



Preventing Pandemics and Bioterrorism: *Past, Present, and Future*

featuring

ROBERT KADLEC, M.D.

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



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Sponsored by the Biodefense Graduate Program and the Schar School Alumni Chapter



Dr. Robert Kadlec is the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). The ASPR serves as the Secretary's principal advisor on matters related to public health emergencies, including bioterrorism. The office leads the nation in preventing, responding to and recovering from the adverse health effects of manmade and naturally occurring disasters and public health emergencies. As such, the office coordinates interagency activities between HHS, other federal agencies, and state and local officials responsible for emergency

preparedness and the protection of the civilian population from public health emergencies.

Dr. Kadlec spent more than 20 years as a career officer and physician in the United States Air Force before retiring as a Colonel. Over the course of his career, he has held senior positions in the White House, the U.S. Senate, and the Department of Defense. Most recently, he served as the Deputy Staff Director to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Dr. Kadlec previously served as staff director for Senator Richard Burr's subcommittee on bioterrorism and public health in the 109th Congress. In that capacity, he was instrumental in drafting the Pandemic and All-Hazard Preparedness Bill which was signed into law to improve the nation's public health and medical preparedness and response capabilities for emergencies, whether deliberate, accidental, or natural. Dr. Kadlec also served at the White House from 2002 to 2005 as director for biodefense on the Homeland Security Council, where he was responsible for conducting the biodefense end-to-end assessment, which culminated in drafting the National Biodefense Policy for the 21st Century. He served as Special Assistant to President George W. Bush for Biodefense Policy from 2007 to 2009.

Earlier in his career, he served as the Special Advisor for Counterproliferation Policy at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where he assisted DOD efforts to counter chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats in the wake of 9/11 and contributed to the FBI investigation of the anthrax letter attacks. He began his career as a flight surgeon for the 16th Special Operations Wing and subsequently served as a surgeon for the 24th Special Tactics Squadron and as Special Assistant to J-2 for Chemical and Biological Warfare at the Joint Special Operations Command. He was named U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeon of the Year in 1986.

Dr. Kadlec holds a bachelor's degree from the United States Air Force Academy, a doctorate of medicine and a master's degree in tropical medicine and hygiene from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, as well as a master's degree in national security studies from Georgetown University.

Welcome

Mark J. Rozell

Dean, Schar School of Policy and Government

Colin Hart

Schar School Alumni Chapter President

Remarks

Gregory Koblentz

Associate Professor and Schar School
Biodefense Program Director

Keynote Speech

Robert Kadlec

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) at
the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

Questions from the Audience

Reception

Biodefense Graduate Program

The Biodefense Graduate Program at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University offers a multidisciplinary education that enables students to bridge the gap between science and policy and address critical issues at the nexus of health and security at the local, national, and global levels. The program provides students with the knowledge and analytic skills to assess the risks posed by the full-spectrum of natural and man-made biological threats and to develop strategies for reducing these risks to global health security. Understanding biological threats is more important in today's world than ever before. In 2018, U.S. News & World Report ranked the Schar School No. 3 in the country for graduate program concentrations in Homeland/National Security and Emergency Management.



The Biodefense Program offers graduate certificates and two graduate degrees – a Master's of Science (MS) in person or online, and a PhD. You can choose to study biodefense at the Schar School on-campus, online, or through a combination of both on-campus and online classes. The online courses offer maximum flexibility and allow the MS degree to be completed anywhere in the world. On-campus courses are offered in the evenings on Mason's Arlington and Fairfax, Virginia campuses to accommodate working professionals. From Emerging Infectious Diseases to Global Health Security Policy to Biosurveillance to Terrorism and WMD, the coursework prepares students for influential roles in public health, national security, and science and technology across the public and private sectors.

Because of the breadth of the program, students with backgrounds in science and other areas, such as international affairs, political science, law, criminal justice, public policy, and conflict resolution, are encouraged to apply.

For more information about the Biodefense Graduate Program, go to:
<https://schar.gmu.edu/biodefense-programs>

Biodefense Faculty

Gregory D. Koblentz, PhD, MPP, Associate Professor and Biodefense Program Director, Schar School of Policy & Government, George Mason University

Sonia Ben Ouagrham-Gormley, PhD, Associate Professor, Schar School of Policy & Government, George Mason University

Charles Blair, Adjunct Professor; Senior Lecturer, Johns Hopkins University

Robert V. House, PhD, MPH, Adjunct Professor; Senior Vice President, Ology Bioservices, Inc

Jamechia Hoyle, DHSc, MPH, PMP, Adjunct Professor; Coordinator, Next Generation Global Health Security Network

Andrew Kilianski, PhD, Adjunct Professor; Scientist, Department of Defense

Katalin Kiss, PhD, PMP, Adjunct Professor; Senior Manager, American Type Culture Collection

Bonnie Stabile, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, Schar School of Policy & Government, George Mason University

Phillip Thomas, Adjunct Professor; Director, Global Food Security Project, Schar School of Policy & Government, George Mason University

Trevor Thrall, PhD, Associate Professor, Schar School of Policy & Government, George Mason University



Biodefense students Stephen Taylor and Anthony Falzarano and Biodefense Adjunct Professor Jamechia Hoyle with then CDC Director Brenda Fitzgerald at the 4th Global Health Security Agenda Ministerial Summit in Uganda

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 **Pandemics, Bioterrorism, and Global Health Security:**
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4429892>

 www.facebook.com/gmu.biodefense

Biodefense Students in Action



PhD student Saskia Popescu in front of the "Eight-Ball" at Fort Detrick

Already a forensic scientist and chemist, Stephanie Smith studied biodefense and policy as a master's student to help better protect the nation's mail. Photo by Ron Aira



PhD student Saskia Popescu and MS student Annette Prieto at the 5th GHSA Summit in Bali



Nereyda Sevilla created a computer model for tracking and stopping suspected pandemics transmitted by airplanes. Photo by Ron Aira



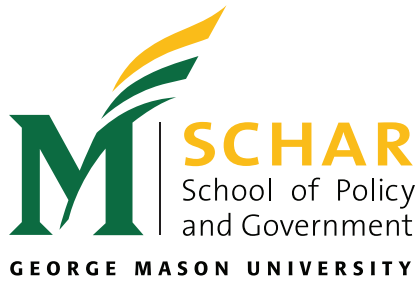
Francisco Cruz, Biodefense MS '15 and ELBI Fellow, at 8th BWC Review Conference in Geneva



MS student Stephen Taylor at Zika Virus Research Institute in Uganda



Outstanding Biodefense Students: Chris Brown PhD '17, Saskia Popescu, and Stephanie Smith MS '17



About the Schar School

The Schar School is poised at the forefront of innovation and education in helping to shape the policy leaders of tomorrow. Our graduates have the drive to make a difference in the world by building upon the knowledge and experience they have gained.

We prepare our undergraduate and graduate students to be leaders and managers who solve problems and advance the public good in all sectors and levels of government—in the United States and throughout the world.

Learning from professors with real-world experience, students gain the applicable skills and the practical knowledge to lead government agencies and nonprofit organizations, develop public policies and programs, create innovative consulting solutions, or provide expert policy analysis. Schar School alumni apply what they learned in the classroom to pursue fulfilling and meaningful careers. Graduates are doing consequential work at leading employers including the U.S. Department of State, USAID, the World Bank, the United Nations, the National Endowment for Democracy, Deloitte, Booz Allen Hamilton, and many others.

Decision-makers and the public use our faculty's research to both understand and develop policy in a variety of areas. Our faculty members are experts on policy, politics, government, national security, intelligence, defense, and everything in between, with many having served at the highest levels of government. They help students connect theory and practice by drawing on their real world experience and original research. Students thus gain practical knowledge and applicable skills to utilize wherever their career path takes them.

For more information about the Schar School, go to: **[Schar.gmu.edu](https://schar.gmu.edu)**

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

If you wish to learn more about our initiatives or desire to arrange a meeting to discuss new and innovative ways to support our students, please contact Zavin R. Smith, Director of Development & Alumni Relations.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Zavin R. Smith, Director of Development & Alumni Relations
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