

MELISSA WILLARD-FOSTER

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT · DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Vermont 2012- Present
Burlington, VT

- Associate 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, 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

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Melissa Willard-Foster, *Toppling Foreign Governments: The Logic of Regime Change* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019), 344 pages

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

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, pp. 33-56

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

NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Melissa Willard-Foster, "Three Lessons from the History of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change," *Political Violence at a Glance*, February 1, 2019, <http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2019/02/01/three-lessons-from-the-history-of-foreign-imposed-regime-change/>

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Does Instability Make for an Easy Target? Re-Evaluating Libya's Reconciliation with the West"

"Dictatorships or Democracies? The Domestic Political Causes of Asymmetric Conflict"

Book Project: *Promising the World: Presidential Promise-Keeping in US Foreign Policy*

- UVM Department of Political Science, Research Assistance award, Summer 2019
- The first study of foreign policy pledge fulfillment that explains when presidents keep their foreign policy campaign promises

SELECTED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

"Does Instability Make for an Easy Target? Re-Evaluating Libya's Reconciliation with the West"

- Institute for Security and Conflict Studies, George Washington University, Elliott School, February 9, 2020
- Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs, October 3, 2019

"Toppling Foreign Governments: The Logic of Regime Change"

- Emory University, February 7, 2019

Discussant, Book Manuscript Conference, Associate Professor Alexander B. Downes

- George Washington University, Elliott School, December 2018

“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

“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

“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

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

- Harvard Kennedy School of Government, 2016/17 (Declined)
- 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

SELECTED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

“Does Instability Make for an Easy Target? Re-Evaluating Libya’s Reconciliation with the West”

- Paper accepted for presentation at the International Security Sub-Section Conference, International Studies Association, Denver, Colorado, October 2019

“Strategic Interaction and Coercion Failure: How the Conditions Governing Choice Influence Effectiveness”

- Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 2019

“Foreign Policy Campaign Pledges: Measuring Type & Fulfillment”

- Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2019

“Puppets or Populists? Explaining Disputes between the Strong and the Weak”

- Paper presented at the International Security Sub-Section Conference, International Studies Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC, October 2017
- Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, March 2016

“To Bargain or Depose”

- Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2016

“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

University Panel Discussions and Presentations

- “Puppets or Populists? Explaining Disputes between the Strong and the Weak”
 - Political Science Honors Course, UVM, April 2018, 2019
- “The Costs of Peace and the Logic of Foreign-Imposed Regime Change”
 - Living and Learning UVM Residential Community, November 2016
 - Political Science Honors Course, UVM, April 2016, February 2014
- Academic Panel Discussion: The 2016 Presidential Election, UVM, November 2016
- The Refugee Crisis in Europe, Great Decisions Course, UVM Living and Learning Residential Community, May 2016
- Panel on the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, UVM, October 2014
- Panel on Intervention in the Syrian Civil War, UVM, September 2013

- “Why Big Nations Fight Small Wars,” September 2013, UVM Living and Learning Residential Community, May 2016
- “Planning the Peace and Enforcing the Surrender”
 - Political Science Honors Course, UVM, April 2013

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- Political Science Department Grant, UVM, student research assistance, Summer 2019, Spring 2018, and Spring 2015
- Rakin Foundation Seminar Grant for course development, UVM, Fall 2018, Spring 2014
- Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award, Assistant Professor Category, UVM, 2017
- Political Science Department Grant, UVM, Book manuscript copy-editing, Spring 2016
- Rakin Foundation Research Grant for archival research and travel, UVM, 2014-15
- 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
- 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

TEACHING

University of Vermont, *Assistant Professor*

- Introduction to International Relations 2012-Present
 - Class Size \approx 41/60 students
 - Class Size \approx 109 students
- International Security 2012-Present
 - Class Size \approx 41 students
- Foreign Military Intervention 2013-Present
 - Class Size \approx 17 students
- Introduction to International Relations, First-Year Seminar 2012, 2013, 2016
 - Class Size \approx 21 students
- One-credit courses, 5 students 2012-Present

University of California Los Angeles, *Teaching Fellow*

- Foreign-Imposed Regime Change in Historical Perspective 2008
- Rethinking National Security 2006

MENTORING AND ADVISING

- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervisor, 4 students 2014-2020
 - Tyler Purinton 2013-14
 - Antonia David 2012-2013
 - Aaron Kraus 2016-17
 - Olivia Sakadinsky 2019-20
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member, 2 students 2013, 2017
 - Georgia Jewett 2013
 - Nick Vidal 2018
- Roughly 30 advisees per semester 2012-Present

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Professional Service

- Reviewer, *International Security*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *British Journal of Political Science*
- Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago 2019, 2016, 2015
- Discussant, International Studies Association Conference, 2019, 2012
- Chair & discussant
 - “Leaders and Foreign-Policy Decisionmaking,” American Political Science Association Conference, Boston 2018
 - “Civil War and Varieties of Internationalization,” American Political Science Association Conference, Boston 2018
- Discussant, International Security Sub-Section Conference, International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Washington, DC, October 2017
- Participant, International Relations Workshop, Dartmouth College, Dickey Center for International Understanding, 2014-2016
- Moderator, “Who Decides in Washington? The Making of U.S. Foreign Policy,” University of Quebec at Montreal, Spring 2015

College & University Service

- Elected to College of Arts and Sciences, Honors Committee, At-Large Representative, 2019-2022
- Truman Scholarship Review Committee, University of Vermont, 2018, 2017
- 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
- Fulbright Scholar Review Committee, University of Vermont, 2012-2014
- Presentations to Living & Learning Residential Community, November 2016, May 2016, September 2013

Departmental Service

- Member, Ad Hoc Curricular Review Committee, Spring-Fall 2019
- Department Representative, CAS Faculty Meetings, Spring 2018
- Curriculum Committee Member, International Relations subfield, 2013-Present
- Prize Coordinator, Austin Award in International Relations, 2013-14, 2017-18, 2018-2019
- Florence Davis Dean Lecture Series, Hosted a total of 6 guest speakers as part of this series
 - Dr. Sarah Kreps, Political Science Professor, Cornell University, Spring 2019
 - Dr. TV Paul, James McGill Professor of International Relations, McGill University, Fall 2018
 - Ambassador Faith Whittlesey, former White House Senior Staff Member, Spring 2016
 - Dr. Dan Reiter, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Political Science, Emory University, Fall 2016
 - Dr. Stephen Brooks, Political Science Professor, Dartmouth College, Spring 2016
 - Col. Matthew Redding, Chief of Staff for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command in Europe, Fall 2014
- UVM Incoming Student Orientation, Department Representative
 - August 23, 2019
 - July 24, 2019
 - June 2, 2019
- Political Science Information Session, Admitted Student Visitor Day, Department Presentation
 - April 12, 2018
 - April 20, 2019
- Admitted Student Visit Day, Open House
 - Political Science Department Representative, April 10, 2015
 - Integrated Social Sciences Program Representative, February 13, 2015
 - Integrated Social Sciences Program Representative, February 20, 2015
- Honors Seminar Research Presentation
 - Spring 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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