

S P R I N G 2 0 1 8

P.S. GREAT NEWS!

Vanderbilt Department of Political Science Newsletter



Vanderbilt Political Science was well represented during *Hands On Nashville's 2017 Service Weekend*. Twenty-seven members of our department community braved the hot and humid conditions on Saturday, September 23, to participate in the citywide school improvement volunteer day.

When It's Springtime in Nashville!

Welcome to the Spring 2018 edition of *P.S. Great News!* Join us as we offer highlights of the activities and accomplishments of our Political Science community here on the 3rd floor of the Martha Ingram Commons Center. Inside you will find details on the many awards, publications, and grants received by our faculty and graduate students over the past year, along with an assortment of other items of interest involving our community both inside and outside the hallways of the 3rd floor Commons that VU Political Science calls home.

Save the Date!

Comparative Politics Speaker Series

Thur. April 12:

Kristin Michelitch, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Vanderbilt University

Social Political Thought Speaker Series

Fri. April 13:

Aleksey Dubilet, Senior Lecturer of English and Political Science, Vanderbilt University

CSDI Speaker Series

Fri. April 13:

Rachel Potter, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Virginia

Recent Placements

The 2017-18 job market is drawing to a close and the department continued its near 100% placement record. We wish the following students all the best as they leave "the nest" of the 3rd floor Commons:

Mollie Cohen has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of Georgia beginning in the fall of 2018.

Scott Limbocker has accepted an assistant professor position at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point beginning fall of 2018.

Bryan Rooney was named a Junior Research Fellow at the Carlos III Juan March Institute in Madrid, Spain.

VU PSCI Breaks Into *U.S. News and World Report's* Top 25 P.S. Graduate Programs

In *U.S. News and World Report's* most recent rankings of the country's top graduate programs in political science, Vanderbilt's program climbed twelve spots, moving from 36th to 24th. This was among the biggest moves in the rankings by any program! The American Politics program maintained its position in the top 15.

“AND THE WINNER IS . . .”



Larry Bartels accepts Vanderbilt's Earl Sutherland Prize for Achievement in Research

VU Political Science Recognized Far and Wide

Allison Anoll received the Best Dissertation Award from the International Society of Political Psychology in June and the Best Dissertation Award from the American Political Science Association's Race and Ethnic Politics Section in September. **Larry Bartels** received Vanderbilt's Earl Sutherland Prize for Achievement in Research at the Fall Faculty Assembly and, along with co-author Christopher Achen, received the International Society of Political Psychology's David O. Sears Book Award for the year's best book on the political psychology of mass politics, *Democracy for Realists*.

Kristin Michelitch was named an Andrew Carnegie Fellow for 2017-2019 for her research collaborating with a Ugandan civil society organization to hold politicians accountable for job performance.

More Awards Rolling In!!

Amanda Clayton's paper with co-authors Jennifer Piscopo and Diana O'Brien, entitled "All Male Panels? Representation and Democratic Legitimacy" was awarded the 2017 MPSA Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for best paper on the topic of women and politics.

Suzanne Globetti was awarded the 2017 Harriet S. Gilliam Award for Excellence in Teaching from Vanderbilt's College of Arts and Science.

Brooke Ackerly was recently named Editor-in-Chief of the *International Feminist Journal of Politics* for 2018-2021.

Dave Lewis was named President of the Southern Political Science Association for 2018.

Jon Hiskey was awarded the 2017 Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching from Vanderbilt's College of Arts and Science.

Mitchell Seligson was honored at a ceremony in Lima, Peru featuring the awarding of the first annual **Seligson Prize** for the most outstanding use of LAPOP's *AmericasBarometer* survey data in 2016-2017. The first recipients of the award were Joby Schaffer and Andy Baker for their article in *Comparative Political Studies* entitled, "Clientelism as Persuasion-Buying: Evidence from Latin America."

Sheahan Virgin received the Erwin C. Hargrove Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for 2016-2017 from Vanderbilt's Department of Political Science.

Marc Trussler received the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper award for 2016-2017 for his paper entitled, "Get Information or Get in Formation," in which he explores the impact of the expansion of high-speed broadband internet on straight ticket voting in the U.S.

Adrienne Fresh received the coveted PSCI Top Chef award for her delicious "Opera Cake" at the department's annual holiday gathering in December. **Carrie Russell** took second with her pecan pie and **James Martherus** finished a strong third with chocolate cupcakes.

Welcome 2017-2018 Cohort!



We welcomed 8 new members to our community this year with the arrival of the 2017-18 graduate student cohort. From L. to R. are Rich H., Dylan I., Meg F., Emily N., Mary Catherine S., Heesun Y., Katerina T., and Isaac R.



Carrie Russell completed the "Emerge Tennessee" Political Training program in July. The program is a 70-hour, cohort-based training program, designed to address the extra challenges that women face in the political arena.

VU Political Science Views In the News

The research of VU faculty and graduate students continues to be featured in the national and international media, as well as in government and non-government fora around the world:

- **Brooke Ackerly** gave a talk entitled “Feminist Grounded Normative Theory and Methodology” at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, March 5, 2018. She also was invited to present “With or Without Feminism? Researching Politics and Gender in IR for the 21st Century” at the Universidad Iberoamericana Puebla, in Puebla, Mexico in February 2018.
- **Larry Bartels** looked at the American public's opinions regarding Donald Trump in a February 21, 2018 article on *The Washington Post's* “Monkey Cage” blog entitled, "Here's how little Americans have learned about Donald Trump."
- **James Booth** was invited to speak at the American Philosophical Association Annual Meeting in January on “Why Monuments Matter.” **James** gave a lecture entitled “Addressing Historical Injustice” to the University of Virginia’s Department of Political Science in February 2018.
- **Josh Clinton** was invited to participate in the Russell Sage Foundation and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Conference on the *Social, Political, and Economic Effects of the Affordable Care Act* in New York on December 8, 2017.
- **John Geer and Josh Clinton** held a press conference in December 14, 2017 as part of the release of the latest results from the *Tennessee Poll*, a project housed in the Department of Political Science.
- **Jon Hiskey** was invited to participate in a two-day workshop entitled “Protecting the Rights of Individuals Fleeing Conflict: The Role of Scientists, Engineers, and Health Professionals,” sponsored by the Committee on Human Rights of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Washington, D.C., December 7-8, 2017. Jon also had a piece, entitled “The Face of Latin American Migration Is Rapidly Changing. US Policy Isn’t Keeping Up,” appear in *The Conversation* and run in various news outlets across the country.
- A piece by **Noam Lupu** along with co-authors German Feierherd and Susan Stokes, published "A Significant Minority of Americans Say They Could Support a Military Takeover of the U.S. Government" in a February 16, 2018 edition of *The Washington Post's* “Monkey Cage” blog.
- **Noam Lupu** and **Liz Zechmeister** published a post on the integrity of elections in Venezuela in *The Washington Post's* “Monkey Cage” blog titled: “Did Maduro's Party Really Dominate Sunday's Election in Venezuela? These Polls Should Make You Skeptical” on October 20, 2017.
- **Bruce Oppenheimer** recently appeared on Nashville News Channel 5’s *Inside Politics* to discuss the government shut down, tax legislation, and the upcoming midterm elections.
- An article by **Mitch Seligson** and Orlando Pérez, entitled “Hondurans Are In the Streets Because They Don’t Believe Their Election Results” appeared in the *Post's* online blog the “Monkey Cage” on December 19, 2017.
- **Sheahan Virgin** was a guest speaker at the Del Webb Civics Club in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, on “The Constitutional Underpinnings of the Electoral College and the Feasibility of Reform” in April 2017.
- **Alan Wiseman** and Craig Volden wrote “Senators Used to Excel at Lawmaking. Now, Not So Much. Here’s What Needs to Change” for *The Washington Post's* The Monkey Cage blog on September 26, 2017.
- **Liz Zechmeister** directed the public release of the 2016/17 AmericasBarometer data and report in September 2017. Dissemination events were held across the Americas in 2017 and early 2018.
- Along with many of the department’s faculty, a large contingent of our graduate students will be heading to Chicago in April 2018 for the 76th annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Among those presenting papers at the meeting will be **Oscar Castorena, Maggie Deichert, Drew Engelhardt, Claire Evans, HeeJu Jang, Scott Limbocker, James Martherus, Michael Shepherd, Marc Trussler, Bryce Williams-Tuggle and Adam Wolsky.**

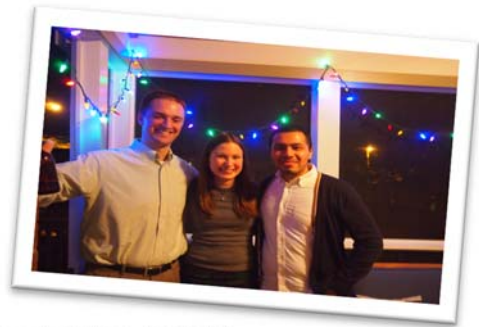
Political Science Inside Commons and Out

VU Political Science at the Movies!



“Who’s got the popcorn?!” PSCI graduate students and faculty outside the beautiful Belcourt Theater following the showing of *Human Flow*.

Holiday Cheer!



As is our tradition, the PSCI community once again gathered for good food and fellowship at the annual celebration of the holiday season! Pictured above (L to R), Scott Limbocker, Laura Sellers and Oscar Castorena enjoy the holiday season.

You never know who's going to show up in the Commons on Halloween



(Right) Is that really Macho Man Randy Savage or just Keith Weghorst living out his dream?

Curling anyone?



(Left) In addition to being an accomplished marathoner, Liz Zechmeister now has her sights set on the curling gold in 2022!

VU Political Science in the Community



(Left, L to R) Nicole Hinton, Meg Frost, and Kat Traut leaving their legacy at a local school during a Political Science service day.



(Right) Better keep your day jobs. (From L to R) Marc Trussler, Alex Theodoridis, Alan Wiseman, and Dave Lewis digging a fine hole in the ground that eventually became an even finer rain garden.

“Extra, Extra! Read All About It!”

Below are just a few of the recent or forthcoming publications from our faculty and graduate students (names in bold):

- **Brooke Ackerly**. 2018, *Just Responsibility: A Human Rights Theory of Global Justice*. Oxford University Press.
- **Brooke Ackerly, José Miguel Cruz, Anna Carella**, and Bishawjit Mallick. 2017. “Measuring Critical Theories of Human Rights,” in *Interpretive Quantification*, eds. J. Samuel Barkin and Laura Sjoberg, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 29-50.
- **Allison Archer and Joshua D. Clinton**. 2017. “Changing Owners, Changing Content: Does Who Own the News Matter for the News?” *Political Communication*.
- **Oscar Castorena and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister**. 2017. Representing the National Economic Agenda in Latin America: Variation by Fat and Lean Times and Party Brands. *Electoral Studies* 45: 208-218.
- David Bateman, **Joshua D. Clinton** and John Lapinski. 2017. “A House Divided? Roll Calls, Polarization, and Policy Differences in the U.S. House, 1877-2011.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 69(3): 698-714.
- **Jonathan T. Hiskey and Mason W. Moseley**. 2018. “Severed Linkages: Distorted Accountability in Uneven Regimes.” *Comparative Political Studies*.
- **Cindy D. Kam and Camille D. Burge**. 2018. “Uncovering Reactions to the Racial Resentment Scale Across the Racial Divide.” *Journal of Politics* 80(1): 314-320.
- **Cindy D. Kam and Marc J. Trussler**. 2017. “At the Nexus of Experimental and Observational Research: Theory, Specification, and Analysis of Experiments with Heterogeneous Treatment Effects.” *Political Behavior* 39(4): 789-815
- **Mollie Cohen**. 2017. “Protesting via the Null Ballot: An Assessment of the Decision to Cast an Invalid Vote in Latin America.” *Political Behavior*, First Online, May: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11109-017-9405-9>.
- **Noam Lupu** and Leonid Peisakhin. “The Legacy of Political Violence across Generations.” *American Journal of Political Science*, online version available at [<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ajps.12327/abstract>].
- Guy Grossman, **Kristin Michelitch**, and Marta Santamaria. 2017. “Texting Complaints to Politicians: Name Personalization and Politicians’ Encouragement in Citizen Mobilization.” *Comparative Political Studies* 50(10): 1325-1357.
- Jamie Bleck and **Kristin Michelitch**. “Capturing the Airwaves, Capturing the Nation? A Field Experiment on State-Run Media Effects in the Wake of a Coup” *Journal of Politics* 79(3): 873-889.
- **Mark D. Richardson, Joshua D. Clinton and David E. Lewis**. 2017. “Elite Perceptions of Agency Ideology and Workplace Skill,” *Journal of Politics*, 80(1): 303-308.
- Barber, Michael J., Brandice Canes-Wrone, and **Sharece Thrower**. 2017. “Ideologically Sophisticated Donors: Which Candidates Do Individual Contributors Finance?” *American Journal of Political Science* 61(2): 271-288.
- **Sharece Thrower**. 2017. “To Revoke or Not Revoke? The Political Determinants of Executive Order Longevity.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 61(3): 642-656.
- **Sheahan Virgin**. 2017. “Competing Loyalties in Electoral Reform: An Analysis of the U.S. Electoral College.” *Electoral Studies*, 49: 38–48.
- **Tariq Thachil**. 2017. “Do Rural Migrants Divide Ethnically in the City? Ethnographic and Experimental Evidence From India.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 61, 4 (October): 908-926
- Matthew Hitt, Craig Volden and **Alan E. Wiseman**. 2017. “Spatial Models of Legislative Effectiveness.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 61(3): 575-590.
- Lenka Bustikova and **Elizabeth J. Zechmeister**. 2017. “Voting in New(er) Democracies.” Chapter in Arzheimer, Kai, Jocelyn Evans, and Michael S. Lewis-Beck. *The SAGE Handbook of Electoral Behaviour*. SAGE Publications.

Vanderbilt Political Science Ph.D. 's, 2011-2018

2017-18

Mollie Cohen, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Georgia (beginning fall of 2018)

Scott Limbocker, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, U.S. Military Academy, West Point (beginning fall of 2018)

Bryan Rooney, Junior Research Fellow at the Carlos III Juan March Institute in Madrid, Spain

2016-17

Allison Archer, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Richmond

Mark Richardson, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, James Madison University

Carrie Roush, Democracy Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard's Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation from 2017-2019

Gui Russo, Research Associate, Pew Research Center

2015-16

Fred Batista, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of North Carolina - Charlotte

Matthew DiLorenzo, Research Analyst, AidData, College of William & Mary

Brielle Harbin, Vice Provost Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania

Meri Long, Lecturer and Academic Advisor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh

2014-15

Claire Abernathy, Assistant Professor, Stockton University

Mathew Layton, Assistant Professor, Ohio University

Arturo Maldonado, Visiting Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru

Mason Moseley, Assistant Professor, West Virginia University

Stephen Utych, Assistant Professor, Boise State University

Daniel Zizumbo-Colunga, Visiting Professor, at the Center for Economic Research and Teaching (CIDE)- Mexico City

2013-14

Camille Burge, Assistant Professor, Villanova University

Alejandro Diaz-Dominguez, Advisor, National Electoral Institute, Mexico. He is now Professor and Director of Academic Affairs and Research at Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico.

Evan Haglund, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy

Farhana Loonat, Assistant Professor, Skagit Valley College

Mariana Rodríguez, Program Coordinator, LAPOP, Vanderbilt University

Jennifer Selin, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2012-13

Patrick Bentley, Associate Research Scientist, Strategic Analysis Enterprises

Margarita Corral, Postdoctoral Fellow, Brandeis University. Now serves as a Data Analysis Specialist at the Library of Brandeis.

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

Rebecca McBride, Assistant Professor, Calvin College

2011-12

Stacy Clifford, ACLS New Faculty Fellow. Now Senior Lecturer, Women's and Gender Studies, Vanderbilt University.

Abby Córdoba, Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky

John Hudak, Fellow in Governance Studies, Brookings Institution

Jason Husser, Assistant Professor, Elon University, and Assistant Director of the Elon Poll

Gbemende Johnson, Assistant Professor, Hamilton College

Alumni Corner: Where are they now and what are they doing?

- ❖ **Allison Archer (Ph.D. 2017)** has had a successful first year at the University of Richmond's School of Leadership Studies, with forthcoming publications in the *Journal of Politics* and the *Political Communication*. Allison also got married in 2017 and will be returning to Nashville in May to participate in Vanderbilt's commencement.
- ❖ **Fred Batista (Ph.D. 2016)** was recently in town for the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies meetings and reports life is going well for him at UNC-Charlotte where he continues his work on gender relations and political psychology.
- ❖ **Hillary Dennen (M.A. 2014)** was recently appointed to the Litigation and Labor and Employment sections of the law firm GSRM Law. After earning her MA in Political Science from Vanderbilt, Hillary graduated from Belmont University Law School in 2017.
- ❖ **Alejandro Diaz-Dominguez (Ph.D. 2014)** reports in from Mexico to tell us that he is stepping down from his administrative position as director of Academic and Research Affairs at Monterrey Tech in order to spend more time on his research and teaching as a professor at the university's main campus in Monterrey. Given Alejandro's productivity while serving as Director of Research, with multiple publications in such journals as *Política y Gobierno* and *Perfiles Latinoamericanos*, we should see much more from him in the future!
- ❖ **Matthew DiLorenzo (Ph.D. 2016)** checked in from his position at William and Mary to report on two forthcoming articles in *International Studies Quarterly* and the *Journal of Peace Research*, as well as to let us know about the most recent addition to his family, Warren DiLorenzo, who is nearing his first birthday!
- ❖ **Brian Faughnan (Ph.D. 2013)** checks in from Washington, D.C. where in addition to his government work as a research analyst, he also offers courses at George Washington University on research design and methods and Latin American politics.
- ❖ **Jason Husser (Ph.D. 2012)** recently was appointed director of the Elon University Poll and was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure beginning in the fall of 2018! Way to go Jason!
- ❖ **Gbemende Johnson (Ph.D. 2012)** reports in from Hamilton College where she is going strong, with two publications in 2017, one appearing in the *Vanderbilt Law Review* and the other in the *Justice System Journal*.
- ❖ **Meri Long (Ph.D. 2016)** is enjoying life in America's other "it" city, Pittsburgh, where she continues her work in the Department of Political Science as a Lecturer and Advisor.
- ❖ **Becca McBride (Ph.D. 2013)** recently published *The Globalization of Adoption: States, Agencies, and Individuals across Borders* with Cambridge University Press (2016). On the heels of this publishing success, Becca left her position at Calvin College to begin work as a corporate development manager with Deloitte, a global consulting firm.
- ❖ **Daniel Montalvo (Ph.D. 2009)** was recently appointed Director of Survey Operations at Vanderbilt's Latin American Public Opinion Project.
- ❖ **Mason Moseley (Ph.D. 2014)** checks in from Mendoza, Argentina where he is conducting work for a forthcoming project and putting the finishing touches on his imminent Oxford University Press book, *Protest State: The Rise of Everyday Contention in Latin America*.
- ❖ **Jennifer Ogg Anderson (Ph.D. 2011)** recently moved from her position as Associate Professor at Tennessee Tech to the University of Louisville where she was appointed Program Director of the University's Teaching Innovation Learning Lab. Jennifer reports that life in Louisville is treating her well and is a big change from Cookeville!
- ❖ **Mark Richardson (Ph.D. 2017)** reports in from James Madison University with the news that he has three articles forthcoming in 2018, two in the *Journal of Politics* and one in the *Journal of Public Policy*.
- ❖ **Mariana Rodríguez (Ph.D. 2014)** recently co-authored a report with **Liz Zechmeister** for the Center for International Media Assistance entitled "Media Pluralism, Public Trust, and Democracy: New Evidence from Latin America and the Caribbean." Just as impressively, Mariana was recently named to the inaugural roster of Nashville's first women's professional ultimate frisbee team, the Nashville Nightshade! For those in the area, The Nightshade's first home game will be April 14th on the Vanderbilt campus.
- ❖ **Sonalini Sapra (Ph.D. 2010)** recently accepted a position at Guilford College's Center for Principled Problem Solving. Sonalini is an Engaged Teaching Specialist in the Center while also having an appointment in the Department of Political Science. Sonalini also sends along a picture of her wonderful family!
- ❖ **Steve Utych (Ph.D. 2015)** is enjoying life out west as an assistant professor of political science at Boise State University, so much so that he recently got married! He also has great success on the professional front with three publications forthcoming in 2018 in the *Journal of Politics*, the *Political Research Quarterly*, and *American Politics Research*!

Welcome to Vanderbilt!



We were pleased to welcome two new faculty members to our community in the fall of 2017. **Bradley Smith** joined us as an assistant professor from Rochester University where his research has focused on international conflict and cooperation and **Peter Schram** (Stanford Ph.D. 2016) joined the department in the fall of 2017 as an assistant professor of international relations. His current work focuses on the organizational design of terrorist organizations. We are also excited to announce the upcoming additions to our growing International Relations faculty. In the fall of 2018 we will have three more IR scholars joining our community. **Jenn Larson** will be arriving from NYU where she has been Assistant Professor since 2012. Jenn's research interests focus on the dynamics of social networks and cooperation in conflict settings. Also joining us will be **Emily Ritter** from UC-Merced where she has been assistant professor of political science since 2013. Emily's work centers on the impact that international institutions have on dissenting behaviors and state repression around the world. Finally, **Andrew Coe** will be arriving from California where he has been an assistant professor of political science at the University of Southern California since 2012. Andrew's work focuses on the causes and consequences of violent conflict. The Vanderbilt Political Science community is very excited to have all three joining us this summer!

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 Theory, and Political Methodology. We are home to many research centers and programs, including the [Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions](#), the [Social and Political Thought Workshop](#), 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/>

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