



Spring 2018
Volume 3, Issue 2

THE
GRADUATE
CENTER
CITY UNIVERSITY
OF NEW YORK

Homo Politicus

The Newsletter of the Political Science Department at the
Graduate Center of the City University of New York

SPECIAL FEATURE IN HONOR OF FRANCES FOX PIVEN



FRANCES FOX PIVEN: "Things just don't happen that way."



Piven at anti-war occupation at Columbia University

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The Political Science program at the Graduate Center, CUNY consists of a community of scholars dedicated to the tasks of acquiring, expanding, and transmitting reliable knowledge about political phenomena. Its essential function is to educate professional political scientists, capable of independent research and qualified for careers in academic institutions, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector.



Letter from the Executive Officer

Dear Colleagues, Students, and Alum,

As we head into another turbulent election year, we find ourselves reflecting again on the nature of our discipline and our Department's place within it. Now more than ever, it seems incumbent upon us to uphold the values of critical inquiry and open discussion. We have thus redoubled our commitment to the rigorous public scholarship for which our program is known.



This public scholarship has included a phenomenal series of workshops, among other colloquia. **Dr. Alyson Cole** The Political Theory subfield has invited luminaries, from George Shulman to Elizabeth Cohen, to its workshop series, giving students the opportunity to read and comment on works in progress by these leading scholars. Similarly, the workshop lineup for Comparative Politics boasts Simon Chauchard and H  l  ne Landemore among others, in addition to the numerous possibilities afforded to students to present and workshop their own research. The Department is also cosponsoring a book launch for Mark Ungar's *The 21st Century Fight for the Amazon* with The Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies on March 29. Additionally, we have continued to co-sponsor the weekly Politics and Protest workshop with the Sociology Department.

Our Program also co-sponsored a very successful slam event for the Winter 2018 double issue of [Women's Studies Quarterly](#), "Precarious Work." Fittingly scheduled for Valentine's Day, the event featured a series of "anti-love letters" to work, precarity, exploitation, and myriad other topics. Speakers included Kathi Weeks (Duke), Kellie Carter Jackson (Wellsley), Estelle Ferrarese (Universite de Picardie Jules Verne), and a few of our own faculty, including Celina Su. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Center for the Humanities, the Women's and Gender Studies Program, the Social and Political Theory Student Association (SPTSA), *Women's Studies Quarterly*, The Feminist Press, as well as the Politics Department and Heilbroner Center at the New School for co-sponsoring this fantastic event.

Adding to the excitement, we hosted our annual Graduate Student Conference on March 16 to provide students from our program an opportunity to present their current research. The conference boasted five panels running the gamut of topics, from voting patterns to political violence. I would like to thank the conference organizing committee for their terrific work: Mette Christiansen, Calum McMillan, Kamran Moshref, Dean Schafer, Sally Sharif, Isa V  squez, Mercedes Wilby, and Asher Wycoff, and the faculty discussants: Professors Jack Jacobs, Keena Lipsitz, Peter Romaniuk, Zachary Shirkey, and Susan Woodward. We will also celebrate outstanding students and faculty with another time-honored annual event: the Department's Awards Night, during which we honor a distinguished graduate, the best M.A. thesis for the year, an outstanding faculty mentor, and exceptional citizenship by a student and a member of our faculty. This year we are also adding a new award for students: excellence in teaching.

On the topic of student excellence, congratulations to our M.A. students Tyson Himes and Sofia Sedergr  n for presenting at the Graduate Center's second annual Lightning Talks! These talks, held on March 2, were three-minute presentations in which M.A. students explain the significance of their research to a non-specialized audience.

As always, I extend my gratitude to the editorial staff of *Homo Politicus*: our indefatigable Editor-In-Chief Elizabeth Stone, and our contributors, Kamran Moshref, Saira Rafiee, Caroline Sigler, Rosa Squillacote, Isa V  squez, and Asher Wycoff.

Warm regards,

Alyson Cole



Insurgency From Below and the Future of American Democracy:

On October 11, 2017, a diverse group of scholars and activists gathered at the Graduate Center to honor the contributions Frances Fox Piven has made to the political science discipline, to social science generally, and to political activism in the U.S. and beyond. The day-long event consisted of a series of panels and a closing plenary, with speakers including Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, Barbara Ehrenreich, Ai-jen Poo, Laura Flanders, Fred Block, Joel Rogers, and Leo Panitch, among many others. Topics of discussion included the rise of authoritarianism, possibilities for emancipatory social movements in the Trump era, and threats to democracy and activism.

Executive Officer Alyson Cole opened the final plenary with the following words about Frances:

"I have the honor of chairing the Political Science Department at the Graduate Center, a program that Frances Fox Piven has played a crucial role in defining for more than 3 decades. We've spent much of the day discussing our current political moment through the themes that animated Piven's scholarship. Before continuing that conversation, I wanted to take just a few minutes to speak about Frances.

"Approximately ten years ago, the pundit Glenn Beck singled out Frances Fox Piven as one of the "9 most dangerous people in the world." This was before the term "alternative facts" entered our lexicon, back when Fox News claimed that their reporting was "fair and balanced" (rather than their new, more accurate, and far more disturbing slogan: "most watched and most trusted"). It was a gentler time, when the principles of Hollywood spectacle, rather than those of reality TV, governed politics.



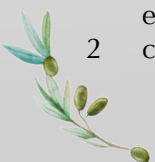
"Despite Beck's vitriol, there was a modicum of truth to his charge. Frances Fox Piven is, indeed, a force to be reckoned with. She has devoted her long and distinguished career—as a scholar, activist, teacher, and mentor—to righting wrongs. Beyond an unwavering commitment to enlarging economic and political rights, this has also meant toppling the mistaken presumptions undergirding orthodoxies in the academy, and thereby shaping new fields of study and spurring policy change. In her scholarship, Piven not only

identifies how to analyze a problem rightly, but how to address it. More specifically, how to support the victims of injustice to see that they possess the power to enact change, that together they can, by defying rules and disrupting routines, transform the institutions that govern their lives. And, that they can do so, in Piven's words, 'aggressively, proudly, and even joyfully.' That is pretty dangerous stuff!

"On social media, many claim the title of 'public intellectual.' But Piven is an 'intellectual activist,' which is a difference in kind, not just degree. She never tells us how she knew it all along, though often she did. Instead, her work shows us how and where to look, so that we can see for ourselves. In the street, at a protest, in the classroom, and even at a department meeting (to say nothing of her numerous books and articles), her reasoning is always analytically precise, and her political convictions resolute.

"She's been honored many times for her courageous activism, and groundbreaking scholarship. But I think her interventions begin with the performative power of her prose. Her language is simple, bold, and piercingly sharp. But equally striking is the frequent use of "we" in her texts. True, many of her pivotal monographs were co-authored with Richard Cloward, but this plural pronoun exceeds their collaboration. It is an expansive "we," a "we" that beckons readers to join in a collective endeavor. In turn, that plural pronoun incites readers to connect with others and to rally to defend those under attack. It invites us all—and we are all students of Piven in one way or another—to combine anger with hope and imagination, to turn quiescence into indignation, and apathy into conviction.

"Provost Connolly already thanked our generous supporters. I also want to thank the many students and GC staff members who helped with this event. But most of all, I want to thank Professor Lorraine Minnite. A graduate of our doctoral program and an important scholar of electoral politics and voting in her own right, the success of this conference is largely due to Lori's tireless and extraordinary work."



Conference in Celebration of Frances Fox Piven and Richard A Cloward

The plenary ended with a discussion of the necessity of retaining hope and active participation among ordinary people in order to create a democratic society. You can watch that conversation [here](#). Piven ended with these words (*note: the following excerpts have been edited by Piven for clarity*):

"The November 2016 election brought us the dangerous regime of the bizarre Donald Trump. Nothing quite like it has ever happened in American electoral politics. Why now? There are lots of explanations, and many of them are at least partly right.

"First, we should not forget that Trump won a majority of the electoral college, but not a majority of the popular vote. His technical victory was the result of a provision in the U.S. constitution that was an 18th century attempt by the founders to limit the influence of democratic publics. So we have to be wary of explaining something that did not happen. A majority of voters did not choose Trump over Clinton or, by extension, Trump over the Obama regime.

"Nevertheless, even the popular vote was gloomily close. A good many white working and middle class voters did reject the Democratic party and the Obama administration. They had reasons. The Democrats had not been speaking to their concerns for some time, at the very least since the emergence of the Democratic Leadership Council in the 1980s, and arguably for even longer.

"However, while there is much talk about of the question of why the white working class deserted the Democrats, did they? In fact Trump drew much of his support from a somewhat better-off stratum of white voters that might better be characterized as the lower middle class, which is also where the base of the Tea Party was rooted. For all the talk about the white working class and their intensifying hardships, Trump's base is among those who are somewhat better-off, however much they may feel slighted and resentful about the attention now given in Democratic politics to women, minorities and gays.

"This strange moment in American and world politics would be comedic if it were not also real and dangerous. So we have to knuckle down and do our part in the effort to survive and to rescue and revive what remains of our democratic institutions and traditions. But to survive we have to believe in the possibilities, in the future, of democratic politics. This brings me to a tendency among some of the intellectuals who I otherwise admire for their erudition and elegance, a tendency to indulge a kind of end-times mood and the intellectual interpretations that justify such despair.



"Although none of us actually knows, I don't think the end-times are here. True, it is going to get hotter, and muddier, smellier, there will be more storms, parts of the planet will be submerged with horrific consequence for many of the inhabitants. But the human race and its planet probably have some time left. And so we have to confront our situation and work toward the possibility of restoring a measure of democracy, and a capacity for collective self-regulation of our economy and our environment.

"End-times predictions are not helpful. However elegant the presentations, they are not science. And they quash the hope that is essential to the mobilization of our capacities for the political action that could indeed influence our future. Instead of doomsday predictions, we should use our intellectual influence to help people discover their power to remake the world, a power that stems from the elemental fact that nothing runs unless ordinary and not so ordinary people cooperate, unless they play their assigned roles in the institutional arrangements that constitute society. And never have ordinary people had greater potential power, simply because never have the interconnections that bind us together, and which make the rulers dependent on the ruled, never have they been more far-reaching, more intricate, and more fragile. We can shut it down.

"We ought to begin, perhaps with experiments. Shut it down here, and then there. We can assess the repercussions. When we shut it down here what happens there? In a tightly integrated globalized world, waves of disruption can also be global, spreading horizontally and, as Steve Lerner suggested earlier today, spreading to the very top of our society. The agents that can save our society by transforming it are here, and everywhere.

"Thanks for coming. There's work to do. Hang tough."



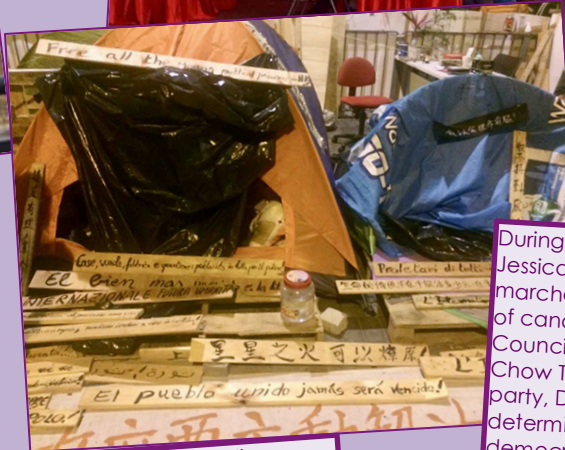


Scenes from the Street

One of the great strengths of the Program is that in addition to being exceptional scholars, our students, faculty, and alumni are active in field research, international and domestic social movements, and contentious politics.



Andres was invited to participate in a two-day event hosted by the Fulbright Commission called "A City Reinvented: Building an Innovation Ecosystem in St. Louis." This multidisciplinary event had scholars from the fields of STEM, law and the social sciences come together with St. Louis business-owners, managers, and city officials to discuss how technology is transforming the post-industrial economy of the city (photo credit: Andres Sebastian Besserer Rayas).



Anh Tran and Saira Rafiee speaking out on November 30th, the date the contract between CUNY management and the Professional Staff Congress (PSC) expired. Political Science students were active in the day of PSC rank-and-file events around CUNY to kick-off the Contract Campaign for \$7k (photo credit: Stephen Jones).

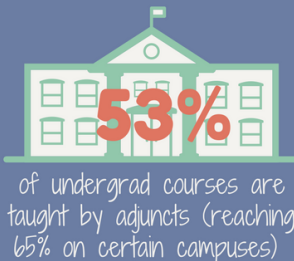
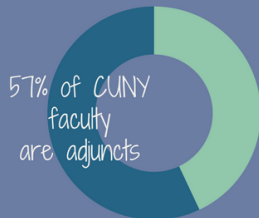
During her fieldwork in Hong Kong, Jessica attended a series of rallies and marches protesting the disqualification of candidates for Hong Kong's Legislative Council. A young activist named Agnes Chow Ting was disqualified because her party, Demosisto, promotes "self-determination" for Hong Kong. The pan-democratic camp argues that this disqualification is against the Basic Law and amounts to political screening of candidates (photo credit: Jessica Mahlbacher).



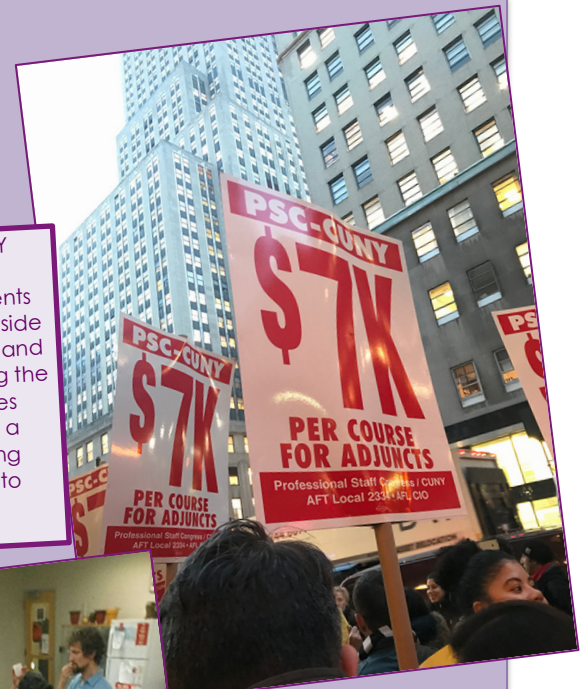
Mercedes Wilby marching with thousands during the Women's March in January (photo credit: Mercedes Wilby).

THE CUNY ADJUNCT

= faculty who are paid part-time wages and lack the job security + benefits enjoyed by full-timers



Hundreds of PSC-CUNY members including political science students and faculty rallied outside the Graduate Center and Baruch College during the CUNY Board of Trustees meeting, demanding a new contract including \$7K for adjuncts (photo credit: Beth Stone).



YEARLY COMPENSATION

CUNY Chancellor:

\$689,786
+ free apartment worth \$19,500/mo.
+ personal car and driver



Compared to the cost of \$43,500 for a modest standard of living of a self-sufficient person in the NYC metro area

Full-Time Professors (at lowest step):

\$47,340

Adjunct Professors:

\$6,443-\$37,414



Many CUNY adjuncts don't have office space, a paid office hour, or more than 2 sick days a year

To make ends meet...

29%

teach at 2 different campuses

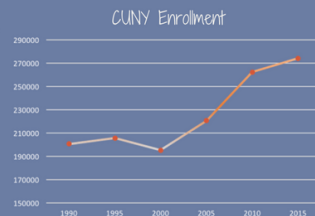
24%

teach outside of CUNY

9%

rely on public assistance

To meet record-high enrollment rates, CUNY needs \$325 million/yr. to create 4,000 more full-time positions that existing adjuncts can fill. Expanding New York's "millionaire's tax" would raise \$5.6 billion/yr.



Join our campaign for:

- ✓ \$7,000/course
- ✓ Job security
- ✓ Full-time conversion

CUNYAdjuncts@gmail.com

This infographic is brought to you by the Committee of Adjuncts + Part-Timers (CAP) of PSC/AFT Local 2334



CUNYAdjuncts

Political Science students have been active in recent campaigns to get \$7K for adjuncts in the upcoming contract negotiations. If you want to know more, check out this infographic by Anh Tran.



Faraz Motagheidi and Scott Ratner join Professor Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner to show off their department swag (photo credit: Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner).

Two signs from the Women's March in NYC in January (photo credit: Beth Stone).





Faculty Profile

Alexandra Moffett-Bateau is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at John Jay College. She is teaching Qualitative Methods at the Graduate Center this Spring.

By Asher Wycoff

Asher Wycoff: *Tell us a bit about your current research.*

Alexandra Moffett-Bateau: Currently I'm working on my first book project, and the thesis is that living in housing spaces developed by the government, particularly public housing, ultimately shapes the political possibilities that poor black women see for themselves. This project was originally my dissertation, and I've been working on fleshing it out for the last couple years, so I'm getting to the end.

AW: *Since your work draws heavily on ethnographic data, could you speak about what you think ethnographic methods bring to the discipline?*

AMB: I think one of the things we always forget, particularly in American Politics, is we really started as an ethnographic discipline, with folks going door to door and asking people about their political efficacy. I think that as Americanists, in our excitement to use large-N survey data, we forget qualitative research is really important for developing theoretical frameworks and concepts that can later be measured in these big quantitative projects. What I do with my ethnographic work is try to develop theoretical frameworks that I think are going to be useful and interesting to the rest of the field. Getting the full complexity of how someone understands themselves as a political entity is just as important as finding out how 10,000 people feel about Trump, for example. Without fleshing that out, we can't really understand what people mean when they say, "I'm a Democrat" or "I'm a Republican."

AW: *How does your research inform your teaching and vice versa?*

AMB: One thing I've learned from my research is how important interpersonal relationships are to who people become politically, and that informs my teaching by reminding me how important students' relationships with one another are to their understanding of political ideas. Right now I'm teaching the Qualitative Methods seminar here in Political Science at the GC, and I'm also teaching a qualitative research seminar for undergraduates at John Jay. One of the things that's really important to me in both spaces is that students understand themselves as pedagogical collaborators in the classroom, so I'm constantly checking in with them about, was this reading useful for you? Is there a different perspective you need to hear from to understand this topic? I also want them to understand their classmates as colleagues. As both my graduate students and my undergraduates are developing these big research projects, I'm asking them to do a lot of work with one another to build those early relationships that are so important to any academic career. If you've developed solid relationships with your colleagues as a graduate student, you'll have people to bounce ideas off of and get feedback from for the rest of your life.

AW: *How's your experience at the GC been so far? Any ideas on what you'd like to teach here in the future?*

AMB: It's all still new, but it's been a great opportunity to teach graduate students, to jump into the weeds about the more esoteric parts of qualitative methods. You can have those kinds of deep dive conversations that you may not be able to have with undergraduates. The Doctoral students and Masters students here are so bright and interesting, and they've really pushed me to think about qualitative methods in a different way as well.

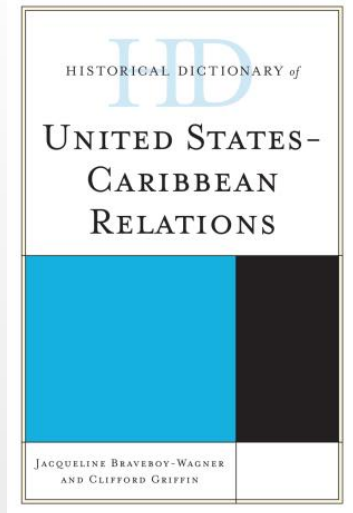


Dr. Alexandra Moffett-Bateau,
John Jay College, CUNY

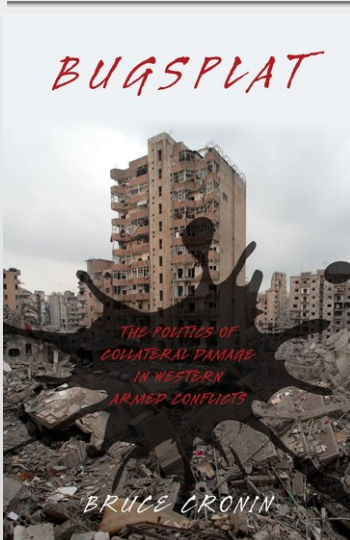
Faculty News

Professor George Andreopoulos' article "Whither Accountability? Counterterrorism and Human Rights at the United Nations Security Council" will appear in *Contracting Human Rights* ([Edward Elgar](#) 2018). Professor Andreopoulos spent the Fall 2017 Semester at the Free University in Berlin as a Visiting Professor under the auspices of a Mercator Fellowship. In April he delivered the keynote address at an international conference organized by the University of Macedonia in Greece. The topic of his address was *Do We Need the United Nations?*

Professor Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner organized the Third International Studies Association- Global South Caucus Reunion in Havana, Cuba under the theme "Exploring the Local in International Relations." Professor Braveboy-Wagner also delivered the keynote address at the Brazilian International Affairs Sixth Encontro in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, entitled "Re-Imagining IR: Assessing Current Efforts to Counter the Marginalization of the Global South." Professor Braveboy-Wagner also co-authored *Historical Dictionary of United States-Caribbean Relations* ([Rowman and Littlefield](#) 2017) with Clifford Griffin.



Professor Mitchell Cohen's book, *The Politics of Opera: A History from Monteverdi to Mozart* ([Princeton](#) 2017), won the 2018 PROSE Award in Music & the Performing Arts, from the Association of American Publishers. Professor Cohen also lectured about politics and opera at the 92nd Street Y and at an evening devoted to his book at the [New York Institute for the Humanities](#). He was interviewed by "[Thinking Aloud](#)" (Brigham Young University) and lectured at the Princeton Public Library as part of the "[Princeton Festival](#)."



Professor Bruce Cronin published his new book *Bugsplat: The Politics of Collateral Damage in Western Armed Conflicts* ([Oxford](#) 2018), offering a new theory on these civilian casualties through examination of five major conflicts since 1989.

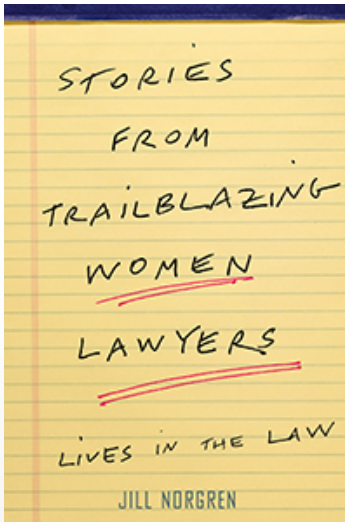
Professor Emerita Joyce Gelb co-authored an article with alum Naoko Kumagai (2009) in the edited volume *Routledge Handbook of Japanese Foreign Policy* titled "Gender Equality in Japan: Internal Policy Processes and Impact and Foreign Implications Under Prime Minister Abe's Womenomics" ([Routledge](#) 2018). Kumagai is Associate Professor at the International University in Japan. Professors Gelb and Kumagai also delivered a paper on the topic at the International Public Policy conference in Singapore.

Professor Thomas Halper had three articles published by the *British Journal of American Legal Studies*, "[Marshall's Voice](#)," "[Felix Frankfurter and the Law](#)," and "[Lying and the First Amendment](#)."

Distinguished Professor Uday Mehta was featured on the podcast "[Resistance Dashboard](#)" discussing Political Theory in the Age of Trump in December 2017.

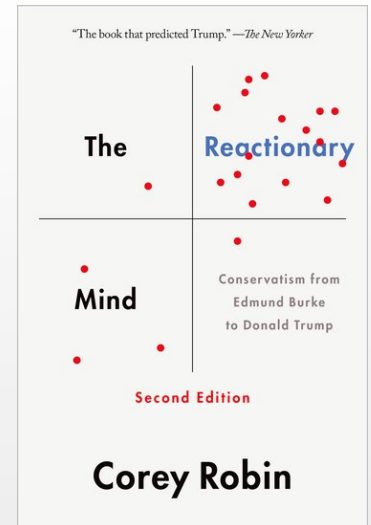
Distinguished Professor John Mollenkopf provided insights from the experiences of New York, Paris, and Berlin at a conference on Immigrant Integration and Gateways for Growth: Comparative Perspectives at the University of California, San Diego. In mid-December, he also attended the inaugural meeting of the European Union-funded [International Ethnic and Immigrant Minorities' Survey Data Network](#) that brings together social scientists from 20 different countries in Europe and North America.



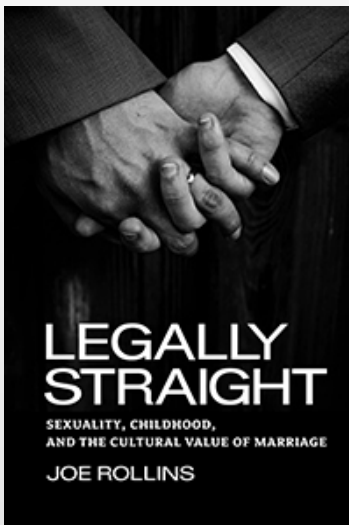


Professor Emerita Jill Norgren published *Stories from Trailblazing Women Lawyers: Lives in the Law* (NYU Press 2018). This volume is the third in a series of books by Professor Norgren about women lawyers in the U.S. in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Check out “[Facebook Stories from Trailblazing Women Lawyers](#)” for short bios of the one hundred women featured in the book.

Professor Corey Robin issued a second edition of his book, *The Reactionary Mind: Conservatism from Edmund Burke to Donald Trump* (Oxford 2017), updating his title and analysis to the present political moment.



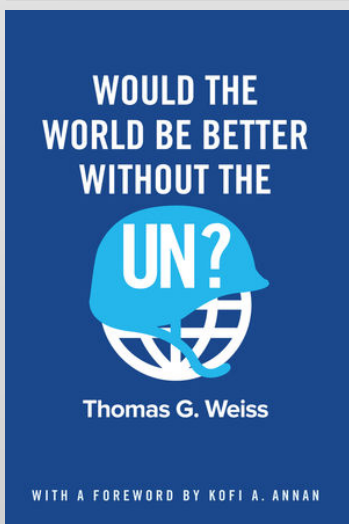
Professor Joe Rollins published his new book, *Legally Straight: Sexuality, Childhood, and the Cultural Value of Marriage* (NYU Press 2017), using analyses of key U.S. judicial opinions to discuss the complications that accompany the expansion of access to legal marriage.



Professor Jillian Schwedler has given numerous interviews to the media on the war in Yemen, particularly following the assassination of the former president last December. She contributed the lead article, “What is Activism?” to a special issue of [Middle East Report](#) about activism in the region, for which she also served as guest editor.

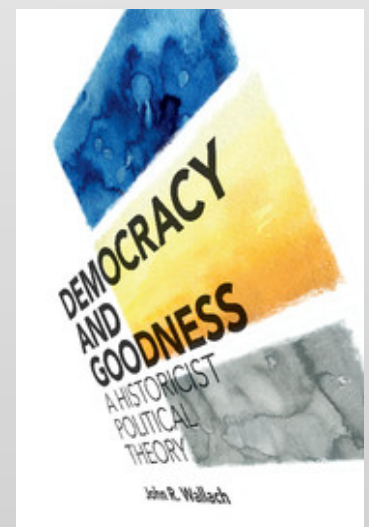
Professor Charles Tien published “The Racial Gap in Voting Among Women: White Women, Racial Resentment, and Support for Trump” in [New Political Science](#), Special Issue Fall 2017.

Professor John Wallach published his new book, *Democracy and Goodness: A Historicist Political Theory* (Cambridge 2018).



Presidential Professor Thomas G. Weiss published *Would the World Be Better Without the U.N.?* (Polity Books 2018).

Professor Till Weber published a paper in [Journal of Politics](#) entitled “Restrained Change: Party Systems in Times of Economic Crisis,” co-authored with Fernando Casal Bértoa. The paper shows how economic crises have affected European party systems since the 1920s and develops a new theory of party-system change.



Student Spotlight

Sarah Kostecki is a level III Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy. She is currently working on her dissertation titled “Work-family Reconciliation Policies across 32 Middle- and High-Income Countries: Good or Bad for Gender Equality in Employment?”

By Saira Rafiee



Saira Rafiee: *How did you become interested in economic inequality?*

Sarah Kostecki: My interest in inequality stems mainly from the 2008 economic recession. I am originally from Southeastern Michigan, an area that was hit particularly hard by the recession. After the recession, my dad lost his job and saw his healthcare costs increase. I took out a fair amount of student loans to complete my undergraduate degree, but couldn't consolidate my loans because banks were no longer taking applications once the recession began. I started to think about how policy in the U.S. (or lack thereof) perpetuates inequalities in access to necessities

like healthcare and education. I began to see that universal healthcare and low-cost higher education are essential for the well-being of all families—regardless of the country's economic situation.

SR: *Tell us more about your dissertation.*

SK: My dissertation attempts to address the persistence of gender inequality in employment using a new methodological approach and including a broader set of countries. I first construct new policy scales for two popular work-family reconciliation policies (those that reconcile the tension between paid work and child-rearing), parental leave and publicly subsidized child care, for the U.S. and 31 additional countries. The scales are constructed based on how well current policies match up with “ideal policy dimensions” – those that scholars have argued will promote gender equality in employment. I then assess the relationship between these policies, as captured in my scales, and employment outcomes using the LIS (Stone Center) microdata. Scholars increasingly argue work-family reconciliation policies that are extended equally to both mothers and fathers, and promote fathers' active role in child-rearing, may be best for gender equality in employment. I test this claim in my research. With the greater availability of quality, comparative data it is possible to include both middle-and high-income countries in my analyses. I am excited to break out of welfare state literature and the compartmentalization of comparative studies by regions and levels of economic development.

SR: *How has working at the Stone Center shaped your work?*

SK: Working at the Stone Center solidified my interest in the Public Policy subfield. Many scholars who use the microdata provided by the Center analyze the ways in which social policy influences socio-economic outcomes across countries, such as poverty and inequality. This type of research naturally fit with my research interests. I was also exposed to students and scholars in other social science disciplines at the GC and across the globe. I'm still working on two research projects with current students and scholars across these disciplines. The Center's Director, Janet Gornick, has been a huge support to me since my first days at the GC. Over the years she has served as my mentor, supervisor, and dissertation advisor.

SR: *What has your experience been like studying political science at the GC?*

SK: As a student, I enjoyed my classes and the opportunity to serve on several department and GC-wide committees. I loved teaching my expertise in Public Policy and Social Policy to undergraduates at the Roosevelt House, Hunter College. I very much appreciate Alyson Cole and Joe Rollins (former EO) who work/ed tirelessly to secure funding for their students. Americanist David Jones helped me improve my writing skills and taught me how to write a mean argumentative essay. I have made good friends in the department who have helped me de-stress when I needed it. I am disappointed I didn't emphasize publishing earlier on in my Ph.D. career. My advice is if you are worried about securing dissertation fellowships or future funding, make sure to publish!

Student Spotlight

Tyler Olsen, a second-year M.A. student in Political Theory, was awarded a Fulbright Research Grant to study participatory budgeting in Brazil this year.

By Saira Rafiee



Saira Rafiee: *Congratulations on your Fulbright award! Tell us more about participatory budgeting and how you got interested in this topic.*

Tyler Olsen: Thanks! When I lived in Phoenix I was involved in community organizing for several years (against the SB1070 law of 2010). My efforts were principally focused on building political power at the municipal level as a necessary step to building power at larger geographical scales. After transferring to the university from the community college, I learned of participatory budgeting by chance in an article that I found while doing research for a term paper. I was immediately attracted to the process because it was an example of a municipal political institution that was constructed by residents and that went a long way towards building people-power locally. When I learned that the process of participatory budgeting was subsequently scaled up to the state-level in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, I decided to find a way to get to Brazil and study the process of that transformation. After two failed attempts to obtain Fulbright funding, I finally was accepted, and am now beginning my research.

SR: *How has getting the fellowship affected your ability to do research? Why is Brazil a good place to do research on participatory budgeting?*

TO: The Fulbright program has provided a ten month research visa and enough funding for me to focus solely on my research for my entire stay. Brazil is a good place to study participatory budgeting because the process was first developed there. Also, I don't believe that there have been many attempts to scale up the process beyond the municipal level elsewhere. So, in respect to the question of scale, Rio Grande do Sul is the place to be. My advisor on this project is Dr. Danilo Streck of UNISINOS, a university just north of Porto Alegre. He is helping orient me, and he has already put me in touch with various people who will be vital to this project's success. He also houses a large archive of material related to recent rounds of state-level participatory budgeting processes, which will be extremely helpful in my research.

SR: *How do you think your research on participatory budgeting would relate to the issues we are facing at the GC, especially since there have been demands on the part of the students for participatory budgeting?*

TO: I hope that my work helps people consider strategies for democratizing government budgets at the state level. Of course, a participatory budgeting process at the state-level is not possible without strong processes at the municipal level in cities across a given state. More importantly, none of this is possible without a consciousness among the population that government should be controlled by residents rather than politicians. But this logic applies not only to government, but to any positions of authority, including the president's office at the GC. Building power at the local level — whether in a city, a neighborhood, a call-center, a high-school, or a university — is a necessary precondition for building power at a larger geographical scale. So, to answer your question, the efforts to democratize the budget at the GC are related to my research with state-level processes because local efforts such as these could create the conditions for the possibility of participatory processes at larger scales. I believe that the most important work is to be done at the local level, and the students at the GC working towards budget transparency and democratization are doing that hard work.



Student News

Yu Aoki (level III) received the Early Research Initiative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies.

Sumru Atuk (level III) received the Mellon Graduate Research & Service-Learning Grant from the Mellon Foundation, as well as the Sue Rosenberg Zalk Travel Award from the Center for the Study of Women and Society, The Graduate Center, CUNY.

Harry Blain (level I) published [“The Scale of Pentagon Waste Boggles the Mind, but Congress Keeps Giving Them More”](#) for Foreign Policy in Focus in October 2017; [“The US is Stockpiling Nuclear Weapons and the Cost is Astonishing”](#) in November 2017; [“2017 was a Banner Year for the Arms Industry”](#) in December 2017; and [“Israel's New Admirers: The White Nationalist Right”](#) in February 2018. In addition, Blain wrote [“The Dangers of Political Sainthood”](#) for Open Democracy in October 2017 as well as [“Why is the American Left so prejudiced about the South?”](#) in February 2018.

Nina Connelly (level I) co-authored an article with Professor Tom Weiss titled “Cultural Cleansing and Mass Atrocities: Protecting Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict Zones” ([Paul Getty Trust](#) 2017).

Sarah Kostecki (level III) was invited to a panel with several professors at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College in November 2017, titled “One Year After the Trump Election: Policy Impacts in the U.S. and the World.”

Drake Logan (level II) received the Early Research Initiative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies, and a provost’s digital innovation grant for the “The Military Toxics Transparency Project.”

Adam McMahon (level III) published an article “Unchained Succubus: A Queer New Institutional Analysis of U.S. Supreme Court Nomination Hearings” in [Politics and Gender](#) in December 2017.

Ariel G. Mekler (level I) published a chapter entitled “LGBTIQ (In)Visibility: A Human Security Approach to SOGIESC,” In *Queer Development Studies: A Reader*, edited by Corinne Mason ([Routledge](#) 2018) and is presenting a paper entitled “Far Right Extremism and the War on Terror” at the 2018 New York State Political Science Conference in April.

Chris Michael (level III) worked on employee ownership legislation that was recently passed in New York. He also drafted bills that were introduced in Wisconsin, Maryland, and the City of Newark.

Nick Micinski (level III) published the article “The Global Compact On Migration Is Not About Sovereignty” in [Huffington Post](#). Micinski was an invited speaker at Humanity in Action Fellowship in Detroit on “Confronting Islamophobia in Our Communities.”



Blain writes about the political battle to remove Confederate symbols in the South, including this statue of Robert E. Lee in New Orleans, May 2017



Student News

David Monda (level I) had an op-ed piece published in Kenya's largest circulation newspaper *Daily Nation* on January 30 2018 titled "[Tough times ahead for nation as stage set for political tussle](#)," as well as three articles published in *Political Animal Magazine*: "[Kenya Slides Precipitously Towards a De Facto One-Party State in 2018](#)," "[Trump's Racist Comments on Africa Obfuscate a Domestic Political Struggle in America](#)," and "[Israel's Outreach in Africa Continues at the Kenyan President's Inauguration](#)."

Faraz Motaghedi (M.A.) has been selected by the United States Naval Academy to present a paper "Modern Autocracy: The Future of Liberty within the Middle East" at their 58th Foreign Affairs Conference in Annapolis, MD.

Alison Parks (level III) received the Early Research Initiative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies.

Jenna Russo (level I) was selected by Columbia University's Harriman Institute of Russian Studies to present her research at the IMEMO conference in Moscow, January 24-25, titled "The Politics of R2P and Inaction in Syria: U.S., Russian, and Chinese Perspectives."

Sofia Pernilla Sedergren (M.A.) will present her paper "Framing Political Debates Based on the Attainment of Women's Suffrage: the Case of Great Britain 1916-1928" at the New York State Political Science Association Conference in April 2018. Sedergren also participated in the Graduate Center's "Lightning Talks" challenge for Master's students on March 2, 2018.

Elizabeth Stone (level II) published "Is There 'Hope for Every 'Addicted' American?': The New US War on Drugs" in [Social Sciences](#). Stone also received a Provost's Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship for summer archival research.

Tyson Himes (M.A.) participated in the Graduate Center's "Lightning Talks" challenge for Master's students on March 2, 2018, presenting a talk titled "Money Laundering With A View," in which he presented statistics that connect money laundering through shell companies with the purchase of high-end real estate, citing examples tied to Trump properties in major U.S. cities, including Manhattan, currently under investigation by Robert Mueller.

Advanced to Level 2	New Ph.D. Candidates	Graduating Ph.D. May 2018	Graduating M.A. May 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Adam Bell♦ Drake Logan♦ Kyong Mazzaro♦ Heidi Rhodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Nader Sadre♦ Philip Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ David Rasmussen♦ Paul Romita♦ Adam McMahon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Maria Sigalas♦ Christopher Massaro





Letter from the M.A. Writing Fellow

Bradley Young (level II) is the M.A. Writing Fellow for the 2017-18 academic year. Brad is available to assist students in transitioning from undergraduate- to graduate-level writing during his weekly virtual office hours on Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30pm and by appointment, as well as in person April 10-12 and May 8-10.

Dear Students,

I hoped that once I started graduate school I would break the habit of waiting until the last possible minute to start my final papers. But there I was, in mid-December, with three papers to write and little more than a half-formed topic in mind for each. Far too often I would get one of those papers back and cringe at a misspelling or incoherent paragraph. What I wouldn't learn until writing my M.A. thesis was that I could start the process much earlier, and I could ask for help.



Bradley Young

My position in our department, as Writing Fellow for M.A. students, is to provide precisely that help! While we are still a few weeks away from the finals crunch, I want to re-introduce myself. My name is Brad Young. I'm in my 5th year at the GC. Political theory is my major subfield. I have M.A.s in Philosophy from the New School for Social Research and in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Washington. Over the years I've written more papers than I can count—with a few theses thrown in for good measure—and I'm now in a position to pass on what I've learned from all that experience. Also, while in my first M.A. program, I spent two years working in the Writing Center with both undergraduate and graduate students.

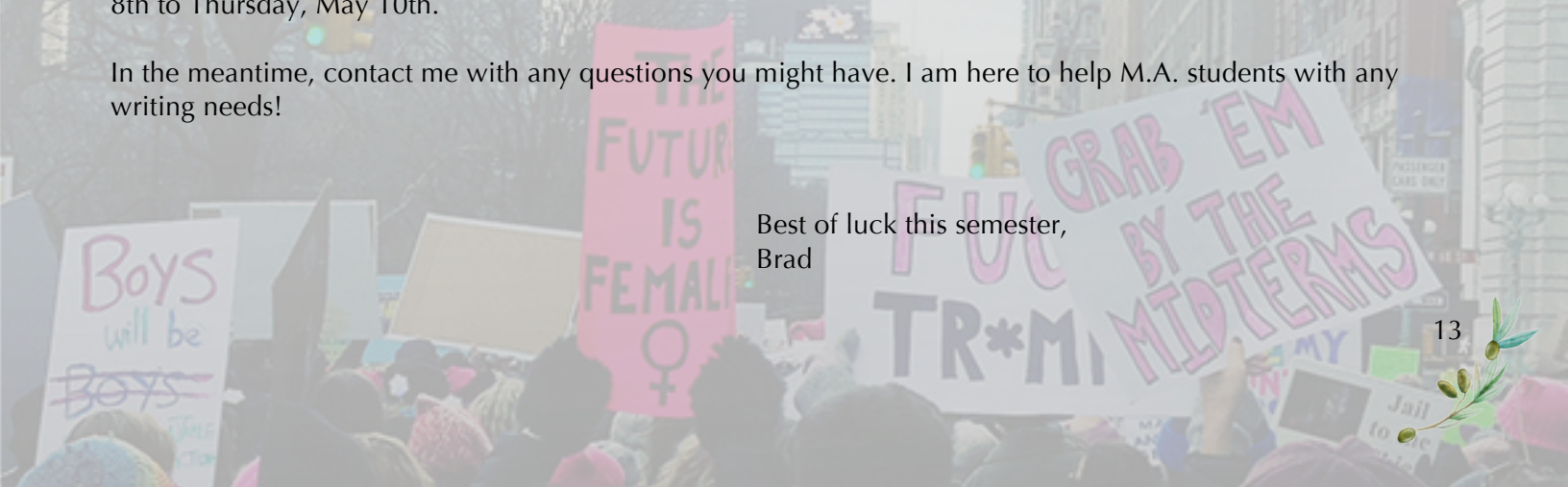
What all that means is that I know more about citation styles than anyone really should. And it means I'm in a position to help you with your writing! If you are having doubts about a topic or wondering if your thesis is clear enough, if you are concerned about grammar and punctuation, or if you just want to see if what you've written makes sense and meets the assignment requirements, I can help with all of that and more. No matter how good a writer any of us may be, having others read our writing always makes our work better.

My virtual office hours are 5:30-7:30 pm on Wednesdays, but my schedule is flexible so don't hesitate to contact me to set up a time to chat via Skype or Google Hangouts. I will always respond promptly to email at byoung2@gradcenter.cuny.edu.

I will also be on campus twice this semester for in-person meetings. I will be at the GC the first week following Spring Break: Tuesday April 10 to Thursday April 12, and then again right before finals week: Tuesday, May 8th to Thursday, May 10th.

In the meantime, contact me with any questions you might have. I am here to help M.A. students with any writing needs!

Best of luck this semester,
Brad





Alum Spotlight

Alex Zamalin is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and the Director of the African American studies program at University of Detroit Mercy. He is the author of *African American Political Thought and American Culture: The Nation's Struggle for Racial Justice* ([Palgrave Macmillan](#) 2015), *Struggle on Their Minds: The Political Thought of African American Resistance* ([Columbia University Press](#) 2017) and co-editor of *American Political Thought: An Alternative View* ([Routledge](#) 2017).



By Caroline Sigler

Caroline Sigler: You defended your dissertation in 2014. You published your first book in 2015. How did you manage to move from dissertation to book so quickly?

Alex Zamalin: There are three main reasons. The first is that, after defending, I decided to trust myself as an expert on my topic. The second is that I just wrote, and revised, without much internal censorship. In grad school, not only is it sometimes hard to feel that you understand your topic more so than your advisor, but your internal censors often preclude you from saying what it is you want to say. The third reason is that, after defending, I didn't have a tenure-track job and had just moved with my partner and child to a new city. And so, I thought, I might as well write something in a way that I enjoy and would ultimately like to read, rather than playing to some external audience that I'd never met and probably didn't exist anyway.

CS: What advice do you have for students about to enter the academic job market?

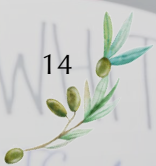
AZ: I found my current position by chance on the Chronicle job site. My advice is to apply widely rather than selectively, because, you don't always know who is on the job search committee, what they are looking for and what they might see in you. Also, committees love the fact that CUNY Ph.D.'s teach so much. For interviews, the biggest thing is to be yourself. Be prepared to look over the website, department, school etc., but keep in mind that faculty—in many places, though not all—want to see how you communicate, as a way to gauge how you'll be as a teacher and colleague. Most will only remember parts of your research, but they'll remember a great deal about your personality.

CS: As a parent, do you have advice on how to manage the pressures of professional academia with those of raising a family?

AZ: That's a hard question. I had my first child in grad school with my partner (also a Ph.D. student at the GC) and it was hard: managing schedules, adjuncting, commuting, dissertating—all, of course, with very, very, very little sleep. When our kid was born, he just became part of the family—which is to say, so much of the anxiety about being a parent sorted itself out. My own professional anxieties remained—but after becoming a parent, I was immersed in so many things and, knowing I could not do them all well, I relaxed a bit and tried to stay focused on the task at hand.

CS: What do you miss most about being a student at the Graduate Center?

AZ: No doubt, being a student at a commuter school like the GC was hard. And I definitely don't miss the windowless seminar rooms. But it is a really unique place. I miss my professors, the interdisciplinary environment, and the cool grad students. I also miss the quirk, the characters in the library, and looking out the second floor window to see all the traffic and people. And I miss the camaraderie and community that comes from a sense of not knowing what the future holds, watching some make it and others make it elsewhere.



Alum News

The department has formed an Alum Relations Committee to expand alum-department-student relations. Please contact the program office if you have new contact information or a new position so we may update our records. We also have a [LinkedIn Alum-Student network](#) that we hope you will join to connect to your colleagues past and present.

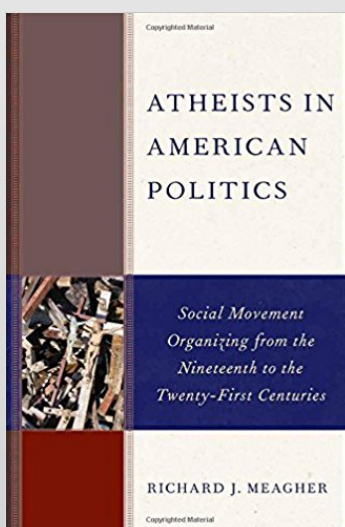
Kara Alaimo (2015) Assistant Professor of Communications at Hofstra University, was quoted in a front-page story in the [New York Times](#) about advertisers' social media responses to political controversy in November 2017.

Tatiana Carayannis (2017) was appointed Director of the Social Science Research Council's new program, "[Understanding Violent Conflict](#)" which explores evidence-based research and responses to contemporary conflicts to enable more effective responses to the increasing complexity of violent conflict globally.

Jill Simone Gross (1998) co-authored "The role of governance networks in building metropolitan scale" with Jen Nelles and Loraine Kennedy in *Territory, Politics and Governance*. The article is a comparative analysis of the networks and the governance of metropolitan development.

Peter Kolozi's (2009) book, *Conservative Critiques of Capitalism: From the Industrial Revolution to Globalization* ([Columbia University Press](#), 2017), was reviewed by the [Action Institute](#), the [Los Angeles Review of Books](#), [Jacobin](#), and [American Conservative](#), as well as quoted in the [Boston Review](#).

John McMahon (2016) accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor of Political Science at SUNY-Plattsburgh beginning August 2018. He also published an article in [Political Theory](#) titled "The 'Enigma of Biopolitics': Antiblackness, Modernity, and Roberto Esposito's Biopolitics."



J. Patrice McSherry (1994) appeared as a featured analyst in a [Radio BBC World documentary](#) on Chilean New Song. An interview with McSherry about Chilean New Song and one of its legendary musicians, Víctor Jara (who was killed in the first days of the Pinochet dictatorship) was published in the Chilean newspaper *El Ciudadano*. McSherry was also invited to present a paper about the interrelations between music and politics in Chile at the interdisciplinary conference "1968 in Europe and Latin America," organized by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies and the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Notre Dame University, April 2018.

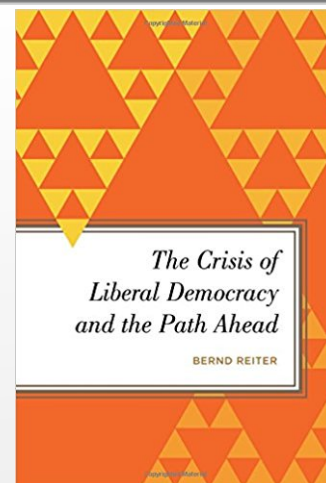
Rich Meagher (2008) published his book, *Atheists in American Politics* ([Lexington](#) 2008), which highlights key moments in the political history of atheism and examines how changing circumstances within the movement help explain political mobilization.





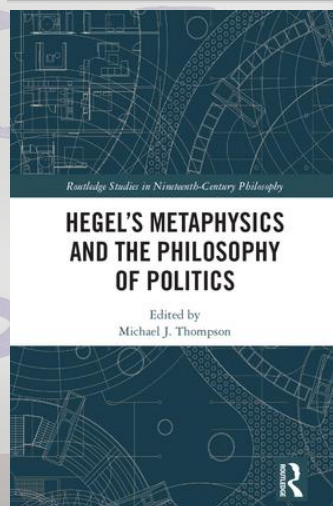
Keith Powers (2013) was elected to the [New York City Council](#) in November 2017, representing the CUNY Graduate Center's own Council District 4. Councilmember Powers serves on several committees including Health and Finance, and serves as Chair of the Committee on Criminal Justice, and Vice Co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus.

Bernd Reiter (2003) gave a [TEDx talk](#) in March 2017, during which he discussed the themes of his new book, *The Crisis of Liberal Democracy and the Path of Liberal Democracy* ([Rowman & Littlefield](#) 2017) examining case studies of laws and institutions that challenge economic elitism, and exploring alternatives to capitalist growth and representative liberal democracy to address economic inequality, and restore economic opportunity and fairness, through more universal participation and limited wealth accumulation.



Rochelle Saidel (1992) Executive Director of [Remember the Women Institute](#), coordinated an art exhibition titled "Trailblazing VIOLATED! Women in Holocaust and Genocide" beginning April 2018, at the Ronald Feldman Gallery.

Joshua Sperber (2017) has been hired as Assistant Professor in Political Science and History at Averett University, and his article, "Making the Grade: Rating Professors," was published in [New Labor Forum](#).



Michael J. Thompson (2005) Professor of Political Theory at William Paterson University, published an edited volume: *Hegel's Metaphysics and the Philosophy of Politics* ([Routledge](#) 2018).

Phillip Thompson (1990) Associate Professor of Political Science and Urban Planning in the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT was named [Deputy Mayor of New York City](#) for strategic policy initiatives by Mayor de Blasio.



Fall 2018 Course Schedule

- Monday 2:00-4:00pm:
- ◆ Beinart, "Writing Politics" (G/WP)
 - ◆ Cronin, "International Law" (IR)
- Monday 4:15-6:15pm:
- ◆ Romaniuk, "Basic Theories and Concepts of International Relations" (IR)
 - ◆ Schram, "Politics of Neoliberalism" (AP)
- Monday 6:30-8:30pm:
- ◆ Arbour, "American Politics: Theories and Core Concepts" (AP)
 - ◆ Wolin, "Authoritarian National Populism and the Crisis of Democracy" (PT)
- Tuesday 11:45-1:45pm:
- ◆ Weiss, "The United Nations and Changing World Politics" (IR)
- Tuesday 2:00-4:00pm:
- ◆ Krinsky, "Introduction to Public Policy" (PP)
 - ◆ Gould, "Social Ontology: Between Theory and Practice" (PT)
- Tuesday 4:15-6:15pm:
- ◆ Woodward, "Basic Theories and Concepts of Comparative Politics" (CP)
 - ◆ Wallach, "Political Interpretation: On Meaning and Power" (PT/M)
- Tuesday 6:30-8:30pm:
- ◆ Bayer, "M.A. Core Course" (G)
 - ◆ Kirschner, "The Future of Work" (G)
- Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm:
- ◆ Lipsitz, "Introduction to Research Design" (G/RD)
 - ◆ Mehta, "Perspectives on Modernity" (PT)
- Wednesday 4:15-6:15pm:
- ◆ Mollenkopf, "Ethnography of Public Policy" (PP/RD)
 - ◆ Shirkey, "Causes of War" (IR)
- Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm:
- ◆ Halper, "Civil Liberties" (AP)
 - ◆ DiGaetano, "Comparative Urban Politics and Policy" (PP)
- Thursday 2:00-4:00pm:
- ◆ George, "Politics of Identity" (CP/RD)
 - ◆ Shulman, "Race, Nation and Narrative" (PT/RD)
- Thursday 6:30-8:30pm:
- ◆ Ungar, "Crime and Justice in Comparative Politics" (CP)
 - ◆ Fontana, "Machiavelli" (PT)

Submission and Awards Deadlines

- ◆ February 16: Spring 2018 deadline for filing add/drop/level change
- ◆ February 16: Language Exam Registration Due
- ◆ February 16: Graduate Student Public Humanities Fellowship
- ◆ February 20: Teaching and Learning Center Graduate Fellowship
- ◆ February 23: Graduate Center Early Research Initiative/Digital Initiatives Connect New York Fellowships
- ◆ March 7: Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship and the Museum of the City of New York
- ◆ March 15: CFP for Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Nov. 29-Dec. 1, Atlanta, GA
- ◆ March 29: First Exam Registration Deadline
- ◆ March 31: Pine Tree Student Fellowship in the Digital Humanities Awards
- ◆ April 1: Congressional Research Grant (up to \$3,500) from the Dirksen Congressional Center
- ◆ April 1: AltFest Graduate Internship Program (\$4,000 for summer internship)
- ◆ April 2: CFP for Annual Conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action, Nov. 15-17, Austin, TX. Topic: From Research to Resilience: How Philanthropy, Nonprofits and Volunteers Bridge the Gap between Crisis and Sustainability
- ◆ April 23: Registration for Fall 2018 semester begins
- ◆ April 25: CFP for International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Jul. 25-27, Granada, Spain. Topic: Autonomy in Times of Turmoil: What to Make of the Social?
- ◆ April 27: Spring 2018 Language Exam
- ◆ April 27: New York State Senate Fellowships
- ◆ April 30: CFP for Eleventh Global Studies Conference, Jul. 30-31, Granada, Spain. Topic: Subjectives of Globalization

Department Events

- ◆ February 8, Civil Society Workshop, “Religious Philanthropy to Support Democratization: American Protestant Aid to Germany, 1945-1949”, Ky Woltering (Ph.D student, History GC)
- ◆ February 11, Where’s the Love? Open Mic Valentine’s Party 4 Free Tuition & 7K
- ◆ February 14, Slam Precarious Work, launch party for the new issue of WSQ, “Precarious Work” edited by Professor Alyson Cole (GC and Queens College) and Professor Victoria Hattam (New School)
- ◆ February 15, Comparative Politics Workshop, “Rights and Rites: Two Worlds of Rastafari; Rastafari and Politics in Jamaica,” Professor Myles Osborne (University of Colorado, Boulder)
- ◆ February 15, Political Theory Workshop, “Postmortem Effects: Impasse & Genre in American Politics and Literature,” Professor George Shulman (NYU) with discussant Nader Sadre (Ph.D. Student, GC)
- ◆ February 22, American Politics Workshop, “Racial Profiling, Public Health, and Bloomberg’s Landmark Bans,” Mercedes Wilby (Ph.D. Student, GC), with discussant Professor Thomas Halper (Baruch)
- ◆ February 22, Civil Society Workshop, “International Funding for Human Rights: Who Are the Donors and Where Does the Money Go?”, Sarah Tansey (Research Manager, Human Rights Funders Network)
- ◆ February 28, GC PSC Chapter Meeting
- ◆ March 1, Civil Society Workshop, “Determinants of the Size and Scope of Lead-Organization Networks for Social Service Delivery: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) Approach”, Professor Bin Chen (Marx School of Public and International Affairs, Baruch)
- ◆ March 14, Comparative Politics Workshop, “Delegating Responsibility: The Outsourcing of Migration Governance in the EU to International Organizations,” Nick Micinski (Ph.D. Student, GC)
- ◆ March 15, Professional Development Workshop, “Argument Analysis Training for Large Classes,” Professor Peter Liberman (GC)
- ◆ March 15, Civil Society Workshop, Demet Arpacik (Ph.D. student, Urban Education, GC)
- ◆ March 16, Political Science Department Student Conference
- ◆ March 22, Civil Society Workshop, Zhang Han (Ph.D. student, Sociology, Princeton)
- ◆ March 28, Reception for Visiting Students, Political Science Department
- ◆ March 28, Comparative Politics Workshop, “A Process-Oriented Perspective on Criminal Victimization: Perceptions, Resistance, and Domination.” Eduardo Moncada (Barnard College) with discussant Jennifer Peirce (CUNY John Jay College)
- ◆ March 28, Civil Society Workshop, “Instrumental Philanthropy and the Problem of Institutional Design”, Professor George E. Mitchell (Marx School of Public and International Affairs, Baruch)



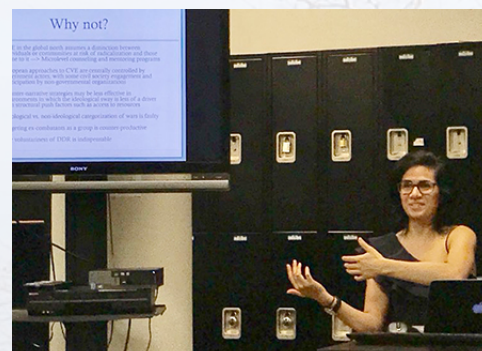
The Fashion Praxis Collective at the Slam Precarious Work launch party February 14



Jenna Russo, Harry Blain, David Monda, and Professor Zachary Shirkey on the International Relations panel, Student Conference March 2018

Department Events

- ◆ March 29, Department Colloquium, book launch for Mark Ungar's *The 21st Century Fight for the Amazon* cosponsored by The Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies
- ◆ April 12, American Politics Workshop, "Bernie vs. Trump: Two Faces of Populism in the 2016 Election"
- ◆ April 12, Civil Society Workshop, "How Governmental, Human Service, and Advocacy Organizations Create Consumers – and Elicit Relational Work – in the Social Insurance Market", Professor Katherine Chen (City College, GC)
- ◆ April 18, Comparative Politics Workshop, "Beyond Coethnicity: Political Influencers in Ethnically Diverse Societies," Simon Chauchard, (Dartmouth College)
- ◆ April 19, M.A. Student Meeting with M.A. Advisor Professor Charles Tien
- ◆ April 19, Civil Society Workshop, Amy Schiller (Ph.D. student, GC)
- ◆ April 20, Fourth Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Theory Conference: "Defetishizing Theory": On Methodology, Field Research, and Grounded Theory
- ◆ April 25, Comparative Politics Workshop, "When Public Participation Matters: The 2010-2013 Icelandic Constitutional Process," Hélène Landemore (Yale University)
- ◆ April 26, Civil Society Workshop, "Civil Society and EU Migration Management", Nick Micinski (Ph.D. student, GC)
- ◆ May 3, Political Science Department Awards Night
- ◆ May 3, Civil Society Workshop, topic TBA
- ◆ May 10, Political Theory Workshop, Elizabeth Cohen (Syracuse University)
- ◆ May 10, Civil Society Workshop, Katherine Entigar, (Ph.D. student, Social Welfare, GC)
- ◆ May 11, Annual Political Science Department Faculty Meeting
- ◆ May 11, Annual Political Science Department Student Meeting
- ◆ May 11, End of Semester Workshop
- ◆ May 17, Civil Society Workshop, topic TBA
- ◆ May 30, Commencement Day



Sally Sharif on the Political Violence panel, Student Conference 2018



Andres Rayas, Sofia Sedergrén, Merrill Sovner, and Professor Susan Woodward on the Comparative Politics panel, Student Conference 2018



Warm and Fuzzy



Anaïs' cat Sango says "just five more minutes..."
(photo credit: Anaïs Wong).



Peter Ranis' grandson, Max, was recognized by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars for his exceptional SAT and ACT scores, and has been accepted to Yale (photo credit: Peter Ranis).



Lucia Green-Weiskel, when not teaching American Politics at Johnson State College or being part of the local resistance movement against Trump, attempts to find peace—if that's even possible in the Trump era—by growing food and homesteading with her two kids (photo credit: Lucia Green-Weiskel).



Jazz and Shera are ready to set up barricades at a moment's notice... (photo credit: Rosa Squillacote).





Warm and Fuzzy



Read all about it! Chris Michael's baby girl Eva taking in the day's events (photo cred: Christopher Michael).



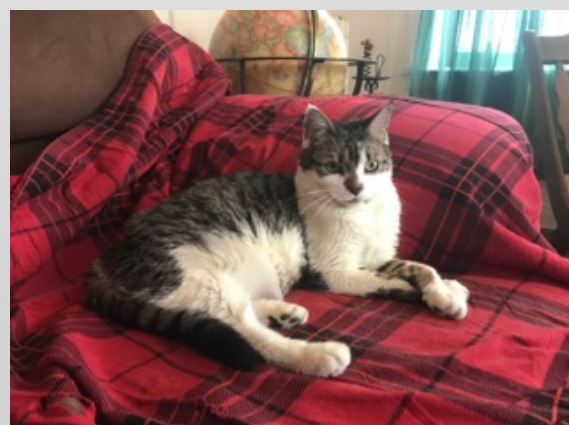
Andres' dog, Tuna, who successfully claims the monopoly of the legitimate use of barking in his apartment (photo credit: Andres Sebastian Besserer Rayas).



Eleanor Mills says support your union! (photo credit: Rosa Squillacote).



Jay Jay would like to remind everyone to vote on Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 (photo credit: Beth Stone).

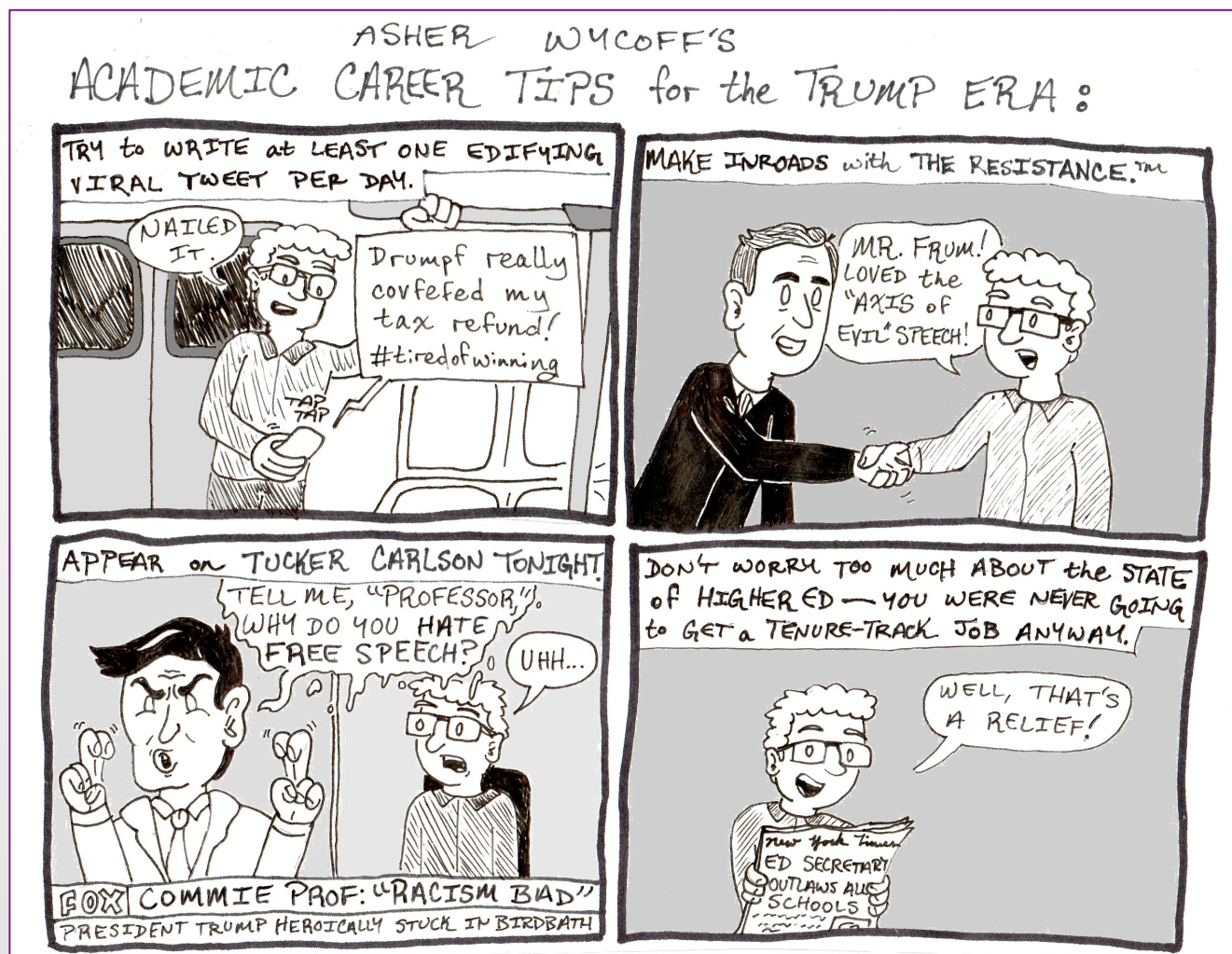


Denzel pondering meownarchy on Women's Day (photo credit: Isa Vásquez).





Satire



Published an article? Received a grant or fellowship? Have an idea for an alum who should be featured in our next newsletter? Doing fieldwork and have pictures or stories to share? Contact the editor-in-chief Elizabeth Stone at homopoliticus.editors.gccuny@gmail.com.

Want to support the Political Science Department at the CUNY Graduate Center and have something to show for it? Well, now you can! Simply donate \$15 or more at <https://tinyurl.com/GCPoliSciDonate>, and receive a stylish, 100% cotton tote bag featuring Aristotle climbing the Empire State Building. Impress your friends! Devastate your enemies! Carry groceries, maybe! And most importantly, help support the dedicated students of America's greatest public university system.



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