In Memoriam: Ralph Ketcham

On April 26, 2017, Ralph Ketcham, one of the longest-serving faculty members in the political science department, passed away. You can read about Ralph’s memorial and his many contributions to the Maxwell School on the webpage dedicated to honor his memory.

The newly developed Social Science Ph.D. program in the Maxwell School originally attracted Professor Ketcham to Syracuse University, and his undergraduate advisor at Colgate agreed that it would be a good fit for him. He was offered a good assistantship as well, which, like many graduate students, was a great help in making his decision. He especially liked the concept of a school of citizenship, and he said that he knew within the first few weeks that he was going to be happy with his choice.

Ketcham’s focus on James Madison came about because his chief advisor at Syracuse, Stuart Brown, was very interested in the founding era. Professor Brown suggested that he consider studying Madison, an often overlooked founding father, when he was searching for a dissertation topic. At first, he was concerned about the lack of available research to build on, but he became heavily invested in the project as he learned more about Madison. Ketcham described Madison as having a “complex and interesting mind”, and he felt that he was deserving of the same attention that the other founding fathers received. However, he acknowledged that Madison did not have a personality that was as exciting as his counterparts. Instead, he was very much a man of his time, which made him predictable in many ways and probably contributed to the relative lack of interest in studying him.

(cont. on p. 3)
I took over as department chair this summer, and I am happy to report that the department is in great shape. I want to thank Mehrzad Boroujerdi for his three years of service as chair, and our fantastic staff for making the department run so smoothly, including during this transition.

There are many exciting things happening in the department across all of our different missions, including undergraduate teaching, graduate teaching, and faculty research. Please see the entire newsletter to learn about alumni accomplishments, undergraduate achievements, faculty awards and publications, doctoral student publications, awards, and jobs, and other news.

Three of our professors – Kristi Andersen, Matt Bonham, and Stu Thorson – have either recently retired or will be retiring at the end of 2017. We thank all of them for their enormous contributions to the department and the school. In April 2017 Ralph Ketcham, one of our most beloved former colleagues, passed away. Those who were unable to attend his September 2017 memorial service can watch it on the Maxwell News and Events Page, and read about Ralph’s remarkable career.

Although these are big losses for the department, we have kept moving forward by adding some new faculty and promoting others. Colin Elman has been promoted to the rank of full professor, and Chris Faricy, Shana Gadarian, and Yuksel Sezgin have all been promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure. In August 2017 we were delighted to welcome three new assistant professors: Emily Thorson, Simon Weschle, and Steven White.

Please visit our website to learn more about what we are doing in political science at Maxwell. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter. If you have questions about the department’s activities, do not hesitate to contact me at 315-443-3713 or bdtaylor@maxwell.syr.edu, and if you are ever in Syracuse, be sure to stop by Eggers 100 to see us.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Taylor
Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science
Despite Madison’s lackluster personality, Ketcham felt that it was unfortunate that his work has largely been overlooked, as many of the concerns that he had expressed during the founding of the country are still relevant, particularly his work leading toward limiting the potential for partisan quarreling and factional domination that Madison considered inevitable in a government that includes popular assemblies. Ketcham felt that the current government of the United States could look to some of Madison’s work for potential solutions to many of the problems they face today.

Professor Ketcham also talked about the current popularity of scholarship on the founding era in the wake of the success of Lin Manuel Miranda’s musical, Hamilton. While he admitted that he had not seen it or heard any of the music, he expressed a bit of surprise that such a wide audience had embraced the story so enthusiastically. He hoped that it might help to renew a deeper interest in the stories of the other founding fathers, but cautioned that a true resurgence of research on the topic was unlikely, as he said he had seen many trends like that come and go in the past. However, he also said that he was pleased that the musical had caused some people to renew their interest in the founding fathers, and he hoped it might help spark that same interest in others as well.

In addition to all of his scholarly work and other activities, Ketcham enjoyed reading, cross-country skiing, hiking, and sailing, and he especially liked to spend time with his grandchildren.

This article is based on an interview with Professor Ketcham that was conducted in September of 2016.
New Faculty

Emily Thorson

Emily Thorson is an assistant professor of political science at Syracuse University. Previously, she was an assistant professor at Boston College and George Washington University.

Emily’s research traces how political information and misinformation reaches citizens (through traditional and new forms of media) and how this information shapes their attitudes and behavior. She has published articles in Political Communication, Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly, and Communication Research. She is the co-editor of Misinformation and Mass Audiences (forthcoming from the University of Texas press) and is currently working on a book called The Invented State: Systematic Policy Misperceptions in the American Public.

Emily received a dual Ph.D in communications and political science at the Annenberg School of Communication and at the Department of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania.

Simon Weschle

Simon Weschle joined the political science department as an assistant professor of comparative politics. He received his Ph.D. from Duke University and was a Junior Research (Postdoctoral) Fellow at the Carlos III-Juan March Institute in Madrid, Spain.

Simon’s research focuses on democratic representation and accountability, where he has two major focus areas. The first is the role of money in politics. In his book project, he examine different ways in which money enters the political arena: through bribes, campaign contributions, and the “revolving door.” He shows that there is a strategic choice between them and that which one is prevalent has consequences for voters, policy, political competition, and the qualities of politicians who run for office.

In his second focus area, Simon uses large-scale event data and latent network models to quantify how cooperative or conflictual public relationships among political and societal actors are. Finally, he has an
interest in quantitative methodology, in particular in approaches that address systematic measurement error. Simon’s work has been published or is forthcoming in, among others, the American Journal of Political Science, the British Journal of Political Science, and Political Science Research and Methods.

Steven White

Steven White joined the department as an assistant professor in fall 2017. Before arriving at Syracuse, he was a postdoctoral researcher at Brown University and a visiting assistant professor at Lafayette College. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University.

Steven’s research examines race and American politics, generally in historical perspective. He is currently revising a book manuscript on World War II and American racial politics, as well as working on several other projects related to race and civil rights politics, including studies of bureaucratic capacity in the southern states after the Civil War and mass aversion to learning about the historical roots of racial injustice today.

Graduate Student Dissertations

Ronit Berger, December 2016
“The Dynamics of Conflict: Transforming Northern Ireland”

Ebrahim Khalifeh Soltani, May 2017
“Secularism: Conventional or Contextual? Theory and Practice of Religious Politics in Iran and Turkey.”

Brandon Metroka, May 2017
“The Roberts Court Constitution of Freedom of Speech: Preferences, Principles, and the Study of Supreme Court Decision-making”

Franziska Boehme Newell, June 2017
“Enabling Justice: State Cooperation with the International Criminal Court.”

Jing Lin, June 2017
“Social Security in Authoritarian Regimes—The Politics of Public Pension Program in China.”

Kyung Hwa Kim, June 2017
“Presidential Instability in Developing Countries: Reassessing South Korean Politics in a State-Society Relations Perspective.”

Logan Strother, June 2017
“Impact: The Supreme Court in American Politics.”

Michael Newell, August 2017
“The Origins of American Counterterrorism.”

Massimo Ramaioli, August 2017
“Contentious Politics in the Arab Middle East: Jordanian Salafism and the Social Appropriation of Tradition.”
Faculty News

Books published, awards, and other accomplishments

Lamis Abdelaaty received the Best Dissertation Award from the Migration and Citizenship section of the American Political Science Association. This award recognizes the best dissertation on migration and/or citizenship accepted in the previous calendar year.

Hossein Bashiriyeh received the Syracuse University Middle Eastern Studies Program Award in April 2016: “In recognition of Excellence in Teaching”

Keith Bybee published *How Civility Works*. (Stanford University Press, September 2016) He also was selected to be Syracuse University’s ACC Distinguished Lecturer for academic year 2016-17.

Horace Campbell accepted a yearlong appointment at the University of Ghana in West Africa for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Matthew Cleary and Miriam Elman both received the Robert D. McClure Professor of Teaching Excellence award, 2016-2019. They were appointed as inaugural McClure Professors for their commitment to ‘high quality and engaging undergraduate teaching and interdisciplinary citizenship-oriented education.’


Dimitar Gueorguiev published *China’s Governance Puzzle: Enabling Transparency and Participation in a Single-Party State* (Cambridge University Press, Spring 2017) with Edmund Malesky and Jonathan Stromseth. The book has received endorsements from Mary Gallagher (Michigan) and Evan Osnos (New Yorker), among others.

Thomas Keck received the Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award in Spring 2016.

Daniel McDowell published *Brother, Can You Spare a Billion? The United States, the IMF, and the International Lender of Last Resort* (Oxford University Press. December 1, 2016)

Grant Reeher’s Campbell Conversations won two awards in 2016 -- first-place for Best Interview from the New York State Broadcasters Association, and sec-
ond-place for Special Program from the Syracuse Press Club. The program also received an honorable mention from the New York State Associated Press.

**Mark Rupert** received an appointment to the Chapple Professorship of Citizenship and Democracy

**Anoop Sadanandan** published *Why democracy deepens: political information and decentralization in India*. (Cambridge University Press, February 2017)

**Yüksel Sezgin** was selected as a fellow of American Council of Learned Societies in 2016.

**Danielle Thomsen** was the 2015 Winner of E.E. Schattschneider Award for the best dissertation in American government Dissertation: “Party Fit in the U.S. Congress: The Intersection of Ideology, Political Parties, and Gender.” The Schattschneider Award is one of the most prestigious dissertation awards in political science.

In addition to publications and awards, our faculty also received funding awards from the following:

**Lamis Abdelaaty**, The American Philosophical Society

**Matthew Cleary**, National Science Foundation

**Elizabeth Cohen**, Russell Sage Foundation

**Colin Elman**, National Science Foundation.

**Miriam Elman**, the Tikvah Fund

**Margarita Estevez-Abe**, the Toyota Foundation

**Christopher Faricy**, Russell Sage Foundation

**Dimitar Gueorguiev**, Russell Sage Foundation

**Margaret Hermann** U.S. Department of Education, DI Contracts, the West Foundation, and the Carnegie Corporation of New York

**Thomas Keck**, the Koch Foundation and the National Science Foundation

**Audie Klotz**, National Science Foundation.

**Sarah Pralle**, NYSERDA and the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs

**Yüksel Sezgin**, National Science Foundation and the American Council of Learned Societies

**Brian Taylor**, The Smith Richardson Foundation

**Danielle Thomsen**, The Dirksen Congressional Center, the National Science Foundation, and Political Parity / Hunt Alternatives

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**Masters Degrees**

**August 2015**
- Evan Andrews, MA

**May 2016**
- Rachel MacMaster, MA
- Carly Rasiewicz, MA
- Jordan Serra, JDMA

**July 2016**
- Sam Jackson, MA

**August 2016**
- Richard Barton, MA
- Sara Bishop, MA
- Catriona Standfield, MA

**December 2016**
- Alma Begic, MA
- Laura Jenkins, MA
- Dongshu Liu, MA
- Angely Martinez, MA
- Elise Roberts, MA
- Katharine Russell, MA
- David Smallwood, MA
- Jiayi Zhang, MA

**May 2017**
- Sunghee Cho, MA
- Elizabeth Davis, MA
- Robert Demgenski, MA
- Joel Kersting, MA
- Hanna Noh, MA
- Jack Reynolds, MA

**August 2017**
- Claire Sigsworth, MA

**December 2017**
- Brian Wolfel, MA
Graduate Student Awards

David Arceneaux was awarded a Pre-Doctoral Fellowship by the Carnegie International Politics Scholars Consortium and Network and the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He also received the Smith Richardson World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship, the Tobin Project Graduate Student Fellowship, the Meiklejohn Award, the Moynihan European Summer Research Grant, and the Roscoe-Martin Dissertation Grant.

Franziska Boehme was a 2015 Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Grant Winner for her work: “Enabling Justice: State Cooperation with the International Criminal Court.”

Lindsay Burt received an award from the John D. Nagle fund, which is endowed to support grad students in political science who are conducting research abroad on political change and social injustice.

Nathan Carrington received a PhD Scholarship from the Institute for Humane Studies Funding and a SIPP Grant through the Moynihan Institute.

Sunghee Cho was awarded the Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace from the Middlebury Language School in 2016 to attend their summer Chinese course.

Sinan Chu received the Ausländerförderung (Foreign Student Scholarship) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Konrad Adenauer Foundation) award to study in Germany from September 2016 - August 2018.

Bess Davis received the Middle Eastern Studies Young Scholar Prize for the best paper submitted by a graduate student in year 2016-2017. The Middle East Studies Program at Syracuse University sponsors and presents this award.

Nneke Eke received the Cohn Fund Award, which was awarded to graduate students in the Department of Political Science who had the best application for external funding during the 2016-2017 academic year, as well as a Roscoe Martin Graduate Award.

Colin French was awarded the Charles Koch Institute Dissertation Grant and the Institute for Humane Studies Conference & Research Grant.
Erik French was invited and funded by the US Embassy in Tokyo and CSIS Pacific Forum to give a series of talks across Japan on the US-Japan alliance.

Tae Hyun Lim received the Thorson Award, which funds graduate students to attend the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research summer program, as well as a Roscoe Martin Graduate Award.

Dongshu Liu received the Prestage-Cook Travel Award to attend the 2017 Southern Political Science Association annual meeting.

Rachel MacMaster received the Ketcham Award, which is given to students who study citizenship & public affairs and whose work exhibits “commitment to open and just public life.”

Brandon Metroka received the All-University Doctoral Prize for Political Science. His dissertation was entitled “The Roberts Court Constitution of Freedom of Speech: Preferences, Principles, and the Study of Supreme Court Decision-making.”

Aykut Öztürk received the Koff Award, given for the best graduate student paper written each year on comparative politics. Aykut won the prize for his paper “Islamism and Erosion of The Class Cleavage: The Case of Hak-Is Trade Unions Confederation in Turkey.” He also received a Middle Eastern Studies Summer Research Grant, a Roscoe-Martin Dissertation Award, and the Middle Eastern Studies Program Best Graduate Student Paper Award.

Darci Pauser received an NSF fellowship with the EMPOWER: Education Model Program on Water-Energy Research program located on Syracuse University’s campus. She also received a Roscoe-Martin Graduate Award.

Li Shao received the Meiklejohn Award, which is intended for students whose work exhibits “commitment to open and just public life.”

Claire Sigsworth received a Moynihan Institute Center for European Studies summer research grant and the Kissel Fellowship for the Study of Civil Liberties.

Logan Strother received the Stonecash Award, which is given for the best graduate student paper written in an academic year on American politics. Logan won the award for his paper “The Rarely Constrained Court: Case Salience and the Operation of External Constraint on the Supreme Court.” He also received a Roscoe Martin Dissertation Research Award.

Eric van der Vort received the Dissertation Completion Research Assistantship.
Graduate Student Publications


Undergraduate Distinction Projects

**Academic Year 2015-2016**

**Brianna Fernandez**, “Regulating Hate Speech: The United States vs. Canada”  
*Thomas Keck, Faculty Sponsor*

**Seth Harris Gilgus**, “Understanding the European Union’s Relationships with Israel and the Palestinians”  
*Miriam Elman, Faculty Sponsor*

**Courtney Hytower**, “Racial Categorization in Modern America: Exploring the Need for Ambiguity”  
*Spencer Piston, Faculty Sponsor*

**David Jacob Kimelman**, “Welcoming the Stranger: African Refugees and Israel’s Asylum Regime”  
*Miriam Elman, Faculty Sponsor*

**Laura Singer**, “The Israeli Vagabond: An analysis of Israel’s Hilltop Youth Movement”  
*Miriam Elman, Faculty Sponsor*

**Academic Year 2016-2017**

**Alexander Francis Amico**, “All Politics is Local: How the South Became Republican”  
*Margaret Thompson, Faculty Sponsor*

**Joshua Myles Bain**, “Central Bank Independence and Monetary Opportunism”  
*Christopher Faricy, Faculty Sponsor*

**Katherine Joan Barymow**, “Proxy Conflict Turned Civics Crisis: Correlating Syrian Political Movements to United States Foreign Policy”  
*Hossein Bashiriyeh, Faculty Sponsor*

**Carolee Nicole Lantigua**, “A Content Analysis of the 2014 Immigration Crisis Media Coverage: An Intergroup Threat Theory Approach on the Age of Immigrants”  
*Shana Gadarian, Faculty Sponsor*

**Christopher Lawson Pulliam**, “The Influence of Values and Recipient Groups on Social Welfare Policy Opinion”  
*Shana Gadarian, Faculty Sponsor*

**Raychel Rose Renna**, “Political Ideology and Feelings Towards Feminism: Why Young People Reject the Feminist Label”  
*Shana Gadarian, Faculty Sponsor*

**Valeria Salazar Garza**, “Do Tariff Increases Bring Manufacturing Jobs Back to America? Evidence from Safeguard Measures and Antidumping Duties”  
*Seth Jolly, Faculty Sponsor*

**Halima Mohammed Shehu**, “‘Why Girls?’ A Content Analysis of the Transnational #BringBackOurGirls Movement and the Significance of the Chibok Girls”  
*Mark Rupert, Faculty Sponsor*

**Sydney B. Zuckerman**, “Communication and Climate Change: Effects of a Food Frame of Public Opinion”  
*Shana Gadarian, Faculty Sponsor*
Alumni News

Gregory J. Ahlgren (BA, 1974) published the Civil War historical novel *Fort Fisher: The Battle for the Gibraltar of The South.* (Pen-L Publishing)

Ronit Berger (PhD, 2016) and Ioana Matesan (PhD, 2014) published “Blunders and Blame: How Armed Non-state Actors React to Their Mistakes” in the “Studies in Conflict & Terrorism” journal.

Gian-Carl F. Casa (MA, 1981) President and CEO of the CT Community Nonprofit Alliance, gave the keynote address at the Kennedy Center Awards dinner.

Tiffany Simone Dillon (BA, 2012) accepted a position as a Development Associate in Hanover Research’s Independent School Administration practice.

A. Lee Fritschler (PhD, 1965) published *Public Policymaking by Private Organizations: Challenges to Democratic Governance* (Brookings Institution Press, July 12, 2016) with Catherine E. Rudder and Yon Jung Choi.

Susan T. Gooden (PhD, 1996) completed her service as the president of ASPA (American Society of Public Administration).


Travis Glenn Mason (BA, 2006) has accepted a position on Airbus Group’s executive team as the Vice President for Public Policy & Government Affairs.

Diego Medrano (BA, 2008) serves as a lecturer on political campaigns and professional communication for policymakers at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo, Japan.

Donald F. Megnin (PhD, 1968) published *Sermons for the Separated* (Trafford Publishing).

Michael B. Moore (BA, 1984) was the guest speaker at the Booker T. Washington National Monument’s sixth annual Legacy Dinner on April 22nd, 2017.

Philip Stuart Moses (MA, 1990) became the director of CADRE, the National Center on Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education. CADRE is funded by the U.S Department of Education and, in brief, provides
technical assistance to the department and all fifty of the state education agencies (as well as those of the territories and Department of Defense). CADRE works to increase the nation’s capacity to prevent and resolve special education and early intervention disputes by fostering productive home/school/provider partnerships and the use of collaborative processes to improve outcomes for children and youth with disabilities.

**Alyssa Dawn Palewicz (BA, 2015)** accepted a position at the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau for Diplomatic Security as a Program Assistant in the Policy and Planning Division.

**Hélène Papper (BA, 1998)** has been appointed Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Bogota, which serves Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

**Heather Pincock (PhD, 2011)** published “Can democratic states justify restricting the rights of persons with mental illness? Presumption of competence, voting, and gun rights.”

**Joseph M. Pinjuh, Esq. (BA, 1988)** received the Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships for Public Safety for his work in Ohio combating the current heroin/fentanyl epidemic raging throughout our state and nation.

**J. Martin Rochester (PhD, 1972)**, Curators Teaching Professor of Political Science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, published *The New Warfare: Rethinking Rules for An Unruly World* (Routledge).


**Meghan Loisann Schneider** accepted a position as a Project Assistant with the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

**Dean William Snyder (PhD, 2015)** received the the Bronner Dissertation Award, given to “an outstanding Political Science dissertation finished within the previous year of the APSA Meeting which exemplifies the commitment to use scholarship in the struggle for a better world.”

**Ronald James-Terry Taylor (BA, 2015)** accepted a position as the History Teacher and Mentoring Coordinator for Young Men of Color with the Harlem Children’s Zone.

**Madeline Elizabeth Tormey (BA, 2016)** accepted a position as a Project Management Analyst at Hagerty Consulting, which helps clients prepare for and recover from disasters.

**John H. Vanderzell (PhD, 1955)** passed away August 9th, 2016.

**Joshua S. Young (BA, 1997)** joined Sensata Technologies as Vice President of Investor Relations.
A Note to our Alumni

Stay connected to the Political Science Department after you graduate!

As always, we want to hear from you! If you have any professional or personal news that you would like to share with the department and your fellow alumni, please email Sally Greenfield at smgreenf@syr.edu.