



Caitlin Talmadge joins SSP faculty

SSP is pleased to announce that **Caitlin Talmadge** has joined the program's faculty as an Associate Professor of Political Science.

[Professor Talmadge's biography page.](#)



Wargaming Lab hosts economic conflict simulation



This June, the **SSP Wargaming Lab** conducted a simulation in which the US used economic statecraft tools to respond to a political-military crisis over Taiwan. Over 30 subject matter experts from around the world took part in the Lab's inaugural war game.

A two-page brief of the game [is now available here.](#)





Roger Petersen named acting director of SSP

Roger Petersen, the Arthur and Ruth Sloan Professor of Political Science at SSP, has been named acting director of the program for the 2023-2024 school year. He will be in charge of the program while current director, **M. Taylor Fravel**, is on sabbatical.

[Learn more about Professor Petersen here.](#)

Charlie Glaser joins SSP as senior fellow

Dr. Charlie Glaser has joined SSP as a senior fellow. His research focuses on international relations theory and international security policy, including US policy toward China, nuclear weapons policy, and US energy security.

[His full biography is available here.](#)



Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

SSP welcomed its faculty, fellows, students and staff back to campus for the Fall semester with a celebration dinner at Batifol restaurant in Cambridge. We couldn't have picked a more beautiful day for the event!



Russian Policy Fellow leads off Wednesday Seminars



SSP's new Russian Foreign and National Security Policy Fellow, **Polina Beliakova**, kicked off this semester's Wednesday Seminar lecture series with a talk focused on her book project "Know thy Enemy." The project focuses on government policy's effects on civilian control of the military.

[Watch the lecture here.](#)

Where are they now? Our recent graduates

Rachel Tecott Metz

Assistant Professor

George Washington University

Aidan Milliff

Assistant Professor

Florida State University

John Minnich

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

The Columbia-Harvard China & the World Program

Mina E. Pollmann

Associate Political Scientist

RAND Corporation

Publications

["Managing United States-China university relations and risks"](#)

M. Taylor Fravel (Faculty)

Science, April 2023

(with R. Lester, L. Tsai, S. Berger, P. Fisher, D. Goldston, Y. Huang, & D. Rus)

["Pushing on an Open Door: Japan's Evolutionary Security Posture"](#)

The Washington Quarterly, July 2023

Eric Heginbotham (Faculty)

Samuel Leiter (PhD Candidate)

Richard Samuels (Faculty)

Multimedia & Commentary

M. Taylor Fravel (Faculty) published [“The Myth of Chinese Diversionary War”](#) in *Foreign Affairs* in September.

Kelly Greenhill (Affiliate) participated in The Conversation, on the topic of: [“Rwanda plan is in legal limbo, but history shows such migration deals are unlikely to disappear.”](#)

Jung Jae Kwon (PhD Candidate) published [“How To Enhance South Korea’s Conventional Deterrent”](#) in *War on the Rocks* in September.

Barry Posen (Faculty) published [“Ukraine Has a Breakthrough Problem.”](#) in *Foreign Policy* in August.

Jim Walsh (Faculty) was a guest on WBUR’s *Here and Now* in September to discuss [“Kim Jong Un’s trip to Russia.”](#)

News

Eric Heginbotham (Faculty) wrote a chapter in a new book edited by Kristina Kironska and Richard Q Rucsayi, [“China’s Relations with the Global South: On the Rise or Past Their Peak?”](#) (with Joshua Eisenman).

Jung Jae Kwon (PhD Candidate) is starting a pre-doctoral fellowship with the Belfer Center’s Project on Managing the Atom and the International Security Program as a Stanton Nuclear Security Research Fellow.

Wright Smith and Nicholas Blanchette (PhD Candidates) were named the graduate semi-finalists for the Bobby R. Inman Award for Student Scholarship in Intelligence and National Security. They were awarded for their paper [“‘Our Bomber Will Always Get Through’: Cognitive Barriers to US-UK Wartime Military Intelligence During the Air Offensives of 1939-1941.”](#)

Chikako Ueki (Visiting Scholar) participated in the Track-2 U.S.-Japan-India trilateral dialogue in May.

Alumni highlights

Kevin Benson (former Military Fellow) participated in a "Deliberate Thinking Event" at the headquarters of US Army Futures Command in August. He also has a book about his experiences in Iraq under contract with Casemate Publishing, anticipated release is April 2024.

Jonathan Caverley (PhD) published an article in *War on the Rocks*, [“Commoditized Weapons in Ukraine: Are the Allies Getting the Procurement Right?”](#) (with Ethan Kapstein).

Vanda Felbab-Brown (PhD) published a number of pieces on recent coups in *War on the Rocks*, including [“In Brief: A Wave of Coups in Africa”](#) (with Ebenezer Odadare, Raphael Parens, and Tatiana Smirnova).

Eugene Gholz (Affiliate) was quoted in two articles this summer: [“China’s gallium curbs to have limited impact on U.S. defense”](#) in *Japan Times* and [“US expected to get around China’s export controls on gallium”](#) in *South China Morning Post*.

Heather S. Gregg (PhD) published [“Disrupting Moscow’s Invasion Playbook: Lessons](#)

[From Prague to Kyiv](#)” in *Modern War Institute* (with Kevin D. Stringer).

Se Young Jang (former Stanton Fellow) published a piece, [“War and Truce: The Korean Armistice at 70,”](#) in *The Diplomat*. She also recently began a position as a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of History at the University of Vienna, having previously held an Assistant Professorship at Leiden University.

Peter Krause (Affiliate) published [“Blowback Operations as Rebel Strategy: How Sectarian Violence Spread from Syria into Lebanon 2013-2014”](#) in *Terrorism and Political Violence* in July.

Alan Kuperman (PhD) published an article in *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, [“Biden’s horse-trading on nuclear technology and fuels is an unprecedented proliferation risk”](#) in September. He also appeared on [‘Making Money with Charles Payne’](#) on Fox Business.

Reid Pauly (PhD) published two pieces this summer: [“The Psychology of Nuclear Brinkmanship”](#) in the Robert Jervis International Security Studies Forum, and [“Putin and the psychology of nuclear brinkmanship”](#) in *Foreign Affairs*.

Andrew Radin (PhD) published [“Why the U.S. still needs ground forces in Europe”](#) in *Defense One* in the RAND Blog (with Gian Gentile).

Joshua Schwartz (former Stanton Fellow) recently appeared on [Channel News Asia](#).

Joshua Shifrinson (PhD) appeared on C-SPAN: [“Joshua Shifrinson and Daniel Fried on the Upcoming NATO Summit”](#) and contributed to [“Expert Survey: Should US Offer Ukraine Security Guarantees?”](#) (with Thomas Graham, Melinda Haring, and Mark N. Katz).

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