

## **Seventh Annual New Faces Biographies**

**The Speakers:** Catharina Wrede Braden, Mark L. Bradley, Michael G. Findlay, Wayne Hsieh, Jacob Kathman, Paul MacDonald, Daniel Sargent, and Todd Sechser.

### **Discussants and Graduate Interlocutors**

Catharina Wrede Braden is a Ph.D candidate in the Department of Government at Harvard University. Her dissertation, *A Reputation for Retreat? Casualty Intolerance and the Credibility of Democracies' Threats*, argues that a reputation for high sensitivity to the human costs of war has caused a systematic decline in the credibility of democracies' threats to use force since the Vietnam War. Her research interests include non-rationalist decision-making, organizational behavior, Russian foreign policy, and nuclear proliferation and security. Ms. Wrede Braden received her B.A. in Political Science and Russian/East European Studies from Yale University, and her M.A. in Government from Harvard University. Before returning to graduate school, she worked in Moscow, London and Tokyo as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company. She has been the recipient of a Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, the Merle Fainsod Prize from Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, and a Harvard Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Ms. Wrede Braden lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mark L. Bradley (Ph.D. 2006, History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) holds a B.A. in History from North Carolina State University and an MA in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His dissertation "Bluecoats and Tar Heels: The Transition From War to Peace in North Carolina, 1865-1877," focuses on civil-military relations in North Carolina in the era of Reconstruction. Dr. Bradley is the author of *This Astounding Close: The Road to Bennett Place* (a finalist in the 2001 Lincoln Prize Competition) and *Last Stand in the Carolinas: The Battle of Bentonville*. He has also published in academic journals and presented at conferences. Dr. Bradley's article, "This Monstrous Proposition: North Carolina and the Confederate Debate on Arming the Slaves," received the R. D. W. Connor Award for the North Carolina Historical Review's Best Article of 2003. His fellowships include the US Army Center of Military History Fellowship (2003-2004) and the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship (2004-2006). Dr. Bradley, who received his doctorate this May, has just joined the US Army Center of Military History.

Michael G. Findley (Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) has a B.A. (Summa Cum Laude) in Political Science (with a minor in Russian) from Utah State University and an MA in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana. His dissertation is "Spoiling the Peace or Seeking the Spoils?: Civil Wars and the Role of Spoilers." The work focuses on leaders and factions who use violence to undermine attempts to achieve the peaceful resolution of civil wars. Mr. Findley has given a number of presentations

and his article, "Rethinking Third Party Interventions into Civil Wars; An Actor-Centric Approach," (co-authored by Tze Kwang Teo) is forthcoming in the *Journal of Politics*. He has been a Visiting Instructor at Brigham Young University, where he taught classes on Ethnic Conflict and Comparative Politics. His languages include Russian, Serbo-Croatian, and Spanish. Among his awards and honors, he has held the Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security Graduate Fellowship, AY (2005-2006) and won the Rita and Leonard Ogren Award for Academic Achievement (Department of Political Science UIUC), February 2006.

Wayne Wei-Siang Hsieh (Ph.D. 2004, History, University of Virginia) is an Assistant Professor of History at the United States Naval Academy. He also holds a BA from Yale University. His dissertation, "The Old Army in War and Peace: West Pointers and the Civil War Era, 1814-1865," directed by Gary W. Gallagher and Edward L. Ayers, examines the influence of antebellum military professionalism on the conduct of the American Civil War. Dr. Hsieh has received both a Jacob K. Javits Fellowship (2000/1-2003/4) and an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Yale University's Whitney Humanities Center (2004/5). He has published a number of book reviews and essays, and his most recent work is the forthcoming "I owe Virginia little, my country much': Robert E. Lee, the United States Regular Army, and Unconditional Unionism," in Edward L. Ayers, Gary W. Gallagher, and Andrew J. Torget, eds., *Crucible of the Civil War: Virginia from Secession to Commemoration* (UVA Press, 2006).

Jacob Kathman (Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) holds a BA from the University of Rochester, an MPA in Public Administration from George Washington University, and an MA in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In his dissertation, "The Geopolitics of Civil War Intervention," Mr. Kathman focuses on the question of what motivates states to intervene in foreign civil wars. He is the winner of the Earle Wallace Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2005, and was a Visiting Scholar at the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO) in 5/2005. In addition to his interest in civil war and intervention, Jake's other research interests include issues of alliance reliability of states and their reputation for conflict and cooperation. He currently has a paper with revise and resubmit status at the *Journal of Peace Research*.

Paul K. MacDonald is a fellow at the John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University. He received his B.A. in political science from the University of California Berkeley and his Ph.D in political science from Columbia University. His research examines the origin and administration of empires in international politics. His dissertation focused on the specific cases of British imperial rule in India, South Africa, and Nigeria during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His current research focuses on the determinants of successful military occupation and on comparative patterns of overseas military basing. He has also been a fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard

University and the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. He has published in *International Security* and the *American Political Science Review*.

Daniel Jonathan Sargent (Ph.D. Candidate, History, Harvard University) holds a BA in History from Christ's College, Cambridge, UK and an MA from Harvard University. The title of his dissertation is "From Internationalism to Globalism: The US and the Transformation of International Politics, 1965-1980." This project examines the relationship between structural interdependence in the international system and U.S. foreign policy. Mr. Sargent's thesis is that processes of integration transformed the international environment and made Nixon's and Kissinger's strategy of peace through détente untenable by the mid-1970s. Mr. Sargent has been awarded the Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching on multiple occasions. He has presented extracts from his dissertation at various conferences. In 2005-2006 he was a National Security Fellow at the Olin Institute for Strategic Studies. In 2006-2007 he will be the Sidney R. Knafel Dissertation Completion Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University.

Todd S. Sechser (Ph.D. Candidate, Stanford University) has just been appointed Assistant Professor of Politics at the University of Virginia. In his dissertation, *Winning Without a Fight: Power, Reputation, and Compellent Threats*, he argues that military power can paradoxically undermine the effectiveness of coercive interstate threats. Using new data collected for his project, he demonstrates that threats from powerful challengers often fail because their targets have incentives to prove their toughness by fighting, whereas threats from weaker states exhibit a much higher success rate. Mr. Sechser has also published an article in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (October 2004) titled "Are Soldiers Less War-Prone than Statesmen?" He is a recipient of a Harry S. Truman Scholarship and has held predoctoral fellowships at Stanford University and Harvard University. Mr. Sechser received his bachelor's degree (summa cum laude) in economics, political science, and international relations from Drake University in 1999.