



Truman National Security Project

June 2010 Security Fellows 2010 – Short Biographies

Wade Barnes (Boston)

Wade has served in numerous capacities in the US Navy, most recently as a Lieutenant during two deployments to the Pacific Rim and the Middle East. He is currently concentrating in Energy Policy as a Master's Candidate in Public Administration at the Kennedy School of Government. He is also pursuing an MBA at the Tuck School of Business.

Kate Bateman (Washington, DC)

Kate is the Political Officer at the Pakistan Desk in the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs within the US Department of State. As a Presidential Management Fellow, Kate has also served as a South Asia Analyst in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and a Political Officer at the US Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Kate holds a Master's degree from The School of Advanced International Studies at John Hopkins University.

Jordan Bazinsky (Boston)

Jordan is currently the Vice President of Science and Technology at Verisk Health, and formerly worked for the Advisory Board Company consulting with hospitals nationwide. Previously, Jordan worked in Quito, Ecuador as a mathematics and technology teacher where he established a Youth Leadership Initiative for middle school students. Jordan holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

Lionel Beehner (New York)

Lionel is a Doctoral Candidate at Yale University focusing on International Relations and Security Studies. He currently serves as a Contributing Writer for the New York Times and an Op-Ed Writing Instructor at Mediabistro.com. From 2005-2007, Lionel was a Senior Writer for the Council on Foreign Relations' website where he provided daily analyses on political, security and economic issues in the former Soviet Union and the Middle East.

Elana Berkowitz (Washington, DC)

Elana is the Director of Economic Opportunity for the National Broadband Plan at the Federal Communications Commission. She recently served as a Technology Advisor for the Operational Medicine Institute Haiti Response Team, consulting on mobile medical application possibilities at emergency clinics. She holds a Master's in Business Administration from Harvard Business School and a Master's in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government.

Kevin Bleyer (New York)

Kevin is a multiple Emmy Award-winning writer and journalist, currently working as a Staff Writer for the "Daily Show with Jon Stewart" where he focuses on developments in the Middle East. He is also a frequent contributor to National Public Radio and the Huffington Post.

Michael Breen (New York)

Michael is the Founding Co-Director of the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project which conducts policy advocacy and provides social services to refugee clients. From 2002-2006 he was stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Europe as a Captain in the US Army. As a spokesman for Operation Free, Michael has toured the country raising the national security issues of climate change. He is currently pursuing his JD from Yale Law School.



Truman National Security Project

James Cadogan (Washington, DC)

James is the Special Assistant and Attorney-Advisor to the Air Force General Counsel at the US Department of Defense. Formerly, James served as the Ohio Voter Protection Director for the Obama Campaign for Change, where he ensured the smooth administration of the election across the state. He holds a JD from Columbia University School of Law.

Carlissa Carson (Atlanta)

Carlissa is a Judge Advocate for the 335th Headquarters Signal Command in the US Army. She previously served four years as a military intelligence officer. Carlissa holds a Master of Laws from Georgetown University Law Center, with a focus on International and Refugee Law.

Tarun Chhabra (Boston)

Tarun is currently pursuing a JD from Harvard Law School and a DPhil in International Relations from Oxford University. He formerly conducted policy planning on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament initiatives as the Consultant-Advisor on Security Policy for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2004-2005, Tarun served as an Associate in the Office of the UN Secretary-General.

Mariano Corcilli (Atlanta)

Mariano is an Assistant State Attorney in Florida. From 1995 to 2003, he served in the US Marine Corps with multiple deployments, including operations in Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Mariano holds a JD from the Washington College of Law and a BA in Criminology from the University of Florida.

Karen Courington (Washington, DC)

Karen currently serves in the US Air Force Reserve as an Admissions Liaison Officer for the US Air Force Academy and Air Force ROTC. She has served in various capacities from 2003-2007, with operations including cargo and passenger delivery to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Qatar. Karen is completing her MS in Foreign Service from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown.

Shannon Csotty (Denver)

Shannon is a Political Consultant with the Kenney Group, where she advises on political and public policy issues. Since 2007, she has been active in state and federal lobbying for healthcare reform.

Jonathan Davey (Chicago)

Jonathan has extensive experience working with national security issues on Capitol Hill. He first served as a Military Legislative Assistant for Senator Jeff Bingaman and then for Senator Evan Bayh. Jonathan is pursuing Business Administration at the University of Chicago.

Robert Andrew Dickson (New York)

Robert is currently an Associate at Davis Polk and Wardwell. From 1999-2006, he served various roles as a Foreign Service Officer in the US Department of State, including Principal Liaison Officer to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq and Cultural Affairs Officer at the American Institute in Taiwan.

Julie Egan (Washington, DC)

Julie is the Economic and Trade Advisor for the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs at the US Department of State, focusing on issues in the Middle East and North Africa. This summer she will take on a new role as the Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Economic, Energy, and Agricultural Affairs.



Truman National Security Project

Taylor Ferrell (Washington, DC)

Taylor is a Special Assistant/Counsel to the Department of the Navy, where he advises on legal and policy issues related to renewable energy. He previously worked as a Field Organizer for Obama's Campaign for Change. Taylor holds a Master of Laws with a focus on International Law and Environmental Studies from the Washington College of Law at American University.

Joel Foster (Washington, DC)

Joel has more than ten years experience in political and community organizing. He is currently the Director of the Ballot Integrity Program at the Ballot Initiative Strategy Center where he has worked with international labor unions to oppose ballot measures which pose threats to the labor movement. Prior, Joel worked on health care policy and served as Communications Coordinator for SEIU Arizona.

Paige Gebhardt (Washington, DC)

Paige is the Special Assistant to the Under Secretary-designate for International Affairs at the US Department of the Treasury. She previously served as Special Assistant to the Transition Chief of Staff for Treasury Secretary-designate Tim Geithner on the Obama-Biden Transition Team. Paige has political experience working for Obama's Pennsylvania Campaign for Change and Hillary Clinton for President.

Jonathan Gensler (Boston)

Jonathan is currently pursuing his Master's in Public Administration from the Kennedy School and his Master's in Business Administration from MIT's Sloan School of Management. As a spokesman for Operation Free, in 2009 Jonathan was selected to represent the US Climate Action Network at the COP15 summit in Copenhagen. Previously, he served in the US Army as a Platoon Leader and Operations Officer in Kuwait and Iraq.

Rachel Goldbrenner (New York)

Rachel is an Associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton where she focuses on immigration cases, and human rights and national security law research. Formerly, she was a Consultant to the Chief Prosecutor in the International Criminal Court at The Hague.

Dmitry Gorenburg (Boston)

Dmitry is the Executive Director of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies as well as a Research Consultant for the CNA Corporation. He currently serves as Editor of Russian Politics and Law and in 2003 published Nationalism for the Masses: Minority Ethnic Mobilization in the Russian Federation. Dmitry holds a PhD in Political Science from Harvard.

Gordon Griffin (Washington, DC)

Gordon is currently a Captain in the US Marine Corps. He was stationed in Al Asad, Iraq as a staff officer from 2006-2007. Gordon is pursuing his JD at Georgetown University Law Center, focusing on national security law.

Tressa Guenov (Washington, DC)

Tressa is the Legislative Assistant for National Security Affairs in the Office of Senator Claire McCaskill. Formerly, she held numerous positions within the US Department of Defense, including Country Director for Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense and Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. Tressa also served in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs in the US Department of State as a Presidential Management Fellow.



Truman National Security Project

Craig Hanson (San Francisco)

Craig is the Chair of the Silicon Valley Leadership Committee of NURU International, focusing on holistic programs and local empowerment to fight extreme poverty. He has provided independent economic development and national security analysis for senior officials at the US Department of State. Craig is currently involved in several political campaigns in California.

Robert Harrington, III (Chicago)

Robert is a Trial Attorney at Harrington, Thompson, Acker, & Harrington, Ltd. He currently serves as a Council Member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Illinois State Bar Association and as a Member of the Catholic Charities of Chicago Junior Board.

Peter Hinga (Denver)

Peter is the Campaign Manager for the Colorado State Assembly's Assistant Majority Leader, Andy Kerr. He previously served as Legislative Correspondent in the Office of US Representative John Salazar.

Kate Houstoun (Philadelphia)

Kate is the Director of Green Economy Initiatives at the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia. Previously, she worked as a Program Coordinator with the American Friends Service Committee, leading an environmental education program in Mexico. Kate is currently a Board Member of the Mayor's Office of Community Service in Philadelphia.

Zachary Iscol (New York)

Zachary is an independent filmmaker, currently writing, directing, and producing *The Western Front*, a first person documentary account of the war in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He served in the US Marines from 2002-2007. In 2005, Zach authored a tactical handbook on training and employment of foreign forces in foreign internal defense as an Analyst for the Quadrennial Defense Review.

Elizabeth Jarvis-Shean (Washington, DC)

Elizabeth is Special Assistant to the President and Director of Research in the White House. She worked previously as the Head of Research on the Obama-Biden Transition Team and served as Deputy Director of Content for Obama for America. As a Research and Communication Strategist for CNBC, Elizabeth expanded coverage of international business news and focused the network's political programming.

Miki Kapoor (New York)

As the US Fulbright Fellow to India, Miki works with the Indian government on the promotion of public health initiatives and the globalization of investment into India's biotechnology companies. Previously, he served as Interim Director of the Operations Design Team at the William J. Clinton Foundation.

Jonathan Karpuk (Denver)

Jonathan is currently a Project Manager at CEI in Denver. He formerly served as a Captain and Brigade Engineer in the US Army, with tours in Korea, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Italy. Jonathan holds a BS in Systems Engineering from West Point.

Alycia Kellman (Washington, DC)

Alycia works on the General Counsel for the Grassroots Business Fund, structuring investments for small social enterprises in developing countries. She also serves as US Director and General Counsel at the Institute for Democracy in Africa. Alycia previously worked as a Policy Advisor for the Africa Policy Group under Obama for America.



Truman National Security Project

Ciara Knudsen (Washington, DC)

Ciara is the Afghanistan-Pakistan Engagement Lead for the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization in the US Department of State. From 2007-2009, she served as Executive Officer of the Integrated Civ-Mil Action Group in Kabul.

Robert Lalka (Washington, DC)

Robert is the Global Partnerships Liaison for the Global Partnership Initiative in the Office of the Secretary of State where he coordinates U.S. government engagement with partners on entrepreneurship and economic development, interfaith dialogue and service, and promoting educational opportunity. He previously worked at the United Nations in Geneva; the World Bank in Washington, D.C., and AmeriCorps in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

Steven Maddox (Chicago)

Steven has ten years experience in the US Marine Corps. From 2005 to 2007 he was deployed to Iraq where he served as Lieutenant in the 1st Marine Division. In 2000 he was acknowledged as Marine of the Year. More recently, Steven served as a Summer Associate at Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Carolyn McGourty (Boston)

As Associate Producer for "Focus Earth with Bob Woodruff," Carolyn wrote and produced news stories for the first national newscast on energy and the environment. From 2005-2009, she focused on energy issues and climate change in various roles with ABC News. Carolyn is currently pursuing her Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government.

Christopher Miller (Chicago)

Christopher Miller is a veteran of the U.S. Army and served two tours in Iraq as a chemical operations specialist and received a Purple Heart in his initial tour following injuries sustained from an IED attack. Currently, Christopher is pursuing his Bachelors of Laws with Open University in the United Kingdom.

Jacqueline Miller (New York)

Jacqueline is a Senior Associate on the US Engagement Program at the East West Institute where she oversees the Euro-Atlantic Security Initiative. From 2004-2007, Jacqueline served as the Deputy Director of Washington Programs at the Council on Foreign Relations. She received her MPhil in Comparative Politics and International Relations from George Washington University.

Robert Mishev (San Francisco)

Robert is an Engagement Manager at McKinsey & Company where he develops business strategies for the US government, aerospace, and defense companies. From 1999-2007 he served in the US Air Force as an Executive Officer and most recently Assistant Professor. He holds a Master's in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

Frank Monestere (Los Angeles)

Frank is the President and Chief Operating Officer of Legalzoom.com, Inc. From 1991-1998 he served in the 3rd Special Forces Group/Green Berets in the US Army. Frank attended West Point and received his MBA from Harvard Business School.

Andrew Moore (Washington, DC)

Andrew is currently pursuing his JD from Georgetown University Law Center. From 2006-2008 he was stationed in Paktika Province, Afghanistan with Task-Force Phoenix-Afghanistan in the US National Guard. In this capacity, Andrew served as an intelligence officer for an embedded unit advising Afghan soldiers.



Truman National Security Project

Michael Motto (New York)

Michael is currently pursuing his PhD in Criminology from Cambridge University. He has previously served as a Visiting Lecturer at Yale University, and as a consultant on projects related to law enforcement policy and practices for the Vera Institute of Justice.

Grant Neely (New York)

Grant is the Senior Director of Executive Communications at Pfizer, Inc. Previously, he served as Chief Speechwriter and Special Assistant to Virginia Governor Mark Warner. Grant received his MA from Miami University with a focus on Comparative Religion.

William Oh (Washington, DC)

William is a Senior Intelligence Analyst for the Director of Information Dominance in the US Navy. He has worked previously for the Director for Naval Intelligence and the Defense Intelligence Agency. William holds an MBA from Yale.

Elizabeth O'Herrin (Washington, DC)

Elizabeth is the Associate Director for the American Council on Education. She co-founded Student Veterans of America, the first national coalition for student veterans. From 2001-2008, Elizabeth served in the Wisconsin Air National Guard as a Munitions Systems Journeyman.

Elizabeth Powley (Chicago)

Elizabeth is an independent consultant in international affairs. In this capacity, she has worked with UNICEF, the National Democratic Institute, and the Inter-Parliamentary Union among others. From 2005-2007, Elizabeth was the Rwanda Country Director for Hunt Alternatives Fund, an organization focused on building the capacity of women leaders in conflict countries.

Allison Rogers (Washington, DC)

Allison is the Deputy Director for Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Green the Capitol Program. She has focused on energy conservation and sustainability in various capacities as a spokesperson for the Go Green! Global Warming Awareness program and with the Harvard Office of Sustainability. Allison has a degree in Organizational Leadership and Sustainability Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Jesse Salazar (Philadelphia)

Jesse is the Special Assistant & Field Representative to Senator Robert P. Casey. Formerly, he served on the New Media Communications Team for the Obama-Biden Transition. Jesse has an MA in History from Princeton University.

Angela Sapp-Mancini (New York)

Angela is the Managing Director for Asia, Eurasia, and Africa Programs at the Financial Services Volunteer Corps. She has consulted for the United Nations on energy issues in the Middle East and Africa, and in 1998 co-founded The Azeri Times, an English-language newspaper covering Caspian energy and political issues.

Aaron Scheinberg (Boston)

Aaron served in the US Army from 2003-2008 in various capacities, including as a Science and Technology Analyst and a Civil Affairs Officer in Iraq. He received a BS in Language Studies from West Point and is currently pursuing his Masters in Public Administration at the Kennedy School of Government, focusing in International Development.



Truman National Security Project

Joan Shipps (Washington, DC)

Joan is an International Trade Specialist on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the US with the US Department of Commerce. Joan has an MA in International Economic Relations from American University.

Michael Shtender-Auerbach (New York)

Michael is the Vice President and National Practice Leader of Social Risk Consulting at Control Risks. Previously, he served as Associate Director at the Prospects for Peace Initiative where he informed the policy debate on conflicts in the Middle East. Michael is currently pursuing his PhD in International Human Rights Law from the University of London.

Mark Simakovsky (Washington, DC)

Mark is the Country Director for Georgia and Moldova in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia Policy in the US Department of Defense. He previously served in the US Department of State as a Political Officer in the Bureau of European/Eurasian Affairs. From 2005-2006, Mark was a US Fulbright Scholar in Georgia.

Philip Ugelow (New York)

Philip is currently the Center Director at Humanity in Action where he develops programs and growth strategies for a transatlantic human rights network. From 2002-2003, Philip was a Netherlands-American Foundation Fulbright Scholar in Amsterdam.

Daniel Urman (Boston)

Daniel is currently a Lecturer in the Political Science Department at Northeastern University. He previously worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Boston and was a Visiting Lecturer at the US Naval Academy. Daniel has a JD from Harvard Law and an MPhil in International Relations from the University of Oxford.

Richard Wheeler (Los Angeles)

Richard is a consultant for Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. where he advises on geospatial and imaging tools for analysts in the intelligence community. Since 2003, he has served in the US Army Reserves as a Geospatial Intelligence Analyst. Richard has an MA in Security Studies from Georgetown University.

Brian Wilson (New York)

Brian is a Sanctions Expert for the al-Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Monitoring Team on the United Nations Security Council. He previously served as Attorney-Advisor for the Office of Chief Council in the US Department of the Treasury.

Jamaal Young (New York)

Jamaal is a Program Assistant at the Security Council Report as well as a regular political columnist for New York Press. He consults for the Council on African-American Affairs, America's Promise, and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Jamaal is currently completing his Post-Baccalaureate Studies at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.