

August 28, 2017

Welcome – and welcome back – to the Department of Political Science at Case Western Reserve University.

This fall we are pleased to welcome two new faculty members as Visiting Assistant Professors: Girma Parris and YuJung (Julia) Lee. [Professor Parris](#) (PhD, Political Science, Johns Hopkins University) specializes in American political development, and will offer two courses in the fall term: POSC321 News Media and Politics, and an upper-division special topics course, Race, Immigration and American Political Development. Professor Parris earned his BA degree at American University, graduating *magna cum laude*. [Professor Lee](#) (PhD, Political Science, UCLA) is an expert in Indian politics. Her dissertation, *Gender, Sanitation, and Political Leadership in India*, is based on field research in India. Professor Lee earned her BA degree at Ewha Women's University, in Seoul, Korea, majoring in International Studies and graduating *magna cum laude*. The Department also welcomes back [Professor Paul Schroeder](#) (PhD, Political Science, The Ohio State University). Professor Schroeder offers courses in Chinese politics, East Asian politics, international relations, and political development. We welcome all three visiting assistant professors and look forward to their contributions to our curriculum and to the department.

Our faculty continue to thrive and to produce scholarship at the highest levels of our discipline. Some, but not all, of this impressive work is listed, below; please link to individual faculty members' webpages to learn the full extent of our scholarly publications and current research.

[Professor Kelly McMann](#) is now indeed *Professor* McMann, having been promoted to (full) professor status this year. Her achievements across her career to date – her books, [Corruption as a Last Resort: Adapting to the Market in Central Asia](#) (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014) and [Economic Autonomy and Democracy: Hybrid Regimes in Russia and Kyrgyzstan](#) (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006); her involvement in the international [Varieties of Democracy](#) project; her leadership as Director of the [International Studies Program](#); among many other professional achievements – have led to this well-deserved promotion. Professor McMann has been a Project Manager for the [Varieties of Democracy](#) Project (known as V-Dem). The American Political Science Association awarded V-Dem the Lijphart/Przeworski/Verba Data Set Prize in 2016. The indicators developed in the V-Dem Project are now being used by the World Bank.

[Professor Joseph White](#) continues his work on healthcare policy in the United States, with his article “The Tax Exclusion for Employer-Sponsored Insurance Is Not Regressive - But What Is It?” (*Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 42 (4), August 2017: 687-708). His column, “The health insurance tax exemption makes care more affordable, not less,” can be found [here](#). His article on “[Long-Term Budgeting](#),” appeared as Working Paper No. 8, *New Ideas for Federal Budgeting*, for the National Budgeting Roundtable, George Mason University Centers on the Public Service, Schar School of Policy and Government. See also his blog post, “[Reform The ‘Cadillac Tax’ To Target Rich Benefits, Not High Costs](#),” *Health Affairs Blog*. Professor White continues to direct CWRU's [Center for Policy Studies](#). Professor White will be on sabbatical in the Spring 2018 term.

This past June, [Professor Laura Tartakoff](#) participated in the Liberty Fund interdisciplinary Colloquium on “Political Hero Worship, Intellectuals, and Freedom,” organized by Emeritus Professor Paul Hollander (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). She served as a discussant in the conference sessions, including “Castro and Cuban Communism” and “Recent Dictators, Dictatorships, and Intellectuals.” Her review of María Zambrano and Rosa Chacel, *Two Confessions* (translated from Spanish by Noël Valis and Carol Maier; Albany: State University of New York Press, 2015), will be published this year in the journal *Society*, of which she is a Senior Editor. Professor Tartakoff will be on sabbatical in the Spring 2018 term.

[Professor Elliot Posner](#), and his coauthor Abraham Newman (Georgetown University), have completed their book, *Voluntary Disruptions: International Soft Law, Finance and Power*, which will be published by Oxford University Press in 2018. His chapter, “The Distinctiveness of Derivatives: Cross-border Conflict and Cooperation in the Implementation of the G20 Principles,” will be published in *Governing the World's*

Biggest Market: The Politics of Derivatives Regulation After the 2008 Crisis, eds. Eric Helleiner, Stefano Pagliari and Irene Spagna (Oxford University Press). His article, with Abraham Newman, “Structuring Transnational Interests: The Second-Order Effects of Soft Law in the Politics of Global Finance,” was published in the *Review of International Political Economy* 23 (5), 2016: 768-798.

[Professor Pete Moore](#) spent the Spring 2017 semester on sabbatical, working on a book-length manuscript on the political economy of war in the Middle East and its consequences for Iraq and Jordan. His article “The Fiscal Politics of Rebellious Grievance in the Arab World: Egypt and Jordan in Comparative Perspective” was published in *The Journal of Development Studies*. Last fall he presented his paper, “Statebuilding and War in the Levant,” at the Center for Middle East Studies at Ghent University, Belgium. Professor Moore continues to direct [Northeast Ohio Consortium for Middle East Studies](#).

Appointed as an Associate Editor of the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies* (2017), [Professor Kathryn Lavelle](#) will have two scholarly pieces published this year: “Constructing the Governance of American Finance: Timing and the Creation of the SEC, OTS, and CFPB,” *Journal of Policy History*, 29 (3), Summer 2017: 321-349; and “Foreign Policy and Sovereign Wealth Funds,” in the *Oxford Handbook of Sovereign Wealth Funds*, eds. G. Woods, D. Cumming, I. Filatotchev, and J. Reinecke (Oxford University Press, pp. 182-207). Professor Lavelle is serving as the President of the International Political Economy Section of the International Studies Association (2017-2018).

[Professor Buchler](#)'s chapter, “Resolved, The Redistricting Process Should Be Nonpartisan: Con,” was published in the 3rd edition of *Debating Reform: Conflicting Perspectives on How to Mend American Government and Politics*, eds. Richard Ellis and Michael Nelson (CQ Press, 2010: 161-171). He continues to post political insights on major disciplinary websites, including *The Conversation* (see [here](#)) and on his own blog, *The Unmutual Political Blog* (<http://theunmutual.blogspot.com/>). His book manuscript *Incremental Polarization* is under review at a major press, and he continues his work on a book manuscript on applications of game theory to the study of strategic mistakes.

With her colleagues at the Universities of Calgary (Canada) and of Sussex (UK), [Professor Karen Beckwith](#) presented their book manuscript, *Cabinets, Ministers, and Gender*, at the Johan Skytte Book Workshop at the University of Uppsala; the book project also won an American Political Science Association Centennial Grant from the Presidency Research Organized Section. In January, she gave an invited talk on “Race and Gender in the New Cabinet: A Comparative Perspective,” at The Humphrey School of Public Affairs, the University of Minnesota. Professor Beckwith was appointed to three journal editorial boards in 2017: Editorial Advisory Board (English language), *Canadian Journal of Political Science/Revue canadienne de science politique*; International Editorial Advisory Board, *European Journal of Politics and Gender*; and Editorial Board, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

This is a just small subset of the various research and scholarly work that our faculty members are producing; please see our individual websites for further details of our ongoing research, professional commitments, and other published work.

Forthcoming Activities. Throughout the year, the Department sponsors or co-sponsors lectures, workshops, and conferences open to the CWRU community. Of the various events planned for the 2017-2018 academic year, two are of special importance to us.

This year we will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the [Wellman Hill Internship Grants Competition](#), our public service internship program. On Saturday, October 14, Professor Elliot Posner will host a reception, honoring Elizabeth Hill, our alumna (POSC BA, MA 1997) who has so generously endowed this program for political science majors, and her grandfather Wellman Hill, for whom the program is named, and celebrating the [scores of students](#) who have used their Wellman Hill Internship Grants to contribute to public service, which they continue to do.

The Department continues its *Careers Colloquium for Political Science Students*, funded by a generous anonymous donor and now in its third year. This fall, alumnus Chris Hook (POSC BA, MA), currently a budget analyst in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, will present the Careers Colloquium public lecture on Friday, November 10, and will offer a related careers workshop for political science majors on Saturday, November 11.

The Department continues to offer a range of introductory and upper-division political science courses, taught by our outstanding faculty. We underscore the Department's particular strengths in course offerings in comparative politics; US and international political economy; and political movements, protests, and revolutions. Our faculty members also contribute to several interdisciplinary programs related to political science, including Asian Studies, International Studies, Public Policy, Social Justice, and Women's and Gender Studies.

More information about the Department will be available on our [POSC homepage](#) as the academic year unfolds. We can also be followed on Facebook at [CWRU Department of Political Science](#) and on twitter @CWRU_Polisci. As chair, I write a weekly *Newsletter*, sharing information about the department, internships and volunteer opportunities, career and job notices, and grants and scholarship opportunities and deadlines. If you would like to receive this *Newsletter*, please send an email to Ms. Jessica Jurcak (jkj22@case.edu) and she will add you to our emailing list.

As always, I welcome comments and insights from our students, alumni, colleagues, and friends from around the world. I can be reached by email at karen.beckwith@case.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

With all best wishes,

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