

Thought for the week: "An author is little to be valued who tells us nothing but what can be learned from every coffee-house conversation."

-- Scottish philosopher David Hume

## Articles & Achievements

**Greg Williams** has won a Multidisciplinary Environmental Research Award. The Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering (CESE) funded the \$5,000 research grant. The program requires that the student have a mentor in two different departments and that the research relate to environmental studies. **Ernie Zirakzadeh** and Nat Trumbull (Geography) are mentoring Greg.

Greg's project investigates the question, what may make climate change agreements attractive to states? Russia's decision to ratify the Kyoto Protocol is one that could potentially constrain its economic development. Greg's project seeks to advance the literature on the nature of climate change agreements in general through an analysis of Kyoto's potential effect on Russia and

the decision-making process surrounding ratification. He employs a combined game theoretical framework will be used to rediscover Kyoto ratification and explain why it became both rationally sound and politically possible in Russia. At the domestic level, it appears that Putin made ratification politically possible through the elimination of what are called veto-players with the potential to block Kyoto. At the international level, ratification will be shown to be logically sound through a discussion of nested games. Russia, at the time of ratification, was engaged in multiple games both in domestic and international levels. Although Russia appeared to choose sub-optimally, its decision becomes optimal when one analyzes the whole network of games with which it was engaged.

### Tufts Hosts Middle East Conference

The Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies at Tufts University presents "The United States and the Middle East: What Comes Next After Iraq?" on **March 27-28, 2008**.

The conference aims to identify issues pertaining to the Middle East that will be of concern to Americans in the coming years. The conference will consist of a series of lectures and panels.

The Honorable Lee Hamilton, President and Director, Woodrow

Wilson International Center for Scholars; Co-Chair, Iraq Study Group; Vice-Chair, 9/11 Commission will present "Iraq: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond."

General Anthony Zinni, U.S. Peace Envoy in the Middle East; Commander of the Combined Task Force for Operation UNITED SHIELD will present "Iraq: Lessons Learned" (via webcast).

For more information, visit <http://farescenter.tufts.edu>.

### Farmington Library Hosts Lecture

The Farmington Library is hosting noted historian Jeremi Suri on **Saturday, March 29 at 2 PM**. Professor Suri will deliver a lecture, "Henry Kissinger and the American Century." The library requires reservations. For more information or to make reservations, call the library at 860-673-6791. More information is available online [www.farmingtonlibct.org](http://www.farmingtonlibct.org). The library is located at 6 Monteith Drive in Farmington.

Suri is a Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of *Power and Protest: Global Revolution and the Rise of Detente* (Harvard University Press, 2003) and *Henry Kissinger and the American Century* (Harvard University Press, 2007). He has contributed to many major newspapers including the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Washington Times*. The History News Network named Suri one of the nation's top young historians. Smithsonian Magazine calls Suri a Top Young Innovator in the Arts and Sciences.

### Alumni Information

If you have information about undergraduate or graduate alumni that you would like to see in the *Monday Morning*, please email Wes Renfro at [wesley.renfro@uconn.edu](mailto:wesley.renfro@uconn.edu).

## Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships Available

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education is sponsoring a limited number of Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships for the Summer and Fall of 2008. The amount of the fellowship is \$2,000. Awards are awarded competitively, involving the rank ordering of applicants by faculty in various program areas if the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of available fellowships.

Eligibility requirements include: certification that the applicant's total personal income will not exceed \$32,500 for the twelve months preceding the end date of the requested fellowship period; documented satisfactory completion of the General Exam; and full approval of the Dissertation Proposal by the Executive Committee of the Graduate Faculty Council (including full and current IRB or IACUC approval for the use of any human and/or animal subjects involved in the research).

In addition, a fellowship recipient may not defend his or her

dissertation prior to 8/24/08. Individuals can only win the award once.

Click on the Doctoral Fellowship Program link on the Graduate School Web site at [www.grad.uconn.edu](http://www.grad.uconn.edu) to access a printable version of the two-page application form. Submit one original to Thomas B. Peters, Program Director, Graduate School, Unit 1006, Storrs, CT 06269-1006; Whetten Graduate Center (second floor). Applications are due at 4:00 PM on **May 30**.

### South African Postdocs Announced

The Claude Leon Foundation in South Africa is offering several two year postdoctoral fellowships at South African University. The foundation encourages scholars interested in topics related to the South African military, including the South African military and network-centric approaches and topics related to science, engineering, or medicine. The deadline for applications is **May 23, 2008**. For more information, visit [www.leonfoundation.co.za](http://www.leonfoundation.co.za).

## Submission Guide

Submissions for publication in *Monday Morning* should be placed in the submission box in Monteith Hall, Room 137, or can be submitted by email to Wes Renfro at [wesley.renfro@uconn.edu](mailto:wesley.renfro@uconn.edu). Please feel free to submit any suggestions or comments. If you would like to submit publications, presentations, invited talks, etc. for *Monday Morning*, please include an abstract of your work so it may be published.

## Middle East Group Offers Membership

The Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) is an academic society that seeks to advance research and discourse on the region.

Membership in ASMEA for the 2007-2008 academic year is free to teaching professionals, students, and academic institutions. To become a member, visit [www.asmeascholars.org/Membership/MembershipOverview/tabid/657/Default.aspx](http://www.asmeascholars.org/Membership/MembershipOverview/tabid/657/Default.aspx).

## Upcoming Events and Colloquia

Date and Time	Location	Presenter and Title
March 28, 2:00 PM	Monteith 119	Dawn Brancati (Harvard and Washington University), TBA
April 4, 12:00 PM	Monteith 119	Sharon Krause (Brown University), TBA
April 11, 12:00 PM	Monteith 119	Richard Snyder (Brown University), TBA
April 16, 12:00 PM	Monteith 119	Ronald Schurin, "Are We There Yet? Are We Happy? Sixty Years of Movement Toward Ideologically Coherent Political Parties"