



Mass Atrocity Education Workshop: Teaching about the Holocaust and Genocide Prevention September 11-13, 2015

Major Adam D. Ackerman is currently pursuing an Economics PhD at the American University in Washington, DC. He holds an MA in Applied Economics from Johns Hopkins University and a BS in Mathematics and Operations Research from the USAF Academy. He most recently served as an Assistant Professor in the USAF Academy's Department of Economics and Geosciences where he created an "economics and genocide" capstone project. He also has worldwide operational experience as a senior pilot with more than 2,000 flying hours. He has been assigned to flying units at Andrews AFB and FE Warren AFB, and he has deployed as a rotary-wing aviation advisor to Afghanistan and Cuba.

Lionel Beehner recently joined the U.S. Military Academy at West Point as an instructor at its Modern War Institute and teaches courses on military innovation. He is currently finishing his Ph.D. in political science at Yale University and has taught (or helped teach) courses on social movements, revolutions, and political migration. He is formerly a fellow at the Truman National Security Project, a Term Member with the Council on Foreign Relations, where he also worked as a senior writer for its award-winning website, CFR.org, and since 2008 has been a member of USA Today's Board of Contributors. He has taught op-ed writing at Mediabistro and consulted a number of international organizations on media relations strategies. He holds an M.A. in international affairs from Columbia University. His dissertation examines the role of "hot pursuit" in international relations and draws on five years of research and fieldwork. His writing has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Affairs*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The National Interest*, and *The New Republic*, among other publications. He lives in Tarrytown, NY, with his wife, dog, and two children.

Charles J. Brown currently serves as Managing Director of Strategy for Humanity and as the Leonard and Sophie Davis Genocide Prevention Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. From 2012 to 2014, Charlie served as Senior Advisor on Atrocity Prevention and Response in the Office of the Undersecretary for Policy in the U.S. Department of Defense, where he was responsible for leading DoD implementation of President Obama's initiative to integrate atrocity prevention into U.S. policy. From 2010 to 2012, he served as Senior Director for Rule of Law and International Humanitarian Policy, overseeing DoD policy development and implementation on a range of issues. In the past, Charlie has held senior positions at the Institute for International Law and Human Rights, Citizens for Global Solutions, Amnesty International, and Freedom House. During the Clinton Administration, he served as Chief of Staff in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor in the U.S. Department of State. In

2004, Charlie was co-director of the human rights, democracy, and development policy team for the Kerry-Edwards campaign. In 2008 served as an advisor on those issues to Obama for America. Charlie is co-author of *The Politics of Psychiatry in Revolutionary Cuba* (1991), and co-editor of *Judges and Journalists in Transitional Democracies* (1997). When not in government service, he has contributed to a number of blogs and journals. His areas of specialties include atrocity prevention, international justice, human rights, democracy, international humanitarian law, crisis response, foreign policy, diplomacy, social media, NGOs and non-profit management.

Yvette Bourcicot is the Senior Advisor for Atrocity Prevention and Response in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Stability and Humanitarian Affairs. In that capacity, she provides policy advice to the Atrocities Prevention Board, an interagency body mandated to coordinate a whole-government approach to responding to and preventing mass atrocities and genocide. Prior to that position, Ms. Bourcicot served as the Special Assistant to the Army General Counsel, providing legal advice to senior Army leaders on a plethora of issues. Ms. Bourcicot is a medically retired Air Force JAG. She holds a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and an A.B. in English Literature from Princeton University.

Matthew Christ is an Instructor of Economics in the Department of Economics and Geosciences at the United States Air Force Academy. He currently teaches courses in International Economics, Economics of Conflict and Development, and Law and Economics. Mr. Christ earned a MA in International Economics and Russian Area Studies from The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at The Johns Hopkins University in 1997 and a BS in International Relations from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1986. Mr. Christ served as a United Nations Military Observer with the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) and as a Diplomatic Observer with the Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission (KDOM). He was cited as a significant contributor to the Joint Low Intensity Conflict study and his current interests are economic development and conflict.

Jennifer Ciardelli is the Director of the Civic and Defense Initiatives, developing and facilitating programs for military and government professionals both nationally and internationally. Approaches to examining the Holocaust include considerations of leadership and genocide prevention. Jennifer is involved in Museum-wide initiatives including resource creation, international-partnerships, web-based development, and promoting cross-office collaboration on projects relating to the Museum's strategic outcomes. Jennifer has written articles about the Museum's adult professional development and leadership programming. Jennifer comes to the Museum with degrees in History and English and a Master's degree in Education. Previous work experiences included teaching high school as well as graduate education workshops on the Holocaust and genocide studies, European history, critical thinking, teaching about controversial issues, and curriculum design.

Dr. Rebecca Erbelding has been an archivist at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for twelve years, overseeing new paper collections donated by survivors, liberators, and their families. She graduated with her PhD in history from George Mason University in the spring of 2015, and wrote her

dissertation on the War Refugee Board. She is currently detailed to work on the Museum's upcoming exhibition, which will examine the role of Americans during the Holocaust.

Dr. Scott Edwards is Senior Crisis Adviser for Amnesty International. His current professional activity focuses on the practical use of information and communications technologies for human rights compliance monitoring and research. Scott previously served as Amnesty's Advocacy Director for Africa, and Director of the Crisis Prevention and Response Unit, and is a Professorial Lecturer at George Washington University's Elliot School of International Affairs. He completed his doctoral work in Political Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, focusing on causes and consequences of violent political conflict, with specialization in complexity modeling of forced displacement.

Dr. David Frey is an Associate Professor of History and the Director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the United States Military Academy at West Point. At West Point he teaches and oversees a range of modern history courses. As Director of the new Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Dr. Frey has spearheaded an effort to increase Academy, Army and Defense Department awareness and understanding of the phenomenon of mass atrocity, its history, and means of prevention. Dr. Frey earned his Ph.D. in Central European History at Columbia University in 2003 with the support of Fulbright-Hays, DAAD, Mellon Foundation, Harriman Foundation, and ACLS fellowships. Prior to coming to West Point, he taught at Columbia as a Lecturer from 2003-2004. I.B. Tauris will publish his manuscript, *Jews, Nazis, and the Cinema of Hungary: The Tragedy of Success, 1929-44*, in 2016. His current research involves human rights, espionage, deportations, show trials and the rhetoric of the Holocaust using newly declassified records of the State Department's post-World War Two Treaty Violations [TREVI] Program, a previously classified spy ring known as "the Pond", and Hungarian National and State Security Archives. Dr. Frey was a Fulbright Scholar to Hungary during the fall of 2012. He has published in multiple journals, including the *Journal of Contemporary History* and *Nationalities Papers* and is co-author of *Ordinary Soldiers: A Study in Law, Ethics and Leadership*, a direct outcome of previous iterations of the Mass Atrocity Education Workshop.

Andrea Gittleman is the program manager for the Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide. Previously, she was interim director of US policy and senior legislative counsel at Physicians for Human Rights, where she designed advocacy and policy strategies on a broad range of international human rights issues including mass atrocities. Prior to that, she served as an Arthur Helton Global Human Rights Fellow with the Burma Lawyers' Council in Mae Sot, Thailand, where she coordinated an international advocacy campaign for criminal accountability in Burma. She also worked with the New York University Immigrant Rights Clinic as a law student and has had legal internships with Legal Momentum (the Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund), the New York Civil Liberties Union's Reproductive Rights Project, and Human Rights Watch's Women's Rights Division. Prior to attending law school, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Mauritania, where she managed gender and development programs. She received a JD from the New York University School of Law and a BA in political science and international studies from the University of Chicago.

COL Steve Horton serves as Professor of Operations Research and Deputy Head of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at West Point. He has taught at West Point for more than 19 years, including eight years as Deputy Head and two years as Acting Head (2013-2015). He has a BS degree from West Point (1982), an MS and a PhD from Georgia Tech (1991 and 1997, respectively), and an MS from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (2001). He is an active scholar with more than 25 peer-reviewed publications, mostly in combinatorial optimization, discrete mathematics, and theoretical computer science. Outside of the department, COL Horton is the Officer-in-Charge of the Cadet Spirit Band and he serves as the Chair of West Point's Credentials and Promotions Committee. For fun, he plays guitar and duplicate bridge.

Major Bonnie S. Kovatch is an Assistant Professor of International Relations in the Department of Social Sciences at the United States Military Academy. She graduated from Siena College in 2003 with a bachelor degree in religious studies as well commissioning as a distinguished military graduate from the Army ROTC program. After being branched into the Adjutant General Corps she served as a personnel officer at multiple echelons of command in garrison and deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her last operational assignment was as the Human Resources officer for an attack and reconnaissance aviation squadron in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Notably, in Afghanistan she spearheaded an initiative to fund, design, and build a unit memorial for fallen soldiers which was unveiled in May, 2011. Bonnie achieved a master's degree in law and diplomacy, focusing on security and gender studies, from The Fletcher School in 2013. She has applied her studies to political, security, and gender issues in Africa. Bonnie recently served as a moderator at The Fletcher School's Africana Conference. Johns Hopkins University Press will publish a book chapter she co-authored with Dr. Frey titled "After Genocide: Rwanda and the African Future." In October 2015 Bonnie will present her research on the sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo to the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa.

Dr. Christopher LaMonica is an Associate Professor of Government at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Boston University and specializes in maritime security, local and coastal governance in sub-Saharan Africa. His latest books are entitled *Horror in Paradise: Frameworks for Understanding the Crises of the Niger Delta of Nigeria* (2014) and *Local Government Matters: The Case of Zambia* (2010). Dr. LaMonica has worked for USAID in Zambia, the International Energy Agency of the OECD, and the Harvard Institute for International Development. Over the last six years, he has supervised grant-funded research for AFRICOM on matters of port security, military command structure, and coastal governance among Gulf of Guinea states. He teaches, inter alia, Maritime Policy & Strategy, African Politics, and International Political Economy.

Dr. Janet Lewis's teaching and research focuses on world politics, armed conflict, and development, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. She earned her Ph.D. in 2012 from Harvard University. Her current book project examines the initial stages of rebel group formation, including why only some nascent groups become viable challengers to central governments. Data collection for the project involved fieldwork throughout Uganda, including extensive interviews with former aspiring insurgents and counterinsurgents, as well as villagers who lived among them, in regions bordering DRC, Kenya, and

South Sudan. This project builds on her Ph.D. dissertation, which was honored with the Harvard Government Department's Edward Sumner prize as well as the discipline's top African Politics dissertation award. Her research has been published at the American Political Science Review. She has also conducted research on U.S. stability operations, fragile states, and terrorist financing, respectively, for the RAND Corporation, the Brookings Institution, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Dr. Geoffrey Megargee received his undergraduate history degree from St. Lawrence University in 1981. Following stints as an army officer and in business, he entered San Jose State University, where he received a Masters in European history in 1991. He graduated from the Ohio State University with a doctorate in military history in 1998. He is the recipient of, among other honors, a J. William Fulbright grant for research in Germany, upon which he based his book *Inside Hitler's High Command* (winner of the Society for Military History's 2001 Distinguished Book Award). He is also the author of *War of Annihilation: Combat and Genocide on the Eastern Front, 1941*. Dr. Megargee currently holds the position of Senior Applied Research Scholar at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, where he is editor-in-chief for the Museum's multi-volume *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945*. The first volume of that work received a National Jewish Book Award and a Judaica Reference Award, among other distinctions. Dr. Megargee has also been a Presidential Counselor for the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, is a member of the Department of the Army Historical Advisory Subcommittee, and is treasurer of the United States Commission on Military History.

Alessandra Necamp is the Early Warning Project program assistant at the Simon-Skjodt Center for Prevention of Genocide, where she manages the day-to-day operations of the early warning system, blog, and website. Previously she served as senior project manager at [Movements.org/Advancing Human Rights](http://Movements.org/Advancing) and as a Presidential Fellow at Dartmouth College, where she earned a BA in government.

Dr. Robert Person is Assistant Professor of International Relations and Comparative Politics at the United States Military at West Point. He holds a PhD in political science from Yale University, as well as an MA in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies from Stanford University. His research focuses on nationalism, political culture, and mass regime preferences in the former Soviet Union. Recent publications include, "Potholes, Pensions, and Public Opinion: The Politics of Blame in Vladimir Putin's Russia," *Post-Soviet Affairs* (July 2015) and "Resisting Hegemony: Transformations of National Identity under Foreign Occupation," *Kellogg Institute for International Studies* (January 2014) in addition to several book chapters on Russian politics and foreign policy. His current book project, entitled *Deconstructing Democracy* explores the ways in which the post-Soviet economic collapse durably shaped views about democracy and authoritarianism among citizens of former Soviet states. He is also a regular op-ed contributor to the *Moscow Times*, writing on aspects of Russian foreign and domestic politics, as well as the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

Dr. John Riley is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and is the course director for the Genocide, War Crimes, and Human Rights class. He received his Ph.D.

in political science from the George Washington University. Prior to arriving at the USAFA, he served as Associate Professor at Kutztown University, Distinguished Visiting Professor at USAFA, and Visiting Professor at Kenyatta University. His more recent research interests have focused on development, international law, and the use of private contractors. His work has been published in such venues as *Armed Forces & Society* (forthcoming), *Wisconsin Journal of International Law*, and the *Yale Journal of International Affairs*.

Dr. Richard Ruth is an associate professor of Southeast Asian history at the U.S. Naval Academy. He has a Ph.D. in modern Southeast Asian history from Cornell University, specializing in Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia in the late 20th century. He is the author of *In Buddha's Company: Thai Soldiers in the Vietnam War* (2011). From 1996-1998 he was a research assistant to Dr. Ben Kiernan at Yale University's Cambodian Genocide Program (CGP). While at the CGP he helped create a searchable database of Khmer Rouge war crimes. He worked as an NGO in Cambodia and Vietnam in the 1980s and 1990s. At USNA he co-teaches a history course on mass atrocities, war crimes, and genocide in the 20th century. He is the faculty representative for a midshipmen-led Genocide Prevention club formed in spring 2015.

Nicole Widdersheim is currently a Senior Human Rights Advisor in USAID's Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance where she manages a \$10 million Human Rights Fund and backstops work on Atrocity Prevention. From 2010 to 2013, Nicole served as the USAID Office of Transition Initiative (OTI) Country Representative in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Haiti. As the head of the OTI Haiti program after the earthquake, Nicole managed a \$153+ million dollar recovery and stability program which included emergency recovery programming, reconstruction, election programs, to job-training and anti-corruption and government accountability programs. Prior to Haiti, Nicole was the Head of the UN Advocacy and Policy Office for Oxfam International in New York, designing and implementing the UN and Security Council advocacy strategies for the 14-global member network. Nicole started with USAID in Darfur, Sudan where she worked as Protection Officer from 2005 to 2007 to establish and implement the OTI program to combat violence against women and also designed and coordinated OTI support for the Somalia National Reconciliation Congress via the Kenya USAID Mission in 2007. From 1996 to 2003, Nicole worked for the International Rescue Committee (IRC) spending 4 years in southern Sudan and later, 3 years as Deputy Director of the IRC Washington government relations office. Short assignments have included work in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Afghanistan. She has a MA in Human Rights and Political Theory from University of Essex, UK and BA in International Relations and African Studies from Kent State University, Ohio, with study at University of Nairobi, Kenya. She also completed the certificated summer program at the Oxford Refugees Study Centre. Nicole is conversational in French and familiar with Arabic.

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