



CENTER FOR JUDAIC & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

University of Connecticut, Stamford

2014 LOUIS J. KURIANSKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 • 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

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The Dangerous Neighborhood of the Middle East

Dr. Bruce Hoffman is one of today's leading experts on Al Qaeda and international terrorism and has been studying terrorism and insurgency for nearly four decades; in this capacity, he has served on numerous government committees and agencies. A tenured professor in Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, he is also the university's Director of both the Center for Security Studies and of the Security Studies Program. He was recently appointed by the U.S. Congress to serve as a commissioner on the Independent Commission to Review the FBI's Post-9/11 Response to Terrorism and Radicalization.

Professor Hoffman was Scholar-in-Residence for Counterterrorism at the Central Intelligence Agency between

Dr. Michael Rubin is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and senior lecturer at the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Civil-Military Relations. He is also senior editor (previously chief editor) of the *Middle East Quarterly*. He has also worked as a staff advisor for Iran and Iraq in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, in which capacity he was seconded to Iraq.

Rubin holds an M.A. in biology and a Ph.D. in history, both from Yale University, where he was previously a lecturer in history. He taught at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, and at three

2004 and 2006; an adviser on counterterrorism to the Office of National Security Affairs, Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Iraq in 2004; and from 2004-2005 an adviser on counterinsurgency to the Strategy, Plans, and Analysis Office at Multi-National Forces-Iraq Headquarters, Baghdad. Professor Hoffman was also an adviser to the Iraq Study Group.

He is the author of the acclaimed *Inside Terrorism*, which the Washington Post described as "brilliant" and the "best one volume introduction to the phenomenon." His forthcoming books are *The Evolving Global Terrorist Threat: Cases From 9/11 to Osama bin Laden's Death* (2014) and *Anonymous Soldiers: The Struggle for Israel, 1918-1947* (2015).

different universities in northern Iraq. Dr. Rubin has first-hand knowledge of the Middle East, since he had lived and conducted research in Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and with the Taliban in Afghanistan pre-9/11. Rubin instructs senior U.S. army officers deploying to the Middle East and Afghanistan and teaches classes aboard deploying U.S. carrier strike groups and Marine Expeditionary Units.

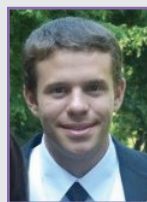
Rubin is author of *Dancing with the Devil: The Perils of Engagement* (Encounter, 2014), a history of a half-century of American diplomacy with rogue regimes and terrorist groups, and two earlier books examining Iranian history.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STUDENTS AND ALUMNI



STEVEN KOLENBERG is currently a junior at UConn-Stamford, majoring in History. He attended the Spring 2014 AIPAC Conference in Washington, DC, having been selected by his professor, Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, after demonstrating an interest in Judaic Studies, Israel, and public service. Steven is

also a candidate for the Certificate in Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at UConn-Stamford. In the fall of 2013, he was elected to serve on the Stamford Board of Representatives for the 16th District. We congratulate Steven on his recent acceptance into the State Department's fall 2014 internship program at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany.



RYAN EVANS graduated summa cum laude from UConn-Stamford in the spring of 2012 with a major in English. While at UConn, Ryan took several courses in Judaic Studies and was selected by his professor, Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, to attend the Spring 2012 AIPAC Conference. He also dedicated his time to the Stamford

Mentoring Program of the Stamford Public Schools. He was named a 2011 New England Scholar and was inducted into the honor society of Phi Kappa Phi. Currently Ryan is a teacher's assistant at The Bridge Academy in Bridgeport. We congratulate Ryan on having been recently accepted to the prestigious Teachers College at Columbia University.