Over Spring Break, SSP military fellows led 14 graduate students on a field trip to United States Pacific Command in Hawaii. Each day was devoted to a different Service—Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines—highlighting the missions each train to perform, the capabilities they possess in theater, and the threats they perceive to American interests in the region. At USPACOM Headquarters, substantive sessions included an Operations brief, a thorough analysis of maritime law with JAG lawyers, and a detailed assessment of Theater Security Cooperation efforts. Further substantive discussions with MARFORPAC (Marines), PACFLT (Navy), USARPAC (Army), and PACAF (Air Force) provided additional perspective. The graduate students asked incisive questions of briefers and pushed senior officers to go off script and critically assess American strategy in the Western Pacific. Word spread quickly of the presence of the inquisitive MIT delegation and many backbenchers came to listen in on subsequent discussions. Overall, students emerged from the briefings with a good sense of American military operations in the Pacific, though little consensus that
those operations were always backed by the right strategy. The research will have to continue back in Cambridge.

In addition to strategy briefings, students had the opportunity to see some military hardware up close, including an Arleigh Burke-class DDG destroyer (USS Halsey), an MV-22 Osprey, an AH-64 Apache helicopter, and an F-16 Fighting Falcon. The trip would also not have been complete without a visit to the USS Arizona Memorial and the USS Missouri at Pearl Harbor.

Trip supervisors Roger Peterson and Joli Divon Saraf allowed for some leisure time at the beach, while the military fellows preferred to sniff out the Mai Tais. On the final night, the group celebrated a successful trip at a luau.

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**January IAP Contemporary Military Topic Series**
The five military fellows presented a variety of different seminars for the public in January during MIT's Independent Activities Period.

Navy Commander **Bob Holmes (Navy)** discussed the art and science of electronic warfare (EW) and the Navy's newest EA-18G "Growler." Bob recently commanded Electronic Attack Squadron 132 and provide dan unclassified presentation pertaining to EW, Growler capabilities & Navy equities within the Dept. of Defense. He recapped the highlights of a recent deployment and showed a motivational video shot from the cockpit.

**Eric Gilbert (Air Force)** invited Air Force Captain John Boyd who discussed his mastery in tactical flying blossomed into a demonstration of expertise at the operational & strategic levels of warfare, paving the way for his famous Observe, Orient, Decide and Act (OODA) Loop. The OODA Loop is widely used today in business, athletic and military strategies, yet many fail to understand its significance in representing future conflict and the next generation of warfare.

**Joe Vongs (Army)** presented a seminar which examined some of the basic tenets of Sun Tzu, the author of *The Art of War*. Lessons learned from Sun Tzu were analyzed through the perspective of a military advisor to an Iraqi Intelligence officer from 2008-2009. Embedded in the seminar, Vongs also discussed decision making in grey environments.

**Joe Vongs (Army)** also presented jointly with **Dan Coleman (Marine Corps)** on the United States government's wide range of available capabilities in the event of a crisis, domestic or overseas. The US military has units trained to respond to a range of possible scenarios on short notice. This seminar provided an overview of capabilities from the Army
and the Marine Corps, offering insight into these units, how they are organized, trained, and prepared to respond during times of crisis.

**Shawn Creamer (Army)** presented an overview of the 4 theater-level commands operating in So. Korea: Combined Forces Command; U.S. Forces Korea; UN Command; & the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff. Creamer covered their respective responsibilities, authorities, & communication channels, as well as their interrelationships & how the 4 commands influence and facilitate decisionmaking during crisis & contingencies on the Korean peninsula.

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**WHERE WE SPOKE**

**Fiona Cunningham, graduate student**  

**Stacie Goddard, Research Affiliate**  
Spoke at the University of Minnesota International Relations Colloquium, the International Studies Association, and a workshop at the Norwegian Institute of International Relations.

**Kelly Greenhill, Research Affiliate**  


Chaired and participated in the roundtable honoring the 2017 ISSS Distinguished Scholar, Barry Posen, ISA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, February 2017.

**Greg Koblentz, Alum ’04**  
Greg Koblentz chaired and served as the discussant on a panel on Chemical, Biological, and Nuclear Terrorism at the 2017 ISA Conference in Baltimore, MD on February 25.

**Peter Krause, Alum ‘11**  


*Reaction to President Trumps’ Airstrikes in Syria*, NBC-Boston, April 7, 2017.
Alan Kuperman, Alum ‘02
“Why the R2P Backfires (And How to Fix It),” R2P Conference, MacMillan Center, Yale University, February 16-17, 2017; and Cambridge University, UK, February 9, 2017.

Marika Landau-Wells, graduate student
Marika Landau-Wells presented two papers at ISA this year:
- "High Stakes and Low Bars: International Recognition of Governments during Civil War"
- "Bringing the First Image Back In: An Exposition of Threat-Heuristic Theory"

Jennifer M. Lind, Alum ’04
Jennifer M. Lind presented “Is Nationalism Rising in Japan?” at the Centre d’études et de recherches internationales, Université de Montréal, March 24, 2017.


Andrew Miller, graduate student


Rachel Esplin Odell, graduate student
Rachel Odell presented “Maritime Hegemony and the Fiction of the Free Sea: Explaining States' Claims to Maritime Jurisdiction” in a Junior Scholar Symposium at the International Studies Association Annual Conference held in Baltimore, Maryland, on February 23, 2017.

Barry Posen, Faculty

Barry Posen presented a Work in Progress Seminar, A Multipolar World and the Management of Civil War, at the Kluge Center, Library of Congress on February 2. This same talk was presented at The Responsibility to Protect conference held at Yale University on March 16-17.


Joshua Rovner, Alum ‘08


**Richard Samuels, Faculty**
Delivered the Bradley Richardson Memorial Lecture at Ohio State University on the topic of “Japanese Foreign and Security Policy,” February, 2017.


**Jayita Sarkar, CIS Security Studies Fellow, 2016-17**


**Joshua Shifrinson, Alum ‘13**
Joshua Shifrinson presented to the Tobin Project’s workshop on threat assessment and nuclear proliferation.

**Joel Sokolsky, Research Affiliate**
On February 17, Joel Sokolsky testified before the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence on the Royal Canadian Navy and Naval Readiness.

On March 21, Joel Sokolsky spoke at the National Defense University in Washington D.C. on: "Schoolhouses and COCOMs: Educating and Cultivating the American-led International Fraternity of the Uniform."

**Caitlin Talmadge, Alum ‘11**
“Nuclear First Use” panel at Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference, March 2017

**Jim Walsh, Faculty**

Jim Walsh also presented talks to the following list of institutions and organizations (select list):
Issues on Iran/Iran Nonproliferation Regime/Iran Nuclear Deal
World Affairs Council of the Charlotte Board & Community Leaders, January, 2017
UNC Charlotte, January 2017
Atlantic Council, January, 2017
AAAS, February, 2017
Testimony before House Oversight Committee, April, 2017

On North Korea
Center for Arms Control and Disarmament, March, 2017
20 Members of US House and Senate, March, 2017
Korea Economic Institute, April, 2017

Jim Walsh also gave talks at MIT Lincoln Labs on the Nuclear Weapon’s agenda for the Next Four Years and on Cross-domain deterrence & Sanctions at the University of California, Berkeley.

Tim Wolters, Alum ‘04
“Sparks and Arcs: The U.S. Navy’s Adoption of Radio, 1899-1914,” at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.


WHAT WE WROTE

Boaz Atzili, Alum ’06

David T. Burbach, Alum ’03

Matthew Cancian, graduate student
Matthew Cancian, “Culture Wars,” Modern War Institute at West Point, February 1, 2017.


Stacie Goddard, Research Affiliate

Robert Haffa, Alum ‘82

Eric Heginbotham, Faculty


Jessica Karnis, Alum ’06

Alan Kuperman, Alum ‘02
Alan Kuperman, “Proper Response to an Amoral President,” Huffington Post, January 20, 2017

Peter Krause, Alum ‘11


Joseph O’Mahoney, Stanton Fellow, 2016-17
Joseph O’Mahoney, "Trump says that spoils belong to the victor. That’s an invitation to more war", Monkey Cage at The Washington Post, 1 February 2017.

Joseph O’Mahoney, "Making The Real: Rhetorical Adduction and the Bangladesh Liberation War", International Organization, Online Firstview

Barry Posen, Faculty

Jeremy Pressman, Alum ’02
Joshua Rovner, Alum ‘08


Richard Samuels, Faculty


Jayita Sarkar, Security Studies Fellow, 2016-17

Caitlin Talmadge, Alum ‘11


Brian D. Taylor, Alum ‘98

Jim Walsh, Faculty


David Weinberg, Alum ’12


NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Boaz Atzili, Alum ’06
Boaz Atzili was a guest editor for a special volume of the journal Territory, Politics, Governance, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2017: Territorial Designs (with Burak Kadercan).

Kelly M. Greenhill, Research Affiliate

Laura Holgate, Alum ’90
In January, Laura Holgate resigned from her post as US Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations in Vienna, Austria and returned to her home in Arlington, VA. Since then, she has become a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School, and a Senior Visitor at the Institute for International Science and Technology Policy at the Elliott School of Public Policy. In February, She spoke on a panel on US-Russia cooperation at the Nuclear Deterrence Summit in Washington, DC. In March, she co-authored an article for the Foreign Policy “Shadow Government” blog on preserving funding for the IAEA.

Reid Pauly, graduate student
Reid Pauly will be a pre-doctoral fellow at Harvard’s Belfer Center during the 2017-18 academic year.

Jeremy Pressman, Alum, ’02
After counting the size and locations of the Women’s March in January, Jeremy Pressman co-founded and co-directs, with Erica Chenoweth, the Crowd Counting Consortium to count protests and demonstrations in the United States. You may visit crowdcounting.org or see summary updates in the Monkey Cage.

Sara Plana, graduate student & Tim McDonnell, graduate student
Sara Plana and Tim McDonnell were chosen to attend Bridging the Gap's New Era Foreign Policy (NEFP) Conference in Washington, DC this March. The NEFP Conference brings together select PhD students in international relations and comparative politics from across the
country to discuss contemporary challenges in American foreign policy and how scholars can contribute through policy-relevant research.

**Jayita Sarkar, CIS Security Studies Fellow, 2016-17**
Jayita Sarkar will be receiving a grant from the Stanton Foundation to develop and teach a new undergraduate course on nuclear politics at Boston University in AY 2017-18, where she will be joining as a tenure-track faculty in the fall of 2017.

**Joel Sokolsky, Research Affiliate**
Joel Sokolsky is a part of a Canadian Department of National Defence-funded research project on the future of the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD).

**David Weinberg, Alum ’12**

David Weinberg was quoted by Mirren Gidda, "Why the Gulf States and Jordan are Carrying Out Mass Executions," *Newsweek*, March 10, 2017.

David Weinberg was quoted by Akbar Shahid Ahmed, "Donald Trump Has Already Picked His Favorite Muslims: The President’s Team Has Only Nice Things to Say About Egypt, Jordan, and the UAE," March 6, 2017.

**AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Mark Bell, Alum ‘16**
Mark Bell was awarded a Stanton Foundation grant to develop a new undergraduate course on nuclear weapons at the University of Minnesota - a news story about the award is here: https://cla.umn.edu/polisci/news-events/news/professor-mark-bell-awarded-stanton-foundation-grant

**Stacie Goddard, Research Affiliate**
Stacie Goddard is a part of a group who received funding from the Norwegian Research Council for the project “Evaluating Power Political Repertories (EPOS).”

**Mayumi Fukushima, graduate student**
Andrew Miller, graduate student
Andrew Miller received the following grants and fellowships: the Project Launch Grant, Global Religion Research Initiative, Notre Dame; Research Seed Grant, GOV/LAB, MIT; and a Summer Study Fellowship from the Center for International Security at MIT.

Reid Pauly, graduate student
Reid Pauly was awarded a Smith Richardson World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship.

Barry Posen, Faculty
Barry Posen was awarded the ISA International Security Studies Section 2017 Distinguished Scholar Award on February 24, 2017.

Joshua Shifrinson, Alum ‘13
Joshua Shifrinson’s 2016 International Security article awarded the Best Article Award from the Diplomatic Studies Section of the International Studies Association.

Joshua Shifrinson received a Policy Engagement Fellowship from the Bridging the Gap Project.