PROFESSOR SHOWCASE

We are excited to welcome our new Associate Professor, Eitan Hersh

Professor Hersh got his B.A. in Philosophy at Tufts in 2005 and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science at Harvard University. He is the author of *Hacking the Electorate* and he has had articles published in the American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

How was your experience being an undergrad at Tufts? I loved my time at Tufts! Studying with the faculty at Tufts made me want to go into academia. It’s wonderful to now count my teachers as colleagues. And, of course, I made wonderful, life-long friends at Tufts, including my wife!

What motivated your interest in American politics? I have always had a passion for politics because of its importance to our lives. All of our jobs—from engineering to medicine to manufacturing to farming—rely on the political process functioning smoothly. Figuring out how to make it run smoothly is really challenging. So, I’m in this job to play some small role in helping to understand (and explain) how our country functions and how it might function better.

What topics do you particularly like teaching about? I like teaching about the same things I like researching about. Right now, I’m teaching a course on U.S. elections and a course on information technology and political power.

KELLY GREENHILL has been awarded the 2017 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship to, as the TuftsNow press release states, "further her research on how rumors, conspiracy theories, myths, propaganda, and entertainment media influence the beliefs and decision-making of individuals and governments."

Our Department congratulates Professor Greenhill on this honor and we look forward to learning more about "the often significant impact of what she calls 'extra-factual information' on how individuals and governments perceive and respond to security-related threats," through her upcoming book, *Extra-Factual Sources of Threat Conception and Proliferation in International Politics.*

In an interview with TuftsNow about the threat of fake news in the media, Professor Greenhill stated that "we need to ask more hard questions — and demand proof — when merchants of menace start spreading rumors of danger. When proof is absent, we need to be careful to refute the suspect claims without repeating them. Because Extra-Factual Information-based appeals may be grounded partly or even totally in fiction, but their power is a brute fact." Read the interview >>
PROFESSOR PUBLICATIONS

Vickie Sullivan’s new book, *Montesquieu and the Despotic Ideas of Europe*, is dedicated to “the outstanding undergraduate students at Tufts University with whom I have studied Montesquieu.” As Professor Sullivan states, “the book really took shape while I taught a seminar on the political thought of Montesquieu over the course of several years. As a result, I refined my arguments and interpretations in conversation with my students in these seminars.” The acknowledgements name students and research assistants, fellow alumni, that helped Professor Sullivan guide “readers through Montesquieu’s sometimes veiled, yet sharply critical accounts of Machiavelli, Hobbes, Aristotle, and Plato, as well as various Christian thinkers,” as detailed in his enormously influential *The Spirit of the Laws*.

For a look inside Professor Sullivan’s book >>

Dennis Rasmussen’s new book, *The Infidel and the Professor: David Hume, Adam Smith, and the Friendship That Shaped Modern Thought*, has been widely received as an enthralling new take on two of the world’s great minds, being named Book of the Week by *Times Higher Education* and given a glowing review by the *NYTimes*:

“Professor Rasmussen’s greatest contribution is to shed new light on the surprising depth and nature of the intellectual and personal influence of the radical skeptic philosopher David Hume on Smith. If Smith was the ultimate establishment figure, Hume was the ultimate subversive.”

Read an interview with Professor Rasmussen and 3AM Magazine here >>

As the publisher, Oxford University Press, states, “In *Multiracial Identity and Racial Politics in the United States*, Natalie Masuoka catalogues how [the] cultural shift from assigning race to perceiving race as a product of personal identification came about by tracing events over the course of the twentieth century. [Professor] Masuoka uses a variety of sources including in-depth interviews, public opinion surveys and census data to understand how certain individuals embrace the agency of self-identification and choose to assert multiracial identities.”

Learn more about Professor Masuoka’s important take on race & identity in her book >>

2017 COMMON READING BOOK

All incoming students this year are provided with an online copy of *The Outrage Industry*, co-authored by Jeff Berry (PS) and Sarah Sobieraj (Sociology). Freshmen and transfer students are encouraged to discuss with their peers the book’s exploration of “outrage rhetoric, including conspiracy theories, mockery, and flattery, and discuss its impact on the contemporary political landscape.”

Learn more about the Common Reading Program >>

AMERICA THE INCLUSIVE - TUFTSNOW

Department Chair, Deborah Schildkraut wrote a feature on on the past and present nature of exclusion in the US and how “protests against the executive order banning immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries show how far the U.S. has come.”

Read the TuftsNow feature here >>

WHO SUPPORTS A FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY FOR THE UNITED STATES?

Professor Richard Eichenberg wrote a piece on the who supports feminist foreign policy and where they fall on other concerns, like gun violence and strengthening the UN. Learn what Professor Eichenberg has deduced in his on-going research into feminist foreign policies.

Read the Chicago Council on Global Affairs Blog Post >>
STUDENT SHOWCASE

THE TRIPLE BELFER AWARD WINNERS FOR BEST POLISCI THESIS ARE:

Reba Orloff A’17 for Analyzing the American Wage Gap. Thesis Chair Jeff Berry characterized Reba’s work as “an unusually sophisticated study of the gender gap in the 50 states.”

Umar Shareef A’17 for Ibn Khaldun: Scientific Instruction as Prolonging the Polity’s Life. Thesis Chair Malik Mufti described Umar’s work as “a sophisticated in-depth study of an important, but difficult, thinker.”

David Westby A’17 for Ultras in Spain: A Study on the Relationship between Macro-level Cleavages and Micro-level Actors. Thesis Chair Consuela Cruz remarked that David’s thesis is exemplary on three counts: relentless engagement with the theoretical and empirical materials, originality of thought, and a compelling analytical narrative.

Reba Orloff and Alexander Trubowitz are the recipients of the 2017 Elliott Award. The James Vance Elliott Political Science Prize is awarded in the senior year to students majoring in Polisci whose achievements best combine academic excellence with active participation and effective leadership in campus and civic affairs.

Muna Mohamed A’19, Polisci Summer Scholar, worked with Professor Natalie Masuoka on “Defining Somali Identity Through Media and Narratives” ~

“I am a junior majoring in interdisciplinary studies, creating my major of study ‘Politics, Media, and Identity.’ This past summer, I worked alongside Professor Masuoka for a Summer Scholars project, where I started my senior project. After taking Immigration Policy with Professor Masuoka, I wanted to explore Somali identity as it pertains to race, faith, immigration status, etc. During Summer Scholars, I interviewed Somali women in Boston about how they conceptualize their identity, in addition to collecting photographs, videos, and audio recordings. I hope to continue this project in London when I go abroad in the Spring, and next summer in my home state of Maine, to later conclude into a three-fold multi-media exhibit and thesis on Somali womanhood and identity.”

Misha Linnehan A’18, Polisci Summer Scholar, worked with Professor Deborah Schildkraut on his thesis, “Political Partisanship and the Ultimate Attribution Error.” ~

“The thesis itself examines the ways that partisanship biases how citizens make causal attributions for the actions of politicians. During the summer, I conducted the research for and wrote the first draft of my literature review. I also developed the framework for an experiment which I am going to conduct in the fall to test my hypothesis about partisanship and attributional biases. It was great to work with and learn from Professor Schildkraut on this, and I’m looking forward to continuing the project under her guidance this fall.”

Reed Cohen A’17 was sponsored to attend the eighth annual African Development Conference at the Kennedy School at Harvard University this past March, which hosted many important speakers including the former President of Ghana, H.E. John Mahama, and Beatrice Mtetwa.

Reed– “One panel discussion of note was ‘Bridging Africa’s Anglophone and Francophone Divide’ which discussed prejudices that exist between English speaking and French speaking people in Africa and ways to overcome them through technology. Another incredibly inspiring panel discussion was ‘Social Movements’ which featured panelists like Zimbabwean advocate/barrister Fadzayi Maheren who discussed her ongoing effort to organize protests through social media against Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe. Overall, the tone of the conference was filled with hope and aspiration in combating both Africa’s economic and political problems.”

Anna Weissman A’17 was sponsored to attend the Stanford Undergraduate Research Conference, where she presented her thesis “The Female Impact: Gendered Effects on Congressional Behavior Over Time.”

Anna– “I am so thankful to the Polisci Department for helping me to attain this opportunity. There appeared to be an underlying theme of the conference [and] the questions about my own research that I received from individuals outside Polisci were incredibly beneficial to my understanding of my findings.”
NEW COURSES

PS 119-02: SEMINAR IN AMERICAN POLITICS: AMERICA’S HOLY CONSTITUTION  
Aaron Weinstein  
This course explores how the U.S. Constitution rose to become an almost “sacred” symbol in national politics. It is more than a blueprint for governance; it often becomes a moral text, in and of itself.

PS 138-04: TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS:  
LABOR AND INEQUALITY IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY  
Nimah Mazaheri  
This course looks at the pressing issues that labor and workers face in today’s global economy. The ways that governments, employers, labor organizations, and individual workers have experienced and responded to the changing tides and trends in the international economy over time is the main goal of this course. Topics include the rise & fall of union power, labor unrest & the politicization of labor in the developing world, and “sweatshops” & international labor standards.

PS 159-01: SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY:  
THE PEOPLE, REVOLUTION, AND POPULAR CONSTITUTION MAKING  
Joshua Braver  
This seminar focuses on the concept, history, and politics of the people’s the power to enact a revolution and institutionalize it in a constitution. Beginning with interrogating the abstract idea of the people, from there, we will analyze particular cases of popular constitution-making beginning in the 18th century with the U.S. and French Revolutions and then on to more contemporary examples in South Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America, and lastly the new emerging social science on constitution-making.

PS 159-02: SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY: POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY  
Ioannis Evrgenis  
If the word sovereignty describes the highest political authority—including the power to make and remake a polity’s fundamental laws—popular sovereignty locates that power in the people. But what is a people, and who gets to decide? This seminar will focus on Germany’s transition from Weimar to the Nazis, the US from its founding to the present, and the relationship between populism, public opinion, and democracy.

PS 188-01: TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:  
THE CAUSES & CONSEQUENCES OF FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION  
Meg Gulford  
What is military intervention? Why do states use military force to intervene into the domestic affairs of other states? The course is designed to teach students how to evaluate the primary theories about the causes of military intervention as well as identify and critique the consequences.

PS 105: CONSTITUTIONAL LAW  
Dennis Rasmussen  
Critical examination of the Supreme Court’s ever-evolving interpretations of the U.S. Constitution, with a primary focus on civil rights and liberties: religious freedom, freedom of speech and press, the right to bear arms, the right to privacy, voting and representation, and discrimination on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, and other characteristics.

PS 118-02: MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIPS  
Ben Downing  
Students will be placed in one of a dozen State House offices—for a legislator, committee, in the governor’s office, or an executive branch agency—to serve in a policy-focused internship. Class will be built around discussion of shared experiences and the interplay between policy & politics.

PS 145: POLITICAL THOUGHT OF MACHIAVELLI  
Vickie Sullivan  
Topics include Machiavelli’s views on Christianity and the role of religion in a state, his insistence on the centrality of foreign policy in defining the nature of a regime, his belief in the necessity of great individuals to found and reorder civilizations, and the relation between his claim to originality and his insistence that the ancient Roman republic is a model for imitation.

PS 176: MIGRATION, REFUGEES, AND CITIZENSHIP IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD  
Kelly Greenhill & Oxana Shevel  
Some of topics included in this course will be the political, economic, social, and security determinants of refugee & migration flows; the political and social responses of receiving governments and societies; and the changing conceptions of citizenship and nationality in receiving states.
11.1 MARGARET HUANG: Head of Amnesty International USA
3:30 - 4:30pm in Mugar 231, hosted by the Fletcher School
In a time with so much uncertainty and with a rise in human rights abuses at home and abroad, there continue to be glimmers of hope. From Chechnya to Charlottesville, Amnesty International has been at the forefront of human rights for over 60 years. Hear from Margaret Huang about the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

11.2 JFK'S LEGACY OF CITIZEN SERVICE TODAY:
Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country
6:30pm in ASEAN Auditorium, co-hosted by PoliSci, Tisch, Focus and the JFK Library Foundation
Join us for a panel discussion on the importance of public service and President Kennedy’s legacy of service today. This event is part of the JFK100 Centennial Celebration, a year-long series of special events and initiatives to celebrate the 100th anniversary of President Kennedy’s birth.

11.3 Fletcher Religion, Law & Diplomacy Conference
9 - 6pm in ASEAN Auditorium, hosted by the Fletcher Initiative on Religion, Law & Diplomacy
This conference will focus on the importance of productive engagement with religion in international affairs. Panels of practitioners and academics will discuss what religious literacy brings to security operations, international business and conflict resolution.
*Keynote Speech by Sean Callahan, CEO of Catholic Relief Services and Fletcher Class of 1988*

11.6 CIVIC LIFE LUNCH - #Standing Rock: Starting & Sustaining a Movement
12 - 1pm in Rabb Room, hosted by Tisch College
Featuring: LaDonna Brave Bull Allard, the Founder and Director of the Sacred Stone Camp, a spirit camp that has become the center of cultural preservation and spiritual resistance to the Dakota Access pipeline, and Cutcha Risling Baldy, an assistant professor at Humboldt State University whose research focuses on #TheNewNativeIntellectualism and how Indigenous people are engaging in #HashtagActivism to achieve social change.

11.6 WHAT IMMIGRANTS CAN TEACH US ABOUT ACHIEVING THE AMERICAN DREAM
12:30 - 1:30pm in Cabot 206, hosted by the Global Development & Environment Institute
This presentation will discuss savings circles in the Cambodian, Kenyan, Bangladeshi, Barbadian, Nepali and Eritrean communities, and include members of the Latino community in Lawrence as panelists.

11.8 THE MURAL AS A SUBVERSIVE ACT:
Yuan Yunsheng in Context
4:30 - 6pm in the Tufts University Art Gallery
An interdisciplinary conversation about the complexity of Yuan Yunsheng’s Two Ancient Chinese Tales - Blue + Red + Yellow = White? The panelists will contextualize the mural within the political and cultural climate in China under Mao Zedong.

11.15 RESISTANCE AND PERSISTENCE:
Civil Debate in Divided Times
6:30pm in ASEAN Auditorium, hosted by PoliSci & Tisch
Join us for a debate of ideas on politics, partisanship, and current events, moderated by Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and New York Times reporter, Farah Stockman. Featuring Neera Tanden, the President & CEO of the Center for American Progress and previously served in the Obama and Clinton administrations, and Bill Kristol, the founder and editor of The Weekly Standard and previously served in the Reagan and Bush administrations.