POST-SECONDARY ACTIVITIES

Graduate Research Awards for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Research

This programme was initiated in 2003 by The Simons Foundation Canada in partnership with Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (now Global Affairs Canada) to enhance Canadian graduate-level scholarship on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation issues. Since its inception, the Graduate Research Awards programme has provided more than CAD$445,000.00 in scholarships to over 88 Canadian graduate students working on these policy-relevant disarmament issues and has helped to encourage a new generation of young scholars dedicated to further expanding their knowledge and expertise on these critical issues.

Cash awards of CAD$5,000.00 each were issued to 4 graduate students in November 2022 and again in June 2023. The successful applicants also presented their papers at special seminars hosted by Global Affairs Canada in Ottawa.

The Bruce Blair Memorial Fund
Program on Science and Global Security, Princeton University

From 2022-2024, The Simons Foundation Canada has provided Princeton University with grants dedicated to the Bruce Blair Memorial Fund to support research in the Program on Science and Global Security at Princeton University.

The Simons Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security
The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

The Simons Foundation Canada established this Chair in 2014. Among other activities, this Chair supervised the previously established Simons Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Disarmament and Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Delivery Systems and the UBC Simons Student Policy Research Program in Peace and Disarmament. The Simons Foundation Canada also supported the development of the ongoing UBC program in Disarmament, Global and Human Security and the establishment of the Simons Graduate Award in Disarmament, Global and Human Security; the Simons Undergraduate Research Assistantships; and the Simons Visiting Scholars Program.

Simons Award in Nuclear Disarmament and Global Security
The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Since 2019, the Liu Institute for Global Issues in the UBC School of Public Policy and Global Affairs has offered this annual award to UBC students intending to undertake research on topics related to nuclear
disarmament and global security. The award is funded by an endowment provided by The Simons Foundation Canada to advance the understanding of disarmament and arms control issues among UBC students.

Students selected each year will produce a research paper. They are also expected to attend any seminars, workshops and other activities related to nuclear disarmament and global security organized by the Liu Institute for Global Issues or the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs. Upon satisfactory production of the paper, undergraduate and graduate students will receive awards of $1,000 and $1,500 respectively.

Global Zero
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons was a Founding Partner and, until 2023, The Simons Foundation Canada was Principal Sponsor of Global Zero, which combines cutting-edge policy development and direct dialogue with governments with public outreach, including media, online, grassroots and educational initiatives to make the elimination of nuclear weapons an urgent global imperative.

PUBLICATIONS

Disarmament Education in a Dangerous Era: A "Mapping" study of Non-proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament course offerings at Canadian universities
Published January 2024
Prepared for The Simons Foundation Canada by Paul Meyer, Adjunct Professor of International Studies and Fellow in International Security at Simon Fraser University and Alireza Mamdouhi, Ph.D. candidate at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, this study aims to provide a comprehensive compilation of relevant courses offered by Canadian universities, encompassing the NACD domains of nuclear, chemical, biological, and conventional weapons. Additionally, it examined courses addressing military applications in both cyberspace and outer space.

“Military Footprints in the Arctic”
Published March 2024
This report by Ernie Regehr, O.C., Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence at The Simons Foundation Canada, and Kelsey Gallagher, a Researcher with Project Ploughshares, identifies 69 continuously staffed Arctic military sites in the five states with Arctic Ocean coastlines and discusses the challenges of reducing strategic tensions and recovering diplomacy.

Arctic Security Briefing Papers
The Simons Foundation Canada produces and distributes briefing papers on military policies and practices in the Arctic region by Ernie Regehr, O.C., Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence at The Simons Foundation Canada.
Canadian Defence Briefing Papers
The Simons Foundation Canada produces and distributes periodic briefing papers by Ernie Regehr, O.C., Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence, as an ongoing contribution to the further public discussion of Canadian defence policy, including attention to the defence of Canada and North America, Canada’s contributions to international peace and security, and key procurement and program decisions.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)
June 2022
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons participated in the First Meeting of States Parties to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was held in Vienna, Austria on June 21-23, 2022.

“Welcome Remarks on the Occasion of the First Meeting of the States Parties to The Treaty on The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”
June 2022
To mark the occasion and build support for progressive disarmament policies, The Simons Foundation Canada and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) co-convened an evening event on June 20 for all government delegations, expert speakers, parliamentarians, and civil society organizations participating in the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons conference and the First Meeting of States Parties. Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons provided the Welcome Remarks.

“The Post-Ukraine Nuclear Threat Environment” Conference on Defence Associations Institute Metro Expert Series Webinar
October 2022
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons was one of the experts invited to share their views on the war in Ukraine’s impact on the international nonproliferation regime, and implications for future arms control initiatives and negotiations, specifically amongst NATO allies in the Indo-Pacific, as well as the outcomes of the Tenth Review Conference (RevCon) of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

"Future of Global Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Regimes: the NPT and the TPNW"
October 2022
Remarks by Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons at the “Restoring a Strained Global Security Architecture Conference” convened by Canadian Pugwash Group in Waterloo, Canada.

First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
August 2023
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons participated in the 2023 NPT PrepCom held from 31 July to 11 August 2023 in Vienna, Austria.
“Common Security and Nuclear Deterrence: How to replace the current reliance on nuclear weapons with sustainable security for all”
August 2023
Remarks by Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons at this event convened by Basel Peace Office, Global Security Institute, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, UNFOLD ZERO, World Federalist Movement, and the World Future Council at the United Nations in Vienna, Austria.

“The Increasing Danger of Nuclear Weapons: How Physicists Can Help Reduce the Threat”
October 2023
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons participated in this conference organized by Princeton University’s Program on Science and Global Security as part of the international outreach work of the Physicists Coalition for Nuclear Threat Reduction held at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy.

“Setsuko Thurlow: The Case for Abolishing Nuclear Weapons”
November 2023
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons delivered the Opening Remarks at “The Case for Abolishing Nuclear Weapons: a conversation with Setsuko Thurlow” event hosted by the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) at The University of British Columbia. The conversation with Setsuko Thurlow, atom bomb survivor, was moderated by Prof. M.V. Ramana, Simons Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security and Allison Macfarlane, Director of SPPGA.

First Youth-Parliament Nuclear Summit
November 2023
This event was held on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Canada and convened by The Simons Foundation Canada, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Reverse The Trend: Save Our People, Save Our Planet - Canada Chapter, ICAN - International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Project Ploughshares, Mines Action Canada, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, IPPNW - International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War – Canada, Senators Marilou McPhedran, Mary Jane McCallum, Kim Pate, and MPs Elizabeth May, Heather McPherson, Lindsay Mathyssen. Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons provided the opening remarks: “Leading Towards a World Without Nuclear Weapons” and participants produced the Youth-Parliament Nuclear Summit Declaration.

Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)
November 2023
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons participated in the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) held in New York.

“Parliamentarians for the TPNW” Conference
November 2023
The Simons Foundation Canada and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) co-convened this International Parliamentary Conference at the United Nations in New York during the

"Cooperation, Stability, and Security in the Arctic? Strategies for Moving Forward" Conference
November 2023
This conference was held Massey College in Toronto to bring together experts from Canada, Greenland, Germany, Norway, and the United States to address the question: how can we engage Russia in the shared pursuit of panArctic security, stability, and cooperation, while still holding it to account for its egregious violation of international law in invading Ukraine? The discussion focused on prospects for enhancing cooperation rather than on defining problems. The Simons Foundation Canada was a co-sponsor of the conference and Ernie Regehr, O.C., Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence, was Chair of the Arctic Security panel.

2024 Vienna Conference on Autonomous Weapons Systems - “Humanity at the Crossroads: Autonomous Weapons Systems and the Challenge of Regulation”
April 2024
Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons participated in this international conference hosted by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs in Vienna, Austria.