

# Stanton Nuclear Security Fellows Seminar

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## Fellows

### Edward Blandford, CISAC

Blandford is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) at Stanford University and an adjunct research assistant professor in the Chemical and Nuclear Engineering Department at the University of New Mexico. His research focuses on nuclear installation design at the system level as it impacts security issues for future nuclear infrastructure. In particular, his interests involve the design of advanced nuclear facilities with an emphasis on safety, security, emergency preparedness, threat of theft of material, and international safeguards. He received his PhD in 2010 from the Nuclear Engineering Department at UC Berkeley. He received his MS in Nuclear Engineering also from UC Berkeley in 2008, and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from UCLA in 2002. Prior to pursuing graduate work, he worked at the Electric Power Research Institute as a project manager.

### Robert Brown, BCSIA

Brown is an Assistant Professor of political science at Temple University, where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on international relations theory, international security, and nuclear issues. He also manages the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation's Public Policy and Nuclear Threats Program. He received his PhD in political science from UC San Diego in June 2008 after completing his dissertation on why countries use international organizations to cooperate on nuclear and chemical weapons but not for biological weapons. He is currently writing a book on the International Atomic Energy Agency's role in the nuclear nonproliferation regime, but also writes on international cooperation and delegation to international organizations. His research interests more broadly include international relations theory, international organizations, international security issues, arms control, nuclear policy and nuclear deterrence, and sovereignty issues. He has an MA in international affairs from the George Washington University's Elliott School and a BA in political science from the University of California, Berkeley. He has also interned at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.) and worked at The Nautilus Institute (Berkeley, CA) on nuclear and Northeast Asian security issues.

### Alexandre Debs, CISAC

Debs is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Yale University. During the 2011-2012 academic year he is on-leave, having been selected as a Stanton Nuclear Security Junior Faculty Fellow at CISAC (Stanford University). His research interests fall within international relations and comparative politics, with a focus on the politics of weak institutions. His current projects look at the causes of international conflict, nuclear proliferation, and democratization. He has previously worked as an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Economics at the University of Rochester. Debs received a BSc from Université de Montreal, an M.Phil. from Oxford University, and a PhD degree in Economics from MIT.

### **John Downer, CISAC**

Before joining the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) at Stanford, Downer worked at the Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation (CARR) at the London School of Economics. His research interests are focused on the intersection between epistemology, the sociology of knowledge, engineering expertise, and technology policy. His previous work has looked at questions around technology regulation and governance, and at the causes of technological accidents. He is currently writing about the non-technical dimensions of technical expertise and their implications for arms-control policy. Downer received degrees in Sociology from Edinburgh University and in The History and Philosophy of Science from Cambridge University before studying for his (2007) PhD at Cornell University's Department of Science and Technology Studies.

### **Togzhan Kassenova, Carnegie**

Kassenova is an associate in the Nuclear Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment and a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow. She specializes in weapons of mass destruction nonproliferation issues, with a regional focus on Central Asia and Southeast Asia; strategic trade management; and civilian nuclear energy programs. Kassenova serves on the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Fissile Material Working Group, the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific and a non-resident fellow of the Pacific Forum-Center for Strategic and International Studies. Prior to joining the Carnegie Endowment, Kassenova worked as a senior research associate at the University of Georgia's Center for International Trade and Security in Washington, D.C., as a postdoctoral fellow at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, and as an adjunct faculty member at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. She was previously a journalist and professor in Kazakhstan. Kassenova is the author of *From Antagonism to Partnership: The Uneasy Path of the U.S.-Russian Cooperative Threat Reduction* (2007). She has published widely in scholarly and policy journals, including *Nonproliferation Review*, *Disarmament Forum*, *the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, and *China and Eurasia Forum Quarterly*. Kassenova received her BA in International Relations from Almaty State University; MA in Euro-Asian studies from the University of Reading; and PhD in Politics from the University of Leeds.

### **Lance K. Kim, RAND**

Kim is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, CA. He is a freshly minted PhD from the Department of Nuclear Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was a fellow of the National Science Foundation's Public Policy and Nuclear Threats program. His research focused on technical and policy aspects of long-term fuel cycle planning, proliferation resistance, and physical protection. He has previously worked at RAND, the Department of State, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Lance received his BS in nuclear and mechanical engineering, an MS in nuclear engineering, and a M.P.P. from the Goldman School of Public Policy, all at Berkeley.

### **Matthew Kroenig, CFR**

Kroenig is an assistant professor of Government at Georgetown University and a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. He is the author of *Exporting the Bomb: Technology Transfer and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons* (Cornell University Press, 2010), coauthor of *The Handbook*

of *National Legislatures: A Global Survey* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and coeditor of *Causes and Consequences of Nuclear Proliferation* (Routledge, 2011). His articles on international politics have appeared in such publications as *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Strategy*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *International Security*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Newsday*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Security Studies*, *The New Republic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *USA Today*. From July 2010 to July 2011, he was a Special Advisor in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, responsible for the development and implementation of Middle East defense policy and strategy. Previously, in 2005, he worked as a strategist in the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he authored the first-ever, U.S. government strategy for deterring terrorist networks. For his work, he was awarded the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Award for Outstanding Achievement. He is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Co-Chair of the Council's Term Member Advisory Committee.

### **James Platte, BCSIA**

Platte is a PhD candidate at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. For the 2011-12 academic year, he is a Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow with the International Security Program/Project on Managing the Atom at the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. His dissertation research analyzes the decision-making behind national nuclear fuel cycle policy in India, Japan, and South Korea. Previously, he was selected as a Roberts Scholar by the U.S. Department of Defense in 2008, and spent a year intensively studying Korean at Sogang University in Seoul, South Korea, followed by working as a counter-proliferation analyst for 16 months. Prior to beginning the PhD program at the Fletcher School in 2006, he worked on the Highly Enriched Uranium Transparency Program for the U.S. Department of Energy. Platte earned a MA in science, technology, and public policy from the George Washington University and a MS and BS in nuclear engineering from the University of Michigan.

### **Gary Schaub, Jr., RAND**

Schaub is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Strategy at the United States Air War College. During the 2011-2012 academic year he is on leave, having been selected as a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the RAND Corporation in Washington, DC. His research interests include strategy and civil-military relations. He has previously been a Research Fellow at the Air Force Research Institute, a visiting assistant professor at the U.S. Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, and a MacArthur Scholar in Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security at the University of Illinois-Urbana. Schaub received his BS with Honors from Carnegie Mellon University, an MA from the University of Illinois-Urbana, and his PhD from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh.

### **Todd Sechser, CFR**

Sechser is an Assistant Professor of Politics at the University of Virginia and is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. His research interests include coercion in international relations, the strategic effects of nuclear weapons, and civil-military relations. He has published his research in several academic journals, including *International Organization*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *the Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, and has

written op-eds in the *Wall Street Journal*, *the Christian Science Monitor*, *the Boston Globe*, and several other newspapers. Before entering academia, Sechser worked as a nuclear policy analyst at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Sechser received his PhD in political science from Stanford University, where he wrote an award-winning doctoral dissertation, and he has held research fellowships at Stanford University and Harvard University. He is a graduate of Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

#### **Dane Swango, RAND**

Swango is a Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellow at the RAND Corporation. His current research project examines whether and how the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty prevents nuclear proliferation. Some of his other research interests include East Asian security issues, American foreign policy, and diplomacy. He received his PhD in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and undergraduate degrees in economics and physics from Duke University.

#### **Wilfred Wan, BCSIA**

Wan is a PhD candidate in the Political Science department at the University of California, Irvine. Selected as a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow, he is spending the 2011-2012 academic year at the Harvard Kennedy School, with the International Security Program and the Project on Managing the Atom at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. His research interests include international organizations, security institutions, and institutional change; his dissertation is tentatively titled "Through the Lens of Institutional Theory: Change and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime." Wan was selected as a 2010-2011 Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Dissertation Fellow.