Travel Dates: May 17, 2007-June 25, 2007
Field Visits: Brussels, Belgium; Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; and Pristina, Kosovo

Project Objectives
From May 17, 2007-June 25, 2007 I conducted field research in Europe for the following purposes:

1.) To gather data for a project on EU post-conflict stabilization programs in Bosnia and Kosovo (for the period 2006-2007) by conducting field research in Brussels, Bosnia and Kosovo.
3.) To provide policy advice for the US Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium on topics of security sector reform, rule of law and post-conflict stabilization, including continued consulting regarding transatlantic cooperation in Afghanistan.

Project Description
I spent two months conducting field research (through personal interviews and access to government documents otherwise not available to the public), and I provided consulting services as an academic expert to the US Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium. In Brussels, I conducted field research related to three writing projects focused on A.) EU crisis management capabilities; B.) transatlantic security cooperation in post-conflict stabilization situations (BiH, Kosovo and Afghanistan) and C.) gender and security sector reform initiatives by the EU and NATO.

I met with officials in Brussels from different bodies of the EU, NATO, the U.S. government, EU member state representatives and NGO’s. In Sarajevo, I conducted field research regarding the second term of the EU Police Mission (EUPM-II) and its success in addressing organized crime and facilitating police restructuring. (In 2006, I completed a three year assessment of the first term of EUPM and I am currently collecting data on the second mission). And, for the first time, I visited Pristina, Kosovo in order to initiate a comparative study analyzing EU stabilization operations in BiH and Kosovo, as well as a second study on transatlantic cooperation. I interviewed EU, NATO and UN officials in Pristina, as well as official representatives from embassies.

Project Outcome
The summer research program was extremely successful. Not only did I begin a new project in Kosovo, but I was able to begin two co-authored studies that would have been impossible to conduct without field research. And, I was able to continue policy advising for the US Mission to the EU in order to “bridge the gap” between academia, policymakers and practitioners. Utilizing the data that I conducted this summer, I am currently writing three articles: a co-authored study with a colleague from the EU Police
Mission analyzing police reform in BiH; a co-authored article with a German colleague on the transformation of the military in post-conflict peacebuilding, and a single authored article (for ISA 2008) presenting a comparative analysis of EU strategies in BiH and Kosovo. In short, I anticipate that I will have three publications as a result of my summer research in 2007.

Although I intended to travel to London, Paris and Berlin to investigate national administration policies on the three research projects, I was unable to do so due to insufficient funding. In order to advance future projects, I will need to visit Paris, Berlin and London in 2008, especially since there are new governments in power in all three capitals of the “EU-3” (France, Germany, and the United Kingdom).

My research agenda of “multi-level foreign policy governance” requires yearly visits to Brussels, national capitals and the field; this type of field research is a significant enabling component for carrying out theoretically innovative (and policy relevant) work. Policies and programs that are designed in both Brussels and the national capitals require meetings with the appropriate policymakers; and, if one intends to evaluate “impact”, it is necessary to visit the field, where policies are implemented by practitioners. This also means that the work is both time intensive and labor intensive – and expensive! Yearly visits are necessary for longitudinal studies, especially in the field where policies and programs are at different stages of implementation and where policy itself is fluid and dynamic.

In the case of Kosovo, the summer research grant made it possible for me to be on the ground at a politically sensitive moment of great significance. Just last week I was asked to give a briefing in Brussels comparing the lessons I’ve identified from BiH in light of current planning for Kosovo. Last month, I spoke at a conference in Sarajevo on the reasons why police restructuring has stalled in BiH. Next month, I will speak at another conference regarding EU crisis management policies. I am currently revising course lectures to include field research from the summer and I already have incorporated some of the material in a new course that I am teaching at the University of Sarajevo. In April, 2008, I will provide a “Westmont Downtown” lecture for the wider Santa Barbara community. None of these conference presentations, my publication of three articles, nor my course revisions, would be possible without the ability to conduct field research. I am indebted to the Professional Development Committee for supporting my work and enabling me to professionally flourish.

With thanks!