

POLS News and Notes Early Fall 2014 (vol. 2, no. 1)

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A note From the Department Head ...



With the new fall semester up and running, little has gone according to plan. At the recently concluded meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington DC, a handful of our faculty were among the hundreds of political scientists forced out of the meeting's headquarters hotel in the middle of the night by a fire. Crazy things can be found in Storrs as well. The recent surge of undergraduates at the Storrs campus (3585 freshmen just arrived) has kept our faculty and staff on their toes responding to questions and concerns. We lost Jennifer Fontanella to the International Studies Association on the other side of campus (congrats, Jennifer!), but welcome our new administrative coordinator, Lindsay Halle, fresh from her stint as drama director and teacher at RHAM High School. Perhaps her experience dealing with various forms of drama will come in handy in the months ahead! At the end of this newsletter detailing many recent student and faculty accomplishments, note the list of speakers that might give alumni, emeritus faculty and others yet another reason to come visit us in our still relatively new digs on the 4th floor of Oak.

-- David A. Yalof

Recent Faculty Publications, Conferences and Honors



Professor **Mark Boyer** has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

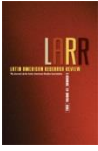


Professor **Brian Waddell's** book, *Arming the Nation for War: Supply, and the American War Effort in World War II*, has been nominated for the New York Historical Society's Annual Book Prize in American History. Published by the University of Tennessee Press, Waddell's work is a novel exploration of Assistant Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson's massive armaments mobilization that was crucial to Allied victory in World War II.

POLS Major Tina Lapsia Meets Alumnus Alan Bennett



UConn's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recently kicked off a new initiative called the Student Leadership Board. More than 50 students applied, 35 participated in interviews, and a group of 23 accepted invitations to be the first set of members of the board. As part of the kick-off for this initiative, students met with the CLAS alumni advisory board, including Alan Bennett, the alumnus who has sponsored the Alan Bennett Honors Chair and the various Bennett research awards in POLS. POLS Major Tina Lapsia, who interned in Washington, DC over the summer, quickly recognized his last name and thanked him for his generosity to Political Science.



Professor **Matthew Singer's** article, "Elite Polarization and the Electoral Impact of Left-Right Placements: Evidence from Latin America, 1995-2009," has been accepted for publication in the *Latin American Research Review*.



Professor **Prakash Kashwan** published three articles. The first, "[Nested governance for effective REDD+: Institutional and political arguments](#)," co-authored with Robert Holahan, appeared in the *International Journal of the Commons*. The second, "[Botched-up Development and Electoral Politics in India](#)," appeared in *Economic and Political Weekly*. The third, "[Crafting Institutional Reforms for International Development. Book Review: Andrews, Matt, The Limits of Institutional Reform in Development: Changing Rules for Realistic Solutions. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 2013](#)," appeared in the *European Journal of Development Research*. Professor Kashwan also made his debut appearance on talk radio, going on XRAY.FM's Carl in the Morning. (Portland, OR) to talk about India's election results. Audio of his appearance is available here: <https://soundcloud.com/carl-wolfson/carl-in-the-morning-thursday-june-5-2014/#t=1h2m40s>. Lastly, Professor Kashwan wrote an analysis of the results of India's sixteenth general elections for the popular Political Science blog, *The Monkey Cage*. His post is available here: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/05/20/indias-elections-and-the-politics-of-development/>.



A Working Group that **Prakash Kashwan** co-organized on "Power in Institutions and Institutional Analysis" at the "Workshop on the Ostrom Workshop" (WOW5), held in Indiana University, Bloomington (June 18–21), was well received. The working group has now been formalized into an ongoing collaborative group of the Ostrom Workshop. Details are available here: <http://www.iub.edu/~workshop/research/workinggroups/index.php>



Professor **Shareen Hertel** will deliver a talk at Yale Law School's Orville Schell Center for International Human Rights in October 2014 on "Economic Rights Advocacy in Practice: The long (and unfinished) journey of India's Right to Food Campaign." This research is also central to a chapter that Hertel has co-authored with Susan Randolph (University of Connecticut, Dept. of Economics), on "The Challenge of Ensuring Food Security: Global Perspectives and Evidence from India" in *Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights: Emerging Possibilities for Social Transformation*, LaDawn Haglund and Robin Stryker, eds. (University of California Press, forthcoming). Separately, Hertel has contributed a chapter to an edited volume forthcoming from Routledge, "Theoretical and practical implications of public/private partnerships for labor rights advocacy," in *The NGO Challenge for International Relations Theory*, William DeMars and Dennis Dijkzeul, eds.



Professor **Shayla Nunnally** has been newly appointed as a member of the American Political Science Association's (APSA) Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession. She will become an active discussant in concerns affecting the under-representation of black people in the Political Science profession. This fall 2014, Professor Nunnally began her service as the University Senate representative to the Financial Affairs Committee of the University of Connecticut's Board of Trustees. Her term will last through summer 2016. Professor Nunnally also was selected to become a 2014-2016 representative of the Eastern Region of The Links, Incorporated (an international service organization) for the Scott Hawkins Leadership Institute (SHLI). Additionally, she was nominated and selected as one of her alma mater's top "[40 Under 40](#)" Alumni.



Recently, Professor **Shayla Nunnally** appeared on MSNBC's "Melissa Harris-Perry Show" (August 24) to discuss the Ferguson, Missouri protests and their implications for trust in government among black Fergusonians. The clip of her appearance is available at: <http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/watch/the-state-of-trust-in-ferguson-321608771779>.



Professor **Jane Gordon's** piece, "Creolising Political Identity and Social Scientific Method," was published last month in *Africa Development*. Also, *Philosophy and Social Criticism* has accepted and slated for publication the special issue devoted to Amartya Sen's *The Idea of Justice* that she edited, which includes a reply from Professor Sen. Finally, Rowman and Littlefield International just contracted a book entitled *Creolizing Rousseau* that Professor Gordon co-edited with Neil Roberts. It will be out in the beginning of 2015.



Professor **Vin Moscardelli** published an article, "Measuring Legislative Collaboration: The Senate Press Events Network," coauthored with Bruce A. Desmarais, Brian F. Schaffner, and Michael S. Kowal, in the interdisciplinary journal *Social Networks*. The full text of this article is available at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378873314000483>.



Professor **Ben Newman's** forthcoming article in the *British Journal of Political Science*, "Easing the Heavy Hand: Humanitarian Concern, Empathy, and Opinion on Immigration," was selected by the BJPS Editorial Staff to be featured on *The Monkey Cage*, as per the journal's effort to bring more academic research into the public limelight. The article is available at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/04/25/humanitarian-appeals-encourage-a-permissive-immigration-policy/>. This is Professor Newman's second piece of research published this academic year that was selected to be featured on *The Monkey Cage*.



Professor **Paul Herrnson** was quoted in the August 13th *Wall Street Journal* article, "Connecticut Republicans Trade Barbs as Primary Nears." The article is available here: <http://online.wsj.com/articles/connecticut-republicans-john-mckinney-and-tom-foley-trade-barbs-as-primary-nears-1407441590>.



Professor **Stephen Dyson** was asked by the British Political Science Association to comment on the secret letters between Tony Blair and George W. Bush about the Iraq War. The essay is available here: <http://www.psa.ac.uk/insight-plus/blog/gist-bush-blair-secret-letters-controversy>.





Professor **Stephen Dyson's** article on Saddam Hussein's public and private belief system was published in *Research and Politics*. The article is coauthored with former POLS Honor student Alexandra Raleigh. In line with the journal's mission to rapidly disseminate new research rather than hide it behind a paywall, the full article is available online here: <http://rap.sagepub.com/content/1/1/2053168014537808.full>.




Professor **Stephen Dyson** also reviewed the new record by Morrissey, focusing on the political themes the British singer has addressed over the years. The essay appeared in *The Monkey Cage*, and is available here: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/07/09/the-return-of-our-most-political-singer-morrissey/>. Also in *The Monkey Cage*, Professor Dyson wrote about HBO's saturnine thought


experiment “The Leftovers,” available here: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/09/07/the-leftovers-satisfies-in-tvs-darkest-thought-experiment/>

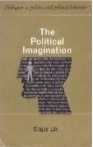
 The Roper Center, directed by POLS Professor **Paul Herrnson**, has put out an issue report in *UConn Today*, “The Civil Rights Act of 1964 Revisited.” It is available here: <http://today.uconn.edu/blog/2014/07/the-civil-rights-act-of-1964-revisited/>.

 Professor **Meina Cai**’s dissertation, “Land-Locked Development: The Local Political Economy of Institutional Change in China,” won the Ronald Coase Best Dissertation Award, which was formally announced at the International Society for New Institutional Economics Conference in June. The announcement of professor Cai’s award is available here: <http://www.isnie.org/awards-2014.html>

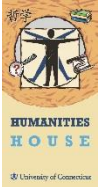
 Professor **Zehra Arat** attended three conferences over the summer. First, she presented her paper, “Human Rights and Social Justice: Rereading the Qur’an and International Bill of Rights,” at the APSA-IPSA-ISA-European Consortium for Political Research joint conference on “Human Rights and Change,” at the Kadir Has Üniversitesi in Istanbul (June 16-18). Second, she was a chair and participant at the roundtable on “Chains of Justice: National Human Rights Institutions,” at the annual meeting of the Academic Council on the United Nations System, Istanbul (June 19-21). Finally, she presented “[Uses and Misuses of Human Rights](#),” a paper co-authored with George Andreopoulos at the World Conference of the International Political Science Association, Montreal (July 19-24).

Emeriti News

 **Fred Turner**, Professor Emeritus, attended the 18th International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama, Japan. He organized three panels: Current Research in Comparative Sociology; and Changing Global Values, Parts 1 and 2.

 It is with sadness that the Political Science Department announces that **Edgar Litt**, Professor Emeritus, passed away on July 16th at the age of 83. An expert in educational policy and prolific author, Professor Litt taught at UConn from 1968 until his retirement in 1993. His books include *The Public Vocational University*, *Ethnic Politics in America: Beyond Pluralism*, *The Political Culture of Massachusetts*, *The Political Imagination: Dialogues in Politics and Political Behavior*, *Democracy’s Ordeal in America: A Guide to Political Theory and Action*, *The New Politics of American Policy*, *United Kingdom Educational Policy: A Decade of Reform* (coauthored with Michael Parkinson), and *The Winston Simplified Dictionary* (coauthored with William D. Lewis).

Graduate Student Achievements



To support Professor Stephen Dyson, who has accepted an appointment as Director of the Humanities House, POLS Graduate students **Sarah Munro** and **Thomas Briggs** have been appointed as Associate Directors. The team will be responsible for providing intellectual and administrative leadership to the Learning Community and promoting knowledge and awareness of the humanities across campus and beyond. Humanities House enrolls students who have an interest in interdisciplinary learning across many fields, including literature, history, languages, ethnic studies, creative writing, and philosophy.



Graduate Student **Salil Benegal** has received a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Dissertation Fellowship for the 2014-2015 academic years in recognition of his research concerning public opinion on environmental issues. Salil also holds the Human Rights Certificate and has been actively involved with the Economic and Social Rights Research Group (ESRG) for several years.



Graduate student **Vanessa Lovelace** (POLS/Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies/Africana Studies Institute) was interviewed on August 23rd on the KPFA 94.1 Berkeley show, "Saturday Morning Talkies." The audio is available here for streaming or download here: www.kpfa.org/archive/id/105918. She discussed her article, "On Ferguson's Protest and Its Occupation," which was published in *The Feminist Wire*. Her article is available here: <http://thefeministwire.com/2014/08/fergusons-protest-occupation/>.



Graduate student **Yazmín García Trejo**, who holds UConn Masters of Arts degrees in both Latin American Politics and Survey Research, has written a post, "Equal Pay Day in Latin America" for the AULA (American University's Center for Latin America and Latino Studies) Blog. Her post is available here: <http://aulablog.net/2014/05/12/equal-pay-day-in-latin-america/>. Yazmín is currently an American Dissertation Fellow from the American Association of University Women (AAUW).



Graduate student **Jack Barry** published an essay, "Here's Hoping My Rock Keeps Rolling," in the anthology *Befriending Death*, edited by Professors Alfred G. Killilea and Michael Vocino and published by the University of Rhode Island Press. He also presented his paper, "Don't be Evil: Should Access to the Internet be Conceptualized as an Instrumental Human Right?" at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.



Graduate student **Gabriela Tafoya** was awarded the Governor Abraham Ribicoff Fellowship for students in American Politics. Additionally, she received a Travel Award from El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies to support her attendance at the Latin American Studies Association meeting in Chicago this past Spring. There, she presented her paper, "Revisiting the Impact of Bolsa Familia: The effects of conditional cash transfer programs on national electoral outcomes in Brazil."



Kristy Belton, a doctoral advisee of Professor Shareen Hertel, successfully defended her dissertation, "Precarious Belonging: Stateless People in a 'Postnational' World," in June and has begun a post-doctoral fellowship at The University of Dayton.



In January 2015, Graduate student **Brian Boecherer** will be traveling to Novosibirsk, Russia in the heart of Siberia. (Novosibirsk is the coldest inhabited place on the planet!) He will be going for language training to focus specifically on conducting higher level interviews that will support his dissertation research. In March, he will be in Estonia conducting interviews to get a better understanding of legal consciousness in former dictatorships.



Graduate student **María Fernanda Enríquez Szentkirályi** successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, "Social Movements and Framing Decisions: Ecuador's Campaign for the Rights of Nature." Her work contends that, contrary to the expectations of scholars of social movements, Ecuador's environmental movement incurred no fracturing disagreements over how it framed its central issues. An abstract is available here: http://www.polisci.uconn.edu/graduate/dissertation.php?maria_enriquez



Graduate student **Daniel Tagliarina** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, "Power, Privilege, and Prayer: Christian Right Identity Politics and Mobilizing for School Prayer." His work offers an incisive look at rights-claiming rhetoric in Christian Right mobilization against gay marriage in the United States. An abstract is available here: http://www.polisci.uconn.edu/graduate/dissertation.php?daniel_tagliarina

Undergraduate Students on the Rise



Former POLS Honors Student **Maggie McCarthy** (Class of 2010) was just accepted into Georgetown's School of Medicine as part of the Navy's medical program. An Oaklawn Scholar, Maggie was the medals ceremony speaker during her graduation year. After graduation, she worked in the policy sector, but soon learned that medicine was her passion and returned for UConn's Post-Baccalaureate Medical Program.



The Dean's Office announced the formation of its first College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Leadership Board, tasked with fostering a student community in the CLAS, advising the College on student interests, and interfacing with CLAS alumni and prospective students. The CLAS selected twenty-three undergraduates from a highly-competitive pool to the Board. Among them is POLS student **Cathleen Lisk**. Cathleen has previously been a research assistant for Professor Virginia Hettinger, in which capacity she analyzed the impact of state-level Supreme Court decisions on justices' electoral vulnerability.



Ashley Zane, a student who was a full-time intern with the Connecticut General Assembly during the Spring 2014 Legislative Session, now has a job in the Assembly. She is a Legislative Aide for four state representatives in the House Republican Office, and is responsible for running their offices, tracking their bills, and being the primary point of communication between constituents and the representatives. She is currently finishing up her undergraduate career in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) Fast-Track Program.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 11, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM, Dodd 162

Lea Shaver (Indiana University School of Law) – “The Right to Read”

Professor Shaver will present a talk for [UConn’s Economic and Social Rights Research Group](#) (ESRG). The paper central to this talk develops a theory of “the right to read,” exploring its normative bases and its legal implications.

Thursday, September 11, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Dodd Center (Konover Auditorium)

“Between the World and Ferguson: A Discussion of Race, Policing and the Death of Michael Brown”

A panel discussion organized by the [Africana Studies Institute](#). Panel Speakers include Professor Jelani Cobb, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Africana Studies Institute; Professor Noel A. Cazenave, Professor of Sociology; Professor Shayla C. Nunnally, Associate Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies Professor; and Matthew W. Hughey, Associate Professor of Sociology. Wednesday, September 17, 2014. For more information, contact Amanda Cannada at africana@uconn.edu.

Wednesday, September 17, 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM, Dodd Center (Konover Auditorium)

Mathilde Cohen, Professor and Robert D. Glass Scholar (UConn Law) – “You, Too, Can Interpret the Constitution”

Wednesday, September 17, 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM, Dodd Center, Babbidge Library (Class of '47 Room)

David Armitage – The Pacific World Public Lecture

Organized by the Asian and Asian American Studies Institute

David Armitage is the Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History and Chair (2012-14, 2015-16) of the Department of History at Harvard University, where he teaches intellectual history and international history. He is also an Affiliated Faculty Member at Harvard Law School and an Honorary Professor of History at the University of Sydney.

Friday, September 26, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM, Wood Hall, Basement Lounge

Michael Donoghue (Marquette and UConn PhD) – “The Panama Canal Zone as US Imperial Borderland”

El Instituto Foreign Policy Seminar. Refreshments at 4:30pm.

Tuesday, October 7, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM, Dodd Center Lounge

Nishith Prakash – “Do Criminal Representatives Hinder or Improve Constituency Outcomes? Evidence from India”

Professor Prakash (UConn ECON) will present a talk for [UConn’s Economic and Social Rights Research Group](#) (ESRG).

Wednesday, October 8, 9:05 AM – 9:55 AM, Oak 101

J. Toscano (GMMB Consulting) – “How to Win an Election: Campaign Strategy and Communications.”

J. Toscano, a leading Democratic campaign strategist, will discuss the strategies, objectives and tactics behind the development of effective political campaign ads. This event is co-sponsored by Political Science, Political Science Honors, and the Roper Center.

Monday, October 13, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM, Dodd 162

Kurt Mills, University of Glasgow (with HRI & others)

Please join the [Human Rights Institute](#) for a talk by Dr. Kurt Mills, Director, MSc Human Rights and International Politics Program, University of Glasgow, title to be announced. The lecture will begin at 12:30pm in the Dodd Center, room 162. Lunch will be served. To request reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities, please contact Lyndsay Nalbandian at Lyndsay.Nalbandian@uconn.edu.

Tuesday, October 14, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM, Oak 438

Kurt Mills (Glasgow)

Topic TBA.

Wednesday, October 15, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM, Oak 438

James McGuire (Wesleyan) – “A Century of Social Policies in Latin America”

James McGuire is Professor in the Department of Government at Wesleyan University. He received his BA from Swarthmore and his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Wednesday, October 22, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM, Oak 438

Robert G. Boatright, Clark University (Title TBA).

Robert G. Boatright teaches courses on American political behavior, political parties, campaigns and elections, interest groups, political participation, and political theory. He has served as a research fellow at the Campaign Finance Institute, as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow, and as a research associate at the American Judicature Society.

Wednesday, October 29, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM, Oak 438

Zehra Arat and Caryl Nunez (POLS) – “The Limits of Tolerance and the Case of LGBTI Rights in Turkey”

Monday, November 3, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM, Dodd 162

Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay (Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi) – “Local Funds and Political Competition: Evidence from the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in India”

Professor Mukhopadhyay will present a paper for [UConn’s Economic and Social Rights Research Group](#) (ESRG) that examines how local politics affects public fund allocations.

Thursday, November 6, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Dodd Center (Konover Auditorium)

Post-Election Roundtable, “The 2014 Election: An Analysis of Winners and Losers”

Panelists will include Jenny Wilson (Hartford Courant) and Ron Schurin (UConn POLS). Other panelists TBA.

Presentation will run 4-5, followed by a reception.

Monday, November 10, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM, UConn Law School

Post-Election Panel, “The 2014 Election: Policy Implications for the Future”

Time above is not yet confirmed. Only “late afternoon/early evening” on schedule at this point. This event is cosponsored by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Wednesday, November 19, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM, Oak 438

Veronica Herrera (UConn POLS) – Title TBA

Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM, Dodd 162

Zehra Arat (UConn POLS) – “Human Rights & Economic Justice: Re-Reading the Qur’an & the International Bill of Rights”

Professor Arat will present a paper for [UConn’s Economic and Social Rights Research Group](#) (ESRG).

The members of the Colloquium Committee encourage faculty to volunteer to present work at any stage of development. It’s a great opportunity for faculty to get feedback on their work in a constructive, encouraging setting. Please contact Vin Moscardelli (vin.moscardelli@uconn.edu) if you are interested.