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## Post-Sabbatical Report

I was on sabbatical in Ireland for the Fall semester 2015. My original objective was to complete the draft manuscript for my book, *Framing Civil Resistance: How and Why Media Misunderstands Nonviolent Struggle*. I have not yet finished, but did make progress on writing the manuscript. Specifically, I have finished chapters 1 and 2, and have rough drafts of chapters 3 and 4 (the manuscript is expected to be six chapters altogether). However, a significant portion of my energies during my sabbatical turned out to be devoted to data coding, entry, and analysis, for which I had somewhat underestimated the initial time commitment. My task was to code and analyze several hundred news articles on three cases: the Burmese uprising of 2007, the Iranian uprising of 2009, and the Palestinian resistance of 2011-2012, from four different media outlets: CNN, BBC, FOX News, and Al Jazeera. This took approximately 400 hours.

Early versions of the project using partial data were presented at the International Studies Association annual conference in New Orleans in February 2015 and by my former student and research assistant, Mercedes Mack, at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in April 2015. I have also had a paper accepted for presentation at the International Studies Association annual conference in Baltimore in February 2017 which will use the completed data set. I will also present a related study using some of the data in the SSU Brown Bag Lecture series in early 2017. Finally, I plan to submit a paper proposal by the November 9, 2016 deadline to the International Communications Association for their annual meeting to be held in San Diego in May 2017, as my research looks at the use of metaphor and cognitive linguistics in processing political information.

The research is timely and ripe for publication in an academic journal related to social movements and the question of how and what we (the media audience) learn and do not learn about civil resistance in non-Western, non-democratic settings. As such, my goal for this semester is to turn the most recent ISA article (on media depictions of the Palestinian resistance) into an article for submission to the journal *Mobilization*.

In addition to the time spent on my specific academic scholarship, I had the opportunity while in Ireland to connect with a number of Irish journalists and activists. I plan to draw upon that network to build upon my existing research on social movements and political conflict by looking at the case of Irish resistance to British rule.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to have taken this sabbatical, as it not

only gave me the chance to recover from an ongoing health crisis (and prepare for upcoming heart surgery, which I had in June 2016), but it allowed me to take care of a number of scholarship-related tasks that I would not have been able to complete in a timely manner during the course of a regular semester. I returned to SSU in the Spring of 2016 refreshed and rejuvenated, and ready to teach (and as a result, I received my highest-ever SETE scores of my 15 semesters at SSU.)