Welcome from the Chair

I think I speak for all of us here in the Political Science Department when I say that one of my favorite things is to be in touch with former students. So it’s a pleasure to be sending you our annual alumni newsletter. Of course hearing from you is what we like most, so thanks to all of you who took a moment to send us information we could put in our “Alumni Notes” section. Keep them coming! In between newsletters, you can stay informed about our work by following us on Twitter @TuftsPoliSci, Facebook @TuftsPoliticalScience, Instagram @tufťspoliticalscience, or signing up for our weekly newsletter by emailing us at PoliticalScience@Tufts.edu. And in this age of virtual lectures, most of the events where we bring speakers to campus are open to anyone who registers for the event, so feel free to hop on a Zoom and join us.

Wishing you all a healthy and peaceful 2021,

Deborah Schildkraut, Professor and Chair
Events

Though we weren't able to gather in person this semester, we used every device we could think of to access Zoom and hear from a range of guest speakers. Political Science collaborated with partners across Tufts, including Tisch College, the Fletcher School, JumboVote, Psychology, the Africana Center, the Osher Institute, the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, the Office of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and the Office of the President to welcome these guests:

Prof. Chryl Laird of Bowdoin College joined us to discuss her new book *Steadfast Democrats: How Social Forces Shape Black Political Behavior*. You can check out her comments on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Representative Joe Kennedy III addressed his run for the Senate, the challenges of campaigning during the COVID pandemic, and the possibilities for bipartisanship.

Yamiche Alcindor of the PBS News Hour talked us through the many challenges of reporting on the Trump Whitehouse.

Mayor Pete stopped by to talk about his presidential run, public service, and how to get involved in politics.

Van Jones discussed the value of being uncomfortable and the importance of joining the fight for causes you care about rather than cheering or critiquing from the sidelines.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff reflected on his political career, including his role as a manager of the impeachment of President Trump.

Constitution Day

Ever year, the Department celebrates Constitution Day with a guest speaker who can expand our understanding of that document and the nation it helped form. This year was no different. Prof. Daniel Gillion of the University of Pennsylvania spoke about the power of protest to change the country's politics and culture. It was an especially important conversation following the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd and the associated protests and backlash. Dean Glaser kicked off the event with an overview of Constitution Day, and Profs. Berry and Schildkraut introduced Prof. Gillion and posed questions about the limits and potential of what he calls "the loud minority." You can watch the entire conversation [here](#).
Local governments play a central role in American democracy, providing essential services such as policing, water, and sanitation. Moreover, Americans express great confidence in their municipal governments. But is this confidence warranted? Using big data and a representative sample of American communities, this book provides the first systematic examination of racial and class inequalities in local politics. We find that non-whites and less-affluent residents are consistent losers in local democracy. Residents of color and those with lower incomes receive less representation from local elected officials than do whites and the affluent. Additionally, they are much less likely than privileged community members to have their preferences reflected in local government policy. Contrary to the popular assumption that governments that are “closest” govern best, we find that inequalities in representation are most severe in suburbs and small towns. Typical reforms do not seem to improve the situation, and we recommend new approaches.

"Charge and Retreat: Asymmetric Patterns of Political Engagement among Liberals and Conservatives" in Dynamics of American Democracy
Profs. Deborah Schildkraut, Jeffrey Berry, & Jim Glaser

"The Myth of Global Populism" Prof. David Art
Abstract: The "rise of global populism" has become a primary metanarrative for the previous decade in advanced industrial democracies, but I argue that it is a deeply misleading one. Nativism—not populism—is the defining feature of both radical right parties in Western Europe and of radical right politicians like Donald Trump in the United States. The tide of “left-wing populism” in Europe receded quickly, as did its promise of returning power to the people through online voting and policy deliberation. The erosion of democracy in states like Hungary has not been the result of populism, but rather of the deliberate practice of competitive authoritarianism. Calling these disparate phenomena “populist” obscures their core features and mistakenly attaches normatively redeeming qualities to nativists and authoritarians.
Abstract: We ask two questions in this article: First, what is the level of public support for the pursuit of gender equality in foreign policy? Second, what are the most significant correlates of that support? We report the results of the first national opinion survey that queried citizens about their support for policies to increase global gender equality. We find that an average of 60 to 90 percent approve of pursuing gender equality and specific programmatic initiatives. Americans also strongly agree with one rationale for pursuing global gender equality: 65 percent agree that “The world would be a more peaceful place if more women were involved in making decisions.” Second, we find that a number of individual characteristics and personal values are strongly correlated with support for gender initiatives. Our results also suggest that women’s greater endorsement of universalism values explains their higher levels of support for global gender equality.
Abstract: The relationships between interest groups, political parties, and elections have always been dynamic, but in recent years change has accelerated in ways that have favored some interests over others. This chapter considers these developments as the result of a variety of factors, the most critical of which are the growth of polarization, a new legal landscape for campaign finance, and new organizational forms. The chapter goes on to suggest, that as bipartisanship has ebbed, elections have become winner-take-all affairs and interest groups are pushed to choose sides. The chapter further suggests that the rise of super PACs is especially notable as wealthy individuals have become increasingly important, single sources of campaign money, supplanting in part traditional interest groups, especially conventional PACs. It concludes that even as sums spent by super PACs and other interest groups have skyrocketed, the impact of their direct spending on persuading voters remains uncertain.
Prof. Peter Levine has been working on reform of K-12 civic education. One aspect of this work is a federally-funded project called Educating for American Democracy that is writing detailed guidance on what to teach at each grade and how to teach it. Peter is a co-leader of the project along with Danielle Allen (Harvard), Paul Carrese (Arizona State), Louise Dube (iCivics), Jane Kamensky (Harvard), and Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg (also from Tufts). Peter also serves on the steering committee of CivXNow, the main advocacy effort for civic education, on the boards of Street Law, Inc. and Discovering Justice, and on the committee that designs the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) in civics.

"Peaceful Change: The Post–Cold War Evolution" in the Oxford Handbook of Peaceful Change in International Relations (forthcoming)

Prof. Jeffrey Taliaferro

Abstract: This chapter traces the evolution of thinking about peaceful change at the systemic (or global) and regional levels during the post–Cold War era. Unipolarity, US liberal hegemony, and the acceleration of economic globalization were just some of the independent variables that scholars argued might facilitate such peaceful change. Each has yielded unintended consequences, including, but not limited to, the overreach of the United States during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and its subsequent retreat from global wars and its subsequent retreat from global leadership, the emergence of China as a peer competitor, Russia's efforts to undermine the United States and its allies through hybrid interference, and the uneven impact of globalization on the security strategies of different types of states across several regions. In sum, the effects on peaceful change at the systemic and regional levels are decidedly mixed.

Prof. Oxana Shevel was elected President of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies (AAUS) for 2019-2021 and was awarded a Research Fellowship at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) for Spring 2020 semester.
Prof. Robinson was awarded the African Politics Conference Group’s Distinguished Africanist Prize. The announcement accompanying the award read:

Dr. Pearl Robinson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, and in the International Relations and the Africana Studies Programs at Tufts University. She has had a distinguished career through the publication of influential research, mentoring undergraduate students, many of whom have gone on to become African-studies researchers in their own right and in building institutions like the APCG and the African Studies Association. She was with APCG at its founding, and has served as past president of ASA and Director of the Program in International Relations at Tufts. Dr. Robinson has co-authored two books, written numerous articles and has a documentary film *Mama Kyota!* about a Tijaniyya Sufi Muslim women’s movement in Niger. In addition to her path-breaking work on national conferences in Francophone Africa in the early 1990s, Dr. Robinson has especially contributed to our understanding of Pan-Africanism with important recent scholarship on Ralph Bunche and Randall Robinson. Of these, her nomination noted that “her essays on the 2nd wave of African protests from the 1990s were way ahead of their time, centering the contributions of marginalized groups within the protests who subsequently found themselves pushed aside during the transition period.” It was also noted that “her works on the intellectual history of African Studies and Area Studies generally have proven essential and are required reading for anyone interested in the racial divide that continues to structure knowledge production around Africa today.”

In addition to her outstanding personal scholarly contributions, her nomination letter noted that Dr. Robinson “has also been at the forefront of efforts to promote Africa’s research capacity. She has taught at multiple universities in Africa including Makerere University in Uganda. For decades she has also worked to forge linkages between Western faculty and students and their African counterparts through innovative and cutting edge pedagogical approaches. She has also consulted widely with numerous foundations that are working to promote Africa’s research capacity and has advised numerous governments around issues related to gender, democracy and higher education.” In terms of mentoring, Dr. Robinson has worked extensively with scholars in Africa and the US and in the latter she has molded many undergraduates in and toward a study of African politics. Her nomination letter noted at least three PhDs in African politics who got their start under her guidance and support. Finally, it was observed in the nomination letter and the committee wishes to emphasize the way that Dr. Robinson has “served the African studies community” and done this sometimes without due recognition, institutional support and in the face of the systemic racism and sexism of the American academic system. As her nomination letter noted, “too often, [there is a failure] to recognize the efforts of individuals like Professor Robinson, a Black woman who bravely challenged existing biases long before it became fashionable to do so.” The nomination concludes: “her work will stand the test of time and epitomizes one possible future for what our community can be. I recommend her in the highest possible terms.” The committee shares this view and has selected Dr. Robinson based on her influential research, commitment to mentoring and teaching about Africa, in Africa and with African scholars, and powerful institution-building, sometimes behind the scenes but never unappreciated.

Prof. Robinson also authored a chapter on Randall Robinson in the new volume *The Pan-African Pantheon: Prophets, Poets, and Philosophers.*
Remembering Kent Portney
By Prof. Jeffrey Berry

Kent Portney, much beloved Professor of Political Science at Tufts between 1979 and 2014, passed away this past June at the age of 69. At the time of his death Kent was Bob Bullock Professor of Public Policy and Finance at the Bush School at Texas A&M University.

Kent was a graduate of Rutgers University and received an M.A. from the University of Connecticut and a Ph.D. from Florida State University. He was hired at Tufts to teach courses in public policy, quantitative methods, and judicial politics, and he also began a research program focusing on the environment and on cities. He turned out to be a prolific and highly respected scholar, writing or editing nine books while at Tufts. His co-authored book, *The Rebirth of Urban Democracy* (Brookings, 1993), a study of citizen participation programs in five American cities, won the American Political Science Association’s Gladys Kammerer Award for the best book published that year on American politics, as well as the Urban Politics Section’s best book award. His book *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously* (MIT, 2003, 2013), became a standard work in the field.

Kent was also a talented methodologist and his experimental design program, *Crime and Punishment* (with Jerry Goldman), taught a generation of students about the biases built into the criminal justice system. It won both the Rowman & Littlefield Award for Innovative Teaching in Political Science and the American Political Science Association’s Best Instructional Software Award.

During his time at Tufts Kent was a popular teacher and he always managed to make his courses something full of laughter as well as full of learning. Maybe it was all the candy bars he gave away. He cared deeply about his students and he kept in touch with many of them over the years. He was also a leader at Tufts, serving as department chair in political science between 1993 and 1996, and he headed countless university committees. He was particularly active in building up the University’s curriculum and programming on the environment. Working with four Tufts colleagues, he received a large National Science Foundation grant which created a major interdisciplinary research and teaching program at the University on “Water Across Boundaries.”

Kent is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Marilyn Santiesteban, their son Ted (a Tufts engineering graduate) and his wife Jennie, and their daughter Alexandra (a senior at Texas A&M). A joyous celebration of Kent’s life was held in College Station, Texas this past June, and wonderful memories were shared among the many friends, family members, and colleagues who were able to attend.
Alumni Notes

We reached out to our alumni list to ask folks what they would like to share with the PoliSci Jumbo community. Here's what they said! If you would like to provide the department with your own update, please email politicalscience@tufts.edu.

**John Howard, A66**
I remember the papers that I wrote for the Political Science Department in the sixties. I have kept them over the years. Working through them at Tufts provided the basis for my current writings. I am most proud of recently winning an essay contest sponsored by the *Washington City Paper* on the subject of being a native Washingtonian. My essay was entitled "Jim Crow Washington DC." I got to read it at a book store and appeared on a morning television show.

**Edward Raymond Langlois, A70**
A 1969 story of our great political theory Professor James V. Elliott: There was a blizzard with all the roads blocked. I had an appointment with him to discuss my independent study project. I could see from my room in Hill Hall that no parking lots were plowed. I decided to venture out through the snow. There were no cars in the faculty parking lot behind the bookstore. Sure enough, he was in his office with the door open. I asked him how he could manage driving through the snow. He answered simply, "I walked in from Arlington." That was a great professor who was always there for his students, blizzards notwithstanding!

**Jack Crittenden, A71**
After 30 years of teaching political theory at Arizona State University, I am now an emeritus professor. After Tufts, I received degrees from Harvard, Oxford, and, in 2016 a diploma in "WTF" from the Electoral College, now, apparently, revoked. While in the academy, I published four books. Since then, I’ve published three more, am working on a fourth book, and in COVID isolation completed the manuscript for my first, and only, novel. Currently, my three adult sons and I are working on a joint novel, which we refer to as the Crittenden Collective Coronavirus Project (CCCP!). Contact me directly or follow me on Twitter (@jackcrit). I might follow you back!

**David F. Day, A71**
David Day is the Chairman of the Belt & Road Task Force of the American Bar Association's International Section. He is the architect for a comprehensive 7-part symposium now being undertaken by the ABA in the form of global webinars conducted at one month intervals. David designed this series of program to provide lawyers, business people, and academics with a deeper understanding of China’s Belt & Road Initiative and its serious implications for U.S. national security and the foreclosure of certain international markets for American and Western business. More information is available at [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/international_law/events_cle/china-bri-virtual-series/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/international_law/events_cle/china-bri-virtual-series/).

**Peter Gold, A72**
Peter Gold is in his fifth term as a member of Westport, Connecticut's Representative Town Meeting, its equivalent of a Town Council. He serves on the RTM Transit, Ordinance, Long Range Planning, Public Works and Employee Compensation Committees and was just appointed as Director of the Westport Transit District. The Westport Transit District provides door-to-door services for commuters to Westport’s two MetroNorth train stations as well as door-to-door services within Westport, and between Westport and neighboring towns for the elderly and people with disabilities.

**Joseph Centorino, A73**
I am currently serving as Inspector General for the City of Miami Beach, FL. Coincidentally, the current Mayor of Miami Beach is Dan Gelber, A76.

**Diana (Jacobson) Zankowsky, J74**
I’ve been married for 43 years and have two grown children. I’ve retired from a varied career, including running my own consulting business. I now teach in synagogue after-school programs, hike, garden and read a lot. I’ve lived in the San Francisco Bay Area since 1979.
After 34 years as a business attorney and commercial litigator in the Washington, D.C. area, I co-founded a cannabis technology company, Thought Leaders, Inc., in October 2018, and currently serve as its Executive Vice President and General Counsel.

Professors Dr. Jeff Berry and Dr. Frank Concord, both from different eras, were, at the time, inspiring teachers who made you think and consider all points of views. Their prep for courses showed, as many of their lectures and recommendations remain present and relevant in my thinking about the state of politics today, now unbound by rapid change, broad discontent and hopeful reinvention, globally. Thanks for your ideas on how best to seek perspective, opting to stay informed, rather than influenced.

My biggest news is that I tied the knot for the very first time in December of 2018 to Paul E. Morrissey. Paul is a surgeon at Rhode Island Hospital, and we reside in Providence, Rhode Island.

I am the chief content officer for realclearpolitics.com and host the Friday edition of the RealClearPolitics Takeaway podcast. Also I continue to produce documentaries on politics, history and economics, including two recent projects: the six-part series for FoxNation The Unauthorized History of Socialism and the feature-length documentary The Jack Kemp Playbook.


Dan Winslow has been promoted to EVP, Chief Legal Counsel & Secretary of Rimini Street, Inc., after serving six years as the company’s founding General Counsel. Rimini Street provides maintenance and support for enterprise software worldwide at discounts of 50%-90% yearly compared to software companies. Nasdaq: RMNI.

A California LCSW, SAP Currently EAP Consultant, San Francisco District, with USPS.

Political science and international affairs have continued to animate my life and work as a journalist and at work formerly at the United States Institute of Peace and both the National Security Council and the Department of State. Having remained deeply loyal to Tufts and in touch with professors over 3 decades, I am so appreciative of my time on campus and wish all of you connected with the Department to health and safety in these difficult times.

Professionally, Lisa Charles served as both a State and Federal prosecutor. Lisa is now a Fitness/Wellness Speaker and Coach and the CEO of Embrace Your Fitness and serves as the Fitness/Wellness Research Coordinator for Rutgers University–Newark’s Aging & Brain Health Alliance.

Aron Cramer marked his 25th anniversary at BSR, a global non-profit business network dedicated to sustainability, and 16th year as CEO. Amidst all of the difficulties this year, one bright spot has been strong momentum towards sustainability. And lessons from my time at Tufts have been invaluable as we have been more involved in leveraging the voice of business leaders for rule of law, racial justice and climate action.
Alumni Notes Continued

Stefani Arzonetti Hite, J84
I have just published my second book... *Leading Collective Efficacy: Powerful Stories of Achievement and Equity* (co-authored with Jenni Donohoo and available on Amazon). We share research and case studies of educators that have successfully increased their resilience and impact by focusing on the conditions that build collective efficacy. These examples are useful for any organization as the conditions have also proven successful in healthcare, crime prevention, and community organizing.

Karyn Colombo, J85
I shifted to teaching 10 years ago after 25 years in journalism. I now teach intensive reading at a Palm Beach County, Florida, high school, helping students improve their literacy skills to obtain their diploma. I’m a co-advisor for the National Honor Society and Florida Future Educators of America, and I also have advised student newspapers.

Lloyd Khaner, A86
Hey PoliSci Jumbos - I’ve been working in finance for 30 years and my PoliSci degree has never been more valuable for investing/my investment fund. Understanding how government and politics work impacts everything. Liberal Arts are practical arts. Stay safe and well, Lloyd

Joseph Musker, A86
Joe Musker is celebrating 13 years at Centene Corporation’s Washington DC office where he is Vice President of Federal Affairs.

Meri (Hanson) Levy, J87
Meri Levy is a psychotherapist in private practice in the San Francisco Bay Area. She specializes in perinatal mental health and stress-related chronic pain conditions, and is the Peer Support Chair of the California chapter of Postpartum Support International. She believes “the personal is political” and her plan is to change the world one parent at a time. She is married to an elementary school teacher and has three young adult children, one “bonus” kid, two cockatiels and two chickens.

Cathy Breen, J87
Cathy Breen (D-Cumberland County) was re-elected to her fourth term in the Maine Senate on Nov. 3rd. She serves as Senate Chair of the Appropriations & Financial Affairs Committee.

Neil Peretz, A88
These days I am focused on applying tech and process innovation to increase access to legal support. In 2016 I started Contract Wrangler, which applies machine learning to analyze business agreements. The company is growing every quarter and has booked many large clients. More recently, I co-founded Proxifile, which aims to help smaller creditors pursue repayment during the impending wave of bankruptcies. I am also advising a startup applying new technology to procuring and analyzing medical records for personal injury attorneys.

Michael Drumke, A88
I am currently serving on the American Bar Association Board of Governors. My term began in August 2019 and runs through August 2022.

Marc Jerome, A89
After graduating Tufts, I attended the University of Pennsylvania Law school earning a JD in 1992. I worked as an attorney for a few years before joining Monroe College in 1994. I became President in 2017. I spend a significant amount of time in Washington DC working on education policy, especially for low income students. The Tufts Political Science department prepared me well.
Alumni Notes Continued

Jonathan Ginsberg, A89
I am currently working as a public affairs and land use political consultant at Next Generation Strategies. My colleagues and I consult on a variety of projects, often assisting utilities, unions, municipalities, and real estate developers achieve their short and long terms goals. Much of our work takes place at the municipal level of government, including town meeting votes, city council, and referendum questions. We also consult with candidates running for public office.

Jamie Garrett, A89
2020 has been my year of giving back. I'm thrilled to be the founding board treasurer for The Justice HUB Charter School in Houston. We will be serving disengaged youth (school-to-prison, homeless, teen parents, etc.) through a modern lens - education, mental & physical health resources, job training, among others. I've also joined the board of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Houston/Galveston.

Phil Goldberg, A90
After graduating with my poly sci degree from Tufts, I moved to Washington, D.C. to get involved in politics. I was fortunate to work on Bill Clinton's presidential campaign and then Capitol Hill for a number of years. What I learned at Tufts definitely helped prepare me to enter the world of politics and policymaking.

Scott Goldstein, A90
I am an urban planner specializing in revitalizing communities. Even during COVID-19 (or perhaps because of) we are finding residents who want to get involved more than ever. I also teach urban policy at Northwestern’s MPPA program which is a lot of fun getting to know the next generation. Tufts set me on the right path and am appreciative of the broad set of skills the department provided.

Debra Moss Vollweiler, J90
I continue to serve as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and tenured Professor of Law at NSU Shepard Broad College of Law in Ft. Lauderdale. During 2020, I served as Interim Dean of the College of Law leading the college through its transition to remote learning due to the pandemic. I continue to publish in the area of curriculum, learning and education. My latest work will be published in the Pace Law Review, part of a two part series on students as consumers in higher education.

Jason Sander, A91
I am currently Founding Principal, SandCap LLC, a global real estate equity advisory firm, based in New York City. Winning the John S. Gibson International Relations Award in 1991 was a real thrill. Please feel free to get in touch with me.

Scott J. Wortman, A91
Scott J. Wortman, Esq., class of ’91, is a Florida Bar Board Certified Attorney in the areas of (i) Real Estate Law and (ii) Condominium and Planned Development Law and resides in Wellington, Florida. He can be reached at Scott@SJWLawGroup.com.

Tom Sitzmann, A91
Greetings from Annapolis, MD. Teaching prep school history and International Relations. I’ve kept in touch with (former Tufts) Professor Martin Sherwin, who has been a guest speaker in my classes.

Robert Resnick, A91
Currently working for The New York Times as Senior Manager of Talent Development. Twenty years after working part of the way towards a master's degree before life took me on another path, I started an online Learning Technologies & Design program in 2019 at the University of Missouri and plan to finish in the next year. My combination of experiences in the Poli Sci Department, the Teacher Certification Program and The Tufts Daily provided a terrific foundation for a career path that has allowed me to arrive at the place I find myself in today.
Max Finberg, A92
Inspired to work to end hunger while at Tufts, I am still at it. Currently leading Growing Hope Globally, a non-profit focused on agriculture development. Have worked with the UN’s World Food Program in Rome and in the executive and legislative branches of government in DC. Happily married to a fellow Jumbo and we have two children.

Chris Hohn, A92
I live in St. Louis, Missouri, with my wife, Dr. Catherine Hohn, and our five children. Following graduation from Tufts, I attended the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law and graduated with my J.D. in 1995. I have been an attorney at the law firm of Thompson Coburn since then, and I currently serve on the firm's Executive Committee and Management Committee. I chair the firm's Litigation Department as well. My political science degree instilled in me a life-long love of politics, and, at various points along my path in life, I have used that foundation from Tufts to run for local office, work on political campaigns, chair various political and governmental committees, etc. I was honored to be a student learning from the Tufts PoliSci lions, including Prof. Frank Colcord and Prof. Jeffrey Berry. Thanks Tufts PoliSci department for being such a major factor in my life.

Tsui Yee, J93
Tsui has been practicing immigration law since 1999, where she helps clients with securing work visas, green cards, citizenship, and other immigration benefits. She has her own immigration practice based in New York, NY and recently started her own tie-dye business, Cosmic Law Tie Dye, making custom order handmade tie-dye clothing and accessories. Follow her tie-dye exploits on Instagram at: @cosmic.law

Jason Kowal, A94
I recently helped to launch Tilliden (www.tilliden.com), a fintech/edtech hybrid whose mission is to use Participatory Budgeting to teach civics and financial literacy in high schools.

Justin Hollander, A96
Justin Hollander, A’96, Professor in the Dept of Urban and Environmental Policy published a new book, Urban Experience and Design: Contemporary Perspectives on Improving the Public Realm, co-edited with Ann Sussman, F’86: https://www.routledge.com/Urban-Experience-and-Design-Contemporary-Perspectives-on-Improving-the/Hollander-Sussman/p/book/9780367435554. The book includes contributions from a range of acclaimed scholars, architects, and urban planners. Urban Experience and Design was born at the eponymous international conference hosted at Tufts in April 2019, which was covered by a Tufts Now article at the time: https://now.tufts.edu/articles/five-big-ideas-designing-todays-cities

Sarah (Jordan) Zahn, J96
Sarah with husband Ted and 13-year old son Ben (and labradoodle Rosie!) have lived in Portland Oregon since 2008. Sarah is the Director of Development for Urban Development Partners (www.udlp.com) a private real estate development firm focused on urban infill, office, multifamily and hospitality projects.

Christopher F. Hill, A96
CAPT Christopher F. Hill, USN (BA 1996) recently completed a tour as Executive Officer on the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) and is presently the Commanding Officer of the amphibious warship USS Arlington (LPD 24).

Louis Leibowitz, A97
I have been managing my own law practice in Rockville, Maryland for nearly 10 years. My practice focuses on representing individuals and small businesses in civil, family and criminal matters.

Larisa Shambaugh, J99
Larisa Shambaugh became the Chief Talent Office for the School District of Philadelphia in September 2019, where she oversees all aspects of human resources, educator effectiveness, recruitment and staffing, and labor relations, all in support of students.
Scott Nussbaum, A99
Last year, Scott Nussbaum took on two new positions: Chief Compliance Officer at Blue Heron Research Partners - an investigative due diligence firm in New York and as a member of the Board of Directors at Bandwango, Inc - a technology company serving the travel and tourism industry based in Salt Lake City. Scott lives on Long Island with his wife, Emily (LA ’00), two daughters and a new puppy.

Jonathan Block, A99
Jonathan received an MPH with a focus on health policy from the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy.

Gregory Wall, A99
After 11 years of having the honor and privilege of working at U.S. EPA, I recently returned to private legal practice. In September, I joined the nationally-ranked environmental law practice at Hunton Andrews Kurth, practicing out of Richmond, VA and Washington, DC. I also continue to teach as an adjunct law professor at William and Mary Law School.

Jesse Lainer-Vos, J99
This year I started a podcast called *Who's Next Door*, a Los Angeles-based docu-comedy that examines neighborhood complaints posted on local social-media sites. Topics so far have ranged from the person who failed to pick up the dog poop from her sick dog to a local USPS mailbox that was targeted by mail thieves.

Christina Greer, A00
Greer has just launched a new podcast in conjunction with thegrio.com called *What's In it for Us*. This podcast will focus on national politics and Black America. She will continue to host her NYC centered podcast FAQ.NYC. Greer is currently Associate Chair of the Political Science Dept at Fordham University and can be found on various outlets discussing local, state, and national politics.

Jonathan Ladd, A00
Jonathan Ladd is an associate professor of public policy at Georgetown University. This year, with a team of 7 coauthors, he published a book with Brookings Institution Press about media coverage of the 2016 presidential election, titled *Words that Matter: How the News and Social Media Shaped the 2016 Presidential Campaign*.

Scott Pullman, A00
Scott has relocated to the Bay Area in California. He currently hires teachers for a public charter school in Richmond, CA

Andrew Freedman, A01
I live in Maryland and work in D.C. for the *Washington Post* as an editor. I cover extreme weather and climate change, and forecast weather for the local NPR affiliate. Previously I covered science for Axios. I'm married to another "Postie," Olga Massov, who is a food editor, and we have a son named Avi along with a puppy (Latke) and a cat (Forrest).

Jill Sodafsky, A01
I opened my own real estate practice in 2016 and it has been flourishing! Even in the midst of COVID, my firm has continued to grow. My focus is transactional in nature, and I represent buyers and sellers of Condos, Co-ops and Houses in the 5 boroughs of NYC, where I live as well.

Paul Ewenstein, A02
Russell Capone, A02
Earlier this year, Russell Capone was promoted from his position as Chief of the Public Corruption Unit at the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York ("SDNY") to the position of Counsel to the Acting U.S. Attorney. In that role, he is one of the SDNY’s senior executives advising the U.S. Attorney on the administration of all of its major cases and litigations.

Daniel Sinrod, A03
Daniel and Laura (Tufts 2004) live on the Upper West Side with their son Zachary and daughter Charlotte. Daniel recently returned to Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as a Counsel in the Investment Management Group after nine years as in-house counsel at Tishman Speyer.

Phillip Berenbroick, A04
I joined the House Judiciary Committee staff in 2020 as a counsel for the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law. In October 2020 the Subcommittee completed its landmark Investigation on Competition in Digital Markets and released a report of findings and recommendations for updating U.S. antitrust laws.

Duane Goodin, A05
Duane Goodin has launched Goodin Realizations, a market research-based consultancy delivering the facts and strategy you need to succeed. We work closely with your company to understand your business and your goals, and tailor research to respond to your specific business needs. We help you: build stronger, lasting relationships with your customers; deliver products and services that your customers love; and grow your brand. Our “insights for success” are your competitive advantage. We provide you with a strategy to move forward and deliver the best customer experience. Learn more at www.goodinrealizations.com.

Daniel Mandell, A05
Continuing to serve as Legal Counsel in the Office of the President of the Republic of Palau; over the summer, co-facilitated a course with the U.S. Ambassador to Palau (and Double Jumbo) for IGL students.

Randall Yee, A05
Hi Tufts Community - Since graduating from Tufts in 2005, I have continued on with my education to become an attorney. I currently work for a Boston-based real estate investment management firm as the Assistant General Counsel and have been active in various non-profits, particularly those that serve the Asian American community. I married my high school sweetheart and am a proud father of three (2 girls and a boy) living nearby in Newton, MA.

Jenna Fernandes, A06
After Tufts, I started a career in finance and then entrepreneurship. I co-created The Next Big Thing: The Game of Entrepreneuruship and then Venture University where we run an Investor Accelerator Program to help people break into Venture Capital/Private Equity. We also invest in startups through our fund, VU Venture Partners. I live in Naperville, IL with my husband, two sons (Summit who is 4 years old and Shields who is 1 year old), and two dogs.

Jessica (Simoncelli) Gershman, A06
Jessica lives in St. Louis, MO where she currently serves as the Assistant Executive Director of Planning for Metro Transit, the region’s public transportation agency. Her 3- and 5-year-old sons understandably love riding the light rail train! Metro Transit’s COVID-19 response has focused on maintaining safe and convenient travel options for essential trips across a 600-square-mile service area. Jessica would love to connect with other Jumbos in the transportation policy field.

Lara Kitain Flynn, A08
Lara Kitain Flynn serves as the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Representative for United States Senator Bob Casey based in Philadelphia.
Marc Raifman, A08
Marc is now part of Chicago's Jumbo community and working as an attorney for Legal Aid Chicago. He serves patient-clients with civil legal needs as part of Legal Aid Chicago's Medical-Legal Partnership with Cook County's hospital system and Medicaid plan.

Daniel Scarvalone, A08
Always fun to stay in touch with fellow Jumbos. 2020 was my fourth presidential election cycle since graduating Tufts (thanks Dean Solomont!). I've spent the last 5+ years as a Senior Director at Bully Pulpit Interactive, where I manage the analytics and measurement for political and brand marketing programs.

London Moore, A09
Since leaving The Hill I have found a passion for education serving as a teacher, a Principal, an NGO leader, a national and international curriculum writer, a national and international Teacher and School Leader trainer and certifier, an Adjunct Professor and now a Director of Schools for Nova Pioneer in Nairobi, Kenya. I have also just successfully defended my dissertation and will graduate with my PhD in May. My love for education and passion for serving others nationally and internationally came from my time on The Hill. I will always be proud to be a Jumbo and grateful for the path that Tufts paved the way for.

Kismet Lantos-Swett, A12
I am leaning into 2020 and doing my best to make it a great year. In January I started a 7 month Leadership for Educational Equity Policy Fellowship in the Rhode Island Department of Education. In August, I started a masters at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in education policy management and in October I welcomed my first child into the world. Come 2021, after graduation, my partner Doug and I will move to Chicago for work.

Raj Reddy, A12
Raj Reddy is a resident physician at Harvard Medical School's integrated residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital. He is working on research into postpartum insurance churn as well as care bundles to reduce severe maternal morbidity.

Roman Madaus, A14
I graduated Tufts in 2014 with my BA in International Relations. After that I got my MA in Strategic Studies at Australian National University, and since then I've worked at Booz Allen Hamilton for international and government clients. I'm very interested in the nexus of environmental policy and international security. Some are my favorite things to do are hiking, kiteboarding, and traveling.

Erica Schwartz, A17
During my time at Tufts studying PoliSci, I simultaneously earned a Bachelor of Music from New England Conservatory. Fast forward three years (and a Master's Degree in Music) later and I have just settled into my new home in Washington, D.C. as the newest member of the United States Army Band "Pershing's Own." I will be providing musical support for many of the organizations that I studied and during my classes at Tufts, including the White House, State Department, and a multitude of other military and political organizations around the D.C. area.

Josie Watson, A18
My research with the Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE) into ecological economic foundation of healthy soil agricultural reform policy led me to a soil health policy internship with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) headquarters in Rome, in 2018. Since then, I have gotten involved with state-level soil health policy and climate action plan organizing. I am now a joint degree candidate in law and environmental management at Yale School of the Environment and Vermont Law School, and am doing research into the legislative foundation for ecosystem service payments to farmers, to aid in the structuring of a statewide payment for ecosystem services (PES) program in Vermont! Lots of love to the Tufts alumni community, always happy to connect.
Alumni Notes Continued

Daniel Lewis, A20
Winno is a free App Store-featured news app that makes it easier than ever to stay up-to-date with the day's events. At Winno, we scour every major source of news to find the most important stories and bring them right to your phone without cluttering your inbox. No more newsletters. No more doom-scrolling on Twitter. Just one Winno feed with everything you need to know about what's going on in the world around you. We've just launched our first local news feeds in Washington, DC and Seattle and are looking to expand soon! If you have any feedback or suggestions or would like to learn more, you can reach me at snackbardan@gmail.com. And if you're interested, check us out on the App Store at bit.ly/winnodownload.

In Memoriam
We were saddened to hear about the loss of three members of our alumni community. Leo T. Casey, A91, passed away in May of 2019. Josh Pressman, A04, and Brian Agler, A11, died earlier this year. We send our heartfelt condolences to their families.

During the 2011 commencement ceremony, Brian delivered a funny, thoughtful, and moving address that you can still read here. He also published a short essay titled "Don't Worry" earlier this summer, and you can also read some of his other publications here and here.
For the past several months I have been honored and thrilled to be a data science associate on the Biden campaign’s 10-person data science team. Over the course of my work, I reported to Lead Data Scientist Meg Schwenzfeier and broadly assisted the management of our data science infrastructure, which was utilized by data scientists in creating models that drove campaign strategy. I was also tasked with the management of and assistance with numerous projects including reporting on potential election scenarios to guarantee campaign preparedness in the event of incorrect projections, building functional reports to inform state teams about score changes, building and overseeing the finalization of scores and models, and visualizing and conducting analysis on internal polling data and voter file data. Being on a team like this, with such dedicated, smart, kind, and caring people has only helped to further inspire my passion for politics, government, and the world of political data analytics. I am beyond proud to have been a part of this extraordinary team.

I was guided into this work by classes I took at Tufts like Political Science Research Methods with Professor Debbie Schieldkraut, Public Opinion with Professor Brian Schaffner, and Public Opinion in Foreign Policy with Professor Richard Eichenberg, which lead me to first intern and then work as a consultant at the Democratic National Committee’s Tech Team prior to my work on the campaign. I also wrote a senior honors thesis at Tufts on the optimal strategic use of data in small-scale elections under the tutelage of Professor Eitan Hersh. I could not be more thankful for their mentorship in guiding me where I am today.

Jennifer O’Malley Dillon, J98, became the first woman to run a winning Democratic presidential campaign and was featured in the Boston Globe. Read the article here.
The Peter Belfer Award

The Peter Belfer Award is given annually for the outstanding piece of written work done in a political science course or independently by a political science major. This award was established in 1973 by Mrs. Ann Belfer Goldstein in memory of her late husband, Peter Belfer, A67. We give an award for the best Senior Thesis and for the best paper written for a course or independent study.

We had two winners for the Best Thesis this year:

**Emily Kibbe**, A20, “Masculinity, Femininity and Environmental Action” (Advisors: Schildkraut and Eichenberg). This thesis examines the impact of masculine and feminine personality traits on environmental engagement. Kibbe developed a creative application of an existing theory to and understudied area. It was not just an application of a theory’s hypotheses to a new topic but a modification of those hypotheses in light of the unique insights she had about environmental politics. Ultimately, Kibbe found that masculinity and femininity both lead to increased environmental action, as expected. This was true for individual actions, like using reusable bags and composting, as well as for political actions, like contacting an elected official and protesting. She also found that femininity has a greater impact on individual actions while masculinity has a greater impact on political actions. In support of this award, one of her advisors wrote, “This thesis ranks among the very best ever completed in political science. It derives precise and important hypotheses from a body of previous theory and research, and it employs very sophisticated statistical tools to evaluate them. Finally, the prose is immaculate. A tour de force all around.”

**Alexis Tatore**, A20, “When Party Trumps All” (Advisors: Schaffner and Berry). This thesis seeks to understand whether, when, and why Republicans criticize Trump. Tatore chose to take on an ambitious task – to find and code every instance in which a Republican member of Congress criticized President Trump on Twitter and then try to understand what causes Republicans to criticize the president. One of her important findings is that when Republicans criticize Trump, it is almost always because he is diverging from the party’s issue agenda, not because of his many non-issue based transgressions. In support of this award, one of her advisors wrote, “This is the best undergraduate thesis I have ever had the pleasure of reading. Not only that, but it is better empirical and theoretical work than many of my past PhD students produced in their dissertations. It is an outstanding piece of scholarship...And I am completely confident it will be published in a good American politics journal.

On both theses, the PS awards committee wrote, “The committee concluded that both of these theses are urgently relevant. Emily's work deals with the gendered aspects of climate change activism; Alexis's examines the unification of GOP congresspeople around President Trump. Both are methodologically sound. Both are closely engaged with the relevant scholarly debates, rigorously reasoned, and beautifully written. Emily's analytical prose is particularly impressive, but equally impressive is Alexis's creative approach and painstaking work (using Twitter to track variations in the tone of GOP reps and senators, from the time of Trump’s candidacy to his impeachment). At base, both theses address the ever-important issue of political engagement, one at the level of the citizenry, the other at the elite level; and both make a contribution to the literature. In brief, both are exemplary works, and fully deserving of the Belfer Prize.”
We also had two winners for the Best Paper this year:

**Samantha Heyman, A20,** “The ‘Eternal Object of Our Pursuits’: Understanding Virtue in the *Spirit of the Laws,*” written for Political Thought of Montesquieu, taught by Prof. Vickie Sullivan. In nominating the paper, Sullivan wrote, “not only does Sam’s final paper enter into the scholarly debate quite successfully, but she actually develops her own rather distinctive interpretation of Montesquieu’s thought. This is an extremely impressive achievement for an undergraduate. [When] she discusses Montesquieu’s reference to a well-ordered constitution, she argues that his reference to combining powers must necessarily refer to powers outside of governmental ones. Neither have I ever read the passage in that way nor have other scholars made that suggestion, to my knowledge. It was a “wow” moment.” The PS awards committee was impressed by her intellectual sophistication and flawless execution and recognizes her valuable contribution to our understating of Montesquieu’s work.

**Shoshana Goldman, A20,** “Kurdish Rights in Turkey and the Long Road to Reform,” written for Turkish Foreign Policy, taught by Prof. Malik Mufti. In nominating the paper, Mufti wrote, “I found it to be a very well-written, well-organized, and smart paper that made good use of the available sources and selected some very apt quotes. Most importantly, it captures the complexity and multi-dimensionality of the Turkish-Kurdish relationship better than many published accounts, including academic ones.” Our awards committee was impressed by her sharp and systematic analysis of an extremely complex issue, and the clarity she brought to our understanding of Kurdish rights reforms in Turkey.

**The James Vance Elliott Award**

The James Vance Elliott Award is awarded in the senior year to students majoring in Political Science whose achievements best combine academic excellence with active participation and effective leadership in campus and civic affairs. The award recognizes the distinguished career of, former Chair (1956) and Professor of Political Science, James Vance Elliott.

This year, we had two winners:

**Laurel Bliss, A20,** and **Shannon Lee, A20,** who were selected for their success in their Political Science coursework, their leadership on efforts to engage and improve the Tufts community, and their civic engagement efforts in life beyond Tufts.

Please join us in congratulating all of our award winners!

**Student Publication**

Grace Fabrycky, A20, published an academic article in *The International Journal of Arts and Humanities* in November (vol. 6, no. 2). Entitled “Climate and Slavery in the *Spirit of the Laws*: Reflections on Books 14 and 15,” the article grew out of a project Grace completed as a Shea Scholar in political theory in the summer of 2019 under the supervision of Professor Vickie Sullivan. Grace’s interest in the political thought of Montesquieu developed from an advanced seminar she took on the topic during her junior year. Grace is spending this academic year serving as a teaching assistant in Western Political Thought I and II under the supervision of Professors Ioannis Evrigenis and Robert Devigne.
Congratulations and great work to Josh Hochberg, A22; Aadhya Shivakumar, A22; José Manuel Martínez, A22; Zachary Lorico Hertz, A19; Brendan Hartnett, A23; Lucas Pyle, A21; Kathleen Lanzilla, A21; Emma Della Volpe, A21; Bennett Fleming-Wood, A21; Emma Winey, A22; Benjamin Auerbach, A21; Alexandra Haver, A21; Ryan Shaffer, A21; and Yonatan "Tuna" Margalit, A22.

Students in Prof. Brian Schaffner's "Polling and the 2020 Election" course conducted a nationwide survey of 1,214 likely voters in the weeks leading up to the Nov. 5 election. Their questions probed voters' views of race, gender, and voting method, as well as their preference in the presidential race. Their full results, which you can read along with their analysis here, were even included in the New York Times and FiveThirtyEight poll trackers.

We would also like to congratulate our recent graduate, Anna Weissman, A17, who won the Penniman Scholarship for Graduate Study from Pi Sigma Alpha. Anna started a PhD program at UC Berkeley this semester. She joins the ranks of Alexander Trubowitz, A17, Will Freeman, A16, Kumar Ramanathan, A15, and Timothy Ryan, A06, all Tufts alums who have won this award in the past.

Polling the 2020 Election
**Political Science Research Grant**

Earlier this semester, Daniel Ndirangu, A21, became the first student to receive the Department’s new Political Science Research Grant. He is using the funds to work with Prof. Pearl Robinson on her intellectual history of Ralph Bunche, a UN diplomat and winner of the 1950 Nobel Prize for negotiating armistice agreements between the State of Israel and four Arab nations. Bunche was both the first Black person to receive a doctoral degree in political science and the first to win a Nobel Prize, but his intellectual contributions to political science and international relations have been largely understudied—until now.

The project requires extensive archival research. Prof. Robinson has already visited 15 archives in the United States and the United Kingdom, photographed thousands of pages of text, and taken countless pages of notes. Now, Daniel will help create an annotated digital archive of all those materials. Using Zotero, a bibliographic management software, and other digital organizing tools, he is consolidating and organizing all that material into a more manageable format.

Working with Prof. Robinson has been a formative experience for Daniel, who is now a senior. The two began working together at the end of Daniel’s first year at Tufts, and he’s taken inspiration from Prof. Robinson’s infectious excitement about her research. “By going through these projects,” he says, “I have started developing research projects of my own.” Indeed, Daniel is now working on an honors thesis about political and economic integration in East Africa. As Daniel, who is currently applying to graduate school to continue his work on East Africa, says, “Research is probably the most defining experience of my undergraduate career. It has shaped my academic interest and my professional interests.”

The Department is looking forward to expanding the Research Grant program in coming years to continue supporting students who are particularly interested in taking on research projects like Daniel’s.
Closing Note
By Prof. Deborah Schildkraut

This has truly been a year unlike any other. As you can probably imagine, things have been very different on campus due to COVID-19. The quad is much emptier than usual, even between classes, and only a few faculty members—and fewer students—spend time in Packard Hall. Our professors had to reinvent their courses, which has been overwhelming at times but has also created opportunities for innovation; some of us have developed new teaching practices that will probably stay with us long after the pandemic has passed. Beyond the pandemic, we’ve also taken part in the difficult but important national conversation about racial injustice. A new course provided students with a way to examine the issue directly, and the department is engaging in efforts to make our discipline more inclusive. On top of all that, the recent election only heightened the air of uncertainty among students and faculty alike.

Of course, this has all affected each of us differently. Some of us may be coping with increased anxiety, and others may be facing great economic hardship brought on by the pandemic. We know that our students, alumni, and larger community are each grappling with many challenges.

With that in mind, if you would like to help support the Political Science Department, consider using this link to make a donation. Contributions help us host events, bring in guest speakers, and provide research support for students like Daniel Ndirangu. We greatly appreciate contributions of any size, but also understand that not everyone may be able to do so. Thank you for your consideration!

Post Script
Finally, the Political Science staff would like to thank our exceptional Professor & Chair, Deborah Schildkraut, who is also an alum—J95! She has dedicated so much of her time supporting us throughout this extremely challenging year and we cannot thank her enough.