

# Speaker Biographies

## **Dr. John Ackerman**

Dr. Ackerman is an Assistant Professor of National Security Studies at the Air Command and Staff College (ACSC), Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. He is also the Research Course Director for the ACSC Department of Distance Learning. Prior to his appointment as Research Course Director Dr. Ackerman was the Director of Conferences and Publications and the Deputy Chairman of the Department of International and National Security Studies at ACSC. Dr. Ackerman is also a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the United States Air Force and held assignments in Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Operations and Training and taught both company grade and field grade officers' professional military education courses. Dr. Ackerman holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Alabama, a Master's Degrees in Political Science, Military Operational Art and Science, and Information Systems Management. His professional interests include national, international, and environmental security issues. His research efforts have included exploration into the relationships between sustainability and security, the international relations implications of global climate change, and the national security ramifications of global warming. Dr. Ackerman has taught graduate courses in national security studies, strategy and war, culture and warfare, air power history, and future global trends. He is currently researching the challenges posed by climate change to the National Defense Strategy of the United States.

## **Ambassador David Balton**

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs  
David A. Balton is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State. In March 2005, President Bush, with the consent of the Senate, accorded to Mr. Balton the rank of Ambassador during his tenure. Ambassador Balton previously served for 6 years as Director of the Office of Marine Conservation in the Department of State. In that capacity, he was responsible for coordinating the development of U.S. foreign policy concerning living marine resources and overseeing U.S. participation in international organizations dealing with the conservation and management of these resources. Ambassador Balton also worked for 12 years in the Office of the Legal Adviser in the Department of State. His international law practice covered such areas as the law of the sea, human rights and international claims. Ambassador Balton negotiated numerous treaties and other international agreements on fisheries, marine mammals and other matters pertaining to the marine environment.

Ambassador Balton received his A.B. from Harvard College in 1981 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1985. He has also appeared as a soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. (juggling oranges).

### **RADM Arthur "Gene" Brooks**

Rear Admiral Brooks directs Coast Guard operations including search and rescue, maritime safety, environmental protection, fisheries law enforcement and military readiness in Alaska and the North Pacific. Units and personnel under his command patrol over 3.8 million square miles of ocean and 33,000 miles of coastline, including some of the most treacherous waters in the world. More than 950,000 square miles off the Alaskan coast are monitored to enforce the U.S. 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. An even larger area of the North Pacific is patrolled to stop illegal, large scale, high seas drift netting. Maritime safety and environmental protection are priority missions. The Port of Valdez is the trans-shipment point for 17 percent of the oil that America produces every day. Preventing spills and accidents is a major task. Alaska is also the world's second most popular cruise destination, bringing over 700,000 passengers to its waters every year. Safety of these ships and passengers and protection of these pristine waters is a critical mission. Rear Admiral Brooks was commissioned as an Ensign upon graduation from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1974. His first duty assignment was aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) Dependable. Other afloat tours included Commanding Officer, USCGC Point Harris; Executive Officer, USCGC Confidence; and Commanding Officer, USCGC Seneca. Ashore tours included the Fifth Coast guard District Operations Center; Assistant Staff Legal Officer, Eleventh Coast Guard District; Head, Department of Professional Development; Staff Legal Officer; and Commandant of Cadets, Coast Guard Academy; Commander, Coast Guard Greater Antilles Section; Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Atlantic Area; and Deputy Director for Operations, U.S. Northern Command. In addition to his Bachelor of Science degree from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, Brooks holds a Juris Doctor degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. He was the Coast Guard Fellow in the Department of State's 39th Senior Seminar, National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Arlington, Virginia, and is a graduate of the Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government Senior Executive National and International Security Program.

### **Elizabeth R. Chalecki**

Elizabeth L. Chalecki is an Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of International Relations at Boston University. Her expertise lies in the areas of climate change and security, environmental terrorism, and non-traditional security threat analysis. Before teaching at BU, she was the Environment & Security Analyst at the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security. Dr. Chalecki has published over 20 articles and book chapters on diverse topics such as climate change and Arctic security, environmental terrorism, climate change and international law, public perceptions of environmental issues, and water in outer space. She has taught at California State University – Hayward and the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and worked for Environment Canada, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Brookings Institution. She holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University, and an M.Sc. in Environmental Geography from the University of Toronto

### **Commander Raymond Chartier Jr.**

Commander Ray Chartier Jr. is a New England native. He enlisted in the Navy in 1982, was commissioned in 1988 after graduating from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Oceanography. In 1995 he earned a Master's degree in Meteorology and Oceanography (emphasis in satellite remote sensing) from the Naval Postgraduate School. After nuclear power and submarine training, CDR Chartier served in USS NEVADA (SSBN 733 Gold) completing five Cold War deterrent patrols. He also served on the aircraft carrier USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) from 1998 to 2000 completing a western pacific deployment in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. His awards include Meritorious Service medals, Navy Commendation medals, Navy Achievement medals and he proudly wears two Meritorious Unit Commendations and various other awards. CDR Chartier has been married for 19 years; he and his wife have three active boys ages 16, 14, and 12.

### **CAPT Thomas Culora**

Captain Culora currently serves as the Deputy Director for Navy Strategy and Policy on the OPNAV staff at the Pentagon. He has served in numerous operational billets at sea including commanding a helicopter maritime strike squadron (HSM-47) and most recently as Commanding Officer of the USS BOXER (LHD-4), an amphibious assault carrier. His staff tours include serving on the Joint Staff where he was the action officer responsible for coordinating military policy during the groundwork initiatives to expand NATO in the mid-1990's and as the Flag Secretary to the Chief of Naval Education and Training. Captain Culora was a Federal Executive Fellow at Harvard University's Olin Institute in 2001-2002 and before reporting to his current duty was the Navy's senior military at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the School of Visual Arts in New York, a Masters of Arts in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Masters of Arts in Strategic Studies from the Naval War College where he graduated with distinction.

### **BG Soren Falk-Portved**

BG Falk-Portved is Denmark Air Force and considered one of the leaders of the Coalition Forces at CENTCOM. His tour of duty has included time spent in NATO and working closely with Great Britain. His assignments have included Chief of Staff of the Tactical Air Command, Denmark; Defence Staff, Chief of Personnel Planning and Training Division, and Chief of Logistics Division at the Danish Air Base Skrydstrup. BG Falk-Portved's has been awarded the prestigious Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer), Knight 1st Class of the Order of Dannebrog, and the Air Force Long Service Medal for his outstanding service. He is married to Dentist Marianne Falk-Portved.

### **Dr. John Felmy**

John Felmy is Chief Economist of API. He is responsible for overseeing economic, statistical and policy analysis of the Institute. He has over twenty-five years experience in energy, economic and environmental analysis. He received Bachelors and Masters in Economics from The Pennsylvania State University and a Ph.D. in Economics from The University of Maryland. John is a member of several professional associations including the American Economics Association and the International Association for Energy Economics

**Dr. Ronald Filadelfo**

Dr. Ronald Filadelfo is a member of the research staff at the Center for Naval Analyses, the Navy's Federally Funded R&D Center. For roughly his first ten years at CNA he worked in anti-submarine warfare, and since the mid-1990's he has worked on Navy environmental issues. His current research focus is on the effects of military sonars on whales. For the last two years he has examined the issue of climate change and its relationships to national security.

**Mr. Michael Frodl**

Michael Frodl provides advice on emerging risks, including environmental, climate, cyber, terrorism and natural disaster risks, to the global underwriting industry, the federal government, and private industry. In particular he advises international reinsurers specialized in catastrophe risk, underwriters who take some or all of the extreme risk off the books of primary insurers, risk that could lead to the failure of the primary insurer if claims were ever triggered. He developed a terrorism threat analysis group that uses open sources to provide a second opinion to the private sector on official federal terrorism guidance. He has advised the real estate finance industry on mitigation strategies to deal with WMD terrorism. He is currently advising a retired senior CDC disaster physician on how to develop more professional standards and practices. He chairs the Forum for Environmental Law, Science, Engineering and Finance which he founded in 1996, and which brings lawyers, scientists, engineers, bankers and underwriters to work out multi-disciplinary solutions to cross-cutting environmental challenges. Mr. Frodl chaired the Environmental Law Committee of the Bar Association of D.C.. He was a long time member of the Washington Strategy Seminar, an unofficial group that brought together young analysts from all over the Washington intelligence community to discuss national security matters. He has practiced law on K Street, and has consulted on international tax, trade and business in a Washington career stretching almost 25 years. Mr. Frodl studied law at Georgetown and holds both a Masters in International Relations and an undergraduate degree from Yale. He speaks several languages.

**Ms. Rachel Halpern**

Rachel Halpern is an energy specialist in the Office of Energy and Environmental Industries within the International Trade Administration, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. She works on a variety of issues including energy trade policy with Russia and the former Soviet Union, global oil issues, energy's role in manufacturing, and domestic regulatory analysis for the oil industry. She has led trade missions to Russia and Kazakhstan. Ms. Halpern received her MA from Harvard University and her BA from Amherst College.

**Ms. Kim Harb**

Kim Harb is Director of Policy & Government Affairs for the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA), where she leads the Association's advocacy efforts before Congress and the Administration. NOIA is the only national trade association representing all segments of the offshore energy industry. NOIA membership comprises more than 300 companies engaged in activities ranging from drilling to producing, engineering to marine and air transport, offshore construction to equipment manufacture and supply, geophysical surveying

to diving, and telecommunications to finance. Before joining NOIA, Kim led the Federal Public Land Practice at Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue, and prior to her time at Jones Day, she spent nearly ten years at the Department of the Interior, including time as Attorney-Advisor during the George H.W. Bush Administration, and as Senior Counselor to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management during the Clinton Administration. A member of the District of Columbia Bar Association and the American Bar Association, where she serves as Vice Chair of both the Public Lands and Resources Committee and the Global Oil and Gas Committee, Kim has been a contributor to the Oil Daily, the ABA's Natural Resources and Environment, and the Southwest Legal Foundation's Institute on Oil and Gas Law and Taxation.

**Mr. Jeffrey Izzo**

Mr. Izzo is a career diplomat currently assigned as an Energy Officer in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Economics, Energy, and Business Affairs where he is responsible for international energy policy toward Western Hemisphere countries. He focuses extensively on U.S. – Canada energy relations, and is involved in formulating U.S. international Arctic energy policy. He is responsible for issuing Presidential Permits for cross-border petroleum pipelines. Mr. Izzo also focuses on the potential of biofuels as a tool for economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Mr. Lawrence Kogan**

Lawrence Kogan is President/Chief Executive Officer of the Princeton, NJ-based non-profit Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development, and Managing Attorney of the Washington, DC-based consulting firm Sound Science Business Strategies, LLC. He recently served as an Adjunct Professor of Trade Law & Policy at the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations of Seton Hall University during the 2007 term. Mr. Kogan earned his LLM in Taxation from the Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC; his JD from the University of Miami, School of Law, Coral Gables, FL; and his BA in Philosophy/Political Theory from Boston University's College of Liberal Arts. Mr. Kogan possesses 20 years of diverse international law, business and tax experience, having worked at two public accounting firms, an import-export firm and as an independent consultant / adviser. Mr. Kogan currently advises industry and governments on how to identify and manage asset and operations risks tied to evolving regulatory, standards and reputation orientated initiatives launched by national and regional governments, intergovernmental bodies, standards development organizations and nongovernmental activist groups.

**Dr. Larry Mayer**

Larry Mayer has a broad-based background in marine geology and geophysics that is reflected in his association with both the Ocean Engineering and Earth Science Departments. He graduated magna cum laude with an Honors degree in Geology from the University of Rhode Island in 1973 and received a Ph.D. from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in Marine Geophysics in 1979. At Scripps his schizophrenic future was determined as he

worked with the Marine Physical Laboratory's Deep-Tow Geophysical package, but applied this sophisticated acoustic sensor to problems of the history of climate. After being selected as an astronaut candidate finalist for NASA's first class of mission specialists, He went on to a Post-Doc at the School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island where he worked on problems of deep-sea sediment transport and paleoceanography of the equatorial Pacific. In 1982, he became an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Oceanography at Dalhousie University and in 1991 moved to the University of New Brunswick to take up the NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Ocean Mapping. In 2000 he became the founding director of the Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping at the University of New Hampshire and the co-director of the NOAA/UNH Joint Hydrographic Center. Dr. Mayer has participated in more than 50 cruises (over 60 months at sea!) during the last 30 years and has been chief or co-chief scientist of numerous expeditions including two legs of the Ocean Drilling Program. He has served on, or chaired, far too many international panels and committees and has the requisite large number of publications on a variety of topics in marine geology and geophysics. He is the recipient of the Keen Medal for Marine Geology and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Stockholm. He served on the President's Panel for Ocean Exploration and has recently chaired a National Academy of Sciences committee on "National Needs for Coastal Mapping and Charting." His research deals with sonar imaging, remote characterization of the seafloor, and advanced applications of 3-D visualization to ocean mapping problems.

#### **Mr. John Moore**

John Norton Moore, who joined the faculty in 1966, is an authority on international law, national security law, and the law of the sea. He also teaches advanced topics in national security law and the rule of law. Moore taught the first course in the country on national security law and conceived and co-authored the first casebook on the subject. From 1991-93, during the Gulf War and its aftermath, Moore was the principal legal adviser to the Ambassador of Kuwait to the United States and to the Kuwait delegation to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission. From 1985 to 1991, he chaired of the board of directors of the U.S. Institute of Peace, one of six presidential appointments he has held. From 1973 to 1976, he was chair of the National Security Council Interagency Task Force on the Law of the Sea and ambassador and deputy special representative of the president to the Law of the Sea conference. Previously he served as the counselor on international law to the Department of State. With the deputy attorney general of the United States, he was co-chair in March 1990 of the United States-USSR talks in Moscow and Leningrad on the Rule of Law. As a consultant to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, he was honored by the director for his work on the ABM Treaty Interpretation Project. He has been a frequent witness before congressional committees on maritime policy, legal aspects of foreign policy, national security, war and treaty powers, and democracy and human rights. He has been a fellow of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars at the Smithsonian Institution. Moore is a member of advisory and editorial boards for nine journals and numerous professional organizations, and he has published many articles on oceans policy, national security and international law.

### **Senator Lisa Murkowski**

Senator Lisa Murkowski is the first Alaskan born Senator to serve the State and only the sixth United States Senator from Alaska. Murkowski is a third generation Alaskan, born in Ketchikan and raised in towns across the state. Only the 33rd female to serve in the United States Senate since its founding in 1789, Senator Murkowski has assumed leadership roles quickly in the Senate, being selected to serve as a Deputy Whip, to assist the Majority Whip on voting strategy and other leadership functions, and as Chairman of the class of new Senators elected in 2002. A member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Murkowski is the ranking member on the Energy Subcommittee. She also serves on the Senate Foreign Relations committee where she is ranking member for the subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Additionally, she is the Vice-Chair of the Indian Affairs Committee and is the first Alaskan ever to serve on the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. She earned a BA in economics from Georgetown University in 1980 and then returned to Juneau to work as a legislative aide, also becoming active in state Republican politics. In 1985 she graduated with a law degree from Willamette University and became a member of the Alaska Bar Association in 1987. She served as Anchorage District Court attorney for two years and then worked in Alaska commercial law for eight years before opening her own practice. Murkowski was elected to three terms in the Alaska State House of Representatives, beginning in 1998, and was named House Majority Leader during the 2003-2004 term. While serving in the State House, Murkowski sat on the Alaska Commission on Post Secondary Education and chaired both the Labor and Commerce and the Military and Veterans Affairs Committees. In 1999 she introduced legislation establishing a Joint Armed Services Committee, where she also served. After being appointed to the Senate on December 20, 2002, Senator Murkowski was elected to a full six-year Senate term in November 2004. Lisa married Verne Martell, an Anchorage small business owner, in 1987 and they have two sons, Nicolas and Matthew. She enjoys spending time with her family, skiing, fishing, camping, and actively participating in community outreach programs.

### **CAPT Pat Neher**

Captain Neher has served as the Director of International and Operational Law for the Navy since June 2005. His responsibilities include providing advice to senior Navy officials and operational commanders on a wide variety of topics including the law of war, maritime security operations, counter-proliferation activities including the Proliferation Security Initiative, and the law of the sea. From 2003 to 2005 he served as the Executive Assistant to the Commander of the U.S. FIFTH FLEET and in that role he helped devise and execute maritime campaigns in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. His previous assignments include service in two aircraft carriers, a Carrier Strike Group, the staff of Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, counsel to the Navy's Operations Deputy, and counsel to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Captain Neher has a B.A. from the University of Illinois at Chicago, a J.D. from Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law, and an LL.M. in International and Comparative Law from The George Washington University School of Law, all with Honors.

### **Mr. Kevin O'Shea**

Kevin O'Shea was appointed Minister (Political Affairs) at the Canadian Embassy in Washington in August 2006, following a three year assignment as the Deputy Head of Minister at the Canadian Embassy to the European Union. Mr. O'Shea has had a 25-year career at the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. During this time, he has served in headquarters as Director, Canada-US Relations (2000-2003) and Director, Canadian Assistance to the Former Soviet Union (1991-1995). He has had postings to the Canadian Consulate in New York, the Canadian Permanent Mission to the OECD in Paris and to the Canadian High Commission in Ghana. Mr. O'Shea has a MA and BA from McGill University as well as a Certificat d'etudes politiques from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris. He is married to Kris O'Shea and they have two daughters, Kiera and Annie.

**Mr. Brian Petty**

Brian T. Petty is based in Washington with global responsibilities for directing IADC's government affairs initiatives. Mr Petty holds a law degree from Georgetown University and an MA in literature from the University of Virginia. Before joining IADC, he served in Washington as the State of Texas Energy Counsel. He previously practiced law in New York, then headed up the Houston office of an international investment banking firm. He serves as Chairman of the federal Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Automotive Equipment and Capital Goods (ITAC 2), which counsels the U.S. Trade Representative and the U.S. Secretary of Commerce on international trade issues. He also serves on their joint Investment Working Group, designated to advise them on international investment policy. In addition, he co-chairs the Energy Services Coalition, comprised of 60 companies and trade associations seeking liberalization of trade in the hydrocarbon, electric power and renewable energy sectors at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Ms. Brenda Pierce**

Ms. Brenda Pierce manages the Energy Resources Program at the U.S. Geological Survey. The USGS Energy Resources Program conducts research and assessments of all geologically based energy resources, including oil, gas, coal, coalbed methane, methane hydrates, geothermal, uranium, oil shale, and heavy oil, as well as the environmental and human health impacts of energy occurrence and use. Prior to joining the Energy Resources Program, Ms. Pierce led the USGS National Coal Resource Assessment project and a USAID-funded program to explore for and assess the energy resources of Armenia, Ms. Pierce has worked as a geologist on energy projects both domestically and internationally and has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Geology from the George Washington University.

**Dr. Jeremy Rabkin**

Jeremy Rabkin teaches international law at George Mason School of Law in Arlington, Virginia. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Board of Academic Advisors of the American Enterprise Institute. Before joining the GMU faculty, he taught for many years in the Department of Government at Cornell University. He holds a PhD in political science from Harvard University.

**Mr. Mark Simonoff**

Mark Simonoff is an Attorney-Adviser at the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Legal Adviser. He is the lead State Department attorney on continental shelf issues, Arctic issues, and the Antarctic Treaty and related instruments. He also covers outer space law, maritime boundaries and a variety of international environmental law issues.

**Ambassador Wegger Strommen**

Ambassador Strommen has a distinguished career in the Norwegian Foreign Service including positions as Deputy Foreign Minister and representing Norway in the United Nations Security Council. Ambassador Strommen has also practised law as a judge and as an attorney.

**Mr. Mead Treadwell**

Mead Treadwell was appointed to the US Arctic Research Commission in 2001 and was designated chair by the President in 2006. During his 30 years residency in Alaska, Mead Treadwell has played an active role in Arctic research and exploration. His focus has been on development of natural resources, protection of the Arctic environment and fostering international cooperation after the Cold War. In business, government and the academy, Treadwell has helped establish a broad range of research programs in technology, ecology, social science and policy. Currently, Treadwell serves as Senior Fellow of the Institute of the North, founded by former Alaska Governor Walter J. Hickel. Treadwell's research at the Institute focuses on strategic and defense issues facing Alaska and Arctic regions, management of Alaska's commonly owned resources and integration of Arctic transport and telecommunications infrastructure. Concurrently, in business, Mead Treadwell is Chairman and CEO of Venture Ad Astra, an Anchorage, Alaska based firm which invests in and develops new geospatial and imaging technologies. He is non-executive chairman of Immersive Media Company, a publicly listed corporation Venture Ad Astra helped refinance in 2003. He served from 1990-1994 as Deputy Commissioner of Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation, and helped establish a number of instruments of official cooperation in the Arctic region.

**Yevgeny Zvedre**

Mr. Zvedre is currently the Senior Counselor at the Russian Embassy in Washington D.C. and head of its Science & Technology office. In this position, he concentrates on the assessment of scientific and technological developments in the USA, identifying areas of mutual interest, establishing and maintaining contacts among Russian and American governmental and non-governmental organizations in scientific research, space, energy, innovative technologies and education as well as on managing concrete projects in the above spheres. Prior to his current assignment, from 2001 to 2004, Mr. Zvedre was Head of Office, North America Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His other distinguished assignments have included Senior Counselor, Department of Arms Control and Security Affairs; Head of Office, Counselor at the Russian Permanent Mission to International Organizations in Vienna; Head of Office (Space and Telecommunications), Department of International Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the USSR then RF Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and First Secretary, Counselor of the Department of Arms Control and Disarmament Affairs. During this last assignment, Mr. Zvedre concurrently served as advisor to the Soviet/Russian delegations at the START negotiations in Geneva and Advisor, Deputy Russian Commissioner to the Standing Consultative Commission under the US-Soviet ABM Treaty. Mr. Zvedre is a graduate of the Moscow School of International Relations (MGIMO) and the MFA Diplomatic Academy.