. Richard Shultz, Director International Security Studies Program

Keynote Address: Dr. Querine Hanlon, President and Executive Director, Strategic Capacity Group

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Panel Session 3
3A: Special Ops in a Non-Kinetic World (Cabot 702)

Closing Remarks: Jenifer Burckett-Picker, Fletcher PhD Program Director
PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Panel 1A – U.S., Israeli, and Arab Perspectives on Recent Developments in the Middle East
Room: Cabot 702
9:15 am – 10:45 am

Panel Members:


Colonel David Kobs, the U.S. Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché to the Republic of Yemen, provided his view of the American challenges in the Middle East. He presented complex and holistic approaches to the current issues in the region - ISIS, Iran, the Arab Spring, including factors like explosive population growth, limited resources, and power dynamics.

● Nadim Shehadi, Director of the Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies

Nadim Shehadi, the head of the Fares Center at the Fletcher School, presented the Arab perception of the American policy in the Middle East. He then juxtaposed Arab and American strategic culture, and explained the roots for the differences between them. He emphasized the role of culture in foreign policy and offered several insights regarding the challenges originated in ISIS and Iran.

● Avner Golov, Fletcher PhD Candidate and Adjunct Researcher at the Center for a New American Security

Avner Golov explained the Israeli concept of "An Island of stability and economic prosperity in an ocean of chaos, violence, and poverty". He discussed Israel's strategic view of the Middle East as well as the implications for Israeli policy. Specifically, Avner discussed the role of deterrence and defense in Israeli strategic culture and proposed several recommendations regarding current American challenges in the region.

Moderator: Professor Richard Shultz, The Fletcher School

Panel Description:

What are the similarities and what are the differences between the American approach and the view of the regional actors? Does Washington have the tools to bridge over these differences? This panel discussed three different perspectives on recent developments in the region and their implication for international security.

Panel Coordinator: Avner Golov, PhD Candidate at The Fletcher School
Panel 1A: Nadim Shehadi, David Kobs, Richard Schultz and Avner Golov presenting

Avner Golov presents the Israeli perspective with illustrations
Panel 1B – Security Paradigms and Local Capacity Building

Room: Cabot 703
9:15 am – 10:45 am

Panel Members:

- Kirk Dorr, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Senior Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University

  Kirk Dorr provided his overview on current United States security cooperation policy as it applied to both United States Army North and, more specifically, to his past two years working with seven Latin American countries as the Commander of Joint Task Force-Bravo. Kirk expounded on the importance of maintaining positive civil military relations with a host nation along with maintaining a valid working relationship with the multitude of agencies all involved in developing better relations with our partner nations.

- Timothy Walsh, National Security Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government

  Timothy Walsh provided an overview of security assistance missions he has participated in ranging from the United Nations Peace Keeping mission in the Sinai to recent operations in both Afghanistan and Iraq. He also presented his perspective from recently working at the United States Central Command on the continuing challenges with Iraq and Syria, the emergence of ISIS, and the importance of security cooperation efforts in this highly volatile region.

- Andrea Walther-Puri, PhD Student at The Fletcher School

  Andrea Walther-Puri provided an excellent presentation on the benefits and challenges of security cooperation in the African Sahel. Her presentation focused on the history of recent operations in the Sahel, and the varying lines of communications, funding and equipment. More importantly, she hit upon those challenges that often cause friction with security cooperation, not only in the Sahel, but in security cooperation efforts around the globe.

Moderator: Michael Sullivan, PhD Student at The Fletcher School
Panel Description:

Examining the issue of security from global, regional, national and local perspectives involves analysis of distinct contributing elements. The panel analyzed working with host nation foreign security forces, advisory missions and security institution capacity building. This panel presented cases that cross these multiple levels of security and reevaluate existing preconceptions and necessary means for effectively facing these current and emerging challenges.

Panel Coordinator: Michael Sullivan, PhD Student at The Fletcher School
Panel 2A – The Intersection between Civil and Military Use of Nuclear Energy

Room: Cabot 702
11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Panel Members:

● Wendin Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

Dr. Wendin Smith provided a contextual overview of the inherent linkage between nuclear energy and nuclear weapons, and then expounded upon evolving nuclear security challenges linked to the expansion of nuclear energy and associated security concerns. She also suggested how several key science and technology advancements may augment the ability to anticipate, detect, deter, or mitigate such threats.

● Mehmet Ugur, Professor at Yalova University, Turkey

Amid a growing concern over Iran's potential to become a nuclear power and its aftermath in the Middle East, namely a nuclear domino effect in the region, Dr. Mehmet Ugur provided the Turkish view on the use of nuclear energy. Dr. Ugur argued that the purpose of Turkey’s use of nuclear energy is to meet increasing energy demand of the booming economy by demonstrating that the Justice and Development (AK) Party governments launched the Turkish nuclear energy program in order to diversify energy sources as part of a medium and long-term national energy security plan.

● Jayita Sarkar, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School

Dr. Jayita Sarkar presented her study on a crucial period in India’s proliferation trajectory, when it was one of the states closest to nuclear weapons development, and faced U.S. pressures to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) being negotiated at the time. Based on her analysis of newly-available archival evidence from India, the US and France, which demonstrates how India kept its nuclear option open by first refusing to sign the NPT and then concluding with France a nuclear cooperation agreement for plutonium-fuelled and plutonium-producing breeder reactors, she illustrated how India laid the groundwork for the bomb through a slow dual-use nuclear program.

Moderator: Professor Kelly Sims Gallagher, The Fletcher School

Panel Description:

Interest in nuclear energy as an alternative power source to fossil fuels is growing despite the Fukushima accident in 2011. Some states are expanding their existing civil nuclear programs, while others have begun or are seriously considering constructing their first nuclear power
plants. Although the spread of civil nuclear energy may be a boon for the economy and the environment, it poses a threat to international security due to the possibility of military use of nuclear energy. This panel explored ways to utilize clean and affordable nuclear energy without risking proliferation of nuclear weapons.

**Panel Coordinator:** Lami Kim, PhD Candidate at The Fletcher School

![Prof. Kelly Sims Gallagher, moderator, and Panel 2A presenters Jayita Sarkar and Mehmet Ugur with third panelist Wendin Smith joining via video conference](image_url)
Panel 3A – Special Operations in a Non-Kinetic World

Room: Cabot 702

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Panel Members:

● Anthony Gilgis, Analysis Branch Chief at the U.S. Army Special Operations Command

Tony Gilgis provided an excellent overview of the scope and magnitude of the efforts which the forces from United States Special Operations Command have provided around the world in the last fourteen years. He expounded on his own efforts as a senior intelligence analyst in providing direct support to operations in Iraq and Sub-Saharan Africa.

● Donn Yates, United States Air Force F-15E pilot and current National Security Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government

Donn Yates provided an excellent overview of the increased operational tempo of the units at Joint Special Operations Command over the last decade. He also presented a compelling argument for focusing more of the United States resources on special operations units whose direct missions are unconventional warfare, rather than direct action.

● Alan Van Saun, United States Army Special Forces and current student at the Naval War College

Alan Van Saun presented a detailed overview of the roles and missions specific to Army's Special Warfare community and how the work undertaken by those units complements and contrasts with other special operations and conventional units. Similar to Yates, Van Saun argued for a renewed focus on unconventional warfare efforts as the United States transitions from long-term operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.
**Moderator:** Michael Peznola, Executive Director of the Institute for Global Leadership at Tufts University

**Panel Description:**

As the United States and its coalition partners prepare for non-kinetic, post-Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the work of special operations forces (SOF) continues through their robust indirect action mission set. The need to re-calibrate SOF units to their doctrinal roles will serve as one of the most important activities the global SOF network will undertake over the next few years. This panel convened representatives from the special operations community as well as the enabling civilian organizations to discuss the opportunities within and impediments to this recalibration.

**Panel Coordinator:** Meg Guliford, PhD Student at The Fletcher School

Panel 3A: Alan Van Saun, Donn Yates, Meg Guliford (coordinator), Anthony Gilgis, Michael Peznola (moderator)
Keynote, Panelist, Discussant, and Moderator Bios

Kirk Dorr

Colonel Kirk Dorr is the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Senior Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. He most recently commanded Joint Task Force-Bravo, part of the United States Southern Command, where he was responsible for conducting security assistance with seven Central American nations. Before commanding Joint Task Force-Bravo, Colonel Dorr was a Senior Observer Controller at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, and the Squadron Commander for 5th Squadron, 7th US Cavalry in Baghdad, Iraq. He also was a Senior Service College Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Badge and the Combat Action Badge. He has a master’s degree in education from Kansas State University, a master’s degree in military science from the School of Advanced Military Studies, and a bachelor’s degree in business from Old Dominion University.

Kelly Sims Gallagher

Kelly Sims Gallagher is Professor of Energy and Environmental Policy. She directs the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy’s (CIERP) at The Fletcher School at Tufts University. She is also Senior Research Associate at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, where she previously directed the Energy Technology Innovation Policy (ETIP) research group. Broadly, she focuses on energy and climate policy in both the United States and China. She is particularly interested in the role of policy in spurring the development and deployment of cleaner and more efficient energy technologies, domestically, and internationally. A Truman Scholar, she has a MALD and PhD in international affairs from The Fletcher School and a bachelor’s degree from Occidental College. She speaks Spanish and basic Mandarin Chinese. She is the author of China Shifts Gears: Automakers, Oil, Pollution, and Development (MIT Press, 2006), editor of Acting in Time on Energy Policy, No Great Wall: The Global Diffusion of Clean Energy Technologies (MIT Press, 2014) and numerous academic articles and policy reports. In 2014 – 2015, Professor Gallagher was on leave to serve as Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Anthony Gilgis

Mr. Anthony Gilgis is the senior intelligence analyst with the United States Army Special Operations Command. Beginning his career in 1989, he has served within the National Intelligence Community for 25 years, with 15 years directly supporting Special Operations. Mr. Gilgis earned his master’s degree in diplomacy from Norwich University in 2015 with a focus on international terrorism. Having conducted deployments in support strategic objectives and tactical operations around the globe, Mr. Gilgis has translated this experience into an understanding of the special operations community and the intelligence support required for these unique missions. Mr. Gilgis has produced more than 20 professional papers on counter-
terrorism, intelligence support to special operations, and the nature of the future operating environment.

**Avner Golov**

Avner Golov is a PhD student and Harry S. Truman Scholar at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He is a research fellow at Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) and the special assistant to INSS Director Maj. Gen. (ret.) Amos Yadlin. He also serves as an adjunct researcher on Iran for the Middle East Security Research Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS). Previously he served at Israel’s National Security Staff. Golov has published articles in Israeli and international leading journals, including Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and the National Interest. His article, “Deterrence in the Gulf War: Evaluating New Evidence,” was published in the Nonproliferation Review. He received his master’s degree in government studies with magna cum laude from the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) – Herzliya.

**Meg Guliford**

Meg Guliford is a second year doctoral student at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Her primary research focuses on political violence and military intervention, specifically special operations interventions into civil wars and insurgencies. Prior to returning to school, she worked in various capacities throughout the defense and intelligence communities for over a decade. Meg has bachelor’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

**Lami Kim**

Lami Kim is a doctoral candidate at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University where she focuses on nuclear issues. Prior to The Fletcher School, she was at the International Weapons Control Center at the DePaul College of Law and at the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as a Middle East Analyst. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Arab studies and English linguistics from the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Republic of Korea, and a master’s degree in Middle Eastern studies from Harvard University.

**David Kobs**

Colonel (COL) David Kobs is the U.S. Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché to the Republic of Yemen. He was a U.S. Army War College Fellow at The Fletcher School for Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University for 2014-2015. He was commissioned as an Armor Officer in 1993 and became a Middle East Foreign Area Officer in 2001. He commanded a Cavalry Troop at Fort Hood, Texas and a Police Advisory Team in Gardez, Afghanistan. His major staff assignments include Iraq Branch Chief at the Pentagon, Executive Assistant to Lieutenant General Doug Lute at the National Security Council, and Foreign Area Officer Branch Chief at Army Human Resources Command. COL Kobs also served as the Assistant Army Attaché in Cairo during the Arab Spring. COL Kobs holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from the
University of Massachusetts, Associate of Arts in Arabic from the Defense Language Institute, and Master of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Texas.

**Michael Peznola**

Colonel Michael N. Peznola, USMC (ret), is currently the Executive Director of the Institute for Global Leadership. He was born in Quincy, Massachusetts, raised in Brockton, Massachusetts, and graduated from the University of Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1984, he entered the Marine Corps through the Platoon Leaders Course. Colonel Peznola assumed command of the Foreign Military Training Unit, Marine Special Operations Command. He twice deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom first as the Operations-Intelligence Fusion Cell Director for ISAF Special Operations Forces (SOF) and then as the Chief of Staff for a SOF task force. On October 13, 2014, Colonel Peznola retired aboard the USS Constitution, the same ship he was commissioned on 30 years earlier. His military education includes the U.S. Army’s Armor Officer Advanced Course and Cavalry Leaders Course, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, the School of Advanced Warfare, and the Naval War College. Colonel Peznola is married to the former Milissa Avveduti of Seneca Falls, New York. They have four children, Michael, Ava, Anthony, and Dominic.

**Jayita Sarkar**

Jayita Sarkar is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, where she was formerly a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow. Concurrently, she is a visiting scholar at Columbia University’s Institute of War and Peace Studies. Dr. Sarkar is completing a book manuscript on Franco – Indian nuclear relations and U.S. nonproliferation strategies and working on her second project concerning nuclear commerce and U.S. nonproliferation policy towards allied and semi-allied states. She has held research positions at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the Stimson Center, the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies, and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. Her writings have been published or are forthcoming in Cold War History, International History Review, Critique Internationale, Strategic Analysis, Foreign Policy and The National Interest among others. She holds a PhD in international studies (international history and politics) from the Graduate Institute Geneva in Switzerland.

**Nadim Shehadi**

Mr. Nadim Shehadi became Director of the Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in November 2014. He is also an Associate Fellow of the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Chatham House, the UK Royal Institute of International Affairs, where he directs a program on the regional dimension of the Palestinian refugee issue in the Middle East Peace Process. He is a senior member of St. Antony’s College, Oxford, where he served as director of the Centre for Lebanese Studies from 1986 to 2005. He is also a member of the executive board of the Centro de Estudios de Oriente Medio de la Fundación Promoción Social de la Cultura, based in Madrid. He has served as a consultant for several governments and international organizations, and he has produced several
publications and frequently contributes expert opinion on Middle Eastern affairs to a variety of media.

Richard Shultz

Richard H. Shultz is Professor of International Politics and Director of the International Security Studies Program. He has held three chairs: Olin Distinguished Professor of National Security, U.S. Military Academy; Secretary of the Navy Senior Research Fellow, Naval War College; and Brigadier General Oppenheimer Chair of War-fighting Strategy, U.S. Marine Corps. Since the mid-1980s, he has served as a security consultant to various U.S. government agencies concerned with national security. He recently published a book on the U.S. Marine Corps’ 2004 – 2008 counterinsurgency campaign in Iraq titled, The Marines Take Anbar: The Four-Year Fight to Defeat al Qaeda in Iraq. He is completing a new research project with Dr. Querine Hanlon of the Strategic Capacity Group that will focus on designing a new U.S. approach to Security Sector Reform that draws on existing theory and international practice, as well as U.S. experience, to identify flexible tools for addressing dysfunctional security sectors in fragile states. He has authored a book titled Insurgents, Terrorists, and Militias: The Warriors of Contemporary Combat (Columbia University Press, 2006; 2009 Paperback). Recent articles include “A QDR for all Seasons,” Joint Forces Quarterly (September 2010) and “The Sources of Instability in the Twenty-First Century Weak States, Armed Groups, and Irregular Conflict,” Strategic Studies Quarterly (Summer 2011).

Wendin Smith

Wendin D. Smith is Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction. Previously, Dr. Smith led strategic initiatives in defense services, nonproliferation, counter proliferation, energy security, and combatting weapons of mass destruction (WMD) at the Scitor Corporation. Also, she supported nonproliferation and cooperative threat reduction programs for the U.S. Departments of Energy (DOE) and Defense (DoD), including for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency’s Biological Threat Reduction and Strategic Offensive Arms Elimination programs, as well as for several of the National Nuclear Security Administration’s initiatives. Dr. Smith has also founded and operated two consultancies (Octant Associates LLC, and Akhaltekin Consulting LLC), providing services in strategic planning, international development, and regulatory compliance to clients in energy security, nuclear energy, as well as nonproliferation and arms control. In the mid- and late-1990s, while based in Moscow, Russia, Dr. Smith served as Director of the U.S. Information Agency’s (USIA/USIS) American Center, and supported educational exchange programs under the Freedom Support Act. Dr. Smith received her PhD and MALD from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, where she focused on international security studies and international environment and resource policy. As an alumna, she was invited to serve on The Fletcher School’s Board of Advisors for a five-year term, ending in 2009. While earning a bachelor’s degree in Russian studies from Dartmouth College, Dr. Smith spent several years on exchange programs studying in Moscow, Russia/then-USSR, and at sea with the Sea Education Association, in cooperation with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. She has lectured on, and published in, national security, nonproliferation, environmental security, combating WMD, and related fields. Dr. Smith is fluent in Russian and conversational in German.
Michael Sullivan

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Sullivan is a second year PhD student at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He is part of the Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program from the School of Advanced Military Studies. His focus areas are security studies and political systems and theories. Prior to attending The Fletcher School, he was the Commander of United States Army Garrison Baumholder. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Action Badge and Expert Infantryman’s Badge. He has a master’s degree in security studies from Kansas State University, a master’s degree in military science from the School of Advanced Military Studies, a master’s degree in land warfare from American Military University and a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the United States Military Academy.

Mehmet Ugur

Dr. Mehmet A. Ugur was born in Turkey and received his bachelor’s degree in international relations at Marmara University, Istanbul, in 1993. After a two-year private sector experience in international trading, Dr. Ugur enrolled in a two-year graduate program on international security at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara. At the same time he worked at Sakarya University’s Department of International Relations where he taught history of world politics. In 1998, Dr. Ugur came to The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University as the recipient of a six-year scholarship from the Turkish Ministry of Education. He earned a MALD degree in 2000 and enrolled in the doctoral program in the same year. After receiving his PhD in international relations with a focus on international environment and resource policy, Dr. Ugur went back to Turkey. Currently he teaches at the Department of International Relations of Yalova University.

Dr. Mehmet Ugur and Ms. Pinar Ince from Istanbul register for conference
Major Alan Van Saun is a U.S. Army Special Forces officer and student at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 2004 from the United States Military Academy at West Point, Alan first served in the 101st Airborne Division where he deployed to Kirkuk, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After completing the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2009, Alan served in 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) where he deployed twice to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Alan subsequently served as a Staff Officer within the Joint Special Operations Command and again deployed to Afghanistan. Upon graduation this Fall with a master’s degree in defense security studies, Alan will return to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) and support operations in Africa.

Colonel Timothy Walsh is a National Security Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. His most recent operational assignment was as the Medical Logistics Planner at the United States Central Command, Tampa, Florida. Prior to this assignment, he was a battalion commander of both the 24th Brigade Support Battalion, 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team where he served in both Germany and Afghanistan. He also served as the 16th Special Troops Battalion Commander during the transition of the 16th Sustainment Brigade to Baumholder, Germany. He has deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Sinai, Egypt and Korea. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal and both the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals. He has a master’s degree from Webster University and a bachelor’s degree from Eastern Kentucky University.

Andrea Walther-Puri is returning to The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University as a PhD student with over ten years of experience working on terrorism and African regional security issues. She completed her MALD from The Fletcher School in 2009. Since completing her MALD, she has worked for the State Department’s Bureau of African Affairs, Bureau of Counterterrorism and DAI, managing U.S. Security Assistance, counterterrorism policy and programs and civil-military capacity building efforts. Her PhD studies will focus on monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for security assistance policies and programs. In addition to her MALD, she also holds a bachelor’s degree from Tufts University making her a Triple Jumbo!

Lieutenant Colonel Donn Yates is an Air Force F-15E fighter pilot and weapons officer who recently served as the 451st Air Expeditionary Group Deputy Commander, 9th Air Expeditionary Task Force, Kandahar, Afghanistan, where he oversaw Air Force MQ-1/9 armed theater intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capability for the Afghanistan area of operations. Prior to this deployment, Lt Col Yates commanded the 334th Fighter Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. From 2010 – 2012, Lt Col Yates served at the Aviation Tactics Evaluation Group as Chief of Strategic and Operational Plans, Joint Special
Operations Command, Ft Bragg, North Carolina, where he deployed to several contingencies around the world in support of U.S. Special Operations Command and national security objectives. Lt Col Yates is a former US Air Force Weapons School instructor and has supported Operations Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Octave Fusion, Resolute Support, and Freedom’s Sentinel. He holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from the University of Texas at San Antonio and holds master’s degrees from the Air Command and Staff College and the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS). His research interests include international relations, strategy, leadership, decision making, and game theory.

PhD Alums Mary Beth Reissen and Tony Simpson catch up with each other during a break
# List of Conference Attendees

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Roxanne Krystalli The Fletcher School
Rizwan Ladha The Fletcher School
Zandile Lambu The Fletcher School
Rafael Loss The Fletcher School
Laura Mansfield The Fletcher School
Efthymios Margaritis The Fletcher School
Bret McEvoy The Fletcher School
Matthew Merighi The Fletcher School
Nichola Minott Thevathasan The Fletcher School
Kathleen Molony Harvard University
Zdenka Myslikova The Fletcher School
Ameya Naik The Fletcher School
Easwaran Narassimhan The Fletcher School
Hani Nasira The Fletcher School
Jared Nourse The Fletcher School
Shifa Panwala The Fletcher School
Michael Peznota Exec Director of Institute for Global Leadership
Prof. Elizabeth Prodromou The Fletcher School
Mary Beth Reissen University College, Washington University in St Louis
Tracy Reynolds The Fletcher School
Donald Ross PhD Alum – The Fletcher School
Megan Rounseville The Fletcher School
Soli Sanchez ERM
Jayita Sarka Harvard Kennedy School
Muralidhar Selvamani The Fletcher School
Nadim Shehadi The Fletcher School
Richard Shultz Fletcher School
B. Mitchell Simpson School of Law, Roger Williams University
B. Mitchell Simpson, III Roger Williams University
Wendin Smith Dep.Ass't.Secretary of Defense for Countering WMD
Alexander Soley Fletcher School
Nemmani Sreedhar The Fletcher School
Elayne Stecher The Fletcher School
Michael Sullivan The Fletcher School
Juan Taborda The Fletcher School
Marina Travayiakis The Fletcher School
Stefan Tschauko The Fletcher School
Mehmet Ugur Yalova University, Turkey
Timothy Urban The Fletcher School / US Naval War College
Alan Van Saun Naval War College
Timothy Walsh Harvard Kennedy School of Government
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