

Stanton Nuclear Security Fellows Seminar

Fellows - Alphabetically by Institution

Ahsan Butt, BCSIA

Ahsan Butt is an Assistant Professor of Government and Politics at George Mason University. His research interests include international security, ethnicity and nationalism, and South Asian politics and security. He received his PhD in Political Science from the University of Chicago in 2012 and a BA in International Studies from Ohio Wesleyan University in 2006.

Rupal Mehta, BCSIA

Rupal Mehta is an Assistant Professor (on leave) in the Department of Political Science at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She is also a member of the University of Nebraska's National Strategic Research Institute where she consults for USSTRATCOM. Her research interests lie in international security and conflict, with a specialization in nuclear security, nonproliferation, force structure, and deterrence theory. She is currently a Research Associate with the Center for Pacific Studies and, from 2012–2013, she was a Nuclear Security Fellow with the Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation. Prior to starting graduate school, she was a researcher at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. She received a Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego, and B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Jayita Sarkar, BCSIA

Jayita Sarkar is currently investigating U.S. nonproliferation strategies, alliance politics, and nuclear technological assistance in South Asia with reference to Franco-Pakistani and West German–Indian nuclear relations in the 1970s. Concurrently, she is developing a book manuscript, based on her Ph.D. dissertation, on Franco-Indian nuclear relations and U.S. nonproliferation efforts. Her research broadly concerns the politics of nuclear technology transfers, and U.S. strategies to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons since the Cold War until today. Prior to her Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship, Jay held visiting research positions at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Henry L. Stimson Center, Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies, and the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses. She was formerly a pre-doctoral student at Yale University on the Albert Gallatin Fellowship in International Affairs and holds a Ph.D. in International History and Politics from the Graduate Institute Geneva.

William Norris, CEIP

William Norris is an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Affairs at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service of Texas A&M University. His research interests include East Asian security, nuclear escalation, Chinese foreign and security policy, international relations theory, and US-China relations. Prior to The Bush School, Norris was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs and a Fellow in the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program, a joint program created by the two universities to foster the study of China in the field of international relations. He has been the recipient of the Asia Foundation's Domestic Dimension of International Affairs Grant, the Bush School of Government's Faculty Excellence Award, the Smith Richardson Foundation World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship, and a Bradley Fellowship, among others. He received his PhD in Political Science from MIT and was graduated *summa cum laude* from Princeton with an AB in Politics.

Adam Mount, CFR

Adam Mount is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations where he is writing a profile of nuclear disarmament in the United States. The book compares past disarmament debates with today's movement and shows how each have significantly impacted U.S. nuclear posture. He has spoken widely on the subject, including at the United Nations, Lawrence Livermore, Chatham House, CSIS, and at several academic meetings. In addition, he is completing projects on conventional deterrence after the Cold War and on tactical nuclear weapons. Previously, he worked on nuclear elimination contingencies at the RAND Corporation. His writing is forthcoming at *the Nonproliferation Review*, and has appeared in *the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*, a special issue of *Intelligence and National Security*, and other outlets. He holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University.

Caitlin Talmadge, CFR

Caitlin Talmadge is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the George Washington University, where her research and teaching focus on U.S. defense policy and strategy, civil-military relations, nuclear proliferation, and Persian Gulf security issues. She is author of *Fighting Power: Military Effectiveness in Authoritarian Armies* (forthcoming, Cornell University Press) and co-author of *Defense Politics: the Origins of Security Policy* (Routledge, 2014). Talmadge holds an A.B. in Government from Harvard College and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She previously worked at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Brookings Institution, and as a consultant to the Office of Net Assessment at the U.S. Department of Defense.

Christopher Lawrence, CISAC

Chris Lawrence is a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford. He is trained as a physicist and engineer, and conducted his PhD research at University of Michigan on nuclear spectroscopy for warhead-verification applications. During the summer of 2011, he worked on nuclear safeguards policy issues in the Global Security Division at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He is generally interested in epistemological issues associated with nuclear technology and security.

Magdalena Stawkowski, CISAC

Magdalena Stawkowski is a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) at Stanford University. Her research interests include legacies of nuclear testing and human health, post-Soviet economic, political, and social transformations, emergent subjectivities, the impacts of scientific debates on the understanding of risk, and Central Asia. Between 2010 and 2012, Stawkowski spent sixteen months travelling widely in Kazakhstan including extended stays in villages around the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site region where she was conducting fieldwork among communities most affected by Soviet era nuclear testing. She is a co-founder of the *Human Survival in a New Nuclear Age Initiative* at the University of Colorado Boulder and as well as serves on the Board of Directors for EcoMuseum, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Karaganda, Kazakhstan. By training, Stawkowski is a medical anthropologist, receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado Boulder and her B.A. in Anthropology, History, and Sociology from the University of Delaware.

Benjamin Wilson, CISAC

Benjamin Wilson is a Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University in the Center for International Security and Cooperation. In September 2014 he received his PhD from the Program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research interests focus on the history of nuclear arms control expertise in the Cold War, the role of expertise in U.S. society and politics, and the history of the physical sciences. In 2013–14, he

was a MacArthur Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow at CISAC. He received master's degrees in physics from Yale University and the University of Toronto, and a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Saskatchewan.

Henrik Hiim, MIT

Henrik Hiim is a research fellow at the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies and a Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow at MIT for the 2014-15 academic year. His main research interests are Chinese foreign policy, East Asian security, and nonproliferation and arms control. His PhD project examines the evolution of China's approach to nuclear nonproliferation, with a special emphasis on policies towards North Korea, Iran, and Pakistan. Henrik holds an M.A. in Political Science from the University of Oslo. He has also studied at Renmin University and Huazhong Normal University in China. During spring 2013, he was a visiting scholar at the School of International Studies at Beijing University. Henrik has worked as a journalist for several Norwegian newspapers.

Alexander Lanoszka, MIT

Alexander Lanoszka is a Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research focuses on alliance politics, nuclear proliferation, theories of empire and international hierarchy, and US foreign policy. His dissertation examines why states that receive nuclear security guarantees would strive towards, and sometimes back away from, nuclear weapons acquisition. His peer-reviewed work has appeared in *International Theory* and he has produced public affairs commentary for *The Monkey Cage* (Washington Post) and the online edition of *The National Interest*. He took part in the 2014 Nuclear Scholars Initiative, organized by the Center of Strategic and International Studies. He received his PhD at Princeton University in spring 2014 and his undergraduate education at the University of Windsor in Canada.

Julia Macdonald, MIT

Julia Macdonald is a sixth year doctoral candidate in political science at the George Washington University and a Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow at MIT for the 2014-15 academic year. She was previously a Ph.D. Candidate-in-Residence at the Institute for Security and Conflict Studies in the Elliott School of International Affairs. Julia's dissertation research focuses on signaling and threat credibility during international crises and investigates the importance of varying domestic political environments in shaping assessments of threat. Additional research interests include gender and peacekeeping, military strategy and effectiveness, and U.S. foreign policy decision making. Her work has been published in recent editions of *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, and *Armed Forces and Society*. Julia holds an M.A. (Hons) in International Relations from the University of Chicago and she worked for the New Zealand Ministry of Defense as a policy analyst for several years prior to joining the doctoral program at GWU.

Jonathan Hunt, RAND

Jonathan Hunt received his doctorate in history from the University of Texas at Austin in 2013. He has been a fellow of the Eisenhower Institute, the International Green Cross, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. For the last two years, he was a MacArthur Nuclear Security Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. He is now a Stanton Nuclear Fellow at RAND Corporation, where he will be putting the finishing touches on an international history of nuclear diplomacy with a focus on the 1960s. He has also done some work on Ronald Reagan and what actually happened when he met with Mikhail Gorbachev in Reykjavik. He has written for *The National Interest*, *Passport*, *Not Even Past*, *The Huffington Post*, and the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* and has two chapters forthcoming in *Foreign Policy Breakthroughs: Case Studies in Successful Diplomacy and Cold War Summitry: Transcending the Division of Europe, 1970-1990*.

Sameer Lalwani, RAND

Sameer Lalwani recently completed his Ph.D. in political science at MIT. His dissertation, entitled “Selective Leviathans: Explaining State Strategies of Counterinsurgency and Consolidation,” seeks to explain the territorial and identity politics that incent and constrain particular incumbent strategies to combat rebellion. His research interests also include grand strategy, military intervention, civil-military relations, and South Asian security. Lalwani has conducted research in Pakistan, India, Kashmir, and the UK archives for which he has received support from the Smith-Richardson Foundation, the Tobin Project, the American Institute for Pakistan Studies, the Whiting Foundation, and the MIT Entrepreneurship Center. Previously, he was a pre-doctoral fellow at George Washington University’s Institute for Security and Conflict Studies, a member of the Next Gen National Security Leaders Program at CNAS and a participant in the Nuclear Scholars Initiative at CSIS. He also spent three years as a policy analyst at the New America Foundation where he remains a non-resident Research Fellow and he holds a B.A. in political science from University of California, Berkeley.

Caroline Reilly Milne, RAND

Caroline Reilly Milne is a doctoral candidate in Security Studies at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Her research interests include strategic culture, deterrence, and the nuclear policies of the United States, Russia and China. Milne’s dissertation examines the processes by which nuclear-armed adversaries perceive and respond to the condition of mutually assured destruction. Before coming to Princeton, Milne was a research assistant for the RAND Corporation, where she focused on a range of defense strategy and planning issues, including nuclear force posture challenges under prospective arms control agreements. Milne received a B.S. in aerospace engineering from MIT and earned a M.A. from the War Studies Department at King’s College London.