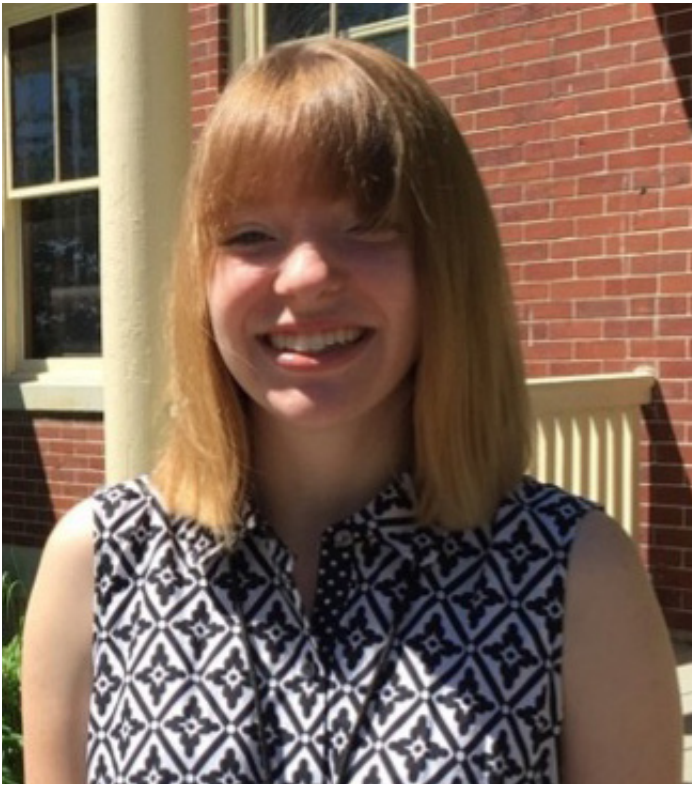


# Note from the Davis Fellow

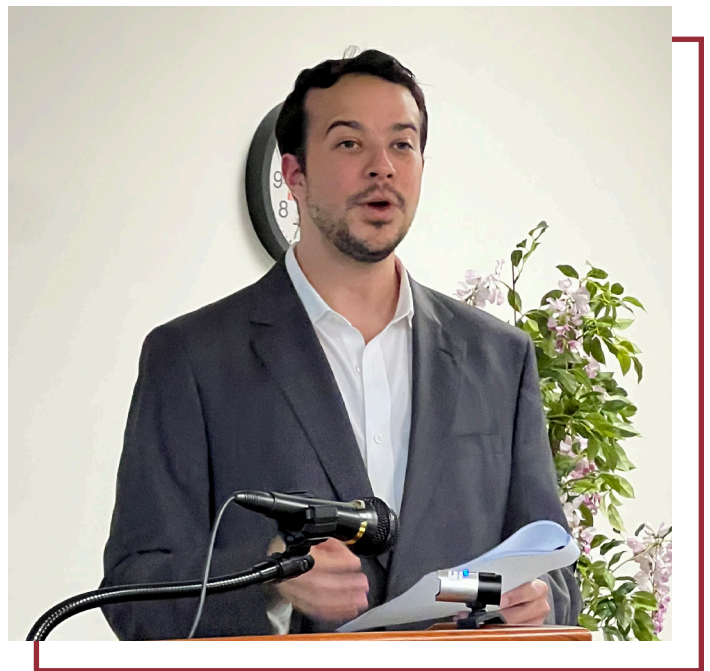


By Grace Anne Parker

I'm honored to serve as the Davis Fellow for the 2024-2025 year at the Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy (CENFAD) at Temple University. Over the years, I've had the privilege of attending CENFAD talks and receiving generous support to attend conferences across the United States. When the opportunity to become more involved with the Center through the Davis Fellowship arose, I was thrilled to apply. This position offers a unique perspective—distinct from teaching—and provides a fantastic opportunity to connect with scholars from universities across the country and around the world.

As part of my fellowship, I help manage logistics, update the website, attend all of CENFAD's talks and dinners, and oversee the publication of *Strategic Visions*. I'd

like to express my gratitude to Aaron Gell, Dr. Geoffrey Levin, Dr. Lila Berman, Dr. Mateo Jarquín, Dr. Florian Wagner, Dr. Drew McKevitt, Dr. Nikolas K. Gvosdev, and Dr. Barbara Savage for sharing their fascinating research with us this semester. It has been an incredible privilege to hear from these scholars and engage with them at the dinners following their well-attended talks. We are excited to welcome another outstanding lineup of scholars in the spring.



*Dr. Mateo Jarquín gives his CENFAD talk*

In this edition of *Strategic Visions*, we are pleased to feature two thought-provoking interviews, each offering in-depth insights into critical contemporary issues. The first is with Aaron Gell, a thoughtful reporter for *The New Republic*, whose nuanced perspective on the campus responses to the situation in Gaza bring a rare depth to our understanding of this complex conflict. His interview provides not only timely analysis but also a deeper

exploration of the geopolitical dynamics at play.

The second interview is with Dr. Nikolas K. Gvosdev, a distinguished expert in international relations, who offers a fascinating analysis of what foreign policy under a second term of President-elect Donald Trump might look like. He visited Temple prior to the election and our conversation took place a couple weeks after the election to break down the aftermath. Dr. Gvosdev's nuanced and informed perspective sheds light on potential shifts in American foreign policy and provides readers with a well-rounded look at the challenges and opportunities the U.S. may face in the years ahead.

We're also proud to feature several excellent pieces by our graduate students, who've been able to conduct archival research in part with the support of CENFAD. One of our graduate students, for instance, has written an in-depth and thought-provoking review of Kathleen Murphy's *Captivity's Collections: Science, Natural History, and the British Transatlantic Slave Trade* (2023).

Additionally, I'm excited to highlight Sofia Valdes's methodology piece, in which she details the research behind her award-winning paper, "Violent Reverberations of the American War on Drugs in Latin America: A Comprehensive Policy Analysis." Sofia was honored with CENFAD's 2024 Edwin H. Sherman Prize for Undergraduate Scholarship in Force and Diplomacy for this work, which exemplifies the critical thinking and academic excellence that our community fosters.

It has been a true joy working with CENFAD this semester, and I look forward to another exciting spring of engaging scholarship and collaboration. As always, please remember to share your news with CENFAD so we can celebrate the accomplishments of our incredible faculty and graduate students here at Temple.

Sincerely,  
Grace Anne Parker