

**SPRING 2006  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH  
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 2**

**SESSION I**

**9:00 - 10:15 a.m.**

Challenges For Europe, Room MPB  
Morality and Social Responsibility, Room MPC  
Social Issues, Room Auditorium

**SESSION II**

**10:30 - 11:45 a.m.**

Security and Economics, Room MPB  
Protecting Victims of Violence, Room MPC  
Women and Development, Room Auditorium  
Children and Family Violence, Room 301

**DISCUSSANT BIOGRAPHIES**

**Page 9-12**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

**SESSION I  
9:00 - 10:15 A.M.**

**POLITICS OF PUBLIC SPENDING  
Discussant: James Desveaux, UCLA  
Room: MPB**

“Metro Systems” - *Andre Rocha (UCLA)*

“Unemployment and the US Disability Act” - *Angelica Velazquez (Davis)*

“What Makes Gun Control Work? A City Level Comparative Case Study” - *Derek Smith (Davis)*

“Monumentality in Ancient Rome and Washington DC: The Purpose of Architectural Forms” - *Zachary Hallock (UCLA)*

**INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY  
Gianni Zanini, World Bank  
Room: MPC**

“Lessons From the Euro For Asia” - *Ka Fai Chan (Davis)*

“EU vs. U.S. Patent Law” - *Victor Snellman (UCLA)*

“Mexican Corn Production Post-NAFTA” - *Brandon Eicher (UCLA)*

# THURSDAY, JUNE 1

## SESSION II

10:30 - 11:45 A.M.

### **ECONOMICS, SECURITY AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE**

**Discussant: Jay Parker, Center for the Study of the Presidency**

**Room: MPB**

“Post-Cold War Access Denial - Regional Instability and Diplomatic Uncertainty” - *Joseph Gatti (Davis)*

“The President of the United States of America: Rhetoric and Fear”  
- *Daren Blonski (Davis)*

“International Apologies - Why do States Apologize?” - *Eric Nusinow (UCLA)*

“Venezuelan Oil Relations: Deciding Between Chinese and American Companies” - *Neal Larkins (UCLA)*

### **ELECTORAL POLITICS**

**Discussant: Mike Murakami, UCB**

**Room: MPC**

“Make Me Look Good, Make Him Look Bad: Negative Campaigning and its Effects on Candidate Success” - *Holly Langbein (Davis)*

“Perception v. Reality: The Christian Right’s Influence on the Republican Party” - *Peter Vu (Davis)*

“Ladies to Leaders: How Women Become Heads of State”  
- *Amy Castellano (Davis)*

“Tax Policy as a Presidential Political Tool” - *Veronica Hernandez (Davis)*

### **HEALTH POLICY**

**Discussant: Bob Moffit, Heritage Foundation**

**Room: Auditorium**

“Evolution of Managed Care: A Microeconomic Analysis”  
- *Tom C.C. Wong (Davis)*

“America Debates Stem-Cell Research: An Analysis of Journalistic Issue Framing and its Effect on Public Opinion” - *Maura Reilly (Davis)*

“A Comparative Study of Mental Health Services Under Private Insurance in the United States and Universal Healthcare in Great Britain” - *Tarisha Bal (Davis)*

“National Influenza Immunization Policy” - *Matthew Chow (Davis)*

### **HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**Discussant: Eric Biel, Human Rights First**

**Room: 318**

“The United States Intervention in Cases of Human Rights Violation” - *Nwamaka Agbo (Davis)*

“Denial of the Armenian Genocide”- *Garó Manjikian (Davis)*

“Shopping for Freedom: Domestic Asylum Policy As A Determinant of International Refugee Flow” - *Jonathan Forney (UCLA)*

“African Civil War – Catalyst for Disease” - *Maryam Biazar (Davis)*

## **THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

### **SESSION III**

**1:30 - 2:45 P.M.**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**Discussant: Steve DeCanio, UCSB**

**Room, MPB**

“Transnational Tobacco Cultivation: An Environmental Disgrace”  
- *Courtney Burks (Davis)*

“The Driving Forces Behind Hybrid Cars in the United States”  
- *Ilana Van Allen (UCLA)*

“The 2003 Healthy Forest Restoration Act and its Impact on Forest Ecology” - *Janamarie Salocks (Davis)*

“International Law and the Environment” - *Shane Chalmers (UCLA)*

**DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIZATION**  
**Discussant: Joe Wright, UCLA**  
**Room, MPC**

“The Effect of Trade Policy on Democratization: The Case of China” - *Davis Hake (Davis)*

“Whither Ukraine: The Edge of Liberalism” - *Oleg Ivanov (UCLA)*

“The Evolving Media: Blogs as an Agent of Democratizing Change” - *Elicia Schmidt-Hopper (Davis)*

“Elite Powerbrokers and the GOP” - *Gabriel Mizrahi (UCLA)*

**EDUCATION POLICY**  
**Discussant: James Desveaux, UCLA**  
**Room, Auditorium**

“No Child Left Behind” - *Grace Chen (UCLA)*

“Community College Transfers” - *Serena Salinas (UCLA)*

“Integrating Social and Environmental Factors in Private Equity Investments” - *Paul Aaron (UCLA)*

**THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

**SESSION IV  
3:00 - 4:15 P.M.**

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Discussant: Todd Moss, Center for Global Development  
Room: MPB**

“The Decision Making Process for Allocating International Aid”  
- *Ellen Kersten (UCLA)*

“The International Tobacco Trade and Developing Countries”  
- *Miranda Wang (UCLA)*

“Why have El Salvador and Nicaragua Taken Divergent Paths?”  
- *Kenneth Urbina (UCLA)*

“World Bank and IMF Debt Relief: The HIPC Initiative’s Effect on  
Development and Growth” - *Michael Hernandez (Davis)*

**IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION POLICY**

**Discussant: Jeanne Batalova, Migration Policy Institute  
Room: MPC**

“Looking Beyond The Surface: Why NAFTA Has Not  
Successfully Controlled the Flow of Immigration Across the  
Border” - *Gurinder Grewal (Davis)*

“Cardinal Roger Mahony: The Los Angeles Voice for Immigration  
Reform” - *Lauren Clementino (UCLA)*

“Border Control” - *Ashley Frazier (UCLA)*

“A Comparative Study of the Effects of Early 20th Century  
Anarchy and September 11th on Immigration Policy” -  
*Veronica Ramirez (Davis)*

“Federal Government Reimbursements for Educational Costs of  
Illegal Immigration” - *Nathan Miller (UCLA)*

## **DYNAMICS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**Tim Kane, Heritage Foundation**

**Room, Auditorium**

“Outsourcing: The Choice between India and China” - *Aayush Jain (Davis)*

“The Economic Impact of Government Policies on Genetically Modified Organisms” - *Kathryn Vouri (Davis)*

“The Criteria of Success in Staging the Olympics” - *Kitty Tong (Davis)*

“What is the Effect of Globalization on Environmental Sustainable Development of Ecotourism?” - *Josie T.K. Wong (Davis)*

“21st Century Policy Challenges for American Innovation”  
- *Allen Acosta (UCLA)*

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 2**

### **SESSION I**

**9:00 - 10:15 a.m.**

## **CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE**

**Robert Guttman, The Johns Hopkins University, SAIS**

**Room: MPB**

“The U.S. Info-Communications Sector and Threats to French Culture” - *Edith Bouteiller (Davis)*

“The European Constitution: The Verdict Is In” - *Anastasia Bondarchuk (Davis)*

“EU Unification” - *Kristin Calson (UCLA)*

**MORALITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**Steven Taylor, American University**  
**Room: MPC**

“Morality? A Study of Church Burnings in South Carolina”  
- *Powell Degange (Davis)*

“White Wives and Black Slave Mistresses in the Ante-Bellum South” - *Melissa Montoya-Torres (Davis)*

“Federal Anti-Hate Crimes Legislation” - *Pamela Chung (UCLA)*

**SOCIAL ISSUES**  
**Robert Stoker, George Washington University**  
**Room: Auditorium**

“Opportunity: Examining the Number of African Americans in the NBA and MLB” - *Jennifer Anderson (Davis)*

“Impact of Community-Based Volunteer Programs on the Social Health of Needy, Hard-to-Reach Elderly” - *Nikkianna Dyer (UCLA)*

“Why Do Poor People Make Poor Decisions?” - *Leoncio Martin (Davis)*

“Drugs as Criminal or Social Issue?: A Comparative Study of Dutch and American Drug Policy” - *Gabriel Garcia (Davis)*

**FRIDAY, JUNE 2**

**SESSION II**

**10:30 – 11:45 a.m.**

**SECURITY AND ECONOMICS**

**Jamus Lim, UCSC**

**Room: MPB**

“The Economic Solution to the War on Terror: How Can US Trade Policy Promote Liberalization in Islamic Countries?” - *Neel Kothari (Davis)*

“Private Security and the Civil-Military Relationship: Case Studies of Private Security’s Impact on the Relationship Between Civil and Military Institutions” - *Robert Brathwaite (UCLA)*

“Framing Magnanimity: National Security and the Framing of Foreign Assistance Reform” - *Tristan Reed (UCLA)*

“Fortunes of War: The Development of Europe’s Aerospace Defense Industry” - *Matthew Erickson (Davis)*

**PROTECTING VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE**

**Lisa Newmark, Consultant**

**Room: MPC**

“An Evolution of Law – Invisible Victims Seeking Protection Under the Violence Against Women Act” - *Gina Wells (Davis)*

“U.S. Trafficking in Persons Policy: Investigating the Limited Success of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000” - *Monica Crooms (UCLA)*

“The Impact of U.S. Policy on Human Trafficking and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act” - *Joan-Alexis Rabutaso (UCLA)*

“Enacting Laws on Immigration and Women Victims of Domestic Violence” - *Shalani Ramos (UCLA)*

**WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Loubna Hanna, American University**  
**Room: Auditorium**

“Women's Economic Development Programs: Middle East/South Asia” - *Amber Sheikh (Davis)*

“Gender Equality and HIV in Developing Countries”- *Jennifer Young (Davis)*

“Women's Development: Microfinance and Health” - *Briana Gladstern (Davis)*

“Invisible Injuries, Ignored Inequities: The International Responsibility to Prevent Obstetric Fistula in Sub-Saharan Africa” - *Cassandra Gardener (Davis)*

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY VIOLENCE**  
**Robert Geen, Urban Institute**  
**Room: 301**

“Abusive Families to Treatment: An Evaluation of High Risk Youth”  
- *Lori Kunihara (Davis)*

“Mediation in Family Court” - *Ashley Bedingfield (UCLA)*

“Video Games: Content May Not Be Suitable for Children” - *Raven Keene (Davis)*

## DISCUSSANT BIOGRAPHIES

**JEANNE BATALOVA** is a Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute and runs the Migration Information Source, a one-stop, web-based migration resource for journalists, policymakers, opinion shapers and researchers. Her expertise covers skilled and professional migration; impacts of immigration on social structure and labor markets; immigrant children and transitions into adulthood; immigration and multiracial identification; and social characteristics of elderly immigrants. She holds an MA in Demographic and Social Analysis and a PhD in Sociology from the University of California at Irvine with a focus on labor market impacts of highly skilled immigration.

**ERIC BIEL** is Deputy Director and Senior Counsel in the Washington DC office of Human Rights First. Biel directs the operations of the Washington office, supervises the legislative and advocacy staff, and covers a range of legal and policy issues, focusing in particular on international justice, human rights defenders, and business and human rights issues. Biel received his B.A. from Johns Hopkins in 1981 and a joint J.D.-M.P.A. degree in 1985 from Yale Law School and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton.

**STEPHEN J. DECANIO** is Professor of Economics at UC Santa Barbara, and Director of the UCSB Washington Program. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1972. He served as Senior Staff Economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers (1986-1987), and four times has been a member of the Economic Options Panel convened by the United Nations Environment Programme to review economic aspects of the Montreal Protocol.

**JAMES DESVEAUX** is Associate Director of the Center for American Politics and Public Policy at UCLA, Director of Washington Programs for UCLA, and a member of the UCLA political science department. He is an expert in organization theory, public administration, and public policy. His principal focus is on the connection between organizational design and decision making capacity. Desveaux is the author of *Designing Bureaucracies: Institutional Capacity and Large-Scale Problem Solving* (Stanford University Press), and numerous

articles. He is currently working on a book project about the constraints on policy innovation in American public bureaucracy.

**ROBERT GEEN** is Director of the Child Welfare Research Program at the Urban Institute. Over the past 15 years, his research has focused on a wide range of child welfare issues including child abuse and neglect investigation and substantiation, family preservation and support, kinship care, adoption, child welfare financing, and the impact of welfare reform on child welfare. He is currently directing evaluations of the Dave Thomas Foundation's Wendy's Wonderful Kids Program and the Freddie Mac Foundation's Wednesday Child Program. He is also participating in the Multi-Site Evaluation of Foster Youth Programs and the National Court Improvement Evaluation. Mr. Geen is currently serving as a William T. Grant Foundation Distinguished Fellow with the U.S House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, Democratic staff.

**ROBERT GUTTMAN** is editor-in-chief of TRANSATLANTIC: Europe, America & the World, a bi-monthly magazine published at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at The Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C. A veteran editor, Guttman served 15 years at the European Commission delegation in Washington, D.C. as editor of Europe Magazine and 12 years as editor of Political Profiles Magazine, a magazine he founded. Guttman has been an adjunct professor of political communications at The George Washington University and an adjunct professor of American politics and communications at The American University in Washington, D.C. Guttman has a BA degree from Indiana University and an MA degree from The American University.

**LOUBNA SKALLI HANNA** is Professor of International Communication and International Development in the School of International Service at American University. Prior to this, she taught media, gender and culture at Ibn Tofail University, Morocco (1987-2002). She received her PhD in Mass Communication from Penn State University, and her MA in Cross-Cultural Studies from Essex University, England. Hanna's research and teaching are in the areas of development, communications and culture, with a particular focus on gender in the Middle East and North Africa. She is the co-author of *Vulture Culture: the Politics and Pedagogy of Talk Shows* (Peter Lang, 2005); author

of a forthcoming book *The Articulation of the Local and the Global: Women's Press in Morocco* (Rowman and Littlefield).

**TIM KANE** is the Director of the Center for International Trade and Economics at the Heritage Foundation and a leading scholar on economic policy issues. His areas of expertise are labor economics, macroeconomics, fiscal policy, economic growth, technology diffusion, and entrepreneurship. Prior to arriving at Heritage, Kane was a senior economist at the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress and a professor of economics at Occidental College and San Diego State University. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Kane earned his Bachelor of Science degree with a double major in economics and political science. He was awarded a Ph.D. in economics at the University of California, San Diego in 2001. Kane served two tours of duty in the US Air Force as an intelligence officer.

**JAMUS LIM** is a PhD candidate in the international economics program at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and will start as an assistant professor in the economics department at Centre College in the fall of 2006. His primary research focus lies at the intersection of international finance and positive political economy, although his other interests include international political economy, information technology policy, and international development.

**ROBERT MOFFIT** is Director of the Center for Health Policy Studies at the Heritage Foundation. He specializes in Medicare reform, health insurance, and other health policy issues. Moffitt joined Heritage in 1991 and developed a response to President Clinton's plan to nationalize the country's health care system. Moffitt continues to be an advocate of a consumer-driven approach. He also works on topics of social security reform, crime, and school choice. Moffitt received his PhD from the University of Arizona. During the Reagan Administration, he served as the Assistant Director of Congressional Relations in the Office of Personnel Management and as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

**TODD MOSS** is a Research Fellow at the Center for Global Development. His work focuses on US-Africa relations and financial issues facing sub-Saharan Africa, including policies that affect private capital flows, debt, and aid. His current research is on portfolio

investment flows to low-income countries, the role of private corporations in development, and an assessment of private sector development strategies. Moss is the author of numerous articles and books, including *Adventure Capitalism: Globalization and the Political Economy of Stock Markets in Africa* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003). He received his BA from Tufts University and his PhD from the University of London.

**MICHAEL MURAKAMI** is a graduate fellow and doctoral candidate at the University of California at Berkeley. His research and teaching interests include American public opinion, campaigns and elections, race and ethnic politics, and congressional careers. His dissertation is on the consequences of party polarization for electoral politics, and he has forthcoming articles on the reaction of public opinion to Brown vs. Board, the cause of greater retirement among House Republicans, and the political assimilation of Hispanic immigrants. He received his B.A. in Economics from Harvard in 2001.

**LISA NEWMARK** has been a Crime Victim Consultant for the last two years, having been a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute for the previous 12 years. She is currently involved in several policy and program development initiatives, including a victim-oriented component to offender re-entry, and a resource center for survivors of homicide. Her research experience includes the national evaluation of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration projects; an evaluation of Brooklyn's felony domestic violence court; the national evaluation of Victims of Crime Act programs; an evaluation of Maryland's crime victim compensation program; and the national process evaluation of the Violence Against Women Act STOP grant program. She received her PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Connecticut.

**JAY M. PARKER** is Vice President of the Center for the Study of the Presidency. He joined the Center after 26 years of service as a United States Army officer, retiring from active duty in the rank of Colonel. In his last assignment, he was Professor of Political and International Affairs and Director of International Relations and National Security Studies, Department of Social Sciences, United States Military Academy at West Point. His teaching and research areas include International Relations, Security Studies, American

Foreign Policy, Mass Media, and East Asian Politics. Parker served as a member of the advisory committees for the Museum of Television and Radio Satellite Seminar Series – “Learning From The Last War: The Media and The Military” and “9/11: The Media Responds.” He holds MAs in Political Communication and Public Affairs from Arizona State University, an MA in International Relations from the University of Southern California, and a PhD in International Relations from Columbia University.

**ROBERT P. STOKER** is an Associate Professor of Political Science at George Washington University. He received his Ph.D., in 1983 from the University of Maryland. Stoker's research and teaching interests are in the field of public policy. His book, *Reluctant Partners: Implementing Federal Policy*, described the difficulties of policy implementation in a context of diffuse authority. He is currently completing a book with Laura Wilson on the subject of wage subsidy. Stoker teaches courses relating to policy analysis methods, the politics of the policy making process, and social policy problems.

**STEVEN TAYLOR** is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Affairs at American University. He received his BA from the State University of New York, College at Buffalo and his M.A. and PhD from the University of Minnesota. His teaching and research focus on urban politics, the politics of race and ethnicity, civil rights and liberties, and political culture both in the U.S. and West Africa. He is the author of *Desegregation in Boston and Buffalo: The Influence of Local Leaders*. He has published articles in the *Journal of Global Awareness*, *The Historical Journal of Massachusetts*, *Urban Education*, *The Negro Educational Review*, and *The American Historical Review*. Taylor has been awarded fellowships by the Ford Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation.

**JOE WRIGHT** is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Political Science Department at UCLA. In 2005-2006 he was the Foreign Policy Fellow at the Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation (UCSD). His research interests lie in comparative political economy of the developing world. Joe has written on foreign aid, political development and economic growth; authoritarian regime survival and democratization; and budgetary politics and military spending in Latin America. He received

a B.A. in Spanish Literature from Washington University (St. Louis, MO) and a M.A. in Political Economy.

**GIANNI ZANINI** is Lead Economist at the World Bank Institute, Trade Learning Program. He works for the Poverty Reduction & Economic Management department.