LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

We are looking forward to the coming academic year and hopefully a full year of in-person teaching, department and campus events, and student engagement. We begin the year with new leadership in the department and in Emory College. Professor Jennifer Gandhi, who served as chair last year, has accepted a position at Yale University where she will serve as a professor of political science and global affairs with appointments in both the Department of Political Science and the Jackson School of Global Affairs. I am the new chair of political science and am extremely grateful for Professor Gandhi’s many contributions to the department’s teaching, research, and service during her time at Emory. I am especially thankful for her leadership of the department this past year and the time she spent with me and others this summer to ensure a smooth transition following her departure.

Professor Gandhi was assisted by a terrific group of faculty that comprised her leadership team and they will continue in those roles going forward. They include Professors Danielle Jung, Director of Graduate Studies; Zachary Peskowitz, Director of Undergraduate Studies; Michael Leo Owens, Director of Graduate Admissions and Placement; and Alex Bolton, Director of Experiential Learning. The department remains in good hands administratively, led by Kathy Malanoski (assistant program director), Michelle Brown (faculty program coordinator), Debbie Allen (graduate program coordinator), Rob La Terza (undergraduate program coordinator), and Tehia Parks (administrative assistant).

In this issue, you will meet our new faculty and post-docs, learn more about the current research activities of our faculty, and receive an update on our graduate and undergraduate programs. We hope our teaching, research, and service inspire you to consider a gift to the Department of Political Science. Alumni contributions enable us to expand opportunities for department events that connect contemporary issues in the real world with the study of political science, support student research and independent study projects, enrich learning experiences in our courses through off-campus site visits and guest speakers, and provide seed funding for faculty research, course development, and public scholarship. You can make your gift here.

In closing, please keep us informed regarding your activities and accomplishments as we plan to include an Alumni News section in future newsletters to let our alumni and current students know more about the many ways our alums are using their political science education to make a difference in the world. You can send us your news here.

Best,

Michael Reich
MEET OUR NEW FACULTY AND POST-DOCS

Jack Paine, previously an associate professor of political science at the University of Rochester, has joined our department as an associate professor of political science. Professor Paine’s work is at the intersection of comparative politics, international relations, and applied formal theory. His research broadly encompasses the strategic and historical origins of authoritarian/democratic political institutions and their consequences for regime stability and conflict.

Kiela Crabtree, a PhD candidate at the University of Michigan, has accepted our offer to join the department as an assistant professor of political science. She will spend this year as a postdoctoral fellow with Emory’s James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference. Kiela’s research focuses on the political aftermaths of conflict and violence in the United States, both contemporary and historical. Her dissertation examines the implications of racially-targeted violence and examines the relationship between present-day violence and political behavior.

Carly Potz-Nielsen is the Political Science Department’s 2022-23 Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellow. She previously served as a Visiting Lecturer in Methods at Texas Christian University and holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Potz-Nielsen’s research focuses on international political economy, particularly using disaggregated data on capital regulation to examine how countries control the international flow of finances. As an instructor, she specializes in teaching quantitative research methods.

Peter Wilkin is a political theory-focused postdoctoral researcher. He holds a PhD in Political Science from Boston College and a PhD in English from the University of Sydney. Dr. Wilkin’s research interests include Classical Political Philosophy (especially Aristophanes and Plato), Early Modern Political Philosophy (especially in Sir Francis Bacon and Shakespeare), Greek tragedy, Nietzsche’s analysis of Greek tragedy, Christian politics in Cervantes’ Don Quixote, Alexis de Tocqueville’s analysis of Democracy, Montesquieu’s political theory, Aristotle’s Politics and Hobbes’ Leviathan.
Matt Gunning, will be returning to campus as an instructor. Dr. Gunning earned his PhD at Emory and currently serves as an assistant professor at Georgia Gwinnett College. He has taught courses on Congress, the presidency, political parties, Georgia government, comparative politics, American government, and interest groups. He has published works in The Journal of Politics and Social Science History, and written a book chapter on Georgia voting law reforms. His dissertation explored patterns of roll call voting in southern state legislatures and the Georgia legislature over time. Currently, he is working on expanding his research on the Georgia state legislature into a book. Students will be able to benefit from his expertise by enrolling in POLS 385: State Politics and Policy this fall.

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE

The research productivity of our faculty continues at a very high level. During the past year eleven faculty (Professors Bolton, Bueno, Clark, Fraga, Glynn, Jung, Montagnes, Patty, Peskowitz, Rueda, and Sexton) had their research accepted or appear in the leading journals in the discipline (American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics, Perspectives on Politics) and four other faculty published in leading subfield or interdisciplinary journals (Professors Gade, Reiter, Rich, Semetko). Professors Bolton, Gillespie, Ichino, and Owen published books, monographs, or book chapters. Professors Fraga and Jung each received major external grants to support their research programs. More information on faculty scholarship, awards, and service can be found below.

Recent Publications

Alex Bolton


Natalia Bueno


Tom Clark

Bernard Fraga


Emily Gade


Andra Gillespie


Adam Glynn

Nahomi Ichino

Danielle Jung

Pablo Montagnes


**Judd Owen**


**John Patty**


**Zachary Peskowitz**


**Dan Reiter**


**Michael J. Rich**


Miguel R. Rueda

Holli Semetko
“Political Communication and Campaigning in India: Opportunities for Future Research,” *South Asian History and Culture, forthcoming.*

Renard Sexton

Grants

Bernard Fraga
Transformative American Politics: Examining the role of elites, organizations, and movements in reshaping politics and policymaking, Funded by the National Science Foundation (June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2025).

Danielle Jung
Climate Change and Alternative Governance, Funded by Minerva and the U.S. Department of Defense (June 1, 2022).

Awards

Natalia Bueno received the Best Paper on Public Policy at the Fall 2021 meetings of the American Political Science Association for her paper “Homeowners Unite? Homeownership, Values and Voice.”

Andra Gillespie received the Samuel H. Johnson Education Award, 2021.

Thomas Lancaster was recognized by a former student who endowed the Thomas D Lancaster Scholarship Fund at Emory College, Fall 2021.
Service to the Profession and Community

Nahomi Ichino served as Co-Director of Methods and Training for Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP), an initiative hosted by the Institute of Governmental Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, during academic year 2021-22. EGAP is a cross-disciplinary network of researchers and practitioners that is united by a focus on experimental research and is dedicated to generating and disseminating rigorous evidence on topics of governance, politics, and institutions. EGAP seeks to forge partnerships between researchers and practitioners committed to understanding the politics of global development, advance evidence-based policy making, and improve the quality of empirical research in the social sciences. Nahomi organized and led a hybrid English/French workshop for West African principal investigators on experimental methods in Côte d’Ivoire and developed methodological resources like the open-source book, *The Theory and Practice of Field Experiments: An Introduction from the EGAP Learning Days* with Jake Bowers and Maarten Voors.

Michael Rich and Moshe Haspel, adjunct professor of political science, were co-recipients of the inaugural Doug Hooker Award for Workforce Equity in recognition of their evaluation of the Atlanta region’s employment and training outcomes and the extent to which the region’s workforce outcomes narrowed gender and racial disparities.

Renard Sexton has been awarded an International Affairs Fellowship from the Council on Foreign Relations, a prestigious and highly competitive program that allows faculty to spend a year in US Government service. He will be spending the year as a senior advisor on Asia security policy at the U.S. Department of Defense.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

Our graduate program continues to be ranked among the top 20 graduate programs in political science and our students have been very successful on the job market. This past year one of our graduate students secured a tenure track position at Purdue University, three others received competitive postdoctoral fellowships at leading universities and research centers, and two accepted positions in government and consulting. Two of our recent graduate alums published books with leading university presses. You can read more about the accomplishments of our graduate students below.
Congratulations to our newest PhDs!

From left to right: 2022 PhDs Patrick Pierson, Donald Grasse, Elisha Cohen, Michael Hanley, and Kaylyn Jackson Schiff

Our department is proud to announce that five of our graduate students successfully defended their dissertations and earned doctorates in Political Science this year. Their dissertations are listed below and will soon be available to read on Emory’s Theses and Dissertations website.

Patrick Pierson, *Three Essays on Political Violence in Post-Apartheid South Africa*

Donald Grasse, *Essays in the Political Economy of Development*

Elisha Cohen, *Measuring Bias in the Selection Processes of Political Institutions*

Michael Hanley, *Three Essays on Information and Accountability in American Politics*

Kaylyn Jackson Schiff, *The Digital Citizen: The Impact of Technology on Public Participation and Government Responsiveness*

Awards and Grants

Eddy Yeung, Halle Graduate Global Research Fellowship Summer 2022, 2022 APSA Summer Centennial Center Research Grant

Devon Thurman, Political Science Graduate Teaching Award 2022

Jenny Kim, Political Science Pursuit of Excellence Award 2022

Donald Grasse, Laney Graduate School Outstanding Scholarly Research Award (Social Sciences)

Kevin Sparrow, Russell Sage Foundation Dissertation Research Grant

Bradley Erickson, Adam Smith Fellowship 2022-23
Placements

Elisha Cohen will be a Center for Data Science Faculty Fellow at New York University for 2022-2024.

Kaylyn Jackson Schiff will be a Democratic Innovations Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale University for 2022-2023. She will then join the Department of Political Science at Purdue University as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2023.

Donald Grasse will be a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for International Studies at the University of Southern California for 2022-2024.

Michael Hanley accepted the position of Data Scientist/Program Analyst at the U.S. Department of State.

Patrick Pierson accepted the position of Consultant at the Boston Consulting Group.

Graduate Alumni News

Books


Anna Gunderson (19G, assistant professor at Louisiana State University), *Captive Market: The Politics of Private Prisons in America*, Oxford University Press
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

At the undergraduate level, the department continues to offer a variety of degree options for students interested in political science. In addition to a major and minor in Political Science, the department also offers a major in International Studies as well as joint majors in Math and Political Science and Public Policy Analysis (with the Department of Quantitative Theory and Methods). We also participate in the QTM Quantitative Social Science major with tracks in political science and international studies. Beginning this Fall, we also will offer a minor in Public Policy Analysis.

In addition, as part of its revisions to the General Education Requirements, Emory College will begin rolling out this year a new experience and application requirement that students will need to complete by the end of their fourth year. This requirement can be fulfilled through a course or an alternative non-course experience. The emphasis is on “hands-on” experience and application through a variety of means such as internships, study abroad, independent research, or enrollment in an engaged-learning course that connects learning in the classroom with service in the community. Professor Alex Bolton, the Department’s Director of Experiential Learning, will work with our faculty, alumni, and community partners to increase student awareness of experiential learning opportunities in political science, the greater Atlanta area, and beyond to enable our students to create a meaningful continuum of engagement during their time at Emory.

Introducing the Public Policy Analysis Minor

The Department of Political Science is proud to introduce a new minor in Public Policy Analysis (PPA). This minor is designed to provide students majoring in complementary fields with a rigorous but flexible path to proficiency in the quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry used by today’s top scholars and practitioners in conducting policy analyses and evaluating public programs. Students who complete the minor will emerge prepared for public, private, and nonprofit sector employment in roles focused on policy advocacy, design, analysis, and evaluation. They will also be well-prepared for graduate study in public policy analysis.

2022 Political Science Honors Students

Last year was another successful year for the Political Science Honors Program, with eleven Honors students (pictured below) making original contributions to the field through high-quality theses. Their projects are listed below and available to read through the Emory Theses and Dissertations website.
Pictured from left to right:
Honors students Christiana Boehme, Sophia Rice, Eden Medina, Ethan Feldman, Emily Thomas, Ania Korpanty, Courtney Norteman, Grace Gerenday, Grace Shrestha, Emily Benson, and Claire Lee

- **Emily Rae Benson**, *Is Comedy Central Replacing CNN? Investigating the Political Influences of Late Night Comedy in the Modern Media Environment*, Highest Honors in Political Science
- **Christiana Alexandra Boehme**, *Race, Rezoning and Risk: Uncovering the Demographic and Air Pollution Patterns of Zoning Changes in Atlanta*, High Honors in Political Science
- **Ethan L. Feldman**, *Clean Elections and Competition: Evidence from Connecticut*, Highest Honors in Political Science
- **Grace Paschal Gerenday**, *Post-Election Audits and Voter Confidence*, Highest Honors in Political Science
- **Ania Korpanty**, “Worse than Communism”: *A Case Study of Homophobic Appeals*, Highest Honors in Political Science
- **Claire Cue Won Lee**, “It’s Not Your Fault”: *How Attribution of Responsibility and Empathy Lead to Helping Behavior for Migrants Who are Victims of Labor Trafficking*, Highest Honors in International Studies
- **Eden Medina**, *A Woman’s Place is in the Resistance: Understanding the Legacy of Female Combatants for Post-Conflict Gender Equity*, Highest Honors in International Studies
- **Courtney Norteman**, *Repression or Progression: The Question of AI’s Impact on Political Crackdowns*, Highest Honors in International Studies
- **Grace Shrestha**, *Bridging the Gap: Legal Doctrine and Immigration Detention*, Highest Honors in Political Science
• **Emily Kate Thomas**, *Insurgent Rulers in the Age of the Internet: The Emergence and Impact of Rebel Digital Governance in the Syrian Civil War*, Highest Honors in Political Science

Congratulations to all! We’d also like to extend a heartfelt thank you from our entire department to **Sophia Rice**, who has been of invaluable help to the department as a student worker and a member of the Political Science family for the last four years.

**Awards**

**Ania Korpanty Receives the 2022 Elliot Levitas Award**

The Political Science Department’s highest honor is the Elliot Levitas Award, presented annually to a graduating senior who excels academically while meaningfully contributing to the betterment of the community around them. The Department is proud to present this year’s Levitas Award to **Ania Korpanty**. Ania is a Gilman International Scholar, a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, and a member of the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa. As a Political Science honors student, Ania fielded a survey experiment examining individual-level causal mechanisms between homophobia and support for the populist radical right in Poland. Faculty praised her survey experiment as “sophisticated” and “innovative”, qualifying Ania to receive Highest Honors.

In addition to her demonstrated academic excellence, Ania has served the Emory community through her work with Emory QuestBridge Scholars, an organization dedicated to building a supportive environment for first-generation and underprivileged students. She has also worked to benefit the broader Atlanta community as a leader of “She’s the First”, a service group dedicated to supporting women’s education in developing countries, and as a member of Project Shine, a group of Emory students who tutor immigrant and refugee women dealing with the consequences of domestic violence. Ania embodies the highest values of our department, and she richly deserves this honor.

Congratulations!

**External Awards**

- **Sultan Minhas** (22C), 100 Senior Honorary
- **Grace Shrestha** (22C), 100 Senior Honorary, SOAR Undergraduate Student Leader of the Year, member of the Mu Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society
- **Enoch Tang** (22C), Highest Honors in Economics
- **Garrett Canterbury** (22C), Emory Alumni Board Leadership Scholarship

**Learning Outside the Classroom**

Political Science students **Audrey Gao** and **Nick Lieggi** had the opportunity to learn outside the classroom through internships last spring with the added benefit of earning course credit through our department’s experiential learning program.
Audrey interned with the Georgia Innocence Project (GIP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping those who have been wrongfully convicted of crimes and preventing future wrongful convictions. While there, she worked with Hayden Davis, a Political Science alum (20C). Audrey brought valuable lessons forward from her experience, saying “I witnessed the importance of interpersonal relationships in the state legislature, which is something that would have been difficult to learn in the traditional classroom setting. It was hard to witness GIP’s mandatory compensation bill being defeated by a handful of representatives during the legislative session. However, through that experience, the policy team realized that developing personal relationships with individual representatives was just as important as the content of our proposed bill.” Audrey's experience also illustrates how hands-on work experience can help clarify one's career direction, as her experience added emotional weight and fulfillment to her existing interest in criminal justice reform. She reflected that “While going through GIP case files, it deeply frustrated me to read about prosecutors destroying evidence that would free people wrongfully incarcerated. Working with the policy team, I learned that prosecutors aren’t legally required to do anything if they are informed by CODIS that they may have convicted the wrong person. Though my role was small, it felt fulfilling to advance evidence preservation, mandatory CODIS reporting, and mandatory wrongful compensation reform.”

Nick and other Emory undergraduates participated in a directed study program with the Electoral Integrity Project (EIP), a multinational initiative designed to assess how elections meet international standards for electoral integrity, ways in which they fail to do so, and how failures can be addressed. Nick also took valuable lessons from his time with the project, saying “I learned how to research and work on my own with limited scaffolding. Often, while researching in a classroom setting, professors provide detailed scaffolding and deadlines that inform how you go about doing your work. While working with the EIP, I learned to do my work within my own schedule and without much of the framework typically provided in a classroom setting.”

Nick and Audrey’s experiences were partially made possible by their enrollments in two of our department’s experiential learning courses, POLS 399: Directed Research in Political Science and POLS 496RW: Internship in Political Science, which allowed them to gain hands-on experience while keeping full-time student status and making progress towards completing their major and graduation requirements. Audrey said, “I would highly recommend the experiential learning program. It allowed me to gain real-world policy experience while earning class credit, which helps me feel more confident as a candidate in the job market after graduation.”

Nick concurred, saying “I would absolutely recommend the department's experiential learning programs to others. Participating in the program gave me the opportunity to develop my research skills while working on a project that helped inform the public and the research community about elections throughout the world. It also allowed me to dedicate an entire semester to a single project, creating a deeper understanding of the material.”

Students interested in receiving course credit for their internship and alumni interested in recruiting Emory undergraduate interns should contact Director of Experiential Learning Alex Bolton (abolton@emory.edu).
The Political Science Department was thrilled to host nationally renowned pollster Nate Silver of FiveThirtyEight on February 24th, 2022. Silver attended a reception with Political Science faculty, staff, and undergraduate and graduate students, giving students the opportunity to get to know him and learn from him in informal small group discussions. For the main event, Silver addressed a packed hall of 250 enthusiastic and engaged students, faculty, and staff. Silver shared his assessment of the various factors favoring and working against each political party, concluding his prepared remarks with predictions for this November’s midterm elections. He then participated in a panel discussion with Political Science professors Andra Gillespie and Bernard Fraga and fielded questions from attendees about the state of the political landscape and his methodology. Please enjoy the following photos of this special event.
Silver addresses a crowd of Emory students, faculty, and staff

Silver in a panel discussion with professors Andra Gillespie and Bernard Fraga

GET INVOLVED

We would love to hear from you! Click on the links below to let us know how you would like to be involved with the Department. You can also keep up with us on Twitter and the department website!

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