

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Poligram

Fall 2018

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Welcome!

Wenfang Tang
Department Chair



Greetings to all of you on behalf of the political science alumni, faculty, staff, and students! The Department is fortunate to have a dedicated group of alumni. The Political Science Alumni Advisory Board remains closely involved in departmental governance. Starting this year, the Advisory Board will recruit among the recent alums under 30 years old. The young members will consist of 25% of the Board membership, and serve a four-year term with full voting rights and a reduced membership due. These young members will serve to provide a closer connection between the Advisory Board and our student community. Our faculty continue to be hard working and productive in offering new courses, increasing enrollment, participating in conferences, publishing research papers

and books, receiving internal and external grants and awards, and serving editorial positions in top academic journals. As a result, the Department continues to garner a strong reputation nationally and internationally in undergraduate education, graduate placement and faculty research and publication, even under drastically reduced fiscal support from the College. None of these accomplishments by our faculty are possible without the continuing support from our loyal alumni. Such support becomes especially important when the Department must operate under external financial uncertainties.

Warm thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wenfang Tang". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Undergraduate News

*Hancher-Finkbine Medallion
and Dean's Achievement Award*



Political Science major **Lilián Sánchez** won two prestigious awards in 2018: the Hancher-Finkbine Medallion in recognition of leadership, learning, and loyalty and the Dean's Achievement Award for demonstration of exceptional academic performance.

*Critical Language
Scholarship Recipients*



Political Science major **Eli Bratsch-Prince** was awarded a 2018 U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship. This past summer he traveled to Amman, Jordan to study in an Arabic language program. Bratsch-Prince plans to attend graduate school to study the politics of the Middle East and North Africa.



International Relations major **Alex Bare** received a 2018 U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship. He traveled to Ibri, Oman this past summer to study Modern Standard Arabic in addition to focusing on a regional Arabic dialect. Bare aspires to be an international journalist.

Using Simulations to Foster Active Learning in the Classroom

Ron McMullen
Ambassador in Residence



“President Trump will visit Borduria for seven hours on March 15th. He will fly into Szohôd at 09:00 a.m. Wheels up is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., as he must depart at that time to keep an appointment in Moscow. Your task is to construct an itinerary for the seven-hour visit to Borduria.” Thus begins a short simulation I first used as a U.S. diplomat to help teach negotiation skills while visiting college campuses. In this 45-minute simulation, called “POTUS Visit,” three student teams—White House, U.S. Embassy, and Bordurian government—each receive their own secret goals and objectives, some of which are mutually exclusive. Student teams engage in a three-way negotiation to shape the itinerary of the presidential visit to maximize their team’s outcomes. Afterwards, we would discuss the negotiation’s dynamics, tactics, and applicability of lessons learned to other situations. (I’d be glad to share the facilitator’s instructions for anyone

wishing to run this simulation in a classroom or group setting.) “Active Learning” is a phrase professional educators apply to methods that encourage students to be engaged participants in the classroom. Advocates claim it helps students apply and internalize concepts and skills better than lectures, notetaking, and memorization. I’m not into pedagogy, but in my experience active learning tools such as simulations are a productive (and interesting) way to promote the Department’s teaching objectives. While working as a Diplomat in Residence at the University of Texas, I participated in two complex “frozen conflict” simulations run by the U.S. Army War College. Both involved some 150 graduate students at the LBJ School of Public Affairs who dedicated an entire weekend to strategizing and role-playing simulation aimed at resolving seemingly intransigent issues surrounding Kashmir or North Cyprus. These were capstone experiences for the students, who enjoyed applying their academic skills to real-world problems. Since joining the Department of Political Science in 2012, I’ve aimed to bring active learning techniques to the classroom. Most classes start with a few students presenting one-minute briefings about significant political developments in their focus country. Sometimes we play College Bowl, a Jeopardy-like quiz over the assigned readings in which teams compete to answer questions and win “valuable” prizes. Students might engage in small-group policy debates, give oral presentations on proposed Iowa trade missions, or blog their reactions to assigned readings. The Council on Foreign Relations offers (at no cost) an excellent series of policymaking simulations called Model Diplomacy, where students grapple with vexing foreign policy issues from the perspective of the

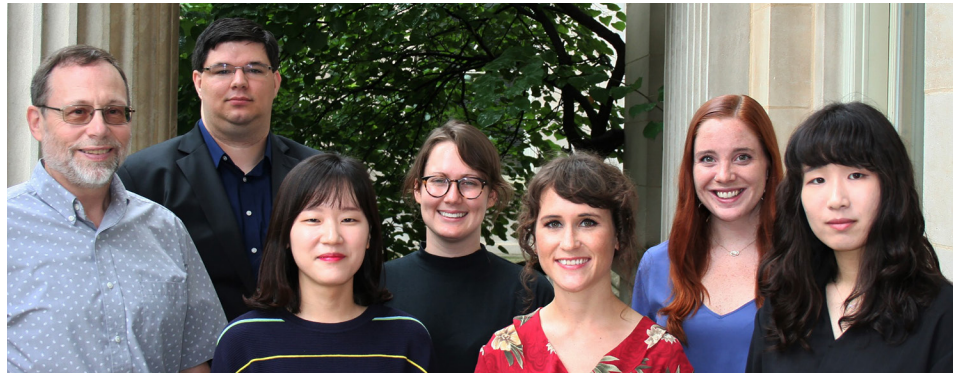
U.S. National Security Council. Should the U.S. conduct a drone strike on a high-value target in Pakistan? Challenge China over alleged cyber-attacks? Respond to suspected Russian hybrid warfare in the Baltic States? Students play the role of NSC members and adopt the policy perspective of their agency, such as the Pentagon, USAID, or the Department of Commerce, while seeking to persuade the President to adopt their specific recommendations. Students wear professional dress and use professional forms of address (“I heartily disagree, Madame Secretary!”) In one simulation the President (assigned by lot) was a non-traditional student and Vietnam War veteran. NSC members made their well-reasoned pitches on U.S. policy in the South China Sea, but in the end the President ignored them and issued a Presidential Directive based on his past personal experiences in the region. While students were shocked that their sound policy advice was completely disregarded, nothing could have illustrated the point better that, whatever his cabinet, advisors, or diplomats think, the President is the leading voice in making U.S. foreign policy. Another semester, after two intense 50-minute sessions of an Arab-Israeli simulation, one student wrote on his evaluation, “this has been the most educational 100 minutes of my college career.” That gave me pause—are my lectures really that bad? In any case, I’m keen to expand my active learning toolbox to get students more engaged in the learning process.

If someone has a proven idea or suggestion, please email at ronald-mcmullen@uiowa.edu

Graduate News

Welcome New Grads!

The Department welcomed six new students to the graduate program this fall. Each brings an impressive list of accomplishments. The new students met current students and faculty at the Department's annual welcome reception, held on August 17, 2018 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Iowa City.



Front row (L-R) Professor Bill Reisinger, Saera Lee, Natasha Gaydos, Hyein Ko
Back Row (L-R) Darrell Carter, Tracee Saunders, Lindsey Allemang

Scholarships and Award Winners

Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship
Sojeong Lee - Fall 2018

Post-Comprehensive Research Fellowship
Dong "Erico" Yu - Fall 2018
Yooneui Kim, Scott LaCombe, Jungmin Song, Joshua Tschantret - Spring 2019

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
Yooneui Kim - 2018

Ph.D. Placements

Ray Ou Yang, Ph.D. '18
Dissertation: *The Way to a Dominant International Currency: A Political General Theory and the Prospect of the Renminbi's Rise*
Placement: Southwest Jiaotong University
Yue Hu, Ph.D. '18
Dissertation: *Rebuilding the Tower of Babel: Language Policy and Political Trust in China*
Placement: Tsinghua University

Sojeong Lee, Ph.D. '18
Dissertation: *Water and Energy Resource Dependence and Conflict*
Placement: Postdoc position at the University of Tennessee Knoxville
Christine Bricker, Ph.D. '18
Dissertation: *Vernacular Geography and Perceptions of Place: A New Approach to Measuring American Regional and Political Subcultures*
Placement: Warren Wilson College

Staff News

Michelle "Mickie" Wiegand Retirement



Mickie Wiegand is retiring at the end of this year after a 43-year career in the Department of Political Science. She began in 1975 as a secretary in the Department office. Less than a year later, she became research secretary in the Department's Comparative Legislative Research Center, where she administered grants of nearly one million dollars financing research projects in Europe, Africa and Asia. When the Legislative Studies Quarterly became an increasingly important research journal, Mickie became its Manager of Publication. By 1993 the Quarterly was a widely recognized international journal with editors at two dozen universities in the United States and Europe and Mickie was appointed its Managing Editor. In the

early 1990s, Mickie went back to college, completed her B.A. in Economics and attained an M.B.A. degree at the University. This prepared her well for the rapidly changing technologies and economics of journal publication. Under Mickie's management, the Quarterly has been a financially self-sustaining publication. When digitalization made possible the worldwide distribution of journals, this greatly expanded the reach of the Quarterly. Mickie explored the advantages of association with a commercial publisher, and on her recommendation, the journal negotiated a publication contract with Wiley-Blackwell. In anticipation of Mickie's retirement, the journal moved to Washington University in St. Louis. Mickie has had an important career in research publication, from her first appointment as a department secretary, through her growing responsibilities in the department, to dealing successfully with fundamental changes in academic publishing. During her long service in the Department, Mickie facilitated the work of several generations of faculty and graduate students at Iowa and contributed significantly to the reputation of the Department in the entire political science profession.

— Gerhard Loewenberg, Professor Emeritus

Faculty News

Tracy Osborn

Receives CLAS Teaching Award



Associate Professor, Tracy Osborn, received the 2017-18 Collegiate Teaching Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

This award is given annually to faculty who demonstrate outstanding performance in the classroom as recognized by their peers.

Bill Reisinger Wenfang Tang

Awarded Minerva Grant



This three-year grant (2018-2020) of \$819k will support parallel surveys in China and Russia, to be conducted in the summer of 2018. The co-PIs are Marina Zaloznaya in Sociology, Bill Reisinger and Wenfang Tang in Political Science. Graduate student Yooneui Kim will work as a research assistant for the project in 2018-19. The questions will allow us to analyze citizens' informal economic activities, how their social networks influence those activities, and whether they influence public opinion on political trust and social stability.

Caroline Tolbert

2018 APSA Special Projects Fund

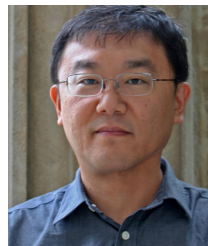


Professor Caroline Tolbert is a recipient of the 2018 APSA Special Projects Fund. Tolbert has received \$25,000 to support her

proposed "2019 Vision in Methodology Conference" that will center on women faculty and graduate students doing intensive data analysis.

Yu Wang

New Faculty Member



The Department of Political Science welcomes its newest faculty member: Professor Yu Wang. Wang received his Ph.D. from New York

University in 2009. He has worked as an assistant professor of political science at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Nottingham Ningbo-China. Wang researches primarily in the areas of comparative and international politics.

Faculty Publications

Papers

Boehmke, Frederick. 2018.

"Subverting Administrative Oversight: Campaign Contributions and Nursing Home Inspections," *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 1-26.

Claypool, Vicki L. Hesli, William M. Reisinger,

Marina Zaloznaya, Hu Yue and Jenny Juehring. 2018. "Tsar Putin and the 'Corruption' Thorn in his Side: The Demobilization of Votes in a Competitive Authoritarian Regime," *Electoral Studies* 54 (August), 182-204.

Dion, Michelle L., Jane L. Sumner, and

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2018.

"Gendered Citation Patterns Across Political Science and Social Science Methodology Fields." *Political Analysis* 26(3): 312-327.

Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin and Christopher Achen. 2018. "Shifting Standards for Political Methodologists? Historical Trends in the Society for Political Methodology." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 51(3): 574-579.

Pacheco, Julianna and Christopher Ojeda. "A Healthy Democracy? Evidence of Unequal Representation across Health Status." *Political Behavior* (conditionally accepted).

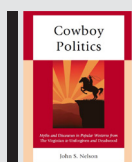
Pacheco, Julianna. "Using Anchoring Vignettes to Re-evaluate the Link between Self Rated Health Status and Political Behavior." *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law.* (Forthcoming).

Tang, Wenfang. 2018. "Public Opinion and Authoritarian Resilience in China," *American Affairs*, February 20, Spring, Vol. II, No. 1, pp. 101-117.

Wang, Yu. 2018. "Bargaining Matters: An Analysis of Bilateral Aid to Developing Countries." *Journal of International Relations and Development*, 21(1): 1-21.

Faculty Publications

Books



Cowboy Politics, John Nelson. Lexington Books, 2017.



Supreme Court Agenda Setting: The Vinson Court 1946-1952, Tim Hagle. 2018.



Latin American Elections: Choice and Change, Richard Nadeu, Éric Belanger, Michael S. Lewis-Beck, Mathieu Turgeon, and François Gélinau. University of Michigan Press, 2017.

Alumni News

We asked five alumni to share about themselves. The following profiles demonstrate a fascinating diversity of activities by political science graduates.



Nathan Micatka (B.A. '18) began his first semester of graduate school this past August. He says, "I am a PhD student at the University of Southern California studying American politics. My research explores polarization and partisanship, public policy processes, and representation. I am grateful to have a phenomenal opportunity to continue studying and researching American politics."



Abigail Matthews (Ph.D. '17) is assistant professor of political science at Miami University. Matthews is the recipient of the APSA 2018 Edward S. Corwin prize for best dissertation in the field of public law for her dissertation titled "Connected Courts: The Diffusion of Precedent across State Supreme Courts."



George Peterson (B.A. '96) is director of dive programs at the Monterey Bay Aquarium in Monterey, California. Peterson enrolled as a biology major but then switched to political science after taking a course with former professor Joel Barkan: "I was interested in the nexus of social sciences, sustainability, and the hard physical sciences. I started to study political science with an angle toward development and sustainability. It was fun to carve out that education at the University of Iowa, and Dr. Barkan helped me do that." Read more here:

now.uiowa.edu/2018/09/passion-diving-ocean-conservation-takes-iowa-alum-around-world



Rachel Zuckerman (B.A. '17) has been selected as a 2019 Schwarzman Scholar and will travel to Beijing to pursue a master's degree at Tsinghua University. The Schwarzman Scholars program was inspired by the Rhodes Scholarship and is an internationally-competitive award to support leaders who will bridge cultural and political differences between East and West.



Jim Moore (B.A. '85) has recently been appointed director of the Performing Arts Center at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi. Moore says that "at the University of Iowa, I discovered I had dance talent (while finishing my political science degree) and went on to dance professionally in New York for 10 years. I transitioned into arts management and worked at Carnegie Hall, Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, and now find myself running the Performing Arts Center at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, where we're doing great things. I'm looking forward to spending my first winter away from the Midwest/Northeast!"



Jim Dower (B.A. '02) was recently featured on "UI Stories" for his work with the nonprofit Urban Initiatives, which he founded with a fellow UI graduate. The program engages Chicago youth through sports programming, providing them with positive extracurricular activities as well as leadership opportunities. Read more here: uiowa.edu/stories/ui-grad-promotes-powerplay

Alumni Advisory Board News

Joseph Gaylord Alumni Fellow Award



Pictured (L-R) Wenfang Tang, Joe Gaylord, Interim Dean Joseph Kearney

Alumni Board President **Joe Gaylord** is the recipient of a 2018 CLAS Alumni Fellow Award. He visited in early September to meet with students and faculty and give a talk entitled “Current Politics in America: How We Got There.” With 30 years’ experience in strategic message development, media, grass roots, party coalition building, and campaign organization, Joe Gaylord ranks among the nation’s most experienced political consultants. He is a major supporter of the Department of Political Science and teaches two classes every year on building and managing political campaigns.

Alumni Advisory Board



Board members at the spring 2018 annual meeting:

(Front Row, L-R) Liz Summy, Angela Kelley, Joe Gaylord, Greg Bielawski, Katie Deibert

(Middle Row, L-R) Joe Goldberg, Darrell Netherton, Charles Krogmeier, Tom Dutton

(Back Row, L-R) Richard Tyner, Wenfang Tang, John Baker, Caroline Tolbert (faculty), Jeffery Judge

New Members on Alumni Advisory Board

Alexa Den Herder



In May 2017, Alexa Den Herder graduated from the University of Iowa with a double major in Political Science and International Relations, as well as a double minor in Russian and History. She now works in Washington, D.C. as Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley’s Assistant Press Secretary. Den Herder says, “I am honored to be chosen to serve on the University of Iowa’s Political Science Alumni Advisory Board because the mentoring I was provided as a Political Science undergrad and the connections I made with the board proved to be invaluable. I am confident my role on the board will allow me to motivate, inspire, and support students as I was during my tenure.”

Abigail Molitor



Abbey Molitor is a native Iowan and graduate of the University of Iowa (B.A. in Political Science and History) and the University of Chicago Law School. She clerked for Judge Steven Colloton in Des Moines for one year after law school and now works as a litigation associate at Sidley Austin in Chicago. Molitor says, “I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Alumni Advisory Board to contribute back to a department that provided key educational, mentoring, and career support to me when I was an undergraduate.”

Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Advisory Board, we encourage you to contact Wenfang Tang at 319-335-2546 or wenfangtang@uiowa.edu

Undergraduate Department Scholarship Winners 2018-19

Vernon and Georgia Bender Scholarship - for a political science major who is scholastically ambitious and has financial need.

- Danielle Aastrup (B.A. Political Science)

Joseph Domke Memorial Scholarship - for a junior or senior who plans to attend law school.

- Megan Phillips (B.A. International Relations)

Molly C. and Joseph R. Gaylord Scholarship - for political science majors who are heavily involved in campus activities and went to an Iowa high school.

- Gustave Stewart (B.S. Political Science)
- Jenna Pokorny (B.S. Political Science)

Roger J. and Anne Hargrave Scholarship - for a political science major who is scholastically ambitious and has financial need.

- Kyle Apple (B.A. Political Science)
- Sydney Blitchok (B.A. Political Science)

Donald B. Johnson Fellowship - for a senior who demonstrates leadership and participation in political and civic activities.

- Charlotte Gude (B.S. Political Science)

Donald B. Johnson Scholarship - for an outstanding student in political science who exemplifies the character by which Donald Johnson was known.

- Jennifer Eggerling (B.A. Political Science)

Darrell L. Netherton Research Scholarship - for a student who will pursue a research project under the supervision of political science faculty.

- Marcus Miller (B.S. Political Science)

Teri G. Rasmussen Scholarship - for a political science major who plans to pursue a career in law.

- Barrett Bierschenk (B.A. Political Science)

Third House Scholarship - for a political science major who earned a high school diploma in Iowa.

- Keil Huber (B.A. Political Science)
- Andrea Shine (B.A. Political Science)
- Avery Brennan (B.A. Political Science)

Richard J. Tyner International Relations Scholarship -

for a student majoring in international relations or political science.

- Jackson Guilford (B.A. Political Science)
- Jonathan Sanford (B.A. Political Science)

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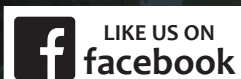
Give a gift...

The department has been empowered by the generous donations from our alumni and friends. We are proud that philanthropy is a growing part of our departmental culture. We are pleased with your generosity and grateful if you can join the ongoing effort at providing financial support to undergraduate and graduate studies and faculty research in the department.

For more information on giving options to the Department of Political Science, please contact Adam Blind, Associate Director of Development, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at adam.blind@foriowa.org.

Learn more or make your gift online:

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