History and Funding

The Ford Institute is a part of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs [GSPIA] at the University of Pittsburgh. It is dedicated to advancing the study and practice of human security by conducting policy-oriented academic research, providing resources on human security to a broad audience, and reaching out to a network of scholars and organizations engaged in human security work. Inaugurated in 2003 as a research institute with an endowment from the Ford Motor Company, under the direction of Professor Simon Reich, the Ford Institute expanded to include instructional support in addition to research. The Institute was instrumental in developing one of the first human security majors in the country. In 2009, Dean John T. S. Keeler appointed Dr. Taylor B. Seybolt as Director of the Institute. Then in 2011, Dr. Louis A. Picard served as Ford’s third director until Dr. Seybolt returned to the role in 2015.

GSPIA’s human security major, coupled with the opportunities provided by the Ford Institute, now attracts graduate students from across the United States and around the world. The Institute’s faculty affiliates conduct cutting-edge research from a range of disciplinary perspectives, including political science, economics, public health, sociology, and education. The continuous endowment funds and project-specific grants from other funders support the work of the Institute.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ford Institute for Human Security is to promote effective responses to severe threats faced by individuals and their communities as a result of conflict and deprivation. To that end, the Institute conducts research on the causes and consequences of political violence and economic underdevelopment and works to advance the idea that governments have a sovereign responsibility to protect their people.

Objectives

To fulfill this mission, the Ford Institute designs activities to achieve three core objectives:

• To build the human security program at GSPIA by providing students with educational programming and experiences.
• To develop a collaborative network of scholars and practitioners throughout the University and in the wider Pittsburgh community.
• To contribute to the growing field of human security nationally and internationally through policy-oriented academic research.

ON THE COVER:
Workshop on Human Security and Violence in 21st Century Cities: From Vulnerability to Resilience was made possible by a grant from the UCIS Global Studies Center. It was held at Pitt on November 14-15, 2016 and co-sponsored by the Ridgway Center for International Security Studies.
The Ford Institute for Human Security continues its dedication to the intellectual growth and practical development of human security as a vital topic of research and practice. Our programming is guided by the three pillars of physical security, economic security, and governance based on rights and the rule of law. This report proudly highlights the Institute's activities during the 2016-2017 academic year. I offer here a summary of the accomplishments of our affiliated faculty and students.

Our affiliated faculty were prolific, publishing three books, thirteen articles, four book chapters, three reports, twenty working papers, and one dataset during the 2016-2017 academic year. The quality of output matches, some might say exceeds, the quantity of work, with books published by Harvard and Cambridge University Presses, an award-winning conference paper, and articles placed in highly ranked journals. This year’s report introduces the “faculty spotlight” that provides a précis of the current research of our faculty. Our first faculty spotlight shines on Jen Murtazashvili and Ilia Murtazashvili, who connect their work on property rights to economic and political vulnerabilities.

This was the second year for the Ford Institute’s two competitions designed to encourage human security research. First, the Faculty Research Grant competition to support research and writing by non-tenured faculty attracted applicants from a variety of departments within the university. Dr. Matiangai V.S. Sirleaf, a professor in the School of Law, won a grant for her research on global health inequities and the distribution of infectious diseases. Second, Cynthia Caul (MID'16) won the annual Simon Reich Prize for the best student paper on a human security topic. Her paper showed that women are disproportionately affected by the lack of water access caused by climate change in the northern regions of Ghana.

The Institute co-organized a workshop, in November 2016, titled “Human Security and Violence in 21st Century Cities: From Vulnerability to Resilience.” Specialists in urban studies from the U.S., South America, Asia, and Africa came to Pittsburgh for three nights and two days of discussion. The two-year project includes a second workshop to be held in April 2018, with the expectation of producing an edited volume on the challenges and promises of human security in urban settings.

The Ford Institute Speaker Series sponsored a dozen talks by academics, activists, and artists last year. With numerous other speaker series competing for students’ and faculty members’ scant time, we seek to provide a venue for scholar-practitioners who combine interesting experiences with analytical thinking. With an average audience of about 30 people, we seem to have succeeded in bringing interesting people to campus.

GSPIA remains unique among policy schools in offering human security as a major. This status helps the school to attract students and it also presents a challenge: even those who are interested in the topic are unsure of its boundaries and how to organize their studies accordingly. To provide guidance, I proposed to the faculty a simple fix, namely that the list of classes that count toward the major be categorized according to the same three pillars that guide the work of the Ford Institute: physical security, economic security, and governance based on rights and the rule of law. It will take some time to see whether the new way of thinking about the major is beneficial to the students. In the short-term, the initiative has inspired review and articulation of the other majors in the International Affairs program.

The Ford Institute has the very good fortune to benefit from the hard work and dedication of numerous people. First among those who deserve recognition is Diane Roth Cohen, the Institute’s assistant director, without whom this organization and I would be at a loss. Please take a moment to look at the end of this report where you will find the list of volunteers and affiliates who are the lifeblood of the Ford Institute for Human Security.

Sincerely,

Dr. Taylor B. Seybolt
Director, Ford Institute for Human Security

www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu
Ford Institute People

The Ford Institute for Human Security is fortunate to be able to draw on the talents of faculty and student affiliates who contribute valuable ideas and energy.

Ford Institute Staff
Dr. Taylor B. Seybolt, Director
Dr. Chris A. Belasco, Research and Analysis Coordinator
Diane Roth Cohen, Assistant Director

Research Associates
Elizabeth Bell
Jennifer M. Bert
Hantian Geng
Tiffany Tse
Rachel Vinciguerra
Emma Wallis
Mallory Womble

Advisory Group
The Advisory Group helps establish the priorities and guide the activities of the Ford Institute. Serving on the Advisory Group during the 2016-2017 academic year are:

- Dr. Jay Aronson, Associate Professor, History Department, Carnegie Mellon University
- Nicholas Chakos, Executive Director, FOCUS North America
- Dawn Close, Founder and Executive Director, Economic Empowerment Advisor (FREE), GSPIA alumna
- Dr. Joshua Forrest, Associate Professor and Department Chair, History Department, La Roche College
- Daniel Giovanelli, Executive Director, Global Solutions Pittsburgh (served on the Advisory Group until January 1, 2017)
- Dr. Charles Gochman, Associate Professor, Political Science Department, University of Pittsburgh
- Terry Jeggle, Consultant in humanitarian aid and development
- Dr. Paul Nelson, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, GSPIA, University of Pittsburgh
- Jennifer Novelli, Executive Director, Building New Hope, GSPIA alumna
- Dr. Louis Picard, Professor and Division Director for International Development, GSPIA, University of Pittsburgh
- Greg Smith, Board Member, FREE
- Dr. Martin Staniland, Professor, GSPIA, University of Pittsburgh
- Dr. Peter Walker, Dean and Professor, Falk School of Sustainability & Environment, Chatham University

Affiliated Faculty
The names and biographies of Ford Institute faculty affiliates appear on page 14 of the report.

Affiliated Students
During the academic year, 46 students were associated with the Institute doing in-depth analyses of cutting-edge issues, authoring news stories about our programs, and working on administrative support for the Institute. The names of our students appear at the end of the report.
Ford Institute Programs in 2016-2017

Ford Institute programs are designed to provide educational resources, build interest, and promote leading-edge research for a broad audience of students, practitioners, and intellectuals. Our programming is structured around three priorities that reflect the distinctive interdisciplinary nature of the field of human security, namely, freedom from fear, freedom from want, and adherence to human rights and the rule of law. We continued our record of bringing a wide range of people, resources, and ideas to GSPIA and the broader Pittsburgh community, while expanding the opportunities for GSPIA students to be directly involved in building the field.

Research

In programs designed for each cohort separately and through collaborative work, the Ford Institute supports human security research by students and faculty.

2017 Simon Reich Prize for Student Research

The Simon Reich Human Security Research Award is named in honor of Simon Reich, the Institute’s founding director, who served from 2003-2008. It encourages GSIA students to conduct high quality research and write from a human security perspective. Both student submissions and faculty nominations are accepted by the Ford Institute. This year’s winner was Cynthia Caul (MID’16). Her paper, “Improving and diversifying water access to mitigate the disproportionate impacts of climate change on women in northern Ghana,” focused on how women are disproportionally affected by the lack of water access caused by climate change in the northern regions of Ghana. Caul graduated in December 2016 and now works in Pittsburgh as Outreach and Research Coordinator at Chatham University’s new Center for Regional Agriculture, Food and Transformation.

2016-2017 Research Grant for Faculty

The Ford Institute Faculty Research Grant competition is designed to support non-tenured faculty who are engaged in human security research and writing. The competition was restricted in its first year to GSPIA faculty and, starting in 2017, was expanded to the broader university community. In May 2017, Matiangai V.S. Sirleaf was selected as the third grant recipient. Professor Sirleaf’s research focuses on the challenges international institutions confront as they attempt to systematically provide redress for survivors of human rights violations in resource-constrained contexts. With the support of the grant, she developed her latest project, Shared but Differentiated Responsibility for Combatting Highly Infectious Neglected Diseases. In it, she argues that a shared conceptualization of responsibility is necessary to effectively deal with infectious diseases, given their potential to become worldwide pandemics. She maintains that the principle of common but differentiated responsibility should be expanded and applied in the field of global public health law. With the grant, Professor Sirleaf will have the opportunity to disseminate her work at two professional conferences, for review and feedback to sharpen her equity arguments for expanding international responsibility norms to better protect human rights and alleviate the large-scale human suffering caused by infectious diseases.

Model African Union Conference

The 6th Annual Model African Union Conference was hosted by the African Studies Program, with support from the Ford Institute for Human Security, on March 23, 2017. The all-day conference for high school students provided a forum for students to engage in debates and discussions on the role of the African Union in contemporary African affairs.
school students in the Pittsburgh area was an educational simulation in which students role-played delegates to the African Union and learned about diplomacy and international relations. This year, the conference brought together 300 students from 16 schools for a day of debate and discussion about diverse issues facing the African continent. Pitt students volunteered to chair the committees, moderate debates, and serve as cultural ambassadors for the high school delegates.

Dr. Macrina Chelagat Lelei of the African Studies Program coordinates this event each year. She said of the event, “The conference not only serves as an exposure to debate, but also a means of cultivating awareness of the issues facing the African continent. [Students] are able to understand the issues in comparative and global context.”

In addition to the model Union, students enjoyed a lunch of African foods, songs, and a dance workshop provided by the Pitt Student Yabasso Dance Team. Throughout the event, high school delegates and Pitt student volunteers connected over their commitment to human security issues and cross-cultural understanding as it relates to the African continent.

**Wilson Center Collaboration with Dr. Müge Finkel**

In May 2016, Dr. Müge Finkel was invited to join the Wilson Center’s board for the Women in Public Service Project (WPSP) following the Ford Institute’s Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) Working Group’s research presentation at the United Nations in New York. The WPSP was started in 2011 by former Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, to mobilize the next generation of women on issues of critical importance in public service.

After Dr. Finkel’s installation as a WPSP board member, she drafted a policy brief for WPSP, identifying critical data gaps relevant to WPSP’s policy goals. The policy brief establishes quantitative and qualitative evidence of the benefits of women’s participation in public service and highlights the current lack of centralized data on the subject. The brief is a part of the coordinated efforts of WPSP to make a case for the value of this data, establish the gaps, and create a new index where data can be analyzed to better understand gender parity in public and civic life globally.

In March 2017, Dr. Finkel participated in the Wilson Center’s “50 by 50” event in Washington, D.C. calling for 50% representation of women in elected and appointed policy and political leadership by 2050. The Wilson Center launched a data resource portal for global women’s leadership in February 2017.

**Workshop on Human Security and Violence in 21st Century Cities: From Vulnerability to Resilience**

The concentration of populations in urban environs poses increasingly critical challenges to human security. Estimations that two-thirds of the global population will live in cities by 2050 and one of every three individuals will reside in cities with populations of 500,000 or more by 2030 highlight the critical importance of understanding the vulnerability of urban populations to political and criminal violence, natural disasters, climate change, and poverty.

The Ford Institute for Human Security, the Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies, and the Urban Studies Program of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences developed a two-year project titled Confronting Vulnerability and Violence in the Urban Century to focus on these issues. External collaborators include the Pan American Health Organization and the United Nations University—Centre for Policy Research. Funding for the project is provided primarily by The International Development Research Centre and the Global Academic Partnership (“GAP”) program through the Global Studies Center of the University Center for International Studies and the Office of the Provost of the University of Pittsburgh.

With the following questions in mind, the project seeks to understand the intersection of development and security for inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities.

1. How do we understand current development and future trajectories in an era of rapid urbanization, globalization, and growing inequalities?
2. What are the main drivers of violence in cities?
3. Why are there varying patterns of violence within different metropolitan areas?
4. What are the types of violence, and who are the perpetrators of each type?
5. What are the indicators of the possible transitions between “smart,” “fragile,” and “feral” cities?

University researchers and invited scholars aim to identify possible actors, policy concerns, and actions that can be made by governments in the context of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The project partners plan to produce a book about urban affairs, evolving governance, and human security.

The first author workshop was held in November 2016, with presentations by seven international speakers, seven U.S. speakers, and ten University of Pittsburgh faculty and PhD candidates about the complexities and unique challenges of different types of cities. The second workshop will be held in the spring of 2018.

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Climate Change: 5 student researchers

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Climate Change Working Group built upon its prior work on climate change and migration in Bangladesh. The group worked on developing a set of scenarios to examine possible outcomes of climate-induced migration in Bangladesh and Vietnam. While research shows that it is likely there will be an increase in the number of vulnerable families who are forced to relocate due to climate change, there is not a good understanding of what is likely to happen in the receiving communities. These scenario studies will provide insight into the impact on receiving communities. The group planned to submit their work to be considered for presentation at the Dupont Summit in Washington, D.C. in December 2017.

Impacts of floods in Bangladesh

Student-Faculty Working Groups

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Ford Institute convened four working groups. These groups were faculty-led teams of student volunteer researchers. The working groups provide students with valuable research and learning experiences. Many of the groups structured their work around clear deliverables, and some developed partnerships with NGOs. Through the work of these groups, faculty members were also able to advance their own research.

This year's working groups focused on a variety of topics and brought in students from diverse backgrounds. Further, of the 46 participants, nine were PhD students. The 2016-2017 working groups included: Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Gender Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Africa, and Gender Equality in Public Administration.

Climate Change: 5 student researchers

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Jennifer Bert, PhD Candidate in GSPIA

Climate Change Working Group

“The climate change working group provided an opportunity to work on a long-term collaborative research project with other students. The working group allowed our team to work through the entire research process, from developing a research question, to data collection, to analysis, to writing, to a conference presentation. The research and analytical skills gained through this experience will be invaluable to future research projects.”

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): 5 student researchers

Do corporations have a responsibility to society? Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can be defined as a "corporate initiative to assess and take responsibility for a company’s effects on the environment and impact on social welfare. The term generally applies to company efforts that go beyond what may be required by regulators or environmental protection groups."

This working group explored the ways in which corporations responded to being involved in environmental accidents.

"From the CSR working group, I learned how to use case studies in research, which has been valuable. Through speaking to Diane about my interests, I was able to find an internship with Pitt professors assessing the capabilities of China's nuclear power companies. I communicated with local government officials and university researchers. The internship combined my focus on energy and the environment with my background as an international student. If I had not joined the Ford Institute research group, I may not have found this internship."

Huiru Ruth Kang, MPA'18
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Working Group Researcher

"As a part-time student with a full-time job on campus, the working group gave me a research opportunity I would not have gained in my job or in the classroom. Participating in the working group has shifted my attention in policy and program design to understanding the effect the design will have on the individual, taking in the political climate, culture, and attitudes towards the policy or program of those who will implement it. I ask myself, after finishing my role in each project, 'if a community or culture does not value women's rights as equal to men, then how can that view be changed or circumvented in order to incorporate women's roles in government or Counter Violent Extremism (CVE), and will proposed projects adversely affect another disparaged group?'"

Candence Wills, MID'17
Gender Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Africa Working Group Researcher

3 http://grist.org/ article/6-years-after-deepwater-horizon-oil-spill-thousands-of-people-are-still-sick/
Gender Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Africa: 7 student researchers

The U.S Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the Agency for International Development (USAID) have developed programming to counter support for violent extremism (CVE) in Africa. The working group examined gender-based drivers and identified gender-oriented efforts to mitigate attitudes that support violent extremism. The research was done in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State Diplomacy Lab initiative to which the team delivered a report and presentation in January 2017. The team has since moved on to another phase of its research: comparing counterinsurgency and CVE programs across Asia and Africa in order to identify the similarities between these types of programming. The team will carry out new research with a focus on gender-related CVE programs in the fall of 2017.

I spent two years in this working group and it sparked an independent study course for me. One of the key differences between CVE and other related fields (counterterrorism, for example) is that CVE focuses more heavily on the root causes of violent extremism. This emphasis is very much in line with the human security-based approach that seeks to better understand structural deficiencies responsible for a problem. This framework is a useful way to approach many problems in several different fields and will continue to pay dividends as we embark on our professional careers.

Tyler O’Daniel, MPIA’17
Gender Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Africa Working Group Researcher
In 2013, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA)—a research and policy development initiative to collect and make available up-to-date information on gender equality in public administration. Beginning in September 2015, the Ford Institute for Human Security began hosting the GEPA student working group, which partnered with UNDP on this initiative. Led by Dr. Müge Finkel and Dr. Melanie Hughes, working group members collected, evaluated, analyzed, and visualized data on women’s representation in public administration worldwide. For the past two years, the group has supported the ongoing development of a new global system to track and report data on gender equality in the civil service. In the 2016-2017 academic year, the group collaborated with UN consultants to assess the state of global sex-disaggregated data in public administration. Student researchers specifically focused on the links between youth and gender in public administration, national and subnational level data, and LGBTI data. The group has presented their research to the UN GEPA team in December 2015, May 2016, December 2016, and May 2017. The spring presentations were held at the UN Secretariat in New York.

**Leslie Marshall, PhD Candidate in Political Science**  
Gender Equality in Public Administration Working Group Researcher

“As one of two students in the working group focused on LGBTI inclusion, my research on public administration is directly informing the development of civic and political participation indicators for a global LGBTI Inclusion Index. The LGBTI Inclusion Index is an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the World Bank. Knowing that my research is contributing directly to the global effort to build more inclusive societies continues to be incredibly validating and brings a real sense of accomplishment. I appreciate having this opportunity through the Ford working group.”
Where Are They Now?
Alumni Spotlights

Penelope Nelson, MID ’08
Penelope Nelson currently serves as an Intelligence Research Specialist with the Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit’s Human Rights Target Tracking Team, in the Department of Homeland Security. Nelson and her team identify human rights violators around the world in order to ensure that the U.S. is not a safe haven for those involved in atrocities. Nelson’s interest in this line of work was fostered through her research at the Ford Institute as a student volunteer researching child soldiers. After graduation, Nelson served as the Senior Research Associate and Assistant to the Director at the Ford Institute. She co-authored reports and policy memos during that time regarding internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and child soldiers. While Nelson was working on her MID, she met a former child soldier from Liberia at a conference hosted at GSPIA. It was through this connection that she received a summer internship with a Liberian NGO, the Veteran Child Soldier Association of Liberia, where she interviewed 150 former child soldiers at a refugee camp in Ghana. Her current work with the federal government centers on human security issues through the tracking of individuals who have committed the most heinous human rights abuses, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, torture, extrajudicial killing, and conducting female genital mutilation.

Kathleen Euler, MPIA ’16
Kathleen Euler is currently under contract with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Amman, Jordan as a Programme Analyst on Governance and Peacebuilding. Euler began her work with UNDP as the student coordinator of the Ford Institute’s Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) Working Group in the 2015-2016 academic year. While at GSPIA, Euler and a team of graduate student researchers, presented their research findings at the United Nations in New York and her commitment to the GEPA initiative transitioned into an internship and a consultancy after graduation.

Daniel Scarnecchia, MPIA ’11
Daniel Scarnecchia is currently working at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) Signal Program on Human Security and Technology, researching the role of standards and ethics as they pertain to humanitarian use of information technology. As an interdisciplinary program, HHI focuses on applying evidence-based approaches to the study of humanitarian response. He recently contributed to The Signal Code: A Human Rights Approach to Information During Crisis. As technology is increasingly integrated into humanitarian action, the effects of these technologies on the rights of the affected populations is little understood. The Signal Code outlines the rights of crisis-affected people in regard to five principles: right to information, protection, data privacy and security, data agency, and redress and rectification, obligating humanitarians to apply technology in ways that uphold and protect the rights and safety of those affected by crisis. Scarnecchia is presently working on a number of projects, including research examining how technology is used by affected populations, how social media and a globally connected information environment may be affecting the politics of the humanitarian space, and further policy research related to technology use by humanitarian agencies.
The Ford Institute Speaker Series remains a signature promotional component for the Institute, advancing the Institute's objectives through engaging presentations and lectures. The Speaker Series attracts a diverse audience. While it is most popular with GSPIA students, the Series draws a considerable presence from students in other areas of the university, faculty members, and the public. The 10 speakers, their topics, and attendance numbers are in the table below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Victoria Nalongo Namusisi, Founder &amp; Director, Bright Kids Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/05/2016</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>“Oil &amp; Power in the New Libya”</td>
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<td>Nate Mason, Previous Commercial Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli</td>
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<td>10/24/2016</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>“Child Soldiers: Cost-Effective Renewable Weapons System”</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Penelope Nelson, Intelligence Research Specialist for Homeland Security Investigations, Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit</td>
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<td>11/03/2016</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>“Harmful Gender Practices: Are They Only a Challenge for the Poor?”</td>
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<td>Dina El-Naggar, Senior Communications Officer, Integrity Vice Presidency, The World Bank</td>
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<td><em>Ford Institute Research Grant Presentation</em></td>
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<td>Professor Sera Linardi, Assistant Professor, GSPIA</td>
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<td>Lujing Li, Master Student, School of Information Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/14/2016</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>“Careers in International Development”</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ciara Lee &amp; Nana N'dow, International Consultants, United Nations Development Programme, Governance and Peacebuilding Cluster</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/24/2017</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>“Statebuilding, Peacebuilding and Hybrid Governance in Somalia”</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ken Menkhaus, Professor and Chair, Political Science Department, Davidson College</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/30/2017</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>“The Holocaust, Modern Genocides and the Anti-Atrocities Movement”</td>
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<td>John Prendergast, Founder, The Enough Project [a project of the New Venture Fund]</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/30/2017</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>“Field Work Survival Guide”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Prendergast, Founder, The Enough Project [a project of the New Venture Fund]</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/11/2017</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>“Humanitarian Response: Changes &amp; Challenges”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gregory C. Gottlieb, Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), US Agency for International Development (USAID)</td>
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Hello Neighbor Launch & Orientation

Looking to fill a need to help recently resettled refugees in new communities, GSPIA graduate Sloane Davidson (MPPM’17) founded Hello Neighbor, a new mentorship program earlier this year. The organization provides family-based mentorships between Pittsburghers and refugee families to build relationships and provide resources to help guide them in their new lives. Through the long and arduous process of moving to a new country, personal interactions between families reduces stigma and creates a strong support network for refugees to integrate into their new surroundings. With funding from the Ford Institute for Human Security, orientation for the first group of 25 mentor families took place on May 20th, 2017 at Posvar Hall on the Pitt campus. It included Refugee Advocacy Certificate Training, a custom training built by Davidson. Over the course of the next four months, families participated in over 400 individual interactions and eight program-wide events around Pittsburgh. Hello Neighbor graduated its first cohort of 25 matches from seven countries, in October 2017, and has plans of expanding the program to help more refugee families settling in our city.

Photography Exhibit: “In Uganda, A School to Call Home”

The exhibit and community forum on empowering children through education, co-sponsored by the Ford Institute, was created by Martha Rial, an independent photographer based in Pittsburgh whose career is dedicated to photographing stories she believes are critical to understanding the human condition. As a result of the infamous civil war waged by Joseph Kony’s Lord’s Resistance Army, Uganda has suffered tens of thousands of casualties, torture and atrocities, and dislocation of more than a million people. Nearly half the population is under the age of 15, and an estimated two million children have been orphaned. Depicted in the photograph on page 21 is one of the buildings of the Great Kings and Queens Children’s Centre. The Centre is directed by Medi Bugembe, a former street kid rescued when he was 11 years old by Victoria Nalongo Namusisi, of Bright Kids Uganda. The Centre is home to more than 405 children, ages 5 to 13, who are orphaned or have been impacted by extreme poverty. Children receive housing and a quality education, scoring higher, on average, on national exams compared to other schools in the district.

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**Co-Sponsored Events**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>09/29/2016</td>
<td>Photography Exhibit: “In Uganda, A School to Call Home” and Community Forum Panel Discussion</td>
<td>Martha Rial, Independent Photographer</td>
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| 11/14/2016 | “Confronting Vulnerability and Violence in the Urban Century”                      | *Fragile Cities* by John de Boer, Senior Policy Advisor, United Nations University, Center for Policy Research  
*Models and Complexity* by Michael Batty, Chair, Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis and Bartlett  
Professor of Planning, University College London  
*Organized Violence and Hybrid Governance in Latin American* by Enrique Desmond Arias, Associate  
Professor of Public Policy, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University |
Col. EMC. Marco Tapia, Member of Ecuadorian Permanent Representation to the United Nations |
| 03/28/2017 | “Model African Union”                                                              | University Center for International Studies: African Studies Program                          |
| 05/20/2017 | “Hello Neighbor Launch & Orientation”                                              | Sloane Davidson, Founder & CEO, Hello Neighbor                                               |

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Program launch and picnic  
Photo credit: Eva Lin
Over the past several years, we have written extensively on the emergence and change in property institutions. According to the standard definition, property institutions are rules governing ownership in society. Property institutions may not be the first thing that comes to mind when one thinks of human security. Yet the structure of property rights has important consequences for whether people have incentives to invest in their land or to conserve resources. They may also influence incentives to participate in political violence because they influence economic opportunities. When people have fewer economic opportunities, participating in political violence is more appealing because there is less to give up when people decide to fight. In short, people are more likely to be vulnerable, and subject to violence, when property rights are unclear.

Our work has emphasized the question of property institutions and vulnerability in weakly institutionalized contexts. This question integrates both of our research interests. Jennifer’s first book was on self-governance in Afghanistan. Ilia’s first book was on land claiming among squatters on the U.S. frontier. Each considered how people respond to vulnerability though self-governance. Our collaborative work considers how people provide for property protection in weak states.

Our work offers a number of surprising findings. One is that in Afghanistan, there is a great deal of order in land relations even though the state is exceptionally weak. People often are able to manage land relations through customary systems of governance. According to our research, nearly 90% of people have customary deeds to land in rural parts of the country even though these deeds are not legally recognized. Although the state is weak, communities are often able to govern their affairs in ways that reduce vulnerability. Another finding is that the development community has eschewed legal titling, which refers to registration of land ownership through a legal process, in favor of what we call community-based land adjudication and registration [CBLAR]. The defining feature of CBLAR initiatives is that they record land ownership at the community level without much of a role for the state. Where legal titling has been tried, it has not worked. However, CBLAR appears to have improved land-tenure security.

Our recent work is more explicitly comparative. Our newest line of research asks why private property rights are not as common as economic theory might expect. We contend the reason is that for private property rights to be effective, they depend on what we call a property-protecting state. Such states have five features: a monopoly on coercive capacity, administrative capacity to record land ownership and enforce it, constraints on political decision-makers, decentralized political institutions that encourage local participation, and robust legal institutions. This framework helps to explain why some nations have credible and effective property rights, provided as a public good; why others have bifurcated property institutions whereby the rights of some are protected more than others; and why some countries have never had an effective system of legal property rights. Our framework also provides insight into the conditions under which land redistribution can provide new economic opportunities, as well as when legal titling is more likely to improve economic opportunities.

It is our hope that our research helps to ensure that when one thinks about vulnerability, one also thinks about property institutions. Indeed, our central finding is that to understand vulnerability—and human security—we ought to pay careful attention to the institutions governing ownership in society. After all, what can be a greater expression of human insecurity than when people cannot rely on the community to respect their individual or collective claims to own their land, commons, buildings, and selves?

Jennifer Murtazashvili is an Associate Professor in GSPIA. She is author of Informal Order and the State in Afghanistan (Cambridge University Press, 2016). Ilia Murtazashvili is an Associate Professor in GSPIA. He is the author of The Political Economy of the American Frontier (Cambridge University Press, 2013). Their work on land governance has been published in journals such as Land Use Policy, Rationality and Society, Public Choice, and the Journal of Institutional Economics. Their book, Land, the State, and War: Property Institutions and Political Order in Afghanistan, is currently under review at Cambridge University Press.
Lisa S. Alfredson, Assistant Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2003. She holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science (2000) and has worked as a consultant with numerous international human rights NGOs. She teaches graduate courses on human rights, NGO advocacy, human security, and gender. She has published research on human rights and human security politics and policy change, focusing on issues such as gender violence, refugees, child soldiers, and displacement. She received the Outstanding Academic Title Award for her book, *Creating Human Rights: How Non-Citizens Made Sex Persecution Matter to the World* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008). Her most recent publication (2017), “Making Human Rights ‘Universals’ From the Ground Up?” is featured in the newly released book, *Routledge Handbook on Human Rights and the Middle East and North Africa*. She was awarded the 2015-2016 Ford Institute Research Grant for her current work developing a human rights approach to address neglected forms of modern slavery involving familial relations, producing a book manuscript and supporting her work developing research networks and panels on human security topics for the international conference of the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), in her role as Chair of NWSA’s Law and Public Policy section.

Luke N. Condra, Assistant Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2011, after his postdoctoral scholarship at University of California-San Diego’s Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation. He earned his PhD in Political Science at Stanford University. Dr. Condra’s research interests are in international security and political violence. Dr. Condra’s work relies on interviews, surveys, and experiments in the field, as well as the collection of large micro-level datasets, to develop and test theories of intrastate conflict, and to study insurgency’s effects on processes and institutions of democratization, particularly in Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia. His current research on state-building in emerging democracies investigates elections, public goods provision, and insurgent violence in these regions. At GSPIA, Condra teaches courses on governance, quantitative methods, ethnic politics, and the economics and politics of counterinsurgency.

Müge Kökten Finkel, Assistant Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2008. She completed her PhD in Political Science at the University of Virginia, specializing in Comparative Social Policy and Japanese Politics. Prior to joining GSPIA, she worked as a Social Development Specialist at the World Bank and consulted for the International Food Policy Research Institute. Her areas of development expertise include community-driven development, focusing on youth and women’s issues; social and environmental impact assessment; country social analysis; participatory program development; and gender and development. She co-leads the Ford Institute’s Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) working group with Dr. Melanie Hughes in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). At GSPIA, she teaches courses on gender and development; social development and international organizations; and capstones on poverty and inequality, and project design and
evaluation, along with two undergraduate courses on Japanese government and politics, and transatlantic policy analysis and communication. Dr. Finkel served on the board of Women and Girls Foundation of Pittsburgh, and joined the board of the Wilson Center’s Women in Public Service Project in 2016. In that capacity, she drafted a policy brief contributing to the creation of a new data and resource portal for global women’s leadership which launched in February 2017. In support of her research on the Gender Equality in Public Administration, the Global Studies Center at Pitt named her to be the Global Studies Center Faculty Fellow for academic year 2017-2018. Through her fellowship, Dr. Finkel will work to bring greater attention to the study of gender equality in public institutions, while bridging Pitt’s existing strengths in gender and governance studies, and complementing nascent plans to leverage the UN Sustainable Development Goals as a pedagogical tool for interdisciplinary dialogue across the university.

Shanti Gamper-Rabindran, Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2005, and is one of the lead faculty of the Shale Gas Governance Center and Energy and Environment Program. After her time as a Rhodes Scholar, she completed her PhD in Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Gamper-Rabindran has been a visiting professor at Carnegie Mellon University and the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies. She has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency, the World Bank, and Human Rights Watch Americas. In 2014, Dr. Gamper-Rabindran launched GSPIA’s new major, Energy and the Environment. Her research focuses on the empirical evaluation of environmental policies including reducing risks in the chemical manufacturing sector, remediation of hazardous waste sites, environmental and health impacts of development policies, and the impact of inspections of violations of environmental regulations in the shale gas sector. At GSPIA, she teaches courses on global energy policy, global environmental policy, global health policy, development economics, and macroeconomics and the global economy.

Marcela Gonzalez Rivas, Assistant Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2012. She completed her PhD in City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Gonzalez Rivas’ research focuses on social equity and the role of community development and regional economic planning on addressing issues of marginalization. She previously worked as a research assistant at the World Bank. Recently, her research has focused on Mexico in two capacities (1) the impact of trade policies in Mexico on individual states and (2) the inequity of water access, particularly for indigenous communities in the country. At GSPIA, Dr. Gonzalez Rivas teaches courses on cities and regions, international project planning and developing countries, and urbanization and development. She serves on the faculty advisory board of the Center for Latin American Studies.
Sera Linardi, Assistant Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2010. She earned her PhD in Social Science from the California Institute of Technology. Dr. Linardi’s training comes from mathematical social science based in experiments and theoretical models. Her research interests center on practical problems faced by organizations delivering human and social services in the areas of prosocial behavior, information aggregation, and the behavior of social service clients. She has received research grants and fellowships from the Ford Institute Faculty Research Grant, NYU-Abu Dhabi, the Hewlett Foundation, Integrative Social Science Research Initiative, Jeffrey Mora Endowed Faculty Resource Fund, and Caltech Social and Information Sciences Laboratory. Her recent research with Ford Institute funds explored anticipating local-level violence using cell phone traffic data. At GSPIA, Dr. Linardi teaches courses on data visualization in R, game theory and behavioral economics, experiments in public policy, intermediate quantitative methods, and microeconomics. She also founded the GSPIA Math Camp and Amazing Analytics Race to engage first year students in statistical analysis.

Ilia Murtazashvili, Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2009. He researches several topics relevant to human security, including land governance in a variety of contexts and, more recently, the governance of hydraulic fracturing. He is the author of The Political Economy of the American Frontier (Cambridge University Press, 2013), which considered how individuals spontaneously established governance organizations in an anarchic frontier environment. He extends his work on self-governance to Afghanistan in collaborative work with Professor Jennifer Murtazashvili. Their work on land governance in fragile states has appeared in the Journal of Institutional Economics, Rationality and Society, World Development, and Public Choice, among others. Together, they clarify why legal titling is unlikely to improve development prospects in fragile states, emphasizing instead on community-based land reforms to improve household land tenure security. They are currently working on a book on land governance in Afghanistan, entitled Land, the State, and War: Property Rights and Political Order in Afghanistan. He also is working on book entitled The Fracking of a Nation: Institutions and American Shale Boom in Comparative Perspective. He earned his PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Jennifer Murtazashvili, Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2009. She earned her PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the author of Informal Order and the State (Cambridge University Press, 2016). Her research, which focuses on governance in fragile states, is based on a wide range of original data collected from ethnographic field work, interviews, public opinion surveys, and field experiments. Dr. Murtazashvili is deeply engaged in public policy and has worked for a number of organizations including USAID, UNDP, the US Department of Defense, and the World Bank. The geographic focus of her work is in Central Asia, the former Soviet Union, and South Asia, where she has lived on the ground for more than seven years. At GSPIA, she teaches courses on state building and governance issues, as well as regional studies courses focused on Central Asia and the broader Islamic world.
Lisa Nelson, Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 1998. She earned her PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Nelson specializes in the field of science, technology, and society. She was a co-principal investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to explore the societal perceptions of biometric technology. She has also been the recipient of a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur grant. From 2011-2013 she was appointed to the Department of Homeland Security’s Data Privacy and Integrity Committee. Her current research explores social networking technologies and vigilantism and considers fundamental questions about information ethics and its enforcement on the internet in an open society. At GSPIA, she teaches courses on liberty and security in the age of information and the war on terror.

Paul J. Nelson, Associate Dean and Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 1998. He earned his PhD in International Development from the University of Wisconsin. Before joining the university, Dr. Nelson worked for 13 years as a policy analyst for several non-governmental organizations (NGOs). He is the author of The World Bank and Non-Governmental Organizations: The Limits of Apolitical Development (St. Martin’s Press, 1995) and the co-author, with Ellen Dorsey, of New Rights Advocacy: Changing Strategies of Development and Human Rights NGOs (Georgetown University Press, 2008). His other publications include articles, chapters, and reports on NGOs, transparency in international organizations, the World Bank, the Millennium Development Goals, urban water systems, and human rights and development as well as a book under contract examining the applications of a human rights approach to the Sustainable Development Goals. Nelson serves on the board of the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. At GSPIA, he teaches courses on development policy, NGOs and civil society, and agriculture, food security, and rural development.

Louis A. Picard, Professor of Public and International Affairs and the Director of the African Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, joined the GSPIA faculty in 1987. He earned his PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also serves as the Co-Director of Pitt’s Initiative for Effective Governance. Picard served four years as the Director of the Ford Institute, Associate Dean (1988-1992), and Acting Dean (1989-1990) at GSPIA. He has served for many years as the Director of the International Development Division at GSPIA. Dr. Picard served as President of Public Administration Service (2002-2005). His research and consulting specializations include international development, human security, governance, development management, local government, civil society, and human resource development. His primary area of interest is Africa and he has done extensive fieldwork particularly in Eastern and Southern Africa and in the Sahel region of West Africa. He has served as a consultant to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the U.S. Information Agency, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the U.S. Department of State. Dr. Picard has carried out research on local level government administration in Tanzania, Lesotho, and Swaziland, developed the training system for local government in Botswana, and for the last ten years, has been working on issues of liberalism, governance, and local...
governance and development management in South Africa. At GSPIA, he teaches and has taught courses on public administration, NGOs and civil society, development policy and administration, foreign aid, privatization, and African development.

Taylor B. Seybolt, Associate Professor, joined the GSPIA faculty in 2008. He earned his PhD in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is the director of the Ford Institute for Human Security and previously served as a Senior Program Officer at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., where he established grant-making programs in Nigeria and Sudan. While in Washington, he served as an advisor to the Genocide Prevention Task Force, co-chaired by Madeleine Albright and William Cohen. He is the author of *Humanitarian Military Intervention: the Conditions for Success and Failure* (Oxford, 2007) and co-editor of *Counting Civilian Casualties: an Introduction to Recording and Estimating Nonmilitary Deaths in Conflict* (Oxford, 2013). His research concerns protection of civilians in conflict zones. At GSPIA, Dr. Seybolt teaches courses on human security, ethnic conflict and civil war, policy analysis, and understanding and preventing extreme violence.

Associate Faculty

Jay Aronson is an Associate Professor of Science, Technology, and Society, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University and founder and director of the Center for Human Rights Science at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Aronson earned his PhD in the History of Science and Technology from the University of Minnesota and was a pre- and post-doctoral fellow at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. His research interests focus on the interactions of science, technology, law, and human rights in a variety of contexts. He recently authored a book *Who Owns the Dead? The Science and Politics of Death at Ground Zero* (Harvard University Press, 2016) and co-edited the book *Counting Civilian Casualties: An Introduction to Recording and Estimating Nonmilitary Deaths in Conflict* (Oxford University Press, 2013) with Dr. Taylor B. Seybolt and Dr. Baruch Fischhoff. He teaches courses on the history of public policy in the U.S., science and technology studies, global justice, surveillance, and technologies of war. He is a member of the Ford Institute’s Advisory Group.

Chris Belasco is the Associate Director of the Initiative for Effective Governance, a research initiative launched by the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) at the University of Pittsburgh, where he serves as managing director for federally sponsored democracy and governance evaluation, research, and capacity building activities along with university outreach evaluations. He currently manages an impact evaluation of all USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) programming democratic outcomes from 1990-2016 for the USAID DRG Learning Center. From 2012-2017, he managed the largest countering violent extremism (CVE) impact evaluation to date under USAID/West Africa/Evaluation and Analytic Services project, for which he managed day-to-day activity at the university and led teams in multi-country settings for data collection and capacity development in monitoring and evaluation. During this time, he also served as course director, leading curriculum development, collaboration with partner organization leads, and capacity development specialists to deliver training on monitoring and evaluation for democracy, human rights, and governance (DRG) programs among eight partnering nongovernmental organizations in seven countries in West Africa. As an Adjunct Professor in GSPIA, Dr. Belasco teaches graduate courses in program evaluation, quantitative methods, and contracting; he previously taught the undergraduate political science courses on introduction to global studies and political development 2011-2014. Dr. Belasco supervises the Gender Dynamics of Countering Violent Extremism in Africa FIHS working group.

Mary C. Burke is a Professor of Psychology at Carlow University. Her research interests include minority mental health in the context of oppressive systems, gender-based violence, trauma, and human trafficking. In 2004, she founded the Project to End Human Trafficking, an all-volunteer, U.S.-based, non-profit advocacy group to raise awareness about the enslavement and economic exploitation of people. Dr. Burke served on Pennsylvania’s Senate Resolution 253 Advisory Committee, which was established to make a recommendation to the State’s General Assembly regarding human trafficking in Pennsylvania. Her current international work is focused on Uganda where she and her team collaborate with citizens to prevent trafficking through school and community-based programming. She is a member of the American Psychological Association Task Force on the Trafficking of Women and Girls.
Charles S. Gochman is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh and a faculty affiliate of several research and policy institutes at the university, including the Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies and the Ford Institute for Human Security. His teaching and research specialties are international relations theory and peace research, with particular focus on the threat and use of armed force within and between states and on human security. He has held post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Michigan and Princeton University and appointments as a visiting scholar or guest scientist at the Ohio State University, Middlebury College, and the International Institute for Comparative Social Research (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung). He has served as a Senior Council Member of the Correlates of War Project and has been a recipient of research funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation. Dr. Gochman's articles have appeared in the American Journal of Political Science, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Interactions, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, and Journal of Peace Research, among others. He has contributed chapters to numerous edited volumes and is co-editor, with Alan Ned Sabrosky, of Prisoners of War? Nation-States in the Modern Era (1990).

Melanie M. Hughes, Associate Professor of Sociology, Director of Graduate Studies, University of Pittsburgh, co-leads the Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) working group at the Ford Institute with Dr. Müge Finkel. Dr. Hughes earned her PhD in Sociology from the Ohio State University. Her primary research interest is the study of gender and politics across countries. She has published extensively on the topic in journals including American Sociological Review, American Political Science Review, and Social Forces. She co-authored a book titled Women, Politics, and Power: A Global Perspective, now in its third edition (CQ Press, 2016). She is deputy editor of Gender and Society, a top-ranked journal in both sociology and women's studies. She has collaborated with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to increase the availability of data on gender equality in political leadership and public administration. She teaches courses on gender and politics, comparative perspectives on women, quantitative methods, social research methods, and the sociology of gender.

Barry M. Mitnick is a Professor of Business Administration and Professor of Public and International Affairs, at the University of Pittsburgh. He earned his PhD in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in business ethics, business and politics, and business history. His research interests center on agency in a variety of institutional settings. Perhaps his major research contribution is the origin of the “theory of agency,” a theoretical approach that has now spread across the social sciences and that has had applications in virtually every business school discipline. His research activities and professional service culminated in the receipt (in 2014) of the Sumner Marcus Award of the Social Issues in Management (SIM) Division of the Academy of Management, the leading academic organization, a career award that constitutes the highest recognition in his field. In 2015, he delivered the Sumner Marcus Award address at the plenary session of the SIM Division.
M. Najeeb Shafiq, Professor of Education, Economics & International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, is a comparative education economist. He earned his PhD in Economics and Education from Columbia University. His research focuses on the social benefits of education and education reform (particularly school choice and incentive-based reforms). With colleagues from the World Bank, Dr. Shafiq is currently conducting a series of studies on schooling and social mobility. He is currently co-authoring a paper for the *Journal of International Development* with Dr. Taylor Seybolt titled, “Calm before the Arab Spring? Protest participation, grievances, and opportunity in four Arab states, 2003-07.” He teaches courses on the economics of education, comparative education, and quantitative methods.
Faculty Publications

The Ford Institute is dedicated to continuing research efforts on a range of human security topics. During the 2016-2017 academic year, Ford Institute affiliated faculty published 3 books, 13 articles, 4 book chapters, 3 reports, 20 working papers, and 1 dataset.

Books


Articles


Book Chapters


Reports


**Working Papers**


**Datasets**

## Affiliated Students

A priority for the Ford Institute is to engage students. Many students participate in research working groups. During the year, 46 students were involved in research at Ford.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Major, Year</th>
<th>Working Group</th>
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**Key:**
- **A&S** - Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
- **BA** - Bachelor of Arts
- **MBA** - Master of Business Administration, Katz School of Business
- **MID** - Master of International Development, GSPIA
- **MPA** - Master of Public Administration, GSPIA
- **MPP** - Master of Public Policy, School of Public Policy
- **MPPH** - Master of Public Policy, School of Public Policy
- **MSW** - Master of Social Work, School of Social Work
**Student Spotlights**

**Tiffany Tse [MPIA’18]** was a Junior Researcher this past summer at the New York headquarters of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), working on the Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) Initiative. Throughout the three months, she co-authored two reports, *Gender Diversity in the State: A Development Accelerator?* and the *Preliminary Report on Tracking Gender Equality in the Public Administration in the Asia-Pacific Region*, in addition to producing project briefs and infographics for several conferences.

**Joe Hackett [MPIA’16]** was a summer intern with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, D.C. He assisted on analysis of the use of public funds and federal policies and programs to improve the accountability of Congress and provided recommendations to improve the government’s performance and reliability. Joe now works full-time for GAO.

**Nancy Jones [MPA’17]** traveled to Copenhagen with funding from the GSPIA Professional Development Fund to study the city’s adoption of a Climate Adaptation Plan and Carbon Neutrality Plan as it relates to their effects on the economy. She met with two members of the Technical and Environment Department and took a boat tour of an offshore wind farm, Middelgrunden, to better understand the city’s rationale for adoption first-hand.

**Nick Langston [MID’17]** carried out a four-month internship at the Great Kings and Queens Children’s Centre, a school and shelter for street children, orphans, and other vulnerable children affected by extreme poverty in Katwe, Uganda. He worked closely with Great Kings and Queens director, Medi Bugembe, to build administrative capacity at the centre and develop a five-year strategic business plan for increased community engagement and improved outcomes for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in the region. Nick regularly travels to Uganda in support of OVC programming.
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