A Note from the Chair

We are in the midst of a periodic Academic Program Review, which provides the opportunity to take stock of how well the department has been doing.

During the past three academic years, our faculty:
- published 34 books, which won at least eight awards;
- published 108 articles in academic journals, which won over 10 awards;
- produced countless blog posts, op-eds, commentaries, book reviews, and chapters in edited volumes;
- received 32 sponsored research grants, totaling over $5 million.

If you have been following our Facebook feed, you will have noticed that since spring 2017, our faculty have already published an additional four books and 11 articles, and more are in the pipeline.

These numbers provide some indication of productivity, but what about influence? Our faculty serve as editors or editorial board members of over 60 journals. Many serve on committees of the American Political Science Association, the International Studies Association, the National Endowment for Democracy, the Association for the Study of Nationalities, and others. At least eight have received awards for career scholarly achievement.

This is what makes GW such a great place to study political science; being surrounded by faculty who are so productive and whose achievements are so often honored.

GW is also a great place to be because you get the opportunity to meet people like NBA Hall of Famer Yao Ming. In September, I was co-moderator of an event on “U.S.-China Social and Cultural Dialogue.” This event brought Yao Ming and classical pianist Lang Lang to campus to exchange viewpoints with several GW students and alumni. The event also included high-ranking United States and Chinese officials, but the definite high point (no pun intended) was meeting Yao.

-Bruce Dickson, Chair of the Department of Political Science
Faculty in the News

The Monkey Cage

The Monkey Cage was founded in 2007 by three members of the Department of Political Science: David Park, John Sides, and Lee Sigelman. The goal was simple: to promote political science research and discuss current events from a more academic perspective. It seemed at that time—and often seems today—that too much of the political conversation didn't reflect the important insights of scholars. The title of the blog was taken from a famous quote by the writer H.L. Mencken: "Democracy is the art of running the circus from the monkey cage."

Over time, the site grew from a niche blog to, well, a bigger niche blog. More regular contributors came on board. The site's audience increased and it began getting noticed by journalists and established political analysts. The site also began to publish guest contributions from political scientists, diversifying the range of its content.

In September 2013, a new opportunity opened up: a chance to publish with The Washington Post. This changed nothing about the site's mission and goals, but it vastly expanded both the audience and the number of scholars interested in submitting contributions. In response to that, the site's editorial team grew, aided by financial support from the Democracy Fund, the Carnegie Corporation, the Hewlett Foundation, the Luce Foundation, and GW. The Monkey Cage now involves a team of nine political scientists, helmed by Sides and including GW political scientists Sarah Binder, Henry Farrell, Danny Hayes, Marc Lynch, and Elizabeth Saunders. In addition, four professional editors work to ensure that each contribution is comprehensible to the average reader.

As a result, more than 2,700 scholars have published on The Monkey Cage, and the site is now viewed upwards of 25 million times a year. Political scientists who have published on the site report receiving contact from the news media and policymakers and, occasionally, funding for their research or a book contract. This shows the value of public engagement by scholars.

The site's goal is to continue providing a venue where scholars can share their research and expertise and bring an informed perspective to the circus.

To read The Monkey Cage, please visit: www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/
Department Achievements

PhD Student News & Publications

✦ Samer Anabtawi was awarded the Bucerius Pre-Doctoral Research Grant for fieldwork in Tunisia.
✦ Jared Clemons and Rosalie Rubio are 2017-2018 APSA Minority Fellowship Program recipients.
✦ Lillian Frost (and Musa Shteiwi) are authors of “Syrian Refugees and Citizenship” in the work The Middle East in Transition: The Centrality of Citizenship, edited by Roel Meijer and Nils Butenschon, which is forthcoming in 2018.
✦ Kendrick Kuo (and Harris Mylonas) authored “Nationalism and Foreign Policy” in the Oxford Encyclopedia of Foreign Policy Analysis, edited by Cameron Thies, published September 2017.

Department Achievements

Faculty Awards & Achievements

✦ Brandon Bartels was awarded a major new grant from the National Science Foundation in June 2017 for his research, “Supreme Court Polarization and Its Effects on Judicial Policymaking, Media Discourse, and Institutional Legitimacy.”
✦ Adam Dean’s book From Conflict to Coalition: Profit-Sharing Institutions and the Political Economy of Trade was a 2017 finalist for the J. David Greenstone Book Prize given by the Politics and History section of the American Political Science Association.
✦ Henry Farrell was promoted to full professor following the board of trustees May 2017 meeting.
✦ Stephen Kaplan was granted tenure and was promoted to associate professor following the board of trustees May 2017 meeting.
✦ Forrest Maltzman and Paul Wahlbeck (with colleague Jim Spriggs) were awarded the “Lasting Contribution Award” by the Law & Courts section of the American Political Science Association for their book, Crafting Law on the Supreme Court: The Collegial Game.
✦ Mike Miller was granted tenure and was promoted to associate professor following the board of trustees May 2017 meeting.
✦ David Szakonyi was awarded the 2017 Robert C. Tucker/Stephen F. Cohen Dissertation Prize by the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.
**Dr. Christopher Warshaw** is a new professor in the Department of Political Science with a focus on the field of American politics. He received his PhD in political science from Stanford University in 2012 and taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 2012-2017. We asked Professor Warshaw a few questions to learn more about him.

**Q: What inspired you to become a professor?**

A: I've always loved politics. Moreover, decisions made by politicians have a huge effect on people's lives. So I decided that teaching and researching politics was a great way to contribute to the world. Most importantly, I wanted to figure out how we could make our political system work better. Much of my research focuses on the degree to which elected officials listen to their constituents, and how we might incentivize them to be more responsive to the preferences of voters. I also focus on whether we can design institutions that improve the performance of our democracy. For instance, does direct democracy create a stronger link between the public and policy? Do term limits lead to better legislators? Will campaign finance reform improve politics?

**Q: How would you describe your teaching philosophy?**

A: I try to train students to think critically about the world. I also want to train them to think like a social scientist. For instance, I usually spend a lot of time in class talking about the research design of studies we read in class. I want to give them tools to evaluate hypotheses, and the persuasiveness of the evidence for these hypotheses, throughout their lives. Finally, I try to get students engaged in discussions rather than simply lecturing from the front of the room.

**Q: What projects are you currently working on?**

A: I'm in the final stages of a book project with a collaborator that examines representation and elections in the American states over the past eight decades. I'm also working on a big project on the policy effects of the partisan composition of county legislatures. Finally, I'm working on smaller scale projects on public opinion about climate change and energy policy; economic voting in state and local elections; the effects of gerrymandering on representation; and changes in the polarization of the mass public between 1950 and today.

**Q: Can you give us a fun fact about yourself?**

A: I'm a big soccer fan, and I love to hike in the mountains. I'm excited to attend lots of soccer games in the DC area and find great hiking trails.
Dr. Adam Dean is a new professor in the Department of Political Science at GW. He received his PhD in political science from the University of Chicago in 2014. From 2014-2017, he was an assistant professor at Middlebury College in Vermont. We sat down with Professor Dean to get to know him better.

Q: What are your academic plans as we head into the new spring semester?

A: I'll be teaching a graduate course at the Elliott School of International Affairs on International Political Economy and I am working on two new research projects.

Q: What inspired you to become a professor?

A: I was inspired to become a professor while working on a master’s thesis at the London School of Economics. It was my first experience with the excitement and flexibility of conducting independent research. I was also lucky to be mentored by Ken Shadlen, a professor who provided a great example of research with important real world implications.

Q: How would you describe your teaching style?

A: I taught at Middlebury College for three years before joining GW, and am used to working closely with students in small seminars. With the move to GW, I am especially excited for the opportunity to work with graduate students.

Q: What projects are you currently working on?

A: I am currently writing a book on the causes of trade liberalization in developing countries since the 1980s. I am also working on a new project that explores the impact of trade-related job losses on the welfare state, public health, military enrollment, and the causes of war.

For more of his research, check out Professor Dean’s book *From Conflict to Coalition: Profit-Sharing Institutions and the Political Economy of Trade* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).
ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Kunio Tanabe, BA ’67, MA ’71, has been busy exploring the world after retiring from The Washington Post as senior editor and art director for the book section. She is still thankful for the ad on campus that led to 39 enjoyable years at the Post.

Jacky Robin Clyman, BA ’69, worked as an interpreter for the U.S. Department of State before getting married in 1971 to Jeff Clyman, JD ’70, from GW Law School. Together they started an apparel company called Avirex USA which is now Cockpit USA located in New York City.

Jeff Sacks, BA ’80, married Roni Tellem, BA ’79, in 1982. On October 23, 2017 they celebrated their 35th anniversary. Together Jeff and Roni coach high school tennis for the girls at The Baldwin School in the fall and the boys at Delaware Valley Friends in the spring.

Ross Moskowitz, BA ’81, was one of seven attorneys profiled in the 2017 Commercial Observer’s “Power of Attorneys: The Lawyers Who Shape Everything in the World of Real Estate.”

Eric Cummings, BA ’91, went on to earn an MEd from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and a PhD in education policy from Penn State. He's now the dean of the School of Humanities, Education & the Arts at Cumberland University.

Gilbert Cisneros, BA ’94, is running for Congress in the California 39th Congressional District, which stretches across Orange, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties.

Michael Henrich, BA ’06, was recently nominated for two Emmy Awards, including New England's Best Reporter. Michael continues to report for WFXT-TV, the Boston FOX affiliate.

Jeffrey Hornung, PhD ’09, began work at the RAND Corporation in April as a political scientist.

Melissa Betheil, BA ’10, joined the World Economic Forum in February 2017 as a community specialist. She works closely with the world’s leading health and healthcare companies as part of the Forum's Global Health and Healthcare Industries.

George “Trip” Stewart, BA ’11, married fellow GW alumna Kathryn Burggraf, BA ’11, MA ’13, this past August. Upon return from their honeymoon in Spain, Trip is now celebrating his one-year anniversary as a practicing attorney in Virginia.

Michael Wear, BA ’11, published a book earlier this year with HarperCollins on his time working in the White House called Reclaiming Hope: Lessons Learned in the Obama White House About the Future of Faith in America.

Hector Canciano, BA ’13, says “My dream came true.” Hector joined the NBA Global Strategy Group earlier this year.


Colin Milon, BA ’14, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and is pursuing a JD/MBA from Villanova University, expected to graduate in 2018.

Eric Essagof, BA ’16, is the policy assistant at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and was previously an organizer for the Democratic Party of Virginia.

Check out the department’s alumni webpage for more News & Notes: politicalscience.columbian.gwu.edu/class-notes

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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