

The Dr. Edwin Fedder Annual Lecture in Foreign and International Affairs: Afghanistan Lecture Series

Beginning October 28, 2021



The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and evacuation of tens of thousands of Afghan refugees was the focus of the news cycle for the better part of our summer. While the attention of news cycle may have shifted elsewhere, the consequences of the United States' exit from Afghanistan remain.

Since September 2000, we have honored Dr. Edwin Fedder, the founder of UMSL's Center for International Studies - today known as UMSL Global - with the Dr. Edwin Fedder Annual Lecture in Foreign and International Affairs. These events have provided numerous opportunities for insightful conversations about the role the United States plays on the global stage. This year we will take Afghanistan into focus, as we believe Dr. Fedder would have.

In this spirit - to provide an opportunity for the broader community to engage with experts on international affairs - we are offering a series of presentations about Afghanistan, its history, its people, and its culture, as well as the context of the recent rescue mission of civilians, as many of them arrive in the United States and the St. Louis area.

Our speakers will discuss the challenges and opportunities that have been faced – and those which still lie ahead – not just for the Afghan people, but for local governmental and non-governmental organizations involved with the evacuation and resettlement of Afghan refugees in St. Louis and beyond. UMSL Global is committed to helping our local communities welcome our new neighbors.

We look forward to bringing you this speaker series, and hope you can join us!

October 28, 2021 | 7 p.m. Central

Afghanistan: an Introduction

Tom Gouttierre, Director Emeritus of the Center for Afghanistan Studies, University of Nebraska Omaha



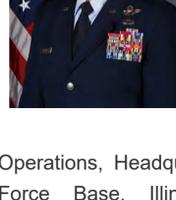
Thomas Gouttierre was the longtime Dean of International Studies & Programs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Director of the Center for Afghanistan Studies, serving from 1974 until his retirement in 2015.

Mr. Gouttierre is widely regarded as one of the leading experts on Afghanistan and U.S.-Afghan relations in the Western Hemisphere, having lived and worked for nearly ten years in Afghanistan, serving as a Peace Corps volunteer, a Fulbright fellow, Executive Director of the Fulbright Foundation, and Head Coach of the Afghan National Basketball Team. He was also seconded by the U.S. State Department to serve as Senior Political Affairs Officer on the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission to Afghanistan in 1996 and 1997. Mr. Gouttierre speaks, reads, and writes Dari, Farsi, and Tajikistani Persian. His publications include numerous articles about Afghanistan society, culture, and politics.

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Children playing in Kabul. Photo by Sohaib Ghyasi on Unsplash



November 8, 2021 | 6 p.m. Central

Afghanistan and the 2021 Evacuation of Civilians by the United States Military

Major General Corey J. Martin, USAF, Director of Operations, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Maj. Gen. Corey J. Martin is the Director of Operations, Headquarters U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. He is responsible for directing and providing associated policy guidance for the all-domain deployment of forces and the distribution of supplies and equipment for wartime, peacetime and humanitarian operations for the Department of Defense, including joint training, exercises and war planning. In addition, he is responsible for force protection for USTRANSCOM and its components and has operational control of the Defense Courier Service and the Joint Operational Support Airlift Center.

Maj. Gen. Martin was commissioned from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering. He is a command pilot with more than 4,200 hours primarily in mobility aircraft including combat airdrop missions over Afghanistan and Iraq. He has served in staff assignments at the major command, sub-unified command and combatant command levels. He has commanded both an in-garrison Operations Support Squadron as well as a deployed squadron for Operation Iraqi Freedom. The general's wing commands include the 60th Air Mobility Wing and the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing for Operation Enduring Freedom. Prior to his current assignment, Maj. Gen. Martin served as the Director of Operations, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill.

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U.S. soldiers, assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, arrive to provide security in support of Operation Allies Refuge at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, August 20, 2021. Senior Airman Taylor Crul/U.S. Air Force/Handout via REUTERS /File Photo

November 16, 2021 | 7 p.m. Central

Resettling the Afghan Diaspora in St. Louis - Challenges and Opportunities

Paul Costigan, Senior Vice President of Operations, International Institute of St. Louis



Paul Costigan has worked at the International Institute of St. Louis since 1999. Currently, he serves as Missouri State Refugee Coordinator in the agency's Missouri Office of Refugee Administration (MO-ORA) which provides oversight to many refugee programs across the state. He is also Senior Vice President of Operations which is responsible for the agency's technology and physical plant. He previously worked as Vice-President of Employment Programs at the Institute.

He received his Master's Degree in 1991 from the University of Notre Dame in German Literature and is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served in Slovakia from 1995-1997.

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Volunteers sort donations at International Institute St. Louis. Photo credit: <https://www.facebook.com/IISTL/>



Host/Moderator, Evie Hemphill

Producer, St. Louis on the Air

St. Louis Public Radio

Evie Hemphill joined the St. Louis on the Air team in February 2018. After earning a bachelor's degree in English literature in 2005, she started her career as a reporter for the Westminster Window in Colorado. Several years later she went on to pursue graduate work in creative writing at the University of Wyoming and moved to St. Louis upon earning an MFA in the spring of 2010. She worked as writer and editor for Washington University Libraries until 2014 and then spent several more years in public relations for the University of Missouri–St. Louis before making the shift to St. Louis Public Radio.