Dickey Center Director Discusses the Invasion of Ukraine

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FORMER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL ON PUTIN’S PRETENCES AND THE WEST’S RESPONSE.

How has Russia attempted to justify its invasion of Ukraine?

Holt: Russia set up a series of false arguments as grounds for its military intervention there. (Russian President Vladimir) Putin gave a very long speech in which he laid out quite a set of grievances. Essentially he said he wants to roll back history to an earlier time and reassert Russia’s territorial claims over Ukraine’s territory. And this is looking backwards, not forward. That argument does not make sense.

It is really interesting that of all the countries on the (U.N.) Security Council, the country that responded the most vigorously to this argument, was Kenya. Kenya’s ambassador to the U.N., Martin Kimani, said, “recolonization is not the goal today.” He called out Russia for wanting to reimpose old colonial lines.

And he had the support of the other African nations on this. So this is not just an argument between the U.S. and Russia, or even just with Europe. You’re seeing other countries stand up in opposition.

The second argument is that Ukraine was seeking nuclear weapons. Ukraine is actually one of a few countries in the world to give up nuclear weapons voluntarily. So that makes no sense.

A third argument is that Russia is acting to protect the civilians of the two breakaways, the parts of Ukraine where Russia has backed separatist forces. Putin has claimed that the pro-Russian separatists are themselves under attack or could even face genocide at the hands of Ukraine.

Again, there appears to be no basis for claims of a threat from Ukraine. There has been violence in these regions. There has been, between injury and deaths, roughly, I think it’s 10,000 since Russia went in. And another 3 million currently are in need of humanitarian assistance from the ongoing conflict in those areas that Russia puts claims on, but that is seen, in part, as a result of Russia’s backing of the separatist forces.

First, what would you like to say in the wake of Russia’s attack on Ukraine?

Victoria Holt: Russia’s actions are indefensible, and a direct challenge to all nations who believe in national sovereignty and the rule of law, as well as a threat to the people of Ukraine who will bear the brunt of this attack.

Victoria K. Holt, a former diplomat, is the Norman E. McCulloch Jr. Director of the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding. Photo by Robert Gill

Victoria K. Holt, the Norman E. McCulloch Jr. Director of the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, is a former deputy assistant secretary of state for international security in the Obama administration. She has worked in the areas of diplomacy, peacekeeping, multilateral affairs, and atrocity prevention for the State Department, international policy think tanks, and the United Nations. She spoke to Dartmouth News on Wednesday as Russia was beginning its invasion of Ukraine.

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Dickey Center Postdocs Reflect on Public Scholarship

As the first cohort of Rosenwald postdoctoral fellows arrived at Dartmouth in September, the U.S. had just pulled out of Afghanistan. Now, as their residencies conclude, the Russian invasion of Ukraine continues.

Faculty at the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding have been prominently engaged with these crises, presenting the postdocs with a powerful model of public scholarship, says William Wohlforth, Daniel Webster Professor of Government and faculty director of the Dartmouth Initiative for Global Security at the Dickey Center.

“If you create a postdoc that is tailored toward supporting policy-relevant research, you are creating an incentive for scholars to think about their work in this way,” says Wohlforth.

“As part of the Rosenwald program, we have media training sessions, communications training sessions, how to write op-eds. These are all meant to help these younger scholars articulate what they’re doing in a manner that can be understood by people outside of academia.”

Although this is the first year of the Rosenwald Fellows program, Dickey has sponsored a postdoctoral fellows program for 10 years, and more than 70 scholars and leaders in U.S. foreign policy and international security are still very much involved in networking and engaging with the Dickey fellows each year, says Wohlforth.

“Rosenwald Fellow Alexandra Chinchilla

Rosenwald Fellow Alexandra Chinchilla, who is also the 2021-22 Karen TU’89 and Joseph Niehaus 1985 Postdoctoral Fellow, says she learned a lot watching her faculty mentor, Jason Lyall, the James Wright Chair in Transnational Studies, analyze the war in Afghanistan in public forums and in the media.

“We have such good models here at the Dickey Center for how to do this productive engagement because everybody connected to the center is a really accomplished scholar,” says Chinchilla, a political scientist whose research examines how great powers use training and advising to directly shape the militaries of states and armed nonstate actors.
“That’s what I’ve been trying to model this year as I’m starting to interact with media to write my first opinion piece,” she says, pointing to her piece, “Security Assistance Worked in Ukraine,” posted in The Defense Post and on the Initiative for Global Security’s Crisis in Ukraine webpage.

“Ukraine shows how U.S. and NATO efforts to train local partners pay off when they mirror local priorities,” Chinchilla writes in the op-ed.

Rosenwald Fellow Hannah Waits, who is also the 2021-22 Cindy and David Edelson 1981 Postdoctoral Fellow, is a historian specializing in transnational politics, race, sex, and religion from the mid-20th century to the present. Waits says Dickey training on working with journalists and nongovernmental organizations helped her build relationships and think about different ways to engage on issues.

“Having more of an advising role seems very attractive to me. Consulting for museums, for example, is a different kind of public-facing leveraging of scholarly work,” says Waits, who consulted with the New York Historical Society during her fellowship on the exhibit “Acts of Faith: Religion in the American West.”

Working with her faculty mentor, history professor Bethany Moreton, who specializes in transnational religious networks, religion and politics in the U.S., and the politics of sexuality and race, has helped her expand her thinking about ways to engage her scholarship, she says.

“Trying to bring my research expertise to different kinds of public audiences—a wide variety of public audiences—really appeals to me.”

The fellowships also provide the freedom and time to all the postdocs to complete a book-length manuscript in their field of study. That is what attracted postdoc Kevin Li, a historian who specializes in the history of modern Vietnam with particular interest in nationalism, decolonization, state-formation, and civil war.

When he accepted the Rosenwald Fellowship at Dartmouth, he thought it would simply give him a chance to think deeply about his research “in the middle of nowhere.”

But meeting and joining in discussions with other scholars in broadly diverse fields and working with faculty mentor Associate Professor of History Edward Miller, whose research and teaching focus on modern Vietnam, the Vietnam War, and oral history, showed Li the value of public scholarship.

“Given my experience here at Dartmouth, I’m more open to opining in more general interest outlets than I would have been last year,” says Li. “And given the context of the South China Sea, the U.S. role in the Asia Pacific, and China’s growing shadow over the region, I think I would be willing to dip my toe in that world.”

In May, the five postdoctoral fellows from the 2021-2022 class will travel to Washington for a conference on U.S. foreign policy and international security involving policymakers, academics, and policy leaders, including many Dartmouth and Dickey program alumni. The current cohort also includes Michael Masterson, whose work focuses on the intersection of international conflict and political psychology with an area focus on China; and Gregory Smith, who studies changes in the causal effect of coercive policy tools and domestic determinants of U.S. foreign policy.

The Dickey Center’s postdoctoral fellows program, piloted in 2012, was endowed, expanded, and renamed in May 2021 in honor of John Rosenwald Jr. ’52, Tuck ’53, chair emeritus of the Dartmouth Board of Trustees, with the goal of strengthening the Dickey Center’s role in preparing future generations of foreign policy leaders.

THE FELLOWS FOR 2022-23

Polina Beliakova studies international relations with a focus on civil-military relations, intrastate conflict, and international security with a regional interest in Russia, Ukraine, and Israel.

Danielle Gilbert explores the causes and consequences of hostage taking in international security, including projects on rebel kidnapping, hostage recovery policy, hostage diplomacy, and ransomware.

Charlotte Kiechel is a historian of 20th century Europe with a focus in Holocaust and genocide studies.

Erik Lin-Greenberg is a political scientist whose research and teaching examine how emerging military technology affects conflict dynamics and the use of force.

A.J. Murphy is a scholar of American military history, the history of capitalism, and the history of gender and sexuality.

Caleb Pomeroy studies the psychology of power in international relations, and the effects of state power on human cognition, perception, and behavior.

Abby Post is a political scientist whose research focuses on the dynamics of international bargaining.
When the War and Peace Fellows traveled to Washington last week, they weren’t expecting their encounter with power would be spelled with a capital P.

But after a visit with Isobel Coleman, a deputy administrator at the U.S. Agency for International Development and a Dartmouth parent, a few of the students from the Dickey Center program asked if USAID Administrator Samantha Power was in the building. An assistant told the group to stay put in the conference room for a few minutes.

A short time later Power, the Pulitzer-Prize winning author of “A Problem from Hell:” America and the Age of Genocide and former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, walked in.

“Samantha Power is my role model in the human rights world. I read her memoir,” says Chantal Elias ’22, who quotes Power’s work on genocide prominently in her senior thesis, which examines the connection between public opinion and U.S. humanitarian interventions in global conflicts.

“She’s probably one of the busiest women in Washington right now, but she ended up popping by and talking with us for probably 15 minutes—and three of us got to ask her questions, which was an absolute surreal experience,” says Elias, a government major with a minor in earth sciences.

“She was very candid about Ukraine. She had just gotten back from being with (President Joe) Biden in Poland. She introduced Biden in Poland just days before, so it was absolutely incredible.”

The War and Peace Fellows program is a co-curricular Dickey Center program that gives undergraduates interested in public service and government careers access to high-level policymakers working in Congress, the Pentagon, the State Department, NGOs and the intelligence community, and to internationally renowned experts on war and peace through visits, conferences, and travel to Washington and around the globe.

A group of 12 students traveled with Victoria K. Holt, the Norman E. McCulloch Jr. Director of the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding; Professor of Government Benjamin Valentino, coordinator of the War and Peace Fellows; and Thomas Candon, senior associate director of Dickey’s Initiative for Global Security.

During the two-day trip on March 28 and 29, the group met with policy leaders and experts from the National Security Council at the White House, The Washington Post, Freedom House, the World Bank, Catholic University, the U.S. Russia Foundation, the Senate Appropriations Committee, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and Refugees International.
Many of the people who met with the Dartmouth group, including Power, were colleagues of Holt from her time with the State Department, the United Nations, and public policy institutions involved with international security and civilian protection in conflict. Many of the participants were also Dartmouth graduates.

“The students were great: insightful and curious,” says Holt. “They asked very senior leaders from the White House to Refugees International questions about policy and choices. And all the speakers told them—start with what interests you and you will find your way to working on issues of war and peace from there. The world needs their talents.”

D.C. TRIP RETURNS AFTER HIATUS
This year’s group was predominantly seniors, who have missed out on the annual spring trip to Washington since sophomore year when the COVID-19 pandemic shut travel down, says Valentino.

“It really was a kind of rite of passage for War and Peace students in the past, but the last three years we haven’t had that. So it was great to see them have that opportunity, and they really bonded in a short time,” Valentino says.

“As we all discovered, there is a real difference between meeting someone on Zoom and being there in their office, going through security into buildings like the White House and the World Bank, and having a sense of what it’s actually like. I could feel it, and I know all the students felt it too.”

In addition to meeting so many extraordinary leaders, Elias says experiences like having dinner with recent alumni and talking about the struggles and excitement at the start of their careers, spotting U.S. senators walking the halls of the Capitol, or getting a chance to see parts of the White House that few people ever see, including Vice President Kamala Harris’ office, were invaluable.

“Our tour of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, which is at the White House, was by this amazing woman, Alea Nadeem. She was our tour guide but also is the right-hand woman of Cara Abercrombie ’97, who is a special assistant to the president on the National Security Council,” Elias says.

“She brought us around the building, and we were walking by the Truman bowling alley and she said, ‘Oh, I haven’t been in,’ so we went down there and there were pictures of Nixon bowling. We also saw Kamala’s office, and these beautiful libraries, things like that. It was pretty cool. And then we met with Cara Abercrombie.”

Valentino says the students are always amazed at how generous the leaders they visit are with their time.

“The thing you come away with from these trips is that, although we’re meeting with some of the busiest, most important people in our country, they really enjoy giving back to young people who are thinking about careers in public service,” Valentino says.

“It’s gratifying for me to see, and I always remind the students at the end of the trip that, hopefully one day the tables will be turned, and future Dartmouth students will be knocking at their door, and they’ll pay it forward.”

USAID Administrator Samantha Power, standing, listens to a student’s question as, from left, Ben Valentino, Gabrielle Levy ’22, Victoria K. Holt, Tahlia Mullen ’22, and the rest of the group listen. Photo courtesy of USAID
Dartmouth has announced two gifts totaling $13.1 million that will advance its expertise and impact in international security and Arctic studies, both urgent and rapidly evolving fields of scholarship.

Through these investments, Dartmouth will prepare future leaders who will help steer the world through two of the most pressing issues facing humankind in the coming century—while also accelerating faculty and student scholarship in these matters.

The first gift, for $8.1 million, will heighten Dartmouth’s ability to convene global security experts, policymakers, and leaders from the military and private sectors, and conduct research to shape a more secure, peaceful future. It is the first gift toward Dartmouth’s Initiative for Global Security, which, when fully funded, will establish an interdisciplinary institute.

The second gift, for $5 million, will leverage Dartmouth’s decades of leadership in the Arctic region and expand the scope of urgently needed research conducted there through Dartmouth’s Institute of Arctic Studies.

These commitments—each from an anonymous donor—are the latest gifts in The Call to Lead campaign that are elevating Dartmouth’s international profile and positioning the institution as a nexus of teaching and learning focused on many of world’s most pressing challenges. Other initiatives launched through the campaign are addressing the global energy transition, the use of computational tools to further just societies, and the development of innovative cancer treatments.

Mark Brzezinski ’87, the United States ambassador to Poland, notes that both gifts build on Dartmouth areas of distinction. “Dartmouth has some of the top global security faculty experts in the U.S.,” he says. “The new Initiative for Global Security is an amazing opportunity to leverage that expertise on a larger scale.”

A former executive director of the U.S. Arctic Executive Steering Committee, Brzezinski adds: “The issues of the Arctic are global—the immense impact of climate change, the surge in shipping, and maritime security—and Dartmouth brings a special credibility to Arctic issues. Dartmouth is an internationally recognized educational institution, has a global alumni base, and has a deep connection to Native American communities in Alaska and the Arctic, where more than half of all federally recognized tribes live. All these distinctions put Dartmouth in a prime position to make change happen.”

The two programs supported by these gifts are part of Dartmouth’s John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, which seeks to address great issues of the day through education, research, leadership, policy engagement, and global partnerships.

“These gifts are a prime opportunity for Dartmouth to enhance what it does well: convene expert researchers and policymakers from around the world on the very timely issues of international peace, global security, and climate change, and strengthen partnerships with Indigenous Peoples,” says Victoria K. Holt, the Norman E. McCulloch Jr. Director of the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding.

SETTING SIGHTS ON GLOBAL PEACE

Immense global challenges, including modern warfare, the human repercussions of war, and conflicts over resources arising from climate change, require the intellectual strength of the world’s top universities to analyze and interpret their complexity, inform policy choices, and prepare future generations of global security experts.

The $8.1 million gift to the Initiative for Global Security will support two principal objectives: to generate and disseminate new knowledge of critical importance to global peace and prosperity, and to prepare the next generation of leaders who will create policy in a multifaceted global environment. Dartmouth seeks $25 million to endow the initiative, which will establish the Institute for Global Security.

Dartmouth has a long history of providing policy-driven security research and offering timely analysis of current events, particularly through its highly regarded international relations scholars across campus. In recent weeks, for example, multiple faculty members have been featured in leading international media to discuss Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the conflict’s far-reaching ramifications.

The Call to Lead campaign has further strengthened Dartmouth’s expertise in security matters. The E. John Rosenwald, Jr. ’52 TU’53 Fellows Program in U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security, announced this past year, supports outstanding postdoctoral candidates who are focusing on global security questions. The innovative undergraduate War and Peace Fellows Program gathers students from multiple disciplines to discuss global conflict and pathways to peace. The need-based Eyal and Marilyn Ofer Scholars Program attracts and supports talented undergraduates with a strong interest in the social, political, moral, and technological dimensions of international cooperation.

Building on these achievements, the Initiative for Global Security will elevate Dartmouth’s research in global security, introduce a program of visiting scholars with a wide range of geographic and topical expertise, and provide undergraduates with more research and experiential learning opportunities.

“This gift will bring the outstanding policy research that happens here to a wider audience for greater visibility, taking our research to policymakers, journalists, and opinion shapers to establish Dartmouth as the place, internationally, to find...
the latest in research on real-world security questions,” says William William Wohlforth, the Daniel Webster Professor of Government and the initiative’s faculty director.

One of the initiative’s principal objectives is to increase contact between students and security experts on and off campus, fueling discussion and analysis. When the initiative is fully funded, Dartmouth will offer more residencies for policymakers, journalists, and leaders of non-governmental organizations. It will host its first annual security forum in Washington, D.C., in May.

ARCTIC CHALLENGES: A GLOBAL CONCERN
The Arctic regions have been difficult to access for most of human history. Due to climate change, however, sea ice is melting at an alarming rate, ecosystems are transforming, and nations are competing for rights to minerals, oil, and gas, which in turn is raising tension between global powers in the Far North.

The $5 million gift will expand the Dickey Center’s Institute of Arctic Studies (IAS), which has a long history of collaborating with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in the Arctic. The gift is a first step toward a $25 million goal to endow the institute.

“This gift is a tremendous opportunity for Dartmouth,” says Melody Brown Burkins GR’95 GR’98, director of the IAS. “In working with our Arctic partners—governments and community leaders—we are helping to build co-produced, co-designed solutions to urgent Arctic issues. This work is Dartmouth’s unique strength. This gift will help us heighten our work, expand our opportunities for undergraduates in hands-on learning in the Arctic, and drive our research more toward policy change. Climate change is happening rapidly, and the research we’re doing is research that people in the Arctic and around the world need today.”

When fully endowed, the expanded IAS will be a leading source of rigorously developed research and analysis into Arctic science, policy, and diplomacy. Through initiatives such an undergraduate scholars program and an Arctic science and diplomacy summer school, Dartmouth will facilitate the robust exchange of ideas and perspectives by sending more faculty and students into the Arctic and bringing more Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders and young scholars to campus. Each initiative will invest in the IAS priorities to develop interdisciplinary, policy-relevant scholarship that can directly inform pressing challenges facing the Arctic and the planet.

“We can’t have enough interdisciplinary research around understanding how climate change is affecting the Arctic and the rest of the world,” says Ross Virginia, the Myers Family Professor of Environmental Science and former director of the IAS. “This gift will expand our research and how we engage with people of the Arctic because they are the people experiencing these changes and are being forced to adapt under complicated conditions.”

In the fields of global security and Arctic studies, events in recent years have only accelerated the demand for new means to gather parties together and apply new ways to explore and resolve complex issues, says Holt.

“We’ve witnessed fast-moving and discouraging trends on so many fronts in recent years. Friction between China and the U.S. and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine have underscored the possibility of a new Cold War. And the heightened sense of competition among powers that want to exploit Arctic regions is stressing an already difficult situation,” says Holt. “Through these inspired new investments, and with longstanding expertise in these matters, Dartmouth is uniquely positioned to prepare students today who may lead the global response on these issues in the future.”
Dartmouth will welcome 25 young African leaders this summer for a two-week leadership and professional training program sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This marks the return of a global initiative to bring leaders from Africa to Dartmouth since the last cohort visited campus in the summer of 2018.

Dartmouth is one of eight educational institutions across the country that will host the Alumni Enrichment Institutes in July for the 200 visiting alumni of the 2021 Mandela Washington Fellowship program. It gives them an opportunity to travel to the United States to collaborate with American counterparts and continue building on the professional and leadership skills that they developed during their virtual leadership training last year.

The Institutes are a follow-on initiative of the Mandela Washington Fellowship, the flagship program of President Barack Obama’s Young African Leaders Initiative, which was created in 2010. It provides young business, cultural, and civic leaders from sub-Saharan African with an opportunity to hone their skills at a U.S. college or university and receive continued support for professional development after they return home. YALI supports young Africans as they spur economic growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Africa.

“We are delighted and honored to host this cohort of young leaders from across Africa, as we build on Dartmouth’s terrific relationships from years of hosting the YALI program,” says Victoria K. Holt, the Norman E. McCulloch Jr. Director of the Dickey Center.

Since the Mandela Washington Fellowship was established in 2014, the Dickey Center has hosted 125 leaders and innovators from 38 countries across Africa.

“We look forward to deepening connections across continents through interactions spurred between the young leaders, the Dartmouth community, and partners in the Upper Valley,” says Holt.

The Dickey Center is working with partners across campus and the community to plan activities for the visiting African leaders.

They will include summer academic courses and leadership sessions on campus; community service opportunities at nonprofit organizations across the Upper Valley in collaboration with the Center for Social Impact; team building activities, including outdoor excursions to Mount Moosilauke and the Connecticut River, through a partnership with the Outdoor Programs Office; and engaging in cultural exchange, strategic networking, and site visits.

Prior to their arrival at Dartmouth, participants will spend time in Washington, D.C., and meet with nongovernmental organizations, private companies, and federal agencies with an interest in Africa, to develop a mutual understanding.

The Alumni Enrichment Institutes are funded by the Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and implemented by IREX, a nonprofit that fosters global development and education.
Tributes to Madeleine Albright, the first female U.S. secretary of state, poured out from the Dartmouth community, where she had strong ties, upon the news that she had died of cancer Wednesday at 84.

Albright was the 2001 commencement speaker, visited and spoke in 2014, and was a proud Dartmouth parent of Anne Korbel Albright ’83.

“Secretary Albright was an unrelenting champion of democracy, human rights, and freedom, and believed deeply in U.S. leadership internationally,” said Victoria K. Holt, director of the Dickey Center for International Understanding. Holt worked for her when Albright served as secretary of state in the Clinton administration.

“She inspired those around her to solve problems,” Holt said. “Later, I saw her effectiveness chairing the Genocide Prevention Task Force, which I served on, to champion a roadmap for the U.S. to better prevent and halt atrocities—which she had faced herself.”

Daniel Benjamin, current president of the American Academy in Berlin and Dickey director at the time of Albright’s 2014 visit, called her death a shock.

“Madeleine Albright was of course a historic figure as the first woman to serve as secretary of state and a major figure in American statecraft. But she was also a person with an incredible gift for friendship, support, and encouragement,” he said.

“For lots of us who served in the Clinton and Obama administrations, she was central—someone you wouldn’t hesitate to ask for advice or even a favor. She was an extraordinarily generous person,” Benjamin said.

Of Albright’s April 2014 visit to Dartmouth, Benjamin said, “She loved the College. She showed up dressed in green—a Dartmouth parent to the hilt. The event in Spaulding was packed, and she deployed both her insights, strong moral views, and wit to the event. The crowd loved it.”
EXPERTS SAY ONLY A BRIEF WINDOW OF TIME IS LEFT TO RESPOND.

A dire report from the United Nation’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) focuses on the impacts that will occur from climate change and discusses opportunities for adaptation.

When the report was released in late February, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called it “an atlas of human suffering and a damning indictment of failed climate leadership,” and said it “reveals how people and the planet are getting clobbered by climate change.” Dartmouth experts lay out the key takeaways from the report’s stark findings, emphasizing that the brief window of time to respond and take action is shrinking.

HELENE SEROUSSI
Associate Professor, Thayer School of Engineering
This report highlights how much climate change has already impacted humans and natural systems, particularly through extreme climate and weather events, and how the most vulnerable people and systems are being disproportionately impacted. An important conclusion is that once temperatures exceed pre-industrial level by 1.5 degrees Celsius, however temporarily, the loss for the biodiversity and extinction of species will be permanent, impacting all aspects of our lives from agriculture to tourism.

This report also highlights how actions on adaptation, like flood defenses, early storm warnings and use of drought-resistant crops have increased. But these actions are unevenly distributed and are not being adopted fast enough. The gap between adaptation actions and adaptation needs is growing. So, while there are still several options we can choose from at this stage, the more we wait the fewer options we will have.

JONATHAN WINTER
Associate Professor of Geography
The IPCC has shifted from saying it is “virtually certain” human influence has warmed the ocean, atmosphere, and land to saying it is “unequivocal.” This shift emphasizes the weight of evidence both showing warming and linking human greenhouse gas emissions to that warming.

Relative to the rest of the world, the Northeast in United States has not experienced as large of an increase in heat extremes or in agricultural and ecological drought. But it has experienced an increase in heavy precipitation (1-day or 5-day precipitation amounts). It is likely to get warmer, with more heat waves, and wetter, with more heavy precipitation. More winter precipitation will fall as rain rather than snow, shortening the snow season. The Seacoast will see flooding due to sea level rise.

MELODY BURKINS
Director, Institute of Arctic Studies
Scientists are certain: climate change is already actively hurting and harming people and life on our planet and, instead of collectively working on the solution, we are on track for it to be much, much worse without significant shifts. In the brief window of time available to us, the only workable climate solutions must also address structural inequalities in our social and economic systems.

I had three reactions to the report: First, I thought how important it is for me, as an individual who has studied climate science and engaged in policy throughout my career, to continue speaking out about the importance of investing in inclusive, sustainable, and equitable pathways and policies to climate mitigation.

Second, as director of the Institute of Arctic Studies, I am now even more driven to ensure we engage and highlight the knowledge and innovation of our Arctic colleagues and partners—Indigenous peoples and local communities—who are at the front lines of climate change. Keeping those knowledge connections open as we advance inclusive and informed climate solutions is a priority.

Finally, I recognized how privileged I am to be here at Dartmouth, surrounded by driven and knowledgeable colleagues across disciplines. As this report calls us to action, I know that Dartmouth can be a leader in climate scholarship and policy.

DAVID LUTZ
Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies Program
This report presents, in raw fashion, the stark reality that our planet will never be the same. It is morally reprehensible that our nation has not taken drastic steps to mitigate our contributions to climate change. The evidence is clear. Delaying further, given what we know, is unconscionable.

We must make drastic and transformational changes to how we interact and manage natural ecosystems for them to sustain through impending climate change. In the report, the authors relate that if we stay on our current path of emissions, and end up with increases of 3 degrees Celsius, the upper limit of species that will likely face a very high risk of extinction is 30%. Additionally, from a human perspective, under all scenarios, approximately one billion people are projected to be at risk from coastal-specific climate hazards such as flooding and sea level rise. Both of those are tragic outcomes. Catastrophic. To me, this report indicates that significant suffering to both people and species is imminent.

I encourage everyone to read through the Summary for Policymakers that the IPCC puts out for each working group. Even if the report is challenging to read, I think we owe it to future generations and vulnerable communities and species who will be catastrophically impacted by climate change to at least make an effort to read the writing on the wall. Let us not go gentle into this good night.

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Melody Brown Burkins, Adv’95, Adv’98, Director of the Institute of Arctic Studies
Julia Robitaille ’23 / Alumni Magazine March-April 2022

What are the high and low points in your 30 years as a polar scientist?
The highs are the beauty—finding things out, studying the earth, working with people in extreme environments. I find that really amazing. The lows are recognizing that the science isn’t enough and that we need to study governance, trust, and messaging to help mitigate climate change. Those are really hard.

Do any particular memories stick out?
As a Dartmouth graduate student I got stranded for three days in a whiteout on a remote penguin rookery island in Antarctica, and we had a great time. We were eating old food from an emergency shelter and waiting for the weather to clear. And when a group of U.S. senators came down to Antarctica, I heard someone talking about how U.S. science knowledge and collaborations with other countries in Antarctica and the Arctic are valuable to the future of science and peace. These were ideas I’d never heard before. It made me rethink my career.

A lot of your work centers around the intersection of politics and science. What’s your take on the balance between the two?
We’ve had the data for decades that the earth is warming, the ice is melting, and it’s changing communities in the Arctic. Now, how do we marry that knowledge with an understanding of political processes, of incentives for politicians and governments to help them act? That’s what I love to do. There is a tension, but it’s a tension we can learn to get through. That’s my hope.

What was it like growing up in Fairbanks, Alaska?
Winters were 50 below, it was dark when you waited for the bus, and it was dark when you went home. We knew you always had to carry chains and warm clothes in your car in case you got stuck. There were things that you just did in Alaska to be self-sufficient.

What’s your best tip on keeping warm?
Layers! You can always take layers off, but if you don’t have enough, you can’t put them on.

What is the greatest misconception people have about polar regions?
The Arctic is a zone of not only ice and snow and beauty, but also people—4 million Indigenous people up there. There’s a history, there’s culture, and there needs to be respect for that. There are people who’ve been living in these extreme, changing environments in remote areas for thousands of years who know the earth, who know the patterns of the earth and the animals that roam the earth, and we can learn from that.
My name is Ningning Sun and I am a Dartmouth Class of 2024 double majoring in Economics and Environmental Studies. During W22, I was lucky to gain funding from the Dickey Center to pursue an internship at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland. I was able to work in-person 5 days a week in Rovaniemi, Finland, and I collaborated with researchers from around the world, including Finland, Germany, and the United States. My work consists primarily of policy research and analysis related to Arctic sustainable development and climate resilience, especially when it comes to the interconnections between climate change, biodiversity, land-use, and local communities. I also assisted with several other tasks related to environmental history, socio-economic analysis, and biological sciences.

OVERVIEW OF THE INTERNSHIP
My internship is located at the Arctic Centre in Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland. I contributed to CHARTER, a EU-sponsored megaproject aiming to advance the adaptive capacity of Arctic communities to climatic and environmental changes. More specifically, I was most involved with CHARTER Work Package 6, which focuses on identifying policy pathways for multiple stakeholders to develop sustainable development and climate adaptation strategies, especially when it comes to the interconnections between climate change, biodiversity, land-use, and local communities. I conducted policy research, synthesized policy documents, and performed policy analysis through extracting key insights and contributing my own perspectives.

EXPECTATIONS VS. EXPERIENCE
I was expecting to read a lot of peer-reviewed research papers and policy documents, as well as a lot of writing and analysis. The experience actually exceeded my expectations. I read significantly more policy documents and agendas than peer-reviewed papers, which is amazing as I prefer applied research to theoretical research. There were also a lot of discussions between me and my supervisors, and I gained a lot of helpful feedback from them to improve and refine my work. Most importantly, even though I am still an undergraduate student, I felt my opinions were actively listened to and valued by experienced researchers, and some of them were taken into consideration and adopted. I believe the work I did during my internship will help create a tangible, positive impact in Arctic countries and Arctic communities and this makes me feel incredibly fulfilled and grateful.

PERSONAL GROWTH, SKILLS LEARNED, & CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED
I grew a lot in Finland and I would say I am a very different person right now. After spending most of my free time alone, quietly appreciating the beauty of Mother Nature by the window whether it be watching the sunrise, the sunset, or a snowfall, having genuine conversations with myself while walking in the snow-covered pine forests late at night, listening to my favorite songs while enjoying some nutritious breakfast or nice dishes that I made, working out in a local gym, or going on hiking/biking/skiing adventures, I became very independent and strong, and I don’t feel the need to rely on anyone or conform to any “standards” set by other people anymore. I reflected a lot about life and the world while walking freely in the woods, running happily on the snow, and immersing myself in nature, and it was an extremely humbling, liberating, and character-building experience. The world is very big, life is long, changes happen all the time, and a lot of stuff that we tend to get fixated on are actually extremely trivial in the grand scheme of things. Now a lot of things that kind of mattered to me don’t matter anymore, and I now know what I value in life and I am confident that I can take changes or face unexpected situations very calmly in the future.

It’s so important to put yourself in different places and situations and keep actively thinking and reflecting. I am now really looking forward to my next adventures later in my life, because I believe I will get a lot out of those as well, in ways that may not be imaginable at this point, which is really exciting. New experiences and situations foster growth and spark amazing ideas. You would also hear life’s whispers that you normally won’t notice in a noisy environment or a busy life. I kept a journal, and it helped me figure a lot of things out and document my thoughts, experiences, and ideas. I have returned to the “normal college life” now, but the time I spent in Finland has already helped me grow so much in a very good way, and my experience will keep inspiring and motivating me. I am really grateful for this amazing experience and to Dickey Center for providing me with incredible guidance and support to go on this journey.

When it comes to more technical things and skills I learned, through working on this megaproject that involved researchers from various fields, I naturally learned a lot from project leaders about project management through looking at how they divided responsibilities, how they assigned tasks, and how they put everything together in the end in an organized and effective way as deliverables. My research, presentation, communication, organization, and critical thinking skills were all improved, and I learned a lot about Arctic environmental and social issues as well as Arctic governance. I am looking forward to learning more about this fascinating field!

My transition to a new living and working environment was mostly wonderful and smooth with the incredible help from my supervisor Professor Bruce Forbes in multiple aspects of
my life. The only challenge I encountered was the combination of coldness and dryness, which caused frostbite and I had to visit the hospital briefly to get my skin treated. I grew up in a very warm and humid climate and have not yet experienced Hanover winter, so living in northern Finland was completely different. But I am glad Professor Forbes pointed me in the right direction when it comes to visiting a doctor and treating my skin and things got so much better in a few days!

LASTING IMPACT
Even though I was an intern, I wanted to make a real, meaningful contribution in this impactful megaproject and actually bring positive changes to the Arctic environment and communities through my research and my work, so I kept thinking about ways and asking for opportunities to do more and contribute more. As I started taking more and more responsibilities in the project, such as synthesizing and organizing important materials and producing my own analysis and recommendations, I thought to myself, “how can I actually make a difference with my contributions? How should I avoid producing recommendations that are too vague or general to produce new insights and bring positive changes?” So I actively thought about the best ways to present my work, such as making a table divided by different scales, the nature of environmental, social, or governance issues, and the roles of different stakeholders (e.g. contributors or beneficiaries), and the analysis conducted and recommendations produced following this categorization would be the most effective, pertinent, and feasible. My reasoning was that dividing the roles of stakeholders in a certain issue could help policymakers who read the final manuscript identify the roles of different parties in the case, so specific policies that target different groups and address each piece of the puzzle can be developed and effectively implemented. My work was very valued by the supervisors, and they gave me a lot of positive feedback and saw my deliverables as very helpful to the project. I am looking forward to seeing the final outputs of CHARTER and I will be extremely grateful and fulfilled as I know that my efforts and ideas are integrated in the outputs that will be seen and considered by decision-makers and will make a positive difference in the Arctic, whether it be in the communities or in the natural world.

Ningning Sun ’24 was an impressive ambassador for Dartmouth and the Institute of Arctic in Rovaniemi at the Dartmouth-ULapland reception. Photos: Melody Burkins.
The Class of 1961 Stephen W. Bosworth Award in International Affairs

This year, the Class of 1961 Stephen W. Bosworth Award in International Affairs has been awarded to Babette Kania, Brandon Hill and Sophia Swanson—all members of the Class of 2023.

BABETTE KANIA IS A ’23 from Cambridge, MA. At Dartmouth, she is a government major focused on conflict prevention, post-conflict reconstruction, and the causes and prevention of mass atrocities. In addition to serving as one of this year’s student assistants for the Dickey Center’s War and Peace Fellows, she is also a mentor for the Center’s Great Issues Scholars program. Babette spent the spring of 2021 interning with Inclusive Security, a non-profit that advocates for the inclusion of women in all aspects of peacebuilding.

BRANDON HILL IS A ’23 from Mercer Island, WA. At Dartmouth, Brandon studies biology with a concentration in epidemiology alongside minors in global health and French. Brandon was introduced to the Dickey Center through his experience as a Great Issues Scholar during his freshman year. In the Spring of 2020, he began interning for the Dickey Center, contributing to public health research on topics including best practices for COVID-19 pandemic response, student perspectives on COVID-19 regulations to inform the Dartmouth COVID-19 Task Force, and successes and struggles of rural community health workers during the pandemic. Brandon began working with the Dickey Center’s Global Health Fellows program in Fall 2020; and returned as intern this year as an indispensable well of institutional knowledge, finding new ways for fellows to practically engage with global public health topics alongside the year’s lecture series. He committed to inclusivity and diversity, helping design program elements accessible for all Dartmouth students.

Brandon spent the Fall of 2021 researching best practices for implementation of rural, hospital-based community health worker programs through an internship with the Public Health Council of the Upper Valley funded by the Dartmouth Center for Social Impact.

SOPHIA SWANSON IS A ’23 at Dartmouth College, where she is majoring in Government and minoring in Art History and Public Policy. At Dartmouth, she conducts research for the Government Department on U.S. grand strategy and Cold War foreign policy, participates in the Dickey Center for International Understanding’s War & Peace Fellows program, and captains the Club Tennis Team. Sophia’s interests in human rights advocacy, anti-corruption policy, atrocity prevention, and national security defined her gap year experience: she interned with Human Rights First’s Foreign Policy team and worked for Dartmouth’s Political Violence FieldLab, assessing U.S. responsiveness to civilian casualties in Afghanistan. After graduation, Sophia plans to enroll in law school and pursue a career in international affairs. When she is not reading about or discussing global events, Sophia enjoys hiking in the White Mountains, skiing the Wasatch Range, and visiting art museums close to her New Jersey hometown.
Dickey Welcomes New Faces to the Team

Magro Family Distinguished Visitor, Spring 2022
Tina Dooley-Jones ’82
A retired member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service, Dooley-Jones ’82 served as the U.S. Mission Director to U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Afghanistan.

“As a visiting partitioner in international affairs, my role is to bring greater real-time relevance to learning, research, and partnerships. I believe the Dickey Center is uniquely positioned to link knowledge, policy and action. Keeping the Center’s offerings accessible and its contributions practicable are critical to empowering students to be innovative, critical thinkers who have global impact today and into the future.” TDJ

SANAA SIDDIQI, ARCTIC PROGRAM MANAGER
Sanaa Siddiqi comes to the Institute of Arctic Studies (IAS) and Dickey Center with an international background, as well as working experience with wildlife conservation and enforcement entities in Alaska. Born in India and raised in South-East England, she has been fortunate enough to have been exposed to a wonderful range of cultures and peoples through studies and travel. As the Dickey Center’s Arctic Program Manager, she has a strong commitment to the Center’s values of diversity, inclusion, empathy, advanced study, justice, and equity on the international stage.

Her twelve years in Alaska have been particularly influential in developing her perspective of the Arctic and its challenges, as well as its incredible wonders. A lifetime of appreciation of the natural world has compelled her to pursue an M.S. in Science Communication and Biology with the University of Alaska, Anchorage. Her work is concentrated on Arctic Bumblebees as a vehicle for exploring the connection between the ecological and the sociological, with a focus on Indigenous communities and values. She also holds a BSc. in Business Management with Marketing from Royal Holloway, University of London.

When not working, she may be found enjoying the local trails on foot, bike, or skis with her wonderful partner as well as her son. Her love of nature extends to domestic species, as evidenced by her dog and two cats.

VARVARA KORKINA WILLIAMS, PROJECT MANAGER AND ARCTIC INNOVATION FELLOW
Varvara Korkina Williams is a Kumandin Indigenous scholar from Altai and former Director of the Center for Indigenous Culture in Russia. With extensive experience developing and coordinating policy-engaged Arctic scholarship, she is an advocate for the co-production of knowledge, Arctic Indigenous entrepreneurship, and how investments in cultural economies and Indigenous-led business contribute to gender equality and sustainable development.

Varvara’s unique work at the intersection of Arctic scholarship and policy informs a diversity of issues, with special focus on the empowerment of Arctic Indigenous women and the support of Indigenous youth and identity. She recently served as a co-author of the Arctic Council’s Gender Equality in the Arctic Phase III Report and was the lead coordinator for the Young Arctic Leaders in Research and Policy (YALReP) program in northern Iowa. In 2021, she presented her Master’s thesis studies on Indigenous fashion and the empowerment of women as part of Harvard’s Arctic delegation at the 2021 Arctic Circle conference.

As IAS project manager and Arctic Innovation Fellow, Varvara will continue to develop her scholarship as she supports a diversity of project activities with Dartmouth faculty, students, and global partners.
Over spring break, Dartmouth alumna and Director of the Institute of Arctic Studies (IAS), Melody Brown Burkins (PhD ’98), had the opportunity to serve as Study Leader for a Dartmouth Alumni trip: Arctic Finland: In Search of the Northern Lights. “Where do I start? It was an amazing trip with wonderful alums in a beautiful country,” said Burkins last week as she caught up on email and grading, “AND we saw the northern lights!”

Offered by Dartmouth Alumni Relations from March 10-19, the trip began in Helsinki with the group enjoying private tours of the city. The itinerary included a visit to the Temppeliaukkio Church (also known as the “Rock Church,” carved out of solid granite), the Castle Malmgården estate, the picturesque town of Porvoo, and the iconic home and studios of Finnish architect and designer, Alvar Aalto. In between activities, there was time for relaxing in rustic saunas, eating local Finnish foods, and wandering the city under light snowfalls.

After Helsinki, the group flew to Rovaniemi - a city located on the Arctic Circle at latitude 66°N - and met at the airport by reindeer sleds. The evening included the first of a few short presentations by Director Burkins about Dartmouth, the Dickey Center, the Institute of Arctic Studies, climate change, and inclusive governance among other topics.

The next day in Rovaniemi was devoted to the culture and the arts of Lapland, with a morning spent in the studios and home of a Saami Indigenous artist, an afternoon touring Rovaniemi’s Arktikum science center and museum, and an evening reception and dinner hosted by the University of Lapland and UArcit to celebrate over 20 years of partnership with Dartmouth. A highlight of the evening was the presentation by Dartmouth student and IAS Stefansson Fellow, Ningning Sun ’24, telling alums about her Winter Term work with ULapland Professor Bruce Forbes to study the impact of climate change on Indigenous reindeer herding and biodiversity in northern Finland.

The next three days were spent almost 100km north of Rovaniemi in Luosto, a small community deep in the woods of northern Finland that hosts hundreds of miles of ski and snowmobile trails on a landscape of forests, frozen lakes, and hills. The group learned about the importance of a nearby amethyst mine from local leaders, then about the science of the aurora from Dr. Esa Turunen, a geophysicist at the Sodankylä observatory at the University of Oulu. That night, the alumni group was lucky enough to be outside at just the right time to see a quiet, but beautiful, display of the aurora shimmering above the town. The group finished their tour of Finland back in Rovaniemi with a snowshoe out on a frozen lake followed by a grilled lunch of local delicacies served in a Finnish grillikota (a small tent with wood-fired grill). That evening, Dartmouth treated the group to a lovely, last dinner together a beautiful restaurant just outside the city.

If you are interested in Dartmouth Alumni Travel to the Arctic, or anywhere in the world, a full list of opportunities may be found at https://alumni.dartmouth.edu/learn/alumni-travel.
On January 26, 2022, Dr. Melody Brown Burkins, Director of the Institute of Arctic Studies in the John Sloan Dickey Center was appointed as the 2022-2026 UArctic Chair in Science Diplomacy and Inclusion.

Nominated to the role by Dartmouth President Philip Hanlon, Burkins joins a cohort of 13 global UArctic Chairs appointed for their Arctic expertise and leadership. Each Chair is expected to represent their institution and UArctic as they advance unique scholarship, drive new collaborations among UArctic members, and build new partnerships and visibility for UArctic across the Arctic community.

Trained as both polar scientist and policy advisor, Dr. Burkins’ scholarship and practice as UArctic Chair will focus on how Arctic and global science diplomacy can most meaningfully and inclusively address pressing issues of climate change, gender equality, and sustainable development using methods that center respect for diverse knowledge systems and human rights. As part of her role, she intends to develop student cohorts at Dartmouth with academic interests in Arctic, climate, the environment, and sustainable development and actively connect them to Arctic research and internship opportunities with both Dartmouth and UArctic colleagues around the world.

During her UArctic Chair appointment, she will also serve as UArctic Special Advisor for planning of the next International Polar Year (IPY) and as an appointed Steering Committee member of the 4th International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP IV). Burkins will also continue to serve as Vice Lead to the UArctic Model Arctic Council (MAC) Thematic Network (TN) with the University of Alaska Fairbanks and serve as a formal partner to the Arctic Council Gender Equality in the Arctic (GEA IV) Project led by Iceland, Canada, the United States, Finland, Norway, Sweden, the Aleut International Association, Saami Council, Arctic Athabaskan Council, and the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA).

UArctic is a global network of over 200 Arctic organizations that was created by the Arctic Council in 2001 emphasizing cooperation in education, research, and outreach to enhance human capacity in the North, promote viable communities, forge global partnerships and advance sustainable development (e.g., the UN Sustainable Development Goals) and peaceful collaborations. Dartmouth is an original co-founder of the UArctic organization and has held UArctic leadership roles - on the Board and Executive Committee - for over 20 years.
Events, Fall 21, Winter 22, Spring 22

ABOUT US BY US: INUIT GIRLS, PARTICIPATORY ARTS RESEARCH AND STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE
Dr. Marnina Gonicke, Professor in Education/Women’s Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University, Fulbright Canada Research Chair at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, Winter 2021.
09/30/2021, Sponsored with the Institute of Arctic Studies, Fulbright Canada, and the Canadian Consulate.

THE FALL OF AFGHANISTAN: VIEWS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST
Ezzidine Fishere, Egyptian Novelist, Diplomat, Academic, and Visiting Professor, Middle Eastern Studies, Dartmouth.
10/11/2021, Sponsored with the Political Economy Project.

BOOK TALK: WELP: CLIMATE CHANGE AND ARCTIC IDENTITIES
Author Michaela Stith moderated by Melody Burkins, Director, Institute of Arctic Studies, Dartmouth.
10/20/2021, Sponsored with the Institute of Arctic Studies, the Wilson Center’s Polar Institute, and the Hart Leadership Program.

DEVELOPMENT IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC A RESEARCH AGENDA
Beata Javorcik, Professor of Economics, All Souls College - international trade economist.
11/02/2021, Sponsored with the Department of Economics, and “The Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization” Dartmouth Cluster Initiative.

Annual Stefansson Lecture
ARCTIC PRIORITIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
Michael Mann, EU Ambassador-at-Large for the Arctic.
11/03/2021, Sponsored with the Institute of Arctic Studies, the Stefansson Institute of Iceland, and the Arctic Research Centre of Autonomous University of Barcelona.

US GRAND STRATEGY, R.I.P.
Daniel W. Drezner, Professor of International Politics, The Fletcher School, Tufts University.
11/04/2021, Sponsored with the Initiative for Global Security.

VETERANS TODAY AND THE WARS IN WHICH THEY HAVE SERVED
Dartmouth President James Wright

MAKING CHOICES: THE US ROLE IN AFGHANISTAN AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
01/18/2022, Sponsored with The Initiative for Global Security.

CHINA’S GROWING POWER AND A NEW ERA FOR US-JAPAN ALLIANCE
Professor Andrew OROS, Washington College, USA. Professor HIKOTANI Takako, Gakushuin University, Japan. Professor MORI Satoru, Hosei University, Japan.
01/27/2022, Sponsored with The Initiative for Global Security.

HAITI, BEYOND THE HEADLINES
Eziaku Nwokocha, Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow of Religion, Princeton. Jemima Pierre, Associate Professor African American Studies and Anthropology, UCLA. Chelsey Kivland, Associate Professor Anthropology, Dartmouth.
02/03/2022, Sponsored with African and African American Studies, Dartmouth Class of 1982, Academic Enrichment Fund, Ethics Institute, and the Leslie Center for the Humanities.

REVERSING THE TIDE: CAN WE SUPPORT DEMOCRACY AND COUNTER AUTHORITARIANISM?
02/22/2022, Sponsored with The Initiative for Global Security.

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CRISIS: BACK TO CLASS WITH PROFESSOR WILLIAM WOHLFORTH
William Wohlforth, Daniel Webster Professor of Government
03/02/2022, Sponsored with the Lifelong Learning in Alumni Relations.

Kyle Gardner, Sigur Center for Asian Studies, George Washington University. Ambassador Nirupama Menon Roa, former Indian Foreign Secretary. Michael Kugelman, Deputy Director and Senior Associate for South Asia, Wilson Center.
03/08/2022, Sponsored with the Bodas Family Academic Programming Fund, The Asian Societies, Cultures, and Language Program, and the Department of History.

SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS AND US NATIONAL SECURITY
Martijn Rasser, Center for a New American Security in DC, Eugene Golzl, Professor at Notre Dame.
03/15/2022, Sponsored with The Initiative for Global Security.

Mary and Peter R. Dallman 1951 Great Issues Lecture
PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN AN INCREASINGLY CHALLENGING AND AUTOCRATIC WORLD
04/06/2022, Made possible by a gift from Mary and Peter R. Dallman ’51.
Class of 1950 Senior Foreign Affairs Fellow

PURSUING PEACE IN TIMES OF WAR: A DIPLOMAT’S EFFORTS FROM CUBA TO MALI TO THE UN
04/12/2022, Made possible by the Class of 1950.

PAUL FARMER: HIS LEGACY AT DARTMOUTH
04/13/2022, Sponsored with Global Health Initiative and Center for Health Equity at Geisel.

UNSPEAKABLE TRUTHS: POLITICAL VIOLENCE, GENDER, AND RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS AND SPAIN (BASQUE COUNTRY)
Zainab Salbi, Iraqi American women’s rights activist, writer, public speaker, and Founder of Women for Women International.
04/15/2022, Sponsored with the Office’s of the President, Provost, and Dean of the College, Associate Dean’s of Art and Humanities and Social Sciences, Dept of Spanish and Portuguese, WGSS, Tuck School of Business, Leslie Center for the Humanities, Rockefeller Center, Ethic Institute, and Allen, North, South, and East Wheelock House.

AMERICA’S ROLE ON THE WORLD STAGE, A CONVERSATION WITH JOHN DEUTCH
04/18/2022, Sponsored with the Dartmouth Political Union, and the Thayer School of Engineering.

THE FUTURE OF RUSSIA IN THE ARCTIC
Troy Bouffard, Director, Center for Arctic Security and Resilience (CASR), University of Alaska Fairbanks. Pavel Sulyandziga, former leader of Russian Arctic Indigenous Peoples, Scholar, and Activist. Translator, Prof. Ainsley Morse, Department of Russian at Dartmouth. Moderator, Melody Burkins, Director, Institute of Arctic Studies.
04/22/2022, Sponsored with the Institute of Arctic Studies.

A (DIGITAL) RETURN TO SOURCE: BUILDING INUIT-DRIVEN FUTURES FROM DARTMOUTH’S STEFANSSON POLAR COLLECTION
Dr. Brendan Griebel, 2022 Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Arctic Studies at Dartmouth. Cultural Anthropologist working with and for Inuit Communities. Manager of Collections and Archives at the Pitquirnikkut Ilhauitnig / Kitikmeot Heritage Society (PI/KHS) in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.
04/25/2022, Sponsored with the Institute of Arctic Studies, Fulbright Canada, and the Canadian Consulate.

The Obenshain Family Great Issues Lecture
PANDEMICS: LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD
04/28/2022, Made possible by generous support from Penny and Bill Obenshain ’62

THE AMERICAN WAR IN AFGHANISTAN
05/03/2022, Sponsored with The Initiative for Global Security.
Leading up to the invasion, how has the international community responded to Putin’s claims?
Holt: I think that the broader argument here is that we have devices to, in a diplomatic way, address genuine political concerns. There has been a long-term effort, called the Minsk Agreements, to address issues of sovereignty and disputes in the region, which have basically been pushed aside. There have been multiple Security Council meetings calling for political dialogue and diplomacy to solve these problems. Even China called out Russia for that—they argued that Ukraine should be solved through a political process. And the Security Council had a briefing this week and the General Assembly was meeting today (Wednesday). So there are mechanisms to address concerns. Russia has pushed all those aside.

Why is Ukraine so important to Putin that he’s willing to attack despite unified opposition from the world community?
Holt: Well that’s a great question, and understanding Putin’s thinking is a subject of great debate. So while I can’t lay any claim to understanding his logic, influence over Ukraine has been seen by some nationalists as Russia’s historic destiny. One set of arguments is that the West’s increase of NATO’s reach is seen as a threat. NATO is meant as an alliance of countries that are prepared to defend each other’s territory. Ukraine is a partner, but not a member. It’s in a relationship that could lead to it joining NATO. NATO nations have supported training of its forces. NATO has actually encouraged Ukraine’s work on protection of its own civilians, but it’s still not a full member. Russia and Putin may see that as a threat to its long-term interests.

Could Ukraine step back from joining NATO as a way of diffusing this situation?
Holt: That’s their decision, isn’t it? One of the best, clearest lines after World War II is that nations should control their own borders, that borders change through peaceful negotiation, not by conflict and war—territorial integrity and sovereignty in broad terms. So I think that’s a decision for them, and they approached NATO.

What happens now?
Holt: The urgent question now is what happens to Ukraine’s civilian population as well as to the country itself.

As the conflict escalates, we have to keep in mind the people who are fleeing. This may cause a challenge with refugees in the region, in Europe. And how many civilians will be harmed within Ukraine is unknown, but there’s already an expectation of a growing humanitarian crisis. The world community will face questions of how to help those people in need, whether they’re under direct attack or they need to leave where they’re living.

It is also a reminder to all of us in the West, but also beyond, that the rule of law and the systems of democracy and national self-determination are being challenged. It’s a wakeup call to us that these systems of international diplomacy and respect for national sovereignty need our attention and strengthening, including from countries like the United States. Rather than take them for granted, to invest in them, because otherwise they will not be strong enough to withstand when countries break these rules and disrespect sovereign borders.

Do you worry that this could become a land war in Europe?
Holt: I don’t have a crystal ball, but I certainly worry. Again, it gets to Russia’s intentions and I’m not more privy to that than you are. It’s a big gamble. So Putin must think it’s going to pay off.

Can sanctions still be effective?
Holt: Yes. Sanctions can be effective. Sanctions are best when they’re multilateral, meaning the Security Council imposes them. But that won’t happen because Russia has a veto on the Security Council. So instead we see countries in Europe, the United States, and beyond, agree to share sanctions so that it’s multinational. That can be effective in reducing financial flows, limiting arms, trying to end human rights abuse by individuals. Actions like ending the Nord Stream 2 energy pipeline can have a powerful effect. But sanctions usually mean pain on both sides.

And under something called the Magnitsky Act, the United States can impose sanctions on individuals. We have already imposed sanctions on Russian oligarchs in a number of cases as a way of creating internal political pressure on Putin to step back.

The idea is, “follow the money,” the link of money and policy and power. But that money is not just in Russia, obviously, it’s all over the world. It impacts banks, it impacts real estate, it impacts countries. So that’s part of the question: are the countries imposing sanctions willing to bear the pain those moves will have at home?

It is interesting the oligarchs and the most powerful in Putin’s Russia like to put their money in the West, because the Western nations are more stable. They find more benefit from open democratic societies.