

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

University of Connecticut, 365 Fairfield Way,
U-1024 Storrs, CT. 06269-1024, (860) 486-2440
<http://www.polsci.uconn.edu>

A note from the Department Head ...



As the days grow shorter and colder, I am ever more thankful for the handful of professors who have been willing to share their research at our department's colloquium and elsewhere on campus. Those presentations offer a welcome break in the week; they also provide us with a stark reminder that there is quite a lot we still don't know about politics. (Dr. Zehra Arat's

October talk on lesbian and gay rights in Turkey certainly accomplished that purpose for most of us.) Many of our faculty and students have been busy wrestling with important subjects, as can be seen in the announcements below and in the pages that follow. Even as we face budget headaches and the continuing challenge of meeting the recent undergraduate enrollment surge, most of us can still take solace in the interesting work of our colleagues. (Continued thanks to graduate student Clifford Vickrey for helping me put this newsletter together). I hope everybody has a safe winter, and please keep in touch with us so we can publicize your accomplishments in future newsletters!

--- David Yalof

Recent Faculty Publications, Conferences and Honors



Professor **Matt Singer's** edited book, *The Latin American Voter*, has been formally accepted for publication by the University of Michigan Press. It will appear in print in late 2015.



Professor **Mark Boyer** had an article and book chapter accepted for publication in 2015. The former, "Designing Transboundary Conversation: Navigating Sovereignty and Ecosystem Scale in the Guiana Shield," is forthcoming in *International Studies Perspectives*. His book chapter, coauthored with Scott W. Brown, "Scholarly Learning in an Ecological Setting," will appear in *Long-Term Environmental*

Two Graduate Students Fondly Remembered



**Iain
Bolton**
(1977-2014)



**Nicholas
Arnsten**
(1987-2014)

This past year saw the passing of two well-liked former graduate students from our program. Nicholas Arnsten and Iain Bolton were only with us for a short time, but our faculty remember them both for their excellent work and their positive spirits. Their obituaries are offered below, from the [Record-Journal](#) and [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), respectively.

BOLTON, Iain Ross, Ballantyne, 36, died June 27, 2014, in Charlotte, N.C. Formerly of Midlothian, Va., Iain Ross was a graduate of the University of Virginia, the London School of Economics and the University of Connecticut. An adjunct professor at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, he was recognized for his excellence in teaching. Iain Ross will be sorely missed by his beloved children, Drake

(Cont'd)

Research: *Changing the Nature of Scientists and the Science of Nature*, edited by Michael R. Willig and Lawrence R. Walker and forthcoming in the Oxford University Press.



Professor **Mark Boyer** also received two grants in August 2014. One, the NSF Coupled Human Natural Systems grant, is for the project, “Interactive Effects of Economics, Public Policy, Land Use change, and Invasive Plants.” Working on the study, in addition to Professor Boyer, are Chuanrong Zhang Zhang (GEOG, principal investigator), Jenica Allen (EEB, co-PI), and John Silander (EEB, co-PI). Another, from the New England University Transportation Center (MIT), is for the project, “Climate Adaptation in New London Harbor: Whoever Moves First Wins?”



Professor **Ron Schurin** was quoted in Connecticut’s Channel 3, a CBS affiliate. He offered his analysis of the first gubernatorial debate. The full story is available here: <http://www.wfsb.com/story/26679699/candidates-for-governor-face-off-in-wednesday-debate>.



Professor **Thomas Hayes’** paper, “Testing Backlash: The Influence of Political Institutions on Public Attitudes toward Gay Rights,” coauthored with Ben Bishin, Matthew Incantalupo, and Tony Smith, was awarded best paper in LGBT Politics by the American Political Science Association.



Professor **Veronica Herrera** published an article, with Alison Post, in *World Development* titled, “Can Developing Countries Both Decentralize and Depoliticize Urban Water Services?” Additionally, her paper, “From Participatory Promises to Partisan Capture: Local Democratic Transitions and Citizen Water Board in Mexico,” was awarded best Urban Politics paper by the American Political Science Association at its annual conference.



Professor **Jennifer Sterling-Folker** published one article, and had three pieces—two book chapters and one article—formally accepted for publication. “A Disagreeable Dinner Guest? Waltz’s Contribution to the Study of Global Governance” appeared in the *Australian Journal of Political Science’s* special invitation-only issue commemorating the work of the late Kenneth Waltz. Her chapter, “Disciplining Human Nature: The Evolution of American Social Scientific Theorizing” (coauthored with advisee Jason Charrette) will appear in *Human Beings in International Relations Theory*, forthcoming in the Cambridge University Press. Her chapter, “Predicting the Future from Inside the Liberal World Order,” will appear in the invitation-only volume *International Relations Theory Today*, forthcoming in Polity Press. Finally, her article, “All

and E’ara, his students and colleagues at UNC Charlotte, his many friends worldwide; and his parents, Irene Walker-Bolton of Midlothian, Va. and the Rev. Canon John D. Bolton of Atlanta, Ga.

ARNTSEN, Nicholas Benedict, Meriden, 26, of Meriden, returned to the Father's loving embrace on Monday, Sept. 14, 2014.

He was born on Oct. 19, 1987, as a most precious gift from God. He will be forever adored by his mother, Taryn Macary; his father, Peter Arntsen; his sisters, Marie Elisabeth and her husband, Matthew Mierzejewski, Suzanne Leata and her husband, Paul Bilodeau, Julia Eve and her fiancé, Mike Gearing, Mariah Dawn; his brothers, Peter Francis and Michael Thomas; his step-mother, Linda Rauscher; his step-father, Reginald Osterhoudt; his nieces, Madelyn Rose and Mary Olivia; his nephews, Peter Joseph, Thomas Gabriel, Noah Keith, and Jean-David Paul; extended family; and so many friends.

Hail to the Chief: Liberal IR Theory in the New World Order,” was accepted for publication in *International Studies Perspectives* as part of the Forum on Diversity in International Relations.



Professor **Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat** published a chapter, co-authored with Thomas W. Smith, entitled “The EU and Human Rights in Turkey: Political Freedom without Social Welfare?” in *European Institutions, Democratization, and Human Rights Protection in the European Periphery*, edited by Henry Carey, and published by Rowman and Littlefield. Professor Arat was also invited to participate at a conference on “The Price of Freedom: Security in a Globalized World,” held by Geremek Center, Warsaw, October 9-10, 2014. She presented a paper, “Business Interests and Economic Rights,” and participated in a roundtable on “How to protect human rights in the face of new threats?”



Professor **Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat** was also interviewed on the topic “Human Rights and Business Interests,” on October 11th, 2014, by Mateusz Luft for the Polish magazine *Kontakt*. Her interview will soon be online at: <<http://magazynkontakt.pl>>.



Professor **Lyle Scruggs** will be traveling to Stockholm, Sweden as an invited speaker at the InGrid Expert Workshop on the Development and Dissemination of Social Policy Indicators. The event, organized by the Swedish Institute for Social Research at Stockholm University, furthers international scientific research cooperation on the promotion of indicators of social justice and equality. Professor Scruggs will be presenting findings from his CWED2 project, an index of social welfare generosity in over 30 countries. This project has won support from the National Science Foundation and the German Research Foundation. More information about it is available here: <<http://www.cwed2.org/>>



Professor **Stephen Dyson** wrote a review of two novels of political fiction on the shortlist for the prestigious Man Booker prize. Published in the *Monkey Cage*, the *Washington Post* Political Science blog, it is available here: <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/10/12/one-of-these-political-novels-could-win-britains-highest-literary-honor/>>



Professor **Dyson also** reviewed the new Christopher Nolan movie “Interstellar” for *The Conversation*, a collaboration between editors and academics to provide informed news analysis and commentary. *The Conversation* has a monthly audience of two million. Dyson found “Interstellar” to be Nolan's best treatment yet of his recurrent themes (the power of ideas, the negotiable nature of reality), and judged it to be a flawed yet near-great work, elevated by a wonderful performance from star Matthew McConaughey. Professor Dyson’s review is available at <<https://theconversation.com/interstellar-nolans-flawed-masterpiece-33396>>.



Professor **Kimberly Bergendahl** has been designated as a Service Learning Faculty Fellow by the Office of Public Engagement for 2015. This program offers UConn professors a unique opportunity to blend pedagogy and community outreach.



Professor **Paul Herrnson**, Executive Director of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, published six articles in the *Huffington Post* with Roper Research Coordinator Kathleen Weldon. “When The Wall Came Tumbling Down: The American Public and Berlin,” a 25-year retrospective of the fall of the Berlin Wall, focuses on American public opinion towards the Cold War, and is available here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-herrnson/when-the-wall-came-tumbli b 6114260.html>. “Love, Marriage and the Vatican,” about Americans’ attitudes towards the Catholic Church and marriage, appeared in the lead-up to the Church’s Extraordinary General Council of the Synod and is available here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-herrnson/american-catholics-poll b 5899854.html>. Another article, “The Public and Ebola: What the Polls Say,” explores public perceptions of the threat of Ebola and is available here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-herrnson/the-public-and-ebola-what b 5929008.html>. “Going Too Far: The American Public's Attitudes Toward Protest Movements,” explores Americans’ changing opinions of civil disobedience in the wake of the Ferguson, MO protests and is available here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-herrnson/going-too-far-the-america b 6029998.html>. Finally, “Money, Politics, and the American Public” tracks changing attitudes towards campaign finance reform and is available here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-herrnson/money-politics-and-the-am b 5982556.html>.



Professor **Herrnson** was also quoted in the Hartford Courant discussing New Jersey Governor Chris Christie’s reelection strategy in the article, “Christie Works Phone Bank, Stresses Ground Game.” The full article is here: <http://www.courant.com/politics/elections/hc-chris-christie-tom-foley-trumbull-20141006-story.html>. He also gave a talk at Clark University, where he stressed the overwhelming electoral advantage of incumbents. An article on his lecture is here: <http://news.clarku.edu/news/2014/10/22/clark-university-harrington-lecturer-herrnson-cites-the-benefits-of-incumbency/>.



On October 8th, Professor **Herrnson** and the Roper Center sponsored a lecture by J. Toscano, a partner at GMMB, a leading political consulting firm that conducts political and public interest campaigns. A summary of the lecture is available here: <http://www.ropercenter.uconn.edu/center/announcements.html#4512081607763729614>.



Professor **Oksan Bayulgen** and Professor **Jeremy Pressman** participated in the CLAS College Experience Program for the Alumni on October 24th. They discussed the current situation in the Ukraine-Russia and Israel-Palestinian crises, respectively.

Emeriti News



Professor Emeritus **Henry Krisch** attended the International Political Science Association (IPSA) meeting in Montreal in July 2014. He chaired the panel on Uses and Abuses of Human Rights and joined the Executive Committee of IPSA’s human rights research committee. He also wrote two forthcoming book reviews on German human rights issues.



A tribute to longtime Professor and Graduate Director **J. Garry Clifford**, who passed away in March, appeared in the Fall issue of *PASSPORT*, a publication of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. According to Thomas G. Paterson, “our stories about this good person have helped a bit to deal with our loss.” For those with access to EBSCOhost’s Online Research Databases, the article is available here: <<http://connection.ebscohost.com/c/obituaries/98383836/memorial-john-garry-clifford-1942-2014>>

Graduate Student Achievements



Graduate Student **Yazmín García Trejo** has completed a blog entry for the American University Center of Latin American and Latino Studies, where she is a fellow. Titled “Mexico: Missing Demographic Opportunity,” her piece discusses the long-term implications of youth unemployment in Mexico. Her post is available here: <<http://aulablog.net/2014/11/04/mexico-missing-demographic-opportunity/>>.



Graduate Students **Thomas Briggs** and **Sarah Munro**, together with Professor Stephen Dyson, hosted foreign correspondent Reese Erlich for a day of talks and meetings about the rise of ISIS and the Syrian civil war. The visit was co-sponsored by Humanities House and Middle East studies. *The Daily Campus’* coverage of the event is available here: <<http://dailycampus.com/best-selling-author-believes-syrian-iraqi-people-will-defeat-isis/>>



Graduate Students **Timothy Bussey** and **Kelly Delaney** gave an invited talk, “Understanding the Lavender Scare in Political Science Education in the Deep South,” as part of the UConn Rainbow Center’s Out to Lunch Lecture Series this semester. Their project has also been accepted to the Teaching and Learning Panel of the Midwest Political Science Association’s upcoming conference.



Former UConn Political Science Ph.D. **Andrew Pieper**, now at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, has produced a CBS 46 (Atlanta) new feature, “Truth Test.” The Truth Test grades the statements of politicians by their veracity. A clip is available here: <<http://www.cbs46.com/clip/10602711/truth-test-donations-to-deal-campaign-by-appointees>>.

Undergraduate Students on the Rise



A number of POLS Honors students were acknowledged at the University Honors Ceremony on October 21st, including **Adam Kuegler** and **Marissa Piccolo** for their Holster scholarships, **Briana Bardos** and **Phillip Menard** for their Cole Thesis Research Awards, and **Briana Bardos**, **Nellie Binder**, and **Molly Rockett** for their SURF Awards. Sophomore POLS Honors students also received their Sophomore Honors certificates at the ceremony.



The POLS Honors program and Roper Center research assistants were well-represented at the Fall Frontiers on October 29th, with poster presentations by **Molly Rockett**, **Celia Guillard**, **Katie Cavanaugh**, **Marissa Piccolo**, **Ian Fignon**, and **Emma Sifre**. The CLAS Alan R. Bennett Funds covered the cost.



The International Relations subfield has invited several POLS Honors students to attend student conferences on international affairs run by military academic this academic year, including **Brianna Bardos** and **Linnea Logie**, who will attend SCUSA at West Point, and **Philip Menard**, who will attend the USAFA Assembly in Colorado. **Sarah Purtil** is presenting at the student leadership conference, “Beyond the Selfie: Linking Identity, Community, and Social Change,” here at UConn on November 14th. Also on November 14th, the POLS Honors Program will host its annual student field trip to a POLS academic conference being held in Boston.



Congratulations to Professor Shareen Hertel, whose student, **Patrick Hannon**, was awarded the 2014 Aetna Writing Prize in Social Science. Two POLS Honors students also received Honorable mentions in the Social Science category, including **Marissa Piccolo** and **Robyn Caron** (for her May 2014 Honors Thesis).



Congratulations to **Molly Rockett**, who has been selected as a National Finalist for the Marshall Scholarship.



Former Political Science student **Emily Boushee** (CLAS '14) was hired by the Connecticut General Assembly in June, after completing the Legislative Internship program this past May. Her previous internships at Connecticut Public Radio and CT News Junkie made her the perfect fit for interning in the House Democrats Press Department, where she wrote press releases and assisted staff with media relations. She now works as a Press Aide in the House Democrats Office, where she manages media relations for eleven state representatives. In addition to working for the House Democrats, she just recently finished up her role as campaign manager for Tara Cook-Littman’s run for State Representative in the 134th Assembly District (Fairfield, Trumbull).

Upcoming Events

November 19, 2014

12:15pm:

[Rob Venator-Santiago](#), UConn POLS

“United States Global Empire and the Question of Territorial Citizenship(s): A Reading of Tuaua v. United States”

Oak Hall 438

November 19, 2014

5:00pm:

“The Dimensions of Global Anti-Semitism: Will It Spread to the U.S.?”

Dr. Charles Asher Small, Director of the Institute for the Study of Global Anti-Semitism and Policy and Koret Distinguished Scholar at Stanford University. This talk is sponsored by the [UConn Honors Program](#), the [Human Rights Institute](#), and the [Humanities Institute](#) and co-sponsored by the Department of Political Science
Class of '47 Room

November 21, 2014, 1:30-3:30pm

Brenna Bridwell, Ph.D. Candidate, UConn POLS

Dissertation Defense: “Legitimate Illegitimacy: Measuring Terrorists' Legitimacy during and after Negotiations”
Oak Hall 438

November TBA

“Monitoring the right to adequate food in Brazil: an analysis from human rights indicators and their application to public policies”

Ana Luiza Gama (Estácio de Sá University/UNESA, Brazil)

Dodd 162

December 2, 2014, 12:30-2 pm

“Human Rights & Economic Justice: Re-Reading the Qur-an & the International Bill of Rights”

Zehra Arat, UConn POLS

Dodd 162

December 5, 2014

“Do changes in district magnitude affect electoral fragmentation? Evidence at the district level”

[Matt Singer](#), UConn POLS

Oak Hall 438

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.