

## Interested in participating in MOCK CONVENTION?

Come, join the fun and excitement! Help in the planning and promoting of *our* Mock Convention. **There are still positions open.** Get informed! Get involved! This year will be *your only chance*—Mock only happens every four years! Talk with members of the MOCK Executive Committee and Faculty Advisors, check out our website: <http://mock2016.owu.edu/>

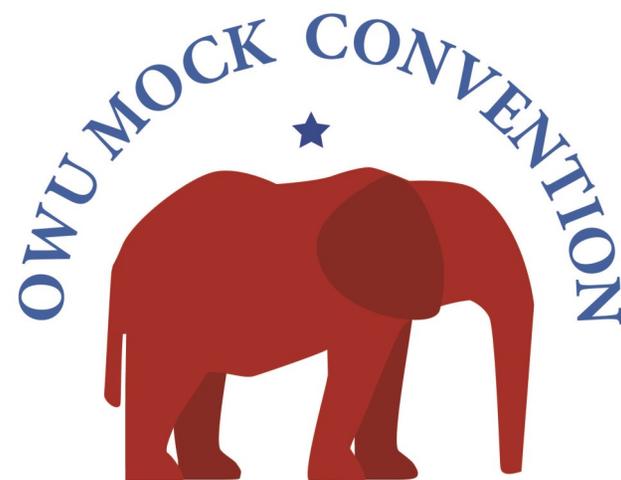
### *Mock Convention Executive Committee*

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### Why a Republican Mock Convention?

To ensure there is lively debate and competition among a number of candidates, Ohio Wesleyan's Mock Convention traditionally represents the **party currently not in control** of the White House.

1<sup>st</sup> Platform Hearing held in conjunction with:



**BACK ON THE RIGHT TRACK**

**"CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST"**

Noon

**Wednesday, October 21, 2015**

Merrick Hall 301

**Ji Young Choi**

Associate Professor, Politics & Government, International  
Studies, East Asian Studies

**Susan Gunasti**

Assistant Professor of Religion

**James C. Franklin**

Professor of Politics & Government

There are currently many candidates running for the 2016 Republican Party Presidential Nomination. We are providing information on the leading candidates, as well as those who might be of particular interest to OWU students.

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**Former Governor of Florida Jeb Bush**

<https://jeb2016.com>

**Dr. Ben Carson**

<https://www.bencarson.com/>

**US Senator from Texas Ted Cruz**

<https://www.tedcruz.org/>

**Businesswoman & Former CEO of Hewlett-Packard  
Carly Fiorina**

<https://www.carlyforpresident.com/>

**Governor of Ohio John Kasich**

<https://johnkasich.com/>

**US Senator from Kentucky Rand Paul**

<https://www.randpaul.com/>

**US Senator from Florida Marco Rubio**

<https://marcorobio.com/>

**Businessman, TV Personality & Author  
Donald Trump**

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

**Interested in being a State Delegate?**

Contact Sarah Richmond ([serichmo@owu.edu](mailto:serichmo@owu.edu))

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### Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday, October 28**

**Republican Presidential Candidates Debate**

8:00 p.m.—Beeghly Library Café

**Thursday, November 5**

Platform Hearing #2

**“Borderlines: Immigration in the 21st Century”**

12:00—Beeghly Bayley Room

**Tuesday, December 1**

Platform Hearing #3

**“Student Debt”**

12:00—HWCC Benes B

**Tuesday, January 19, 2016**

**“Speed Date the Candidates”**

Meeting for all State Chairs

**MOCK CONVENTION 2016**

**February 5-6, 2016**

**University Hall—Gray Chapel**

President Obama's foreign policy has backfired, making the Middle East more dangerous. To combat this and ISIS, Rubio argues that the United States should isolate ISIS from Syria and Iraq and increase the amount of troops and targeted airstrikes in the region. He believes that the United States must empower those moderate rebel forces in Syria who are engaged in conflict against ISIS to prevent them from growing their stronghold in the Middle East, specifically Jordan. Rubio also wants to build a coalition between regional countries including Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey.

### **Donald Trump, Chairman and President, The Trump Organization**



"You take away their [ISIS's] wealth, then you go and knock the hell out of the oil, take back the oil."

Businessman Trump plans to defeat ISIS by first taking control of the oil in the region. His strategy is to bomb the area, then encircle it in order to have singular access to the oil. Trump has yet to say whether he will send troops into Syria. However, he wants to flip the strategy against ISIS, favoring a greater Russian presence. Since

Russia and the United States each want to rid the world of ISIS, Trump argues that Russia should take the primary position and the United States should pick up the pieces after. He does not support the United States' acceptance of 200,000 refugees because their origins are unknown, allowing for the possibility that they could be ISIS supporters.

## REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ON CRISIS AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Compiled by the OWU Mock Convention Platform Committee using the candidates' official campaign websites, documents and published interviews.

### **Jeb Bush, Former Governor of Florida**



"We should pursue the clear and unequivocal objective of throwing back the barbarians of ISIS, and helping the millions in the region who want to live in peace."

Former Governor Bush believes that a bigger US military commitment to the Middle East is the best way to solve its biggest problems. ISIS is a product of the American withdrawal from the Iraq, which the George W. Bush administration negotiated in the 2008 Status of Forces agreement with that country. Bush believes that ISIS and its ideology represent one of the primary challenges faced by the United States in the modern world. He has called for establishing a no-fly zone over Syria, defeating President Bashar al-Assad's regime, and embedding US troops within Iraqi forces rather than training them. Bush would also attempt to work with social media to address online recruitment efforts by ISIS.

### **Dr. Ben Carson, Former Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital**



"We can sit back and say, 'Nah, they're not that big a deal,' or we can recognize that the longer we allow them to grow, to spread...the more difficult it will be to eradicate them."

Dr. Carson believes that the United States must use every means possible to defeat ISIS and eradicate them from the areas over which they have control. He argues that if we do not fight them "over there," then we will be fighting them "over here." Carson believes that the current administration has been too soft on terror and has micromanaged the military. He has stated that with the right people around him, he would be able to successfully reestablish the United States' hegemonic military prowess and superpower standing. His goal is to send in ground troops initially and build coalitions and enthusiasm from other allies to help defeat ISIS.

## Ted Cruz, Senator from Texas



“What we need is a commander in chief who makes clear if you join ISIS, if you wage jihad on America, then you are signing your death warrant.”

Senator Cruz sponsored the Terrorist Expatriate Act (S.2779) in 2013, which would revoke the citizenship of any persons who willingly join a foreign terrorist organization that “will engage in hostilities against the United States, or will commit acts of terror against the United States or U.S. nationals.” This represents his stance on ISIS, and he does not currently favor an armed incursion into Iraq to fight them. He wants to degrade ISIS with American air power, arm the Kurds (who will act as the ground force), and avoid political engagement in the Middle East. He believes that attempts to conciliate religious struggle in Iraq is a misguided strategy because “they [the Shi’a and Sunni] have been fighting a civil war since 632 AD.” Cruz does not favor resettling Syrian refugees permanently in the United States. He does not favor cooperating with Russia because “no one in their right mind would believe Putin’s assertion he’s there to help go after [ISIS].”

## Carly Fiorina, Businesswoman, Former CEO of Hewlett-Packard



“There are a whole set of things we’ve been asked to do by our allies who know this is their fight, and we’re not doing any of them. So I would hold a Summit and talk with them about that.”

Businesswoman Fiorina argues that the United States needs to be making better use of allies in fighting ISIS. She wants to sell munitions to Jordan, share intelligence with Egypt, and arm the Kurds with small-arms. She does not currently favor sending in troops but rather training foreign troops in the area. Fiorina favors a multilateral approach to the region and promises to hold Camp David-like meetings with the United States’ allies in the region, where a consensus would be reached about how to defeat ISIS. She believes that the United States must provide leadership in the region and “must be prepared” to shoot down Russian planes if they threaten US-backed rebels. She calls for a no-fly zone over the areas controlled by anti-Assad forces.

## John Kasich, 69th Governor of Ohio



“I think that the Western world needs to be united, and we need to invite our friends in the Arab world together, and we do need to develop a plan.”

Governor Kasich supports deploying US military forces to fight ISIS. He argues that the US government should rally a coalition to send troops to fight ISIS. He does not believe in nation-building and, after eliminate the threat, would leave the region. Kasich believes that Americans understand this threat and would support a temporary deployment of troops in the Middle East. He believes that the world’s religions should band together and make clear they reject the theology of ISIS.

## Rand Paul, MD, Senator from Kentucky



“This war is now illegal. It must be declared and made valid, or it must be ended.”

Senator Paul believes that the United States, specifically the Republican Party, is responsible for the rise of ISIS because of the indiscriminate sales of weapons to the Middle East. As an isolationist, Paul believes in the scaling back of US involvement. He supports Arab-based coalitions to combat the issue, specifically when it comes to ground troops. Paul believes the conflict with ISIS is being waged without legal grounds but that taking action against ISIS is justified and necessary.

## Marco Rubio, Senator from Florida



“Put together a coalition of armed regional governments to confront [ISIS] on the ground with U.S. special forces support, logistical support, intelligence support and the most devastating air support possible...and you will wipe ISIS out.”

Senator Rubio believes that the United States needs to re-assert dominance in the Middle East and that