GSU Event Proposal – Paper Presentation

What: Presentation of two papers at the International Studies Association Conference (ISA)
Where: Honolulu, Hawaii, United States
When: March 25th - 28th, 2020

Description of the research presented

The International Studies Association (ISA) annual conference is the world biggest international venue with a dedicated Peace Studies section. In 2020, the conference will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, from March 23 to March 30, 2020. The organizers have received a record number of submissions for this edition and have thus rejected a record number of papers. I have been selected to present two papers at the conference: one single-authored and one co-authored.

The single-authored paper studies the long lasting legacies of Guatemala’s civil war on the country’s prospect for democratization. It argues that the incredible autonomy awarded to the military during the civil strife has turned them into powerful obstacles to the construction of a lasting democracy since the end of the civil war in 1996. The paper shows that many of the former military members who have been involved in human rights abuses during Guatemala’s civil war remain in important positions of power today. Some of the former perpetrators got elected to Congress, one of them even became Guatemala’s President. Not only do some of these retired military officers continue to perpetrate human rights abuses, but they use their position of power to prevent any potential attempt at seeking justice and redress in the country. My paper shows that the general climate of impunity in the country is a serious obstacle to democratization in the most vulnerable regions of Guatemala.

The co-authored paper is a bibliometric study of patterns of knowledge production in Peace Studies. It aims at studying whether there exists a North-South divide in Peace Studies scholarship. Power relations rule knowledge production in the social sciences. They determine the content of research programs, the hierarchies in academia, and the definition of what constitutes ‘high-quality research’. Belonging to a high-ranking university, pursuing an innovative research agenda or adopting the cutting-edge methods are critical for the researcher to get access to global scientific conversations. Peace Studies as a field of knowledge production does not escape those dynamics. Faced with this situation, scholars coming from critical theory studies and from developing countries have called for a return to the ‘local’ in Peace Studies. Coined two decades ago, the concept of a ‘local turn’ seeks to integrate subaltern voices into the global scientific conversation about peace. To what extent have these critical concerns and innovations been co-opted rather
than taken seriously as a call to rethink our understandings of inclusion? Does the global academy generally, and Peace Studies in particular, continue to uncritically valorize particular ways of knowing, speaking and writing to the brutal exclusion of alternative epistemologies, voices and perspectives? The paper we present tries to answer these questions.

**How ISA is relevant to my research**

The paper on Guatemala is a preliminary version of my dissertation project, and obtaining early feedback would help me adjust my dissertation plans and proposal. I have planned to meet people who study violence in Guatemala so as to get their comments on my paper, but also so as to discuss my dissertation project. I am part of a network of scholars studying Guatemala, the Guatemala Scholars Network (GSN). It encompasses scholars from anthropology, history, sociology and politics. The GSN is so diverse that it is very rare to find a conference such as ISA, which provides an interdisciplinary space for researchers to present their work. Several researchers from the network are attending the conference. This would be both a great opportunity to make my work known not only in political science but also in other disciplines, as well as get a different kind of feedback from perspectives which are rarely represented at more specialized and discipline-bound conferences.

The co-authored paper in Peace Studies is more advanced. My co-authors and I are looking to send the paper for publication this semester. We have presented it twice last semester, the first time at Kent State in October 2019 for the conference ‘Commemorating Violent Conflicts and Building Sustainable Peace’, and second at the Notre Dame Conference ‘Building Sustainable Peace’ in November 2019. We are presenting the paper at ISA for a last round of comments before sending it for publication.

**Networking Plans**

I am part of a network of female scholars called Women Studying Violence. I participated as a discussant at a workshop we organized at Notre Dame in the fall. ISA will be another opportunity to connect again with some of the women scholars who are part of the network. I am planning to meet with Dr. Sasha Klyachkina and Dr. Lucía Tiscornia.

I have informed the Guatemala Scholars Network that I will be presenting at ISA, and I have planned to meet with some scholars from the network. For instance, I will meet with Dr. Rachel Schwartz, with whom I have planned to discuss both my dissertation project and talk about my summer fieldwork in Guatemala next summer.
Finally, ISA is also going to be an opportunity to keep in touch with some people I have met at other conferences, especially at ISA 2019 including Dr. Kelebogile Zvogbo, Prof. Onur Bakiner, and Dr. Marcos Scauso. I also am looking forward to being introduced to Prof. Monika Nalepa, and Prof. Laia Balcells who both study topics related to my proposed dissertation topic.
### Travel Budget for Joséphine Lechartre

**Conference Dates**: March 25-28th (5 days), plus 2 days travel

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Hello Josephine Lechartre!

Issued: Sep 27, 2019

Your trip confirmation and receipt

Record locator: XMTTGE

You're booked in Basic Economy
Restrictions include:

- Seats assigned at check-in
- Not eligible for upgrades
- No flight changes or refunds
- Board in last group

Basic Economy rules»

Manage Your Trip

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
ORD 10:20 AM → HNL 2:45 PM
Chicago O’hare
Honolulu
American Airlines 75

Seats: --
Class: Economy (B)
Meals: Snack/food For Pur

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Sunday, March 29, 2020

HNL 8:15 PM → DFW 8:30 AM
Honolulu
Dallas/Fort Worth
American Airlines 102

Seats: --
Class: Economy (B)
Meals: Snack/food For Pur

Monday, March 30, 2020

DFW 10:30 AM → ORD 12:59 PM
Dallas/Fort Worth
Chicago O’hare
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Class: Economy (B)
Meals: Food For Purchase

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For travel on or after April 1, 2019, the policy for traveling with Emotional Support and Service animals has changed. Visit Traveling with Service Animals for more information.

Some everyday products, like e-cigarettes and aerosol spray starch, can be dangerous when transported on the aircraft in carry-on and/or checked baggage. Changes in temperature or pressure can cause some items to leak, generate toxic fumes or start a fire. Carriage of prohibited items may result in fines or in certain cases imprisonment. Please ensure there are no forbidden hazardous materials in your baggage like:

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There are special exceptions for small quantities (up to 70 ounces total) of medicinal and toilet articles carried in your luggage, spare lithium batteries for most consumer electronic devices in carry-on baggage, and certain smoking materials carried on your person.

Certain items are required to be carried with you onboard the aircraft. For example, spare lithium batteries for portable electronic devices, cigarette lighters and e-cigarettes must be removed from checked or gate-checked baggage and carried onboard the aircraft. However, e-cigarettes may not be used on-board the aircraft.

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Summary

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Adults: 3

Children: 0

Confirmation code: HNLAMB142670472

Guest details: Becca Méndez

rwilli35@nd.edu

Room: City View Kitchen

Offer: Long Stay, Save More! You Receive 18% Off for 5 Nights or More!

Bed type preference: 2 Double Beds (based on availability)

BILLING INFORMATION

Name: Rebecca A Mendez

Address: 728 Portage Ave #4

South Bend, Indiana

United States

Card on file: Ending in 9106

Room charges: USD 692.90

Occupancy Tax: USD 71.00

Amenity Charge (TAT Tax effective 7/1/19): USD 143.70

State Tax: USD 32.65

Save The Children Donation: USD 5.00

Grand total: USD 945.25

* — Please note that you will be billed in the hotel’s local currency, subject to the current conversion rates of your card provider.
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*All rates are in US Dollars

*Use the OTHER rate if neither the CITY, PLACE, ISLAND, nor MILITARY INSTALLATION is listed.
Dear [redacted],

Thank you for taking the time to apply for Nanovic funding for your project "International Studies Association 2020 Conference - Nanovic Conference Presentation Grant". We deeply appreciate and respect the time and effort put forward in your application. After careful review of all submissions unfortunately, your project was not selected to receive funding during this grant cycle.

We hope you will consider applying to the Nanovic Institute for other opportunities in the future.

Best wishes,
Anna Dolezal
Nanovic Institute for European Studies