



Department of Political Science Newsletter

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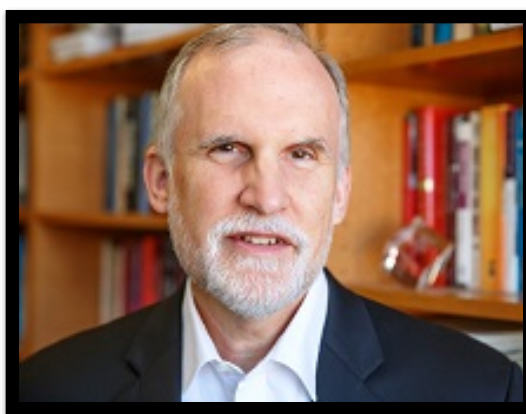
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A Note From the Chair

Fall is a busy time of the year. With the start of a new semester, we welcome new students and faculty to GW and specifically to the Department of Political Science. This year we welcomed **Yamil Velez** to our faculty (see p. 2).



Bruce Dickson

This fall, we are particularly busy with searches for new faculty. In most years, we have one or two searches, but this year we have seven (!) across the subfields of American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and political theory. Faculty searches are time-intensive: each search has three finalists who visit campus, meet with faculty and students, and give a research presentation. But it is also an exciting process, as we get to add new faculty with new talents and expertise to our department. That often means new classes that reflect the expertise of the new faculty. These new classes allow us to revise and update our curriculum, which is a direct benefit for our undergrad and grad students.

We hope your fall is equally rewarding!

-Bruce Dickson,

Chair of the Department of Political Science



Spotlight on Faculty

New American Politics Professor Yamil Velez

Assistant Professor **Yamil Velez** joined the GW Department of Political Science this fall. Professor Velez attended Florida State University and received two bachelor's degrees in psychology and political science. Immediately after college, he attended Stony Brook University to study political psychology and received his PhD in political science.

Professor Velez's research interests lie at the intersection of political psychology, political geography, and racial and ethnic politics. He has published articles on immigration, gentrification, and the political impact of natural disasters. This fall, he is teaching a seminar on political psychology and persuasion.

Professor Velez is excited to teach students who are passionate about politics, as well as the possibility of communicating his research to a broader audience including advocacy organizations and lawmakers.

Q: Why did you become interested in political science in general?

A: I chose political science as my major because I have always been fascinated by politics and I wanted to understand it on a deeper level than what can be apprehended by merely following the news.

Q: What projects are you currently working on?

A: I am currently working on a book project that considers the impact of residential mobility on community-level responses to immigrants. Aside from the book, I'm working on a set of projects that explore the impact of language on political attitudes.



Yamil Velez

Q: What is something interesting you've learned about GW since arriving in the fall?

A: I have been struck by just how many students work on campaigns. Being able to teach students who possess that kind of on-the-ground experience truly augments class discussions.

Q: Can you give us a fun fact that you'd like students to know about yourself?

A: I'm a classically trained guitarist and fronted a touring punk band in college.

To learn more about Professor Velez's book project, please visit his website at <https://www.yamilrvelez.com/>.

Spotlight on Faculty

Faculty Accolades

Our faculty members have been busy in 2018.

- ♦ **Celeste Arrington** authored "The Mutual Constitution of the Abductions and North Korean Human Rights Issues in Japan and Internationally" in *Pacific Affairs* in September 2018.
- ♦ **Alasdair Bowie** is a Fulbright Scholar in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China, for the 2018-2019 academic year.
- ♦ **Henry Hale** (with Oxana Shevel Olga Onuch) authored "Believing Facts in the Fog of War: Identity, Media Hot Cognition in Ukraine's 2014 Odesa Tragedy" in *Geopolitics* in September 2018.
- ♦ **Stephen Kaplan** (along with Jennifer Brinkerhoff and Maggie Chen) were awarded a \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education through the Center for International Business Education and Research (GW-CIBER).

Student Achievements

Undergraduate Students Complete Exciting Internships in 2018

Read on to learn how our undergraduate students spent their semesters as interns.



Emily Bauwens, BA '21
The Civil Rights
Enforcement Agency of
the City of St. Louis

"Over the summer, I had the incredible opportunity of researching ex-felons for the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency of the city of St. Louis. This included researching initiatives that contribute to better community and understanding the life returning citizens lead after prison in order to better understand how policies affect them. I interviewed numerous nonprofit organizations dedicated to assisting returning citizens, reporters who track this issue, and government officials who make decisions in regards to policies for ex-felons. At the end of the summer, I composed a report with policy recommendations on behalf of The Civil Rights Enforcement Agency that was reviewed by city officials."



Anthony Tusino, BA '18
World Wildlife Fund,
Oceans Department

"Over the summer I interned with the World Wildlife Fund Oceans Department working on both domestic and international policy. We worked closely with Congress and the World Trade Organization to reduce the plague of illegal fishing and impose stricter penalties on the import of endangered species."



Jordan Ramsay, BA '20 (middle)
Dr. Nadia Hashimi's congressional
campaign in the 6th District of Maryland

"My favorite part of the experience was being able to connect with so many new voters. I spoke with people who had never considered themselves political but felt like there was never a better time to join the conversation and make their voice heard. I guided people on their first ever door knock or phone call for someone they believed in. Our campaign was historic as Nadia was the first Afghan American woman to ever run for Congress and there, in our little corner of Maryland, we made history. I will never forget being a part of that change."



Aaron Hall, BA '18
National Republican
Congressional Committee

"My favorite part of my internship was meeting Paul Ryan, Kevin McCarthy and other high profile politicians, and also attending a White House event and seeing the president."

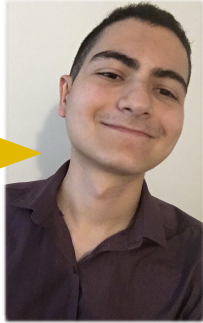


Jason Feng, BA '20
SKDKnickerbocker

"My experience at SKDK was a deeply formative professional experience. It pulled back the curtain on opportunities available to aspiring political operatives beyond simply work on the Hill or on a campaign trail. Most insightful to me was the passion and industry experience prevalent up and down SKDK's roster. I was able to learn through sheer exposure from professionals who have dedicated their lives to liberal causes. The team at SKDK organized workshops specifically for interns wherein staff would impart their skills and advice. Among these included a speech-writing seminar led by Stephen Krupin, President Obama's senior speechwriter during his 2012 re-election campaign. It is experiences like these that have proven indispensable to my educational and professional career."

"My favorite part of my internship was hosting and live tweeting the book launch of *Messing with the Enemy: Surviving in a Social Media World of Hackers, Terrorists, Russians, and Fake News* by Clint Watts in the Marvin Center and meeting the author.

He is a national security contributor for NBC News and MSNBC."



Nick Grant, BA '19
GW Center for Cyber & Homeland Security

"During my internship I was responsible for organizing and coordinating campaign events within the district, whether that be coffee hours, one-on-ones with Rep. Cutler, or canvassing. Along the way I also helped the representative endorse other candidates running across the state. The best part of my internship was meeting and helping out Congressman Joe Kennedy, and Boston's Mayor Marty Walsh."



Cooper Leonard, BA '20 (left)
State Representative Josh Cutler's reelection campaign for Massachusetts' 6th Plymouth District



Daniel Ohiri, BA '20
New Mexico Democratic Coordinated Campaign & Blue Advantage Partners

"Over the summer I interned at both the Democratic Coordinated Campaign and a democratic fundraising firm called Blue Advantage Partners. I spent my summer either organizing canvassers for democratic candidates or organizing their fundraisers. The campaign allowed me sharpen my field organizing abilities. Blue Advantage Partners showed me the importance of coordinating effective fundraising with a dynamic field presence to win elections."



Sage Polanco, BA '19
Castelblanco Law Group, APLC

"My favorite part at Castelblanco Law Group was seeing how someone's life could be changed after we won a case. We finally gave a voice to our clients, and they were allowed to get true justice. This job shows you that lawyers can be truly amazing and kind hearted. Everyday you go home feeling truly happy."

"My favorite part of the internship by far was the opportunity to meet with United States representatives on a near-weekly basis. Getting to know these politicians has long been a dream of mine, and it has inspired me to continue down my path of government affairs and public policy."



Gianluca Nigro, BA '19 (left)
Quincy 2000 Economic Collaborative

Student Achievements

New Roles for PhD Program Graduates

A hearty congratulations to our 2018 PhD program graduates who have recently accepted new positions!

- ♦ **Jonathan Hack**, PhD '18, is an applied research statistician at Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- ♦ **Clinton Jenkins**, PhD '18, is an assistant professor of political science at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Alabama.
- ♦ **Michael Joseph**, PhD '18, is a postdoctoral researcher in International Security Studies at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.
- ♦ **David Richardson**, PhD '18, is a permanent military professor of political science at the United State Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.
- ♦ **Annelle Sheline**, PhD '18, is a postdoctoral fellow at Rice University's Baker Institute in Houston, Texas.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Robert (Bob) Glasgow, BA '66, has been married for 50 years, has two children, and two grandchildren. He practiced law for 40 years in Portland, OR before retiring. He was on many nonprofit boards, and was president of the local Legal Aid, Jewish Community Center, and AJC.

Karin Williamson Pedrick, BA '67, authored the book *Inside Affirmative Action: The Executive Order That Transformed America's Workforce* that was released in July 2018.

Robert Dworkoski, BA '68, applied the skills he learned at GW to earn a PhD from Columbia University in European history. He recently completed a career as a headmaster and teacher in a college prep school in Los Angeles, and now is editing a book about the religion of FDR.

Sheldon Franklin, BA '69, is now retired, having served for 15 years as a New Jersey superior court judge. Franklin received his Juris Doctorate from Rutgers Law School, was elected to the Lakewood, New Jersey township committee, and served for one year as mayor.

Lynne Harkrader-Meyer, BA '69, currently resides in Aurora, Colorado with her husband. She is retired from the field of social work and has been licensed for many years. She is currently volunteering with the Red Cross, doing casework.

Gregory Brown, BA '73, recently retired as executive vice president, general counsel and chief administrative officer of a publicly traded energy company. He is the former mayor and current city council member of La Canada Flintridge, California.

Dan Beck, MA '82, after 17 years in political communications, joined Boeing in 1997 and is communications director for Space and Launch in Arlington, Virginia. Boeing works with NASA to venture to the moon and Mars.

Mark Lerner, BA '82, lives with his wife **Michele (Vodneck) Lerner**, BA '83, (they met at Thurston Hall) in Washington, D.C. He is currently the division director of radiological operations at the George Washington University Hospital.

Michael Delapena, BA '86, has been a special agent with the FBI for 28 years. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dominic (Mick) Angelichio, BA '87, is the president of Judge Healthcare and has been a leader in the healthcare staffing and search business for over 30 years.

David Brunori, MA '95, was elected a fellow at the National Academy of Public Administration.

Erik Schelzig, BA '97, MA '00, left The Associated Press after 14 years as a reporter in Florida, West Virginia, and Tennessee to become the editor of *The Tennessee Journal*, an influential political newsletter in Nashville.

Christopher Teal, MA '97, was recently promoted to the senior foreign service at the State Department and transferred back to D.C. to teach at the Inter-American Defense College. He is also completing a documentary about the first African American diplomat, Ebenezer Bassett.

Josh Douglas, BA '02, is a law professor who focuses on voting rights and election law. He has a new book coming out in the spring that is now available for preorder. It's called *Vote for US: How to Take Back Our Elections and Change the Future of Voting*.

Naomi Schneidmill, BA '02, has left NYC government after 12 years and is headed to Citigroup as senior vice president and CSIS investigations group manager in the regional investigations within Citi security and investing.

Noor Hassan, BA '03, joined McKinsey and Company's Public Sector Practice in 2016. Prior to joining McKinsey, Hassan served Department of Defense and Intelligence Community clients in the private sector aerospace and defense industry for over a decade.

Daniel Schneiderman, BA '06, recently completed a stint at the National Security Council under Presidents Obama and Trump as the director for Yemen. He is now the deputy U.S. program director at the International Crisis Group in Washington D.C.

Madison Calvert, BA '08, is a global sales leader at LinkedIn. He and his wife **Victoria Devine**, BA '10, live in New York City with their 1-year-old daughter.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES (CONTINUED)

Martin Fitzgerald, BA '09, is the Nevada state director of Let America Vote.

Jason Ruiz, BA '08, is currently residing in Washington, D.C. as a prosecutor within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

John Woodside, BA '08, is a lieutenant commander surface warfare officer in the United States Navy. He is currently stationed in Norfolk, Virginia.

Nathan Hennagin, BA '10, is an in-house Counsel for the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation in Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA). He lives in Los Angeles, California with his wife, **Rachel Kafka**, CCAS '10.

Grant Tudor, BA '10, recently completed a fellowship in Asia with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, a group that mediates armed conflicts. He is currently a graduate student at the Harvard Business School and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Andrew Moore, BA '11, is the director of national politics at Brigade, the world's first social network for voters. Brigade's mission is to empower voters by creating the tools they need to be effective advocates.

Madeleine Morgenstern, BA '11, is now deputy editor for programming and social at CNN Politics.

Maggie Rousseau, BA '11, recently started as communications director for Rep. Debbie Dingell. She previously worked for Sen. Al Franken and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici.

Craig Kauffman, PhD '12, published *Grassroots Global Governance: Local Watershed Management Reforms and the Evolution of Sustainable Development* (Oxford 2017). His book is co-winner of the Best Book in Environmental Studies Award given by the International Studies Association in 2018.

Fatemeh Tannaz Hosseinpour, BA '13, has opened her own education consultancy firm, TP Education Consultants (PathToUniversity.com) with offices in Dubai, Tehran & Toronto.

Omeed Firouzi, BA '15, won asylum for a client as part of the Villanova Law CARES clinic, graduated from Villanova Law, got engaged to **Erin Agnew**, BA '17 (over three years after they met at GW), and started a job as an ABA Tax Fellow at Philadelphia Legal Assistance.

William Healy, BA '15, is a 2L at St. John's University School of Law in New York. He is working at the MLB network currently and will be working at the United States attorney's office in the fall.

Gabriella Barbuto, BA '18, upon graduation in May 2018, accepted a job with Merrill Lynch and is currently obtaining her brokerage licenses. While she didn't fall into the political science field, her studies in the department helped her to examine how politics affects money markets.

Lukas Grund, BA '18, joined Governor Gary Johnson's campaign for United States Senate as scheduler and assistant director of communications. Lukas hopes to bring Gov. Johnson back to D.C. with him this November as the first Libertarian in the U.S. Senate.

Check out the department's alumni webpage for more News & Notes: departments.columbian.gwu.edu/politicalscience/alumni

Have news to share? Send us a sentence or two telling us about your recent academic or professional accomplishments to polsci@gwu.edu and include "Class Note" and your degree/year in the subject of the email.



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Department of Political Science
 George Washington University
 2115 G Street, N.W.
 Monroe Hall 440
 Washington, DC 20052
 Phone: 202.994.6290
 E-mail: polsci@gwu.edu
 Web: politicalscience.columbian.gwu.edu

Department of Political Science
George Washington University
2115 G Street, N.W.
Monroe Hall 440
Washington, D.C. 20052

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Monroe Hall 440
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polsci@gwu.edu



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