



## Chair's Welcome

**Dr. Harvey Palmer**

I am very pleased to introduce the third annual issue of "The Pulse" Newsletter of the UB Department of Political Science. Under the editorship of Professor Munroe Eagles, the Newsletter was prepared to provide our alumni, students, and friends with a summary of the Department's recent and upcoming activities. It also includes announcements about the accomplishments of our faculty, students, and alumni during the past year.

Political Science had a productive year – adding two experienced professors to our faculty and being actively involved in College-led efforts to increase graduate enrollment and to implement the newly designed General Education program, which will go into effect in Fall 2016. The Department hired Drs. Elena McLean and Antoine Yoshinaka. Dr. McLean comes to UB from Texas A&M University, where she had been an Assistant Professor for seven years. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Rochester and will teach courses in comparative politics and international relations. Elena's research primarily investigates the economic relations among countries and how these influence international politics.

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Dr. Yoshinaka will join UB as an Associate Professor. He previously taught at American University and before that at the University of California at Riverside. Antoine will teach courses in American and comparative politics and his research studies how electoral rules shape political behavior. He has forthcoming books on party switching and partisan polarization in the U.S. Congress. The Department is very excited about Elena and Antoine joining us this fall, as we unfortunately also had to say goodbye to a well-trained colleague, Professor Carlisle Rainey, who left UB for a teaching position at Texas A&M University.

While the Newsletter details many of our faculty members' achievements below, I want to highlight those of two of my colleagues who received national recognition for their research. Professor Claude Welch received two prestigious career awards last year, being named the 2015 recipient of the International Studies Association Lifetime Achievement Award and the 2014 recipient of the American Political Science Association Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Field of Human Rights. While Dr. Welch was recognized for a research program spanning several decades, Professor Rachael Hinkle was recognized for her great promise as a young scholar, being named the 2014 recipient of the American Political Science Association Edwin Corwin Award for the best dissertation in the field of Public Law. Rachael realized some of that promise later in the year by having two solo-authored articles published in two of the most highly cited journals in Political Science!

We are also very proud of the more than 100 undergraduate students who graduated as Political Science majors during the past year! Some of those students are mentioned in newsletter items below, but their accomplishments as a whole far exceed what is documented here. Congratulations in particular to Jessica Yarnes for being this year's Outstanding Student and to Sam Maslow for winning the Robert Stern Prize for the best paper written by an undergraduate student.

Reflecting on the high points of our busy year, I want to thank several people for their contributions to the Department, for which I am very grateful. The College of Arts & Sciences recently established a College Ambassadors program to assist with alumni relations, and two of our undergraduate majors, O'Brien Welsh

and Adam Singh, both performed admirably in this role. Additionally, I want to thank three of our alumni, Allan Gerson, Scott Slesinger, and Mark Weiner, who volunteered their time to visit an undergraduate class and discuss their real world experiences with our students. Mr. Gerson as the Chairman of AG International Law shared his expertise on international law and anti-terrorism policy. Similarly, Mr. Slesinger as an environmental lawyer based in Washington DC and Mr. Weiner in advocating for the interests of older Americans as the President and CEO of CJE Senior Life, provided our students with insights into how federal regulation and government policy-making work in action.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has kept in touch and supported the Department over the years! Donations from alumni and friends allow us to do more for our students outside of the classroom. In this regard, I want to extend my warmest thanks to one of the alumni of our Bachelors program, Paul Nussbaum, who has endowed a new undergraduate scholarship to help disadvantaged students, with a preference for those who are first-generation college students studying Political Science. Paul is the founder and CEO of Patriot American Hospitality and was the 2014 recipient of the Department's Distinguished Alumni Award.

The Department continues to grow our alumni network and hopes to strengthen ties with alumni and friends going forward, involving them more in our service and teaching activities and long-term planning. Feel free to stop by the Political Science Department if you are in town or to email me at [hpalmer@buffalo.edu](mailto:hpalmer@buffalo.edu) with information and updates. Political Science is located in Park Hall with the main office on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and faculty offices divided between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors. Also please visit our website and "like" our Facebook page "UB Department of Political Science" where Political Science announcements are posted more regularly. I wish you the best in the upcoming year!

Best regards,



## Claude Welch wins lifetime achievement award for work in human rights field

Welch to receive lifetime achievement award  
Claude Welch's colleagues around the world call him a pioneer in the study of human rights within the field of political science.



Photo: Douglas Levere

SUE WUETCHER, *The Reporter*, Published August 28, 2014

“(Claude Welch's) focus on human rights, and in particular human rights in Africa, reflects his personal commitment to trying to make the world a better place.” David Forsythe, Emeritus Charles J. Mach Distinguished Professor of Political Science University of Nebraska The study of human rights within the field of political science was still in its infancy when UB faculty member Claude Welch turned his research focus from the military and politics in Africa to human rights in the continent.

Now, more than 30 years later, Welch's colleagues call him a “pioneer” and “one of the founders of the field.” With accolades such as these rolling in from prominent scholars around the world, it's no wonder that Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Political Science, has been selected to receive the 2014 Distinguished Scholar Award from the Human Rights Organized Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA). Welch will receive the award, which recognizes an individual who has worked in the field of human rights and has made “an

exceptional contribution to the field through research, teaching and mentorship,” this weekend during the APSA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Distinguished Scholar Award is a lifetime achievement award, explains Richard P. Hiskes, professor of political science at Grand Valley State University and president of the human rights section of the APSA. “This is an award given to only a handful of prominent scholars in the field of human rights, and is awarded on the basis of a body of work that few have achieved within the discipline of political science as a whole,” Hiskes says. “Professor Welch is truly one of the founders of the field of human rights within the profession of political science. His books on human rights in Africa, Asia and Canada; his focus on economic rights in Canada and elsewhere; and his work on the role of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in human rights activism have been foundational scholarly contributions,” he says. “As a scholar, teacher and servant to the field of human rights, Professor Welch has distinguished himself as a more than deserving recipient of this prestigious award.”

David P. Forsythe, Emeritus Charles J. Mach Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of Nebraska, agrees. “For some 40 years, Claude Welch has made important contributions to our understanding of politics and society,” Forsythe notes. “He has been especially insightful about human rights nongovernmental organizations. “If one looks at the corpus of his scholarship over time, one sees not only great productivity in terms of books, chapters and articles published, but also a determined effort to keep the academic spotlight on what happens to individuals in the context of political struggles. His focus on human rights, and in particular human rights in Africa, reflects his personal commitment to trying to make the world a better place,” Forsythe says.

In her letter to the APSA nominating Welch for the award — which was supported by Forsythe and political scientists Mahmood Monshipouri and Susan Dicklitch — Rhoda E. Howard-Hassmann calls Welch “a pioneer in the study of human rights in Africa.” “Throughout his career,” notes Howard-Hassmann, Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario,

Welch “has identified important new issues and conducted original field research, often in politically sensitive areas and on politically sensitive topics that others might think impossible to research.”

A UB faculty member since 1964, Welch co-founded, with the late UB law school professor Virginia Leary, the UB Human Rights Center in the late 1980s. He was a member of the advisory committee for the Africa Division of Human Rights Watch from 1989-2009. His most recent work involves the effectiveness of human rights nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). He already has published four books on this topic — “Human Rights in Asia” (1990), “Protecting Human Rights in Africa: Strategies and Roles of Non-Governmental Organizations” (1995), “NGOs and Human Rights: Promise and Performance” (2001) and “Economic and Social Rights in Canada and the United States” (2006) — and currently is working on a fifth. That new book, “Protecting Human Rights Globally: Strategies and Roles of International NGOs,” focuses on the impact of such INGOs as Anti-Slavery, the World Council of Churches and the Coalition for an International Criminal Court on major human rights issue, notably modern-day forms of slavery, racism, discrimination based on descent and impunity from prosecution for major human rights abuses.

All told, Welch has published 14 books and nearly 40 book chapters and articles in academic journals. He received the first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award given in 2006 by TIAA-CREF and the SUNY Research Foundation “to recognize individuals who embody the true spirit of the financial services company’s mission: serving those who serve others for the greater good.” He received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1974 and is a three-time recipient of both the Milton Plesur Award for teaching excellence from the UB undergraduate Student Association and the Lisa Hertel Award for outstanding professor from the Undergraduate Student Association in the Department of Political Science. - See more at: [http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/spotlight.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2014/August/welch\\_apsa\\_award](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/spotlight.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2014/August/welch_apsa_award)

## Public Impact: UB Political Lynn Mather’s Article has Stood the Test of Time

By ILENE FLEISCHMANN (Published May 29, 2014)

Jimmy Carter was still president when Lynn Mather’s article “Language, Audience and the Transformation of Disputes” (co-authored with anthropologist Barbara Yngvesson) was published in the journal *Law and Society Review* (Vol. 15, Issue 3-4). That 1980 article by Mather, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in the UB Law School, has now been cited by the American Political Science Association as this year’s winner of the Law and Courts Lasting Contribution Award, given annually for a book or journal article, 10 years old or older, that has made a lasting impression on the field of law and courts. The award will be formally presented in August at the annual meeting of the Association’s Law and Courts Section.

The 47-page article develops an analytic framework for studying the transformation of disputes across a range of social, political and economic settings. By focusing on the language that participants use in negotiating the meaning of a dispute, the article links processes of rephrasing, narrowing and expansion to transformations of the broader normative and political order. Expansion of disputes, for example, is shown to be a mechanism through which new rules may emerge in the legal process and through which social change is linked to legal change. Mather is co-authoring a chapter to further develop the concept for the forthcoming edition of the “International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences.”

Mather joined the UB faculty in 2002 as a professor of law and political science, and director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy. A leading scholar in the field of law and society, she has published extensively on lawyers, legal professionalism, women in the legal profession, courts in popular culture, litigation against tobacco, trial courts and public policy, divorce mediation, plea bargaining and the transformation of disputes. Her most recent books are *Lawyers in Practice: Ethical Decision Making in Context* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), co-edited with

Leslie C. Levin, and *Private Lawyers and the Public Interest: The Evolving Role of Pro Bono in the Legal Profession* (Oxford University Press, 2009), co-edited with UB sociologist Robert Granfield. A former president (2001-02) of the international Law and Society Association, she continues to remain active in the multidisciplinary, scholarly association, contributing to its intellectual pursuits and mentoring younger colleagues in the field.

[http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/spotlight.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2014/May/mather\\_article.detail.html?utm\\_source=UB+Reporter%2C+University+at+Buffalo+List&utm\\_campaign=cdedc4c62e-UB+Reporter+05+29+2014&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_4767d5c470-cdedc4c62e-63071597](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/spotlight.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2014/May/mather_article.detail.html?utm_source=UB+Reporter%2C+University+at+Buffalo+List&utm_campaign=cdedc4c62e-UB+Reporter+05+29+2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4767d5c470-cdedc4c62e-63071597)

(accessed 6/1/2014)

## **From Midwest To Middle East: UB Political Science Alum Denise DeGarmo Explores the Sovereignty of Larger States over Smaller Ones**



Dr. Denise DeGarmo (BA, 1992; PhD, Michigan, 2001), Associate Professor and Department Chair of Political Science, and Coordinator of the Peace & International Studies Minor at the Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE), has always been interested in how national security interests lead to regional consequences. Early research, for instance, led her to ask how federal nuclear plants and U.S. policy led to negative health and environmental effects for Midwest communities. Recently, however, her focus has shifted to the Middle East. This change occurred in 2011 after she received sponsorship from the Palestinian

American Research Center (PARC) in Washington, D.C. to travel to the occupied Palestinian territories. Since that time, Palestinian politics has become a central aspect of her research agenda.

DeGarmo received an SIUE STEP research grant in 2013 to conduct a project that would unfold into multiple opportunities. These opportunities first manifested during several trips that led DeGarmo to Israel and the West Bank, Palestine, where she met several Palestinian scholars known for their work on Israeli-Palestinian security issues, especially those associated with the creation of a sovereign state. With the help of her Palestinian colleagues, DeGarmo produced an analysis of how nations obtain autonomy. Her research, she said, “focused on issues surrounding the construction of external security mechanisms necessary to bring about a stable and independent Palestinian state.” Although the new project continued DeGarmo’s work in the area of security, she was now exploring creative possibilities for new measures that would aid the emergence of a new state.

Impressed by her work, The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ), a non-governmental organization located in the West Bank, invited her to serve as a research associate with the Institute. With its interest in natural resource management, water management, sustainable agriculture, and political dynamics of development in Palestine, ARIJ represents similar concerns to DeGarmo’s early focus on U.S. nuclear waste disposal. “This long-term collaboration promises many interesting projects in the years to come,” DeGarmo said.

In December 2013, using SIUE’s Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URCA) program, DeGarmo found students with an interest in learning how to collect and analyze data who would help her in completing the research project. With these three student researchers, Charmaine Burrus, Rob Wann and Tyler Urish, as well as fellow University of SIUE Associate Professor Dr. Laurie Rice, DeGarmo travelled to the West Bank to conduct fieldwork. “This experience,” DeGarmo said, “provided a unique opportunity for students to travel throughout the West Bank, while gaining valuable experience on the ground.”

Bolstered by these experiences, DeGarmo said, “The fruits of my research are just beginning to unfold.” One example of such benefits is the book chapter “Liberation Hip- Hop: Palestinian Hip-Hop and Peaceful Resistance” that she and Dr. E. Duff Wrobbel, associate professor of applied communication studies, have contributed to the book, “Organic Globalize: Hip Hop, Development and Movement Culture,” published by Bloomsbury Press.

In addition, DeGarmo’s was invited by the American Political Science Association/Middle East and North Africa Workshop series to deliver talks in Amman, Jordan and Beirut, Lebanon on her proposed topic, “Cross National Variations in Challenges to Old Regimes during the Early Stages of the Arab Spring Movements.” “The purpose of this workshop” she said, “is to support early-career scholars from the Middle East in publishing their research and to build networks between these scholars and their colleagues in the US/Europe.”

Source: <http://www.siu.edu/research/feature-4.shtml> (accessed 2/12/2015). Used with permission.

## 'Trump's authenticity making him popular, UB political scientist says'

By *RACHEL STERN*

Published August 6, 2015



“He’s politically incorrect, disrespectful and odd, but he is authentic. Not exactly a breath of fresh air, but at least a breath of air.” James Campbell, UB Distinguished Professor Department of Political Science.

Donald Trump is the chief nonpolitician among Republican presidential contenders and, so far, that has helped him gain popularity in the polls, says UB political scientist James Campbell.

“He is authentic,” says Campbell, a nationally known political forecaster and UB Distinguished Professor of Political Science. “Sometimes an authentic oddball but, nonetheless, authentic. In an era in which candidates seem so overly processed — when so many speak without saying anything — Trump is the real deal.

“He’s politically incorrect, disrespectful and odd, but he is authentic. Not exactly a breath of fresh air, but at least a breath of air.”

Hillary Clinton, the leading Democratic candidate, is the opposite, Campbell says. She is slipping in popularity because she seems to be so programmed, appearing more like a robot than a leader, he says.

But Trump’s campaign style will come back to haunt him as the Republican nomination process moves forward, Campbell predicts. Trump is “extremely unlikely to be the Republican nominee,” he adds, because the party establishment is convinced he doesn’t have the experience or temperament to be an effective candidate or an effective president.

“He says what he thinks and it seems as though he often does not think it through very carefully or thoroughly. I’m not sure he has thought ahead very far,” Campbell says. “If he were somehow able to secure the Republican nomination, he would have to unite the other candidates and Republican leaders whom he has been busy calling names and otherwise denigrating.”

Campbell says it is not out of the question that Trump may run as an independent candidate if he fails to earn the Republican nomination. With the first Republican debate scheduled for today, the big question is how Trump will conduct himself, Campbell says.

“These debates ought to be about which conservative Republican is best able to defeat Hillary Clinton in the general election, but Trump, to this point, has derailed that,” he says. “The million-dollar question is whether he will respect Reagan’s 11th commandment and not speak ill of other Republicans and whether other Republican hopefuls will do the same.”

Source: *The Reporter*, Thursday, August 6, 2015

## ***Introducing the Albright-Knox Art Gallery’s Innovation Lab***

**By Russell Davidson (BA, 2001)**



Russell Davidson (BA, 2001)

Seven months ago I had the privilege to join the staff of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, a Western New York institution with a highly regarded global stature. I currently serve as the Manager of the Innovation Lab and Special Projects. The Innovation Lab is a very unique department for a museum of any kind. The Lab strives to define new models for museums in the 21st Century as productive and engaged creative hubs at the center of social and civic vitality, serving as a

catalyst for creativity and innovation regarding pressing issues in museums and contemporary society. As the Manager of Special Projects, I am involved in the AK’s efforts to engage all facets of the community at this critical time, as we determine our course for campus development and growth.

One of the first projects for the Innovation Lab is a large scale study concerning the landscape of visual arts education in Western New York. It is generally understood that arts education funding has been cut significantly throughout the nation, and we also know these cuts have not been uniform. They vary from community to community and across socio-economic divisions. What we do not know is exactly what this means for the teachers in the classroom and to the key decision makers leading the schools. We are working with professors from UB’s Department of Sociology, Dr. Robert Adelman, Dr. Shelley Kimelberg, and Dr. Bob Wagmiller, and two graduate students, Watoii Rabii and Joanne Tompkins, to assist us in drafting and administering surveys, and with compiling their results. The surveys will go out to all of the art teachers in WNY, in addition to all of the principals, district superintendents, and curriculum coordinators. Ultimately, this project will result in a comprehensive study that will not only provide information for the Albright-Knox and our Education Department, but also for policy makers, community leaders, and key decision makers in education.

## **Interview with PSC graduate Aaron Krolkowski (BA, 2009) – Founder of Tool Library in Buffalo**

**Interview by Jennifer White (PR and Marketing Associate at BCS)**

**Jen: Can you give us a quick background of yourself?**

Aaron: I was born in South Buffalo and grew up on the border of ski country and the Southtowns in Glenwood. I’m one of five kids and had to learn about

the value of sharing and cooperation from an early age. I moved to Europe in 2009 for my grad school and to pursue a PhD, but moved back to Buffalo and into University Heights a little over a year ago. Life in Europe was great because I didn't have a car, I lost a ton of weight, and I really learned how to use public transit. When I moved back I wanted to see if I could live without owning a car. It's been working out pretty well so far.



**Jen: Tell us a little about your education and your job, what you do at the Tool Library.**

Aaron: I studied political science and environmental studies at UB as an undergrad. After my time in the SUNY system, I was fortunate to win a Clarendon Scholarship for grad school. I was at the University of Oxford for a while, where I completed a Masters Degree in Development Studies and a PhD in Geography. This period of my life took me to a lot of very different places, where I was able to observe and learn how different cities valued cars, public transit, bicycling, and walking. I visited and/or lived in the UK, Tanzania, Germany, Denmark, Portugal, Turkey, Kenya, Qatar, and Austria (to name a few). Everywhere I went, I was thinking "What can Buffalo learn from this?" After moving back to the region, I started a job as Director of Research and Public Policy with United Way of Buffalo & Erie County. Outside of work, I spend a lot of time working with the University Heights Tool Library, where I help staff the tool lending library and organize service events and activities that support community change.

**Jen: Please tell us about how the Tool Library helps the University Heights Community?**

Aaron: The University Heights Tool Library (UHTL) is a community service of the University Heights Collaborative (that's the umbrella organization that



supports the work of the block clubs, the farmer's market, the garden walk, etc). It's a tool lending library and is similar to a public library, but instead of lending out books, people can take out hammers, saws, and lawn mowers. We provide students, renters, homeowners, and others with the tools they need to work on their homes, parks, and other public spaces. The UHTL has also been active in providing service opportunities for UB students and residents to work side by side on neighborhood improvement. Last year we worked on tree plantings, park cleanups, graffiti removal, and street art in the neighborhood.

**Jen: How can people get involved with the UHTL?**

Aaron: If you're interested in volunteering, you can go to our volunteer page. If you're interested in becoming a member, you can go to membership page. It's a \$10 annual membership fee, and you need a piece of mail to verify residency, a photo ID, and two references.

**Jen: Why did you decide to become a CarShare member and what do you use it for?**



Aaron: I decided to become a CarShare member when I moved back, but wasn't able to enroll until this winter. When I started my job with United Way, I wanted to make sure I had transportation to the

suburbs if I needed it. As I mentioned, I do most of my traveling via bike, bus, and train—Buffalo CarShare is the best complement to that. I have access to a car whenever I need one, but I don't have to worry about insurance, gas, maintenance, or payments. I save a significant amount of money that way. Beyond the occasional job-related travel, I typically use CarShare to get to my grandparents' home in West Seneca for Sunday dinners.

**Jen: What do you for fun!?**

Aaron: When the weather is nice, Buffalo is synonymous with fun. There is never a lack of activity when the sun is shining and Olmsted's parkways are calling me and my bike. In the winter, I've been spending a lot of time at some of the newer haunts around the city: The Lobby Bar at the Statler, Blue Monk Gypsy Parlor, Providence Social, Shango, etc. Beyond these, I think I'm like many other Buffalonians my age...I spend a \*lot\* of time exploring the area, finding old buildings, churches, industrial sites. There are some really incredible things that seem to have been lost to history.

Posted by [Buffalo CarShare](#) at [4:46 PM](#)

<http://buffalocarshare.blogspot.com/2014/03/superstar-member-of-monthaaron.html> (accessed 2/24/2015)

## Political Science Department's College of Arts & Sciences Student Ambassadors – 2014- 2015

The College Ambassadors are a group of undergraduate students pursuing a major within the College of Arts and Sciences who have excelled academically and are involved in campus and community groups. These student volunteers are nominated by faculty and staff to represent the College at a variety of university-sponsored events. Ambassadors serve as liaisons between the Dean's

Office and the student body and provide insights and information to prospective students and their parents at events such as Open House. Throughout the year, Ambassadors receive unique professional development opportunities, including leadership training, access to community engagement activities, and networking events with faculty and alumni.

Student Ambassadors must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in this program:

- Undergraduate student pursuing a major within the College of Arts and Sciences
- A least one year of completed study at the University at Buffalo
- At least one year remaining to serve as an Ambassador
- A minimum GPA of 3.0
- Involvement in campus or community groups/activities
- Strong communication and leadership skills

Here are our Department of Political Science 2014-2015 College of Arts & Sciences Student Ambassadors:



**Kerry McPhee**

**Majors:** Political Science and Global Gender Studies

**Campus/Community Involvement:** Resident Advisor in Greiner Hall, Co-Founder of UB Girl Effect Club, Basketball Intramural Referee at Alumni Arena, Member of Amnesty International

**Fun Fact:** I love to do yoga on the weekends!

**Advice for New Students:** College is a time where you can truly become the person you want to be in life, so get involved, stay positive and make connections!



**Adam Singh**

**Majors:** Spanish, Political Science, and Media Studies, as well as the Game Studies certificate granting program

**Campus/Community Involvement:** Chapter Coordinator for the UB chapter of the Citizen Media Evidence Partnership, Peer Mentor for Freshmen in UB 101

**Fun Fact:** I can play three instruments – the French Horn, Piano, and Mellophone, and would like to one day learn how to play the guitar.

**Why UB?** I really like UB because I can major in three completely distinct programs. The ability to study in varied disciplines wouldn't even be possible at a smaller school, and I'm extremely proud that UB allows me to do so. Above all else, UB has allowed me to explore every possible option so that when I graduate after four years of study, I'll be ready to continue on to the next chapter of my life.



**O'Brien Welsh**

**Majors:** Political Science and History

**Campus/Community Involvement:** UB's Advanced Honors College, Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law professional fraternity, Tutor in the Academic Resource Center, Volunteer for different charities in Buffalo

**Fun fact:** I was born on the island of Jamaica!

**Advice for New Students:** You can have a social life as well as accomplish all of your academic goals. Prioritize then execute! That's my motto.

## Meet Our Newest Department Members

### 1) Jacob Neiheisel

I grew up outside of Youngstown, Ohio (so I'm a fan of old industrial towns) and received my bachelor's degree from Denison University in Ohio before going on to pursue graduate work in political science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I earned both my M.A. and Ph.D. at UW-Madison. I study American politics with a focus on political behavior. My work addresses such diverse topics as: religion and politics, political communication, election administration, and political parties. I draw upon an equally diverse set of tools in my research, applying both experimental and observational approaches to the study of American politics. Before coming to join UB's department in the fall of 2014 I spent the 2013-2014 academic year as a visiting assistant professor of political science at my undergraduate alma mater. Buffalo is a great place to live and work, and I simply could not have asked for a more supportive group of colleagues than I found in the department here at the UB. I'm excited to be here and am looking forward to exploring what Buffalo has to offer. As a part owner of the Green Bay Packers (I own a single share of Packers stock) I am afraid that I can't in good conscience root for the Bills, but I'm coming around to the idea of becoming a Sabres fan.

## 2) Rachael Hinkle

My research agenda focuses on judicial politics with particular attention to glean insights into legal development from the content of judicial opinions through the use of computational text analytic techniques. I completed my Ph.D in Political Science at Washington University in St. Louis in 2013. Before beginning my doctoral studies I earned my B.A. in History from Huntington University, my J.D. from Ohio Northern University, and a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Toledo. After earning my J.D., I completed two judicial clerkships in federal courts. I clerked for Judge Robert C. Broomfield in the District of Arizona and Judge David W. McKeague in the Sixth Circuit. Moving to Buffalo made New York the eighth state I have lived in, but the climate (both social and meteorological) reminds me of Northern Illinois where I grew up. It did not take very long for Buffalo to begin feeling like home.



**Rachael Hinkle receiving the “Edward S. Corwin Award” for the best dissertation in the field of Public Law from her doctoral adviser at Washington University, Professor Jim Spriggs.**

## Crowded GOP Field Could Benefit Front-Runner According to UB Political Scientist James C. Campbell



By Rachael Stern (*The Reporter*)

“With a big field, I think what could be decisive is how quickly the field thins out.” James Campbell, UB Distinguished Professor Department of Political Science There will be close to 20 Republican candidates in the presidential primary race, and that could actually help the front-runner, according to UB political scientist James Campbell. “With a big field, I think what could be decisive is how quickly the field thins out,” says Campbell, UB Distinguished Professor in the Department of Political Science. “Whoever establishes some early advantage — probably Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio or Scott Walker — is likely to benefit from the field staying crowded longer.” Campbell, a nationally known political forecaster, says a big field makes the campaign less volatile. It prevents strong opposition to the front-runner from forming around one single candidate — instead, support will spread thin around several other candidates. But the large field has created a challenge for the Republican debates. Both Fox News and CNN have announced they will limit the first two major debates to candidates who rank in the top 10 in national polls. “I hate to see deserving and accomplished candidates locked out of the debates at the campaign’s beginning by some arbitrary inclusion rules,” Campbell says. “There might not be a statistically significant poll difference between being 10th and being 11th. Being

shut out of a debate is pretty devastating for a candidate.”

[http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/research/news/ho st.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2015/06/campbell\\_crowded\\_GOP.detail.html?utm\\_source=UB+Reporter%2C+University+at+Buffalo+List&utm\\_campaign=3a8b80eab2-This\\_Week\\_UB\\_06\\_22\\_2015&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_4767d5c470-3a8b80eab2-63081657](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/research/news/ho st.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2015/06/campbell_crowded_GOP.detail.html?utm_source=UB+Reporter%2C+University+at+Buffalo+List&utm_campaign=3a8b80eab2-This_Week_UB_06_22_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4767d5c470-3a8b80eab2-63081657)

Published June 19, 2015



Dylan McLean (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) after successfully defending his doctoral dissertation “Gun Test: Evaluating Theoretical Explanations for Canada-U.S. Political Differences Through the Lens of the Politics of Gun Control”, with committee members Chuck Lamb (L), Munroe Eagles (chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right; and Harvey Palmer<sup>®</sup>, July 27, 2015. Dylan has taken up a 5-year renewable position in the Department of Political Science at the University of West Georgia. Dylan also published an article based on his dissertation research project: “Guns in Anglo-American Democracies: Explaining an American Exception,” *Journal of Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*, 2015.

## Political Science Student Proposes a petition website for UB students

03/12/15 5:53pm | By MARLEE TUSKES



By Wenyi Yang / *The Spectrum*

Madelaine Britt, a junior political science major and Student Association Assembly member, presents her idea for a website that would allow UB students to create petitions concerning issues they see at UB at an SA Assembly meeting Wednesday night.

More than 2,900 signatures on an online petition in February helped make UB change how it alerts students about busing delays in bad weather. Now, UB students could have their own platform to petition for changes at the university.

Madelaine Britt\*, a junior political science major and Student Association Assembly member, advocated at an SA Assembly meeting Wednesday night in the Student Union for a website that would allow UB students to create petitions strictly concerning issues and policies at the university.

“It gives students the ability to be involved in administration,” Britt said at the meeting.

The website is currently in the design process and both Britt and SA Assembly Speaker Melissa Kathan agreed, the main issue with the site is funding. The assembly will need to vote at a later meeting to approve the financing of the site.

They currently have a \$200 line and if they don't use the money, it returns to the general SA fund.

Britt said the website template they hope will host the potential website would cost \$60 the first year and \$120 for the second. Kathan said this would pose an issue because the budget changes yearly and it would not be guaranteed the \$120 owed for the website would be available.

The website would strengthen the link between the student body's concerns and the student government's ability to fix the issues, Britt said.

After a petition reaches 100 signatures, the issue would be brought to the SA Senate or Assembly to consider. After SA reviews the petition, it would bring it before UB administration to review in hopes of changes accommodating what the students are petitioning for.

Joe Jessee, a senior biomedical sciences major, created an online petition in February on Change.org for UB to improve its communication with students about bus delays during winter storms. Less than a week later, UB changed its text message alert system to include Stampede delays.

Britt said the petition website would also allow students to announce on-campus scheduled protests to get word out and see if there was student interest in the protest topic, like a calendar.

The calendar would then notify students "this is what the protest is, this is where it's at," she said. This way, students are not only alerted of potential protests they may be interested in, but the person organizing the protest would also be able to see how many people are interested in participating, according to Britt.

Some SA Assembly members voiced concerns about the petitions remaining appropriate and serious. Although students will have to login with their UBIT name to post a petition, protest or signature, the SA Assembly members said they would have to monitor the site to make sure "it doesn't get out of hand."

"We need a lot of help; a lot of oversight," Britt said.

She said she hopes creating the new website will help students start these petitions on a site dedicated to strictly UB issues. Although she said there are still a

few issues being worked out, Britt is looking forward to the possibilities this website could bring to UB students.

"I'm really hoping students get really involved with this," she said.

The next SA Assembly meeting will be on March 25 at 8 p.m. in the Student Union.

*\*Madelaine Britt worked for The Spectrum in the spring of 2014*

*Marlee Tuskes is a staff writer and can be reached at news@ubspectrum.com*

Source:

<http://www.ubspectrum.com/article/2015/03/potential-petition-website> (accessed 3/18/2015; reprinted with permission)



UB PhD graduate Michael Chen receiving congratulations from President Ma Ying-jeou of Taiwan upon the occasion of his promotion to the rank of Major General.

## Political Science Double-Major Kaczmarek named finalist for prestigious Truman Scholarship



Sean Kaczmarek, UB's Truman Scholarship finalist, was the youngest person ever elected to the Cheektowaga-Sloan Board of Education. Photo: Douglas Levere

**By CHARLES ANZALONE**

Published March 26, 2015

*"I don't believe I have any special talents or attributes. I've just always worked for what I wanted."*

*Sean Kaczmarek, Finalist, Truman Scholarship*

Sean Kaczmarek, the youngest person ever elected to the Cheektowaga-Sloan Board of Education and a tireless advocate for equitable public education, is UB's finalist for the national Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Kaczmarek, 21, won election to the suburban school board at age 19. A native of West Seneca and a junior majoring in economics and political science with a minor in Mandarin Chinese, Kaczmarek mixes a passion for working toward a more equitable system of public education with a personal trait of throwing himself into often longshot causes because he believes he and other like-minded people can bring about meaningful change.

"If a problem appears, one may voice his opinion or write a letter, but usually will not run for office," he wrote on his Truman Scholarship application. "My decision to run for the Board of Education proved I would take action when I saw problems.

"For me, education is personal. I am first-generation college student who realizes education would open up opportunities for me, and I want education to hold the same power for all students."

Kaczmarek says others on the board saw him as "too young, too inexperienced" to make a difference.

"I persist because I am determined to create a more equitable system for all students," he wrote. "As a trustee in the first-ring district outside of Buffalo, we are on the front lines of urban sprawl, and poverty is creeping in. We have to continually change to meet our students' changing needs and externally imposed curriculum. Yet, the State Education Department does not have to respond to our needs. Despite this, I am still determined to make a change, as I have demonstrated with my initiative in changing curriculum."

Kaczmarek has compiled an extensive — to say the least — list of accomplishments and community activities. A graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Cheektowaga, he has been a teaching assistant in the Department of Economics; a member of the New York State executive board for College Democrats of New York, serving as chairman of the Western New York region; and has interned for the Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Partnership (ISEP), a UB-led program to improve science education in the Buffalo Public Schools.

He is a recipient of UB's Provost Scholarship and also has received a New York State Scholarship and an HSBC Scholarship.

Kaczmarek looks he would fit in well in an episode of “Mad Men.” He’s heard that comparison before and watches the show. With his neatly parted hair and his clean-cut appearance, he says he knows there is a 1960s style to him.

But anyone who knows him understands his values and politics are as far away from the show’s as you can get. He’s easy to talk to and very aware of his working-class roots. The son of two U.S. Postal Service workers and grandson of a steel mill employee, Kaczmarek comes from a family he says was “relegated” to the Old First Ward in Buffalo, “a neighborhood meant for poor immigrants.” Education, he says, was a way he could prove himself.

“I don’t believe I have any special talents or attributes,” he says. “I’ve just always worked for what I wanted.”

He also calls himself an idealist. “I don’t consider there are limits sometimes. My friends would say I’m easy-going, but they know I can be stubborn and hard-headed, too.”

Kaczmarek’s accomplishments and attitude have attracted rave reviews from those working with him, both on campus and off.

“The Truman Scholarship seeks to recognize and support individuals who will be leaders in their chosen field,” says Elizabeth Colucci, coordinator of fellowships and scholarships for UB. “Sean is already a leader both on and off campus. His deep engagement in the issues surrounding education, and educational empowerment and equity are the mark of a leader.

“For a student to be an elected official, attain high academic distinction and be engaged in the Buffalo Public Schools is amazing.”

State Sen. Timothy M. Kennedy, in whose office Kaczmarek served as an intern from January 2013 to September 2014, called him one of his office’s “go-to” interns, praising his commitment to public service.

“Sean has always demonstrated a high degree of professionalism that made him one of my ‘go-to’ interns for important projects that needed to be done correctly,” Kennedy wrote in his Truman Scholarship recommendation.

“However, his work in my office is only a small piece of the puzzle,” according to Kennedy. “I remember greeting Sean with ‘congratulations’ when he walked into my office several days after he had won a seat on the Cheektowaga-Sloan Board of Education at 19 years old; he was, and still is, the youngest ever elected from his district. After my congratulations, he wasted no time in speaking to me about educational funding in New York State, demonstrating a pro-active approach even though he has just been elected.”

Kaczmarek has demonstrated a surprising ability to grasp complexities on issues relating to taxes, educational policy and helping manage a \$34 million budget.

His high degree of responsibility and activism is “extraordinary for a college student with such a heavy workload,” says Kennedy.

Joseph A. Gardella Jr., SUNY Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and director of ISEP, called Kaczmarek “an exceptional case.”

“For someone his age, his strength is the sophistication of questions that he asks, and the underlying intelligence and knowledge to develop those questions,” Gardella wrote in his letter of recommendation. “Mr. Kaczmarek does not have the simple-minded approach that he knows something from his experience as a student. He digs deep into

every topic. He researches the issues and does not stand still in his effort.”

Kaczmarek was among 200 Truman Scholarship finalists from 135 colleges and universities selected for their records of leadership, public service and academic achievement from among almost 700 applications from 297 institutions. The Truman committee will select between 55 and 65 juniors who each will receive a \$30,000 scholarship to pursue graduate work in public service.

Kaczmarek will interview with the Truman Foundation Regional Review Panel on March 30 in New York City. Winners will be announced by April 15.

[http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/campus/campus-host-page.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2015/03/kaczmarek\\_truman\\_scholarship.detail.html](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/campus/campus-host-page.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2015/03/kaczmarek_truman_scholarship.detail.html) (Accessed 4/6/2015)



UB Provost Charles ‘Chip’ Zukowski (L) and President Satish Tripathi (R) congratulate Professor Claude Welch, Jr. upon completing his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a faculty member.

## Best Grad Student Paper

The Graduate Student Paper Award Committee has selected Yohan Park and Muhammed Erenler as the 2015 recipient of the Department's Best Paper Award for the best paper written by a student in our graduate program during the 2014-2015 academic year. Their paper, " Measurement Errors: More Interactions Indicate Troubled Relations?", was judged to be the best of the nominations. The \$250 cash prize given with this award is funded by an endowment established in 2004 to support research by Political Science graduate students. This endowment also subsidizes the Department's funding of conference travel and research activities by graduate students.

## Professor Welch Honored by Taiwanese Alums



UB Political Science alums in Taiwan honor Professor Welch and wife Professor Jeanette Ludwig at a banquet in the spring of 2015. Pictured here *Seated left-right: Chen Chia-Sheng Michael; Hsiao Hsin-Huang Michael, Professor Welch; Professor Ludwig; and Chang Tzu-Yang Emerson; Standing left-right: You Chih-Wei; Chen Chun-Ming; Yen Yung-Ming; and Chou Chih-Chieh Bernard.*

The University at Buffalo enrolls thousands of international students annually. 6,500 students from outside the United States were involved in degree programs or optional professional training in 2013/14. Taiwan ranks high among countries sending students to UB, spread across *insert figure* different degree programs.

Claude Welch, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and Professor of Political Science, was feted in May 2015 by several of his one-time Taiwanese doctoral students. Professor Welch and his wife, Jeannette Ludwig (Associate Professor of Romance Languages) had spent the 2015 spring semester teaching at the Singapore Institute of Management. (UB has maintained BA and BS programs for over a decade.) Once the semester ended, they seized the opportunity to visit six other Asian states, including Taiwan.

Professor Welch, speaking informally at the banquet honoring him, emphasized the joy he gained in working with such dedicated students. 'I have taught at UB since 1964. Every semester renews my intellectual and physical vigor. Since I specialize in comparative politics, I have taken pleasure in working with many international students. That important part of my life will formally end when I retire at the end of 2015/16 – save, of course, for e-mail and potential future visits.'

For their part, students expressed appreciation for Professor Welch's dedication and concern for their intellectual development and welfare. CC Bernard Chou, for example, wrote: "I would like to give my greatest gratitude to Professor Welch. He was my advisor and supervisor while I studied for a Ph.D. degree at the Department from 1998 to 2004. Dr. Welch enlightened my interests in human rights, international law, and comparative political economy while I took his graduate-level courses. Serving as a teaching assistant in the general course of World Civilization, Dr. Welch also offered my first teaching training. This experience is extremely helpful for my later teaching works, as an adjunct lecturer in Political Science Department in SUNY College at Geneseo, Fredonia, as well as at UB from 2001 to 2004. Through all those years, he has given me guidance, patience, and encouragement. His attitude toward research, teaching, and service in academic circle has been a model for my future career. What I have accomplished in my academic career, if any, it simply would not have

been possible without him. I always cherish his instruction and enlightenment!"

During their five-day visit, Professors Welch and Ludwig toured Taroko National Park, the Palace Museum, and other sights in Taipei. He also spoke to students at National Cheng-kung University (Tainan) on challenges to international human rights law.

## Obituary – Gary W. Hoskin



Gary William Hoskin, an *emeritus* associate professor at the University at Buffalo (SUNY) and an *emeritus* professor at the Department of Political Science at the University de los Andes in Bogota, Colombia, passed away in Bogota on the afternoon of April 23, 2014.

Gary was born on December 20, 1938, in Wyacondah, a small town in Davis County in southeastern Iowa where his father owned a store. His mother Ruby was a superb cook and early on instilled in Gary a love of fine food. He studied Liberal Arts at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and went on to earn a master's degree at Johns Hopkins, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and a doctorate from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Beginning in 1965, for more than three decades Gary taught courses on comparative and Latin American politics at the University at Buffalo (SUNY). He married a colleague in the department, Marilyn (Brookes) Hoskin, and together they had a daughter, Elena.

Gary was a central figure in Buffalo's department of political science, serving terms as director of undergraduate studies, director of graduate studies, and acting chair. He also served as associate provost of the Faculty of Social Science and Administration. Over the years he mentored many students, both undergraduate and graduate, as well as junior professors, and he supervised a number of doctoral dissertations.

During his tenure at Buffalo, Gary published a number of books, numerous book chapters, and several articles in such leading journals as *The American Journal of Political Science* and *Comparative Politics*. All of his many publications were on Latin American, especially Colombian, politics. Gary was active in the Buffalo Chapter of United University Professions, and he served a term as its vice president. He received a number of fellowships and awards from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for democracy, the USIA, and several awards from the SUNY Research Foundation. In addition to his many publications, Gary's research was presented to the profession at many professional conferences (APSA, ASA, MWPSA, IPSA, and the Latin American Studies Association) and at a number of leading universities (London School of Economics, University of California, San Diego, SAIS/Johns Hopkins, Cornell, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan). He undertook project reviews for the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and he reviewed manuscripts for more than a dozen professional journals and publishers.

While most of Gary's academic career was spent at UB, he visited Bogota frequently and became a passionate and dedicated student of Colombian politics. Known to some Colombian friends as "the gringo Hoskin," his four-decade long involvement with Colombia began in the 1960s when he visited the country to do field research for his doctoral dissertation comparing political parties in Colombia and Venezuela. His tireless research led him to produce many publications on Colombia, and he came to be regarded as one of the leading scholars of the country's complex democratization process, legislature, presidentialism, the party system, public opinion, and elections. In 1995 he was honored by the Colombian Ministry of Foreign

Affairs when they conferred upon him the "Orden de San Carlos" award. The award honors those who have distinguished themselves in service to Colombia and in strengthening cultural ties and relations between Colombia and other nations.

Through his many visits to Bogota his influence was also felt on the founding and early development of Los Andes' Department of Political Science. Indeed, after 30 years of teaching in Buffalo, Gary returned to live permanently in Bogota in 1997. He took up a position as professor at Los Andes and from 2001 until his retirement in 2006 he served as chair of their political science department. After retirement he continued to visit the Los Andes campus every Tuesday and Thursday to work and eat lunch with colleagues. The university honored him with a memorial service on April 30 and planted an oak tree on its campus in his memory.

As he expressed in his remarks at a huge and joyous birthday party celebrating his 70th year, Gary deeply loved the three important settings of his life: Buffalo, Bogota, and Iowa. In Buffalo, his house was often home to stray graduate students who were struggling to finish their dissertations. He enjoyed Buffalo's professional sports teams, at various times holding season tickets to both the Buffalo Bills (football) and the Buffalo Sabres (hockey). He was also a loyal St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan. Gary loved excellent food and drink, and enjoyed taking part in weekly gourmet cooking evenings with a group of Colombian friends while in Bogota. He also loved his pet dogs, art, and travel. And he especially cherished his daughter Elena, who frequently joined him in Bogota and on vacations.

Gary was a thoroughly professional comparativist who recognized the importance of primary fieldwork in the development of rigorous understanding in the field. He put these principles to exemplary work in his research and writing on Colombia. These are important legacies. But for us his friends and colleagues, it will be his tranquil demeanor, clear common sense, sharp wit, warm smile, and hearty laugh, that will be most missed. We are all grateful to have been enriched by his life and works in so many ways.

As observed at the memorial service for Gary at Los Andes, those of us who were his colleagues and students will always remember him as a person who was academically honest and perceptive, tremendously generous with his knowledge, and capable of challenging us and pulling us out of our usual ways of thinking in our efforts to understand Colombian politics. As his friends, we enjoyed his generosity, his great sense of humor, and his culinary abilities. We will never forget the strength inherent in his way of being, his simplicity, and the tranquility that accompanied him to the end as well as his enviable lucidity. He left us with a void in our lives and many teachings. Forever, Gary William Hoskin, we honor your memory.

—Munroe Eagles, *Frederic J. Fleron, Jr., Donald B. Rosenthal, Claude E. Welch, Jr., Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo (SUNY)*

—Mónica Pachón and Miguel García, *Department of Political Science, Universidad de los Andes*

## Obituary – Donald B. Rosenthal



Donald B. Rosenthal, professor *emeritus* of political science at the University at Buffalo (SUNY), died December 5, 2014, at his home in Charlotte, NC. He was 77 years old.

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Don joined the UB faculty in 1964 as an assistant professor in the Department of

Political Science after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1968 and full professor in 1972. A one-time chair of the department, he taught and conducted research in the areas of the politics of India, American urban politics and intergovernmental relations, public policy, AIDS politics and policy, housing and community development programs, and public administration. He retired from UB in 2000 and moved to Charlotte, NC, with his long-time partner David G. Scott.

A member of the American Political Science Association, Professor Rosenthal served as chair of the association's Committee on the Status of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered in the Profession from 2000-01. He reviewed manuscripts accepted for publication by SUNY Press and Oxford University Press. Early in his academic career, Don published several major scholarly books. The first, *The Limited Elite: Politics and Government in Two Indian Cities* (University of Chicago Press, 1971), was a major empirical study of local elites in the Indian cities of Agra and Poona based on his interviews of several hundred local notables, municipal legislators, and national politicians. As the senior colleague among us has noted, Don was the only person in 50+ year history of our Department to have published about India. That book was an expansion of his Ph.D. dissertation at Chicago written under the tutelage of Lloyd and Suzanne Rudolph, among the most eminent American scholars working on India at that time. This was followed in 1978 by the publication of *Expansive Elite: District Politics and State Policy-making in India* (University of California Press) which was an empirical field study of the institutions and rural elite in the Indian state of Maharashtra.

Don had a life-long interest in public policy, especially as applied to critical social issues. He started with a more classic interest in public administration, and then broadened that interest to public policy. He was regularly engaged in several projects to bolster civic engagement. Above all, he recognized the importance of bringing personal commitment to scholarship, as exemplified in his widely-recognized work on HIV/AIDS and gay rights, LGBTQ community activism, and the responses of New York State cities to the HIV/AIDS

epidemic. That commitment continued long after his retirement from UB. Both before and after his retirement, Don was regularly engaged in projects to bolster civic engagement.

Don's third major scholarly work marked his turn to U.S. public policy. *Urban Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization: Turning a Federal Program into Local Projects* (Contributions in Ethnic Studies) was published in 1988 by Praeger Publishers whose description of the book points to its importance at the time of publication: "Although many scholars have emphasized the shortcomings of federal housing programs, few have examined their successes and failures on a case-by-case empirical basis. With the possibility that federal involvement in housing may increase in the future, we need to have more precise knowledge of what works, what does not, and why. Donald Rosenthal's new book is the first study to focus on the Section 8 Neighborhood Strategy Area program (NSA)—one of the last major housing initiatives of the Carter administration. Reporting on his extensive field research, the author examines the development and implementation of the program and documents its results. In the process, he provides valuable new insights on American intergovernmental relations between 1977 and 1984 and traces the evolution of federal policy on assisted housing and community development under the Carter and Reagan administrations."

Professor Rosenthal's decades of research on the history of LGBTQ activism and the AIDS crisis has been preserved in the M. E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives of the University Libraries at the University at Albany (SUNY). As described by the University at Albany Libraries, the *Donald B. Rosenthal Papers, 1982-2004*, "include an extensive collection of interviews with Capital District activists, an assortment of print publications regarding AIDS, and a series of material documenting the activities of the Capital District Gay & Lesbian Community Council (CDGLCC). The results of Rosenthal's research are represented by a collection of his own papers and lectures on gay activists' role in municipal politics and their responses to the spread of AIDS." A detailed description of the contents of each of

the four series of papers in the collection can be found on the internet under the name Donald B. Rosenthal.

Following Don's retirement and move to Charlotte, NC, he and his partner David engaged in the study of LGBTQ issues, civil rights, and homelessness in North Carolina (especially Raleigh-Durham), Alabama, and Louisiana in conjunction with the ACLU. Their collected papers concerning this research are on deposit at the Duke University Libraries in Durham, NC. Several colleagues have shared their recollections of Don. One recently stated: "My strongest impressions of Don will surely not be mine alone. He was an energetic, fastidious, and rigorous political researcher who was drawn to understand the sources of disadvantage in America and abroad, who asked difficult questions, and who was interested in drawing policy-relevant conclusions from his work. He was simply one of the most caring, fun-loving and generous souls a person could ever encounter. His playful banter in the halls of the Department made it a wonderful, welcoming place to join as a junior faculty member. Don had many sterling qualities but he was not, however, a good driver! One of my most vivid memories of Don arose on the occasion of my on-campus interview in 1989. As Chair of the Department, Don met me at the airport and I recall my terror when he had shifted his manual transmission rapidly into third gear before we had even reached 10 miles an hour and while still in the small airport parking lot! I will never forget how his car bucked and groaned under the strain. Over the course of my visit it seemed like we must have covered 500 miles in his car (safely, thank heavens!) as he tirelessly toured Buffalo with me, sharing his favorite spots—sometimes several times when we became lost and had to retrace our route! It is therefore somewhat fitting that he was late arriving to what was to become our last rendezvous in Ohio last summer as the result of becoming lost and driving an additional three hours to meet us at our destination! Despite being thus challenged, however, he spent many happy days travelling the back roads of the United States with his beloved partner, David Scott."

Another remembered that Don generously mentored colleagues who sought his help, in matters both large and small. "He supported me at significant junctures in

my career, even recently, as he was dealing with the last challenge to his health. He also encouraged a line of research I was hesitant to pursue. Even after he retired he continued to provide me with valuable insights. My work was always improved by his suggestions.”

Recalling Don’s gentleness, quiriness and sly sense of humor, another colleague also observed that “there was no meanness in Don. He was a sweet and kind person and a devoted scholar. All told, he was a fine person with a good heart. It was his goodness and sweet nature that stand out for me.”

And yet another colleague recalled a former Dean of Social Sciences at UB telling him that Don was undoubtedly the most selfless Chair with whom he had worked in that he never asked for anything for himself (extra time off from teaching, salary increments, etc.) but only for his department. Don was quite willing to serve his stint as Chair at a time when both the Department and the Social Sciences more generally were seriously squeezed for resources.

Don was a sweet, gentle, kind and good person with a subtle, understated (some might say sardonic) sense of humor. That will always be our memory of him. He will be remembered as well for his excellent music collection, loyal friendships, and love for life. Don Rosenthal was a highly respected colleague and a beloved friend. He is sorely missed.

— *D. Munroe Eagles, Frederic J. Fleron, Jr., Stephen C. Halpern, Claude E. Welch, Jr., Frank C. Zagare, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo (SUNY)*

—*Laurie Rhodebeck, Department of Political Science, University of Louisville*

## Faculty Updates

**James Battista** continued his service to the department in the capacity of Director of Undergraduate Studies. He also continued to serve on the editorial board of the well-respected journal *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.

**Michelle Benson-Saxton** continues working on her book manuscript.

**Jim Campbell** continued his strong pace of scholarly output. He authored three journal pieces: “The Republican Wave of 2014: The Continuity of the 2012 and 2014 Elections,” *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics*, v.12, n.4 (December 2014), pp. 609-26; “The Seats-in-Trouble Forecast of the 2014 Midterm Congressional Elections,” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, v.47, n.4 (October 2014), pp.779-81; and “Post-Election Note: Catching the Republican Wave,” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, v.48, n.2 (April 2015), p.297. In addition, he published two invited pieces: “Introduction: The 2014 Midterm Election Forecasts,” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, v.45, n.4 (October 2014), pp.769-71; and “Evaluations of the 2014 Midterm Election Forecasts,” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, v.48, n.2 (April 2015), p. 295-6.

**Vesna Danilovic** has two contributions forthcoming: “Authoritarian Regimes.” In D. Armstrong (ed), *Oxford Annotated Bibliographies in International Relations* (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming); and “Crisis Behavior and the Prevention of War.” In D. Armstrong (ed), *Oxford Annotated Bibliographies In International Relations* (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

**Munroe Eagles** continues to direct the Canadian Studies Academic Program (CSAP) in the Department of Transnational Studies, where he also served as the interim Director of Graduate Studies. As Vice-President of the Association of Canadian Studies in the US, he is program chair for their Biennial conference to be held in Las Vegas in October. He assumes the ACSUS presidency for two years at that meeting. He presented several conference papers that are currently under submission for possible publication.

**Steve Halpern** organized, for the fourth time in three years, a week-long seminar series at UB for approximately 40 judges from Argentina. These

seminar series have been sponsored by the Academy of Judicial Exchange and Studies, which is an international organization based in Buenos Aires that champions judicial training in developing countries.

**Rachael Hinkle** has two solo-authored articles appearing in top-3 political science journals: Hinkle: "Legal Constraint in the U.S. Courts of Appeals." *Journal of Politics*, Forthcoming; and "Into the Words: Using Statutory Text to Explore the Impact of Federal Courts on State Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science*, Forthcoming. Her doctoral dissertation, "The Role of the United States Courts of Appeals in Legal Development," won the APSA's "Edward S. Corwin" award for the best dissertation in Public Law in 2014. The award certificate praises Professor Hinkle's dissertation as being a "clearly written, cogently argued, and creatively conceptualized study of how legal factors constrain Court of Appeals decision making and how Court of Appeals decisions impact state government policy choices.

**Jake Kathman** served very effectively as the Department's Director of Graduate Studies for the 2014-2015 year. He has four articles appearing in top journals, including the APSA's flagship journal that is ranked # 1 in the discipline in terms of impact and prestige, the *American Political Science Review*: "United Nations Peacekeeping Dynamics and the Duration of Post---Civil Conflict Peace" (with Lisa Hultman and Megan Shannon). *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, Forthcoming; "Stopping the Killing during the 'Peace': Peacekeeping and the Severity of Post---Conflict Civilian Victimization" (with Reed M. Wood). *Foreign Policy Analysis*., Forthcoming; "Competing for the Crown: Inter---Rebel Competition and Civilian Targeting in Civil Conflict" (with Reed M. Wood). 2015. *Political Research Quarterly* 68(1): 167--179; "Beyond Keeping Peace: United Nations Peacekeeping Effectiveness in the Midst of Fighting" (with Lisa Hultman and Megan Shannon). 2014. *American Political Science Review* 108(4): 737---753.

**Chuck Lamb** published two pieces this past year. "School and Housing Segregation," in David L. Leal, Taeku Lee, and Mark Sawyer, eds., The Oxford

Handbook on Racial and Ethnic Politics in the United States (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014) (Oxford Handbooks Online) (with Charles S. Bullock III); and "Administrative Law Judges in Fair Housing Enforcement: Attitudes, Case Facts, and Political Control," *Social Science Quarterly* 94: 362-378 (2013) (with doctoral alums Nicholas R. Seabrook and Eric M. Wilk). He is working on a book manuscript entitled "Presidents, Bureaucracy, and Fair Housing in America."

**Jacob Neiheisel** published an article and a book chapter in his first year in the department: Neiheisel: "On the Limits of Persuasion: Campaign Ads and the Structure of Voters' Interpersonal Discussion Networks" (with Sarah Niebler). *Political Communication*, Forthcoming; and "Carriers of the Creed: The Effect of Urging Tolerance on Persuasion," (with Paul Djupe and Laura R. Olson). In P.A. Djupe (ed), *Religion and Political Tolerance in America: Advances in the State of the Art* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2015).

**Harvey Palmer** was renewed for a second three-year term as Chair of the Department. In addition, he published two journal articles and a book chapter: "Following the Crowd or Thinking Outside of the Box? Examining Differences in Response Variability" (with Andrew D. Garner). *Social Science Quarterly*, Forthcoming; "Partisan Differences in the Distributional Effects of Economic Growth: Stock Market Performance, Unemployment, and Political Control of the Presidency" (with Bryan Dettrey). *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, Forthcoming; and Palmer: "Urban Greening as a Social Movement," (with Sara S. Metcalf, Erika S. Svendsen, LaDona Knigge, Hua Wang, and Mary E. Northridge ). In J. Gatrell, R. Jensen, N. Hoalst Pullen, and M. Patterson (eds)., *Urban Sustainability: Praxis and Place* (New York: Springer, forthcoming).

**Claude Welch** celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a faculty member at UB by teaching in the University's Singapore program (at the Singapore Institute of Management) during the Spring of 2015. He is working on a book titled "Protecting Human Rights Globally". He received the International Studies Association's

“Lifetime Achievement Award” for his scholarly contributions to the field of human rights, and in September 2014 he was awarded the American Political Science Association’s Award for Distinguished Contributions to the field of Human Rights.

**Frank Zagare** published two articles and a book chapter: “The Moroccan Crisis of 1905 – 1906: An Analytic Narrative.” *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, Forthcoming; “A General Explanation of the Cuban Missile Crisis.” 2016. *International Journal of Peace Economics and Peace Science* 1(1): Forthcoming; and “Modern Deterrence Theory: Research Trends, Policy Debates, and Methodological Controversies,” [with UB doctoral grad Stephen L. Quackenbush]. In D. King, (ed), *Oxford Handbooks Online* (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).



The Department’s newest MA graduates in May, 2015 – (L-R) Kelsey Bynum, Kevin Stout, and Kelly McCaskey.

## Updates from our Alums

**Please send your updates for the next edition of “The Pulse”** to Munroe Eagles at [eagles@buffalo.edu](mailto:eagles@buffalo.edu). Please be sure to include your degree information and graduation year information in your message.

**Norman Eagle, (BA, 1964).** I did my B.A. Political Science back in the 60s, graduated in 1964. Having a good life, 3 children, 6 grandchildren and still working because I like work.



**Paul Nussbaum, (BA, 1967).** Paul is Chairman and CEO of Waramaug Hospitality ([www.waramaughospitality.com](http://www.waramaughospitality.com)) in Boca Raton, Florida. He received an Arts & Sciences Distinguished Alumnus Award at a ceremony in UB’s Center for the Arts on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**David Wachtel (PhD, 1969).** I retired after nearly 40 years of teaching. I completed a B.A. in Political Science, M.S. in Social Sciences and a Ph.D. in Sociology from SUNY/Buffalo. In addition, a M.A. in English from the University of Kentucky. I am retired as a Professor of Sociology and live in Lexington, KY. I have realized that retirement is the best job I have ever had!

**Michele Lauer-Bader, (BA, History-Political Science, 1971).** I have retired after serving as a Public Librarian from 1972-2014.

**David M. O’Connor, (BA, 1971).** I retired from the New York State Police as Captain in 2001. Elected Town Justice Town of Pembroke 2004. Also elected Village of Corfu Judge 2012. UB gave me the insight, fortitude and knowledge to do well. Never would have gotten as far as I did without the excellent teachers I had. Often reflect fondly on my days at UB. Two kids doing well and both teachers.

**Peter Dalton, (BA, 1972).** I really appreciate the education I received at SUNYAB (is that still used?). The liberal arts education & PolSci have had life-long positive impact on me. Right now I'm in my 17 year working for the NYS Dept of Labor. I supervise a unit that adjudicates unemployment insurance claims. I've lived over 20 years in Saratoga Springs, NY & have 2 daughters age 11 & 14. Greetings to all those polsci majors 1968-1972, great memories of those times -remember Ridge Lea campus & the temp buildings?

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**Richard K. Dennis, (BA, 1974).** I graduated from UB with a degree in Political Science in January of 1974. In December of 2014, I was elected to a second two year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC). In order to practice immigration law in Canada, an individual must be a member in good standing with this regulatory body or be a member of a Canadian provincial bar association.

My biographical information can be found on the ICCRC web site, click on "about us", then "Board of Directors", and then scroll down to my name and click. I've *copied the bio information* below for easy reference.

<http://www.iccrc-crcic.ca/home.cfm>

**John J. Sullivan, (BA, 1975).** Currently of am Director of Recruitment at Erie Community College and an adjunct professor of political science at Buffalo State College



**Karen O'Connor, (PhD, 1979; JD, 1977).** Karen O'Connor is the Jonathan N. Helfat Distinguished Professor of Political Science and the Founder and Director Emerita of the Women & Politics Institute at American University. Before coming to American University, Karen taught political science for seventeen years at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. She has written extensively about women and the law, women and politics, and American politics, including the best-selling American Government text, *American Government: Roots and Reform*, 10th ed. (with Larry Sabato). Karen has coauthored with more than 20 students. She is the past president of the Women's Caucus for Political Science, the Organized Research Section on Women and Politics Research, and the Southern Political Science Association. She was the editor of *Women & Politics* for two terms. Karen's

daughter, Meghan, is the women's lacrosse coach and the Assistant Athletic Director at the Catholic University of America. Karen was named outstanding political science grad from SUNY Buffalo. She was also named by *Irish Times* as one of top 100 Irish American Lawyers in US. List includes 2 justices of the SCOTUS

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**Stephen M. Krason, (PhD, 1983).** I am Associate Director of the Veritas Center for Ethics in Public Life at my university, Franciscan University of Steubenville, where I have served on the faculty for 28 years. I am also in my second term as department chairman of a department that includes four programs: Political Science (major and minor), Legal Studies (minor program only), Human Life Studies (minor program only), and Humanities and Catholic Culture (major program only). I have served as national president of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists for 22 years. Also, last year (2014) my edited book (a collection of original essays by noted scholars) entitled *The Crisis of Religious Liberty*, was published by Rowman & Littlefield. This was my thirteenth book (five written and eight edited or co-edited).

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**Mark Ensalaco, (Ph.D., 1991).** I have been named director of research at the newly established Human Rights Center at the University of Dayton. The Center builds on the legacy of the university's undergraduate program in human rights created in 1998, the first of its kind in the United States. The Center has the unique mission to conduct applied research for human rights and humanitarian NGOs. I am currently directing a multi-year research and advocacy project on Forced Labor in Brazil for Catholic Relief Services.

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**Ben Stormer, Esq. (BA, 1996)** accepted a position with the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Executive Office conducting employment investigations with regard to potential civil rights, harassment, discrimination, and retaliation claims. Prior to accepting this position, he worked for a private law firm which represents plaintiffs in employment discrimination, human rights, wage and hour, breach of contract, and anti-trust matters.

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**Lawrence Cline (PhD 2000)** will have his co-edited (with Paul Shemella) book, *The Future of Counterinsurgency: Contemporary Debates in Internal Security Strategy*, released by Praeger in July.

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**J.A. Larson, (BA, 2001).** I left UB in 1996, but my degree was granted in 2001. I had worked for the New York State Assembly for 17 years, rising to the level of Deputy Secretary for Program and Policy in Program & Counsel, before leaving in April of 2014, to work for NYSUT, in the Legislation and Political Department. Now I'm an Urban Gentleman Farmer and Williams Sonoma

**Jeffrey Pometlarz, (BA, 2004).** I wanted to reach out and provide an update as to what I ended up doing in my career field. During my time at UB I enrolled in the Washington Semester Program where I worked for the Democratic National Committee as a fundraising analyst during the 2004 Presidential Campaign. After the program, I returned to Buffalo, New York to pursue a career in labor organizing with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) to stop harmful cuts in the Medicaid program. After that I joined Independent Health to help implement the Medicare Part D initiative enacted by Congress in 2005 before being recruited to join the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I was recruited by a regional manager from the Department of Veterans Affairs out of the resume database that UB established in January of 2006. After working my way through the agency, I accepted a promotion to work at VA Central office in Washington D.C. in May of 2011. I have been working as a Management and Program Analyst for the Veterans Benefits Administration in Washington since that time. During my career I have been involved in implementing legislation and delivering education benefits through the Montgomery G.I. Bill to our nation's Veterans.

I wanted to write this message to say thank you. I don't think I could've accomplished as much as I have in my life and career without the quality education I received at UB. My time at UB helped me heal and provided me with an outlet to focus my energy to achieve what I wanted out of my life.

**Jennifer Tuttle, (BA, 2004).** is currently working as the Deputy Director for Politics and Legislation for the union CWA in Upstate New York. Since graduating from UB she has worked for candidates and organizations from Iowa to Washington, DC. She lives with her family in Buffalo, NY.

**Scott Schmidt (BA, 2005).** I graduated in the great year of '05. The Fightin' Five. I wanted to send an update that I am now the Digital Director at House Financial Services Committee. I am also serving as an adjunct for several masters programs in the DC region. My bio can be found here: <http://scottsch.com>

**Steve Todman** (graduation year not given) - I'm a pediatric cardiologist at Lsu in Shreveport and also working on a master of divinity degree.

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Please send news items, your updates, and other information to share with our alums to newsletter editor, Munroe Eagles, at [eagles@buffalo.edu](mailto:eagles@buffalo.edu).



Political Science Class of 2015 prepares to graduate, UB Alumni Arena, May 2015



Professors Welch and Ludwig visit Dr. CC Bernard Chou's "Public International Law" class at the National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan, R.O.C., Spring 2015