

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Poligram

Fall 2024

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the 2024 edition of the Poligram. In this Presidential election year, many of our students and alumni worked on political campaigns. Our students and alumni also work in a number of fields using the knowledge and skills gained at the University of Iowa. This edition of the Poligram highlights some of the ways the department is working with alumni to help students learn about the many career opportunities available to them. This focus on “classroom to careers” has drawn on the expertise and support of our alumni who have been part of career workshops, talked to a class, taught one-week classes, and met with students in groups or individually. Our faculty also provide unique educational opportunities, which help students understand and pursue new career paths. Alumni support has also made it possible for students to pursue internships in these different career areas. Please feel free to reach out if you would like to share your career experience with our students.



Brian Lai
Department Chair

SUPPORTING CAREER SUCCESS

Our alumni work in a number of career fields. Thanks to these dedicated alumni and faculty, the political science program at Iowa offers political science and international relations majors several opportunities to explore career fields and gain skills to successfully launch a career path that interests them. We highlight a few of these areas and how alumni have engaged our students about these careers.

GLOBAL INTERESTS

Many of our alumni work in internationally focused career areas, including government, non-profit, and private sector jobs. Students with an interest in global careers had the opportunity to gain unique insights from foreign policy expert Debra Cagan, senior advisor at the Atlantic Council’s Eurasia Center and distinguished fellow at the Transatlantic Leadership Network, and Paul Houston, deputy assistant secretary of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, while they visited campus this fall. In Robert Bone’s one-week course titled Politics of Espionage, students examined how and why foreign powers spy on each other. And in Michael Michener’s Interagency Crisis Response class, students learned about U.S. government agency intervention strategies for international crises using tabletop exercises and role playing. Alumni joined us from across the globe this spring for an informative virtual workshop about international relations careers with alumni panelists Alex Bare, Debra Cagan, Liz Chamberlin, Molly Parrish, and Megan Phillips.

Internships are also a great way for students to get a head start on their career path. This summer, Ijeoma Ogbonna and Sophia Schoolen interned at the US Department of State.

“During my internship I attended and helped facilitate various events such as 75th Annual NATO Summit and the Chief of Mission Conference, where I connected with both young professionals and distinguished leaders within the field. I enjoyed witnessing firsthand how the concepts I learn about in class come to life.”
– Sophia Schoolen

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Alumni also work in the field of government relations, working for organizations, as well as multi-client firms. Margaret Reynolds and Chelsea Hoyer taught students about careers in government relations during a one-week class, helping them understand the different types of career opportunities in this area, drawing on their own experiences. Students also got a chance to develop a government relations plan



for organizations they identified. 2024 CLAS Alumni Fellow and Political Science Alumni Advisory Board President David Conn also taught a one week course on public policy on technology, drawing on his experience in government relations and state public policy. Students also got an opportunity to hear a public lecture on government responses to technological changes and meet with David to talk about careers in government relations. Each Fall, in the Legislative Policy Seminar class, students research issues and policies the Iowa Legislature is likely to take up in the Spring. They have also worked on a project in conjunction with a government relations firm. Students develop the research and presentation skills in this class that connect to the kind of work done in government relations.

CAREERS IN LAW

Every year, about a third of our majors attend law school after graduating. Students with an interest in law attended an informational session from Sam Parker, Assistant Director of Admissions at Harvard Law School and a group of 4th year students visited Iowa Law where they met with student ambassadors, sat in on a law class, and attended an Iowa Supreme Court case.

“I had a great time at the Iowa Law School visit. The course options catering to international law really caught my eye and I really felt that Iowa School of Law was centered around student learning and development. Plus, the fact that law students have access to the best writing center in the country.” – Alix Bushard

Our annual law school career workshop featured panelists from Iowa Law, Martha Kirby Associate Director of Admissions, Collin Byrd Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management, L2 students Patrick Johnson and Caleb Slater, along with Timothy Hagle, and alum Isaac Medina.

“Attending the Law School Career Workshop was an incredible opportunity to learn about preparing for law school and what it’s like from a student perspective. I enjoyed having a relaxed environment to ask questions and walked away feeling more informed about law school!” – Malvika Khadiya

OTHER AREAS AND INTERNSHIPS

In addition to these three areas, our alumni work in many other areas, including state and local government, political campaigns, elected office and their staff, communications, marketing, think tanks, education, and many more. Students learned about several of these at our Homecoming career workshop where Katie Linder, Nathan Topping, Hannah Philgreen, Mike Michener, Jared Maternach, and Elizabeth Weyer Davis shared their careers with students and talked about how to pursue working in these areas.

An important way for students to learn about these careers is internships. This past summer students interned at the US Capitol, think tanks, US State Department, Federal Public Defender’s Office, Delta Airlines, and many others. Alumni have helped us to increase the number of students doing internships each year by letting us know about opportunities, mentoring students on how to apply, and supporting internship scholarships so all students can undertake an internship.

Share your career story with us. Hearing from you allows us to share your experiences with our students.

MAKING CONNECTIONS



2024-2025 PEER MENTORS

The Department of Political Science Undergraduate Peer Mentor Program connects first-year students with peers to discuss classes, campus activities, internships, and other topics. This year's peer mentors have been actively involved in the campus community and have a wealth of knowledge to share. Visit their bios at: politicalscience.uiowa.edu/undergraduate/political-science-peer-mentors



PICTURED: (top L-R) JB Bartlett, Delaney Behning, Maddie Cason (bottom L-R) Alix Bushard, Maryam Mohammed, Isaiah Pielak

Washington DC Alumni Reception

Iowa Political Science alumni gathered in Washington DC this fall for a special reception and tour of the US Capitol. Our alumni events are a great way for Hawkeyes to meet and connect with other alumni in their areas.



Iowa Vital Voices Project

The Iowa Vital Voices Project, led by Julianna Pacheco, Nicole Novak, and Nicholas Salazar, is conducted in partnership with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Interdisciplinary Research Leaders Program. We aim to uplift Latino voices to improve community health in Iowa. With help from SALUD, our team of 15 student researchers, we traveled to 12 Latino festivals in FA24 and collected over 600 surveys from Latinos, immigrants, and POC living in Iowa. Questions asked about political engagement, civic attitudes, and health. Results will be disseminated to communities over the next year.



Students Advancing Latino Unity & Democracy (SALUD)

📷 @saludiowa ✨ Newsletter sign-up: linktr.ee/saludiowa

Featured Publications & Books

Gopal, Ishita, Taegyeon Kim, Nitheesha Nakka, **Frederick J. Boehmke**, Jeffrey J. Harden, and Bruce A. Desmarais. 2024. "The National Network of US State Legislators on Twitter." *Political Science Research and Methods*: 1–13. doi:10.1017/psrm.2024.52.

Wengle, Susanne A., Saadat Musabaeva, and **David Greenwood-Sánchez**. 2024. "Second Bread: Potato Cultivation and Food Security in Kyrgyzstan." *The Journal of Development Studies* 60(11): 1691–1712. doi:10.1080/00220388.2024.2374075.

Hagle, Timothy. *Riding the Caucus Rollercoaster 2024: The Last Ride?*.

Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin and John A. Vasquez. 2024. *What Do We Know About War? (Third Edition Revised)*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Timbs, Nathan, and **Sara McLaughlin Mitchell**. 2024. "How Climate Volatility Influences Human Rights." *Journal of Human Rights*: 1–30. doi:10.1080/14754835.2024.2416110.

Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin, Elise Pizzi, Carly Millerd, and Jeongho Choi. 2024. "Does Government Response to Natural Disasters Explain Violence? The Case of the Sendero Luminoso and Conflict in Peru." *Social Science Quarterly*. doi:10.1111/ssqu.13438.

Ko, Hyein, Natalie Jackson, **Tracy Osborn**, and **Michael S. Lewis-Beck**. 2025. "Forecasting Presidential Elections: Accuracy of ANES Voter Intentions." *International Journal of Forecasting* 41(1): 66–75. doi:10.1016/j.ijforecast.2024.03.003.

Matthews, Abigail A., **Tracy Osborn**, Emily U. Schilling, and Rebecca Kreitzer. 2024. "Legislative Success and Collaboration in the Texas State House." *Politics, Groups, and Identities*: 1–23. doi:10.1080/21565503.2024.2328555.

Franko, William, and **Julianna Pacheco**. 2024. "Despair and Voter Turnout in the United States." *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*. doi:10.1215/03616878-11670168.

Micatka, Nathan K., and **Julianna Pacheco**. 2024. "Socializing Policy Feedback: The Long-Term Effects of Adolescent Program Participation on Adult Party Identification." *Political Research Quarterly* 77(4): 1350–63. doi:10.1177/10659129241268825.

Pizzi, Elise, Kyla Hedding, Samuel F. Harper, and Kajsia E. Dalrymple. 2024. "Preparing for Flexibility in Response to Extreme Weather Events in Iowa." *State and Local Government Review*. doi:10.1177/0160323x241249479.

Coll, Joseph A., Elizabeth Maltby, and **Rene R. Rocha**. 2024. "Race and Democratic Decline in the United States: How Minority Population Growth Affects Election Administration." *Social Science Quarterly* 105(2): 160–79. doi:10.1111/ssqu.13344.

Cassandra Tai, Yuehong, Yue Hu, and **Frederick Solt**. 2024. "Democracy, Public Support, and Measurement Uncertainty." *American Political Science Review* 118, no. 1 (2024): 512–18. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055422000429>.

Boatright, Robert G., **Caroline J. Tolbert**, and Nathan K. Micatka. 2024. "Public Opinion on Reforming U.S. Primaries." *Social Science Quarterly* 105(3): 876–93. doi:10.1111/ssqu.13370.

Ritter, Michael J., and **Caroline J. Tolbert**. 2024. "Measuring County Election Administration in the United States." *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 23(3): 258–76. Mary Ann Liebert Inc. doi:10.1089/elj.2023.0027.

Garrido, Marco, **Marina Zalzoznaya**, and Nicholas Wilson. 2024. "Sociology of Corruption." *Elgar Encyclopedia of Corruption and Society*: 303–8. doi:10.4337/9781803925806.ch67.



For the full list, visit: politicalscience.uiowa.edu/news/2024-faculty-publications-and-books

DEPARTMENT NEWS

COLIN CASE

Assistant Professor

We welcomed new faculty member Colin Case this fall. Before coming to the University of Iowa, he completed his BA at the University of Michigan and his PhD at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. His areas of expertise include congressional elections and quantitative methods.



Kate Casaletto joined the department as Graduate Coordinator in April.

Brian Lai received the Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring Award from the International Studies Association Midwest Region.

Nicholas Martini received the 2023-24 Collegiate Teaching Award.

Elizabeth Meningga was appointed as an affiliate for the University of Iowa Center for Social Science and Innovation for a three-year term.

Julianna Pacheco was named 2024 Carnegie Fellow and received a grant from County Health Rankings and Roadmaps for her research on political and community power in Latino communities.

William Reisinger retired from the department this spring. We wish him the very best.

Rene Rocha received the 2024 Hubbard-Walder Award for Excellence in Teaching from the UI Council on Teaching.

Caroline Tolbert was elected as a Vice President of American Political Science Association (APSA) and received the APSA State Politics and Policy Career Achievement Award for her significant lifetime contribution to the study of American politics and policy.

2024 PhD & Placements



Tracee Saunders

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Inaccessible by Design? Administrative Burden and the Politics of Medicaid Take-Up*

PLACEMENT: Penn State University



Addison Huygens

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Rooks, Pawns, and Knights: How Different Types of Forward Deployed Military Forces Affect Extended Deterrence*

PLACEMENT: Tulane University



Jianjun Yu

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Dual Purposes of Government Communication in Chinese Local Governments*



Haofeng Ma

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Native Tongue, Language Policy, and Political Attitudes*



Weidong Zhang

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Why States Become Aggressive*

PLACEMENT: University of Texas, El Paso



**Michael V. Michener receives
2024 Distinguished Alumni Friend Award**

Mike Michener received the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Friend Award, one the University of Iowa’s highest alumni honors. Michener’s extraordinary career in foreign relations has had a tremendous impact on international trade and global food security, and we’re immensely grateful for his generous support as a student mentor and guest lecturer on populism and crisis response topics.



Alumni Fellow
DAVID CONN

David Conn ('75) was honored as a 2024 Alumni Fellow by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which recognizes alumni for their outstanding contributions and invites them back for a special presentation and campus visit. Conn is currently the president of the Department of Political Science Alumni Advisory Board and mentors students about careers in government relations. This fall, he taught a one-week class covering current issues related to public policy in the age of technology.

Welcome!

We welcomed several alumni as new board members this year. Visit their bios at: politicalscience.uiowa.edu/about/alumni-advisory-board

PICTURED: (top L-R) Robert Bone, Elizabeth M. Chiarello, Nathan Fiala (bottom L-R) Patrick Finn, Juliana Kerr, Maragret Reynolds, Dane Schumann.

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Poligram

Fall 2024

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For more information about giving options, please contact Travis Foss, Director of Development, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at travis.foss@iowa.org.

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