

# Professional Statement

Dr. R. Charli Carpenter

Associate Professor

University of Massachusetts Department of Political Science

## OVERVIEW

Most of my scholarly work to date has been centered on the question: what are the causes and consequences of particular figurations of international human security norms? Norm-building in the area of “human security” takes people-centered global governance as its frame of reference, and is characterized by global policy-making that cuts across several IR issue areas: human rights, international security, and sustainable development. I have been interested in how governance is emerging (and where it is not emerging) in this cluster of issue areas, particularly weapons norms, human rights and humanitarian law. Over the next several years, I anticipate a continued research agenda on human security norm formation, enforcement and change.

My contribution to the field so far has been twofold. First, I have contributed to the generation of empirical data on a number of understudied phenomena: gender-based violence against civilian men and boys, children born as a result of wartime sexual violence, and emerging norm entrepreneurship in areas such as weapons and the protection of civilians. Much of my work has been driven by an interest in what is falling between the cracks as human security advocates mobilize to generate governance in the areas of war law and human rights. By exploring what is hidden or ignored, I have worked to expand our understanding of social conditions meriting human security policy-making.

Second, I have pioneered a research agenda on explaining gaps and omissions in the human security agenda. Investigating under-studied issues not only increases our substantive understanding of global social problems; it also leads to fascinating research questions about how to explain variation in attention to these problems. Why does governance emerge in some areas and not others? Why are certain norms understood to be applicable to some populations but not others? Why do some issues galvanize global attention and others do not? I have worked to explain the politics of issue creation and the disconnect between legal norms and their social constitution in practice. In many cases, I have found that it is the nature of human security efforts themselves that create

unintentional permissive effects, highlighting attention to some groups or problems at the expense of others.<sup>1</sup>

Three other factors characterize my career path: epistemological pluralism, policy relevance and external funding. First, though much of my approach follows earlier critical approaches to international relations that seek to “center the marginalized,” my research agenda has not been limited to the interpretive methods characteristic of much critical theory. My early work on the protection of civilians adopted a conventional constructivist methodology, exploring the causal and constitutive impact of gender essentialisms on actors’ interpretations of the civilian immunity norm, and seeking to explain the impacts of gender rather use gender as a category of critique. My second major book, however, adopted a more reflectivist approach, appropriate in that case given the nature of my fieldwork and the ways in which I was embedded in my subject matter – a topic I reflect on in a forthcoming *Perspectives on Politics* piece. My more recent work has returned to middle ground constructivism, and includes methods such as content analysis, case studies, and network analysis using new tools for measuring hyperlink practices on the World Wide Web. In short, I have resisted being put in disciplinary boxes: my methodological and epistemological approach varies with the problem on which I focus. My overall commitment, however, is to internal consistency, rigor and transparency about the way in which I situate myself as a researcher in relation to specific projects.

Second, I consider policy-relevant work to be an important component of responsible scholarship, and this principle has informed my practice. This includes not only selecting research questions that might matter in making the world a better place, but also in taking the time and building the skills necessary to effectively communicate research findings to practitioners and to the public. Teaching is one method for doing so: as I began my career in a public policy program, I had the opportunity to disseminate research in the classroom and by building student-practitioner interfaces into the curriculum. But I have also sought opportunities to brief practitioners on my work, presenting findings or occasionally consulting at the United Nations and various humanitarian agencies. I have made efforts to combine publications in flagship IR journals with policy-oriented pieces in outlets that reach a broader audience.<sup>2</sup> Twice, I have used grant funds to create and disseminate a policy report to practitioners. I also engage the public on human security issues, when possible, through speaking opportunities and radio

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<sup>1</sup> For example, attention to women and children marginalizes civilian men, who are also vulnerable; problematizing child recruitment naturalizes forced recruitment of adults; it is partly the way in which sexual violence has been constructed as a crime that accounts for the fact that children born as a result have fallen through the cracks in the humanitarian sector.

<sup>2</sup> For example, an article on gender-based violence against men in conflict zones was published in *Security Dialogue*; and article on the Geneva Conventions and strategies for norm development in a post-9/11 world was published in the *The National Interest*; a review essay on the protection of civilians was published in *Foreign Affairs*.

appearances.<sup>3</sup> Finally, beginning in November 2007, I have written regularly on political blogs. Blogs provide a direct conduit to the public and the foreign affairs community.<sup>4</sup> But besides being an output for the dissemination of ideas per se, blogging also maintains a skill-set required for effectively bridging the theory/policy divide in multiple venues. It keeps me trained to write about topics of interest to the IR theory community in such a way as to be connected to, rather than disconnected from, events in the real world.

Finally, my professional career has been characterized and buttressed by the receipt of considerable grant funding. In the past eight years, I have received over \$800,000 in external funding, including grants from the MacArthur Foundation and the National Science Foundation; as well as over \$35,000 from various internal sources. Grants have enabled me to complete a number of separate projects in a timely way, contribute to the infrastructure at my institutions, foster collaborations both within the field and across several disciplines, and engage students in my various research projects.

## RESEARCH

I have been involved in three major research initiatives thus far, each of which is discussed in turn below. All of these initiatives include a variety of sub-projects, and all the projects are tied together by an intellectual curiosity about the ways in which global norm advocates construct social problems and how this impacts norm creation, enforcement and change.

### *Gender, Norms and Humanitarian Law*

My dissertation, later published as my first book in 2006, was entitled *'Innocent Women and Children': Gender, Norms and the Protection of Civilians*. Research for that project included in-depth interviews with headquarters officials at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and within the United Nations system, as well as participant-observation work in the ICRC's Civilian Protection Training Seminars. I argued that the "innocent civilian" is a gendered concept. The category "women and children" is used as a proxy for "non-combatant" in armed conflict, shaping patterns of belligerent restraint as well as international societal discourse regarding civilian immunity. Second, I argued that these gender norms impact transnational efforts to protect war-affected civilians. My empirical chapters showed that gender essentialisms 1) are employed in the frames used by advocates for 'civilians' in international society and 2) shape the operational strategies employed by civilian protection agencies in complex emergencies.

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<sup>3</sup> In the past few years, for example, I have appeared on BBC News, NPR, and local Pittsburgh Radio, and given talks at the World Affairs Council in Pittsburgh.

<sup>4</sup> At Complex Terrain Lab, I have contributed to ongoing discussions about the laws of war and asymmetric conflict that are engaging the military, the public, lawyers, and the defense community; at Duck of Minerva, I write frequently on current international relations theory, human rights and humanitarian affairs, and pop culture.

The book (and its spin-off articles in *International Organization* and *International Studies Quarterly*) made two important theoretical contributions to the literature on human security norms. First, they demonstrated how the social interpretation of norms, so important to their translation into practice, can have little relation to a norm as legally codified. In short, I proposed a theory of “warping effects,” where by social ideas (in this case gender essentialisms) distort the legal meaning of a norm and contribute to suboptimal human security outcomes even as the actors in the field converge around an inter-subjectively understood interpretation of what “compliance” means.

Secondly, I argued that mainstream IR literature on norms must incorporate gender as an explanatory category even when not committed to a feminist epistemology. The project parted ways with much IR feminism insofar as I did not take women’s concerns as the starting point or *raison d’être* of the project - rather my normative concern was with the protection of civilians. Moreover, my empirical work was substantively distinct from most IR feminist work on gender and war, insofar as it emphasized the particular vulnerabilities of civilian men. Gender, nonetheless, was central to explaining why this was the case; and I argued that conventional constructivists should be incorporating the explanatory insights of feminist IR theory into their work. This argument was elaborated in a 2003 *International Studies Review* essay.

These writings impacted both the constructivist and feminist literatures, as well as the policy literature on civilian protection. Constructivists have predominantly cited the IO article; scholars of advocacy networks have drawn on the arguments in the ISQ version. And my work triggered, as hoped, a shift toward attention to gender by conventional security scholars who do not self-define as feminists. A number of recent articles incorporating gender as a category of analysis have appeared in mainstream IR journals since 2003, most citing this article. The article itself was reprinted in a major collection of international security essays alongside works by Jervis, Mearsheimer, Katzenstein, Finnemore, Barnett and Snidal. Practitioners in the area of civilian protection and gender-based-violence have also responded positively to my research. My *Security Dialogue* article has been cited several times by NGOs and UN organizations, and I have been invited to speak a number of times on the protection of civilian men and boys and on gender and security sector reform, and to consult with the human security community on its gender-mainstreaming efforts.

The IR feminist reaction to my efforts was more critical; indeed *International Studies Review* published a forum on my earlier review essay; *International Studies Quarterly* later published an article in which my book and spin-off articles were used as the key foil for a feminist argument about just war theory. Overall, I consider this engagement between IR feminism, mainstream constructivism and my middle ground position to be emblematic of precisely the conversation I was hoping to spark: to further this goal I chose to place the book version in a gender series rather than a mainstream security studies series. These

works are now frequently cited in essays on gender and international relations, and appear in numerous IR feminist theory doctoral syllabi.

While I would not say that gender has continued to be a primary focus of my research agenda, my work on gender and security studies does continue in certain forums. For example, I recently co-authored an article with Valerie Hudson and Mary Caprioli situating gender in the context of conventional security studies for the International Studies Association's Compendium Project; and have written two pieces on gender and foreign policy for the *Foreign Affairs* website.

### ***The Politics of Issue Creation: Tracing the Fate of Children Born of War***

Having converted my dissertation into a book, I returned early on in my career to a research question I had been encouraged to abandon at the start of my dissertation process: the invisibility of children born as a result of war rape in humanitarian law discourse. Like civilian men and boys, what struck me about this population is their marginalization in humanitarian law discourse and practice, and I was curious about the factors that led to this. Shortly after graduating, I won first a MacArthur Research and Writing grant to pursue this work.

One of the difficulties with this project early on was the abject lack of published research on this issue of children born of war. To fill this gap, I organized an interdisciplinary workshop at the International Studies Association Annual Conference in March 2004 to bring together authors and practitioners theorizing the human rights of children born of wartime rape. A second workshop was held in Pittsburgh in November, 2004, drawing particularly on non-North-American participants. The best papers from this working group were then edited by myself and published in 2007 as a series of essays entitled *Born of War: Protecting Children Born to Sexual Violence Survivors in Conflict Zones*.

Beginning fall 2004, I also spearheaded and later oversaw a separate collaborative project on the humanitarian response to children born as a result of wartime sexual violence. This project involved collaborators from University of Ottawa, Columbia University, University of Bergen and University of Geneva. It consisted of organizing and conducting four focus groups with U.N. and NGO humanitarian practitioners in New York, Geneva and Pittsburgh; managing a staff of two graduate students and three consultants; supervising the creation of a comprehensive Internet site for the project; and later working with a team of graduate student coders to analyze the resulting data and develop the written outputs. These included a policy report disseminated widely on the internet, entitled *Protecting Children Born of Sexual Violence and Exploitation in Conflict Zones: Findings from Consultations with Humanitarian Practitioners*, as well as a second *International Organization* article.

These collaborative, policy-focused efforts helped me develop the literature and evidence base on which I could draw as I refined my sole-authored work on this topic. The theoretical question posed in my book-length discussion of war children was not about the

vulnerabilities of the children themselves, but rather about their absence from the human rights issue agenda. My explanation for this absence centers on the way that atrocity narratives regarding some populations can function to frame the rights of other populations off the agenda altogether, and I demonstrate how this occurred in a number of sites where children's human rights were articulated in the 1990s: the media, the humanitarian sector, the children and armed conflict network, post-war civil society, and international criminal justice mechanisms. Throughout, I investigated the potential of different advocacy strategies for these children and documented the points of resistance to such advocacy at different interstices of the human rights network.

The resulting book, titled *Forgetting Children Born of War*, was published in 2010 by Columbia University Press and has been favorably reviewed in *Feminist Review*, *Journal of Human Rights*, and *Foreign Affairs*. It has also been nominated for a Book of the Year Award by the American Political Science Association's Human Rights Section. Separate articles stemming from this research have also appeared in several journals and edited volumes. Drawing on this case data, I outlined a generalizable model of global agenda-setting in a 2007 *International Studies Quarterly* article; a preliminary empirical illustration of the argument appeared the same summer in *International Organization*. A book chapter version of a similar argument was published in a 2009 volume of essays edited by Clifford Bob, entitled *The International Struggle for New Human Rights*; a chapter using the same case data but engaging the global governance literature appeared in 2010 in the Cambridge volume *Who Governs the Globe?* edited by Martha Finnemore, Deborah Avant and Susan Sell. A longer version of the chapter on media frames and agenda-setting failures has appeared in *Millennium*. And I have recently been invited to author an essay for *Perspectives on Politics* on the theory/policy divide drawing on methodological reflections from this project.

### ***Networks, Agenda-Vetting and Human Security***

The broader theoretical questions raised by *Forgetting Children Born of War* involved international agenda-setting and the ways in which transnational advocacy networks construct (or neglect to construct) populations of concern to global policy-makers. While a single case is useful for developing theory, however, a more systematic evaluation on many cases is necessary to determine whether that theory is generalizable.

These broader theoretical questions, and the empirical data to fully test them, constitute the research agenda for my third book project, now in the final stages. In August 2007, I received a \$647,000 award from the National Science Foundation through their Human and Social Dynamics Program that has enabled me to continue developing models for studying global issue emergence empirically. With this funding, the first year was spent piloting and refining a methodology for tracking advocacy networks and issues online, and for identifying and exploring the non-emergence of neglected issues. The project enabled myself and my collaborators to train eight graduate students and ten undergraduates, build and launch a sophisticated website, advance conceptual

understandings of what is on the human rights issue agenda and what is not, and build a theory explaining this variation by integrating domestic agenda-setting models into the study of transnational politics and by drawing on focus groups with human security practitioners.

Phase One involved collecting data on the advocacy agenda through interviews, surveys and web content. In Phase Two, my team gathered data on “gatekeeper” decision-making through focus groups with individuals associated with the organizations clustered at the center of this network. With two graduate research assistants, I convened a series of six focus groups in collaboration with Peter Uvin at the Institute for Human Security at Tufts University. The following summer was spent with a team of eight undergraduates and three graduate students in a qualitative coding lab annotating the transcripts, and I have since been in the process of producing written outputs of the findings. So far these include a slick policy report released this summer, entitled *Agenda-Setting in Transnational Networks: Insights from Consultations with Human Security Practitioners*; and a major research article co-authored with graduate students.

This data will also form the backbone of my third book project, now under advance contract from Cornell University Press. This book, which also will include three original case studies, centers on the role played by authorities in specific transnational issue domains. Building on insights by Clifford Bob, I argue that certain organizations’ structural centrality to advocacy networks allows them to vet the advocacy agenda and control the construction of new problems as issues at the global level. An article-length version of this argument, centering on the case of weapons norms, appeared in 2011 in *International Organization*. A second article developing a theory of gatekeeper preferences was presented at the International Studies Association conference in 2011 and is now under review, also at *International Organization*.

Much of this project centers on the role of network structure in norm development, and contributes to the growing engagement by IR scholars with network theory as a theory, rather than as a metaphor for alternate forms of governance. I have been particularly interested in how changes in information technology are both enhancing and also constituting networked forms of governance in the human security area. One of the outputs from my current grant will be better tools for capturing human security discourse with web-based tools, for example. Collaborating with graduate students, I have completed some research on the relationship between online and offline advocacy; an article documenting our findings is forthcoming in the journal *Global Networks*. I have also recently co-authored an article with Dan Drezner in *International Studies Perspectives* on how information technology is affecting the discipline of international relations more generally.

### *Standing In the Discipline.*

According to Google Scholar, my various articles have been cited a total of 383 times as of September 2011; and have been included in syllabi for courses like Armed Conflict and Conflict Management, Transnational Politics, American National Security, Weapons Technology and War, Human Security, Peace Studies, Gender and IR, and Genocide Studies at universities both in the U.S. and abroad. Several of these articles are required reading in International Relations Theory doctoral seminars at universities such as University of British Columbia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and University of Alberta, and the Maxwell School. Indeed, my 2003 *International Organization* article occupies its own sidebar in an influential IR textbook, John Baylis and Steve Smith's *The Globalization of World Politics*, p. 261.

My scholarly achievements also regularly result in invitations to participate in collaborative projects. In 2006, was invited to participate in an IR theory working group at George Washington University, led by Martha Finnemore, Deborah Avant and Susan Sell, entitled "Global Governors." The papers developed through this project were published as *Who Governs The Globe?* by Cambridge University Press last year. In 2009, I was invited to submit an essay for inclusion in the latest edition of Joshua Goldstein and Jon Pevehouse's textbook on international relations. This year, I was invited to participate in a project on bombing norms by Matthew Evangelista and Henry Shue of Cornell University; and have been asked to write papers for a networks and global governance workshop led by Deborah Avant and a NGOs workshop led by Hans Peter Schmidt at ISA next year.

Finally, I regularly give academic talks at other prestigious universities or conferences. In past years, I have presented my research on weapons norms at Columbia University and at Stanford University's Center for International Security and Conflict and my research on genocide studies at Yale University; this Fall I will present my new research on human security at the prestigious PIPES series at University of Chicago.

### **TEACHING**

My teaching has always closely followed my research agenda. My teaching experience includes two years at Drake University's Department of Politics and IR before transitioning to University of Pittsburgh in fall 2004. In addition to introductory World Politics courses, my teaching load at Drake included a First-year Seminar on "War and Gender" and upper level courses on "Political Terrorism," "International Environmental Politics" and "Laws of War." I incorporated into all of these an emphasis on international law and organizations as well as transnational politics. At University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, was assigned to teach courses in the emerging "Human Security" curriculum. These included an introductory graduate course on "Global Governance," and courses on "Gender and Security," "Humanitarian Affairs," "Rules of War" and "The Politics of International Human Rights." At University of Massachusetts-Amherst, I reconstituted "Rules of War" as an undergraduate elective and

began teaching “World Politics” again as a general education course. I also developed a new graduate-level policy seminar, cross listed with Political Science and the Center for Public Policy and Administration, on “Global Agenda-Setting” that sought to wed the literature on advocacy movements to practical knowledge of the global norm-building process. In Spring 2010, I began teaching the IR Proseminar; in Fall 2011 I developed a new course on “Human Security.”

Overall, I believe in an active learning approach, in which the role of the professor is to facilitate critical thinking and literacy in current events, concepts and terminology rather than provide answers to causal or ethical questions. I often accomplish this by bringing to class a general theoretical framework and encouraging students to apply it to specific substantive issues, or to critique it. In addition to extensive use of audiovisual media in class, I have traditionally emphasized small group work, including role-playing games and online simulations, to complement interactive lectures.

To the extent possible, I attempt to engage my students with the practitioner community. In some classes this takes the form of using “policy memo” assignments in lieu of abstract essay exams, whereby students imagine they are writing to a specific policy-maker on a current problem, and must practice concise technical writing that nonetheless engages social science concepts they’ve learned in class. In other cases, the semester assignment is to write an actual policy paper and present it to actual practitioners. One of the first classes I taught at University of Massachusetts-Amherst was a graduate seminar on “Global Agenda-Setting” in which the students’ semester grade was largely determined by a group strategy paper written for and then presented to a Washington NGO, the Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict.

My dedication to and engagement with pedagogical issues is exemplified by my various scholarly publications in this area. For example, I organized a roundtable at the 2005 International Studies Association Conference on Mainstreaming Gender in the International Affairs Curriculum, in which I sought to bring together scholars not self-identified as feminists to discuss strategies for engaging students in general classes on IR with gender and feminist theory. The commentaries from this roundtable were later published in *International Studies Perspectives* in the Forum section. In 2007, I experimented with the use of the active learning video game software *Pax Warrior* in my Genocide Prevention module for my gateway Global Governance class, and collected and evaluated student feedback on the pedagogical effectiveness of the exercise. An article discussing the use of social learning games in the classroom, based on this analysis and co-authored with two graduate students, appeared in the *Journal of Information Technology and Politics* in 2008.

All my students, including undergraduates, are also exposed to sophisticated methods training as part of their curriculum. For example the Rules of War Honors Seminar I taught last Spring required students to design and implement a qualitative coding scheme on an independently gathered text dataset relevant to the law of armed

conflict. Students developed fascinating and rigorous projects with code-books, replicable annotations using text-analytic software, and substantive empirical findings measuring the gap between the law and popular representations of that law in film, political rhetoric and the media. Several students did exceptional work, which I featured online in a post at the *Duck of Minerva* website.

My funded research at both GSPIA and UMass has been heavily student-oriented as well, engaging students with focus-group research, website design, and the organization of grant-related speaker series' and other public events. For example, in past years I was able to bring Don Hubert, the former Director of Human Security in Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, and James Ron, former Human Rights Watch and ICRC practitioner, to visit my Global Agenda-Setting class. The previous year, human rights practitioners who visited GSPIA in connection with my focus group research also held brown-bags on various topics with GSPIA graduate students. Students hired to work on my grants assisted in building the project websites, in organizing and facilitating focus groups, coding text data and producing the written outputs. A student translator also accompanied me on field trips to Bosnia, providing her an opportunity to learn firsthand about the ethical and methodological dilemmas involved in field work in violently divided societies. As my file will demonstrate, student evaluations of my teaching have generally been positive. My pedagogical efforts have also resulted in scholarly recognition. For example, two of my human security syllabi were included in the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of *Peace, Justice and Security Studies: A Curriculum Guide*, published by Lynne Reinner, 2009.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

In addition to teaching and research, I have contributed to my various departments and to my field through committee work, as a reviewer, and by staying active in professional organizations. I am a member of several professional associations. I have regularly organized and chaired panels at the International Studies Association Annual Conference. I also maintain active section memberships in the International Security Studies Section of the International Studies Association, and in the American Political Science Association's Human Rights, Qualitative Methods and Information Technology and Politics Sections, through the latter of which I was appointed to serve on the editorial board for the section journal, the *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*. Additionally, I have until very recently served on the Bylaws Committee and Advisory Council of the International Association of Genocide Scholars; and I serve on the editorial board of the *Review of International Studies*. I also regularly review article-length manuscripts for journals such as *Journal of Peace Research*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly* and *International Organization*; and book manuscripts for publishing houses including, most recently, Oxford University Press. In addition, I have served three years in a row as a reviewer for the prestigious Grawemeyer World Order Award; and am a three-time panel reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

In addition to consultancies, I have performed unpaid professional service when asked for practitioner bodies. For example, when the Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF) began a study on gender and security sector reform, they solicited my assistance with the development and refinement of teaching tools; and with providing feedback on their 2007 global report on *Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict*. In 2008, I participated at no charge on the Technical Advisory Board for a UNICEF study on children born of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I also periodically accept invitations to contribute to public discourse on human security through online colloquia. For example, in 2009 I was involved in a symposium at Complex Terrain Lab on Peter Singer's new book on military robotics, *Wired for War*; and in a series of online roundtables published by the University of Denver journal *Human Rights and Human Welfare*.

In 2007, I was invited to participate on the International Studies Association International Security Studies Section's Editorial Board for the International Studies Association's Compendium Project. This project was an attempt by the discipline of international relations to create an encyclopedia of literature reviews of the field. The ISS Section tasked the Editorial Board members with identifying themes within the security studies field for which to recruit chapter authors; the recruitment of the authors; and the supervision of the peer review and editorial process for all the essays that will come under the Security Studies heading. This was been a great deal of work, but also an extremely rewarding endeavor.

While at University of Pittsburgh, I served on a variety of departmental and university committees included the Women's Studies Research Grant Selection Committee and an elected position on the University's Benefits and Welfare Committee. Within GSPIA, I assisted in developing a new major in Human Security, served on the Research Committee, the Merit Review Committee two years in a row, the Faculty Advisory Committee and two dissertation committees, including one of which I chaired. Since arriving at University of Massachusetts, I have served on four search committees and chaired a search; and on the Graduate Studies Committee, through which I helped spearhead the development of a new Gateway Course for doctoral students. I continued to serve on pre-existing dissertation committees, including one from outside the university; while overseeing six teaching assistants, six graduate research assistants, and ten undergraduate students, and mentoring both undergraduates and graduate students through various independent studies and thesis projects. This year I am chairing my first UMass doctoral dissertation committee, and have recently accepted a position as Graduate Program Director.

Throughout my career I have often contributed my time to give speaking appearances at seminars and panels at my university. At GSPIA, for example, I guest-lectured in a variety of classes, chaired panels at student-run conferences, and helped organize/participate in the Research in International Politics Speaker Series; at UMass I've

co-convened the Governance and Institutions Workshop with Jesse Rhodes for three years, in which I was the first presenter, and been an active participant in the Five Colleges IR Colloquia.

I regularly contribute to the intellectual life of my wider community as well. For example, in Pittsburgh I gave the keynote address on multiculturalism at Penn State McKeesport's Multicultural Week celebration; and I appeared twice at the World Affairs Council in Pittsburgh to talk about child soldiers or humanitarian law. At UMass my public speaking appearances included a debate over torture policy with Marc Thiessen. I also aim to influence public debate through op-ed writing at key junctures. In the past year I have published op-eds on Wikileaks, Libya, protection of civilians and the drone warfare debate in the *New York Times*, *Foreign Policy* and *Foreign Affairs*.

### **CURRENT AND FUTURE WORK**

My immediate priority this year and next is completing my third sole-authored book manuscript. *Setting the Advocacy Agenda*, under contract with Cornell, will bring together the threads of my research interest in issue creation to present and illustrate a model of issue selection within advocacy networks, one that focuses on the power of the more central organizations in networks to "vet" the advocacy agenda. The model has been tested using network analysis and a theory of gatekeeper preferences has been derived from qualitative analysis of transcripts from interviews and focus groups with human security practitioners.

The rest of the book will be comprised of illustrative case studies of issues that emerged on the international agenda (landmines, small arms, child-soldiers) and those that have been "pitched" but not yet "sold" to international gatekeepers (including infant male circumcision, remuneration for civilians maimed in armed conflict, and ethical standards for the use of battlefield robots). The first three chapters and one case study are largely complete; this coming year I will finish collecting and analyzing data to complete two more illustrative case studies. Though I have just closed out the NSF grant and still require some travel for case-study-related interviews, I have applied for interim grant funding to enable the completion of the project, and for a Guggenheim Grant to support a year of writing/revising.

Though this book and spin-off articles will occupy me for some time, I am already looking ahead to a number of new projects related to the broader question of how human security norms evolve, impact policy, and change. One is a grant project idea with Joshua Busby on the determinants of advocacy campaign success which would expand on a dataset he has already developed. Another is a grant project on the ways in which celebrities impact advocacy campaigns being prepared collaboratively with Dan Drezner of Tufts University. If funded, it will provide for several years of in-depth interviews with celebrities, activist NGOs, and philanthropic organizations, as well as the training of several student researchers in case study methods and qualitative coding, to better

understand the way in which the entertainment complex is impacting global norm development in the human security area. This would complement and tie into a side interest in the relationship between popular culture and world politics, a topic I've explored recently in two edited volume contributions, one on *Star Trek/genocide studies* and one on *Battlestar Galactica* and civil-military relations.

Beyond refining available knowledge about norm formation, a secondary interest of mine involves the micro-determinants of norm enforcement, particularly in the area of war law. The international relations literature on compliance tends to focus on state policy, but compliance with humanitarian law is dictated primarily by the extent to which individual soldiers are socialized into treaty-based behavior by their military cultures. Yet I've learned in teaching "Rules of War" that there is little systematic political science literature on this topic. While not yet fully conceptualized, I have a back-burner interest in developing a comparative study of military cultures (or factional culture within militaries) that could help explain why humanitarian law violations occur in some contexts but not in others.

At the other end of the spectrum, I am interested in norm death. So much scholarship has focused on the impact of norms, and my earlier work has focused on norm emergence, but scholars rarely explore how norms decline. Much policy rhetoric, however focuses on the conditions under which they do: many have argued that US practice has directly impacted the strength and legitimacy of the Geneva Conventions for example. However it is possible to argue that great power non-compliance actually strengthens norms among middle powers. I am interested in developing a method for studying empirically the conditions the relationship of norms to norm compliance and the conditions under which norms peter out. I envision this being the topic of a fourth book down the line – one written in a style accessible to policy-makers and the general public as well as scholars.

Finally, I can imagine beginning work on a basic undergraduate textbook on the laws of war in the next year or two. Having taught "Rules of War" for ten years, I continue to be unhappy with the available sourcebooks on the subject. An accessible humanitarian law addition to Westview Press's "Issues in World Politics" series would be another useful contribution to the field.