



# USFP NEWS

## SELECTED SPRING 2011 EVENTS

### JANUARY

#### “WikiLeaks: Significance and Implications” with Peter Kornbluh

Wednesday, January 19th 4:00-5:15  
SIS Founder’s Room

#### Capstone Research Conference Workshop

Friday, January 21st 4:00-5:00  
SIS 300

### FEBRUARY

#### “Growth in Executive Power after 9/11: Continuity and Change” with Charlie Savage, James Pfiffner, and Louis Fisher

Wednesday, February 23rd 1:00-2:30  
SIS 300

### MARCH

#### “Rethinking US Strategy Toward Iran” with Hillary Mann Leverett

Wednesday, March 2nd 4:00-5:15  
MGC 245

#### “Countdown to Zero” Film Screening and Discussion

Tuesday, March 15th 6:00-8:00  
SIS Founder’s Room

#### Nuclear Nonproliferation Event with former Secretary of Defense William Perry

Wednesday, March 23rd 5:00-8:00  
SIS Founder’s Room

### APRIL

#### US Foreign Policy Capstone Research Conference

Friday, April 22nd 9:00-4:00  
MGC 200 and 245

**We are currently planning several other exciting events for this semester. Please watch the USFP listserv for more information.**

[USFPSTUDS-L@LISTSERV.AMERICAN.EDU](mailto:USFPSTUDS-L@LISTSERV.AMERICAN.EDU)



## Experts Discuss the Future of U.S. Involvement in Afghanistan

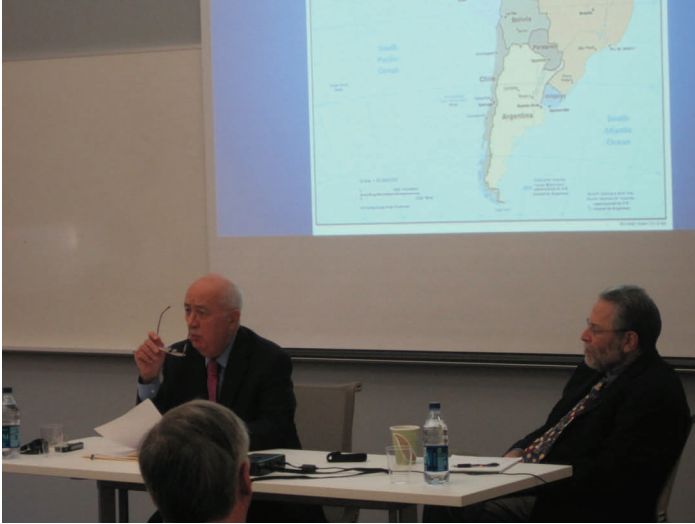
Last November, the U.S. Foreign Policy Program hosted a panel with Matthew Hoh of the Afghanistan Study Group and Lt. General David W. Barno of the Center for a New American Security. The discussion focused on current and future U.S. strategy in Afghanistan, and was moderated by U.S. Foreign Policy Professor Gordon Adams. Hoh, a former State Department employee who resigned over U.S. policy in Afghanistan, was one of the principal writers of the recent Afghanistan Study Group Report, “A New Way Forward: Rethinking U.S. Strategy in Afghanistan.” Barno, who served for over 30 years in the U.S. military, commanded 20,000 U.S. and Coalition troops in Afghanistan in 2003.

## Ambassador Schaffer Examines Relations Between the U.S. and India

Ambassador Teresita Schaffer, Director of the South Asia Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), discussed her most recent book, *India and the United States in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Reinventing Partnership* in November. Ambassador Schaffer spent 30 years in the U.S. Foreign Service, serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka, and Director of the Foreign Service Institute.



## Obama's Policies Towards Latin America and the Caribbean



**Ambassador John Maisto discussed President Obama's policies towards Latin America and the Caribbean, examining areas of continuity and change. Ambassador Maisto served as the U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States from 2003-2006.**

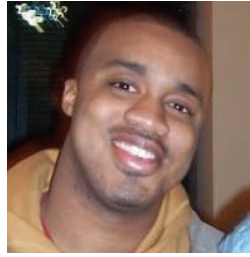
## New Faculty Spotlight



The U.S. Foreign Policy Program is proud to welcome Hillary Mann Leverett as an adjunct faculty member in Spring 2011. Leverett will teach a new course, "Rethinking U.S. Strategy Toward Iran," which will examine the history of U.S.-Iranian relations, as well as potential future policy options. She will also be giving a talk on the same subject on March 2nd.

Previously, Professor Leverett served as Director for Iran, Afghanistan and Persian Gulf Affairs at the National Security Council, as a Middle East specialist on the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff under President George W. Bush, and as Associate Director for Near Eastern Affairs at the National Security Council under President Bill Clinton. From 2001 to 2003, she was directly involved with U.S. government negotiations with Iran over Afghanistan, al-Qaeda, and Iraq.

## Alumni Profile



**Steven Rocker** graduated from the U.S. Foreign Policy Program in May 2010 and now works as a Senior Advocacy and Research Assistant at InterAction, an alliance of NGOs that focuses on international development efforts. At InterAction, Steven's duties include tracking budgets and appropriations related to issues of development and

humanitarian work, researching members of Congress and the Administration, and assisting in the production of policy papers and other support surrounding the international advocacy efforts of the NGOs in the alliance.

Steven feels well-equipped for his current position due to the U.S. Foreign Policy Program's academic rigor and emphasis on developing professional writing and oral presentation skills. He also noted that the professors were one of the best parts of the Program, and that courses such as U.S. Foreign Policy: Institutions and Processes were useful in learning the "nuts and bolts" of how Congress and the executive branch interact to craft policy. He also stressed the importance of taking advantage of some of the more practical courses, such as quantitative methods, which he felt made him more marketable as he began his professional career.

## Job Spotlight

Becky Williams applies the practical skills she has gained in the U.S. Foreign Policy Program daily at her job as a Research Associate for The Stimson Center, a global security think tank located in Washington, D.C. Becky works for the Budgeting for Foreign Affairs and Defense program, and her duties primarily involve researching and analyzing the budgets, legislative authorities, and governmental institutions that drive U.S. foreign affairs policy.



Becky is also a regular contributor to the Stimson blog, *The Will and the Wallet*, and has benefitted from courses that stressed the importance of writing briefs and memos. She encourages students to look for opportunities in graduate school to write for non-expert audiences, an important skill she says reaps huge dividends once you are in the working world.

## Want to help promote events for USFP Students?

Join the United States Foreign Policy Association here at SIS! The USFP Association was formed to help attract events of special interest to students of American Foreign Policy. We'll be co-hosting the table talk series as well as other events designed to bring the USFP community closer together. We encourage all students interested to join and bring ideas for what they would like to see here at AU.

To learn more, contact [usfpau@gmail.com](mailto:usfpau@gmail.com).

Jen Sokatch—President  
Lauren Marx—Vice President

Sarah Anderson—Secretary  
Yasmin Alotaibi—Treasurer