

National Security Innovation Student Teams

Key Global Influencers and Measures of Effectiveness Challenge

Team Leader: Michael Ellis, mellis8@nd.edu

Teaching Team Advisor: Amanda Leary, aleary@nd.edu



Allison Doctor is a rising senior at the University of Notre Dame studying Spanish and Global Affairs with a concentration in International Peace Studies and a certificate in the Globally Engaged Citizens Program. As a South Bend native, Allison has grown up experiencing the vibrant community Notre Dame has to offer. Her academic interests include conflict transformation, the impact of conflict on identity formation, ethno-historic narratives, digital peacebuilding and peacetech, and seventeenth century Spanish literature. Within her academic work, Allison's regional peacebuilding and security interests lie in Latin America and the Balkans. Additionally, she is passionate about human rights and immigration which has led her to volunteer with La Casa de Amistad's Citizenship classes and pursue law school upon graduation. On campus, Allison is involved with Student Government and Notre Dame Dance Company, and she enjoys performing locally as a dancer with Patchwork Dance Company.



Michael Ellis is currently an undergraduate student studying finance and innovation at the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza college of business. Prior to pursuing his degree, Michael served as an infantry squad leader in the United States Army for 7 years. There he gained valuable experience leading soldiers and working in stressful environments that require timely risk mitigation in order to achieve mission success. Looking ahead, he hopes to use his experience and business education to help solve the problems currently causing setbacks within the National Security space. Outside of school, Michael is interested in building effective non-profit programs, and volunteers for "Service to School" an organization dedicated to helping veterans prepare for the best universities in the country.



National Security Innovation Student Teams



Thomas Skellett is a rising junior at Notre Dame studying Political Science and Philosophy. He has a strong interest in public policy and human rights advocacy. Thomas grew up in Flint, Michigan and there gained a first-hand viewing on how different groups handle issues like the water crisis. Shortly after, in high school, Thomas joined the debate team and developed research skills that have since been used for many projects and papers. On campus, Thomas was a part of Student Government's Policy team for a year, thus continuing these interests in policy for campus-related issues. He recently won a seat as a member of the Kennedy Scholars program in London, which will provide guidance and grant money for senior thesis research. Thomas also has a big interest in sports and works on campus as a supervisor for interhall tournaments and games. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, playing card games, and watching movies.



Henry Visconsi is a rising senior at the University of Notre Dame, majoring in Political Science along with minors in Business Economics and Italian. He's involved in groups such as College Democrats, Bookstore Basketball, and the Alumni Hall community. Some of his academic interests include International Relations, U.S. Politics and National Security, and History among others. He's especially interested in exploring information warfare/disinformation campaigns as they relate to national security. After college Henry is interested in potential career paths like National Security, Politics/Government, and Law. In his spare time Henry enjoys traveling, discovering new/obscure sports, and spending time with his dogs.