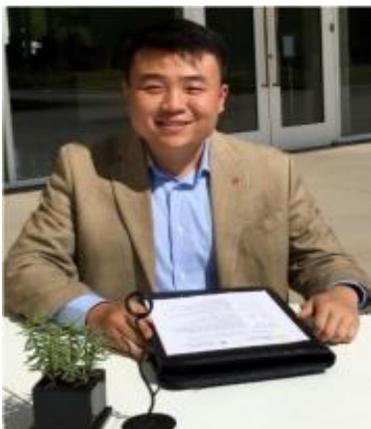




#TheHeartofKU News from Blake Hall, University of Kansas, Political Science, Fall 2019

From the Chair: Despite all the rain in 2019 this has been a busy year on the hill. Our enrollments and number of majors has increased by more than 15 percent over recent years and our faculty and graduate students have continued to publish and present their work at accelerated levels. A few of the highlights from the past year:



Promotions and a Welcome

We are pleased to announce the promotion of Professors **Hannah Britton** and **John Kennedy** to Full Professor in August, and Professors **Nazli Avdan** and **Patrick Miller** were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. We welcomed a new faculty member to our department, Assistant Professor **Jiakun (Jack) Zhang**. Professor Zhang's research and teaching is focused on International Relations with an emphasis on security in East Asia.

Kevin Mullinix



Professor Kevin Mullinix has been named as the inaugural Ethan and Martha Allen Research Chair in American Politics for the 2019-20 academic year. This fund supports research in American politics and was established by Martha Allen to honor her father, former long-time KU Political Science Professor Ethan Allen. This research chair award will be a revolving chair position going forward. Congratulations Professor Mullinix!



Ketzel Series: Professor Christina Wolbrecht

Thanks to continued support from our donors we have been fortunate to sponsor or co-sponsor a number of high-caliber scholar visits to campus in the past year. As part of the **Clifford P. Ketzel Speaker Series for the Expression of Minority Opinions** and the **Political Science Lecture Series** we had the pleasure of hosting or co-sponsoring a number of speakers on campus in 2019. Our most recent speaker was part of a series of events and activities celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage.

Professor Christina Wolbrecht presented research from her forthcoming book , [*A Century of Votes for Women*](#), and met with students and faculty during her visit.



Ketzel speaker and KU alum Carlos Centeno (center) with Professors John Kennedy (left) and Michael Wuthrich (right).

In November we also co-sponsored a campus visit and talk by KU alum **Carlos Centeno** with CGIS. He talked about his journey from UN Field Operations to Economic Development Developer, and is one of the College's [Hawks to Watch!](#)

Thanks to Ketzel funds we also hosted **Professor Gary Uzonyi** in October, who presented "Commitment Problems and Mass Killing during Civil War." Also in October we also co-sponsored **Professor Michael Gorham's** talk on "Trolling, Power, and Political Communication in Putin's Russia" with several KU departments and programs. Along with

the Hall Center and WGSS, we co-sponsored the Humanities Series Lecture by Associate Professor of Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies at Rutgers University, **Dr. Brittney Cooper** in September.

In August we co-sponsored a convocation visit by journalist **Terrell Jermaine Starr** along with the KU School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures. In May POLS PhD alum **Professor Mahalley Allen** visited campus to share her wisdom on what she has learned in the academy with students and faculty. In April, along with the Kansas African Studies Center, we supported a visit by **Professor Tim Longman**, and other events, to remember the victims and survivors of the genocide in Rwanda that occurred 25 years prior.

In April 2019 we were also a major supporter of an academic conference at KU organized by **Professor Hannah Britton** and others, **Beyond Discourse: Critical and Empirical Approaches to Human Trafficking**. Support from the Ketzler fund covered some expenses including those of **Dr. Kamala Kempadoo**, Professor of Social Sciences at York University, who delivered the conference keynote address.

In February, along with the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity, we co-sponsored the 2019 Jana Mackey Distinguished Lecture, "We Won't Go Back: Why Title IX Matters to You," by **Fatima Goss Graves**, CEO and President, National Women's Law Center. And in January we hosted **Professor Hank Jenkins Smith's** talk "Volatility in Individual Beliefs about Climate Change over Time: The Role of Political Ideology," and PhD student **Matthew Lacombe's** talk, "The NRA's Political Weaponization of Gun Owners."

Also thanks to support from our donors we were able to provide a number of awards for collaborative research between students and faculty through the **Allan J. Cigler Academic Enrichment Fund** and the **Lance F. Johnson Award**, including:

- **Joel Dominguez** received a spring 2019 Cigler Award to work with Professors Avdan and Omelicheva on a project entitled "When Do Insurgent Groups Engage in Human Trafficking?"
- **Benjamin Ferlo** received a summer 2019 Cigler Award to work with Professor Miller media coverage of the Transgender issues.
- **Nick Velo** received a fall 2019 Cigler Award to work with Professor Miller on a media coverage in politics
- **Noah Fair** received a fall 2019 Cigler Award to work with Professor Webb on a project entitled: "Modeling Cross Sectional Dynamic Heterogeneity in International Political Economy Data."



Joel Dominguez a spring 2019 recipient of a Allan J. Cigler Academic Enrichment Fund Award

- **Patrick Gauding** and **Abigail Vegter** received fall 2019 Lance F. Johnson Awards for collaborative work with Professor Haider-Markel on a project examining misinformation about guns, gun violence, and gun owners.

You can continue to get updates about the department on our webpage (<http://kups.ku.edu/>), at [Political Science at KU](#) on **Facebook**, on **LinkedIn** group “KU Political Science” and on **Twitter** (@KUPoliticalSci) where we’ll post more day-to-day news about items of interest.

In April 2019 we honored our outstanding undergraduate and graduate students with monetary and distinction awards at our [Pi Sigma Alpha Honor’s Recognition Ceremony](#). We will hold a similar event in 2020 and in May 2020 we will be hosting the 9th annual **Political Science Graduation Recognition Ceremony** (founded by Emeritus Professor **Elaine Sharp**) for all graduating political science majors and their families. You can find pictures of these events on our webpage and our Facebook page.



Law **Professor Amii Castle** (POLS Class of 1994) addressing the 2019 Political Science Graduation Recognition Ceremony.

I invite you to contact me or any of the faculty with news that you would like to share with us and with other department alumni (dhmarkel@ku.edu).

A special shout-out to our **major donors** from the last 12 months that were also willing to be identified. Your donations help our students and faculty excel!

Martha S. Allen
John H. Beisner
Donald R. Brada Sr., MD
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Brandon T. Woodard

Saif Bajwa: Finalist for Rhodes!



Saif Bajwa is a major in political science with a minor in economics. He's a member of the University Honors Program and was selected as a sophomore for the competitive University Scholars Program. Bajwa has served on a variety of political campaigns and worked in constituent services for Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly. He has been active on campus with Student Senate, the Student Legislative Awareness Board and the Dole Institute of Politics. A former member of the KU Debate squad, Bajwa has also worked as a debate coach and tutor. Last year he volunteered as an English instructor at the Government High School in Mohlanwal, Pakistan. Saif is a finalist for a Rhodes Scholarship. Congratulations, Saif!

Some news from our awesome graduate students!



Patrick Gauding published a co-authored chapter with Professor Don Haider-Markel entitled "LGBT Judges in the United States" in an edited volume *Race, Gender and Sexuality*, Eds. Sharon A. Navarro and Samantha Hernandez. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Gauding and **Abbie Vegter** presented co-authored work, with Haider-Markel, "Measuring the Social Identity of Gun Owners in America" at MPSA 2019. He presented "The Political Characteristics of Criminal Justice Jurisdictions Offering Criminal Diversions" at the Great Plains Political Science Association Conference, and will be presenting research at SPSA 2020, co-authored with Haider-Markel, "Explaining Support and Attributions for State Violence: Authoritarianism and Gun Ownership."

Dr. Alexandra Middlewood defended her dissertation this summer and started

her position as an Assistant Professor at Wichita State University in August.

Haruka Nagao is currently working on research on Women's Social Capital and Prenatal Care Services in China. She had three conference presentations in 2019, two are collaborative works with fellow grad students. At MPSA, "In the Media or Out the Window: Perception of inequality and media exposure in China, South Korea, and Japan" with **Leeann H. Youn**. SPSA "Trust and Tolerance: Social Capital and Political Tolerance in Rural and Urban China". SPSA, "Party Behavior in Authoritarian Regimes" with **Holly Rains** and **Rachel E. Finnell**.



Doctoral candidate Sierra Watt's Fellowship work in Washington!

As a Wilma Mankiller Fellow for Tribal Policy and Governance, Doctoral candidate, Sierra Watt is working this year with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in Washington D.C., at the Embassy of Tribal Nations. The program, named for the first female chief of the Cherokee Nation, provides emerging professionals with experience in serving Indian Country, working closely with tribal leaders, and learning more about Federal Indian Law and intergovernmental relations. Placed with NCAI's data branch, the Policy Research Center, her most recent projects include developing a policy brief on Intellectual Property Law as it relates to tribal governments, research into the new statistical privacy methods for the 2020 Census, Differential Privacy, and its potential impacts on data from American Indian reservations and Alaska Native villages, as well as compiling data sent to help prepare presidential candidates participating in the first Frank LaMere Native American Presidential Forum as part of NCAI's non-partisan Native Vote campaign. She also has assisted on organizational comment letters in response to federally mandated tribal consultations between tribes and various agencies, including recent comments to the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Census Bureau. She



is thankful for the chance to gain a deeper understanding of tribal governance and policy, as well as for the opportunity to bring her research skills to use for her community.

Faculty Activity 2019

Following the retirement of **Carolyn Johnson** after 28 years of teaching constitutional law courses for the department, two of her former students, **JD Amii Castle** and **JD Clay Britton**, are serving as instructors for the con law courses this academic year.

Alan Arwine teaches classes in American government and international politics. He is writing two books: the first examines political tolerance in advanced industrialized countries and the second explores determinants of human rights.

Nazli Avdan is working on two new papers and two data coding projects. One paper, to be presented at the Peace Science meeting at K-State (with Gary Uzonyi) examines the effects of peacekeeping missions on transnational terrorism. The second paper (with Amanda Murdie), to be presented at ISA-Midwest in St. Louis, explores the effects of economic and political migration flows on human rights conditions in host states. Dr. Avdan is collaborating with Mariya Omelicheva in coding insurgent groups' participation in human trafficking. She is also collaborating with Jim Piazza and Scott Piazza in coding terrorist groups' criminal activities.

David Brichoux is teaching courses in American politics and political theory. He is also collaborating on public opinion research projects with Mark Joslyn (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/David_Brichoux).

Hannah Britton was promoted to full Professor this year. She is currently in South Africa working on projects related to gender and South African politics, including the relaunch of the National Gender Machinery, the new National Platform for Action on Gender-based Violence, and national efforts to eliminate human trafficking. She continues to lead the Center for the Study of Injustice (<http://ipsr.ku.edu/CSI/>) and direct the Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Initiative (<http://ipsr.ku.edu/ASHTI/>).

Brittnee Carter has been working to advance her research on religiously motivated terrorism and cultural/ideological explanations for international conflict. In addition, she recently became affiliate faculty at the Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), and is teaching for the KU Honors Program. (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Brittnee_Carter).

Don Haider-Markel is chairing the department and published several co-authored articles on LGBT politics, gun politics, and the politics of attributions. He has a forthcoming volume on *Legislating Morality in America* and a forthcoming series, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of LGBT*

Politics and Policy (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Donald_Haider-Markel); follow on twitter @dhmarkel

Paul Johnson is half-time in POLS this year and teaching courses on quantitative research methods. We can now call him Grandpa.

Mark Joslyn is conducting research and teaching courses in American politics (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mark_Joslyn).

John Kennedy is writing (with Yaojiang Shi) a follow up to their 2019 book, *Lost and Found*. They are examining the involuntary bachelors in rural China. These men are called "bare branches" because they will not have children and, as a result, their own family tree stops. The project examines how these "bare branches" influence local governance in rural villages. Kennedy is also contributing a chapter on China to a book focused on the World Values Survey. (see <https://www.johnjameskennedy.com/>).

Burdett Loomis is officially retired but is (happily for us) continuing to serve as an instructor to oversee the DC and Topeka intern programs (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Burdett_Loomis).

Patrick Miller received tenure and has been promoted to Associate Professor. He continues to work on various projects related to American political behavior, and is preparing to take over management of the department internship program in the 2020-2021 academic year. He tweets about politics and political science @pmiller1693

Kevin Mullinix is writing a book in which he tests the effects of wrongful convictions in the American criminal justice system for both public opinion and public policy. In another study he examines the effects of controversial instances of police use of force – as communicated through news media and videos – for the public's attitudes toward law enforcement and the legal system (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin_Mullinix)

Mariya Omelicheva published her book titled *Webs of Corruption: Trafficking and Terrorism in Central Asia* (with Lawrence Markowitz) by Columbia University Press in May 2019. In June 2019, she appeared in a Congressional Hearing of the House Committee on Security and Cooperation in Europe on Russia's counterproductive counterterrorism (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mariya_Omelicheva).

Gary Reich is researching immigration policies in the American states for a book project (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gary_Reich).

Robert Rohrschneider completed a volume for Oxford University Press, entitled Oxford Handbook of Political Representation in Liberal Democracies. He also published articles in various

journals on party competition and EU nationalism in Europe (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Robert_Rohrschneider).

Paul Schumaker is retired Emeritus Professor but he continues to write and conduct research. He has a forthcoming book in December 2019 entitled *The Twenty-Eighth Amendment? Beyond Abolishing the Electoral College* that will be available on Amazon.

Clayton Webb has been conducting research on Time Series Methodology and Foreign Policy Analysis. His recent work has been published in *Political Analysis and Political Research Quarterly*. This year Dr. Webb presented his work at the annual meetings of the Society of Political Methodology, the International Studies Association, and the American Political Science Association (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Clayton_Webb).

Michael Wuthrich has recently completed a collaborated book manuscript on religion and attitudes in Arabic language countries, and is continuing his ongoing research on the dynamics behind the dramatic rise in the number of women involved in national politics in Turkey since 2002. His has recently published in *Political Research Quarterly* and has a forthcoming article in *Journal of Democracy* (see https://www.researchgate.net/profile/F_Wuthrich).

Jiakun (Jack) Zhang joined the department this fall as an Assistant Professor in International Relations, with expertise in Asian security studies. He has been preparing new courses and has been awarded the Center for Teaching Excellence's Course Transformation Grant to incorporate a simulation of the US-China Trade War into two courses. He also applied for a Minerva Research Initiative grant on economic interdependence, and applied to several KU Research Excellence Initiative grants. He also presented papers at several conferences around the country (see www.jackzhang.org).



[See the Alumni Spotlight!: POLS PhD, Ranya Ahmed](#), Senior Researcher at Legal Services Corporation in Washington DC!



**Alum, please keep in touch! & You can see prior newsletters and can [give to the department!](#)
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