The Newsletter of the Political Science Department

City University of New York

The Graduate Center

Spring 2019 Vol. 4, Issue II



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# Ph.D. and M.A. Program in Political Science

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Homo Politicus
Spring 2019 Vol.4 Issue II

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 Alums,

After a Fall semester brimming with activity, including many events surrounding the search for a new faculty member in American Politics, the Spring 2019 term began with a renewed sense of vigor. The United States under Trump provides daily reminders of the importance of critical thinking and rigorous research about politics.



On March 8 we held our annual <u>Graduate Student Conference</u> where our current students showcased their research. This year we altered the format slightly by inviting alums of the program to serve as discussants in lieu of GC faculty. We see this change as another aspect of our program's ongoing outreach to alums and our efforts to deepen and expand our department's graduate network. I want to thank our alums, Nayma Qayum (2014), Shawna Brandle (2013), Margaret Groarke (2000), and Peter Bratsis (2002), who spent the day discussing students' work and sharing insights about life after the GC. I also want to remind our readers that membership on our Alum Committee is open to all interested students and alum, and you can find more information about the committee in the Feature section on page 2.

Our workshops and events this semester were diverse. In addition to presentations from our own students and faculty, we hosted visiting scholars such as Dr. Maud Simonet, from the University of Paris Ouest Nanterre, who discussed emerging forms of free labor as exploitation at the <a href="Department Colloquium">Department Colloquium</a>; Dr. Sharon Stanley from the University of Memphis, who presented research about rethinking racial integration in the United States based on the Brazilian experience to the <a href="Political Theory Workshop">Political Integration in the United States based on the Brazilian experience to the Political Theory Workshop</a>; Dr. Monika McDermott, from Fordham University, discussed political intolerance and racial resentment in the aftermath of Charlottesville at the <a href="American Politics Workshop">American Politics Workshop</a>; and Riva Kastoryano, from Science Po (Paris), who presented her research about France's Yellow Vest movement. The <a href="Comparative Politics Workshop">Comparative Politics Workshop</a> is thriving, featuring many students and faculty as well as visiting scholars such as Dr. Nermin Allam from Rutgers University. Finally, the <a href="#FormsofLife: Terms of Engagement">#FormsofLife: Terms of Engagement</a> public workshop will stage an international, interdisciplinary debate about language, truth, and power. Participants include Linda Alcoff, Kyoo Lee, and Charles Mills from the Graduate Center, Deva Woodly and Claire Potter from the New School, Veena Das from Johns Hopkins University, Piergiorgio Donatelli from Sapienza University in Rome, Estelle Ferrarese from the Picardie-Jules-Vernes University and Sandra Laugier from the University of Paris (Panthéon Sorbonne), among others.

As always, I want to thank the *Homo Politicus* editorial staff – Toby Irving, Rebecca Krisel, Sarah Lenfest, Ayşe Obalı, Saira Rafiee, Andrés Besserer Rayas, Merrill Sovner, and B Stone – for their wonderful work on this newsletter.

Warm regards,

Alyson Cole 1

### Alum Committee

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What is the Political Science Alum Committee?

The Alum Committee was created in Fall 2017 by students and alums to build and reinvigorate relationships between graduates across cohorts and current students in the program. We do this through social media networking, in-person events, and informal mentorship. We prioritize building direct relationships between alum and students in order to cultivate and share our most valuable resources – each other.

Why "alum" committee?

The terms "alumni" and "alumnae" are Latin terms referring to graduates of specific genders. When the committee was formed, we decided the gender neutral "alum" was preferable over these gender-specific terms.

Who is on the committee?









The committee is currently comprised of (starting at top-center, clockwise): Mette Christiansen (M.A.), Alyssa Filoramo (M.A.), Adrienne Jones (2015), Nick Micinski (level III), David Monda (level I), Dan Skinner (2010), Tricia Stapleton (2012), and B Stone (level III). Membership on the committee is open to all alums and students and we are always open to hearing your suggestions – come to our next meeting on Monday May 6 to get involved!









#### Alum Committee



What have we been up to?

At the annual APSA conference in September we organized a reception for all GC Political Science students, alum, and faculty. In attendance were Shawna Brandle (2013), Jeff Broxmeyer (2014), Ben Epstein (2011), Carol Gould (faculty), Julie George (faculty), Rich Meagher (2010), Nick Micinski (level III), Mike Miller (2017), Kristofer Petersen-Overton (2017), Amy Schiller (level III), Dan Skinner (2010), Merrill Sovner (level III), Tricia Stapleton (2012), B Stone (level III), and Till Weber (faculty). Special thanks go to Tricia Stapleton, Jeff Broxmeyer, and the department for their financial support.

We also worked with the Colloquium Committee to invite alums of the program to serve as discussants at our annual Graduate Student Conference. Thanks to Nayma Qayum (2014), Shawna Brandle (2013) (pictured, right and left, respectively), Margaret Groarke (2000), and Peter Bratsis (2002) for joining us this year and providing valuable feedback to the student participants. We hope this will become a tradition – if you are interested in being a discussant next year please get in touch with the program office.



Looking ahead to the upcoming ISA and WPSA conferences this Spring, the Alum Committee is organizing informal meet-and-greets at each event. At <a href="WPSA">WPSA</a> in San Diego</a> we will be meeting on Friday, April 19 at 6pm at Puesto (789 Harbor Drive) across the street from the Hyatt; contact B Stone (@ironcurtains) for details. At <a href="ISA">ISA</a> in Toronto</a>, we will be meeting on Friday March 29 at 7:30pm at the Global Development reception honoring CUNY Grad Center alum, Nancy Fraser. For details on the ISA event, contact Nick Micinski (@nickmicinski).

What are our current projects?

We are working with the department's Social Media Fellow (B Stone) to highlight the accomplishments of our students and alum on our <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> feeds. If you're active on social media, help us expand our network by tagging us and your GC friends! If you have news to share please tag us on Twitter @GC\_PoliSci and we will be thrilled to retweet you. We also created a <u>LinkedIn</u> Group for alum and students last year – please join so we can stay connected!

Beginning to think about life beyond the GC?

We launched an Alum-Student Mentorship Network last semester to connect current students who are on the job market with alums who are willing to offer informal guidance and support. Students who wish to be paired with an alum should fill out <a href="mailto:this survey">this survey</a>; and alum who wish to be paired with a student should fill out <a href="mailto:this survey">this survey</a>.

### Faculty Profile



**Dr. Jacqueline Anne Braveboy-Wagner** is Professor of Political Science at City College and the Graduate Center. She teaches courses on foreign policy and theories of international relations. She is the author or editor of eleven books and more than a hundred articles, book chapters, reports and papers. Among her recent publications is *Diplomatic Strategies of Nations in the Global South: The Search for Leadership* (2016). In addition to her scholarly work, she has held leadership positions in the Caribbean Studies Association and the International Studies Association (ISA), and founded the Global South Caucus of the ISA.

Ayşe Obalı: Your work mostly draws on theories of international relations and foreign policy. What could policymakers learn from IR theory and what could theorists learn from policy?

Dr. Jacqueline Anne Braveboy-Wagner: My real interest is foreign policy, which by nature is highly policy relevant. IR theory has traditionally been system-oriented, so there I focus on extracting what is useful for understanding foreign policy. The policymakers I meet think of IR as foreign policy. Insights we offer to policymakers include ideas about grand strategy, bureaucracy and government, the framing of national interests, the role of leadership, and the interwoven nature of society, culture, and governmental policy. By the same token, we as scholars obviously formulate our theories based on what we see in the so-called "real" world.

AO: What do you think about the "rise of the rest" today? How did the international system change since you published your most recent book?

JBW: My book reflects the power transition which is occurring in the world today: the change from the domination of the West to a more diffuse system in which not only the BRICS but also leading regional states are becoming more influential. But I think that one has to be cautious about this process, which is obviously happening in fits and starts as some countries backtrack economically and sometimes politically. But the process will continue, no doubt. It's not the same world as in the early 1990s.

AO: What led you to become interested in your area of research, especially in the concept of the Global South?

JBW: My entire career has been devoted to studying the Third World (now "Global South") which is where I am from. Nothing has changed, except perhaps that the international relations community has finally become more sensitive about the gaps in mainstream IR theorizing when it comes to including Africa, Asia and Latin America. It amazes me that my 2003 book on Global South foreign policy is being listed as pioneering in the use of the term "GS." But it is really those practical folk at the UN who pioneered the term "South" well before that.

AO: You have been at CUNY for quite some time. What changes have you witnessed here?

JBW: When I first came to the GC, we had many more students and more diversity, largely because of the Ralph Bunche Fellowship program as well as our proximity to the UN. There were enough "Third World" students for me to run a Caribbean seminar for persons in and outside CUNY on regular Fridays, and there was the Africa seminar as well. The problem is that diversity has to occur not just at the student level but at the faculty level. That has not happened at CUNY really, but then again there aren't many minority faculty in IR nationally anyway. IR remains a very conservative field, but many of us remain hopeful that it will become more inclusive in our lifetimes.

### Faculty News

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Professor George Andreopoulos spent the fall 2018 semester at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California in Santa Barbara. While there, he gave a presentation at the Center's faculty seminar on "Counterterrorism and Human Rights at the United Nations Security Council: Revisiting Hegemonic International Law," based on a chapter from his current book project. In December, he presented a paper on "Humane vs. Inhumane Treatment" at a research workshop on Humanitarianism and Political Space organized by the Peace Research Institute Oslo.

Professor Sherrie Baver is continuing her project on environmental democracy in Latin America. As part of the effort, she was invited to present her work on "Chile's Move to Modern Environmental Governance," at the International Earth System Governance Conference at Utrecht University in the Netherlands in November 2018.

**Professor Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner** contributed a chapter on institutionalism for a report commissioned by the UN Office for South-South Cooperation in the lead-up to the 40th anniversary of the seminal <u>Buenos</u> <u>Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries</u>. In addition, the Global South Caucus of the ISA honored her scholarship via a special panel at its annual conference in Toronto in February 2019.

The triple bind

of single-parent

families

намдвоок оғ Family Policy

**Professor Forrest Colburn** co-authored "Latin America's Shifting Politics: The Fading of Costa Rica's Old Parties," in the *Journal of Democracy*.

Professor Emerita Joyce Gelb co-authored "Is Democratic Nomination Good for Women's Candidacy? Examining the Case of Taiwan," in the Asian Journal of Women Studies.

Professor Julie George published a memo for the PONARS Eurasia Group entitled "Territory versus Reform Success: Why Reformers are Better Positioned in Georgia than in Armenia." She was invited to present "Armenia and Georgia: Popular Protests, Political Crossroads, and Resignations," at the Warsaw East European Conference, "What's Going on in Central Asia, Ukraine, and the Caucasus?" in Warsaw, Poland.

Professor Carol Gould gave the keynote address at the launch conference of the Centre for the Study of Contemporary Solidarity, at the University of Vienna, Austria, in November 2018. She also published "Solidarity and the Problem of Structural Injustice in Healthcare," in *Bioethics*.

Professor Mitchell Cohen's book
The Politics of Opera: A History
from Monteverdi to Mozart
(Princeton 2017), which won
Baruch College's Presidential
Achievement Award for Excellence
in Scholarship, has just been
published in a Serbo-Croatian
translation as Politika u Operi (Delfi
2018).



#### **Professor Janet Gornick**

contributed chapters to two edited books: first, "The Socioeconomics of Single Parenthood: Reflections on the Triple Bind" in *The Triple Bind of Single-Parent Families: Resources, Employment, and Policies to Improve Wellbeing* (Policy Press 2018), and second, "Children, Poverty, and Public Policy: A Cross-National Perspective" in the *Handbook on Child and Family Policy* (Edward Elgar 2018). Her co-authored paper

"The Consequences of Decentralization: Inequality in Safety Net Provision in the Post-Welfare Reform Era" won the 2019 Frank R. Breul Memorial Prize for the "best article" published in *Social Service Review*.

### **Faculty News**

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Professor Jack Jacobs delivered academic talks at Ferrara University in Italy, the Free University of Berlin in Germany, Lund University in Sweden, and Birkbeck, University of London, during the Fall 2018 semester. He recently published "Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and Racism in the Era of Donald Trump: The Relevance of Critical Theory," in Berlin Journal of Critical Theory.

Professor Jacobs also published a chapter entitled "The Frankfurt School and Antisemitism," in The Routledge Companion to the Frankfurt School (Routledge 2018).

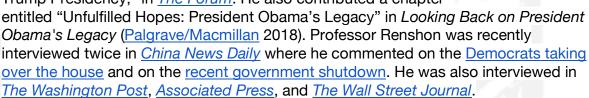
**Professor Keena Lipsitz** was interviewed by the <u>Financial Times</u> in "Moment for US national unity comes — and goes." She was also interviewed by Tamsen Fadal on PIX11 about the apathy of millennial voters just before the midterm election.

**Professor Emerita Jill Norgren** launched *Stories from Trailblazing Women Lawyers* (NYU 2018) at the Wilson Center in D.C. and she recently appeared to speak about the book at the Stanford School of Law as part of the celebration of Women's History Month.



Professor Emeritus Peter Ranis' book Cooperatives
Confront Capitalism: Challenging the Neo-Liberal Economy
(Zed Books 2016) has been translated as Cooperativas Frente
al Capitalismo: Desafiando a la Economía Neoliberal (Editorial
Cooperativa Callao 2018).

**Professor Stanley Renshon** published "The Fight for American Restoration: Understanding the Paradoxical Foundations of the Trump Presidency," in *The Forum*. He also contributed a chapter



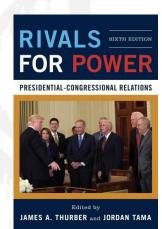


**Professor Sanford Schram** was invited to present a lecture entitled "Hard White: Outgroup Hostility and the 2016 Trump Vote" at the Duke University Behavior and Identities Workshop.

**Professor Charles Tien** published "Will the Supreme Court Find Its Way Out of the "Political Thicket" of Partisan Redistricting?" in the <u>Roosevelt House Faculty Journal</u>. He also published "Using Survey Data," in the <u>SAGE Research Methods Cases</u>. Professor Tien was twice a guest on the <u>Graduate Center's Thought Project Podcast</u>: first, as a <u>general feature</u> interview and second, to discuss the <u>government shutdown</u>.

#### **Professor David Jones**

published a chapter titled: "Party Brands, Elections, and Presidential-Congressional Relations," in Rivals for Power: Presidential-Congressional Relations (Rowman & Littlefield 2018). He gave an invited talk, "Institutional Context and Accountability for Political Distrust," for the Stony Brook Political Psychology Speaker Series. His co-authored analysis of the 2018 midterm election exit polls, "How the Democrats Won the House," appeared on CBS News online.



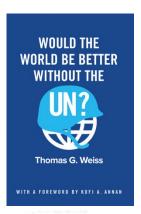
### **Faculty News**

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Professor Mark Ungar was selected to join the council of the International Network of Environmental Enforcement Agencies, led by INTERPOL, in January 2019.

Professor Till Weber published "Parties, Pluralism and the 'Crisis' of American Representation" in the Chinese Political Science Review with Craig Parsons.

Professor Thomas Weiss gave lectures in London, Seoul, Copenhagen, New York, and Havana based on his book, Would the World Be Better without the UN? (Wiley 2018). He recently published: "Multilateralism and the UN under Attack in the Age of Trump" in Global Summitry, and two articles co-written with an alum and a current student, "Protecting Cultural Heritage in War Zones," in Third World Quarterly with





Nina Connelly (2018) and "The Global South and UN Peace Operations," *E-International* Relations with Giovanna Kuele (level I). Since January, he is Co-Chair of the Cultural Heritage at Risk Project, J. Paul Getty Trust, and will be making a presentation at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

Professor Susan Woodward was appointed a Research Scholar at the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute for War and Peace Studies at Columbia University, effective July 2018 for one year and renewable.

Professor Ming Xia published his book High Peaks, Flowing Rivers: On Tibet (Snow Land Publisher 2019), a special outlet for studies on the Dalai Lama and Tibet in Taiwan.





We mourn the loss of Professor Randolph L. Braham, who passed away on November 25, 2018. Professor Braham was an American historian and political scientist, born in Romania, and a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the City College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. A specialist in comparative politics and the Holocaust, he was a founding board member of the academic committee of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), Washington, D.C., and founded The Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies at the Graduate Center in 1979. His professional career was spent teaching comparative politics and Soviet studies at the City College of New York, where he chaired the political science department. He was the author or editor of over 60 books and co-authored or written chapters to 50 others and published a large number of scholarly articles. The vast majority of his published work deals with the Holocaust in Hungary and 20th-century Hungarian history, as well as the distortions of history in post-War politics in Hungary. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family and friends. Follow this link for the New York Times obituary.

### PhD Student Spotlight



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Yu Aoki is a Level III Ph.D. Student in International Relations. He is currently working on a dissertation entitled "Estimating Intentions to Use Force: How the United States Assessed Military Threats in International Crises, 1949-1982." He recently won the Early Research Initiative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies.

Sarah Lenfest: Could you tell us a little more about your dissertation?

Yu Aoki: My dissertation tests theories that explain how foreign policy officials make estimates of other states' intentions when they threaten to use force. Each theory argues that foreign policy officials use a particular indicator associated with threatening states to make estimates of the credibility of other state's threats. These indicators are military readiness, the importance of the interests at stake in disputes, potential costs of failure to follow through with threats, availability of alternative policies to pursue the interests at stake, and the records of threatening states' past actions. I test these theories by process-tracing how the US policy officials assessed military threats in international crises, using primary sources collected through archival research.

I have learned a lot from my advisor Peter Liberman. Writing to propose your views tends to narrow your focus too much and make you self-affirmative, at least for me. However, whenever I showed these tendencies, Peter kindly reminded me of them and made constructive suggestions. I managed to win a few major research grants in the past three years, but cannot imagine these accomplishments without his help.

SL: What made you choose archival research as a primary method?

YA: Although I was impressed by qualitative works on reputations and audience costs in the signaling literature, I was not completely satisfied with their conclusions because some of them used only secondary historical works. In general, historians should be more knowledgeable about a particular historical event than political scientists; however, they do not write their books and articles to specifically test political science theories. The suggestion here is that failure to find evidence to support a particular theory in existing historical works does not eliminate the possibility that unfound evidence exists in primary sources. Even historians have to pick and choose evidence. Once I got into archives, my intuition seemed to be validated. I found a number of gems to support theories that were not empirically supported before.

SL: What has your experience at the GC been like? How has the academic and political environment here shaped your thinking and your work?

YA: I worked as a teaching assistant to General (Retired) David H. Petraeus for seven semesters, and this was a great experience to observe how a policymaker thinks. Accustomed to having to absorb information with very little time, Gen. Petraeus strongly preferred concise writing and presentation. He had a "Rapid Fire Round Briefings" assignment: students had to report on a particular current event within three minutes. He also cared deeply about the nuance of writing. As a policy official whose speech and writing may have a significant effect on US foreign policy, he could not be too careful with his words.

I believe that most of my colleagues are interested in policymaking in addition to academic issues. What I learned from my experiences with Gen. Petraeus is that policymakers are not so familiar and interested in political science literature, so that if we really want to influence them, we have to tailor our research to a specific policy issue — making suggestions concise, concrete, and actionable.

### M.A. Student Spotlight

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**BRUCE BERNSTEIN** is pursuing an M.A., with a focus on political economy. He works for the NYC public hospital system (NYC Health + Hospitals) at Elmhurst Hospital, doing grant development, grant management, and whatever else they assign him.

Sarah Lenfest: You've had a successful career working in technology and, since 2013, in health care. What inspired you to return to school and pursue a graduate degree in Political Science?



Bruce Bernstein: During my twenties, I was involved in a lot of political and social activism, including six years as a community organizer in Philadelphia and Chicago. I started during the Vietnam era, so much of our activity and analysis centered around anti-imperialism. Through this organizing, I also received my first introduction to Marxism. At the same time, rapid transformations were occurring in the tech landscape, which I saw was creating new needs and changing the economy in important ways. I returned to school in 1981 at Queens College to study computer science and math, and went into the tech industry.

In the 1990s and 2000s, for 13 years I was working in local economic development as the head of the New York Software Industry Association, trying to create high-tech jobs in the city. I became more and more interested in economics, but had never studied it formally. Around this time, I saw Dr. Corey Robin speaking on CSPAN and was interested in what he was talking about. I reached out to him and asked to take his Grad Center course on the political theory of capitalism as a non-matriculating student, and he was nice enough to accept me.

I'd been out of school for 30 years and had no idea what I was getting into, but I really enjoyed the experience and appreciated the energy and knowledge that other students brought to seminar discussions. I began to look into how I could matriculate as a Masters' student. With my professional work, I needed a lot of flexibility in designing my graduate studies. Dr. Alyson Cole and Corey Robin were very encouraging and supportive in this respect.

SL: How has your experience in the department been?

BB: I have found a home here. The professors are very strong and I really enjoy the other students. They bring a diversity of life experiences to the program, I get a lot of energy from them and they open my mind. I highly recommend the program to other mid- and late-career students — the department been helpful in navigating the challenges of balancing work and studies, and it is actually a great time in life to go to grad school!

SL: How have your interests developed through your classes and research, and what are you hoping to delve into more in writing your MA Thesis?

BB: A major concern of mine in studying political economy has been to gain a deeper understanding of the systemic and structural origins of inequality. More specifically, I'm interested in looking at how technological developments shape new class structures, and how emerging sectors structure peoples' working lives differently. People are increasingly resorting to side gigs to make ends meet, whether turning their cars into taxis or their apartments into hotels. There is a mentality of constantly figuring out how to sell things — how is this impacting people's outlook on the world? How are these economic factors related to new right-wing political movements?

#### Student News

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Ankita Aggarwal (level I) co-edited The Right to Food Debates: Social Protection for Food Security in India (Orient BlackSwan 2018).

**Ariel Mekler** (level I) is presenting "Queer (in)security in the age of LGBTIQ Inclusion," at the Junior Scholar Symposium & Queering the Global South panel at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association. She is also presenting "Mapping LGBTIQ Inclusion and Mainstreaming in International Institutions," at the Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference at City College of New York on March 12-15, 2019.

**Sumru Atuk** (level III) won a 2018 Research Grant from the <u>Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa</u> for her project, "It is in Your Fitrat to Die:' Neoliberal Conservatism, Strengthening the Traditional Family and Women's Right to Life in Turkey."

Andrés Besserer Rayas (level I) is presenting "Pax Mafiosa or Peacebuilding, Are Gang Truces Successful Ways to Deal with Criminal Violence in Latin America? An Exploration of the Salvadoran 2012-2014 Gang Truce," at the Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference at City College of New York on March 12-15, 2019.

Harry Blain (level I) published three article in Foreign Policy in Focus: "It's Never 'Just the Immigrants'", "The New Congress Can End Wars and Constrain the 'Deep State.' Will It?", and "Can the New Congress Keep

Intelligence Agencies in Check?" He also published "Metaphors of Dis-Ease, Collaborating with Artist Mariam Ghani" on the <u>Graduate Center's The Center for Humanities Blog</u>. He also attended a conference on the future of US grand strategy in East Asia in Los Angeles from January 18-19.

**Toby Irving** (level I) published "The NYC Women's March Careens into a Debate About Zionism" in *Jewish Currents*.

Emily Crandall (level III) is presenting a co-written paper with alums Rachel H. Brown (2016) and John McMahon (2016) entitled "Toward an Anti-Work Democratic Ethos" on the Work, Labor, Community panel in the Political Theory: Critical and Normative section at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association.

Giovanna Kuele (level I) co-authored "The Global South and UN Peace Operations" in *E-International Relations* with Professor Thomas Weiss.

Philip Johnson (level III) published "López Obrador's Public Enemy Number One" in the North American Congress on Latin America. He is presenting "Counterinsurgency Without Insurgency: Insights on Criminal Violence from Mexican Narco-Messages" at the Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference at City College of New York on March 12-15, 2019. He is also presenting a draft chapter of his dissertation on "Reading Mexican Narco-Messages as Speech Acts" at the annual meetings of the Latin American Studies Association, the International Studies Association, and the Western Political Science Association.

**Pierre Losson** (level III) is chairing a panel at the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association that he organized on "Heritage discourses: from nation-building to nation-branding?" It will feature Christopher Parisano, a GC anthropology student, as well as researchers from The University of Pennsylvania, Leiden University, and the Institute of Peruvian Studies. In addition, he will present "Recuperando lo Nuestro: Why Have Latin American States Sought the Return of Cultural Heritage Objects Since the late 20th Century?"

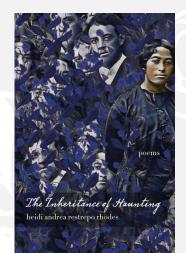
#### Student News



Nicholas R. Micinski (level III) presented an invited lecture on "Everyday Humanitarianism & New Technologies" at Amherst College in October 2018. Nick will also be presenting at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association on "The Politics of EU Migration-Development Aid and Transit States," "Political Cartoons and the EU 'Refugee Crisis' 2015-2017," and a roundtable on "Theorising Coercion and Migration in World Politics."

Christopher Putney (MA) published "Donald Trump's rhetoric isn't the end of the presidency as we know it, but a symptom of what it has become" in the LSE US Centre's daily blog on American politics and policy.

Heidi Andrea Rhodes (level III) presented at the 2018 American Studies Association in Atlanta in November. The panel was called: "(Re) Emergent Bones: Settler Colonial Spaces and the Accumulation of Human Remains" and her paper was titled "Accumulation, Bodies, Surplus, Loss: An American Arithmetic of Death and Disappearance." In addition, she published a poetry collection, The Inheritance of Haunting (Notre Dame Press 2019).



Sally Sharif (level III) published two papers: "Predicting the End of the Syrian Conflict: From Theory to the Reality of a Civil War" in Studies in Conflict and Terrorism and "A Critical Review of Evidence from Ex-Combatant Re-Integration Programs" for the Social Science Research Council project on Politics of Return. She received the Provost's Digital Innovation Grant for participating in the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) summer program.

Jenna Russo (level I) presented "R2P in

Syria and Myanmar: Norm Violation and Advancement" at the Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference at City College of New York on March 12-15, 2019. She will also be presenting her work at the New England Political Science Association Conference in Portland, ME, in April.

B Stone (level III) presented "'America is Addicted to Oil' and other Policy Proclamations: An Ordinary Language Analysis" at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association.



Advanced to Advanced to Passed Graduated Graduated Level II Level III Defense 2018			
Michael McCabe B Stone Nicholas Micinski Nicholas Pehlman Hristo Voyr Rosa Squillacote Sally Sharif Jason Kropsky Eli Karetny Jamell Hen Anaïs Wong Anh Tran Nina Conne Ursula Levelt Heidi Rhodes Lina Maria Fajardo Nicholas Petaludis Vallejo Lina Maria Fajardo Andrew Wilkes Vallejo	endersor	erson	1

### Scenes from the Street

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### Letter from the Social Media Fellow

Dear Students, Alum, and Faculty,

This semester the Political Science department joined the GC's Social Media Fellows program, and I am your inaugural Fellow. The Social Media Fellows are a team of graduate students who develop and model effective social media strategies targeted to academic and general audiences. We do this by promoting the scholarly work of our department's students, alum, and faculty, promoting department events, and reaching out to prospective students via our department social media platforms. We also hold workshops to share practical advice and information about social and digital media.

Whether you are well-versed in Twitter and Facebook or think that social media is just for bots and "fake news," academic conversations are happening on these platforms, and it is crucial for faculty, alum, and students alike to understand the values and potential pitfalls of having a digital academic presence, or choosing to opt out.

My aim this semester has been to expand and improve our program's social media presence, primarily on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and our <u>CUNY Commons Page</u>, but also on <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. Each platform lends itself to disseminating different types of information:



- → Twitter is where we share daily updates about department events, deadlines, and the latest news. We also have a very active group of alums on Twitter, and the department account is a platform to amplify the successes of our alums around the world. If you are on Twitter, please follow us @GC PoliSci, and please consult our faculty, student, and alum lists, so you can follow everyone in our extended community. If I've missed anyone who should be on these lists, please tag the department in a post and let me know!
- → On <u>Facebook</u> we have a page where we post upcoming events. Your Facebook calendar can be synced with your Google or iCal so you can be sure not to miss the next department colloquium, comparative politics workshop, or professional development seminar.
- → The <u>CUNY Commons Page</u> is how nearly all of our prospective students first learn about us, it is the department's primary digital presence on the web. Here we post upcoming events, news, and practical information about application and admission requirements, forms and deadlines for students, and course schedules, among other useful information, such as <u>funding opportunities for current students</u>.
- → Our <u>LinkedIn</u> group connects alums and current students, creating a valuable professional network across the country and around the world.
- → YouTube we use exclusively for sharing videos from past department talks, professional development workshops, and special events.

In combination, these platforms constitute the digital identity of the Political Science Department, and cultivating our digital presence is an important part of presenting who we are and what we do to our colleagues and the public. Help me in growing the department's presence by following us on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a> and <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>, and subscribing to our <a href="YouTube channel">YouTube channel</a>. If you are an alum or a student, please join our <a href="Alum-Student Network">Alum-Student Network</a> group on LinkedIn. If you have any questions about social media, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Socially,

### Letter from the M.A. Writing Fellow

Al Spring 2019 Vol.4 Issue II

April 2019

Dear MA Students,

Now that the spring semester has sprung, you likely have many different kinds of writing underway already — from response pieces, to term paper outlines on napkins, to perhaps even your MA thesis proposal. Or, if you don't have these things underway, you're likely feeling like you should, somehow, someway, get them underway.

I'm writing here to let you know that I sympathize (I'm writing a dissertation, which like most people, I have never done before advancing to candidacy)! Sometimes we all need a little help with our *writing process*, in order to get to a good *writing product*—and I am here to help with either aspect of your life as a writer for graduate school. I've enjoyed working with several of you already this year, and I hope we will continue to work together throughout the semester.

Even if you're not quite sure yet what kind of help would be useful to you, but you think there's something more beyond the way you currently struggle to write, we can talk about that! Or perhaps, as I've myself experienced, you've received some very (perhaps overly) pointed feedback from a professor, and you need to parse through it. I see my role as your Writing Fellow as a "critical friend" who you can consult about any aspect your writing process or product. By "friend" I mean that I believe in offering collegial, positive feedback—which can be sorely lacking in academia. By "critical friend," I mean that I will both reflect what's already strong about your work, and offer constructive feedback. I believe in critique, and I also believe critique is more potent when it does not try to cut folks.

I already knew from my own process of learning foreign languages how difficult it is to write well in a language which is not your first — especially while you're also learning academic stylistics. But I've learned even more about this through working with several of you this year on your unique challenges coming from different first languages. While I'm not the kind of proofreading service that can go through your whole thesis with a fine-toothed comb, there are certainly many ways we can work together to smooth out and correct your writing. It takes a lot of effort and courage to work outside your first language, and I respect that struggle.

At the same time, I'm definitely not saying that writing for grad school is easy even when English is your first language. Academic writing can be its own language, and you also have to find your own style as a scholar, which is different from the writing you've done before. At this stage in your development as a writer, most likely you're basically reinventing yourself as a writer each time you come to the page, faced with perhaps a new subfield, topic, or set of assignment criteria each time. So, I encourage you to get in touch about any aspect of what it takes to do your writing — we can go over drafts or outlines, decipher assignment requirements, think about stylistics, or talk about how to engage in a more effective writing process from outlining to a finished piece.

All my best,

Drake Logan

Drake Logan (level III) is the M.A. Program Writing Fellow for the 2018-19 academic year. Drake is available to assist students in any aspect of their writing process during his weekly virtual office hours on Wednesdays from 5-7pm, and by appointment.

Skype: drakepurple / Email: dlogan@gradcenter.cuny.edu

### Alum Spotlight

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Dr. Hollis France is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the College of Charleston's Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program, and the Women and Gender Studies Program. She is also the director of the Gender and Sexuality Equity Center in the campus. Dr. France graduated from the Graduate Center in 2002.

Ayşe Obalı: What research projects are you currently working on? How did your research interests evolve since your dissertation?

Dr. Hollis France: I am currently working on indigenous political movements in Guyana and exploring 1) how the Guyanese postcolonial state continues the practice of strategic visibility: reducing Amerindian representation to cultural tropes as a means to satisfy the discourse around national unity, and strategic invisibility: substituting cultural representations for political power as a means of further displacing and



marginalizing Amerindians from the political sphere; and 2) how Amerindians are navigating and resisting the strategies of the postcolonial state.

My dissertation centered around the formal political structure in Guyana in regards to the state-decisionmaking apparatus in connection to structural adjustment economic programs. I have since shifted my research to more bottoms up approaches to economic development, with a particular focus on Community Based Development (CBD) in Indigenous Amerindian communities and how they present an alternative ontological vision of development, which is in stark contrast to the dominant neoliberal development model embraced by global and national elites.

AO: You secured your position at the College of Charleston immediately after you graduated from the GC. What advice do you have for current students about to enter the job market?

HF: In discussion with your advisor, and others whose opinions you trust, get a clear sense of whether you would be happier primarily teaching or doing research. In other words, should you be establishing the building blocks for employment at a research institution (where turning out publications yearly are strongly emphasized, while teaching responsibilities are less), or a teaching institution (where there is a heavier teaching load, and a publication is expected every two to three years). If you want to go the research route start co-authoring with your professors and/or other graduate students and get manuscripts submitted for publication. In other words, start establishing a publishing record, which shows strong research promise. If you want to go the teaching route, TA some classes, but also try to acquire some classes in which you are the independent instructor. In other words, start establishing a teaching portfolio that demonstrates how effective vou are in the classroom.

Apply for funding and attend conferences and present your work. This is both an opportunity to get feedback from scholars in the field and for folks in the discipline to become familiar with you and your work. You might also want to take advantage of volunteering to do a job talk at the GC so that you can be provided with feedback about your strengths and weakness, and how to improve before hitting the job market.

Do your research on salary negotiations so that you are in a strong position to negotiate your salary if offered a position. Women and minority job candidates, do your research to avoid the wage gap. Know your worth!

AO: What resources were the most helpful to you during your time at the GC?

HF: My advisor W. Ofuatey Kodjo, and Lenny Markovitz -- forever my heroes! Without their guidance, patience and their belief, I do not know if I would have made it through. Interacting with and befriending students from other disciplines at the GC was also very useful. My Political Science knowledge was greatly enhanced by discussions with, and reading recommendations from, folks in Anthropology, Sociology and Economics. In a sense, I would say they shaped and influenced my current inter/trans-disciplinary approach to 15 research.

#### Alum News

Homo Politicus

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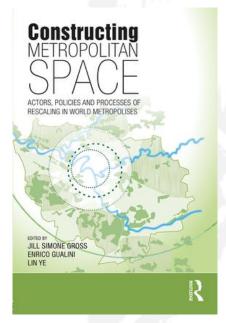
**Sabera Azizi** (M.A. 2018) was recently appointed an associate at the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations.

**Shawna Brandle** (Ph.D. 2013) published "Games, Movies, and Zombies: Making IR Fun for Everyone," in the Journal of Political Science Education.

Nina Connelly (M.A. 2018) co-authored "Protecting Cultural Heritage in War Zones," in <a href="Third World">Third World</a> Quarterly with Professor Thomas G. Weiss.

Kate Grantz (M.A. 2007) has been named Special Projects Officer in the Office of the President Social Science Research Council. Grantz supports Councilwide initiatives and event planning and coordination, as well as relationships with institutional and programming partners.

Margaret Groarke (Ph.D. 2000) co-edited a book of essays called *Peace and Justice Studies: Critical Pedagogy* (Routledge 2018). The book includes her essay, "Learning Justice in the Streets: Community Organizing and Peace and Justice Studies."



Jamell Henderson (M.A. 2019) began working as an adjunct professor for Africana Studies at Brooklyn College. Jill Simone Gross (Ph.D. 1998) published Constructing Metropolitan Space: Actors, Policies and Processes of Rescaling in World Metropolises (Routledge 2019). She is serving on the "2018-19 Robert A. Dahl Award" Committee of the American Political Science Association. Gross is currently in France on sabbatical from Hunter College, as an invited visiting professor at Science Po Bordeaux where she is teaching comparative urban governance and politics as well as doing someresearch on immigration and integration in Bordeaux, and observing the "Gilets Jaune" as a new manifestation of the social tensions at play in France's cities.

**Robin Harper** (Ph.D. 2007) was promoted to Professor of Political Science at York College.

Harper recently published "Deconstructing naturalization ceremonies as public spectacles of citizenship," in <u>Space & Polity</u> and "The meaning of doing: Reflective practice in public administration education," in <u>Teaching Public Administration</u>.



**Allen Hershkowitz** (Ph.D. 1985) was appointed the <u>environmental science advisor to The New York</u> Yankees, the first of its kind in professional sports.

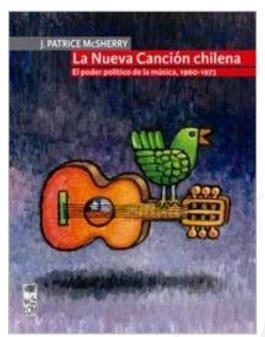
**Neil Hernandez** (Ph.D. 2015) began working as an assistant professor at the Baruch College Marxe School of Public & International Affairs in January 2019. Previously, he had served as an asylum officer at the Department of Homeland Security, where he adjudicated the asylum claims of people seeking protection from persecution.

#### Alum News

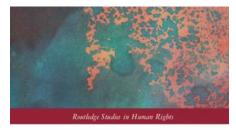
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**Martin Hochbaum** (Ph.D. 1974) was a member of the American delegation to the European Union, which hosted the Kimberley Process Plenary in Brussels, Belgium, November 2018.

**Adrienne Jones** (Ph.D. 2015) is an assistant professor at Morehouse College in Atlanta where she directs the pre-law program. She was recently interviewed on <u>NPR</u> to discuss black voters and the election for governor in Georgia.



J. Patrice McSherry (Ph.D. 1994) chapter entitled contributed а "Constructing Silence, Terror, and Dread: Operation Condor and State Terror in Latin America," in Truth. Silence and Violence in Emerging States: Histories of the Unspoken (Routledge 2019). In December 2018 the University of Warwick invited McSherry to introduce her book Chilean New Song in an event in England on Chilean music and poetry. Finally, the Chilean government's Undersecretary of Cultures and Arts bought 300 copies of the Spanish version of Chilean New Song (Temple 2015), to distribute to public libraries throughout Chile.



# TRUTH, SILENCE, AND VIOLENCE IN EMERGING STATES

HISTORIES OF THE UNSPOKEN

Edited by Aidan Russell



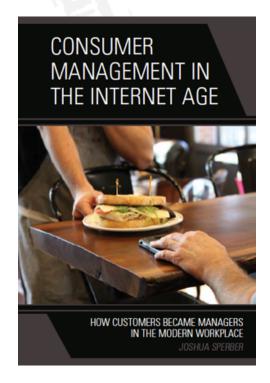
**Christopher Michael** (Ph.D. 2018) is currently associate faculty at the Rutgers School of Management and Labor Relations.

**Lana Obradovic** (Ph.D. 2010) published "Teaching Deterrence: A 21st-Century Update," in the *Journal of Political Science Education*.

**Nicholas Pehlman** (Ph.D. 2019) is an adjunct professor at Lehman College and he received a Fulbright Scholarship to study security sector reform in Ukraine.

**Joshua Sperber** (Ph.D. 2017) published *Consumer Management in the Internet Age: How Customers Became Managers in the Modern Workplace* (<u>Lexington Books</u> 2019).

**Weiting Wu** (Ph.D. 2014) published "Adaptive Confrontation? Strategies of Three Women's Groups in Expanding Political Space in China," in <u>Issues & Studies</u>.



### Department Events

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January 30 - Practice Job Talk: Rosa Squillacote (GC Ph.D. Program) "Diversity and Racial Bias in Policing"

**February 13** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Jenna Russo (GC Ph.D. Program) "R2P in Syria and Myanmar: Norm Violation and Advancement"

February 13 - Documentary: "The Ancestral Sin" with Erez Tzfadia (Sapir Academic College)

**February 14** - Civil Society Workshop: Mark Sidel (Univ. of Wisconsin) "New Forms of Control of Civil Society: the Application of a 'Social Credit Scoring' System to Civil Society Organizations, Nonprofits, and Foundations in China"



**February 14** - Department Colloquium: Maud Simonet (Univ. of Paris Ouest Nanterre), "Free Labor: the New Exploitation" (pictured, left).

February 14 - Team Pegasus: Welcome Back Party

**February 21** - Political Theory Workshop: Sharon Staley (Univ. of Memphis) "A View From Brazil: Rethinking Racial Integration in the United States"

**February 26** - American Politics Workshop: Monika McDermott (Fordham) "Political Intolerance and Racial Resentment: The Aftermath of Charlottesville"

February 26 - Book Launch: Alex Vitale (Brooklyn) "The End of Policing"

February 27 - Book Launch: Susan Opotow (GC, Environmental Psychology) and

Zachary Baron Shemtob, eds. (U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit) "New York After 9/11"

**February 27** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Jennifer Peirce (John Jay) "Money is for survival, working helps you get out: A comparison of formal and informal economies inside two types of Dominican prisons"

**February 28** - Civil Society Workshop: Hong Hoang (CHANGE VN/Columbia) "Social Change Under Government Supervision in Vietnam"

**March 6** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Sarah Shah (GC, Ph.D. Program) "Are peace agreements always an endgame in counterinsurgencies?"

March 6 - Center for Global Ethics and Politics: David Schweickart (Loyola Chicago) "Against Democracy? Capitalism, Libertarianism, and Climate Change Denialism"

March 8 - Graduate Student Conference

March 12 - Visiting Students Reception

**March 12** - Center for Global Ethics & Politics: Raffaele Marchetti (LUISS University Rome) "What is a Democratic Foreign Policy?"

**March 13** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Diana Greenwald (City College, CUNY) "Policing and Taxing without a State: Institutional Distortions in the Occupied West Bank"

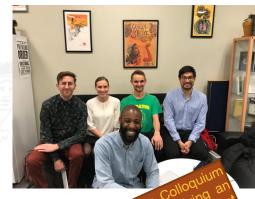
March 14 - Civil Society Workshop: Dennis Redeker (Univ. of Bremen/NYU) "Digital Constitutionalism: Norm-Entrepreneurship of Transnational Advocacy Networks in the Internet Rights Field"

March 14 - Political Theory Workshop: Shahrzad Sabet (Univ. of Maryland) "Cosmopolitanism and Social Identity, or How Cosmopolitanism Sells Itself Short"

**March 20** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Dean Schafer (GC Ph.D. Program) "Explaining Support for Unencumbered Leaders: Nationalism, Identity, Economic Crisis and Prosperity"

March 27 - Comparative Politics Workshop: David Monda (GC Ph.D. Program) "The Cultural, Historical and Political basis of Belize Foreign Policy"

March 28 - Civil Society Workshop: Gregory Witkowski (Columbia)



### Department Events

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April 3 - Comparative Politics Workshop: Nermin Allam (Rutgers) "Politics of Unveiling in Egypt"

April 10 - Comparative Politics Workshop: Ariel Mekler (GC Ph.D. Program)

April 11 - #FormsofLife: Terms of Engagement Public Workshop

**April 11** - Civil Society Workshop: Barry Gaberman, William Moody and Merrill Sovner (GC Ph.D. Candidate) "The Role of Pooled Funding in Supporting Civil Society in Eastern Europe"

**April 17** - Comparative Politics Workshop: Sally Sharif (GC Ph.D. Program)

April 18 - Political Theory Workshop: Nadia Urbinati (Columbia)

May 2 - Political Science Department Awards Night

May 9 - Civil Society Workshop: Jessica Mahlbacher (GC Ph.D. Program)

May 9 - Political Theory Workshop: Patchen Markell (Cornell)

May 10 - Annual Program Student Meeting

May 10 - Department Colloquium

#### Fall 2019 Course Schedule

#### MONDAY

11:45AM-1:45PM: SUK/McDougall, "Mothers in Law" (G)

2:00PM-4:00PM: BEINART, "WRITING POLITICS I" (G/WP)

CURRAH, "BIO POLITICS" (PT)

4:15PM-6:15PM: CRONIN, "INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION" (IR)

6:30PM-8:30PM: DIGAETANO, "URBAN POLITICS" (PP)

BUCK-MORSS, "RECONFIGURING THE CANON: RECENT TRENDS IN POLITICAL THEORY" (PT) WOLIN, "THE OUTCOME OF CLASSICAL GERMAN PHILOSOPHY: FROM HEGEL TO ADORNO" (PT)

ROBERTS, "THUCYDIDES, POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY" (PT)

#### **TUESDAY**

2:00PM-4:00PM: SHIRKEY, "BASIC THEORIES AND CONCEPTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS" (IR)

KRINSKY, "SOCIAL MOVEMENTS" (CP/PP)

4:15PM-6:15PM: WOODWARD, "BASIC THEORIES AND CONCEPTS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS" (CP)

GORNICK, "SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY" (PP)

6:30PM-8:30PM: O'BRIEN, "AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT" (AP)

#### WEDNESDAY

2:00PM-4:00PM: MEHTA, "CLASSICS IN MODERN PHILOSOPHY" (PT)

LIPSITZ, "RESEARCH DESIGN IN POLITICAL SCIENCE" (G/RD)

4:15PM-6:15PM: MOLLENKOPF/GUTMAN, "CORE SEMINAR IN URBAN STUDIES (II)" (PP)

HALPER, "CONSTITUTIONAL LAW" (AP)

6:30PM-8:30PM: ANDREOPOULOS, "INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS" (IR)

SHARPE, "COMPARATIVE POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION" (CP)

#### **THURSDAY**

6:30PM-8:30PM: BAVER, "M.A. CORE COURSE" (G)

HAGHIGHAT, "GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND BODY POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST" (CP)

### Upcoming Submission and Award Deadlines

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January 16 - Deadline to apply for the Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship Competition

**January 28** - Deadline to apply for the Graduate Center/Early Research Initiative Fellowships in Interdisciplinary Research in the Service of Public Knowledge

**January 31** - Deadline to apply to the ARC Research Awards for second year Ph.D. students pursuing a dissertation research on themes of immigration, inequality, multilingualism & translation, global cities and critical university studies

January 31 - Deadline to apply for the Graduate Center Doctoral Student Research Grant

**February 1** - Deadline to apply for Vera Institute/CUNY Graduate Center fellowships for Ph.D. with interests in criminal or immigration justice and the work of the Vera Institute

**February 4** - Deadline to apply to the ARC Knickerbocker Archival Research Grant in American Studies for archival dissertation research

February 6 - Deadline to apply for the Graduate Center Provost's Pre-dissertation Research Fellowship

March 1 - Deadline to apply for Morgan Library & Museum Graduate Archival Fellowships

March 13 - Deadline to apply for Graduate Center Spring 2019 Conference Presentation Support

**March 15** - Proposal submissions deadline for the African Studies Association annual conference "Being, Belonging and Becoming in Africa" in Boston, MA, on November 21-23, 2019

March 15 - Deadline to apply for the APSA Minority Fellowship

March 22 - Deadline to apply to be a Graduate Center Digital Fellow in 2019-2020

March 29 - Deadline to apply for Independent Study for Fall 2019

March 29 - First exam registration deadline for August 2019

**March 31** - Deadline to apply for scholarships to attend the 2019 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor.

**April 2** - Proposal submissions deadline to present at annual conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) on November 21-23, 2019 in San Diego, CA

April 9 - Course withdrawal period ends; Last day to drop with a "W"

**April 12** - Spring 2019 Language Examination

**April 15** - Registration for Fall 2019 begins

April 30 - Last day to deposit dissertation or thesis for May 2019 degree

**July 10** - Submission deadline to present on open panels at the International Political Science Association World Congress in Lisbon, Portugal, on July 25-30, 2020



# Satire



# Oh! Also! Buy a tote bag!

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 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/GCPoliSciDonate">https://tinyurl.com/GCPoliSciDonate</a>, 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.

