

S P R I N G 2 0 1 6

# P.S. GREAT NEWS!

*Vanderbilt Department of Political Science Newsletter*



## *Spring Forward with Vanderbilt Political Science!*

The Department of Political Science celebrates the arrival of spring with this newest edition of *P.S. Great News!* Please join us as we highlight the many recent accomplishments of our faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates! In this issue, we look at recent awards, publications, and grants won by members of our political science community; welcome new members to that community; and offer photographic evidence that all of us do (on occasion) step outside the hallways of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Commons Center.

### Save the Date!

#### Social and Political Thought Series

**Fri. April 8:**

Professor Susan Brison from the Department of Philosophy, Dartmouth College.

#### CSDI Speaker Series

**Fri. April 15:**

Christopher Berry, Professor of Political Science from the University of Chicago.

#### PSCI Dept. Awards Luncheon

**Wed. April 20:**

Come celebrate our award-winning faculty and students!

## Recent Placements

**Claire Abernathy** (Ph.D. 2015) will complete her first year as an assistant professor of political science at Richard Stockton College.

**Fred Batista Pereira** has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte beginning in the fall of 2017.

**Alejandro Diaz-Dominguez** (Ph.D. 2014) was recently appointed Professor and Director of Academic Affairs and Research in the School of Government at Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico.

**Brielle Harbin** will begin a three-year post-doc at the University of Pennsylvania as part of the university's Postdoctoral Fellowship for Academic Diversity Program.

**Matthew Layton** (Ph.D. 2015) is in his first year as assistant professor of political science at Ohio University.

**Mason Moseley** (Ph.D. 2014) is currently in his first year as an assistant professor in the department of political science at West Virginia University.

**Stephen Utych** (Ph.D. 2015) is nearing completion of his first year as assistant professor of political science at Boise State University.

## “AND THE WINNER IS . . .”



Cecilia Mo (Right) accepts the APSA award for best paper.



Alan Wiseman (3<sup>rd</sup> from Right) receives the Richard Fenno Prize.

### VU Political Science Takes Home APSA Awards

**Cecilia Mo** and her co-authors were awarded the 2015 Franklin L. Burdette Pi Sigma Alpha Award for the best paper presented at the American Political Science Association meeting. Their paper, “Why Do Asian Americans Identify as Democrats? Testing Theories of Social Exclusion and Intergroup Solidarity” explores the bases of electoral support among Asian Americans.

**Alan Wiseman** and his co-author Craig Volden received the 2015 Richard Fenno Prize for the best book in legislative studies. The award, given by the Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association, was for their Cambridge University Press book, *Legislating Effectiveness in the United States Congress: The Lawmakers*. The book also was awarded APSA’s 2015 Gladys M. Kammerer Award for the best book on U.S. National Policy.

### Mitchell Seligson Wins Prestigious Alexander Heard Distinguished Service Award

On March 31, 2016, **Mitchell Seligson** was awarded Vanderbilt University’s prestigious Alexander Heard Distinguished Service Professor Award for his “distinctive contributions to the understanding of problems of contemporary society.”



Mitchell Seligson in action.

### Department Receives an “A” for Teaching!

Political Science faculty continued to be widely recognized as some of the best teachers at a university that prides itself on high quality teaching. **David E. Lewis** received Vanderbilt University’s Madison Sarratt Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 2015. **Liz Zechmeister** was awarded the University’s 2015 “Excellence in Graduate Teaching” prize and **Carrie Russell** received the Harriet S. Gillam prize for “Excellence in Teaching by a Senior Lecturer.” The awards were given by Vanderbilt University’s College of Arts and Science.



Brielle Harbin (L) receives Women's Center Award.



Mollie Cohen (L) and Drew Engelhardt (R) receive Department awards.



2015 "Top Chef - Just Desserts" award winners rejoice.

*“AND THE WINNER IS . . .” (cont.)*

Among the many other honors and awards received by the Political Science community in recent months include:

- **James Booth** was awarded the 2015 Berry Professor-at-Large Ethics Prize from Vanderbilt University's Department of Philosophy. The award is given to a faculty or community member for contributions of service and research in the area of ethics.
- **David E. Lewis** received the 2015 Midwest Public Administration Caucus's Herbert Simon Award for his significant contributions to the study of public bureaucracy.
- Adjunct Professor **Roy Neal** was selected to become a member of the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame.
- **Josh Clinton** and **Cindy Kam** were recently among several Vanderbilt faculty honored by Vanderbilt with endowed chairs.
- The Department honored its best and brightest undergraduate Political Science majors at the annual Undergraduate Awards Luncheon.
- **Brielle Harbin** (Ph.D. 2016) recently received the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center Leadership Award in honor of her activities and achievements in the area of gender equity.
- **Laura Sellers** was selected to be a 2015/2016 HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory) Scholar affiliated with the Vanderbilt University Library.
- **Whitney Lopez-Hardin** won first place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual PSCI Top Chef - Just Desserts Competition. **Jon Hiskey** came in a very close second, followed by **Sheahan Virgin**.
- **Mollie Cohen** received the Department's 2014-2015 Erwin Hargrove Outstanding Teaching Award.
- **Andrew Engelhardt** was awarded the 2014-2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award.
- **Adrienne Girone** was invited to serve as a panelist on the Center for Teaching's "Expert TA" panel held during its 2015 Teaching Assistant Orientation program at Vanderbilt University.



The 2015 Vanderbilt inductees in the Beta Alpha chapter of the Political Science Honors Society.

# Political Science Out on the Town in Music City!

## Planned Action!

Graduate student Anna Carella (right) takes to costume (we hope!) to take a stand in support of Planned Parenthood!



## Heads of Tate Dominate!

Well, OK, maybe “dominate” is not the right word to describe the fall 2015 season of the Department’s intramural softball team. Though *Heads of Tate* may have had a few more losses than wins on the diamond, the team clearly won the prize for most enthusiastic and encouraging, as every game was filled with cheers and chatter. Congrats on a great season! Next up, *Heads of Tate* soccer!

## Climbing in Chattanooga!



(Above L-R) Grad. student Bryce Williams-Tuggle, LAPOP Program Coordinator Mariana Rodriguez, grad. students Bryan Rooney and Claire Evans enjoy a day on the rocks in C-town.



2015 Heads of Tate Softball - Front row (L –R): Holly Scott, Sheahan Virgin, Nicole Audette, Whitney Lopez-Hardin, Gui Russo. Back row (L-R): Maggie Deichert, Bryan Rooney, Kaitlen Cassell, Scott Limbocker, Jon Hiskey, Marc Trussler, and Sebastian Meyer. Players and coaches not pictured include Drew Engelhardt, Bryce Williams-Tuggle, Marc Hetherington, and Claire Evans.

## Celebration Time!

The Department sent off our graduating seniors in style with a wonderful graduation gathering for all Political Science majors held on the first floor of the



(Above L-R) Graduate Program Administrator Darlene Davidson and Director of Undergraduate Studies Carrie Russell welcomed graduating seniors to the Department’s Graduation Celebration in April 2015.

## “Extra, Extra! Read All About It!”

Below are some of the recent or forthcoming publications from our faculty and graduate students:

- **Brooke Ackerly** has an article entitled “Girls Rising for Human Rights: Not Magic, Politics,” that is forthcoming in the *Journal of International Political Theory*.
- Another paper by **Brooke** and graduate student **Anna Carella** entitled “Ignoring Rights is Wrong: Re-Politicizing Gender Equality and Development,” is forthcoming in the *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.
- **Cecilia Mo’s** “The Voter’s Blunt Tool” is forthcoming in the *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, and her paper “The Consequences of Explicit and Implicit Gender Attitudes and Candidate Quality in the Calculation of Voters,” recently appeared in *Political Behavior*.
- **Liz Zechmeister**, along with Ryan Carlin and Matthew Singer, saw their edited volume entitled *The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts* released by the University of Michigan Press in the fall of 2015.
- **Kristin Michelitch** published an article in *African Affairs* entitled “The 2012 Crisis in Mali: Ongoing Empirical State Failure.” Kristin has also been commissioned by the *Annual Review of Political Science* to write, along with **Noam Lupu**, an article entitled “Survey Research Methods in Developing Countries.”
- **Alan Wiseman** and his co-author have a forthcoming piece in *Advances in Strategic Management* entitled “Incorporating Legislative Effectiveness into Nonmarket Strategy: The Case of Financial Services Reform and the Great Recession.”
- **Marc Hetherington** and graduate student **Meri Long on** had their paper “Revisiting the Myth: New Evidence of a Polarized Electorate” accepted for publication in the *Public Opinion Quarterly*.
- **Efrén Pérez** has a forthcoming piece (with Niambi Carter) in *Political Psychology* entitled “Race and Nation: How Racial Hierarchy Shapes National Attachments.” **Efrén’s** 2015 article in *Political Behavior*, “Ricochet: How Elite Discourse Politicizes Racial and Ethnic Identities” was recently named one of Springer’s “Change the World, One Article at a Time” Must-Read Articles of 2015.
- The American Immigration Council published a special report by **Jon Hiskey** and Vanderbilt Ph.D.’s **Diana Orcés** (Ph.D. 2011) and **Abby Córdova** (Ph.D. 2008), along with co-author Mary Malone, entitled “Understanding the Central American Refugee Crisis.”
- **Amanda Clayton** published an article in *Comparative Political Studies* entitled “Female Leadership, Electoral Gender Quotas and Women’s Political Engagement: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment.”
- **Cindy Kam** and graduate student **Beth Estes** have a forthcoming article in the *Journal of Politics* entitled “Disgust Sensitivity and Public Demand for Protection.”
- **Brenton Kenkel** and his co-authors recently published a paper in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution* entitled “Information and International Institutions Revisited.”
- **Emily Nacol’s** book *An Age of Risk: Politics and Economy in Early Modern Britain* is forthcoming with Princeton University Press.
- **Ed Rubin** published *Soul, Self, and Society: The New Morality and the Modern State* with Oxford University Press in 2015. He also authored *The Heatstroke Line: A Cli-Fi Novel* in 2015.
- **Hye Young You** published “Organizations and the Democratic Representation of Interests: What Does it Mean When Those Organizations Have No Members?” in the journal *Perspectives on Politics* in 2015.

## “Show me the money!”

In recent months, our faculty and graduate students have continued their success in winning competitive grants to fund their research:

- **Cecilia Mo** received a grant from the World Bank for her project “Cultivating Democratic Citizenship: Evidence from Teach for India.”
- **Kristin Michelitch** was awarded a grant from the Democratic Governance Facility for an elite survey project across 50 subnational legislatures in Uganda.
- Graduate student **Laura Sellers** was awarded a Tinker Field Research Grant for six weeks of pre-dissertation work in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Graduate students **Kaitlen Cassell** and **Adrienne Girone** both received department Summer Research Awards for work in Guatemala during the summer of 2015.
- **Alan Wiseman** received a grant from the Madison Initiative for expansion of the *Legislative Effectiveness Project*.

## “What are you up to?”

Checking in on the activities of a few of our recent graduates:

- **Mariana Rodriguez (Ph.D. 2013)**, **Daniel Montalvo (Ph.D. 2011)**, and **Maria Fernanda Boidi (Ph.D. 2009)** all continue to be key members of the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), the premier survey research organization in the Americas. Dr. Rodriguez is the LAPOP Program Coordinator, Dr. Montalvo serves as the center’s Program Manager, and Dr. Boidi continues her work as the LAPOP Regional Coordinator from her base in Montevideo, Uruguay.
- **John Hudak (Ph.D. 2012)** has been featured prominently as a Senior Fellow of Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution with the recent release of a report entitled “The Medical Marijuana Mess: A Prescription for a Broken Policy” that offers a comprehensive analysis of the current state of marijuana reform laws across the U.S.
- **Jennifer Selin (Ph.D. 2014)**, assistant professor at the University of Illinois recently published a paper entitled “What Makes an Agency Independent?” in the *American Journal of Political Science*. She also had a paper with David Lewis, “Political Control and the Forms of Agency Independence” appear in the *George Washington Law Review*. Another co-authored paper, “Understanding Employee Turnover in the Public Sector” appeared in the *Public Administration Review*.
- **Matthew Layton (Ph.D. 2015)**, assistant professor at Ohio University and **Abby Córdova (Ph.D. 2008)**, assistant professor at the University of Kentucky, have a forthcoming piece entitled “When Is ‘Delivering the Goods’ Not Good Enough?” in *World Politics*.
- **Jason Husser (Ph.D. 2012)**, assistant professor of political science at Elon University and assistant director of the Elon University Poll, was recently named a University Faculty Fellow for Civic Engagement.
- **Camille Burge (Ph.D. 2014)**, assistant professor at Villanova University, was recently featured on Vanderbilt University’s Graduate School Career Development site: <https://my.vanderbilt.edu/gradcareer/2016/02/meet-camille-burge/>
- **Becca McBride (Ph.D. 2013)**, assistant professor at Calvin College, will have her first book, entitled *The Globalization of Adoption: Individuals, States, and Agencies Across Borders*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2016.
- **Stacy Clifford Simplican (Ph.D. 2011)** recently accepted a position as Senior Lecturer with Vanderbilt University’s Women’s and Gender Studies Department.
- **Alejandro Diaz-Dominguez (Ph.D. 2014)**, Professor and Director of Academic Affairs and Research in the School of Government at Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico recently appeared as a commentator on the Mexican news channel Excelsior TV.

## *Vanderbilt Political Science Ph.D.'s, 2010-2015*

### **2014-2015**

**Claire Abernathy** accepted a tenure-track position at Stockton University.

**Matthew Layton** accepted a tenure-track position at Ohio University.

**Arturo Maldonado** is currently a Visiting Professor at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru in the Department of Social Sciences.

**Mason Moseley** accepted a tenure-track position at West Virginia University.

**Stephen Utych** accepted a tenure-track position at Boise State University.

**Daniel Zizumbo** accepted a position as Visiting Professor at the Center for Economic Research and Teaching (CIDE) in Mexico City.

### **2013-2014**

**Jennifer Selin** accepted a tenure-track position at Univ. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign.

**Camille Burge** accepted a tenure-track position at Villanova University.

**Evan Haglund** accepted a tenure-track position at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

**Mariana Rodríguez** accepted a position as Program Coordinator at LAPOP.

**Alejandro Diaz-Dominguez** accepted a position as Advisor, Mexico's National Electoral Institute. In 2015, Alejandro began as Professor and Director of Academic Affairs and Research at Tecnologico de Monterrey in Mexico.

### **2012-2013**

**Patrick Bentley** accepted a position as Associate Research Scientist, Strategic Analysis Enterprises.

**Margarita Corral** was awarded a Postdoctoral Fellow, Brandeis University and now serves as a Data Analysis Specialist at Brandeis.

**Brian Faughnan** accepted a position as Senior Analyst, Analytics Media Group. He is now a Research Analyst for the U.S. Government.

**Rebecca McBride** accepted a tenure-track position at Calvin College.

### **2011-2012**

**John Hudak** accepted a tenure-track position at Brookings Institution.

**Abby Córdoba** accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Kentucky.

**Gbemende Johnson** accepted a tenure-track position at Hamilton College.

**Jason Husser** accepted a tenure-track position at Elon University.

**Stacy Clifford** was named a participant in ACLS New Faculty Fellows program. In 2012, she received a 2-year Hegarty Fellowship, Michigan State University DOCTRID (Dublin, Ireland). In 2015 she accepted a position as Senior Lecturer in Vanderbilt's Department of Women's and Gender Studies.

### **2010-2011**

**Jennifer Ogg-Anderson** accepted a tenure-track position at Tennessee Technical University.

**Daniel Montalvo** accepted a tenure-track position at the University of San Francisco, Quito, Ecuador. In 2014 he returned to the United States and accepted an offer as Program Manager of the LAPOP.

**Diana Orcés**, after two years as assistant professor at the Universidad de las Americas in Ecuador, recently accepted a tenure-track position at Oakland University.

## Welcome to Vanderbilt!



We are pleased to welcome five new faculty members to our community in the fall of 2016. **Allison Anoll** (Stanford Ph.D. 2016) will begin as assistant professor of American politics and specializes in race and ethnic politics in the U.S. **Noam Lupu** (Princeton Ph.D. 2011) comes to Vanderbilt from the University of Wisconsin and will begin as associate professor of comparative politics. His research interests include comparative political behavior and political parties. **Peter Schram** (Stanford Ph.D. 2016) will join the department as an assistant professor of international relations. His current work focuses on the organizational design of terrorist organizations. **Tariq Thachil** (Cornell Ph.D. 2009) joins us as an associate professor of comparative politics after spending several years as a faculty member at Yale. Prof. Thachil's work concerns political party development and political behavior in emerging democracies. Last but not least, **Sharece Thrower** (Princeton Ph.D. 2013) will begin as assistant professor of American politics, coming to Vanderbilt from the University of Pittsburgh. Sharece's work centers on the policymaking dynamics of U.S. political institutions.

## The Department of Political Science at Vanderbilt University is a diverse group of active scholars dedicated to intellectual discovery and teaching excellence.

Our faculty expertise spans American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Methodology, and Political Theory. We are home to many research centers and programs, including the [Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions](#), the [Global Feminisms Collaborative](#), the [Latin American Public Opinion Project](#), and the [Research on Individuals, Politics & Society Lab](#). We regularly bring a wide variety of experts to Vanderbilt's campus through the many speaker series and conferences we organize.

We are committed to excellence in undergraduate and graduate education. We are large enough to meet most students' interests and provide broad academic training, but small enough to be a supportive, friendly community. The department offers the perfect balance for ambitious and accomplished graduate and undergraduate students. For more information on our department and our undergraduate and graduate programs, please visit us at: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/political-science/>

### Contact us

**Phone:**  
(615) 322-6222

**Fax:**  
(615) 343-6003

**On Campus:**  
355 Martha Ingram Commons Center

**Mailing Address:**  
Department of Political Science  
PMB 0505  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

**Fed Ex/UPS mailing address:**  
Department of Political Science  
Vanderbilt University  
230 Appleton Place  
355 Commons  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203