I am very pleased to write the first “Letter from the Head” for the Department of Political Studies inaugural newsletter. I took up the position of Department Head in July 2016, and having stepped down in July 2019, I’m thankful to report on a very productive and exciting few years in the department.

Political Studies at Queen’s continues to rank as one of the best political science departments in Canada. Our faculty produce world-class scholarship on a broad range of issues faced by Canadians and other societies around the world, winning an impressive number of major research awards, book awards, and highly competitive research grants and fellowships. Our undergraduate program is one of the largest and most popular in the Faculty of Arts and Science, with an average of 800 students enrolling in approximately 70 courses across five degree plans, and over 200 students graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies every year. Our graduate programs consistently attract talented students who win numerous scholarships and awards, including the highly competitive Vanier and Trudeau scholarships. In recent years, we have expanded the breadth of our programs by introducing two new interdisciplinary degree plans: the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE) program at the undergraduate level and the Masters in Political and Legal Thought (PLT) program at the graduate level. Across all of our programs, we are also committed to providing international opportunities for our students, whether it be through outbound exchanges for our undergraduates, hosting international undergraduate students at the annual Political Studies Summer Institute, or funding external summer school opportunities for graduate students to hone their research skills. Graduates from our BA, MA, and PhD programs continue to find success in a wide range of careers including academia, law, public policy, and other areas.

To maintain the strength of our department, we have done significant work to renew our faculty. In the last two years, we have hired six new tenure-track faculty members. In 2018, the department welcomed Stéphanie Martel, a scholar of International Relations, and Poulomi Chakrabarti, an expert in the Comparative Politics of Asia. The department conducted three additional faculty searches in 2019 and hired Danielle Delaney for a position in Indigenous Politics, Fan Lu for a position in The Politics of Race and U.S. Politics, and Yolande Bouka for a position in Gender and Politics. Paul Gardner also joins the department in the new position of Assistant Professor in Politics and Law. As we are delighted to welcome new faculty members, we also mourn the loss of Professor Emeritus C.E.S. (Ned) Franks, who passed away in September 2018 at the age of 81. Professor Franks taught at Queen’s for 35 years, and his contributions to political science, Queen’s University, and the department were invaluable.

In addition to welcoming new faculty, the department remains dedicated to supporting and providing opportunities for early career scholars. Since 2018, two new postdoctoral fellowships have been introduced in addition to the established Skelton-Clark Postdoctoral Fellowship in Canadian Affairs: the Peacock Postdoctoral Fellowship, and the Buchanan Postdoctoral Fellowship in Canadian Democracy, which was very recently created through the generosity of one of our alumni.

Research and knowledge mobilization continue to be a priority. Approximately thirty research projects led by regular faculty members are currently active within the department, and several of our faculty members are engaged as collaborators and team members in research involving other Canadian and international universities. Faculty-led research projects also provide opportunities for our graduate students and select undergraduate students to contribute to cutting-edge research and gain experience as research assistants in preparation for leading their own projects. The Centre for the Study of Democracy and Diversity has also joined the department following a move from the School of Policy Studies, forming an exciting new research hub for scholars at Queen’s and other institutions who are working within this area of growing significance.

Finally, the latest instalment of the department’s flagship lecture event, the annual John Meisel Lecture Series in Contemporary Political Controversies (founded in honour of Professor Emeritus John Meisel in 2017) took place on November 1, 2018. Dr. Hayden King, delivered the second annual Meisel Lecture on the topic of “Canada’s Oldest Controversy: The Pretense of Reconciliation,” to an audience of over 200 people in the BioSciences Complex Atrium. Planning is underway for this year’s lecture, which will be held on November 21, 2019. All of these updates, and more, appear in greater detail in this issue of the Political Studies newsletter. I hope it will provide some insight into the ongoing activities of the department and encourage our students, faculty, alumni, and friends around the world to stay connected to each other, to the department, and to Queen’s.

Cha Gheill!
From the Department Manager

The Department of Political Studies has enjoyed a year full of growth. I took up the position of Department Manager in March 2018, following the retirement of Administrative Assistant Barb Murphy after 35 years with the department. Her commitment left a lasting impact and won’t be forgotten by the many faculty, staff, and students who had the pleasure of knowing and working with Barb during her time at Queen’s.

The last few years have seen several additions to our staff complement. In July 2017, the department created a Communications and Research Coordinator position, and in June 2018, a fifteen-month Project Coordinator internship through the Queen’s University Internship Program was established to support administrative activities and a wide variety of projects.

In the last year, the department has moved toward greater operational efficiency by streamlining systems and processes, and developing objectives, tactics, and metrics to set clear and achievable goals. Many recent projects have focused on improving physical spaces, including renovation of the graduate lounge, installation of digital signage and graduating class composites in the main hallway, the addition of technological capabilities to our committee room, and an update to the display of student and faculty publications outside the main office.

The department has also made initiatives pertaining to diversity, equity and inclusion an integral focus. Following the example of the Department of Sociology, an anonymous Equity Comment Box has been placed in the graduate lounge, so that students, faculty, and staff feel comfortable bringing up concerns, suggestions, or general comments to help us improve our approach. An important graduate student initiative in the lounge has been a ‘Mental Health Shelf,’ where students can find books, pamphlets and other resources on the topic of mental health in an academic setting. Recently, a handful of department members attended a ‘Positive Space’ workshop to better understand and celebrate sexual and gender diversity at Queen’s. Another way in which we are highlighting equity in the department is through monitoring and enforcing AODA training and compliance.

In service of strengthening connections with our alumni, an informal Homecoming Open House was held in the graduate lounge this past October to welcome former Political Studies students back to campus. This event will continue annually, and we hope to see more alumni return each year. In addition, we look forward to connecting with more current and prospective students and eagerly anticipate the new cohort of undergraduate and graduate students who will join the department next month.

I am thrilled to be part of such an ambitious and lively department and look forward to continued success in the upcoming year.

Michelle Knapp-Hermer
Alexander Mirza

Alexander Mirza, Artsci ’92 (Political Studies), MA’93 (Political Studies) is the Executive Chairman of HospitalitySoul, an online global talent marketplace serving the hospitality industry. He has over 25 years of professional experience in management consulting firms and senior executive roles in the hospitality industry including serving as a CEO of a boutique hotel chain based in China and head of corporate development for Hilton Worldwide. During his time at Queen’s, he was an Aga Khan Foundation International Scholar and President of the Queen’s International Affairs Association (QIAA), which won debating awards at Harvard University under his leadership. In 1997, he received an MBA from Harvard Business School, where he focused his studies on corporate strategy and international marketing.

Why did you choose Political Studies as a discipline?

It happened by accident. I sat in some second-year courses in international relations and political theory and became fascinated. Queen’s also had some terrific history professors and the course work on China, India and the Middle East made it a well-rounded liberal arts education. For an Asian immigrant who started as a Biology major, it was an act of rebellion to say the least.

Why did you choose Political Studies at Queen’s for both your BA and MA?

I majored in Life Sciences in my first year and that is what I came to Queen’s to study. I majored in Political Studies because the faculty was truly outstanding and the class sizes were relatively small. I stayed for an MA because, for some reason, I felt incomplete. The undergraduate experience didn’t challenge me sufficiently despite the experience I gained leading QIAA and a summer studying U.S. government at U.C. Berkeley. The MA at Queen’s was very difficult because there was no formal program, and I had to take core doctoral courses and compete against a much higher calibre of students.

What led you to pursue a career in business following completion of your Political Studies degrees?

I believe business is the greatest engine of social change in the world. Too many politicians don’t know what it’s like to manage people, to be accountable to consumers and shareholders, or to build an organization from scratch. For example, the hospitality and travel industry employs 434 million people and is responsible for over 10 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. While there are many challenges and issues facing the industry, it’s a huge engine of social change and meritocracy around the world.

Please briefly outline what your current job entails.

After spending most of my career as an innovator in the “brick and mortar” side of the industry, I crossed lines and joined the technological side. I lead a global technology company that is creating talent marketplaces using decision sciences to address the labour crisis facing the hospitality industry where a new job is created every 2.5 seconds. As the Chairman and CEO, I am responsible for investor relations, facilitating innovation and challenging the status quo.

How did your education in Political Studies inform your career path, the job you have now, and any other projects you’re currently involved with?

Practically speaking, studying politics has helped me tremendously. In the hospitality and travel industry, we deal with a lot of state-owned enterprises: city, provincial and national governments and their agencies as well as international organizations. But it’s more than that. In today’s world, successful brands must have a purpose and a cause. It must be authentic and make a positive social impact on the communities you engage in. I learned more about leading social change from studying Politics than going to Harvard Business School, or from spending 20 years in the corporate world.

How have you stayed connected to Political Studies?

Stéfanie von Hlatky, associate professor in the Department of Political Studies, is on the board of HospitalitySoul.com, the company I lead, and she advised me in the last venture as well. We wrote an op-ed on China-Canada relations recently. I still read anything Francis Fukuyama writes and glean information from a variety of sources to avoid getting brainwashed by either the corporate world or the media.

What advice would you give to undergraduate students who have recently completed an undergraduate degree?

My advice would be to seek an employment opportunity in the business world where you can find a great mentor. Pay less attention to the brand or prestige of the employer and focus on the people and culture fit. Seek international experience early on and be ready to pay your dues to learn.

What’s the best career advice you’ve ever received?

I’ve had some great bosses including three Fortune 500 CEOs. On my first week in one of those jobs, where I was the youngest senior executive in the company, my boss asked me what I was doing in the office: “There is nothing going on
here, get out into the field. No one here can teach you anything.” Ever since then, I have spent most of my time in operations or engaging investors, developers and consumers.

**If you had to do it all again, what would you do differently?**

I would have lived and worked in Asia earlier in my career. I believe Canadians are uniquely prepared to be international executives but still biased towards Europe. There is a tremendous wave of innovation in all sectors coming from Asia despite all the social and geopolitical challenges.

**What are your best memories from your time at Queen’s?**

My best memory was leading QIAA, which received a lot of support from the Political Studies faculty and the university. It’s also where I met my wife of 25 years, Barbara Roblin Mirza, Arts’92 (Philosophy). Barbara is a partner at Cooley, a high-tech law firm based in California, and we have a 15-year-old daughter, Sophia.

increased engagement with the DSC, we have also created new events such as ‘Trivia with Profs’, and hosted the first ever Politics semi-formal, which was a huge success for its first year with almost 100 participants from all four years. Our final social event for the year was to hold a Fourth Year Graduation Dinner to celebrate all the accomplishments of Politics students at the end of their four years. The dinner was attended by both students and professors and was a wonderful way to commemorate the past four years.

Our other goal for the year was to provide support to Politics students from all years. We carried on the tradition of the DSC hosting a POLS250 midterm study session for students each semester with an attendance of about 50 students each semester. A new initiative that we brought not only to the department this year, but also to Queen’s, making Queen’s the first Canadian post-secondary institution to participate, was the U.N. International Day of Persons with Disabilities. As part of this initiative, we worked with the university to light up Summerhill in purple, and ran an awareness booth in the Queen’s Centre. Finally, to better support students in a variety of ways, we developed an equity questionnaire in collaboration with the Politics Department Equity Committee for undergraduate students to fill out should they wish to share any feedback with the department.

It has been an incredible honour to be the Politics DSC Co-Presidents for this year, and as we graduate and become alumni ourselves, we are so excited to see all the growth and work that the undergraduate students in the department continue to do.

**From the Department Student Council Co-Presidents, 2018-2019**

Our names are Addy Egan and Auston Pierce, and we are two fourth year Politics students and the 2018-2019 Department Undergraduate Student Council (DSC) Presidents. Over the past year we have been active in trying to implement our two main goals of fostering a sense of community within the department and supporting students.

With the aim of fostering a sense of community among Politics students, we have carried on a number of traditions within the department, such as pub nights, ‘Drinks with Profs’, and Politics branded clothing sales. To try to create
From the Undergraduate Chair

Our undergraduate students participated in another vibrant academic year. Eighteen POLS Honours students spent the year working on their Honours Theses, which culminated in a two-day Honour Thesis Colloquium in April, featuring presentations in PechaKucha format followed by Q&A sessions.

Our students participated in the thirteenth annual meeting of the I@Q Undergraduate Research Conference, the tenth annual forum of the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium (JACAC) focusing on the theme of “Japan-Canada Relations in an Era of Global Change”, and other multi-institutional events and initiatives on campus and across North America. Our students also participated actively in the governance of the department by taking on positions on the Equity Issues Committee and the Undergraduate Committee, as well as by attending our monthly departmental meetings. Their insights and contributions have been invaluable over the past academic year. Members of the DSC were vital contributors to the collegial and welcoming atmosphere in the department.

J. Andrew Grant
Undergraduate Chair

Queen’s Political Studies Summer Institute (QPSSI)

The first cohort of QPSSI students pictured at Niagara Falls in 2016 enjoy in-class educational programming from world renowned professors and guest speakers. In particular, this course has largely attracted Chinese and Australian students, due to partnerships with their respective schools.

“After doing research on other summer institute programs in Canada, I realized they all lacked the fundamental component of experiencing Canada in a hands-on way,” says Elisha Corbett. “I felt compelled to create a program where Canada’s unique narrative and history could be learned without a textbook.”

This summer, the program ran for its fourth consecutive year. Originally designed as a proof of concept, QPSSI is now pushing toward expansion. While the program has averaged about a dozen students each year, the department welcomed approximately 20 students in 2019, due in part to a new partnership with Western Sydney University in Australia. As the program continues to grow, the department is hopeful that it will continue to draw students from around the globe.

Developed in 2016 by associate professor Jonathan Rose and current PhD candidate Elisha Corbett, QPSSI is a two-week residential program at Queen’s University, which provides international students with the opportunity to study abroad and learn about Canadian politics for course credit or for a certificate upon completion. Students engage in hands-on learning, have the opportunity to explore Canada’s monumental landmarks through educational field trips, and
Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE)

The Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) undergraduate degree plan began accepting applicants in the 2017-2018 academic year and offers students the unique opportunity to specialize in three distinct yet overlapping fields, much like a triple-major. With over 50 courses to choose from, students have flexibility within their degree to create a path that works for them with a focus that will stand out in the marketplace. This multi-disciplinary program encourages students to bring complementary intellectual skills together in analytical and critical ways in order to address complex and multi-dimensional societal challenges. Students choose Political Studies, Philosophy, or Economics as their core department, partake in an introductory course in multi-disciplinary studies, and complete a capstone research project in their final year. Like other Bachelor of Arts (Honours) students, PPE students retain the ability to add a study abroad experience, paid internship, or certificate to their plan at Queen’s.

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!
From the Graduate Coordinator

I took on the role of Graduate Coordinator in the summer of 2017. It’s been a challenge and a learning experience, but one made a lot easier by the arrival of our current Graduate Assistant, Kristina Fennell, in November 2017.

For the coming academic year, the department is expecting 26 incoming MA students and five incoming PhD students. My own field of study is political theory, so I’m particularly excited about our MA in Political and Legal Thought program, now in its fourth year, which permits students to concentrate in this area by taking courses through the Department of Philosophy and Faculty of Law as well as through Political Studies.

One of the most interesting parts of my job as Graduate Coordinator is to help students secure funding through external bodies such as the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). This coming year, the department will introduce a workshop system to help PhD students develop their research proposals, and to have them help each other.

Finally, the arrival of new faculty in 2019-20 will greatly strengthen our offerings, allowing us to add graduate courses in areas such as Indigenous politics, quantitative research methods, and American politics.

Andrew Lister
Graduate Chair

Greetings from the Political Studies Graduate Student Association (PSGSA)!

Dear Politics Alumni,

As the winter semester comes to an end, we are delighted to update you on our activities this past year. The PSGSA is the representative and social organization of the department’s graduate students. We meet monthly to discuss matters such as departmental hires, representation in University government, and equity issues, as well as to plan social activities that help foster a sense of community amongst members of the department.

Recently, we’ve created a Mental Health Committee to help students, both new and continuing, access resources and support to make the graduate student process as “stress-less” as possible. This committee unofficially started last year and was spearheaded by one of our graduate students, Elizabeth McCallion. This year, the PSGSA voted to add the Mental Health Committee as part of our association. Currently, PhD candidate Linda Mussell is the Chair of the Mental Health Committee. For the fall term exam period when stress levels can be high among graduate students, the Mental Health Committee implemented a Holiday Door Decorating Contest as a way to bring more joy to the department during the holiday season. The Committee also created a ‘Mental Health Shelf’ in the student-lounge with free mental health resources such as books and pamphlets on mental health resources at Queen’s.

In 2018, the PSGSA hosted a successful graduate student conference titled “The Politics of Fear” focused on issues and ideologies surrounding immigration and citizenship, and, of course, U.S. President Donald Trump. Political Studies graduate students, graduate students from other departments at Queen’s, and students from other universities presented papers and received feedback from professors in the department. Our keynote speaker was award-winning author Michael Adams who talked about his recent book, Could It Happen Here? Canada in the Age of Trump and Brexit. The PSGSA’s fourth annual student conference was held on May 11, 2019.

Last season, our infamous softball team, the Ballsheviks, had its most successful season in many years, but was sadly defeated in the playoffs. This summer, we are poised to surpass last season’s result, and to finally win the title. Our softball team is a part of our Social Committee, which plans various social events throughout the year to create a sense of collegiality amongst graduate students.

The PSGSA has been and will continue to be the representative and social body for Political Studies graduate students. We continue to work within and outside of the department to advocate on behalf of our student body. As Co-Chairs, we are happy to be a part of this community, to head this association, and to speak on its behalf.

Elisha Corbett and Simon Marmura Brown
PSGSA Co-Chairs
April 2019
PhD Candidate Profile

Sarah Sharma is a third year PhD Candidate and Vanier Scholar in International Relations in the Department of Political Studies at Queen’s University. She also holds a Doctoral Research Award from the International Development Council (IDRC). Currently, she is a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Previously, she was a Visiting Research Fellow at the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Before joining the Department, she was at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in New York City working as an Economic Affairs Consultant. Sarah received her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Global Development Studies from Queen’s University and her Master’s in International Political Economy from the University of Manchester.

1. What is your area of research?

My research looks at urbanization and climate change, with a specific focus on the implications of flooding for low-income groups. I look at how cities are growing and experiencing heightened levels of natural hazards and how those hazards have both environmental and economic effects on the most vulnerable groups living in those cities. As such, I study the governance of urbanization and flooding in two key cities: Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Dhaka, Bangladesh.

2. Why did you decide to pursue this area in particular?

My background is in global development studies, and I worked at the United Nations in New York prior to pursuing my PhD. Through these experiences, I became interested in examining how the global North and South are more connected than is commonly accepted both in academic and non-academic circles. I believe studying cities provides an interesting lens to understand governance processes across the world today. My research examines pertinent issues affecting cities across the globe, namely urbanisation and climate change. There is minimal research looking at urban climate change and urban natural hazards within the discipline of political studies and so my research focuses on how these two themes are increasingly interacting with urban development globally.

3. What impact do you hope your research will have?

The goal of my research is to address academic communities, national and municipal governments, and actors at the global level, in both the public and private sectors. Ultimately, I want to be able to engage with policy dialogues at multiple levels of governance to help produce economic and environmentally sustainable solutions for urban residents.

4. Why did you choose Queen’s for your PhD?

I chose Queen’s because of the excellent reputation of my supervisor, Susanne Soederberg, and the support that is offered by the department in comparison to other universities. I also went to Queen’s for my undergraduate degree and knew I would be comfortable living in Kingston again as a graduate student.

5. How has winning the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship and the Doctoral Research Award from the International Development Council enhanced your research this year?

Winning those two awards has drastically facilitated the scale and scope of my research. I’ve been able to undertake a multi-case study for my dissertation and spend valuable time in each location with ample research tools and personnel. Without these awards, I wouldn’t have been able to undertake the same level of research; my dream was always to complete a large project, but I wasn’t sure if I would be able to do it because of the funding required. Receiving this funding has given me the opportunity to execute this project and fulfill that dream, and being able to establish a global project has been really special. I’m currently completing field work in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Dhaka, Bangladesh, which are both cities undergoing rapid urbanization while under threat of urban water hazards.

6. What do you have planned for the next year?

After finishing field work, I’ll process the data I’ve collected and write my dissertation, which I hope to have completed by May 2021. I’ll also be presenting at major-refereed conferences, completing publications, and making plans for future research projects.

Photo: Sarah Sharma. Taken during field research in Dhaka, Bangladesh
MA Candidate Profile

James Anderson is a U.S. air force veteran who initially served four years enlisted on active duty. His assignments include a deployment with a helicopter rescue unit in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, which was the springboard to his interest in U.S. foreign policy. He holds an MA in International Relations from American University’s School of International Service and a BA in Political Science from the University of South Carolina. James was among 16 national security professionals selected for the Washington, D.C. chapter of the Truman National Security Project’s Defense Council, and was listed on the SC Black Pages’ “Top 20 Under 40” list for his work in creating the University of South Carolina’s Veterans Alumni Council. He is currently an active duty Air Force Intelligence Officer under the Air Force Institute of Technology’s (AFIT) Civilian Institutions Program. James was awarded the 2018-2019 Fulbright Scholarship to Canada and has spent the year working on an MA in Political Studies advised by Dr. David Haglund, in addition to conducting research with the Centre for International and Defence Policy.

1. What is your area of research?

My research interest sits at the intersection of Canada-China relations and Canada-U.S. relations against the backdrop of Chinese aims to supplant the U.S. as the world’s ranking power. I hope to provide policy recommendations as Canada seeks to manage its middle power influence as it finds itself ever more wedged between a neighborly ally (U.S.) and a strategic partner (China).

2. Why did you decide to pursue this area of interest?

Canada-U.S. relations broadly speaking is an understudied topic in the United States, one that is seen as static and a ‘well-oiled machine’. As a U.S. military officer, I found that we spend so much time learning about our adversaries and very little time learning about our allies, and at times even take them for granted. I wanted to investigate the composition of Can-U.S. relations across a wide-range of issues and determine what form the relationship will take in the future.

3. What impact do you hope your research will have?

I hope to publish some of my work in peer-reviewed journals. There is a strategic realization that should come to the forefront in the minds of Canadian and American policy makers, where choosing between the U.S. and China may be more of an “either-or” scenario than it was once thought to be. Within my research, I am focused on one issue currently: Can-U.S. Arctic affairs. My role as a Visiting Fulbrighter with the Centre for International and Defence Policy here at Queen’s has also provided a platform and network for me to publish.

4. Why did you choose Queen’s to complete your MA?

My case is unique for two reasons. I had no context for Canadian universities and I developed my research project through the Fulbright process. Initially, I reached out to a professor from McGill who forwarded my project to Queen’s Political Studies faculty Stéfanie von Hlatky and David Haglund. They convinced me that Queen’s was a great fit because of its past scholarship on Canada-U.S. relations, the importance of Kingston as the first capital, and its historical significance to the development of the relationship. The second reason I chose Queen’s was because it offers a one-year MA program. This format makes it desirable for students who wish to focus on a singular topic throughout an intensive academic year.

5. How has winning the Fulbright Scholarship enhanced your research?

The Fulbright-Canada program facilitates a cultural exchange between Americans who have an interest in conducting research in Canada. Since the Fulbright program is funded annually by the U.S. Congress and administered by the State Department, it provides funding, opportunity, and the access necessary to conduct meaningful research. For example, I have been able to meet with officials at the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa who specialize in some of the very topics that are integral to what I’m doing. Welding together my time as a Fulbrighter with my MA degree here at Queen’s has been a value-added experience, for sure.

6. What are your plans following completion of your MA?

As a junior Air Force Intelligence Officer, very rarely are we afforded opportunities early in our careers to operate and answer questions at a “30,000 foot view” -- we are often operating at the tactical level. Here at Queen’s, I have learned not only the value of grappling with big picture strategic issues, but the importance of always re-evaluating the lens by which a researcher views an issue. Grounding policy with theory and always checking your “lens” is my biggest takeaway from the program. I hope to take this perspective to my next job as an Intelligence Officer working on the U.S. Air Force Central Command’s Intelligence Directorate as a staff officer.
Central European University Summer Course

In July 2018, three faculty members and three students from the Department of Political Studies participated in a summer course at the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest. Co-created by Dr. Zsuzsa Csergő and Dr. Szabolcs Pogonyi, an associate professor and Director of the National Studies Program at CEU, this summer course exemplified the values of successful international cooperation in teaching and learning.

Over the span of five days, the course “Territorial Sovereignty in the Age of Migration” focused on one of the most difficult challenges faced by societies around the world. It offered a unique opportunity for participants to familiarize themselves with, and engage in discussions about, the normative dilemmas and political struggles over territorial sovereignty, ownership over territory and issues of migration in the contemporary world.

Drawing in participants from across the globe, the student body was comprised of 21 students from over 10 countries. Most participants were graduate students but some participants were lecturers, researchers, or NGO activists who had already completed their MA or PhD studies.

According to Dr. Pogonyi, “the summer course co-organized by the two institutions was intended to entrench and institutionalize the relationship of Queen’s and CEU faculty.” Dr. Csergő emphasized the “enriching qualities of such a diverse international learning space, in which every conversation between participants becomes an opportunity to learn something new—a fresh insight on shared challenges, new knowledge about another part of the world, or a better understanding of ideas that connects us.” The goal to connect institutions and people was a key driver for creation of the course.

Not only did participants attend classes, but there were “…a number of social events including visits to Budapest ‘ruin bars’, and a guided tour in the city in which [participants learned] about disputes over urban memory politics (renaming of streets and erection of new memorials and statues with clear political intentions).”

Notably, the incumbent President and Rector of CEU is Canadian author, academic and politician, Michael Ignatieff. In his welcome address, Ignatieff expressed his delight to have Queen’s faculty and students in attendance. He also spoke about the significance of academic freedom in institutions of higher learning for the sustainability of democratic government.

In this regard, the CEU Summer University, which was established in 1996 to offer high-level and innovative summer courses in the social sciences and humanities, has emerged as a leading institution. The summer course has proven to be an excellent opportunity to engage in the kind of international co-education that fosters learning experiences and relationships that have a lasting impact.

New PhDs

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New Faculty

STÉPHANIE MARTEL joined the department as an Assistant Professor in Political Studies specializing in International Relations in January 2018. Her research focuses on the role of discourse in world politics, multilateral diplomacy, security governance, and regionalism in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific. She received her PhD in Political Science from the Université de Montréal in 2017. Prior to joining Queen’s, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of British Columbia and McGill University. Stéphanie has extensive research experience in Southeast Asia, and regularly takes part in policy dialogues in East and Southeast Asia, alongside representatives of regional governments, expert networks, and civil society. She is currently working on a book on security community-building in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

POULOMI CHAKRABARTI joined the department in July 2018, with a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor in Political Studies with a specialization in Comparative Politics and expertise on Asia. Her research interests include political economy of development, identity politics, public service delivery, and urbanization with a regional focus on South Asia. Poulomi defended her PhD at Brown University in 2018. She holds an MA in international development from MIT and an undergraduate degree in urban planning from the School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi.

DANIELLE DELANEY joined the department in July 2019 with a tenure-track appointment as Lecturer in Political Studies, specializing in Indigenous Politics. Danielle’s research focuses on the legal discourse of indigeneity and the politics of recognition through a comparative analysis of the legal strategies of American Indians/Alaska Natives and the indigenous peoples of northern Russia (коренные малочисленные народы Сибири). She teaches indigenous politics, constitutional law, and political theory. Before pursuing her PhD, Danielle was the legislative director for the National Council of Urban Indian Health and legal counsel to the Tribal Technical Advisory Group to the Centers of Medicaid and Medicare (TTAG: CMS). She received her JD from Georgetown University Law Center with a focus on legislative advocacy and was a Georgetown Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellow. Danielle defended her PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 2019.

FAN LU joined the department in July 2019 with a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor in Political Studies, specializing in U.S. Politics and Politics of Race. Her research interests include electoral competition versus cooperation between Latinos, Asians, and African Americans; the media’s role in perpetuating racialized political outcomes; and women of color in politics. Fan has a BA in Economics from Emory University and defended her PhD at the University of California, Davis in May 2019.

YOLANDE BOUKA joined the department in July 2019 as an Assistant Professor specializing in Gender and Politics. Yolande’s research and teaching focus on gender, African politics and security, political violence, and field research ethics in conflict-affected societies. Her current research is a multi-sited historical and political analysis of female combatants in Southern Africa. Prior to joining Queen’s University, she was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Elliott School of International Affairs at the George Washington University, and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Denver. In addition to her academic work, she has extensive experience with development and security research agencies. She has worked with and offered support to USAID, the UK Department for International Development, the United Nations, the African Union, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the United States Institute of Peace. She holds a PhD in International Relations from American University and completed her MA at Seton Hall University.

PAUL GARDNER joined the department as an Assistant Professor in Politics and Law in July 2019. Paul formerly served as a Visiting Researcher at the Centre for Law in the Contemporary Workplace at the Queen’s University Faculty of Law and a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Political Science in the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. Paul’s research and teaching interests are broadly in American law and politics. His work sits at the intersection of a number of sub-disciplines of political science, including American institutions, judicial politics, American political development, law and society, and political behaviour.
People Spotlight

New Postdoctoral Fellows

Adrienne Davidson,
Skelton-Clark Postdoctoral Fellow

Adrienne Davidson joined the department as the Skelton-Clark Postdoctoral Fellow specializing in Comparative Politics and Canadian Politics in August 2018. Her research interests include Canadian politics, federalism and intergovernmental relations, comparative public policy, the politics of policy change, and qualitative and quantitative research methods. Her current research is focused on the subnational level, engaging in a systematic exploration of the conditions that favour policy innovation. Previously serving as a Fulbright Visiting Researcher at the Center for Canadian Studies at Johns Hopkins School of International Studies in Washington, D.C., Davidson holds a PhD in Political Science and MPP from the University of Toronto, and an undergraduate degree from the University of Guelph.

Kate Korycki,
Peacock Postdoctoral Fellow

Kate Korycki joined the Department as the Peacock Postdoctoral Fellow in July 2018, specializing in Comparative Politics and Gender and Politics. Her research interests include identity politics, collective memory politics, transition societies, political parties, power/ideology, narratives, constructivism (in comparative politics), discourse analysis and qualitative research methods, French post-structuralism, Central-Eastern European politics, and North American politics. She has developed a politicized collective framework that has allowed her to analyze how political elites engage the past to constitute and maintain social division. Korycki holds a PhD in Political Science from UofT, a Master’s degree in Political Science from McGill, and an undergraduate degree in Public Administration and Governance.

Daniel Westlake,
Buchanan Postdoctoral Fellow

Daniel Westlake joined the Department in July 2019 as the new Buchanan Postdoctoral Fellow in Canadian Democracy. His research focuses on multiculturalism and immigration policy and parties and elections in both a Canadian and comparative context. Building upon his dissertation, Multiculturalism and Political Parties: Explaining the Positions that Parties Take and their Influence over Policy Adoption, Daniel is currently working on the ways centre-right and centre-left support for multiculturalism has shaped policy development. He is also developing a project examining the rise and fall of the NDP between 2004 and 2019.

The Buchanan Postdoctoral Fellowship in Canadian Democracy

The Buchanan Postdoctoral Fellowship in Canadian Democracy was established by Catherine Buchanan, ArtsSci ’79 (History & Political Studies), B.Ed. 1980 in honour of her family, including her late husband Murray Buchanan, ArtsSci ’78 (History), MBA ’80, whom she met in a Canadian social history class here at Queen’s. Both Murray and Cathy were actively involved in municipal and provincial politics over many years (including the 21 years that Murray served as city councillor in Airdrie, AB), which fostered their strong belief in the importance of Canadian democracy. Through Cathy’s generosity, this fellowship will create opportunities for generations of young scholars to work on various aspects of Canadian politics which are related to the health of Canadian democracy at all three levels of government. We are so thankful to Cathy and the entire Buchanan family for their support – this gift will enrich the lives of students at Queen’s and ensure that we remain one of the top political studies departments in Canada for many years to come.
Reflections on the Queen’s University Internship Program

After completing the third year of my undergraduate degree as a Political Studies major, I decided to apply for a Project Coordinator position with the department. This opportunity was made possible through the Queen’s Undergraduate Internship Program (QUIP), which offers second and third year students the opportunity to gain paid, career-related, professionally supervised work experience for a period of 12-16 months. This 15-month term through QUIP has proven to be an immensely rewarding and valuable experience. In this role, I have been tasked with a wide range of duties and have gained many skills that will provide me with the experience I need when entering the job force, post-studies.

Though it has not always been an easy feat, I have tackled various projects within the department, including supporting the second annual John Meisel Lecture in Contemporary Political Controversies, leading the graduate lounge furnishing, coordinating various events throughout the year, and aiding in the launching of this newsletter. Additionally, I have relished having the opportunity to attend continuing education courses through the Human Resources Department at Queen’s on the topics of equity and inclusion, communications and marketing, administrative proficiency, financial systems, and more.

I am grateful to have had this experience in such a supportive environment, and I appreciate the encouragement and warmth of the staff, faculty and students in the department. As I near the conclusion of my internship, I am saddened to leave, but excited to pass the torch along to the next QUIP student!

Natasja Diab, Artsci’20
(Political Studies, Global Development Studies)

In Memoriam

Remembering Professor Emeritus C.E.S. (Ned) Franks

A professor emeritus in the Department of Political Studies and the School of Physical and Health Education, Dr. Franks taught at Queen’s for 35 years, and was a leading expert on Canada’s parliamentary system. He died on September 11, 2018 at the age of 81.

Born in Toronto, Dr. Franks attended Upper Canada College, earned his BA (1959) and MA (1965) from Queen’s, and his DPhil from Oxford.

He returned to Queen’s as an assistant professor in 1967 after working for several years with the Government of Saskatchewan, including a stint as clerk assistant of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly.

“He was a kind of larger-than-life figure both here in the department but also in the scholarly community and beyond. His intellectual breadth was incredibly broad and deep. He had a passion for knowledge,” says Jonathan Rose, an associate professor in Political Studies. “I don’t know any other political scientist who has written respected books on canoeing and Parliament. His sense of wonderment about things beyond and outside of the narrow discipline of political studies was incredibly refreshing and demonstrated a love of learning about the world.”

Dr. Franks was Dr. Rose’s supervisor during his Master’s studies at Queen’s and later became his colleague when he joined the Department of Political Studies. He was strongly influenced by Dr. Franks’ sense of rigor and the importance of precision in scholarship.

“Here was an academic who continued the best tradition of Queen’s, which is to make connections between policy making and scholarship,” Dr. Rose says. “I think one of the reasons Queen’s politics is respected in Ottawa is because of this close connection and regular advice that scholars like Ned would provide governments of all political stripes.”

In addition to more than 100 articles and chapters in books, Dr. Franks wrote or edited 14 books and monographs. He also wrote numerous influential op-ed pieces for newspapers and magazines and was asked by national and international media for his insight on important issues on the Canadian political agenda.

In 2002, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal and, in 2004, the Royal Canadian Geographical Society awarded him its 75th Anniversary Medallion. In 2007 the Queen’s University bestowed its Distinguished Service Award upon Dr. Franks in recognition of his four decades of leadership and work on campus planning.

This article originally appeared in the Queen’s Gazette.

The Department of Political Studies has created a commemorative giving opportunity in honour of Professor Emeritus C.E.S. (Ned) Franks. Please visit the Give to Queen’s website (www.givetoqueens.ca/page/view/93/513) for further details.
The Centre for the Study of Democracy and Diversity

The Centre for the Study of Democracy and Diversity (CSDD) is an interdisciplinary centre aimed at advancing research and teaching. Research within the Centre focuses on diversity, broadly conceived, including diversity of lifestyle, philosophical diversity, racial diversity, gender diversity, diversity that is brought by indigenous societies to settler-colonial societies, diversity caused by immigration, and diversity caused when a state comprises a number of different ethnic, religious, or national communities. It also focuses on democracy, asking questions about the appropriate political institutions and policies needed for governing diverse societies, how such institutions and policies are to be evaluated normatively, and the special case of states that are undergoing significant transitions, from civil war to peace and from authoritarianism to democracy (or the reverse, as in the cases of ‘illiberal democracies’).

The Centre counts among its members two recipients of the Order of Canada, three fellows of the Royal Society, two Trudeau Fellows, and two Killam Prize winners. The CSDD supports international teaching and learning opportunities for its Fellows & Emerging Scholars, and invites international post-doctoral fellows to study from around the globe. The Centre actively supports the research of graduate students whose work falls within its mandates, through the facilitation of conferences, workshops, and lectures at which graduate students may present their work, and contributions to the curriculum and funding of international summer schools.

Select research projects currently active within the CSDD:

**Indigenous Land Rights and Reconciliation?**

**Principal Investigator:** Margaret Moore  
**Start Date:** March 2019  
**Funding Source:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council Connections Grant (1 year)

This research project will fund a two-day workshop titled “Indigenous Land Rights and Reconciliation,” organized by the CSDD on Queen’s campus in September 2019. The goal of the workshop is to contribute to a better understanding of the normative and ontological considerations that underlie Indigenous land claims and the strategies that Indigenous people and the state use to pursue these claims. Although Canada was the first country to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission for indigenous people, the commission’s mandate has never been extended to land rights. This workshop will address that aspect of Indigenous-Canadian state relations.

**Explaining Consociational Success and Failure: A Comparative Analysis of Power-sharing in Bosnia, Cyprus and Northern Ireland**

**Principal Investigator:** John McGarry  
**Start Date:** March 2018  
**Funding Source:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant (5 years)

This research project involves a comparative analysis of Bosnia, Cyprus and Northern Ireland with the goal of explaining consociational success and failure. In addition to filling a gap in the literature pertaining to consociational power-sharing, the generalizable nature of this research project means that it will be relevant for other cases, including those where consociational power-sharing may lie in their future, such as Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen.

**The Politics of Complex Diversity in Contested Cities**

**Principal Investigator:** Zsuzsa Csergő  
**Co-Applicants:** Keith Banting and John McGarry  
**Start Date:** April 2015  
**Funding Source:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant (5 years)

This project examines change in ethnic rivalries in historically contested cities, where established status hierarchies are challenged by “political newcomers” such as immigrants and other newly mobilized ethno-cultural communities. In such cities, long-standing rivalries have emerged in multiple fields, manifesting themselves in conflicts over language use, state-church relations, cultural symbols and narratives, schools, neighborhoods, and access to local institutions and resources. This project focuses on four historically contested major cities: Montreal (Canada); Brussels (Belgium); Belfast (U.K.); and Vilnius (Lithuania).

**Corrective Justice and Land**

**Principal Investigator:** Margaret Moore  
**Start Date:** March 2015  
**Funding Source:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant (5 years)

This research project examines claims for corrective justice in cases where individuals and groups have been expelled from land that they previously occupied. The first part of the project involves conceptual and normative analysis of the rights violated in cases of expulsion from land: individual (and/or group) rights to property; individual rights of residency; and group rights to collective self-determination within a territory. The second part of the project applies this normative and conceptual analysis of different place-related rights to three cases where expulsions and expropriations have taken place.
The John Meisel Lecture Series in Contemporary Political Controversies

Established in 2017 by the Department of Political Studies with support from the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Office of Advancement, the John Meisel Lecture Series in Contemporary Political Controversies honours Professor Emeritus John Meisel, LLD’96, and his extensive contributions to Canadian politics and policy, Queen’s University, and the Department of Political Studies. Each year, the department invites a mid-career scholar to Queen’s University to deliver a public lecture that addresses a contemporary political controversy, followed by an interactive question and answer period and reception open to members of the Queen’s and Kingston communities. The visiting scholar also hosts a small seminar for Political Studies graduate students during his or her visit, where MA and PhD candidates have the opportunity to seek career mentorship and advice.

Formally announced on October 20, 2017 at a celebration of John Meisel’s ninety-fourth birthday, the inaugural lecture took place on November 23, 2017 at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre. Following introductory remarks by associate professor Jonathan Rose and a tribute to John Meisel by John Rae, Arts’67, Debra Thompson, associate professor at the University of Oregon, delivered a dynamic and engaging lecture on the topic of “Controversies in the Making: Trump, Race, and Time” to over 150 attendees. Her lecture offered a compelling analysis of the role that race and the politics of time played in U.S. President Donald Trump’s 2016 election campaign strategy and was followed by a lively Q&A period moderated by Lisa de Wilde, CEO of TVOntario.

The second annual Meisel Lecture was held on November 1, 2018 and featured Dr. Hayden King, MA’06 (Political Studies), Director of the Yellowhead Institute at Ryerson University, speaking on the topic of “Canada’s Oldest Controversy: The Pretense of Reconciliation” to an audience of over 250 people in the BioSciences Complex Atrium. Dr. King argued that reconciliation attempts are part of an enduring cycle in the traditional Indigenous-state relationship, and the Canadian government’s recent attempts at reconciliation should be viewed as neither a contemporary phenomenon nor as a challenge to the status quo. The event was opened by Kanonhsyonne Janice Hill, Associate Vice-Principal (Indigenous Initiatives and Reconciliation), and included additional remarks by Dean Barbara Crow, and Department Head, Zsuzsa Csergő. Guest of honour, John Meisel, attended the event for the second year in a row, days after his ninety-fifth birthday.

“The scholar series is an ideal way for the university to celebrate John’s incredible career and the contributions he has made to Queen’s and Canada in his roles as a professor, public servant, and public intellectual,” says Zsuzsa Csergő. ‘He was an important voice in many of this country’s most important debates over many decades, including discussions over the future of Canadian culture and arts, and battles over the constitution, to name a few.’”

A professor at Queen’s University since 1949, John Meisel inspired generations of students and colleagues, and helped to build the Department of Political Studies into one of the strongest in the country. He was a pioneer in research on political behavior in Canada, writing on topics such as political parties, elections, ethnic relations, politics and leisure,
culture, culture policy, and Quebec politics. Throughout his career, he served as the founding editor of both the *Canadian Journal of Political Science* and the *International Political Science Review* and as the president of the Royal Society of Canada from 1992 to 1995. A strong supporter of Canadian culture and the arts, he was Chair of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) from 1980 to 1983, overseeing the introduction of subscription television in Canada. His contributions to Canada were recognized in 1989, when he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada, and again in 1999, when he was promoted to Companion, the highest grade in the Order.

On April 15, 2019, Queen’s University further recognized John Meisel, when Principal and Vice-Chancellor Daniel Woolf and Dean of Arts and Science Barbara Crow officially named the wrought iron gate located between Dunning Hall and Richardson Hall ‘the John Meisel Gate’ during a plaque unveiling ceremony at Richardson Hall. Of the naming, Principal Daniel Woolf said, “the courtyard, bordered by Richardson, Dunning, and Mackintosh-Corry, has long been one of my favourite places on campus, and over the years the gate itself has acted as a symbolic entrance to the social sciences here at Queen’s. I can’t think of a more suitable tribute to Professor Meisel than to name the gate in his honour for all he has done for Queen’s, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and the Department of Political Studies.”

The third annual John Meisel Lecture in Contemporary Political Controversies will be held on November 21, 2019. For audio recordings and published papers of past lectures, please visit the department website at https://www.queensu.ca/politics/MeiselLecture.

To honour Professor John Meisel and support the John Meisel Lecture Series in Contemporary Controversies, please visit givetoqueens.ca or please contact James Parker at 1-800-267-7837.

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### Faculty Updates

#### Select Awards, Distinctions, and Achievements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Keith Banting</td>
<td>Queen's Distinguished Service Award (Queen's University)</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zsuzsa Csergő</td>
<td>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellowship (University of Graz, Austria)</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin Farrelly</td>
<td>Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Social Sciences (University of Hawai‘i, Minao)</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>Janet Hiebert</td>
<td>Sir Edward Peacock Professorship in Political Studies (Queen's University)</td>
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<td>MacCormick Fellowship (Edinburgh Law School)</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<td>Stéfanie von Hlatky</td>
<td>Rhodes Inspirational Educator Award (Rhodes Trust)</td>
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<td>2018 Captain Nichola Goddard Award (CDA Institute)</td>
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<td>John McGarry</td>
<td>Sir Edward Peacock Professorship in Political Studies (Queen's University)</td>
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<td>Distinguished University Professor (Queen's University)</td>
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<td>John Meisel</td>
<td>John Meisel Gate Naming (Queen's University)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Moore</td>
<td>Olof Palme Visiting Research Professor (University of Stockholm)</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>Prize for Excellence in Research (Queen’s University)</td>
<td>2019</td>
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#### Select Publications

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colin Farrelly</td>
<td>Genetic Ethics: An Introduction (Polity Books)</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant</td>
<td>Co-editor: Federalism and the Welfare State in a Multicultural World (McGill-Queen's University Press)</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Haglund</td>
<td>The US “Culture Wars” and the Anglo-American Special Relationship (Palgrave Macmillan)</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stéfanie von Hlatky</td>
<td>Forthcoming: Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism (McGill-Queen’s University Press)</td>
<td>2019</td>
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