

# PI SIGMA ALPHA

## NATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE



FEBRUARY 17, 2018  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
 WASHINGTON, DC

ΠΣΑ

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# The Graduate School of Political Management

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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WILLIAM & MARY  
MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY

**8:00 - 8:45am | Continental Ballroom, Marvin Center**

**Breakfast and Welcome**

Sean Twombly, Pi Sigma Alpha Executive Director

Ronald Rapoport, Pi Sigma Alpha National President

**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 402-404**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 1**

Chair/Discussant: EB Pertner, George Washington University

*The New Nuclear - Proliferation Treaty*

Walla Elshekh, Seton Hall University

*Adjusting the UN Security Council's Permanent Membership*

Brianne Poor, Indiana University, Kokomo

*American Public Opinion of International Institutions*

Anna Boris, Saint Anselm College

*Art of the (Im)Possible: Alliance Collapse in the International System*

Jessica Peery, University of St. Thomas

*China's Treatment of North Korean Refugees: Does China Follow International Law?*

Manisha Vepa, University of Maryland Baltimore County

**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 403**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 2**

Chair/Discussant: Fabiana Perera, George Washington University

*The Development of Sustainable Policies Through Gross National Happiness*

Daira Brayley, Eckerd College

*"What's a Girl Gotta Do?" New Democracies and Women's Healthcare*

Alyssa Shanderson, University at Albany, SUNY



*The State of Children's Rights in Senegal: An Analysis of the Practice of Force Child Begging*

DaQuawn Bruce, Carthage College

*The Mistake of Minimizing the Importance of Humanitarian Relief and Nation Building in Afghanistan: An evaluation of counterinsurgency campaigns*

Annie Rydland, University of St. Thomas

**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 310**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 1**

Chair/Discussant: Clinton Jenkins, George Washington University

*The Voting Behavior of Labor Union Members in the 2016 Presidential Election*

Daniel Gillis, College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

*Michigan 2016; Reasons for a Trump Victory*

Rachel Hankers, Stony Brook University

*Why Did the Incumbency Advantage Not Predict the 2016 Presidential Election?*

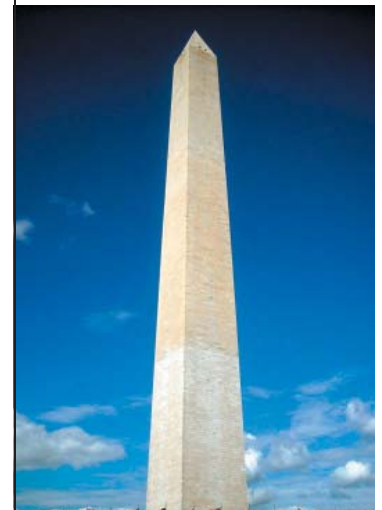
Diamonique Anderson, Mary Baldwin University

*Joining Forces: The Blending of Republican Party and Third Party Politics in the 2016 Trump Campaign*

Hayden Morse, Purdue University

*The Reichstag is Burning: Economic Populism's Threat to the Free World*

Dylan Edwards, Youngstown State University





**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 301**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 3**

Chair/Discussant: Samer Anabtawi, George Washington University

*NGOs & their Impact on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*

Tabitha Richmond, Youngstown State University

*Finland and the Bear: Eutrophication and International Conflict on the Baltic Sea*

Deana Neaves, Boise State University

*South Sudan: A Case Study in Foreign Policy Decision-Making*

Lukus Freeman, Alderson Broaddus University

*International Law's Unhelpful Role in Resolving Territorial Disputes*

Rebecca Johnson, Temple University

*The Larger Political Implications*

Grayson Boyer, California State University, Chico

**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 311**

**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 1**

Chair/Discussant: Colin Emrich, George Washington University

*Unintended Consequences in Contentious State Issues: An Analysis of Policy Spillover in Cannabis Legalization*

Brewer England, Fort Lewis College

*The War on Drug Addiction: Perceptions on Policies to Combat Addiction*

Marissa Coloske, Oakland University

*What are the Effects and Student Opinion of the Campus Carry Law in Tennessee?*

Alexander Forgey, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

*Better Properties, Better Schools? Evidence from K-12 School Grades in Florida*

Nathaniel Sweet, University of South Florida



**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 302**  
**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 2**

Chair/Discussant: Liza Gordon, West Virginia University

*Understanding the Implications of Equal Opportunity Laws in Correlation to Income Inequality and the Gender Wage Gap*

Jordan Iorio, Slippery Rock University

*The Political Legacy of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune*

Jamerika Ramsey, Bethune-Cookman University

*Nevertheless, She Legislated: A Study of Women Representing Women in Congress*

Meghan Mullon, College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University

*Women Appointed v. Women Elected: A State-by-State Examination of Judicial Women in 2015*

Anna Wood, East Central University

*Gender and Leadership in International Relations: Priorities of Former Secretaries of State*

Erin Engstran, University of St. Thomas

**8:45am - 10:30am | MC 307**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 2**

Chair/Discussant: Alexander Podkul, Georgetown University

*Voter ID Laws and Minority Turnout in the 2016 Election*

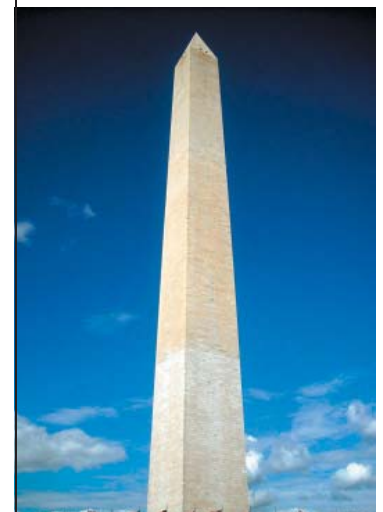
Margaret Randall, Suffolk University

*The Majority-Minority State: An Examination of Latinx Youth Political Engagement*

Israel Chora, University of California, Santa Barbara

*Increasing Incumbency Advantage or Partisan Realignment? Evidence from the Ohio Legislature, 1966-2014*

Gabrielle Mooney, Xavier University



*Ideological Magnetism, or Recoiling: Are Votes Influenced by Alignment or Opposition?*

Eric Burgess, Oakland University

**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 302**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 4**

Chair/Discussant: Aleksandr Fisher, George Washington University

*The Complexities of Entangling Alliances in the Interwar Years: Relationships, Treaties and War*

David King, Jr., Alabama State University

*The Dragon's Ascent*

Owen Myers, Carthage College

*Foreign Intervention During Bipolarity: An Analysis of Weak State Behavior*

Isabel Handanos, University of Vermont

*Shifting Bilateralism: Understanding Change in U.S.-Japan Alliance Relations*

Grant Anderla, Saint John's University

*A Rising China and a Decaying United States: Towards a Model for a Peaceful U.S.-Sino Power Transition*

Ethan Paul, Pennsylvania State University

**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 402-404**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 5**

Chair/Discussant: EB Pertner, George Washington University

*Role of Special Representative to the Secretary General as a Causal Factor in Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in UN Peacekeeping Missions*

Michelle Lee, Connecticut College



*Gender Empowerment, Social Movements, and the 2017 Women's March: A transnational analysis*  
Madison Grady, Boise State University

*Gender Quotas as Strategy: Exploring the Relationship Among International Perceptions of Democracy, Transnational Influence, and Female Representation*  
Paige Hill, Temple University

*Across the Globe: Women in Government*  
Jenna Conners, Texas Tech University

*Domestic Violence Claims for Asylum: How Matter of R-A Called for an Expansion of the Refugee Definition*  
Betty Lovell, DePaul University

**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 301**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 3**

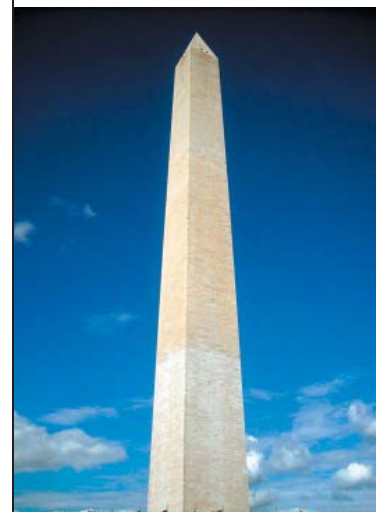
Chair/Discussant: Colin Emrich, George Washington University

*Presidential War-Making in American Politics:  
An Unconstitutional Practice*  
Ryan Case, Coastal Carolina University

*The Ethics of Chemical Warfare*  
Amne Madi, Marymount Manhattan College

*Anti-Money Laundering to Counter Terrorist Financing: The Passage of the U.S.A. P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act*  
Nicole Franiok, Arcadia University

*Shifting Sands: Building a Stable Libyan Government*  
Carina Bilger, The College of William & Mary





**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 310**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 4**

Chair/Discussant: Clinton Jenkins, George Washington University

*Virtual Incivility: The Democratic Consequences of "Rude" Politicians on Twitter*  
Sara Majercak, Elon University

*Banana for Scale: Quantifying Reddit's Impact on Political Campaigns*  
Lauren Hince, Ripon College

*Media and its Coverage of the Trump Administration*  
Joshua Gurwell, Eastern Michigan University

*Framing Effects in a Competitive Environment: Black Lives Matter versus President Trump*  
Samantha Adams, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 403**  
**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 6**

Chair/Discussant: Fabiana Perera, George Washington University

*Defunding Terror: Targeting al-Qaeda's Finances*  
Carly Goldstein, Elon University

*Has The Use of Social Media Changed Recruitment to Terrorist Groups*  
Kanika Varma, University of Texas, Austin

*The Second Cold War: The Changing Dynamics of American and Russian Foreign Policy in the Middle East*  
Marley Dizney Swanson, Gettysburg College

*Pouring Fuel on the Fire: The United States' Counterterrorism Efforts in Yemen*  
Abby Roberts, Carthage College



**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 308**  
**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 3**

Chair/Discussant: Mark Hines, Georgetown University

*Public Health in the United States of America: Should the Country Utilize Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) and Implement Health in All Policies (HiAP), the Holistic Policy Approach to Human Health?*  
Bradley Rutter, Carthage College

*Poison Pills: How Subtle Differences in Processes, Public Opinion, and Leadership Doomed the American Health Care Act and Passed the Affordable Care Act*  
Zachary Eichten, College of St. Benedict and St. John's University

*The Opioid Epidemic in Florida: What Interventions Have Effectively Combated the Epidemic and Where the State Should Go from Here*  
Ella Biggins, University of South Florida

*National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius: Overview and Critique of Chief Justice John Roberts's Majority Opinion*  
Julie Leyba, California State University, San Bernardino

**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 311**  
**POLITICAL THEORY SESSION 1**

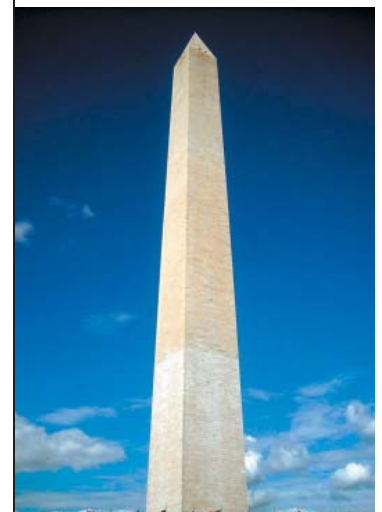
Chair/Discussant: Kristen Collins, Georgetown University

*The Estranged Self: Alienation from Marx to Modern Society*  
Rudy Rosenmayer, DePaul University

*Where is Your Rage?: Dimensions of Anger and the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power*  
Emily Martin, University of Colorado, Boulder

*The Application of Leadership and the Critical Role of the Advisor*  
Hunter Hall, University of Arkansas-Monticello

*A Marxist Critique of Organized Society, Self-Identification and Conflict*  
Gauge Adkins, University of Arkansas-Monticello



**10:45am - 12:15pm | MC 307**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 5**

Chair/Discussant: Alexander Podkul, Georgetown University

*Homeownership and Pride*

John McCune, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

*The Effect of Child Abuse on Political Involvement*

Madison Scarfaro, Wilkes University

*Using Curriculum to Improve Civic Engagement in High School Students: an Examination*

*of Classroom-Based Solutions*

Erika Raskay, Arcadia University

*Perception Problems: The Bathroom Issue*

Madison Kubinski, Oakland University

**12:15 - 1:45pm | Continental Ballroom**  
**Lunch & Speaker**

**Paul Begala**

Paul Begala is a Democratic strategist who serves as a regular political contributor for CNN. At age 31 he was a chief strategist for the 1992 Clinton–Gore presidential campaign. He later served as counselor to the President in the Clinton White House, he coordinated policy, politics, and communications. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Texas, Austin. He was inducted into the Alpha chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha as an undergraduate student. He is currently an affiliated professor public policy at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy Institute.



**Lunch sponsored by the American Political Science Association**

**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 402-404**  
**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 4**

Chair/Discussant: Jessica James, George Washington University

*Long-Term Effects of Prison Policies Regarding Parent-Child Contact*  
Lindsey Newton, Slippery Rock University

*The Need for Public Policy in the Juvenile Justice System*  
Riane Castro, California State University, San Bernardino

*The Determinants of Death Penalty Policy*  
Christina Martin, Susquehanna University

*Prostitution Policy: The Unintended Consequences of Criminalization and a Praxeological Case for Legalization*  
Gabrielle Etzel, Grove City College

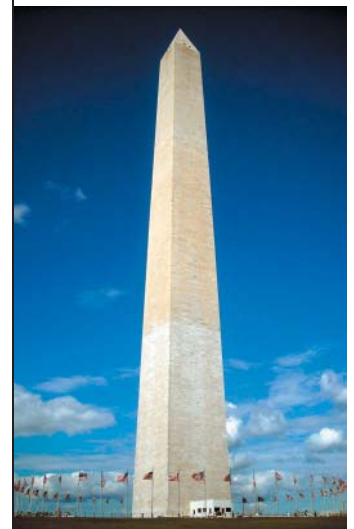
**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 302**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 6**

Chair/Discussant: Liza Gordon, West Virginia University

*Making Race and Nation, 2.0: Using Research in Moral Psychology to Analyze the Rhetoric of Race Politics in the United States*  
Burgandi Schlut, University of Denver

*African American Emotional Responses to Police Violence*  
Jasmine King, Jackson State University

*African-American Athletes in the Political Eyes of the American Media: A Qualitative Survey*  
Devin Buckson, Bethune-Cookman University



**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 403**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 7**

Chair/Discussant: Rosalie Rubio, George Washington University

*Risking Life and Limb: Why Syrians Continue to Flee to Europe*

Jenna Leazott, Carthage College

*What Impedes the Success of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration Programs?*

Emma Hussian, Fort Lewis College

*The Power of the Weak: Opposition Mobilization and Government Institution's in Post-Coup Egypt*

Hani Warith, University of Pennsylvania

*The Resilience of Clientelism in Contemporary Argentina*

Marina Castro-Meirelles, University of Mary Washington

**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 310**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 8**

Chair/Discussant: Eric Dunford, University of Maryland

*The Interplay of Immigrant Population, Unemployment, and Education on Far Right Support*

Sami Gul, University of Missouri, Kansas City

*Refugee Crisis on Germany and Hungary*

Erin Martin, Coastal Carolina University

*Dom Pérignon vs. Miller Lite: Understanding Anti-elite Sentiment in Individuals*

Zoe Bouras, Illinois Wesleyan University

*A Comparative Study of the Emergence of Right-Wing Populism in the United State Presidential Election and the 2016 United Kingdom Referendum*

Anne Batcheller, University of Notre Dame





**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 308**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 9**

Chair/Discussant: Josiah Augustine, George Washington University

*The Effect of Regime Type and Access to Improved Sanitation Facilities on the Percentage of People who Die from Communicable Diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa*

Jason Mascelli, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

*The Impacts of Unemployment Rate and Voter Turnout on Incumbent Electoral Success in the 2016 Irish General Elections*

Samuel Pascal, University of Maryland Baltimore County

*Does the Presence of Oil Lead to Political Unrest? Evidence from Latin America and Africa*

Abigail Brown, Oakland University

*Are Natural Resources a Curse to the Economy of a Developing Country in Africa?*

Simakahle Mahlatini, East Central University

**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 307**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 10**

Chair/Discussant: Aleksandr Fisher, George Washington University

*"All Autocratic Regimes Come to an End?" Explaining Regime Stability in Russia*

Bryce Hecht, Grand Valley State University

*Social Media in China: The New Censorship Front*

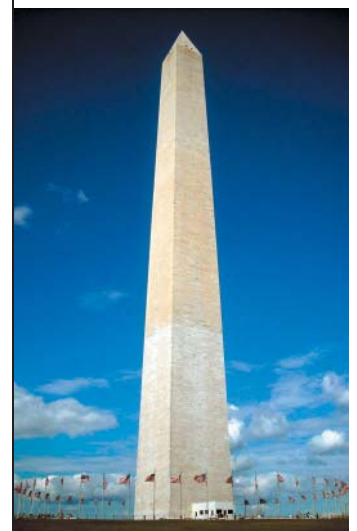
Zareen Khan, Suffolk University

*Identity Algorithms: The Interrelatedness Between Shifting Russian National Identity and Disinformation Tactics*

Valeria Brukhis, University of St. Thomas

*Act, React: A Quantitative Analysis of Police Response to Public Protest in China, 2016*

Nicole Cook, The College of William & Mary



**2:00 - 3:30pm | MC 311**  
**POLITICAL THEORY SESSION 2**

Chair/Discussant: Margarita Ramirez, Georgetown University

*Different Understandings of Ideas in Classical and Christian Societies*  
Courtney Cohan, University of New Hampshire

*Eroding Ideology: Communication and Civic Engagement in the Internet Age*  
Chris Robinette, Appalachian State University

*Liberation, History, and Praxis: An Evaluation of Liberation Theology and its Critiques*  
Charles Meire, Virginia Military Institute

**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 310**  
**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 5**

Chair/Discussant: Jared Heern, George Washington University

*Promoting Coal at a Climate Summit is like Promoting Tobacco at a Cancer Summit*  
Emily Lavalley, Seton Hall University

*Executive Orders in the First 100 Days: Overturning an Administration or Forging a Legacy?*  
Spencer Wagner, Elon University

*Two Sides of the Same Coin: Driver's Licenses and Immigration*  
Samantha Acuna, University of Redlands

*Visible and Indivisible: An Analysis on the Intersection of the Immigrant Rights' Social Movement in the United States, Collective Identity, and Border Politics*  
Zainab Ikram, DePaul University



**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 403**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 11**

Chair/Discussant: Rosalie Rubio, George Washington University

*The Dark Side of Myanmar's Democracy: The Murderous Ethnic Cleansing of the Rohingya*

Mary Wossum-Fisher, Mary Baldwin University

*Democratic Norms and Ethnic Conflict: Does Democracy Matter?*

*Exploring Political Values in the Former Yugoslavia and Ukraine*

Anna Panutsa, Temple University

*Crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh: Sociocultural Underpinnings and*

*Political Barriers to the 2016-2018 Rohingya Ethnic Cleansing*

Jordan Richmond, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

*Ethnic Affiliation and a Nation's Political, Economic, and Social Development: A Case Study of the Bakongo people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Chickasaw Nation in the United States*

Elsa Moseley, East Central University

*Education Policies in the United States and Australia: Are They Helping Indigenous Peoples?*

Kristen Hairston, Carthage College

**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 402-404**

**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 7**

Chair/Discussant: Jessica James, George Washington University

*Political Polarization Along the Rural-Urban Divide*

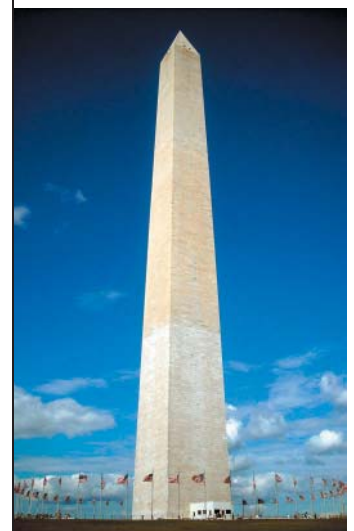
Lachlan Francis, University of Vermont

*Environment or Jobs? Why do Americans Support One Over the Other?*

Damon Roberts, Boise State University

*A Polarizing Environment: U.S. Senate Environmental Issue Polarization Over Time*

Julia Fountain, Elon University



*Political Polarization: The Strength of Party Leaders and the Rise of Contemporary Polarization*  
Cameron Allen, Arcadia University

**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 302**  
**AMERICAN POLITICS SESSION 8**

Chair/Discussant: X

*Examining the Use of Dignity in Constitutional Jurisprudence*  
Tricia Swartz, University of Missouri, Columbia

*Electronic Surveillance and the 4th Amendment*  
Brianna Johnson, University of the District of Columbia

*Freedom of Speech on College Campuses*  
Martin Hooper, Susquehanna University

*The Evolution of the Privilege Against Self-Incrimination, From Miranda and Onward*  
Marissa Snyder, Youngstown State University

**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 307**  
**PUBLIC POLICY SESSION 6**

Chair/Discussant: Mark Hines, Georgetown University

*Power Grab: Disaster Capitalism in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands*  
David Rocha, Nova Southeastern University

*Does Bitcoin Need Regulation? An Analysis of Bitcoin's Decentralized Nature as a Security and Regulatory Concern for Governments*  
Hadeka Rasul, Seton Hall University

*Taxing AirBnB: The Consumer Impact*  
Aida Vazquez-Soto, University of South Florida

*The Road to Energy Independence*  
William Penterman, Ripon College



**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 308**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 12**

Chair/Discussant: Josiah Augustine, George Washington University

*Residentially Different: The Impact of Residential Segregation on Immigrant Populations*

Leigh Wynveen, Hope College

*Organization and Comparison of Electoral Systems*

Adam Hassanein, Purdue University

*A Comparative Study of the Politics of Euthanasia in the United States and the Netherlands*

Aminata Seye, Bethune-Cookman University

*The Differences in Legislation Between Two Baltic States*

Simone Edwards, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

**3:45 - 5:30pm | MC 301**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE SESSION 13**

Chair/Discussant: Samer Anabtawi, George Washington University

*Which Advocacy Strategies are Most Effective? Examining the Women and Gender Constituency at the May 2017 Bonn Climate Conference*

Caroline Wolber, Oakland University

*Friends in Low Places" Collaboration Between Small Island Developing States and Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations at the 21st Conference of Parties*

Connor Glick, Oakland University

*Nature's Rights: An Analysis of South American Constitutions*

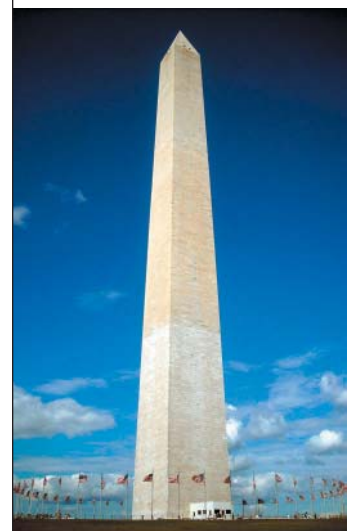
Deborah Kornblut, The College of William & Mary

*Exceptional Environmentalism: American Culture and the Fate of Multilateral Environmental Agreements*

Thomas Poston, Wake Forest University

*Transboundary Water Governance: Evaluating Institutional Capacity and Accountability*

Anna Yurkova, Susquehanna University





## PRESENTER BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENTS

**Samantha Acuna** is a senior at the University of Redlands majoring in public policy, Spanish and English. She is the president of the Alpha Delta Psi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She focuses her studies primarily on constitutional law and hopes to enter a PhD program in political science after she graduates.

**Samantha Adams** is a senior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she is majoring in both Spanish and political science with a concentration in legal studies. She has been a senator for the Student Government Association, served on the executive council of her sorority, participated in the 2016-2017 CSPC Fellows Program, and has interned in her Senator's Chattanooga office and with a local non-profit organization benefiting the Latino community. She will graduate in May and plans to attend law school in the future.

**Gauge Adkins** is a senior political science/ criminal justice double major from Vilonia, AR. He is a member of the UAM Debate Team, is the president of Pi Kappa Delta, the national collegiate forensics honor society and the Treasurer for Pi Sigma Alpha. Past conference presentations include: the 2016 Council for Undergraduate Research (CUR) World Congress in Doha, Qatar and the 2015 Southern Political Science Association conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Cameron Allen** is a senior at Arcadia University, where he studies political science and philosophy. He served as a legislative fellow at the Pennsylvania House of Representatives working for Democratic Consumer Affairs Committee. He hopes to continue his work in state government after he graduates.

**Grant Anderla** attends the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University. He is a senior political science major and philosophy minor. He hopes to continue to do research on security issues and foreign policy in East Asia.

**Diamonique Anderson** is a senior at Mary Baldwin University, where she is studying political science with a focus in international affairs. Diamonique is the secretary of the Alpha chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She has helped write grants to create a model city council to coordinate with local high school students. She hopes to work in Washington, D.C. with the Defense and Intelligence Community after she graduates.

**Anne Batcheller** is a senior at the University of Notre Dame, where she is majoring in political science and minoring in business and economics along with studio art. Anne is the vice president of the Gamma Delta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. She has interned for Senator Bob Corker (TN) and Governor Bill Haslam (TN). Anne also studied abroad in London, UK where she interned in the House of Commons for Member of Parliament Ben Wallace. After graduation, Anne hopes to attend law school.

**Ella Biggins** is a junior at the University of South Florida, where she is studying political science and mass communications. She is the president of the Network of enlightened Women (NeW) and a senator on campus. With the goal of attending law school, she recently completed an internship with the Department of Justice.

**Carina Bilger** is a junior at The College of William & Mary where she is studying international relations with a minor in Middle Eastern studies. Working with anti-human trafficking organizations on campus, her academic focus also includes human rights and democracy promotion. She is the vice president of the Eta Rho chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at William & Mary and hopes to pursue a career in international diplomacy.

**Anna Boris** is a senior at Saint Anselm College, where she is double majoring in international relations and Spanish. She recently worked as a youth ambassador for No Kid Hungry, where she worked on child nutrition and

summer meal programs. Anna hopes to move to Washington, D.C. and work on food security after graduation.

**Zoe Bouras** is a senior at Illinois Wesleyan University, where she double majors in international studies and political science, focusing in development and human rights. She is active on campus in student government, rock climbing, and as a co-editor of Res Publica, Illinois Wesleyan's undergraduate political science journal. She has interned at The Institute of East and West Studies in Seoul, South Korea, spent her junior year abroad as a Pembroke College visiting scholar at Oxford University, and has spent a summer as an ESL teacher in Peru.

**Grayson Boyer** is a senior at Chico State, where he is studying political science with a focus on Chinese international politics. He is the Vice President of Membership, Recruitment and Research of the Upsilon Delta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. He is participating in the second semester of a paralegal internship where he assists prison inmates obtain case law and other legal information and hopes to attend law school after he graduates.

**Daira Brayley** is a senior at Eckerd College, where she is studying political science and environmental studies with a focus on gross national happiness in Bhutan. She is vice president of the Eta Alpha Eta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Eckerd College. She has spent the past two years researching Bhutan, and has conducted field work in the country in order to further her thesis. After graduation Daira hopes to enter graduate school while continuing her research on the economics of happiness in Bhutan.

**Abigail Brown** is a senior at Oakland University, where she is studying international relations along with history and Spanish. She is the treasurer of the Nu Omega Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus and spent six months of the previous year studying abroad in Argentina. After graduation she hopes to enter a masters program

focused on national security.

**DaQuawn Bruce** is a Senior at Carthage College, where he is a double major in French and political science with a concentration in comparative government, and international relations. He is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion liaison of Carthage College, and sits on the diversity and equity council of Carthage as the only student member. DaQuawn is a top graduate of the Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership school, and has served as a political director and youth director of a U.S. Senate Campaign during the last election cycle. He hopes to enter law school and complete a joint degree program to earn his J.D. and masters in foreign service in French after he graduates.

**Valerie Brukhis** is a senior at the University of St. Thomas, where she is studying international studies and political science. She has conducted fieldwork in post-Euromaidan Ukraine and co-authored papers on post-Soviet States. She has completed an internship with UNICEF Kyiv as well as the German Marshall Fund in Washington D.C. She will intern with the US Mission to the UN upon graduation.

**Devin Buckson** is a senior at Bethune-Cookman University where he is studying political science with the goal of becoming president of the United States of America. He is a member of the National Society of the Pershing Rifles. He is an Eagle Scout and an active member in his community. He has worked on the campaign team for Daytona Beach mayor Derrick Henry which resulted in his re-election. Upon graduation he intends to obtain a masters in public policy and cybersecurity.

**Eric Burgess** is a recent graduate of Oakland University, having completed his B.A. Magna Cum Laude in political science in Spring, 2017. He thrice served on the editorial board of the Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics for the Nu Omega Chapter, once as the tech. editor. He also serves full-time as an Aerospace Propulsion Craftsman for the U.S. Air Force, and is strongly considering pur-

suing an MPA at Oakland University.

**Ryan Case** is a junior at Coastal Carolina University, where he is studying American government with a focus on constitutional law. He is an Edwards College Research Fellow on campus as well as a tutor for the political science department. He hopes to attend law school or enter a PhD program in American politics after graduation.

**Riane Castro** is a senior at California State University San Bernardino, where she is majoring in political science with a minor in pre-law. She is the past secretary for the Theta Iota Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, current chair for the Student Union Board of Directors, and member of the ASI Lobby Corps team on campus. She has completed an internship with the district office of California State Senator Mike Morrell and with The Washington Center in Washington, D.C. She hopes to work in the field of juvenile justice reform after she graduates.

**Marina Castro-Meirelles** is a senior at the University of Mary Washington, majoring in political science and minoring in security and conflict studies and contemplative studies. Within political science, she is most interested in comparative politics with a regional focus on Latin America. She has interned in the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security at the Organization of American States and hopes to eventually study political science at the graduate level.

**Israel Chora** is currently a third year student at the University of California, Santa Barbara studying economics with a double-major in political science. As a Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Scholar, Israel has conducted research in the Department of Political Science and plans to transition into a research position in the Department of Economics. Israel also serves as the transfer student advisor for the political science department, treasurer for the Pacific Islander Student Association, and is a member of the A.S. Student Initiated Recruitment and Retention committee. After he graduates, Israel hopes to advance his quantitative, programming, and

research skills through an MS program in applied economics and eventually earn his PhD in economics.

**Courtney Cohan** is a junior at the University of New Hampshire, where she is a double major in political science and justice studies; she also has a minor in forensics. As well as being an inductee of Pi Sigma Alpha, she is also a member of the National Criminal Justice Honor Society and Pre-law Society. Following her undergraduate education, she plans on attending law school.

**Marissa Coloske** is a recent graduate of Oakland University, and is on track to obtaining a masters degree in applied economics and health policy through George Washington University. She was the president of Omega Nu chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha for the 2016/2017 school year, which won best chapter that year. She also served on the editorial board for the Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics for 6 semesters. She hopes to pursue a fulfilling career in health economics.

**Jenna Connors** is a senior at Texas Tech University, where she is studying political science with a focus in international studies. She is currently an inductee of Pi Sigma Alpha, member of TTU Pre-Law Association, executive member of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity, and a senator for the Student Government Association. She has completed an internship with the Texas State Legislature and hopes to attend law school upon graduation.

**Nicole Cook** is a senior at the College of William & Mary, graduating with a BA in international relations and Chinese in May 2018. This past semester, she worked as a teaching assistant for a D.C.-based course on foreign policy making and implementation. She has also worked as a research assistant for the Teaching, Research, and International Policy (TRIP) project at W&M for three years. Following graduation, she hopes to live in China for a year to become fluent in Mandarin Chinese before finding a job related to East Asian security in Washington, D.C.

**Marley Dizney Swanson** is a senior at Gettysburg College where she is double majoring in political science and public policy and double minoring in Spanish and economics. She is the president of the Nu Psi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. Last summer, she interned at the U.S. Supreme Court and after graduation, she hopes to work in the Middle East before applying to the U.S. Foreign Service.

**Dylan Edwards** is a senior at Youngstown State University, where he has studied political science and history. He has previously served as YSU Model United Nations and YSU College Democrats president in 2016, Dylan interned in the Washington, D.C. office of U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown and hopes to enter a J.D./M.P.A. program following graduation in May to pursue a career in public service.

**Simone Edwards** is a junior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she is studying political science with a focus on international and comparative politics. She is a Brock Scholar, the vice president of both the Black Student Alliance and the Hispanic Outreach Leadership Association, the Social Issues, Equity, and Diversity Committee chair in the Student Government Association, and is a new member of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She has interned with the district attorney's office and the mayor's office in Chattanooga, and hopes to pursue a law degree after she graduates.

**Zack Eichten** is a senior at St. John's University in Minnesota, where he is double majoring in political science and economics. He serves on the St. John's Student Senate and is a political reporter for Campus News. He has completed internships for non-profits in both Minnesota and Washington, D.C. and hopes to be working on a campaign in his home district after graduation.

**Walla D. Elshekh** is a senior at Seton Hall University, where she is studying political science and economics. She is an active member of the Iota Delta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha as well as

vice president of the Seton Hall Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta International Pre-Law Fraternity. She recently completed an internship program with the New Jersey attorney general's office and hopes to enter law school after she graduates.

**Brewer England** is a senior at Fort Lewis College, where he is studying political science with a focus on courts and law. He is the president and co-founder of the previously defunct Chi Gamma chapter on campus. He is spending the upcoming months in his local public defense office to gain experience in the application of law before attending law school after graduation.

**Erin Engstran** is a senior at the University of St. Thomas, where she is studying political science and international studies. She has completed internships with two members of congress and the governor of Minnesota, and she is looking forward to an internship with the State Department in Warsaw, Poland this spring. She plans to pursue a master's degree in international affairs after graduation.

**Gabrielle M. Etzel** is in her second year at Grove City College majoring in political science and minoring in economics. With her interests in education policy, federalism and economic policy -- Gabrielle believes her appreciation for political philosophy and Austrian economics provides her with a strong foundation for a future in public policy work. Upon anticipated graduation in spring 2019, Gabrielle plans to earn her masters in public policy.

**Alexander Forgey** is a senior at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga where he is studying political science with a focus on legal studies. He has completed an internship with Congressman Chuck Fleischmann and is currently interning with the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms. After graduating he plans to either work for the DOD, DOJ or attend law school.

**Julia Fountain** is a senior at Elon University in North Carolina where she is a pre-law student majoring

in political science with minors in psychology, criminal justice studies, and international and global studies. She is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, Pi Gamma Mu, and Sigma Iota Rho. She has worked abroad as an intern for a London legal aid center, as well as for the Connecticut Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Julia will be attending law school next year and is currently in the process of deciding between schools.

**Lachlan Francis** is a senior at the University of Vermont, where is studying political science and geography. Beyond his studies, Lachlan has worked on a dozen political campaigns in Vermont, Texas, and Virginia, and now operates a political consulting firm based in Putney, Vermont, with clients including state Democratic parties and labor unions. After graduation, he intends to continue supporting progressive campaigns and causes, especially as they relate to rural areas.

**Nicole Franiok** is a senior at Arcadia University, where she studies political science with a concentration in legal studies. She is the editor in chief of The Compass, Arcadia University's Scholarly Journal, and the president of Arcadia University's Honors Program. Nicole has studied abroad in London, England and has completed a field study to the Baltic States and Russia during her undergraduate career. She has completed an internship with The Convergence Center for Policy Resolution in Washington, D.C. and plans to enroll in law school after she graduates.

**Lukus Freeman** is a senior at Alderson Broaddus University, where he is studying history and political science. He is the president of the Alpha Kappa Lambda chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. He has completed internships with the state government of West Virginia and the municipal government of Philippi. He plans to attend law school in the fall of 2018.

**Danny Gillis** is a senior at the Saint John's University, MN. He is a political science and economics double major from Burnsville, MN with an interest in education policy. After graduation,

he will be participating in a year long service program in Newark, NJ.

**Connor Glick** is a senior at Oakland University, studying international relations and pre-law with a focus on human rights and Middle Eastern politics. He is currently employed with law firms in a paralegal capacity and as a policy research fellow for Dan Haberman's congressional campaign in Michigan's 11th district. He hopes to secure a J.D. and M.A. in international relations with the goal of practicing international law.

**Carly Goldstein** is a senior at Elon University, where she is an Elon College Fellow studying international relations with a concentration in the Middle East and minors in accounting, Middle Eastern studies, political science, and religious studies. She is the president and founder of two student organizations, the Undergraduate Research Student Association and Israel Dialogue, Education and Advocacy. She currently serves as an analyst intern with the North Carolina National Guard and hopes to enter the intelligence community in the future.

**Madison Grady** is a senior at Boise State University, where she is earning a bachelor of science in political science with an emphasis on American government and public policy and a bachelor of arts in communication. Madison is the president of the Pre-Law Society, captain of the speech and debate team, secretary of the Xi Chi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus, and the founding chairman of Young Americans for Freedom at Boise State University. Madison currently works as a special assistant to the Governor of Idaho and is applying to Georgetown University's master program in public policy this fall.

**Sami Gul** is a junior at University of Missouri Kansas City. He is double majoring in political science and math and statistics. He is the president of UMKC Intercultural Dialogue Student Association and a member of the Eta Zeta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. His research projects focus on comparative politics and European

politics. He wants to pursue a PhD degree in political science after he graduates.

**Joshua Gurwell** is a senior at Eastern Michigan University, where he is studying political science with a focus on American politics. He is the vice president of the Zeta Tau chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus, and plans on attending law school following graduation.

**Kristen Hairston** is a senior at Carthage College, where she is currently studying political science with a concentration in comparative politics and public relations. She is treasurer of Pi Sigma Alpha a member of Lambda Pi Eta the communications honor fraternity, and also is a member of Carthage's women's lacrosse team. After graduation she hopes to continue studying comparative and international education policy in graduate school.

**Hunter Hall** is a senior at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. He studies political science. He is particularly interested in efficient policy and effective leadership. Hunter is the vice president of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus at UAM. He has interned for the Lt. Governor of Arkansas, and is interested in Ph.D. programs, working in the defense department, working in the legislative branch, and is considering resuming a military career.

**Isabel Handanos** is a senior at the University of Vermont, where she is studying political science and religion. Her work throughout college has been focused on studying the ways in which politics and religion interact, as well as the implications of research in religion for government policy. She has studied contemporary political philosophy at the University of Havana in Cuba, and is currently writing her undergraduate thesis on the relationship that the Cuban state has had with Afro-Cuban religious practitioners.

**Rachel Hankers** is a senior at Stony Brook University, where she is studying political science and journalism. She has completed internships at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office and in both the offices of U.S.

Senator Charles Schumer and Congressman Lee Zeldin. She is also a content producer for Stony Brook University's Faculty Student Association Communications Department and is a tutor for Stony Brook University's Athletics Department. For her senior thesis project, she is analyzing the role played by new media in the 2016 election. Following graduation, she plans on attending law school.

**Adam Hassanein** is a senior at Purdue University, where he is studying international relations with a research concentration in comparative electoral politics. He is the president of the Delta Omega chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on Purdue's campus. Adam plans on attending law school in the fall of 2018.

**Bryce Hecht** is a senior at Grand Valley State University, where he is studying political science with a focus on Russia and the post-Soviet world. His research interests are in elite political behavior, contentious politics, and political economy. He has studied abroad in Germany at the Free University of Berlin and hopes to enter a PhD program in political science after he graduates.

**Paige Hill** is a senior studying political science with a minor in history at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. She currently serves as the co-president of the Delta Rho Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha and as the vice president of external affairs for Temple student government. She has previously presented her research on Italian immigrant identity at the Temple Global Conference following a semester abroad in Rome, Italy. She recently completed an internship with the United States Department of State, and hopes to pursue a career in the foreign service.

**Lauren Hince** is a senior at Ripon College studying communication and politics. She serves as the digital media assistant for the Center for Politics and the People at Ripon College, and is currently interning on a local congressional race. Lauren has prior experience working for the Senate and various other political campaigns. She hopes to pursue a career in political



communication with an emphasis in public speaking and debate training.

**Martin Hooper** is a senior at Susquehanna University, where he is studying political science and economics. He currently works as an intern in the Union County, PA Public Defender's office. Previously, he worked as an intern in Judge's chambers in Snyder County, PA, served as the vice president of the Iota-Beta chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon, and spent the fall 2016 semester studying at Regent's University in London. After graduation, he hopes to pursue a career in the military and to eventually attend law school.

**Emma Hussian** is a senior at Fort Lewis College, where she is studying political science. She is the vice president of the Alpha chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She is currently interning at a criminal defense office in Durango, Colorado and hopes to intern at the United Nations after she graduates.

**Zainab Ikram** is a junior at DePaul University, where she is studying political science with a concentration in law and theory and minoring in international studies. Zainab has interned for Senator Richard J. Durbin's Chicago office and Citizens for Lisa Madigan. She hopes to attend law school after she graduates.

**Jordan Iorio** is a senior at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. She studies political science and specialized in pre-law! She is the president of Law Society on campus and completed an internship at the Butler County Courthouse in the District Attorney's office! She hopes to attend law school and study civil rights and employment law after she graduates!

**Rebecca Johnson** is a senior honors student at Temple University, where she is studying political science with a focus on international politics. She is a member Temple University's chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. She is fluent in French and has completed an internship working on a Philadelphia mayoral campaign. She also works as Dr. Roselyn Hsueh's research assis-

tant and was a teacher's assistant for Introduction to International Politics under Dr. Sarah Bush in fall 2017. Additionally, she worked at Good Dog Bar throughout her entire college career in order to fund her education. After graduating, she intends to work for a year before pursuing a graduate degree in international relations.

**Bree Johnson** is a Los Angeles native currently attending political science at the University of District of Columbia, where she is studying political science. She is currently interning with the Wealth Factory Inc, a startup focused on financial literacy through frameworks and technologies. She has hopes to enter a masters program in economics or globalization after she graduates.

**Zareen Khan** is a student of government and East Asian studies at Suffolk University. She is an international student from Bangladesh who has studied or worked in Singapore, China and Japan during her undergraduate experience. Last summer, she interned at the Massachusetts State House for Governor Charles Baker. Following graduation, Zareen seeks further study in international relations.

**Jasmine B. King** is a junior at Jackson State University located in Jackson, MS, pursuing a degree in political science with a concentration in legal studies. As the president of the Jackson State Political Science Club, Jasmine strives to educate her peers of the numerous ways in which their direct participation can ignite results in the political world. Not only is she the student coordinator of undergraduate research in the political science department, Jasmine maintains a membership in the W.E.B Dubois Honors College, Fannie Lou Hamer Pre-Law Society, and Lambda Sigma National Honor Society.

**David L. King, Jr.** is a senior at Alabama State University, where he is studying political science and minoring in public administration. He is currently the president of the Alpha Gamma Psi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. He also serves as the editor-in-chief of the Hornet Tribune

official student newspaper, executive president of the University Programs and Activities Board, and one of 62, 2017-18 White House Historically Black Colleges and Universities All-Star Student Ambassadors through the White House Initiative on HBCUs. David hopes to enter a masters program in public policy at the University of Chicago or Northwestern University.

**Deborah Kornblut** is a junior at the College of William & Mary, majoring in environmental policy and government. As a member of the W&M crew team and a teaching assistant for the German department, she is also a student correspondent for the Virginia Coastal Policy Center at the William & Mary Law School. She has attended a US-UK Fulbright Summer Institute focused on climate change and hopes to combine her experiences with the social sciences and science in preparation for a career in environmental policy.

**Madison Kubinski** is a first-year master's student at Oakland University, where she is studying public administration. She has a bachelor's degree in political science, and minors in English and women and gender studies. Currently, she is working for the graduate school as a graduate assistant and is serving as a member of the graduate council of her school's student congress.

**Emily Lavallee** recently graduated magna cum laude from Seton Hall University where she majored in environmental studies and political science. She works with Newark urban agriculture and hopes to enter a graduate school program in food studies in the fall.

**Jenna Leazott** is a senior at Carriage College majoring in political science and sociology with concentrations in comparative politics and international relations and a minor in women and gender studies. She is the president of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus, as well as Model United Nations. She has competed two internships in the nonprofit sector and plans on living in Palestine after graduation, with hopes to eventually pursue a master's in refugee



and migration studies.

**Michelle Lee** is a senior at Connecticut College studying international relations with minors in French and global Islamic studies. Her academic passions include sub-Saharan Africa and gender and peacebuilding. Last year she spent six months studying abroad and living in Kigali, Rwanda. She interned at a local development NGO during her time there. On campus, Michelle is active in multiple feminist organizations, serving on the executive board of one of them. After graduation, Michelle hopes to get her phd in History and conduct research in Rwanda.

**Julie Leyba** is a senior studying political science at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). Ms. Leyba is a member of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Golden Key International Honor Society and President of Pi Sigma Alpha's Theta Iota Chapter. She just completed an internship with the Panetta Institute for public policy, including interning for Representative Ted Lieu (CA-33). Finally, she plans on pursuing graduate studies in public policy and law school upon completing her baccalaureates.

**Betty Lovell** is a senior at DePaul University. She is studying Political Science with a concentration in International Politics. During her sophomore year, she worked as a community organizer in a refugee community in Ohio. This experience began her interest in migration studies and the international asylum system. She hopes to pursue refugee advocacy work in her post graduate career.

**Amne Madi** is a rising senior at Marymount Manhattan College, where she is studying international studies with a focus on the Middle East. She is president of the Social Sciences Assembly at her college. She is currently an intern with the American Iranian Council and hopes to enter a PhD program in either Middle East Studies or political science after graduation.

**Simakahle Mahlatini** is a Zimbabwean who currently a senior at East Central University, where she is a double

major in political science and legal studies. She is a member of the Alpha chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus as well as a member of the Legal Professions Association (L.P.A) on campus. She has completed an internship at Oklahoma Indian Legal Services in Ada, Oklahoma and hopes to enter a JD program after she graduates.

**Sara Majercak** is a senior at Elon University, where she is studying political science and policy studies, with a focus in leading and communicating policy change. She is a member of the Sigma Upsilon chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She works as the senior associate for the Elon University Poll and hopes to enter the field of public opinion polling after graduation.

**Christina Martin** is a senior at Susquehanna University, where she is a triple major studying political science, public policy, and Spanish. She is the co-president of the Theta Xi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She has completed an internship with Change.org and has studied abroad in Seville, Spain for four months in hopes of combining the two into her passion for international political communication.

**Erin Martin** is a senior at Coastal Carolina University, where she is studying political science with a focus in Middle Eastern studies. She is the secretary of the Phi Rho chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She has completed two summer internships in law firms in New York City. She intends to go to law school to study immigration law after she graduates.

**Emily Martin** is a senior at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she is majoring in political science. Her research interests include social movements, gender and sexuality in U.S. politics, and contemporary political theory. She is the social/community service coordinator of the Gamma Phi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at CU. After graduation, she hopes to earn an MA in political science or government.

**Jason Mascelli** is a senior at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County,

where he is studying international relations and asian studies. Jason is currently conducting independent research in which he is identifying and characterizing local government and nonprofit initiatives aimed at increasing the rates of immigrant homeownership in the United States, as well as exploring the factors that contribute to their success. Jason is also interning at the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis, Maryland.

**John McCune** is a junior at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee majoring in political science and marketing with a certificate in international business. He is currently the president of his chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on his campus. He has had two internships in legislative offices at the federal and state level and hopes to begin working on a campaign this upcoming summer.

**Chuck Meire** is a senior at the Virginia Military Institute, studying international studies with a minor in national security. He has interned with the Office of Senator Mark Warner. He will commission as an officer in the Virginia National Guard upon graduation.

**Owen Myers** is a senior at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI where he is studying political science and international political economics. He has been the president of multiple organizations at Carthage and had completed an internship with the U.S. Department of State. Upon graduation, he hopes to pursue an active duty, infantry officership commission in the U.S. Army and eventually attend Georgetown University for graduate school.

**Gabrielle Mooney** is a senior at Xavier University, where she is studying political science with a minor in political communication. She is the president of the Alpha Theta Lambda chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She has completed a year of internships with the City of Cincinnati's city council and she hopes to enter the Legislature Service Commission Fellowship Program in Columbus, OH after she graduates.

**Hayden Morse** is a junior at Purdue University, where he is studying po-

litical science with a focus on public policy. He is a public relations coordinator of the Delta Omega chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. He has completed an internship with the Department of Transportation in Washington D.C. and is currently interning with a campaign of a local candidate for U.S. Congress. He plans on attending law school after he graduates to pursue public policy and legislation.

**Elsa Moseley** is a political science major at East Central University with a concentration in Russian studies. During her undergraduate career, Moseley studied abroad in France and Russia, has gained proficiency in Russian, Korean, Nepali, and Mandarin Chinese, and facilitated workshops on international partnership at the Rotary International Convention in South Korea. Currently, she is an intern with the U.S. Department of State and hopes to pursue a degree in global affairs.

**Meghan Mullon** is a senior at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University where she is studying political science with a minor in English literature. She is a student coordinator for the Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement. She has completed internships in both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives and hopes to find a job on the Hill after she graduates.

**Deana Neaves** is graduating from Boise State University this spring with a B.S. in political science. Her concentration is in international relations and comparative politics, and she is minor-ing in environmental studies. She is the vice president of the Xi Chi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Boise State, and she works as an undergraduate research assistant on campus. She hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in political science after she graduates and someday become a professor.

**Lindsey Newton** is a senior at Slippery Rock University, where she is studying political science with a minor in philosophy. She is the co-founder and president of Slippery Rock Young Progressives. Upon graduation, she plans to attend graduate school for

public policy with a concentration in social policy.

**Anna Panutsa** is a senior international student from Russia at Temple University, where she studies political science, focusing on democratization, hybrid regimes and ethnic conflict in eastern Europe. For the past 3 years, Anna has extensively traveled to Croatia and Serbia, for language training and research on the Yugoslav wars. She held a research assistantship at Temple, and social media internships in Tokyo and Paris. Upon graduation, Anna hopes to gain more research experience at a D.C. think tank or a nonprofit, before starting a Ph.D. in Political Science.

**Samuel Pascal** is a senior at the University of Maryland Baltimore County working towards a double major in economics and political science as well as a minor in music. He is interested in the political economy and international affairs. After he graduates, he hopes to work on his master's in Ireland and eventually pursue a career in the Foreign Service.

**Ethan Paul** is a senior at Penn State University, where he studies political science with a focus on American political behavior and Chinese politics. He is the president of the Beta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Penn State. He is currently participating in a remote internship program with the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, and hopes to enter a graduate program in international relations in Beijing after he graduates.

**Jessica Peery** is a senior at the University of St. Thomas, with a double major in international business and political science and a minor in Chinese. She focused her political science degree on international relations, specifically studying Chinese politics. She is a member of the Chi Theta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. She spent a semester in Beijing studying middle class attitudes towards democratization and had an internship in a Chinese company. She has a job lined up in Tianjin once she graduates so she can reach fluency in Mandarin before grad school

**William Penterman** is a senior at Ripon College, where he is majoring in politics and government with minors in Latin and communication. He served as research assistant to Dr. Lamont Colucci and completed an internship for Senator Ron Johnson. He is currently a member of the United States Army Reserve Military Police Corps and will continue serving after he graduates. William aspires to enter either law school or a masters program in political science within the next few years.

**Brianne Poor** is a senior at Indiana University Kokomo, where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in secondary education with a completed degree in history and political science. She has also completed a minor in Spanish, and is the president of the History and Political Science Club. She is a member of the Spanish National Honor Society, and is currently student teaching in Peru, Indiana. Upon graduation, she will be entering a graduate school program to pursue her master's degree.

**Thomas Poston** is a senior economics and international affairs double major at Wake Forest University. He maintains a research focus in international environmental politics and U.S.-European relations. Thomas has interned with the Council of Europe and the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. He is the president of the Nu Zeta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Wake Forest. After graduation, Thomas plans to return to Washington to work in federal consulting prior to enrolling in law school.

**Jamerika Ramsey** is a sophomore at the illustrious Bethune-Cookman University. Her major is political science, and her minor is English. Every semester since attending the university, she has been honored to be on the President's List—she has a 4.0 GPA. On campus, she is the parliamentarian of the Pre-Alumni Executive Council, a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, the treasurer of Young African-American Preachers and Politicians, and a member of

Phenomenal Women Think Tank. She has completed summer research with the Center of Undergraduate Research Excellence program, and she has studied abroad in Senegal, West Africa. She hopes to attend law school after she graduates.

**Margaret Randall** (Maggie) is a senior at Suffolk University in Boston, where she is studying government with a concentration in law and public policy and a minor in environmental policy. Her passions are voting rights and voter accessibility. Maggie is involved on campus with the Suffolk Democrats and writes a weekly politics column for her school newspaper, The Suffolk Journal. Maggie currently works for the Massachusetts State Senate and The Blue Lab, an incubator for progressive campaigns and candidates. Her past experience involves working for Lobbyit, a lobbying firm in Washington, D.C. Maggie will earn an accelerated master's of science in political science from Suffolk next year that focuses on professional politics.

**Erika Raskay** is a senior political science student at Arcadia University. She is a member of Rotaract, Pi Sigma Alpha, and serves as the student coordinator of her Honors Program's College Access Mentoring Program. She currently works at a local law firm and interns with Education Voters of PA. She hopes to pursue a M.Ed. after graduation.

**Hadeka Rasul** is a recent graduate of Seton Hall University, where she studied political science and economics. She is currently a business analyst at Birchbox in New York City. As a part of Pi Sigma Alpha, she serves on the executive board of the Seton Hall chapter and is an executive editor for the political science journal on campus. She expects to pursue law school or graduate school in the future.

**Tabitha Richmond** is a senior at Youngstown State University, where she is studying political science with a focus on foreign affairs and is obtaining a minor in nonprofit leadership. She is the president of the Student Nonprofit Leadership Organization and vice-president of the Model United

Nations Chapter on her campus. She has interned at New Story Leadership for the Middle East and hopes to attend graduate school for international relations and diplomacy.

**Jordan Richmond** is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she is studying political science and international & global studies, with a concentration in human rights. She also has minors in Chinese and women's and gender studies, and is currently learning Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, and Spanish. She has completed an internship with the Democratic Party of North Carolina, studied abroad in Shanghai, China, and participates in Model United Nations conferences. After graduation, she plans to work full-time for a year before applying to law school for immigration law.

**Abby Roberts** is a senior at Carthage College, where she is studying political science with concentrations in international relations and comparative politics. She is the vice president of the Carthage College chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. She has completed an immigration services internship with the International Institute of Wisconsin and presently is employed as a paralegal at a law firm in Racine, WI. She hopes to enter law school after graduation.

**Damon Roberts** is a junior at Boise State University, where he is studying political science with a focus on American politics and policy. He is interested in environmental policy and hopes to either study environmental law at a law school or to attend graduate school focusing on environmental policy.

**Abby Roberts** is a senior at Carthage College, where she is studying political science with concentrations in international relations and comparative politics. She is the vice president of the Carthage College chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. She has completed an immigration services internship with the International Institute of Wisconsin and presently is employed as a paralegal at a law firm in Racine, WI. She hopes to enter law school after

graduation.

**Chris Robinette** is a junior at Appalachian State University, where he is studying political science. He is undertaking a faculty research assistantship this semester, and plans to pursue a graduate degree in political science.

**David Rocha** is a freshman at Nova Southeastern University, where he is studying political science and history. He hopes to one day work in the intelligence community, the armed forces, federal law enforcement, or in embassies around the world. He has finished most of the coursework for his major and hopes to either find an internship with a government agency or a fellowship program to help him pay through graduate school.

**Rudy Rosenmayer** is a senior at DePaul University, studying political science and economics. His main areas of focus are on political theory and culture. Rudy has been a contributing researcher for "Zoon Politikon," a video game designed to teach civic education to children in Croatia. He hopes to work towards a PhD in political theory in the future.

**Bradley Rutter** is a senior at Carthage College, where he is studying political science with a minor in biology and concentrations in pre-health and American government. He serves as the vice president of the Carthage College Student Government, vice president of Academic Excellence for Delta Upsilon International Fraternity, treasurer for Carthage World Relief (Global Health Initiative), a member of Model United Nations, Beta Beta Beta Biological Sciences Honor Society, and Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society. This past summer he completed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Scholars Program in South Dakota and is currently an intern at the Kenosha County Division of Health. Additionally, he is a registered behavior technician in which he provides therapy sessions for youth with developmental disabilities. After graduation this spring, he will serve in the Peace Corps as a healthy schools coordinator in the Western Highlands of Guatemala.

Upon completion of service, he hopes to pursue a PhD in public health.

**Annie Rydland** is a senior at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, where she studies both Spanish linguistics and international studies with a concentration in political science and history. She is the secretary of the St. Thomas Veterans Association on campus. She has completed three study abroad programs in Spain and hopes to return in order to work abroad after graduation.

**Madison Scarfaro** is a senior at Wilkes University, where she is studying political science and criminology. She was the captain of the volleyball team at Wilkes University as well as the secretary of the Pre-Law Society and media coordinator of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee on campus. She completed an internship at her local District Attorney's office and hopes to attend law school in the future.

**Andi Schlut** is a junior at the University of Denver, where she is studying political science and socio-legal studies. She is a newly inducted member of the Pi Sigma Alpha chapter on campus. She completed an internship in the District Office of one of Colorado's congressmen and recently finished serving as the content manager for a local non-profit. She will soon begin her work on the campaign trail for a candidate for Colorado Governor and hopes to attend law school after she graduates.

**Aminata Seye** is a senior at Bethune-Cookman University where she majors in international studies and minor in political science. Aminata will be inducted in Pi Sigma Alpha this current semester right before she graduates. Aminata has a cumulative 3.51 GPA and is very involved in campus and community activities.

**Alyssa Shanderson** is a recent graduate from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University of Albany where she majored in political science, concentrating in global politics, and minored in English. She is currently a program and research assistant at the Global Women's

Leadership Initiative at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. She hopes to start a graduate degree next year at Georgetown University studying international development policy.

**Marissa Snyder** is a senior at Youngstown State University, where she is studying political science with a minor in French. She is the president of the Alpha Alpha Rho chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at YSU and is also the president of her university's moot court team. This past year, she was part of the first place pair who won the Akron Regional Moot Court Tournament, qualifying for nationals and making it into the top ten percent of the country. She has completed an internship with the Community Legal Aid Firm of Northeastern Ohio and plans on pursuing a JD/PhD program after graduation in the spring.

**Tricia Swartz** is a junior at the University of Missouri, Columbia, where she is studying political science, with a minor in American constitutional democracy. She is involved with the undergraduate programs of the Kinder Institute on constitutional democracy, and her favorite experience has been co-teaching the Kinder Institutes freshman seminar. Tricia is also the president of the Gamma Zeta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. Following her undergraduate studies, she plans to pursue graduate coursework focused on the relationship between early American political thought and current public law.

**Nathaniel Sweet** is a sophomore at the University of South Florida, where he is studying political science. He has worked on the student analytic team for the USF-Nielsen Sunshine State Survey, Florida's only public policy survey, and hopes to enter a master's program in public administration after he graduates.

**Kanika Varma** is a senior at the University of Texas at Austin, where she is studying government along with sociology. She is interested in security studies and is currently conducting research in the same along with also aiding University of Texas faculty members in their research in similar

fields. She is interning as a research assistant at IPD and a communications intern at the Texas Advocacy Project. She hopes to enter a masters program in international relations after she graduates.

**Aida Vazquez-Soto** is a student at the University of South Florida majoring in economics and political science. Aida is a senator and vice-chair of the finance committee in her school's student government, the founder and president of Turning Point USA at USF, a member of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, a campus coordinator for Students for Liberty, and a gold member at PragerForce. She hopes to attend law school and eventually earn a PhD in economics.

**Manisha Vepa** is a senior at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County where she is double majoring in global studies and economics and minor in music. She is both a Sondheim Public Affairs Scholar and a Blaustein Fellowship Recipient, and currently serves as the assistant speaker to the senate in the Student Government Association. She has previously completed two Public Service Fellowships with the Maryland state government and hopes to enter a masters program in East Asian studies after she graduates.

**Spencer Wagner** is a senior at Elon University pursuing a double major in political science and policy studies and originally from Wilmington, North Carolina. He currently serves as the executive vice president of the Elon Student Government Association as well as the co-president of the Sigma Upsilon chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Elon. He has completed two internships with Congressman David Price of North Carolina. He plans on returning to Washington upon graduation.

**Hani Warith** is a senior studying political science at the University of Pennsylvania with a focus on democratization and contentious politics in the Middle East. He is the president of the Beta Tau of Pi Sigma Alpha on campus. He has completed internships at the Syria Institute and Human Rights Watch and will be pursuing a PhD in comparative politics starting in



the fall.

**Caroline Wolber** is a senior at Oakland University, where she is double majoring in international relations and public administration & public policy. Last semester, she was a member of the editorial board of the Pi Sigma Alpha Journal, where she peer reviewed manuscripts as a member of an international relations group. She is currently a fellow with NextGen Michigan and plans on pursuing a career in environmental advocacy once she graduates.

**Anna Wood** is a senior at East Central University, where she is studying legal studies and political science. She is currently interning with Oklahoma Senator Jim Inhofe. After graduation, she plans to attend law school.

**Mary Ruth Wossum-Fisher** is a senior at Mary Baldwin University where she attends the Mary Baldwin College for Women. She is a double major in anthropology/sociology and international affairs with a minor in franco-phone studies. She currently works at MBU Spencer Center for Civic and Global Engagement as office administrator and serves as Honor Council chair. Following graduation, she hopes to attend a master of arts program in anthropology.

**Leigh Wynveen** is a senior at Hope College studying political science and international studies and minoring in French. She has completed two off-campus semesters in Paris, France and Washington D.C. Following graduation, she hopes to pursue a master's degree in international affairs.

**Anna Yurkova** is a senior studying political science and international studies at Susquehanna University. She is a recent immigrant from Russia with a primary interest in international affairs. Anna is an active member of student government association as the president of her class. She is a publisher and editor of SnoQap Financial, a website where students write about the fields of business, economics, finance, and politics.



# NOTES







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