

**MARY THOMPSON-JONES, Ed.D.**  
Chair of Women in National Security and Diplomatic Studies

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National Security Affairs  
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## **PROFILE**

Career diplomat, university professor, consultant, and published author on U.S. foreign policy and public diplomacy. Served in leadership roles at U.S. embassies and consulates in Spain, Canada, Guatemala, and the Czech Republic and oversaw two visits by President Obama. Use practitioner expertise to teach national security affairs in a master's degree program for active duty military officers and senior government officials. Launched a full-scale curriculum revision for Northeastern University's master's program in Global Studies and International Relations and grew the program from 90 to more than 500 students.

## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Publications**

Author of *To the Secretary: Leaked Embassy Cables and America's Foreign Policy Disconnect* W.W. Norton, 2016, and several op-eds and commentaries on foreign policy topics.

### **Foreign Policy and Diplomacy**

As Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Prague, spearheaded embassy outreach with parliamentarians and media for U.S. missile defense negotiations that resulted in two signed agreements between the U.S. and Czech Republic; managed the Czech Republic's entry into the U.S. visa waiver system; directed embassy support for two visits from President Obama to Prague and organized two major international conferences.

### **Higher Education**

As professor and sub-course director for policy analysis at the U.S. Naval War College, revised curriculum to include four new sessions. In prior position at Northeastern University, revised the curriculum and grew the master's program from 90 to more than 500 students in four years. Hired practitioner faculty, created outreach events showcasing major thought leaders, designed courses, taught extensively and became the public face of the program.

### **Consulting**

Serves as a Technical Advisor at the Joint Readiness Task Force in Fort Polk, Louisiana. Replicates the duties and responsibilities of a Consul General and/or Public Affairs Officer,

mentors members of the rotational training unit, establishes and executes normal consular operations in coordination with the Brigade Combat Team in complex scenarios highlighting civil-military relations in contested regions.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **2017-Present**

**Professor of the Practice, U.S. Naval War College**

**National Security Affairs Department**

Women in National Security and Diplomatic Studies Chair

#### **Teaching Assignments:**

Theater Security Decision Making

National Security Decision Making

“Imagining the Arctic” Elective Course

#### **Service:**

Subcourse Director, Policy Analysis

Faculty Handbook Committee

Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee

### **2013-2017**

**Professor of the Practice, Northeastern University**

**College of Professional Studies**

Directed the master’s program in Global Studies and International Relations delivering a curriculum in both online and in traditional classroom format. Taught several foundational courses and electives; hired and evaluated faculty; revised the curriculum. Named Professor of the Practice in July 2014; nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2014 and 2015.

#### **Principal Teaching Assignments**

GST 6100 Global Politics and Economics

GST 6290 Case Study

GST 6300 Terrorism and Security

GST 6550 U.S. Foreign Policy

GST 6590 Public Diplomacy

GST 6600 The Practice of Diplomacy

INT 6900 International Field Study Experience

#### **Non-teaching and Administrative Assignments**

Interim Director, Doctor of Law and Policy program, Nov. 2016-Feb. 2017

Interim Director, Doctor of Law and Policy program, 2014-2016

Faculty Academic Council, Parliamentarian 2014-2016

Co-Chair, Faculty Promotion and Review Committee, 2015-present

Search Committee Chair, Doctor of Law and Policy Director, 2015

Doctoral Thesis Adviser, 2016-present:

“Advancing a Foreign Policy Agenda: Political Leadership and the National Security Strategy”

**2011-2012****Dean, International Graduate Programs, Endicott College**

Advised the vice president on international program viability, co-chaired the college's International Committee, served on the Advanced Graduate Committee, oversaw all overseas graduate programs, and taught International Relations, U.S. Foreign Policy, and The New Europe for undergraduates and the History of U.S. Higher Education in the Doctoral program.

**2010-2011****Diplomat in Residence**

Senior diplomat representing the State Department to academia, think tanks, and civic groups across New England. Advised hundreds of students on internships and careers in the Foreign Service, and served as frequent guest lecturer, panelist, and conference speaker on diplomacy.

**2009-2010****Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy Prague**

- Promoted to the rank of Minister-Counselor for leading the U.S. Embassy through the Czech Presidency of the European Union.
- Hosted two visits from President Obama which featured a major speech on nonproliferation and the signing of the new START accords with Russia.
- Hosted Vice President Biden on a visit themed around the new architecture for missile defense.
- Advanced Westinghouse's bid on a \$29 billion tender for a nuclear energy facility.
- Organized Embassy support and served on the U.S. delegation of a 46-nation Holocaust Assets conference which led to the creation of the Shoah Institute at Terezin and an accord on the return of stolen assets.
- Organized a multinational conference aimed at increasing media coverage of provincial reconstruction teams in Afghanistan.

**2007-2009****Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy Prague**

Led a staff of 260 American and local hires reporting directly to the Ambassador. Crafted strategic communication plans to gain Czech support for U.S. foreign policy goals in Iraq, Afghanistan, and NATO and raise visibility on trade, commerce, defense, and visa issues. Negotiated an agreement with the Czech government establishing a legal basis for the International School of Prague and served on its board. Supervised agency heads from Department of Defense, FBI, CIA, Foreign Commercial Service, Foreign Agricultural Service and the Office of Naval Research.

**2005-2007****Branch Chief, Educational Information and Resources, U.S. Department of State**

Led the State Department's *EducationUSA* network of 450 advisers in 170 countries, managing a budget of \$10 million and a Washington and overseas staff of 16. Oversaw rapid growth of the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship Program, the largest federally-funded scholarship program for undergraduate study abroad. Drafted the concept paper and traveled with 12 university presidents to Korea, Japan, and China with Education Secretary Margaret Spellings.

**2002-2005****Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy Guatemala**

Directed a 12-member team handling educational and cultural exchanges. Devised media strategies to advance U.S. policy initiatives on trade, human rights, women's issues and democracy. Implemented a 15-minute weekly radio show which aired on 38 rural affiliates; organized and found funding for a hemisphere-wide binational centers conference which brought together 850 English teachers, 200 regional librarians, and binational directors from 19 countries.

**2000 -2002****Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Consulate, Montreal, Canada**

Responsible for all public affairs programs in five Eastern Canadian provinces and all economic reporting for the Montreal Consular region. Wrote dozens of analytical cables on border security, the softwood lumber industry, Quebec's hydroelectric industry and biotechnology sector. Coordinated White House press support for the Quebec City Summit of the Americas; served as Acting Consul General in Halifax, Nova Scotia and resolved relocation problems.

**1997-2000****Cultural Coordinator for Latin America**

Served as liaison between the public diplomacy offices in 26 U.S. embassies in Latin America and the State Department divisions that provided resources. Reviewed grant proposals from the embassies and ensured smooth flow of resources for programs on democracy, civic education, and women's issues; briefed the U.S. Southern Command in Miami on regional public diplomacy topics; provided media support for President Clinton's visit to Santiago, Chile.

**1997****Press Attaché and Senior Press Officer****U.S. Embassy Sarajevo and U.S. Department of State**

Briefed international press and drafted media strategy portion of White House's Bosnia policy review document on implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords. Wrote speeches for the Chargé d'Affaires; built relations with Bosnian parliamentarians and organized their U.S. trip.

**1992-1996****Press Attaché, U.S. Embassy Prague**

Hired, trained, and directed the Embassy's first post-communist press section. Served as Embassy spokesperson, supported media requirements for visiting U.S. delegations including President Clinton, Secretaries of State, Defense, Energy, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Director of the FBI. Led the first-ever group of Czech journalists to NATO; resulting in positive coverage of Czech entry into NATO.

**1989-1992****Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy Madrid, Spain**

Responsible for all non-academic exchange programs in Spain, serving 125 participants annually in one of the largest U.S. Embassy international visitor programs in the world. Increased the number of exchange participants by 20 percent through tighter management practices. Supported the White House filing room for reporters at the Madrid Peace Conference; drafted a report on changes in Spanish higher education, identifying opportunities for U.S. university partnerships.

## **1980-1986**

### **Editorial Writer**

Wrote editorials for several Los Angeles-area newspapers including the Burbank Daily Review, Glendale News-Press, Santa Monica Evening Outlook, and the Los Angeles Daily News. From 1986-1988, wrote editorials and op-eds for the Providence Journal Bulletin in Rhode Island.

## **EDUCATION**

University of Pennsylvania  
Ed.D. Higher Education Management

Tufts University  
The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy  
Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy

California State University, Northridge  
Bachelor of Arts, Journalism and Political Science

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2010: Promoted to the rank of Minister-Counselor for work at Embassy Prague  
2010: Superior Honor Award for outstanding leadership as Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy Prague  
2005: Meritorious Honor Award for superior public diplomacy work, Embassy Guatemala  
2002: Meritorious Honor Award for Summit of the Americas press advance work, Quebec  
1999: Sustained Superior Performance Award for planning and coordination work, WHA Bureau  
1997: Superior Group Honor Award for producing U.S. government report on “Nazi Gold.”  
1994: Meritorious Honor Award for work as Press Attaché, Embassy Prague  
1988: The Edmund A. Gullion Prize, The Fletcher School  
1987: The Robert B. Stewart Prize, The Fletcher School

## **PUBLICATIONS**

“NATO’s Arctic Exercise is Good Start to Stand Up to Russian Militarization of High North”  
*The National Interest*, Nov. 6, 2018

“A Czech Arctic Strategy? No Longer a Crazy Idea”  
Institute of International Relations, Prague, Oct. 29, 2018

“Icebreaking Ships are Not America’s Top Priority in the Arctic,”  
The Hill, June 20, 2018

“Why America Should Lose Sleep Over Greenland – Think China”  
*The National Interest*, April 18, 2018

“How Warriors Can Study Their Craft from the Stage”  
*The National Interest*, April 1, 2018

“Republicans Are Better Than This”  
*Investor’s Business Daily*, July 19, 2016

“Lessons From Three Diplomats”  
Boston.com Global Business Hub, November 2014

“World Bank Needs Global Grads”  
Boston.com Global Business Hub, May 2013

### **MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

April 12, 2019, NPR, “All Things Considered,” interview by Michele Keleman  
“Former Diplomats Reflect on Impact of WikiLeaks Release of Diplomatic Cables”

March 7, 2019 PRI “The World” interview by Marco Werman  
“Czech-U.S. Relations”

### **SELECTED SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS**

“Arctic Security Panel” (Panel presentation on NATO in the Arctic)  
USNWC 17<sup>th</sup> Regional Alumni Symposium, April 10, 2019

“Global Perspectives on Defense Policy Challenges”  
10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium Czech Foreign Policy, Sept. 19, 2018

“Global Perspectives on Current U.S. Foreign Policy”  
10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium Czech Foreign Policy, Sept. 19, 2018

“Diplomacy in the Trump Era”  
University of Rhode Island, Intl. Studies and Diplomacy Program, Sept. 13, 2018

“The State of U.S. Diplomacy”  
Occidental College, Los Angeles, McKinnon Center for Global Studies, March 29, 2018

“The Importance of Dissent in Diplomacy,”  
University of Rhode Island, graduate program in International Relations, April 25, 2018  
Invited Presentation was part of the “Statecraft” seminar)

“The Future of U.S. Diplomacy”  
George Kostas Research Center for Homeland Security, Northeastern University, April 28, 2018

“The Role of the Foreign Service in the Trump Era”  
Portsmouth Public Library, New Hampshire Council on Foreign Relations, June 2017

“Wanted: A New Generation of Diplomats”  
Model United Nations Northwest; Keynote Speaker, Portland, Oregon, Feb. 2017

“What Leaked Cables Reveal About Public Diplomacy”  
USC Center on Public Diplomacy, Jan. 2017

“To the Secretary: Post-election Diplomacy”  
World Boston, Dec. 2016

“To the Secretary: Foreign Policy in an Election Season”  
St. Louis World Affairs Council, Nov. 2016

“To The Secretary: Book Talk”  
DACOR (Diplomatic and Consular Officers Retired) Washington, D.C. Nov. 2016

“To the Secretary: What the Leaked Cables Say About Foreign Policy”  
Olympia World Affairs Council, Oct. 2016

“To the Secretary: What the Leaked Cables Say About Foreign Policy”  
Seattle World Affairs Council, Oct. 2016

“To the Secretary: Foreign Policy in an Election Season”  
Wichita Committee on Foreign Relations, Oct. 2016

“How I Wrote the Book: Researching the Leaked Cables”  
Endicott College, Narrative Studies Colloquium, Sept. 2016

C-Span Interview with Paula Dobriansky on the book, *To the Secretary*  
October, 2016

“Igniting Change through Communication – Stifling Change Through Miscommunication”  
Stanford University, Graduate School of Business, May 2016

What We’ve Learned from WikiLeaks,”  
Fletcher Diplomatic Roundtable, November 2015

“Getting Foreigners to Like Us  
Northeastern University CPS Annual Conference, October 2015

“Honoring Commonwealth Diplomats”  
Massachusetts Statehouse event with media, May 2014

“Online and Over There: Innovations in Study Abroad from Online Learners”

UPCEA Regional Conference, October 2013

“The Rewards of Public Service”

Keynote speaker at Brandeis University, October 2010

“Encouraging international student mobility in Europe”

Keynote Speaker, *EducationUSA* European Conference, March 2010

Commencement Speaker

University of Pittsburg Business School in Prague, March 2010

“Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan: What’s Next?”

Concluding Remarks, International Conference on Afghanistan, Prague, January 2010

“July 4<sup>th</sup> Address on U.S. - Czech Relations”

American Embassy Prague, Czech Republic, July 2009

“U.S. Relations with the Czech Republic in an Era of Multilateral Diplomacy”

Community Colleges for International Development, Prague, July 2008

“Bologna and Other Challenges: Recruiting the European Student”

European Regional Conference for Educational Advisors, Lisbon, March 2007

“What the State Department is Doing to Attract International Students to U.S. Campuses”

EducationUSA, Latin American Regional Conference, Rio de Janeiro, September, 2006

“Welcoming International Students to Your Campuses”

Commencement Speech for Academy for International Educators, NAFSA, May 2006

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Council on Learned Societies, Title XIII Consultant

Boston Committee on Foreign Affairs

Public Diplomacy Advisory Council

Public Diplomacy Alumni Association

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish, Czech, and French