

# Center For International Trade & Security

*2020 -  
2021  
Annual  
Report*



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I am happy to report that the foundations of CITS are stronger than ever, thanks especially to new partnerships and friendships that were formed throughout the year.

# Director's Note



Dear Friends,

When I arrived at CITS in late 2019, I could not have predicted what the next year would bring. For all of us, it was a tumultuous and stressful turn of events. And yet through it all, the faculty, staff, students and affiliates at CITS only increased their commitment to addressing problems of global significance. Their passion and dedication – and willingness to overcome challenges - turned an otherwise difficult year into one full of opportunities and celebrations. Every aspect of the Center was strengthened as a result of this shared sense of purpose.

I am happy to report that the foundations of CITS are stronger than ever, thanks especially to new partnerships and friendships that were formed throughout the year. Fulfilling one of our major objectives, we established ongoing working relationships with a variety of units at UGA, including the Department of International Affairs, the College of Public Health, the College of Engineering, the Institute for Cybersecurity and Privacy and the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

These relationships have already resulted in significant research findings, prestigious grant funding, and diverse new courses and experiences for our students. During the year, we also expanded our collaborations beyond the university, welcoming several new Nonresident Fellows from academia, government, the nonprofit sector and the military.

Our student programs are the centerpiece of everything we do at CITS, and we celebrated exceptional successes across the board. Thanks to the efforts of the Director of the

Master of International Policy (MIP) program, Dr. Josh Massey, enrollment increased by 44% over the previous year (and more than three-fold since 2017). Students are now able to tailor their studies to their own interests and career goals, choosing from one of three areas: International Security and Nonproliferation, Human Security or Energy Security. We also welcomed the new Director of our Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program (SLP), Dr. Maryann Gallagher. Dr. Gallagher has already taken the SLP in bold and exciting directions, and students from across campus are clamoring to participate.

CITS also made significant progress on our goal of increased public engagement and outreach. We launched the “Global Decisions” lecture series, a free public program featuring high-profile voices on matters of national and international security. And while CITS faculty continued to publish their exciting research in leading academic journals, you may have also noticed them providing expert commentary in widely accessible outlets like Forbes and Foreign Policy.

Finally, I want to thank those of you who have contributed to CITS over the years. All of our programs – from research to policy to education – depend on your generosity and support. We are able to offer free programs and experiences for our students and for the broader public thanks to the contributions of our alumni and friends. I hope that you enjoy the celebration of the Center’s many activities included in these pages. We look forward to scaling even greater heights together in the coming years.

Thank you,  
**Justin Conrad**  
Gary K. Bertsch Director,  
Center for International Trade  
and Security  
Associate Professor of  
International Affairs

# Thank You!

All CITS activities, including undergraduate and graduate programs, research and policy projects, and public outreach are sustained through your generous contributions. More than 75% of our programming budget comes from private donations, so we are grateful for your continuing support!

## RESEARCH LEVEL

**\$100**

Provides support  
for student  
recruitment efforts

## DEVELOPMENT LEVEL

**\$500\***

Provides a graduate  
student or faculty  
member with  
research support

## FISSION LEVEL

**\$1,500\***

Allows one student  
to participate in the  
Annual CITS Program  
in Washington, D.C.

## FUSION LEVEL

**\$5,000\***

Supports one  
Global Decisions  
guest speaker

## IGNITION LEVEL

**\$10,000\***

Provides partial  
academic-year support  
for a graduate student

## To make a donation to CITS

Online: Make an immediate gift online through our secure website: <https://t.uga.edu/7wG>  
You can also find information on setting up recurring gifts, legacy gifts and endowments.

By Mail: Make check payable to “**UGA Foundation**” (write “**CITS**” on the memo line) and mail it to:

### Center for International Trade and Security

University of Georgia  
Attn: Ashley Weed  
120 Holmes-Hunter Bldg.  
Athens, GA 30602

\* All Donors of \$250 and above will appear on the UGA School of Public and International Affairs' annual honor roll on [spia.uga.edu](http://spia.uga.edu). Donors of \$1500 and up will be invited to the annual UGA President's Club reception. Those annual gift donors at the \$5,000 level (Dean's Circle- Leader) and \$10,000 level (Dean's Circle- Patron) will appear on the donor wall in Baldwin Hall.

# New Faculty Fellows

CITS was delighted to welcome seven UGA faculty members as new Faculty Affiliates. These professors were selected for the impact that they have made in their fields, and in

particular, their contributions to national and international security. Faculty Affiliates participate in all activities at the Center including research, teaching and policy.

## **Molly Berkemeier**

Assistant Professor of International Affairs

*Nuclear politics, international security*



## **Ryan Powers**

Assistant Professor of International Affairs

*International trade, globalization, public opinion*



## **Molly Ariotti**

Assistant Professor of International Affairs

*Political institutions, democracy in Africa*



## **Gopinath Munisamy**

Professor, Agricultural and Applied Economics

*International trade and investment, agricultural policy, economic development*



## **Amanda Murdie**

Thomas P. and Jean Lauth Public Affairs Professor of International Affairs

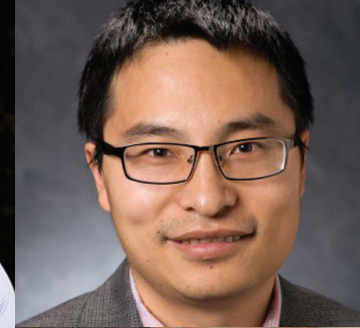
*Intergovernmental organizations, human security*



## **Rongbin Han**

Associate Professor of International Affairs

*Political participation, authoritarianism, democratization, China*



## **Megan Turnbull**

Assistant Professor of International Affairs

*Political order, political violence, Sub-Saharan Africa*



# Research Clusters

The world is changing. Many issues of international security, such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and international human migration, were once considered independent of one another. These issues – along with political violence, energy policy, climate change, great power competition, and others – are now inextricably linked. Pull one string and the entire network is likely to unravel. To meet these combined challenges, CITS approaches national and international security in a comprehensive way.

Although the Center – with generous external support – facilitates a wide range of faculty and student research projects, our work focuses intensely on three critical areas: understanding the geopolitical and security consequences of national energy policies, identifying effective strategies to stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), and examining how human security is impacted by factors such as climate change. None of these areas, however, are examined in isolation. CITS serves as a true “center” of research activity, bringing together diverse teams of scholars and students to clearly identify problems and work towards their resolution.



## Energy and Security

The Energy and Security initiative addresses emerging security challenges resulting from the global transition away from high-carbon energy sources. The link between energy policy and national security is well established, but the specter of climate change has elevated the urgency of this debate and concentrated attention on the international implications of the energy-security nexus. The initiative brings together prominent academic voices as well as experienced practitioners and policymakers to develop policy-relevant and timely research.



## International Security and Nonproliferation

The International Security and Nonproliferation initiative re-examines our traditional understandings of the proliferation and use of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). Incorporating new theoretical approaches and the advent of new technologies (e.g., artificial intelligence, hypersonic missiles, etc.), the project seeks to develop a model of deterrence that is relevant for the 21st century.

## Human Security

The Human Security initiative examines a range of factors that influence or threaten the physical, social and economic well-being of humans. These factors include natural resource and agricultural availability, climate change, political violence and political protest, human rights and migration.

# Faculty Publication Highlights

## Amanda Murdie

“Unintended Restrictions: Women’s Rights INGOs and Women’s Civil Society Restrictions,” *Human Rights Review*, 2020.  
(with Ghashia Kiyani)

“Two Sides of the Same Coin: Can Campaigns Generate Support for Both Human Rights and Retributive Violence?” *International Interactions*, 2020. (with Allie Haines, Matthew Krain and Michele Leiby)

“Human Rights Abused? Terrorist Labeling and Individual Reactions to Call to Action,” *Political Research Quarterly*, 2020.  
(with Ana Bracic)

“Using Practitioner Surveys to Measure Human Rights,” *Journal of Peace Research*, 2020. (with Chad K. Clay, Ryan Bakker, Anne-Marie Brook and Daniel W. Hill, Jr.)

“The Path of the Boomerang: Human Rights Campaigns, Third-Party Pressure, and Human Rights,” *International Studies Quarterly*, 2020.  
(with Michelle Allendoerfer and Ryan Welch)

“Advocacy Output: Automated-Coding Documents from Human Rights Organizations,” *Journal of Human Rights*, 2020.  
(with Baekkwon Park and David R. Davis)

## Molly Ariotti

“Government Type and Public Spending in African Democracies,” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 2021.

“Informal Governance as a Force Multiplier in Counterterrorism: Evidence for Burkina Faso,” *Joint Special Operations University Press*, 2020.  
(with Kevin S. Fridy)

“Burkina Faso’s Elections: Old and New Challenges for Kaboré,” *Instituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale*, October 26, 2020.

### **Rongbin Han**

“Jun Liu, Shifting Dynamics of Contention in the Digital Age: Mobile Communication and Politics in China,” *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 2021.

“Cyber Nationalism and Regime Support under Xi Jinping: The Effects of the 2018 Constitutional Revision,” *Journal of Contemporary China*, 2021.

“Scaling Authoritarian Information Control: How China Adjusts the Level of Online Censorship,” *Political Research Quarterly*, 2021. (with Li Shao)

### **Joshua Massey**

“21st Century U.S. Nuclear Power: A National Security Imperative,” *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, 2020. (with David Gattie)

### **Justin Conrad**

“Interests, Institutions, and Defense Spending,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*, 2020. (with Mark Souva)

“The Cole Attack - More Than 9/11 - Predicted America’s Challenges in the 21st Century,” *Navy Times*, October 12, 2020.

“US Public Opinion Is Changing the Relationship With China,” *The Diplomat*, September 16, 2020.

### **Gopinath Munisamy**

“Does Trade Policy Uncertainty Affect Agriculture?,” *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 2021.

“Options for ASEAN Trade Expansion: Within, Plus Three or Six, European Union or the United States?” *The World Economy*, 2021. (with Jayson Beckman and Kamron Daugherty)

“Exploring the Disparity in Global Food Security Indicators,” *Global Food Security*, 2021. (with Dikshit Poudel)

“Public Policymaking for International Agricultural Trade Using Association Rules and Ensemble Machine Learning,” *Machine Learning with Applications*, 2021. (with Feras A. Batarseh, Anderson Monken and Zhengrong Gu)

“International Agricultural Trade Forecasting Using Machine Learning,” *Data & Policy*, 2021. (with Feras A. Batarseh, Jayson Beckman, Ajay Kulkarni and Sei Jeong)

### **Ryan Powers**

“Epistemic Communities and Public Support for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change,” *Political Research Quarterly*, 2020. (with Daniel Maliniak and Eric Parajon)

“Poll: How Biden and Trump Differ on Foreign Policy,” *Foreign Policy*, October 22, 2020. (with Irene Entringer Garcia Blanes, Alexandra Murphy, Susan Peterson and Michael J. Tierney)

“Trump, COVID-19, and the Future of International Order,” *Foreign Policy*, October 8, 2020. (with Helen V. Milner, Susan Peterson, Michael J. Tierney and Erik Voeten)

### **Megan Turnbull**

“Elite Competition, Social Movements, and Election Violence in Nigeria,” *International Security*, 2020.

### **Jeff Berejikian**

“Is There a Public–Military Gap in the United States? Evaluating Foundational Foreign Policy Beliefs,” *Armed Forces & Society*, 2021. (with Zachary Zwald)

“Analyzing Mass Attitudes Toward the International Court of Justice,” *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 2021. (with Florian Justwan, Sarah K. Fisher and Ashley Kerr)

“Why Language Matters: Shaping Public Risk Tolerance During Deterrence Crises,” *Contemporary Security Policy*, 2020. (with Zachary Zwald)

“Referenda as Commitment Devices—An Experimental Approach,” *Research & Politics*, 2020. (with Florian Justwan, Sarah K. Fisher and Ashley Kerr)

### **Matt Auer**

“COVID-19 Crisis Communications: The Challenge for Environmental Organizations,” *Environmental Science and Policy*, 2021.

### **David Gattie**

“21st Century U.S. Nuclear Power: A National Security Imperative,” *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, 2020. (with Joshua Massey)

# *New Nonresident Fellows*

The Center for International Trade and Security welcomed five esteemed scholars and practitioners as Nonresident Fellows during the year. Our new Fellows made an immediate impact supporting the Center's research, teaching, policy and outreach missions in a variety of ways. CITS Nonresident Fellows are critical to the success of our mission, and they provide innumerable benefits for our students.



**Antonio V. Butler, Jr.**  
Foreign Service Officer,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of  
the Bahamas



**Shannon Green**  
Senior Director of Programs,  
Center for Civilians in Conflict  
(CIVIC)



**Lt. Col. Mathew Kopp**  
U.S. Army Chief of the Office of  
Security Cooperation, Nairobi,  
Kenya



**Myunghee Lee**  
Korea Foundation Postdoctoral  
Fellow, University of  
Copenhagen



**Nora Webb Williams**  
Assistant Professor, University of  
Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# *Nonresident Fellows*

CITS is grateful for the ongoing contributions and support of our Nonresident Fellows.

## **Marty Kautz**

Retired Special Agent,  
Department of Homeland  
Security and President,  
MKV & Associates

## **Igor Khripunov**

Nuclear Security Expert and  
Consultant, International Atomic  
Energy Agency

## **Anna Magoulas**

Senior Manager for Global Trade  
Compliance, Raytheon

## **William “Jeff” Merrell**

Vice President for Strategic  
Export Control, Rolls-  
Royce North America

## **T. James Min II**

Partner, LimNexus

## **Walt Sansot**

Senior Nonproliferation  
Specialist, Pacific  
Northwest National  
Laboratory

## **Jack Slagle**

Trade Compliance Supervisor,  
Mitsubishi Motors North  
America, Inc.

## **Warren Stenbridge**

Retired CIA Officer and Senior  
Vice President, PAE

## **Andrea Viski**

Director, Strategic Trade  
Research Institute

## **Anne-Charlotte Merrell Wetterwik**

Arms Control Expert and  
Executive Assistant to the  
Ambassador of Sweden

## **Joe D. Whitley**

Former General Counsel of  
the Department of Homeland  
Security and Partner, Womble  
Bond Dickinson

## **Alys Willman**

Senior Consultant, World Bank

A hand holding a red pushpin over a technical drawing on a grid. The drawing shows a complex grid pattern with various lines and shapes, possibly representing a map or a technical plan. The background is a light, textured surface.

## *Seed Grant Awards*

In 2020, CITS was pleased to offer seed funding for faculty and graduate student research. The program supports projects relevant to national and international security. All proposals received in 2020 were highly competitive, and the Center ultimately funded four exceptional proposals:

**Molly Berkemeier**

Do As I Say, Not As I Do: The Impact of Divergent Rhetoric and Policy on Nuclear Reversal

**Megan Turnbull**

Protesting Election Violence

**Abdullah Kabaoglu**

How Cultural Affinity Between Countries Affects the Credibility of Extended Nuclear Deterrence

**Ryan Powers and  
Harlan Cohen**

Geopolitical Competition and the Domestic Politics of Compliance

# CITS *Staff*

**Sarthak Sharma**  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Jane Willson Scholar in  
International Relations



**Sophie McMurray**  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Dean Rusk Scholar in  
International Relations



**Ashley Weed**  
Business Manager



**Katherine Gillanders**  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Jane Willson Scholar in  
International Relations



**Laredo Loyd**  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Dean Rusk Scholar in  
International Relations



**Megan Morgan**  
Graduate Program Administrator



# CITS Global Decisions

LECTURE SERIES  
2020 - 2021

CITS celebrated the inaugural run of the Global Decisions Series, featuring internationally-renowned experts on national and international security.



November 12th

**HAL BRANDS**

Henry A. Kissinger Distinguished Professor,  
Johns Hopkins University  
*"U.S. Global Engagement"*



December 3rd

**ROBERT D. KAPLAN**

bestselling author  
*"U.S.-China Relations"*



February 4th

**CARLA NORRLOF**

Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Toronto,  
*"International Relations in the Post-COVID Era"*



March 25th

**BENEDETTA BERTI**

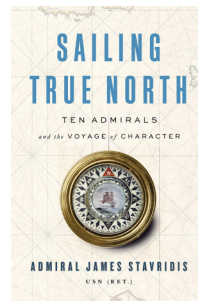
NATO policy advisor  
*"The Future of Human Security"*



## CITS SIGNATURE LECTURE

*“Geopolitics and  
Leadership in  
the Time of the  
Coronavirus”*

CITS, in cooperation with the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA), was honored to welcome Admiral James Stavridis as our signature speaker. Admiral Stavridis is a retired four-star U.S. Navy officer, who led the NATO Alliance from 2009 to 2013 as Supreme Allied Commander.



## CITS Research Colloquium

### **Megan Becker**

University of Southern California  
*“Is Research on the Resource Curse Robust? Evidence from a Qualitative Replication of Ross 2004”*

### **Orlandrew Danzell**

James Madison University  
*“Gender Differences in Education: Assessing the Influence of Education on Incidences of Terrorism Within Africa”*

### **Daniel Milton**

United States Military Academy  
*“Going Global: Why do Terrorist Groups Expand Their Operation?”*

### **Elizabeth Saunders**

Georgetown University  
*“The Insiders’ Game: Elites, Democracy, and War”*

# SLP

## Security Leadership Program



Greetings SLP Alumni and Friends,

I am thrilled to introduce myself and to update you on the development of the Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program (SLP). For more than 15 years the SLP has been the premier program at UGA for students pursuing careers in national and international security. I have had the opportunity to work closely with many SLP students since joining the Department of International Affairs in 2014, and it is truly my honor to serve as the Director of the program.

Despite the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, students in this year's SLP thrived academically. They put the policy writing and oral briefing skills they developed throughout

the semester to the test in a two-week simulation of the US National Security Council (NSC). As members of the NSC they collaborated to write a National Security Strategy, as well as juggled a number of "ripped- from-the-headlines" crises, such as an incident in the South China Sea, and several surprise crises. One student noted: "The NSC simulation was engaging and a brilliant way of teaching us real-world skills while allowing us to research in-depth... and come up with creative solutions."

Two key developments for the program this year were enhancing the rigor of the second-semester research course and improving connections with alumni. The second-semester independent research course was restructured to qualify as an "R" or research-intensive course through UGA's Honors College. This change will advance students' research and writing skills, and will serve them when applying to graduate schools, internships, and jobs at leading think tanks. At least 18 SLP students went on to present their research at conferences, two won awards including the Best Research Project from SPIA at the Center

for Undergraduate Research Opportunity's (CURO) Spring Symposium and UGA Library's Undergraduate Research Award, and several projects have become the basis for honors theses.

While in-person visits with alumni and security practitioners were limited, the SLP students met virtually with over a dozen UGA alumni/practitioners in the 2020-2021 academic year. These alumni provided valuable insights into their careers in the Foreign Service (Valerie Tucker), US Military and Intelligence Community (Warren Stembidge, Kenzie Milton, Stephen Greenway), CBRN Nonproliferation (Amber Morgan, Evan Thompson, Sara Zimskind, Shea Cotton), Consulting (Megan Gillahan, Julia Ricciardulli, Chetan Hebbale), and Economic Development and Human Security (Shannon Green, Alys Willman). We established a vibrant SLP alumni group on LinkedIn to share information about internships, jobs, events at CITS/SPIA, alumni spotlights, and foster a sense of community. If you're an SLP alum and would like to join the group please connect with me or "SLP CITS" on LinkedIn.

The reputation of the SLP as an exceptional on-campus opportunity for students interested in security careers led to an outstanding pool of candidates for the incoming 2021-2022 cohort. All of us at CITS are excited to welcome the new cohort of SLP students, who represent majors across campus including International Affairs, Computer Science, Russian, Arabic, Economics, and Management and Information Science. We are looking forward to resuming our annual spring break trip to Washington, DC in 2022 and introducing the new cohort to our dedicated alumni.

Best wishes,  
**Maryann E. Gallagher, Ph.D.**  
Director, Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program  
Senior Lecturer, Department of International Affairs



Students in the Fall 2020 SLP Practicum course participate in the National Security Council (NSC) Simulation.



SLP students and alumni organized a meet-up in DC, July 2021. Pictured from L to R: Haley Gamis, Tucker Boyce, Jonathan Lauria, Mennah Abdelwahab, Rosa Brown, Natalie Navarette, Emma Traynor, Valterri Tamminen, Solomon Green, Bobby Wetherington, Kevin Steel, Jacquelyn Harms, and Christopher Rosselot.

# SLP Research Projects - Fall 2020

## **Zainub Ali**

“Tracking the Presence of Protest in Oil Wealthy Rentier States from 2014-2015 with the Existence of ‘Weather the Shock’ Economic Policies”

## **Ian Allen**

“American Export Controls as Counter-China Trade Weapons”

## **Miranda Bourdeau**

“A New Space Race: Space Weaponry of the United States, Russia, and China”

## **Adrina Bradley**

“Sexual Violence & Disasters”

## **Mariah Cady**

“The 2015 European Refugee and Migrant Crisis: Press Coverage Across Germany and the United Kingdom”

## **Nia Evereteze**

“Female Recruiters for Terrorist Organizations”

## **Alex Fabre de la Grange**

“How Gender Impacts Equity in Terrorism Cases”

## **Alexa Hernandez**

“Online Recruitment by Far-Right Groups”

## **Sam Lombardo**

“How Regime Type Affects the Management Type and Zone Identification of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Latin America and the Caribbean”

## **David Mustard**

“Exploring China’s COVID-19 Health Assistance Patterns in Latin America”

## **Natalie Navarette**

“Russian Holistic Investment in Latin America: A Counter to the Security Interests of the United States”

## **Isaac Parham**

“Running Down the Clock: How IGOs Are Addressing the Impending Climate Catastrophe”

## **Rehna Sheth**

“A Comparative Analysis of Intra-state and Inter-state Violent Conflict on Education Enrollment and Completion Rates”

## **Emma Traynor**

“Combating Illicit Firearms Trafficking from the U.S. to Mexico”

## **Micha Wallezen**

“Nuclear Material Transportation Security”

# SLP Research Projects – Spring 2021

## **Ayah Abdelwahab**

“Friends or Foes: An Analysis of Individuals Sanctioned Under the Global Magnitsky Act”

## **Mennah Abdelwahab**

“Dangerous Women: Analyzing the Securitization of Female Protesters during the Egyptian Revolution”

## **Albert Chen**

“Reforming United States Financial Regulation to Secure Economic Influence in Asia”

## **Annabelle Cochran**

“Cannabis and the War on Terror: A Qualitative Report on the Impacts of Legalizing Marijuana on Counter-Terrorism Strategies”

## **Kendall Embry**

“Slavery & Security: Preventing Sexual Enslavement in Terrorist Organizations”

## **Xzavior Goeman**

“Insurgent Groups’ Bureaucracy and Intelligence”

## **Jonathan Lauria**

“National Security Risk Management: Applying the Framework of Enterprise Security Risk Management to the National Security Context”

## **Audrey Park**

“Reforming U.S. Countering Violent Extremism Programs through a Mental Health Framework”

## **Sahana Parker**

“The Mind and the Military: Defense Applications for Emerging Functional Neuroimaging Technology”

## **Lindsey Rhyne**

“From the Frying Pan into the Fire: Solutions for the US Asylum Seeker Immigration Process in the COVID-19 Pandemic”

## **Christopher Rosselot**

“Health of the Nation or Health of the Nation? Analyzing State Intentions Behind Discriminatory COVID-19 Vaccination Plans”

## **Nate Shear**

“How Should the US Approach High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium Fuel?”

## **Addie Sparks**

“Rebel Leader Goals and Indiscriminate Killing”

## **Kat Symons**

“The U.S. Army’s Attempt at Creating Lethal Combat Machines: An Analysis of the ACFT”

## **Andrew Zach**

“‘Send Lawyers, Guns, and a Dispersal Notice’: An Analysis of the Insurrection Act of 1807 and Its Application to the January 6th Capitol Riots”

# Master of International Policy

Dear Friends,

The previous year we witnessed an abrupt pause in the familiar rhythms that define life at the Center. For those in the Master of International Policy (MIP) program our normal class routines, the flow of students and guest speakers in and out of our offices, and the annual experiential travel events that we eagerly anticipate were all disrupted. What did not change this past year, however, was the steady focus and determination of our students as well as the dedication of our faculty, staff, and many partners.

In May 2021, 18 students walked across the graduation stage in Sanford Stadium to receive their Master of International Policy degree. Their two-year journey in the MIP program was uniquely challenging due to the impact of COVID-19 on the University's operations, but their perseverance was well rewarded. Members of the class of 2021 accepted a variety of positions across agencies in the U.S. government to include Sandia National Lab, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), and the Department of Defense (DOD). Others pursued opportunities at prominent think tanks and in private industry, most notably, the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), the Global American Business Institute (GABI), United Parcel Service (UPS), and the Energy Impact Center. A few of their colleagues elected to stay in academia accepting offers to doctoral programs at Johns Hopkins University and here at the University of Georgia as well as Boston College Law School.

Equally commendable was the continued dedication of the MIP's faculty, staff, and partners. Amid the challenges of the past year CITS worked closely with SPIA Dean Matt Auer to create new funding opportunities for MIP students

and to better integrate career support services. As a result, last year the MIP welcomed its inaugural class of Carter Vickers Research Society (CVRS) fellows—a group of four students competitively selected to participate in research activities guided by SPIA faculty. Ongoing collaboration with International Affairs department head, Dr. Amanda Murdie, led to revamping the MIP's core curriculum and expanding the menu of courses offered in the human security and non-proliferation tracks to better align with the interests and talents of core IA faculty. With the help of CITS senior fellow and Associate Professor of Engineering, Dr. David Gattie, we further broadened the MIP curriculum by adding an Energy Security track. New courses in this track, along with classes taught by Mr. Walt Sansot, Senior Nonproliferation Specialist at Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL), add a valuable technical component that distinguishes the MIP curriculum from other policy programs and enhances our students' competitiveness on the job market.

It's an exciting time to be part of the community of students, scholars, practitioners, and loyal alumni that comprise the MIP program. The continued success of our graduates combined with the experiential and technical aspects of our curriculum are fueling interest, boosting applications, and enabling us to enroll increasingly diverse and competitive cohorts. We look forward to welcoming these students back to campus and continuing to work with our many partners on training the next generation of security-policy professionals.

Best,

**Joshua Massey**

Director, Master of International Policy  
Senior Research Associate, Center for International  
Trade and Security



Joshua Massey

# 2021 MIP CAPSTONE PROJECTS

**Boris Abreu**, “It’s in the Air: The Coronavirus, Governmental Response, and Internet Trends”

**Alma Bajramovic**, “Effects on ICC Trials and Media Bias on National Social Cohesion”

**Imane Bassit**, “Party ideology and Immigration During the Covid-19 Pandemic”

**Katelyn Calk**, “How the Demand for Terrorism Is Met by Access to Family Planning”

**Elizabeth Carter**, “The Hidden Costs of Business as Usual: Exploring the Effects of Corporate Intention on Public-Private Partnerships”

**John William Christian**, “Heaviest Ever Imposed: Examining the Effects of Sanctions on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”

**Christina Chu**, “Subverting Asylum Rights: How the United States has Undermined International Standards for Refugee Protection”

**Sam Daly**, “Competition from Within: Ethnicity, Power, and Militant Group Rivalry”

**Sydney Dorawa**, “Securing Climate, Energy, and Global Security with Advanced Nuclear Reactors”

**Armin Fakhrai**, “Hezbollah’s Role in the Post-Soleimani Middle East: The U.S. Strategic Approach to Countering Iran’s Main Proxy”

**Samantha Gastelum**, “Mean Girls in America: Applying Lessons Learned Abroad to the Role of Women in Domestic Terrorism”

**Katherine Gillanders**, “The Race to 5G: National Security Implications of China’s Plan to Dominate Fifth Generation Technology”

**Colin Huff**, “Project Fortitude: Promoting U.S. Nuclear Growth in the 21st Century”

**Hannah Kelley**, “Terror Attacks on United States’ Soil and Presidential Administrations: Responding to a Knight or a Nemesis (1989 – 2019)”

**Sophie McMurray**, “Women and Gender in Countering Violent Extremism”

**Karan Pol**, “The Effect of the Fukushima-Daiichi Disaster on International Nuclear Policy and Communications”

**Ivan Ruiz**, “Food Sovereignty and Fair Trade in the Dominican Republic”

**Ryan Slusher**, “Attacking the Atom: Assessing China’s Anti-Nuclear Movement”

**Tsun Kai Tsai**, “Taiwan Policy: Is the United States Moving Away from Strategic Ambiguity?”

**Brooklyn Tucker**, “Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism in Schools: Evaluation of Existing Programs”



Professor Loch K. Johnson



## *Loch Johnson Society*

In 2020, CITS supported the establishment of the Loch Johnson Society, a student-led, non-partisan foreign policy organization. The organization aims to develop future policy leaders by engaging in dialogue on international security, trade, and related topics. The Society is named in honor of Dr. Loch Johnson, Regents Professor Emeritus of Public and International Affairs and Senior Fellow at CITS.

*My experience in DC was one that allowed me to interact with a variety of policy professionals dealing with issues ranging from nuclear security, cybersecurity, and trade and export policy. Being able to hear from experienced professionals at top think tanks and from professionals who craft policy within government institutions helped paint a clearer picture of the national security policy environment inside the Beltway.*

Borus Abreu

## *CITS Annual Trip to DC*

The CITS team was fortunate to make one final trip to DC before the pandemic set in. Thanks to the generous support of the Richard B. Russell Foundation, our students traveled to the nation's capital and learned first-hand from national security practitioners. Visits included the State Department and foreign policy think tanks like the Center for New American Security.









# CITS Field Visit to Plant Vogtle

Graduate students from the MIP program and undergraduate students from the SLP program, along with faculty and staff from CITS, visited Plant Vogtle near Waynesboro, Georgia. Vogtle is the site of the first new nuclear reactor construction in the United States in more than three decades.

The CITS team toured the under-construction units and gained a great deal of insight on the management and security of the vast facility. When complete, the new units will make significant contributions to the state's energy and economic portfolios.

# Counterproliferation Training



CITS faculty and staff traveled to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to deliver a two-day workshop for customs officials from the region. The workshop included 24 participants from four Southeast Asian countries: Malaysia, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines. The program was supported by the U.S. Department of State's Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction and featured a mixture of expert presentations, group discussions and simulations focused on mitigating United Nations-sanctioned commercial activity.

# Export Control Fellows Program



CITS faculty, staff and nonresident fellows welcomed several high-ranking export control professionals from Asia in support of the Department of Energy's Export Control Fellows Program. The participants received two weeks of intensive training on export control management, while designing and implementing their own research projects. During their time in Athens, this excellent cohort of professionals – from India, Pakistan and China – formed professional connections that have strengthened regional efforts at managing the trade of dual-use and strategic goods.



## Center for International Trade & Security

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