

## BIOGRAPHIC STATEMENTS OF THE 2010 DOCTOR OF LIBERAL STUDIES CANDIDATES

**Kevin Clark** is a teacher on the faculty at The Geneva School of Winter Park, Florida. He holds degrees in philosophy from the University of Central Florida and theology from the Reformed Theological Seminary. As an educator in a classical school he has the opportunity of interacting with the curriculum in a highly interdisciplinary environment, teaching such courses as *aesthetics*, *rhetoric*, *Christian theology*, and the *history of Western philosophy*.

His area of focus for the DLS degree is the problem of faith and learning in the Christian humanist tradition. He is particularly concerned to see how this tradition has in the past provided a framework for holding a unified moral and intellectual vision for God, the world, and the self, and to discover how it may yet provide such a comprehensive view for our own time.

In addition to his work as a teacher, Kevin is a fellow of the Classical School Foundation, a member of the Society for Classical Learning, and serves on The Geneva School's academic council. He lives with his wife and three children near Orlando, Florida.

**Nida Davis** is the Chief Technology Architect officer for the Banking Supervision and Regulation (BS&R) function at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors. Previously, she served as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the American Red Cross where she led the organization technology strategy and managed the enterprise architecture and standards program. Prior to joining the Red Cross, she served as the Chief Architect and Assistant Vice President of the enterprise architecture program at the Federal Reserve Information Technology organization. Nida was recognized for her IT leadership as an award recipient of Computer World magazine's 2006 Premier 100 IT Leaders.

Over the span of her career, she held a number of management and technology leadership positions at AT&T in the areas of telecommunication billing, network usage records' processing and networking technologies as well as posts at start-ups focused upon student loans processing. Nida received her bachelor of science in Chemical Engineering from Jordan University (1990), a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the American University in Cairo (1994), a Masters of Arts in Leadership from Bellevue University, Nebraska (2004) and recently graduated from the ABA Stonier graduate school of banking (2009).

Her research interests, related to her present career in banking, will look at the historical, regulatory, religious, cultural, and ethical facets of Islamic banking and finance and the national and global implications of this rapidly emerging form of banking.

**Keith Diener** is an adjunct professor/international teaching fellow at George Washington University and maintains a lively litigation practice. He attained his LL.M. in international and comparative law from George Washington University, his J.D. and M.A. in philosophy from Georgia State University, and his B.A. in philosophy and religion from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. He also studied for three semesters at the University of Hull, United Kingdom and the Johannes Kepler Universitat of Linz, Austria and, pursuant to these studies, travelled to over two dozen countries. He has researched, published, and won the Clive M. Schmitthoff writing award for his many articles on the intersection of law and ethics, and aspires to develop this research particularly in the international context in his DLS thesis, and further, to develop his teaching methodology via Georgetown's apprenticeship in teaching program. Keith is happily married, residing with his wife and mini-schnauzer in Mt. Vernon, Virginia.

**Jennifer Dreyfus** has worked in health care administration for over twenty years, including senior management experience in both hospitals and health insurance organizations. For ten years, I have been the Principal of Competitive Health Strategies, LLC - a consulting firm specializing in the interface between health care providers and payers, particularly in the areas of contracting, negotiation, financial analysis, regulations, value based purchasing and practice development. I work with a wide variety of providers, including hospitals, academic medical centers, freestanding surgery centers, physician associations and large physician groups.

I have an M.B.A from The Wharton School and a B.A. in Medical Ethics from Tufts University. I am a Fellow of the Health Care Financial Management Association.

For the past five years, I've become increasingly interested in how our society will incorporate our growing knowledge of genetics. Fascinating questions arise when looking at how genetic knowledge will impact the workplace, religious institutions, health care providers and other societal institutions. Exploring the impact of this knowledge brings together the disciplines of philosophy, sociology, science, business, law and many others. Instead of focusing on the potential for misusing genetic information for such terrifying tools as bio-warfare, I would like to use the DLS opportunity to look more deeply into how our exponentially increasing genetic knowledge impacts society and each of us in our day-to-day existence and on the appropriate ways to incorporate this knowledge into our lives.

**Greg Kaufmann** concluded a 30-year career in 2005 as a Colonel in Army Aviation assigned as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Military Committee, NATO. Other assignments included Director (1999-2001) and Chief of Staff/Deputy Director (1997-99) of the Balkans Task Force, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Commander, 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment (Corps)(Airborne), XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, NC; and Assistant Professor of English, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY. Post-Army positions include Founding Director of the Institute for Global Security Studies at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN, and member of the Board of Advisors of the Tennessee Homeland Security Consortium, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN. He currently works in Headquarters, Department of the Army, Multinational Strategy and Programs. He is a Fellow of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University (in residence 2001-2002). He is also a Senior Fellow of the Homeland Security Management Institute at Long Island University and an MIT Seminar XXI Alumni Fellow. Greg is a Distinguished Graduate of the M.S. program in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), National Defense University and holds the A.M. in English from the University of Pennsylvania and the B.A. *cum laude* in English and Communication Studies from Niagara University, NY. Greg intends to argue the value of a liberal arts undergraduate education as the appropriate precommissioning education for military officer candidates.

A native of Endicott, New York, **Kristina Knight** graduated from Binghamton University with a Bachelor of Arts in History, where her honors thesis investigated "Patriotism, Parades, and Paternalism: How the Endicott-Johnson Corporation Controlled the Lives of Women in Johnson City and Endicott, New York 1945-1965." Ms. Knight also graduated from Johns Hopkins University with an Masters of Arts in American Government, where she studied the government response to company towns harmed by globalization. Ms. Knight serves as Director of Government Relations at Capitol Hill Consulting Group in Washington, DC, and has worked in the House of Representatives and at Johns Hopkins University's Center on Politics and Foreign Relations. Her doctoral studies will focus on welfare capitalism and twentieth century workplace ethics.

**Feza Koprucu** is the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Chair at National Defense University. As a faculty member at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, he teaches in the Energy industry seminar group which examines different components of the energy industry through independent research and travel to domestic and international sites. He is also the Deputy Chair, Department of National Security Studies and leads the colleges Language and Culture program. A graduate of the US Naval Academy, Mr. Koprucu is a retired Navy Commander and qualified as a naval nuclear engineer. He has served onboard various Navy ships in the Middle East, Mediterranean and Western Pacific areas of operation and visited over 47 countries. He commanded Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Washington DC and was Chief Information Officer for the Naval District of Washington. After September 11, 2001 he was a founding member of the Navy Headquarters first “think tank” (DEEP BLUE) responsible for strategic operational planning. He joined DHS shortly after its inception and his experience encompasses the areas of Emergency Preparedness, Infrastructure Protection, Information Technology and Cybersecurity. His doctoral research will focus on societal changes related to energy innovation and environmental protection, and explore the incorporation of cultural and humanistic considerations.

**Shannon Kula** has spent over ten years in the United States Senate and is currently the Deputy Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski. In this role, Shannon serves the senator as one of her senior advisors working collaboratively with federal, state and local government agencies. She received her BA in political science and BA in psychology from the University of Rochester. While obtaining her Master of Professional Studies degree in Public Relations and Communications from Georgetown University, Shannon had the opportunity to work as a consultant for non-profit organizations Catalogue for Philanthropy Greater Washington and Global Action for Children.

Shannon is an active duty military spouse who volunteers with fellow Marine Corps families as well as the USO. With over a decade on the Hill, her doctoral research will draw upon her professional, personal and academic experiences to pursue a current-day exploration of key leadership characteristics unique to America's women in politics as well as the role of their individual values and personal experiences on public policy decisions. The purpose of this study will hopefully broaden the ethical-political discourse, help identify unique strengths and challenges of female legislators and pinpoint areas in which our country can politically, socially, and academically help prepare future women leaders in these unprecedented times.

**Ellen McLaughlin** graduated from Georgetown University's School of Nursing and Health Studies earning a BS in Nursing and MS in Health Care Administration. Upon completion of her MS in Health Care Administration in 1985, Ellen served as Associate Administrator for Research, Teaching, and Academic Affairs for Georgetown's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Subsequently, she joined the Institute for Reproductive Health at Georgetown University Medical Center (GUMC), a cooperative agreement with the US Agency for International Development, as an Administrator. She founded McLaughlin Associates in 1996, where she served as President and CEO, providing consulting services to clients such as the American College of Radiology, Elsevier, and Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Ellen joined Georgetown Lombardi's Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2005 as Program Manager for Lombardi's Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) program and holds the title of Deputy Associate Director for Administration and Planning at Georgetown's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.

In the DLS Program, Ellen plans to focus on interdisciplinary components of bioethics and their relationship to and impact on basic and clinical research. She hopes to become a clinical bioethicist, ultimately serving as a resource and liaison in transdisciplinary health care in the realm of systems medicine and other oncology-related initiatives.

**Sean S. Miller** grew up on a 100 acre farm in upstate New York. Since that time, he has become the Director of Education at Earth Day Network and presently oversees their education programs and policies for students, teachers, and a network of over 25,000 educators interested in environmental issues. Prior to joining Earth Day Network, he taught with the Center for Teaching Peace in D.C. schools, where he is a licensed teacher. Sean received his BA in both Psychology and Philosophy from The College of William and Mary, and earned two Masters Degrees in International Peace and Conflict Resolution (MA) and Education (Secondary Social Studies concentration, MAT) from American University. He was also a national fellow with the *TogetherGreen* Conservation Leadership program at the National Audubon Society and has been featured in publications worldwide discussing education and sustainability. In the DLS program, Sean seeks to further explore the unique relationship between the humanities, the natural world, and their combined influence on the educational process in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Jennifer Phillips** is a Captain in the United States Air Force. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Mississippi State University, where she was selected as both a Senator John C. Stennis Scholar in Political Science and a Harry S. Truman Scholar in Public Service. She completed her Masters in Business Administration from Touro University in 2008. Prior to joining the Air Force, she served as a Commissioner of Elections for the Municipality of Starkville, MS. Since 2004, Ms. Phillips has worked as an Intelligence Officer in various capacities for U.S. Central Command and Air Force Special Operations Command in Qatar, Iraq, Afghanistan, South America, and Africa, including her most recent deployment coordinating efforts targeting Al Qaeda and foreign fighters entering Iraq and Afghanistan. She is currently the Operations Officer for the Electromagnetic-Space Analysis Center, supporting Electronic Warfare intelligence requirements worldwide across the Department of Defense. Ms. Phillips has co-authored two articles addressing regional and domestic determinants affecting military spending in developing countries and the Third World; additionally, her work with the Air Force has entailed extensive research and analysis of terrorist and third party actor decision making, course of action development, and threat mitigation. Ms. Phillips's thesis will focus on the impact of Arab cognitive development in selected Middle Eastern countries, accounting for the influence of religion, environment, culture, and society, on how the "Arab Street" and decision makers view those activities that are labeled in the West as terrorism and thus approach their own counterterrorism policies.

**Cyd Slayton** served as a board of governor for the Human Rights Campaign from 2005-2009 and co-chair of HRC's southern region. In 2008 she was awarded the HRC national service award for state legislative work.

Cyd's doctoral dissertation will focus on international human rights --political, civil, and cultural-- including those of immigrants and refugees. The role of NGOs and public-private partnerships is part of her study.

She received a bachelor in journalism from the University of Missouri – Columbia and an MFA in documentary and film studies and production from the University of California at Los Angeles. For more than 25 years she was a consultant and director in corporate communications for Fortune 500 companies. Her work included contributions to internal campaigns on ethics and values, reputation management and branding, including the "Turning Wall Street into All Street" campaign that won the national silver award of the Public Relations Society of America.

Cyd has produced more than 200 video productions, including two biographies narrated by Walter Cronkite. She plans to continue her writing and documentary work, focusing on human rights and related cultural and educational programs.