

Baker Briefing

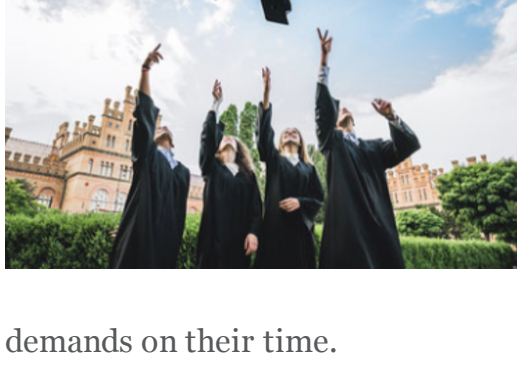
Research from the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy

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CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Leadership & Governance



Earning to Learn

Forty-seven percent of Tennessee's four-year students and 62 percent of community college students work while enrolled, and higher education would be well served to build systems and supports that help students address cash-flow constraints and competing

demands on their time.

Using 17 years of data on all students enrolled in Tennessee public postsecondary institutions, Baker Affiliate [Celeste Carruthers](#) and co-authors of the report studied the relationship between working while enrolled and degree completion, time to degree, credit accumulation, and grade point average.

The study showed that working and non-working students had similar grades as each other, but that working students took longer to complete a degree and were less likely to finish college at all.

The study indicated policymakers and institutions should target barriers, such as course schedules and financial assistance, to support working students. New policies could assist a wide range of the student population in Tennessee. Read the full report [here](#).



Media Competencies for Nurses

Media engagement and strategic communications are essential in moving research findings and other evidence into action. Many nurses, however, lack media competence and are reticent to engage with media.

[Dr. Carole Myers](#), a College of Nursing professor emerita and Baker Center fellow, recently published findings from a [Delphi Study](#) on the development of media competencies for nurses in *Nursing Outlook*. Myers and her team are currently studying the implementation of the competencies.



Ghana's Oil and Gas Governance

Baker Center Affiliate [Alex Osei-Kojo](#)'s new study focuses on whether groups continue to influence policy over time because their beliefs are persistent or because of the people working in those

groups. Osei-Kojo's article investigates the context of Ghana's oil and gas governance, examining coalition stability and the stability of policy frames as expressions of policy beliefs. His research found that groups in favor of oil and gas development continued to shape oil and gas over a long period of time, but the people in those groups changed. Read the full article [here](#).

Energy & Environment



Greene receives Leadership in Sustainability and Climate Award

[David Greene](#), Energy & Environment Fellow, received the U.S. Secretary of Transportation's Leadership in Sustainability and Climate Award at the Secretary's 55th Annual Awards Ceremony. The award was for "unyielding determination" in successfully developing and publishing the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for model years 2024-2026. He received the award

alongside members of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's CAFE team.

Greene is now developing standards for 2027 and beyond to help achieve an efficient and effective transition to zero-emission cars and trucks while ensuring that the fuel economy of gasoline vehicles continues to improve.



McCollum Travels to Egypt for Conference of Parties

More than 100 heads of state and non-government representatives and researchers attended the 2022 Sharm El-Sheikh United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties in Egypt. The conference showcases climate change research, climate-relevant

technologies, and climate action around the world and across different sectors.

[David McCollum](#), a senior scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Baker Center fellow, presented information and insights on mitigating climate change through demand-side responses and general pathways toward a net-zero emissions society.

You can learn more about his trip [here](#).

Global Security



Compliance in Time

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) is one of three regional human rights courts of justice, autonomous legal institutions that interpret and apply the rights and

liberties set forth in the American Convention. In 2001, the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights adopted a new procedure that increased their caseloads and number of reparations orders. These changes led to concerns about a compliance "crisis" at IACtHR.

Global Security Affiliate [Kelly Morrison](#)'s newest co-authored paper underscores important lessons for the Inter-American Human Rights System and provides critical insights for courts and activists to promote interventions at key moments when compliance is most likely.

The full article, [Compliance in Time: Lessons from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights](#), was published in the *International Studies Review* in January 2023.

Global Security Announcements

- Global Security Program Director [Krista Wiegand](#) and GS post-doctoral fellow [Sojeong Lee](#) presented their research on Japan-South Korea relations and how they affect the U.S. alliance network in Northeast Asia at the Stimson Center in Washington, D.C., in January 2023.
- In December 2022, Wiegand presented her forthcoming book about the peaceful resolution of territorial and maritime disputes, "The Delimitation of International Maritime Borders: Disputes, Challenges, and Solutions in a Comparative Perspective," at a conference at the University of Haifa in Israel.
- [Gary Uzonyi](#), Global Security Fellow, completed a research trip to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to study military cooperation in the region. Uzonyi interviewed members of parliament and the military from each country to survey their perceptions of the changing Baltic security landscape, given Russia's war in Ukraine, the potential for NATO enlargement, and France's call for greater European strategic autonomy away from the United States. The trip was funded by the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies.
- [Sojeong Lee](#), Global Security post-doctoral fellow, was accepted into the U.S. - Korea Nextgen Scholars at the Center for Strategic & International Studies. The program's purpose is to develop public policy skills for scholars when they are called upon to provide commentary and expertise on Korea-related issues.

Student Spotlight



Sequoia Cothran is a Baker Ambassador and Student Programs student worker at the Baker Center. Cothran is a junior with a double major in political science with international affairs concentration and sociology with a criminal justice concentration.

"The Baker Center has offered me endless opportunities to grow as a student interested in public policy. I have been given the chance to explore my strengths and weaknesses as a student in a way that would not be possible without the Baker Center. I will forever be grateful for the opportunities and people I have met."

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