

# GLOBAL & NATIONAL SECURITY SYMPOSIUM 2025



## Navigating the Challenges of Global & National Uncertainty

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26-27**

Student Union Building, Ballroom C

1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM



**GLOBAL &  
NATIONAL SECURITY  
POLICY INSTITUTE**

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# SYMPOSIUM AGENDA (DAY 1)

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025

8:45-9:15		<i>Check-in and Coffee</i>
9:15-9:30		<i>Opening Remarks</i> <b>PHILIP HULTQUIST</b>
9:30-10:45	<b>PANEL 1</b>	<i>Intelligence in an Uncertain Global Environment</i> <b>EMILE NAKHLEH</b> <b>JIM ELLSWORTH</b>
10:45-11:00		<i>Break &amp; Coffee</i>
11:00-12:30	<b>PANEL 2</b>	<i>Managing Uncertainty in the Indo-Pacific</i> <b>BRANDON YODER</b> <b>EVAN COOPER</b>
12:30-12:40		<i>Break &amp; Pick Up Lunch</i>
12:40-13:30		<i>GNSPI Junior Fellows Poster Session #1</i> <div><b>ALEXIS ADAMS</b> <b>NATHANIAL BERNARD</b> <b>GUILLERMO CARAVEO</b> <b>TIMOTHY COOGAN</b> <b>BECKETT GLASS</b></div> <div><b>SHIN HLIANG</b> <b>COLIN HOWARD</b> <b>ZAINA RIAZ NARU</b> <b>NASERIAN OLEMAKO</b> <b>LIANA STAR</b></div>
13:30-14:45	<b>PANEL 3</b>	<i>The Challenge of Security in Global Public Health</i> <b>LARRY GERNON</b> <b>AILEEN MARTY</b>
14:45-15:00		<i>Break &amp; Snacks</i>
15:00-16:00	<b>DAY 1 KEYNOTE</b>	<i>"One Old Soldier's View: Global Threats"</i> <b>LTG (RET) MARK HERTLING</b>
16:00-16:15		<i>Closing Remarks</i> <b>PHILIP HULTQUIST</b>
16:15-19:00		<b>RECEPTION AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB</b>

# SYMPOSIUM AGENDA (DAY 2)

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025

8:30-9:00		Check-in and Coffee
9:00-9:20		Opening Remarks PAMELA CHEEK
9:20-10:30	PANEL 4	Local Engagement in National Security & Diplomacy MODERATOR: JAY NEWTON-SMALL WILL ITOH MELORA PALMER JIM TEGNELIA
10:30-10:45		Break & Coffee
10:45-12:00	PANEL 5	Technology for an Uncertain Security Future MODERATOR: MARK ORGERON CYNDI COON DAVID SANDISON EDL SCHAMILOGLU
12:00-12:10		Break & Pick Up Lunch
12:10-13:00		GNSPI Junior Fellows Poster Session #2  SUMMER RAE BRETADO SOPHIA FINALE CARLOS GUTIERREZ RYAN HOSSAIN RONAN LAWRENCE  ROMAN MARTINEZ TENAYA RUMOLD INDICA SIMPSON ROSA SISNEROS-JIMENEZ
13:00-14:00	DAY 2 KEYNOTE	“Challenges of the New Nuclear Era: Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran” ROBERT LITWAK
14:00-14:15		Closing Remarks PHILIP HULTQUIST

# SPEAKER BIOS



## **PAMELA CHEEK**

*Vice Provost for Student Success, University of New Mexico*

Pamela Cheek is a professor of French in UNM's Department of Languages, Cultures and Literatures. She joined UNM in 1996 as a faculty member, and in 2018, she joined the Office of Academic Affairs as associate provost for student success. In 2024, she was promoted to her current position. She is responsible for various aspects of academic and student success, including academic advising, course development, and academic program assessment. Cheek works alongside the provost and senior leadership in the schools and colleges on strategic and implementation of a variety of initiatives.



## **CYNDI COON**

*Founder, Applied Futures Lab, Laboratory5, Threatcasting Lab, Threatcasting.ai*

Cyndi Coon is a time traveler and rule-bender, nerding out for good using data, science and curious questions as an Applied Futurist, author, creative, ecosystem builder, facilitator, producer, researcher, storyteller and publisher for private partnerships, enterprise, governments, the military, higher education, and industry. Cyndi is the Founder and Principal Futurist at Applied Futures Lab, Founder of Laboratory5, and Co-founder of Arizona State University's Threatcasting Lab and is the co-Founder & Director at Threatcasting.ai Cyndi is the co-author of Threatcasting (SpringerNature 2021) and Futurecasting (SpringerNature 2026) and the author of numerous reports, articles and book chapters.



## **EVAN COOPER**

*Research Analyst, Stimson Center*

Evan Cooper is a Research Analyst in the Reimagining US Grand Strategy Program. Previously, he has served as a junior fellow and associate director in the Atlantic Council's New American Engagement Initiative. Cooper's work focuses on improving US diplomatic engagement through overlooked areas of shared interests, including cultural diplomacy, healthcare, and commerce. Cooper holds a Master of Arts in Security Studies from Georgetown University, with a focus on international security. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Chapman University.



# SPEAKER BIOS



## **JIM ELLSWORTH**

*Visiting Professor, Organization, Information & Learning Sciences, Global & National Security Policy Institute, University of New Mexico*

Jim Ellsworth retired at the one-star/Senior Executive level after a three-decade Army career, starting as a SIGINT officer then amassing a record of research on complex operations & national strategy at the Naval War College before selection to lead development of a credentialing strategy for GEOINT. In retirement, he has served on the General Officer Working Group defining the Army Warfighting Challenges & written the vision for the Army Learning Ecosystem.



## **LARRY GERNON, MD**

*Senior Foreign Executive Service, Regional Medical Officer, US Dept of State; Adjunct Professor, GNSPI at UNM*

Larry Gernon has had an extensive career for the State Department in the Senior Foreign Executive Service with a grade of Minister Counselor. He served as Regional Medical Officer with tours in Bolivia, Kenya, India, Washington, DC, Thailand, Mexico, and Afghanistan. He is a practicing physician for in Emergency Medicine at Presbyterian Healthcare System and Rehoboth McKinley Christian Medical Center. He teaches two courses in global health security for the Global & National Security Policy Institute at UNM.



## **LTG MARK HERTLING (RET)**

*Professor of Practice in Leadership, Rollins College*

Mark Hertling served for four decades in the Army, retiring as the Commanding General of US Army, Europe. He also commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division in Northern Iraq during the surge of 2007-8. Since retiring in 2013, Mark now works in healthcare organizations, serves as a military analyst for CNN, and is a professor of practice in leadership at Rollins College. A 1975 graduate of West Point, he holds a master's in kinesiology from Indiana University, and a doctorate from the Crummer School of Business. Born in St. Louis, he and his spouse of 50 years, Sue, have two sons and five grandsons.

# SPEAKER BIOS



## **PHILIP HULTQUIST**

*Director, UNM's Global & National Security Policy Institute*

Philip Hultquist researches international relations, deterrence, and strategy with current research focusing on two areas of US Indo-Pacific Strategy: the role of non-traditional partners (like India) and improving deterrence in the Taiwan Strait. His previous positions include Associate Professor of Strategic Studies for the US Army School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS), Interim Director for the US Army's practitioner PhD program, and Research Fellow for the Modern War Institute at West Point. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of New Mexico (2013).



## **WILL ITOH**

*Ambassador, US Dept of State (retired)*

*President, World Affairs Council of Albuquerque*

Will Itoh is a Senior Advisor to McLarty Associates and Professor of the Practice in the Dept of Public Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During his career as a Foreign Service Officer Ambassador, Itoh served in the U.S. Embassy in London and as the U.S. Consul General to Western Australia in Perth. He was Deputy Executive Secretary of the Department of State, and Executive Secretary of the National Security Council at the White House 1993-1995. From 1995-1999 he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand. He is a graduate of UNM and served in the U.S. Air Force as a Logistics officer. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



## **ROBERT LITWAK**

*Research Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University*

Robert Litwak has previously senior vice president and director of international security studies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Litwak is a consultant to the Los Alamos National Laboratory. He served on the National Security Council staff as director for nonproliferation. Litwak is author of *Rogue States and U.S Foreign Policy*, *Outlier States*, and, most recently, *Tripolar Instability: Nuclear Competition Among the United States, Russia, and China*.

# SPEAKER BIOS



## **AILEEN MARTY**

*Distinguished University Professor, Florida International University*

Aileen M. Marty is a physician-scientist specializing in infectious diseases, CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosives) preparedness, and global health security with > 45 years of experience. She advises U.S. national security agencies and the World Health Organization on biodefense, pandemic preparedness, and emerging infectious diseases. A founder of Florida International University's Florida Advanced Surgical Transport, she leads outbreak response and molecular diagnostics efforts and serves as Co-Editor-in-Chief of *One Health* (Elsevier).



## **EMILE NAKHLEH**

*Senior Intelligence Service Officer (retired), Central Intelligence Agency; Founding Director, GNSPI, UNM*

Emile Nakhleh was a Senior Intelligence Service (SIS) officer and a founding Director of the Political Islam Strategic Analysis Program at the Central Intelligence Agency and the founding Director of the GNSPI at UNM. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Nakhleh is the author of *A Necessary Engagement: Reinventing America's Relations with the Muslim World*, *Bahrain: Political Development in a Modernizing State*, *The Persian Gulf and American Policy*, and *The West Bank and Gaza: Toward the Making of a Palestinian State*. He has written extensively on the Middle East, political Islam, radical Sunni ideologies, and terrorism. He is the former President of the World Affairs Council of Albuquerque.



## **JAY NEWTON-SMALL**

*Executive Editor & Vice President, Albuquerque Journal*

Jay Newton-Small is a talented storyteller who has dedicated her career to pulling the threads of narrative out of people and putting them to the page. She has authored the 2016 best-seller, *Broad Influence: How Women Are Changing the Way America Works*. Previously, she worked for *TIME Magazine* and founded a venture-backed company, *MemoryWell*. She holds an M.S. in Journalism from Columbia University and undergraduate degrees in International Relations and Art History from Tufts University.



# SPEAKER BIOS



## **MARK ORGERON**

*Data Privacy and Compliance Specialist, UNM Information Security & Privacy Office*

Mark Orgeron is a seasoned leader, educator, and featured cybersecurity speaker with decades of experience in higher education, public health, and strategic operations. He works in UNM's Information Security and Privacy Office and serves as adjunct faculty in University College, preparing students to meet today's complex challenges. With a background spanning academic leadership, policy, and security, Orgeron is known for fostering collaboration, advancing innovation, and inspiring action across education, healthcare, and government.



## **MELORA PALMER**

*Executive Director, Global Ties Albuquerque*

Melora Palmer has been the Executive Director at Global Ties ABQ since 2022. The organization hosts U.S. Department of State professional exchange programs and brings in over 250 people into the Enchanted City every year from over 100 countries. She has lived abroad for 25 years in Toronto, Strasbourg, and Paris where she worked in distribution development. She pivoted to the public sector working in humanitarian aid first in Haiti and then Cote d'Ivoire in West Africa. She has all along maintained a passion for exploring and celebrating our diverse world community and remains an active traveler, volunteering regularly to support women's empowerment in developing countries.



## **DAVID R. SANDISON**

*Director, Center of Global Security and Cooperation*

With a 30+ year career at Sandia, Dr. Sandison has held various national security roles: leading missile defense R&D, overseeing the first space-qualified microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), and commissioning Sandia's Ion Beam Laboratory. He previously served as Sandia's Chief of Staff and directed the Center for Microsystems Engineering, Science, and Applications (MESA). Dr. Sandison earned his PhD and MS in physics from Cornell University and a BS in physics from UNM.

# SPEAKER BIOS



## **EDL SCHAMILOGLU**

*Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, The University of New Mexico*

Edl Schamiloglu is a physicist, electrical engineer, pulsed power expert, inventor, and distinguished professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of New Mexico. He is an expert in the design and operation of directed-energy weapons. He is the founding director of the Directed Energy Center at UNM (DEC@UNM). He is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Physical Society, and is a Nonresident Fellow with the Center for Disruptive Technology and Future Warfare, National Defense University.



## **JIM TEGNELIA**

*Member, Defense Science Board*

Jim Tegnella has held numerous positions including Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), research professor of Nuclear Engineering (UNM), Vice President, Dept of Defense programs and Executive Vice President and Deputy Director at Sandia National Labs, President of Lockheed Martin Advanced Environmental Systems, Inc, Vice President of Engineering at Martin Marietta Corporation, Deputy Director of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and Assistant Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. He is a former member of the Executive Council and Board of Directors of the Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce.



## **BRANDON YODER**

*Senior Lecturer, Australian National University*

Brandon Yoder has previously held appointments at Old Dominion University, Yale-NUS College, Stanford University, and the National University of Singapore. His work addresses theories of international conflict and US-China relations, and has appeared in the *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Organization*, the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, the *Journal of Contemporary China*, and other outlets. He is the editor of *The United States and Contemporary China-Russia Relations: Theoretical Insights and Implications* (2022).

# GNSPI JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

## POSTER SESSION #1: STRATEGIC & INTELLIGENCE STUDIES



**ALEXIS ADAMS**

*Junior*  
*International Studies*

"Adaptation of Tribal Networks Under Rebel Governance During the Syrian Civil War"



**NATHANIAL BERNARD**

*Senior*  
*Political Science & Psychology*

"State Sponsored Narratives and Their Dark Appeal: A Computational Analysis of Reddit Discourse"



**GUILLERMO CARAVEO**

*Graduate Student*  
*Political Science - International Relations & Public Policy*

"Shaping Narratives in Xi's China"



**TIMOTHY COOGAN**

*Sophomore*  
*Mechanical Engineering, Los Alamos Branch*

"The Crumbling Precipice: How America's New Foreign Policy is Jeopardizing the Non-Proliferation Regime in the Indo-Pacific"



**BECKETT GLASS**

*Junior*  
*Political Science & Economics*

"Youth and Conflict: Is There Actually a Risk?"



**SHIN THANT HLAING**

*Senior*  
*Political Science*

"The Chinese Tortoise and the American Hare: China's Approach to STEM Research and Recruitment"

# GNSPI JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

## POSTER SESSION #1: STRATEGIC & INTELLIGENCE STUDIES



**COLIN HOWARD**

*Senior  
Political Science and  
Journalism & Communication*

*"Strait to the Strategy: US Engagement in  
the Bab al-Mandab Strait Region"*



**ZAINA RIAZ NARU**

*Senior  
International Relations*

*"United Nations in Kashmir: Silence and  
Stalemate"*



**NASERIAN OLEMAKO**

*Senior  
International Studies & Women,  
Gender & Sexuality Studies*

*"Rethinking U.S. National Security through  
Energy Geopolitics"*



**LIANA STAR**

*Sophomore  
International Studies & Russian*

*"Russia: A Faux Friend"*

# GNSPI JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

## POSTER SESSION #2: STEM & TRANSNATIONAL SECURITY POLICY



**SUMMER RAE BRETADO**

*Junior*

*International Studies*

"New Green Trade Deal"



**SOPHIA FINALE**

*Junior*

*Economics, Minor in Statistics*

"Trailing Edge, Rising Risk: The U.S. National Security Implications of Chinese Legacy Chip Production"



**CARLOS GUTIERREZ**

*Junior*

*Computer Science*

"How are U.S. Adversaries Leveraging Machine Learning to Enhance Cyber Espionage Operations?"



**RYAN HOSSAIN**

*Senior*

*Computer Science*

"AI Against Human Trafficking"



**RONAN LAWRENCE**

*Junior*

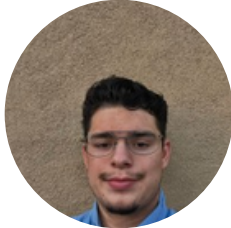
*Global & National Security*

"Under the Radar: Drone Warfare in the Russo-Ukrainian Conflict"



# GNSPI JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

## POSTER SESSION #2: STEM & TRANSNATIONAL SECURITY POLICY



**ROMAN MARTINEZ**

*Graduate Student  
Nuclear Engineering*

*"Simulation Based Nuclear Forensics using  
Isotopic Signatures"*



**INDICA SIMPSON**

*Graduate Student  
Global & National Security Policy*

*"Jaguar's Head in the Bed: Armed  
Resistance Groups and Biodiversity in Latin  
America"*



**ROSA SISNEROS-JIMENEZ**

*Sophomore  
General Science, Valencia Branch*

*"Cytotoxic Effects of Anti-Cancer Drug  
CC-115 in p53-mutated Lung Cancer  
Cells Cultured in Vitro"*



**TENAYA RUMOLD**

*Senior  
Political Science & German*

*"Women Matter: Reproductive  
Autonomy, Climate Change, and  
National Security"*



# GLOBAL & NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY INSTITUTE

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### PHILIP HULTQUIST

*Director, Global & National Security Policy Institute  
Director, UNM Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence  
Professor of Practice, UNM Department of Political Science  
philhult@unm.edu / 505-277-5115*



### JENNIFER NIETO

*Operations Manager, Global & National Security Policy Institute  
Program Manager, UNM IC Center for Academic Excellence  
nietoje@unm.edu / 505-277-3223*

**FOR INFO:**



[gnspi.unm.edu](https://gnspi.unm.edu)



**505-277-3223**



[gnspi@unm.edu](mailto:gnspi@unm.edu)

Thank you for participating in the 2025  
Global & National Security Symposium!

We look forward to seeing you again next  
year.

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