

# MELISSA WILLARD-FOSTER

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT · DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
509 OLD MILL · 94 UNIVERSITY PLACE · BURLINGTON, VT · 05405-0114  
PHONE: 802-656-8634 · FAX: 802-656-0758  
EMAIL: MELISSA.WILLARD-FOSTER@UVM.EDU

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

---

- University of Vermont 2012- Present  
*Burlington, VT*
- Assistant Professor of Political Science
  - Recipient Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award 2017
- Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School 2008-2012  
*Cambridge, MA*
- Fellow, International Security Program

## EDUCATION

---

- University of California Los Angeles 2003-2011  
*Los Angeles, CA*
- Ph.D., Political Science, August 2011
  - Major Fields: International Relations, Quantitative Methods, Comparative Politics
- University of Chicago 2002-2003  
*Chicago, IL*
- M.A., International Relations
- Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service 1994-1998  
*Washington, D.C.*
- B.S., International Affairs

## PUBLICATIONS

---

Melissa Willard-Foster, *Toppling Foreign Governments: The Logic of Regime Change* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019)

Melissa Willard-Foster, "Planning the Peace and Enforcing the Surrender: Deterrence in the Allied Occupations of Germany and Japan," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Volume 40, No. 1, Summer 2009

- Awarded Honorable Mention, Center for Military History & Strategic Analysis, 2006-07 Cold War Essay Contest

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

---

"Puppets or Populists? Domestic Politics and Interstate Asymmetric Conflict"

"Strategic Interaction and Coercion Failure"

## SELECTED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

---

### Invited Lectures

“Toppling Foreign Governments: The Logic of Regime Change”

- Emory University, February 7, 2019

“Trump’s Kept and Unkept Foreign Policy Promises”

- Presented at the University of Quebec at Montreal, Center for United States Studies Conference, entitled, “Trump: Year One,” November 2017

“Primary Debates Don’t ‘Stop at the Water’s Edge’: The Foreign Policy Issues of 2016”

- Presented at the University of Quebec at Montreal, Center for United States Studies Conference, entitled, “Who Will Succeed Obama? U.S. Presidential Primaries and their Impact on Canada,” February 2016

“Puppets or Populists? Domestic Politics and Interstate Asymmetric Conflict”

- Presented at Carleton University, Norman Patterson School of International Affairs Conference, entitled, “Problems Abroad? Revisiting the Intervention Trap in an Era of Global Uncertainty,” October 2016

“The Costs of Peace in a World of Asymmetric Power: Explaining the Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change”

- Dartmouth College, October 2015
- Middlebury College, November 2015

“The Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change in Iraq and Libya”

- University of Quebec at Montreal, October 2014

“Making Friends Out of Foes: The Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change”

- Harvard Kennedy School of Government, October 2010

### Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

“Strategic Interaction and Coercion Failure”

- Accepted for presentation at the International Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 2019

“Puppets or Populists? Domestic Politics and Interstate Asymmetric Conflict”

- Presented at the ISSS-ISAC 2017 Annual Conference, Washington, DC, October 2017

“To Bargain or Depose”

- Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2016
- Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, March 2016

## **SELECTED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)**

---

### **Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations**

“The Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change in Libya”

- Paper presented at the International Security Sub-Section Conference, International Studies Association, Springfield, MA, October 2015
- Paper presented at the American Political Science Conference, San Francisco, September 2015

“The Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change in Iraq”

- Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2015
- Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2014
- Paper presented at the International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 2013

### **Academic Panel Discussions and University Presentations**

- The Refugee Crisis in Europe, Great Decisions Course, May 2016
- Academic Panel Discussion: The 2016 Presidential Election, November 2016
- “The Costs of Peace in a World of Asymmetric Power: Explaining the Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change”
  - Living and Learning Presentation, November 2016
  - Political Science Honors Course, April 2016
- Panel on the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, UVM, October 2014
- Panel on Intervention in the Syrian Civil War, UVM, September 2013

## **RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

---

- Rakin Foundation Seminar Grant for course development, University of Vermont, Spring 2018
- Political Science Departmental Grant, University of Vermont, student research assistance, Spring 2015
- Rakin Foundation Research Grant for archival research and travel, University of Vermont, 2014-15
- Rakin Foundation Seminar Grant for course development, University of Vermont, Spring 2014
- Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs, post-doctoral fellowship, 2011-12
- Matsushita International Foundation Fellowship (Panasonic Corporation), 2010-11
- Donald E. Stokes Research Fellowship, British Politics Group, 2009
- Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs, pre-doctoral fellowship, 2008-11
- UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2008-09
- UCLA Affiliates Scholarship, 2008-09

## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS (CONTINUED)

---

- Hiroshi Wagatsuma Memorial Fund Fellowship, 2008
- Institute for Global Conflict & Cooperation, 2007-08
- UCLA, Collegium of University Teaching Fellows Program, 2007
- Bradley Foundation Fellow, 2006-07
- UCLA Dissertation Research Mentorship, 2006-07
- The Pacific Rim Research Program Mini-Grant, 2006
- The Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship in Japanese, 2005-06
- UCLA Graduate Student Summer Research Mentorship Program, 2005, 2006, 2007
- Travel grants, The Truman and Eisenhower Presidential Libraries, 2005

## TEACHING

---

University of Vermont

*Assistant Professor*

- Introduction to International Relations, First-Year Seminar 2012, '13, '16
- Introduction to International Relations 2012-Present
- International Security 2012-Present
- Foreign Military Intervention 2013-Present
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervision 2013, '14, '17
- Readings and Research one-credit course Spring 2018

University of California Los Angeles

*Teaching Fellow*

- Foreign-Imposed Regime Change in Historical Perspective 2008

*Teaching Associate*

- Rethinking National Security 2006

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

---

*Professional Service*

- Reviewer, *International Security*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *British Journal of Political Science*
- Chair & discussant, American Political Science Association Conference, Boston 2018
- Discussant, ISSS-ISAC 2017 Annual Conference, Washington, DC, October 2017
- Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago 2016, 2015
- Discussant, International Studies Association Conference, San Diego 2012

*College Service*

- Truman Scholarship Review Committee, University of Vermont, 2017
- Fulbright Scholar Review Committee, University of Vermont, 2012-2014
- Small Grant Research Award Committee Member, Fall 2014 - 2016
- Faculty Research Support Award, Seed Grant, Committee Member, 2013 - 2016
- Interdisciplinary Experiential Engagement Award, Committee Member, 2013-2106
- Research Awards for the Natural and Social Sciences, 2013-2106

## **SERVICE ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)**

---

### *Departmental Service*

- Department Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Meetings
- Curriculum Committee Member, International Relations subfield, 2013-Present
- The Austin Award in International Relations, Prize Committee, 2013-14, 2017-18

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE**

---

- Consultant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2010-2013
- Research Assistant UCLA Chancellor Albert Carnesale 2005-2006
- Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models VI 2007
- Languages: Spanish (Intermediate); Japanese (Beginner)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

---

American Political Science Association, Member  
Midwest Political Science Association, Member  
International Studies Association, Member