Layne, Mumpower Appointed to Endowed Chairs

Dr. Chris Layne and Jeryl Mumpower were appointed to endowed chairs in the Bush School of Government and Public Service. Dr. Layne now holds the Robert M. Gates Chair in Intelligence and National Security. He is widely known for his expertise in international relations theory, U.S. foreign policy, and transatlantic security relations. Professor Layne has written two books: *The Peace of Illusions: American Grand Strategy from 1940 to the Present* (Cornell University Press, 2006), and (with Bradley A. Thayer) *American Empire: A Debate* (Routledge, 2006). Additionally, he has contributed extensively to the debates about international relations theory and American foreign policy in a number of scholarly and policy journals.

Dr. Jeryl Mumpower, director of the Master of Public Service and Administration (MPSA) program at the Bush School, was named to the J. R. and Teresa Lozano Long Chair in Business and Government. The author or editor of nine books and numerous other publications, Mumpower's research focuses on several areas of public policy, including negotiation and bargaining, environmental policy, individual and group decision making processes, the use of scientific expertise in policy public making, and risk analysis and management. In making the announcement, Dr. Benton Cocanougher, interim dean of the Bush School, noted that these appointments recognize significant accomplishments and contributions to the holder's academic discipline.

“All of us at the Bush School congratulate Dr. Layne and Dr. Mumpower on these prestigious appointments.”

—Dr. Benton Cocanougher

Griffin’s Book Prescription for Energy Plan

As Congress debated the Waxman-Markey energy bill that will fundamentally change the energy landscape of the U.S. economy, a Bush School professor published a review of the current energy crisis and his own prescriptions for securing the nation’s energy future. Also known as the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, the controversial Waxman-Markey bill includes a cap-and-trade global warming reduction plan designed to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 17 percent by 2020. Other provisions include new renewable requirements for utilities, studies and incentives regarding new carbon capture and sequestration technologies, energy efficiency incentives for homes and buildings, and grants for green jobs.

*A Smart Energy Policy: An Economist’s Rx for Balancing Cheap, Clean, and Secure Energy* was written by Dr. James M. Griffin, director of the Bush School’s program in the economics of public policy, and published by Yale University Press. Written in non-technical language and aimed at the non-academic public, the book provides a historical perspective for today’s policy debate, and a description and critique of past policy efforts to promote oil security and tame carbon emissions, including the Kyoto Protocol. Griffin also looks ahead, providing a balanced view of the trade-offs between cheap, clean, and secure energy and proposing some policy prescriptions that he believes should be considered before new law is enacted.

Griffin says it’s important to “get the prices right” for energy, in a way that will result in a new playing field where alternative energy sources can compete. One of his suggestions is instituting a modest carbon tax that rises over time allowing energy firms to plan new infrastructure investments and phase out facilities emitting high levels of CO2.

“Making these taxes revenue neutral by matching reductions in payroll and income taxes, we can avoid further macroeconomic destabilization,” Griffin says.

A noted expert in energy economics, Griffin has more than 40 years experience in energy policy. He co-authored the leading textbook in the field, as well as five books and more than 50 refereed journal articles. He currently holds the Bob Bullock Chair in Public Policy and Finance at the Bush School.

Bush School Offers New Certificate in China Studies

The Bush School has introduced an innovative, multidisciplinary graduate certificate program in China Studies designed to prepare graduate students for a global future in which the economic, political, and social issues in the People’s Republic of China will have significant impact. The certificate program will offer Texas A&M masters or doctoral students an in-depth understanding of contemporary Chinese society and its increasing involvement in world affairs, as well as the opportunity to learn more about the philosophical, cultural, and linguistic roots of that society.

A collaborative academic program of the Bush School of Government and Public Service and the College of Liberal Arts, with support from the Institute for Pacific Asia (Confucius Institute), the certificate program is open to students from any graduate degree program at Texas A&M University. The interdisciplinary plan of study includes 12 credit hours of coursework, with no more than two courses taken from a single academic department. Completion of the certificate will be noted on the student’s transcript. Participation in this program does not require the study of the Chinese language, but those who demonstrate a proficiency in Mandarin through the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, will have it noted on their transcript.

Dr. Andrew Scobell, associate professor in the Bush School, administers the China Studies Certificate program. Other participating faculty include Dr. Ren Mu, assistant professor at the Bush School; Dr. Di Wang, associate professor of history; and Dr. Dudley Poston, professor of sociology.

“This unique offering will enhance graduate education across the University, no matter what the discipline,” said Dr. Sam Kirkpatrick, executive associate dean of the Bush School. “It’s also a further demonstration of the Bush School’s commitment to expanding students’ understanding of the world in which they will work and live.”

For more information regarding the Certificate in China Studies, contact Dr. Andrew Scobell at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, 979-862-3028, or askobell@bushschool.tamu.edu.
Napper Named Interim Director of Scowcroft Institute

Ambassador (ret) Larry Napper has been named interim director of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M. A senior lecturer at the School since 2005, Ambassador Napper, 63, spent 31 years in the U.S. Foreign Service. Among his many diplomatic assignments was serving as U.S. ambassador to Kazakhstan from 2001-2004. His diplomatic and service work was rewarded with the Secretary of State’s Career Achievement Award, and two Presidential Meritorious Service Awards, among others. In 2008, Ambassador Napper served as co-leader of the Iraq Governance Assessment Team, working with Dr. Ryan Crocker and General David Petraeus on measures to improve governance.

“I am pleased that Ambassador Napper has agreed to take on this interim assignment,” said Executive Associate Dean Sam Kukukpuluk. “He will be ably assisted by Dr. Jeff Engel, Juan Carlos, and by former Bush School dean, Dick Chicleture, as we keep the internationally-valued and research programs on track.”

Vedlitz Invited to Participate in National Energy and Climate Policy Conversation

Dr. Vedlitz, a faculty fellow, was invited by the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to participate in a workshop entitled “Energy and Climate Policy: Toward an Open and Transparent Process.”

The invitation-only workshop, held June 16-19, 2009 in Washington, D.C., explored how systems thinking and modeling approaches can be used to create a transparent framework that supports policymakers, engage expert knowledge, and inform government, private sector, and individual American stakeholders about the trade-offs and consequences of various policy options. Dr. Vedlitz served as chair of a discussion panel entitled “Energy and Climate Policy and Stakeholder Domains: Goals, Perspectives and Interconnections.”

The two-day conference was the second event in the Joint Program on Presidential Policy Making: Formulating a Bipartisan Energy and Climate Policy for America. The Joint Program was formed to explore how best to develop a bipartisan strategy of implementing the implications of various energy and climate policy options. On May 18th, Lee Hamilton, director of the Wilson Center, and Howard Baker, founder of the Baker Center, hosted the “Roundtable on White House Policy-Making.” The Roundtable brought together a group of former White House, federal agency, and congressional leaders.

A written report summarized the key findings and recommendations of the workshop and became part of the final report of the entire Joint Program. This final report has been sent to the president and key members of his administration, to leaders in Congress, and to other international individuals and institutions in government, education, and industry.

Nonprofit Program Expands to Houston

Wrote powerhouses Luci Baines Johnson, President George Bush, in a letter to the graduate students of the Bush School, giving them his commitment to supporting voluntary and nonprofit organizations, having seen throughout his career in public service the difference they make in our communities, states, and nation. Thus it is fitting that the School hosting his name should play an instrumental role in inspiring and training nonprofit agencies by helping to provide well-educated, effective leadership and ongoing education and assistance to leaders of nonprofit agencies throughout Texas.

The School’s National Certificate in Nonprofit Management (NPM), directed by Dr. Will Brown, is one approach to meeting one of the most critical issues facing nonprofits, the growing gap in leadership. By completing the certificate, working professionals can improve their skills and better understand the unique challenges of working in such organizations.

“As the nonprofit sector continues to expand and the baby boom generation departs, the need for expert leaders in the field will only expand as the current workforce,” Brown said. “We use our NPM certificate program, in which more are taking classes as well as in Houston, as a key element in the expansion of our on-campus program, and a way for more people to receive the training they need policy makers need to understand that enrollment in the certificate program has quadrupled since it was first offered in 2007, a further indication of both the need and the Bush School’s ability to respond with a high-quality, effective educational option for nonprofit professionals.

As just one example, Brown noted that there are over 4,000 nonprofit organizations in Houston and two graduate-level programs in nonprofit management. “This program helps professionalize the field,” Brown said. “Many individuals have a tremendous desire to make a difference, but lack some of the skills that will enable them to be more effective. The courses offered in this program help people learn strategies to manage more money, recruit and manage more capable staff, and work with volunteers to extend the reach of their organization.”

Since January 2009, the Bush School has offered weekend courses in nonprofit management in Houston. The courses are offered at the Community Resource Center in Houston, through a partnership with the United Way of Greater Houston, Management Assistance Program. Candidates are nominated by their United Way program for the program and can receive scholarships to help cover the costs of the certificate program. In addition to the expanded certificates program, this spring the School launched a new nonprofit leadership development program supported by Texas OneStar Foundation. The Foundation, a Texas nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to further voluntarism and community service in the state, provided an $800,000 grant to support this initial program for emerging young leaders.

Twenty-eight young people currently working in nonprofit organizations were competitively chosen by the Foundation to spend the week of May 18-22 at the Bush School learning from faculty and staff experts in nonprofit management as well as from their peers in the program. Their on-campus experience will be enhanced further by a range of online activities over the next six months, including webinars and one-on-one coaching by Bush School faculty and staff. Nearly all their expenses, except travel and to and from College Station, were covered by the OneStar grant.

While focusing on the needs of the broader world of nonprofit, the Bush School has also continued to provide valuable assistance to local organizations. The annual Nonprofit Forum held each spring at the Bush School brings together academic researchers, consultants, industry professionals, and aspiring leaders to create a unique learning opportunity for nonprofit staff and volunteers. This year’s theme, “Strengthening the Capacity of Nonprofit Organizations,” was particularly relevant in a time when all nonprofits are struggling to maintain their support in an uncertain economy. Participants received new information about the nonprofit world and important guidance on how to survive in tough economic times.

Successful Year of Symposia, Forums, and Conferences

Arsenal Foreign Policy Conferences

National Intelligence Council (NIC) Conference — November 17-19, 2008

The 2008 Arsenal Conference featured twenty-four national and regional foreign policy experts discussing a major national intelligence report on global trends. The meeting was sponsored by the National Intelligence Council (NIC) and the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs.

The conference brought together experts from universities, think tanks, and the media to discuss the National Intelligence Council’s forthcoming report, Global Trends 2025. Among the speakers were Lieutenant General John V. Steinbruner, director of the Scowcroft Institute and the Hon. Nat Helms, under secretary for defense intelligence. NIC prodigy ‘intimates’ intelligence—forward-looking assessments of national security issues—for senior U.S. policymakers. Over the past quarter century, the Council has developed into an all-source center for multilateral thinking. Drawing on the best available expertise and outside government, it provides the director of National Intelligence and other U.S. government policymakers with an authoritative voice advising on current international issues as well as a solid foundation for the trends that lie ahead. Policymakers can put questions to the intelligence community via the Council, which also provides a forum for experts in academia and the private sector to broaden the intelligence community’s perspective.

Panelists at the conference included Gideon Rachman, foreign affairs columnist for the Financial Times; Nicholas Dobryshevski of the American Enterprise Institute; Martana Kie, chief economist at CreditPllipes in Houston, as well as scholars from major universities and think tanks across the country.

Cold War Retrospective — January 26, 2009

Hosted by the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs, the 2009 Annual Conference commemorated the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall with a retrospective symposium entitled “The Cold War is History: Twenty Years After the Fall of the Berlin Wall.”

During the day-long meeting at the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center, two experts in the field of the Berlin Wall and what the subsequent changes in the international landscape have meant for the region and nations more deeply involved in the Cold War—the United States, Western Europe, Russia, the former Soviet Republic and Eastern Bloc states, and China.

Among the panelists attending the conference were Charles J. Han, an Emmy Award winner for his documentary on China; Melyn Laffler, winner of the Runston Prize in diplomatic history; James Schooten of Stanford University, formerly president of the American Historical Association; and William Taubman, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian from Amherst College.

The end result of the conference will be a book on the fall of the Berlin Wall, edited by the Scowcroft Institute’s Jeffrey A. Engel, to be published by Oxford University Press.

In addition to the Scowcroft Institute, the conference was supported by the University’s Miller Center for Global Studies and the European Union Center of Excellence, the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation, and Oxford University Press.

2nd Annual Nonprofit Spring Forum – April 7, 2009

This year’s theme was “Strengthening the Capacity of Nonprofit Organizations,” was particularly relevant in a time when all nonprofits are struggling to maintain their support in an uncertain economy. Participants received new information about the nonprofit world and important guidance on how to survive in tough economic times.

Leadership and Government Reform Conference – June 24, 2009

Co-sponsored by the Bush School, the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs, and the U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute, this one-day conference on leadership and government reform was held at the University of California at Washington, D.C. Center. Speaker included a diverse mix of scholars from national security and abroad, as well as representatives of such organizations as the Council on Foreign Relations, Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, Benaron Crocker, interning dean of the Bush School, opened the conference and hosted a reception following the day’s event.

Conference topics included leader development in public affairs and the relationship between leadership, national security, and “whole of government” reforms. Leading the discussions were Dr. Joseph Grotan and Dr. Jeffrey A. Engel of the Bush School.

During the 2008–2009 academic year, the Bush School organized or co-hosted several important conferences, symposiums, and forums.

Successful Year of Symposia, Forums, and Conferences
THE BUSH SCHOOL RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS FOR 2008-2009

Books

Book Chapters

Journal Articles

Book Chapters

Journal Articles
Layen, Christoph. 2009. “How Can Transportation Professionals Incorporate Climate Change in Transportation Decisions?” In Impacts of Climate Change and Variability on Transportation Systems and Infrastructure: Gulf Coast Study, Phase I. United States Climate Change Science Program, 5.1-5.28.

Research Grants & Contracts
Vedlitz, Arnold, Eric Lindquist, and Xiaohong Liu. “Utilization of Science-based Information on Climate Change in Decision Making and the Public Policy Process, Phase 2.” National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, $94,000.
Vedlitz, Arnold. “Public Understanding of Air Quality Issues in Texas, Phase III.” Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, in partnership with the Texas Transportation Institute, $95,500.
We know how important a good education is, and we want to help ensure that Texas A&M and the Bush School will continue their traditions of excellence,” said Moseley.

Since their infancy, the Moseleys have remained active in the Houston community. Sally taught and was an administrator on both public and parochial schools for over 30 years. She is now president of the Charity Guild of Catholic Women, which operates a successful town shop benefiting charitable organizations. The Guild to currently in the midst of a major fundraising campaign to expand on Lesseur Street so it may better serve families and children in Houston. But its not all work; James plays golf regularly, and the Moseleys recently joined the Travelling Aggies on a cruise to Scotland, Norway, and Ireland.

The Moseleys have two children. Susan, a nurse, and Jody, who works with the Border Patrol. “We know how important a good education is, and we want to help ensure that Texas A&M and the Bush School will continue their traditions of excellence,” said Moseley.

International Internships Benefit Students

Providing international experiences is a key element of the Bush School curriculum, whether students are planning a career in international affairs or public service and administration. To that end, the Bush School is committed to providing as many opportunities as possible with a global emphasis, through the academic curriculum, travel, or events and speakers on campus. A key part of that global experience is becoming fluent in a foreign language, often through language immersion programs and summer internships.

Students have shown that the faster way to learn a foreign language is to live or work where English is not the primary language. Because the Bush School’s Masters Program in International Affairs (MPA) program requires fluency in a second language, many students have found immersive language study or working in international internships to be the most helpful in learning a language skill.

The immersion programs last 10 to 12 weeks, the first six to eight weeks of which are spent in language courses. Students then spend a further two to four weeks in the country where the language is spoken.

“Using Chinese every day inside and outside of the classroom really helped me develop my language skills,” said Gregory Strivers, a second-year MPA student who spent his summer doing an immersive language-study in China. “I became comfortable speaking Chinese at a professional level and appreciate how important this experience will be for my career,” he added.

Students who do not have substantial professional experience are required to complete a non-core bearing summer internship, which can also have an international focus. The international internship program places students in work situations where they can interact with non-English speakers, which enables them to use and improve their existing language skills in a professional environment. Since many of these students will work in an international setting after graduation, these international internships prove to be extremely useful and beneficial for future career success. The Bush School has developed connections around the world that make this program possible, so there is a wide range of possible international locations for study and internship. In 2008 and 2009, students had the chance study and work in Europe, South and Central America, the Middle East and the Far East.

Megan Kenney worked as a foreign affairs intern in Rome, and said that the MPSA program had “naturally prepared” her for the internship. “My policy classes prepared me for writing daily briefs and other assignments. Plus I was able to immerse with the G-8 summit and experience hand-on the legational instructions of a presidential visit abroad.”

Matthew Stypura, Director of Student Services at the Bush School says that Kenney’s experience is the kind of international experience students have during these internships.

A primary goal of our internships and immersion program is to give the students practical knowledge of a language and a chance to hone skills that will further enhance their skills and abilities. “We believe that this kind of real world experience helps them begin their careers in an international affairs with greater confidence,” he added. 

Simulations Provide Students Real-World Experience

An important element of the Bush School educational experience is to expose students to real-world scenarios and exercises. Working with, and advised by Bush School faculty and other experts in a range of simulation exercises, students gain valuable hands-on experience in critical thinking, teamwork, and responding to rapidly changing situations. In the past year, the Bush School hosted a number of exercises in several situations, each of which provided unique learning experiences.

Crisis Negotiation Techniques – October 17, 2008 Several teams of Bush School students took part in an international crisis negotiation exercise, which addressed the ongoing, inflamed conflict between the countries of Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed province of Nagorno-Karabakh in the South Caucasus region. The area has been the focus of international attention since the recent conflict between Russia and Georgia over the status of the provinces of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Mr. Ritchie Dion of the U.S. Army War College’s Center for Strategic Leadership (CSL) in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, developed the exercise. He and other simulation and gaming experts from CSLA served as exercise controllers under the CSLA director, Professor Doug Campbell. Dr. Joe Carani and Ms. Lindsey Povlick of the Bush School’s Public Leadership Program directed the exercise.

The student teams represented Armenia, Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh, Iran, Russia, Turkey, and the U.S. Each team negotiated and promoted its national interests in an attempt to resolve the regional crisis. In addition to the Bush School’s Ambassador Larry Napper, students were mentored throughout the exercise by Army Senior Service College Fellows, Army colonels and lieutenant colonels, currently studying for one year with the University of Texas at Austin’s Institute for Advanced Technology.

The exercise exposed students to the complexities of international strategic negotiations, opened them to the challenges and practice regional analysis, negotiation techniques, strategic thinking, and decision-making, all skills that are essential in the arena of international diplomacy.

National Security Simulation – May 2009 A 2009 capstone project simulation focused on another aspect of international affairs. In this scenario, two planes left a Central Asian nation, headed toward the volatile Middle East. Observers concluded that they were carrying irreversible nuclear material that might be en route to Iran, or to a country that sponsors terrorism. The dilemma posed by this series of events to key players in the U.S. was how to react to this crisis and how to interact with the nations involved or potentially impacted.

Ambassador Larry Napper, senior lecturer at the School, led the exercise. Conducted for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) of the Department of Energy, the day-long simulation also involved—for the first time—students and faculty from Texas A&M University’s Department of Nuclear Engineering, and was conducted at the simulation and experimental facility run by the Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES).

“The simulation was designed to assist future policy makers in asking the tough questions at the right time in a real-world situation when the proliferation of nuclear weapons or material is possible,” Napper said. “This simulation was unique in that we not only emphasized the importance of diplomacy and the international decision-making process, but also the impact of technical information on political decision-making which is why the participation from engineering was so important,” he added.

Each fictional country and the U.S were represented by a master team led by a Bush School faculty member. After extensive background research, each student created the simulation and served as controller of the simulation, implementing, and running the scenarios. They also prepared the briefing book used by all participants. Other Bush School and nuclear engineering students were key “players” responding to “smart” new information as the scenario evolved throughout the simulation. At the end of the day, with the crisis safely resolved, each team presented an after-action report to the client and others involved in the simulation.

For more information on the Bush School capstone program, visit the website at http://bush.tamu.edu/research/capstones.
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

The Bush School of Government and Public Service

- More than 38,400 undergraduate students and 9,100 graduate students
- More than 4,100 international students representing 120 countries
- More than $580 million in annual research expenditures
- More than $800 million in campus construction, a record, is under way or in the planning stages
- Nearly 450 new faculty positions have been added since 2003

- $11.1 Million – Current Research grants
- $42.6 Million – Endowments
- $18.3 Million – Student Scholarships and Fellowships
- Ranked 23rd in Public Affairs programs among public universities, U.S. News & World Report
- 15 Endowed Chairs
- 4 Endowed Professorships

- More than $580 million in annual research expenditures
- More than $800 million in campus construction, a record, is under way or in the planning stages
- Nearly 450 new faculty positions have been added since 2003

- $11.1 Million – Current Research grants
- $42.6 Million – Endowments
- $18.3 Million – Student Scholarships and Fellowships
- Ranked 23rd in Public Affairs programs among public universities, U.S. News & World Report
- 15 Endowed Chairs
- 4 Endowed Professorships

http://bush.tamu.edu