

# POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



## Greetings from the Chair, **Tun Myint**

Welcome to the New Academic Year 2022–2023!

I write this with a great pleasure to update you with the news from the Department of Political Science & International Relations. This newsletter contains department news that we missed reporting during the pandemic era!

The Department of Political Science & International Relations has been in transition during the past two years (2019–2020 and 2020–2021). As you may have known already, the College as a whole went all online teaching for the spring trimester of 2020. It was an interesting transition that we were not prepared for, but both faculty and students collectively did well under the circumstances. And then we conducted hybrid teaching for the 2020–2021 academic year providing various modes of teaching and on and off-campus choices. We then went all in-person classes during last academic year 2021–2022. We did a great job with maneuvering the Covid guidelines and maintaining a healthy space for the most part.

I took over chairing the department at the beginning of summer 2021 from Professor Dev Gupta who chaired and led through online and hybrid terms during the height of Covid pandemic up until the end of 2020–2021 academic year. This department is populated with great caring colleagues and students that I am proud to chair for next two more years.

The most exciting news from us is that we have three new colleagues who joined us during the academic year 2021–2022. First, Dr. Juan Diego Prieto joined us as the Robert A. Oden, Jr. Postdoctoral Fellow for Innovation in the Liberal Arts and Political Science. Next is Visiting Assistant Professor Brian Harrison. Dr. Brian F. Harrison joined us in spring trimester 2022 and continuing through 2022–2023 academic year. Finally, we are so thrilled to welcome Professor Huan Gao who joined us as a tenure–track Assistant Professor of Political Science beginning in the fall term of 2021. You will read more about their research and teaching in the featured section of this newsletter.

The next big transition that happened to our department is that we have physically moved from the fourth floor of Willis Hall to newly–renovated old Music building, now renamed as Hasenstab Hall. We are looking forward to celebrating this new space by organizing both campus and public–facing panels, talks, presentations, and collaborative activities among faculty and students this coming year and beyond. So, stay tuned for new developments in our new space! Wishing you all a safe, peaceful, healthy and more satisfying year!

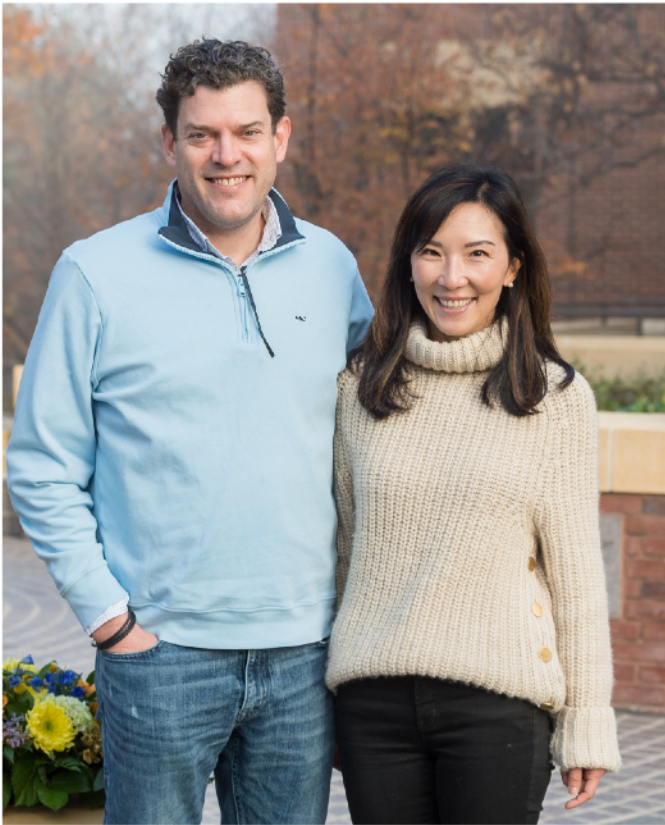
Tun Myint



Professor and Chair of the Department

## Meet the donors

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Michael J. Hasenstab '95 and Mary Ann Hasenstab

Michael Hasenstab came to Carleton from Olympia, Washington. An international relations major, he launched his career as a securities analyst at Franklin Templeton, stepping away briefly to earn a PhD in economics from the Asia Pacific School of Economics and Management at Australian National University.

Returning to Franklin Templeton, he has risen to executive vice president, portfolio manager, and CIO for Templeton Global Macro and has earned numerous accolades including recognition as a top fund manager by Investment Week, Morningstar, and Forbes.

Michael and Mary Ann married in 2009 in a service officiated by Carleton professor Roy Grow and now have three sons. Mary Ann has an MBA from the University of California–Berkeley’s Haas School of Business and also worked at Franklin Templeton. She has also volunteered for nonprofit organizations supporting education and people with developmental disabilities. Michael served the College as a trustee from 2014 to 2021. They have also proven how deeply they understand the intellectual and physical needs of the College by establishing the Roy F. Grow Endowed Fellowship and pledging support for future facility needs.

## A new home for Political Science

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### "A Political Move" (reprinted by permission)

Thanks to a generous gift from Michael Hasenstab '95 and his wife, Mary Ann, Old Music Hall is set to be refurbished and repurposed. A few years ago, when Carleton's music department decamped from its longtime home on the Bald Spot to take up residence in the new Weitz Center for Creativity, faculty and staff members left behind a structure that — apart from some furniture updates and the removal of the original pipe organ — had barely been touched in a century. In fact, until very recently, Old Music Hall looked just as it did when it was christened "new" Music Hall in 1914.



entryway

first floor classroom



The doors of the intimate practice rooms were still lined with sound-deadening leather. And the building's brick-and-stone Gothic exterior was exactly as the Chicago-based architecture firm intended, except in the summertime, when air conditioning units hang out the windows.

This July, though — thanks to a generous gift from Michael Hasenstab '95 and his wife, Mary Ann — the harmonies that once filled Old Music will be replaced by chaotic construction noise. After a top-to-bottom makeover, set to be complete in the fall of 2022, the structure will be renamed Hasenstab Hall and be home to the Department of Political Science, which currently shares quarters in Willis Hall with the economics department.

## A new home for Political Science

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new stairwell

A member of Carleton's Board of Trustees, Hasenstab studied political science and international relations at the college and now serves as executive vice president and chief investment officer for Templeton Global Macro. In 2015 he told Forbes magazine that the late Roy Grow, storied director of Carleton's international relations program, helped him "look behind the scenes ... and understand that political complexities drive certain outcomes."

"At Carleton, I developed a foundation of knowledge and a way of critically looking at the world that has been essential to my professional growth," Hasenstab says. "Mary Ann and I are fortunate to be in a position to support the college's continued excellence in preparing future global leaders, in part by ensuring they have the opportunity to learn in the best academic environment possible."

Devashree Gupta, then chair of the political science department, says the new space will, among other things, provide students and faculty members a much-needed place to study, socialize, and do research. "We've seen how other departments have been able to build community by having a central hub where people can gather informally, to talk, get acquainted, and debate interesting questions," she says.



office example

## A new home for Political Science

Political science professor Greg Marfleet, who helped the college assess the department's key facility needs, says he wasn't sure how to react when administrators first suggested a new home in Old Music Hall. "I didn't know much about the structure," he says. "But when you look past the heavy doors and small rooms and look at the bones, the building is solid. The challenge for the designers was how to carve out larger spaces in the middle of each floor."

That task fell to Minnesota-based architecture firm LHB. After in-depth discussions with the department and the donors, the firm drew up plans that left the elegant exterior intact and reworked the three floors inside.

Compartmentalized spaces will be fused into larger rooms, glass panels in interior walls will allow light to penetrate even the center of the building, and the first-floor entry hall will be expanded to create a welcoming central lobby. A new elevator will be installed, mechanical and electrical service will be updated, and restrooms will be redone for accessibility and all-gender use.



Kitchen

The new space will also allow the department to expand and experiment with new activities and directions in political science, Gupta says. The first floor will house a research/seminar space where, say, polling could be done or students could test technologies related to elections. In the building's basement, a collaboration and teaching space will feature plenty of blank white walls where poster projects or other exhibits can be put on display for evaluation or discussion. "We've tried to make the space as flexible as possible," Marfleet says, "in the hope of accommodating future and current innovations in the field."



Third floor hallway

## A new home for Political Science

Gupta notes that the cross-campus move may also foster more interdisciplinary collaboration. Department faculty members already have initiated interdisciplinary work with people in psychology and computing. Proximity to other departments on the east side of campus may lead to further integrated research approaches. Since the music department's departure, Old Music Hall has been the temporary home to a number of faculty members and administrators who happened to have offices in other campus buildings undergoing renovations. Gretchen Hofmeister '85, associate dean of the college, who usually inhabits an office in Laird, temporarily moved into Old Music Hall last year. She was unfamiliar with the building, despite having graduated from Carleton and served on its faculty for decades. Old Music Hall charmed her, she says, and she's glad to see Carleton preserving its architectural heritage. Hasenstab, too, is glad to see a campus landmark given a second life, imbued with renewed purpose. "Carleton has always honored its storied history, but has never let that history impede innovation," he says. "I think everyone involved is excited by the ways in which the renovation will spark new connections and conversations among professors and students, both inside the department and across campus."



Flexible use space in lower level



Second floor hallway

## Farewells

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< Adieu, Doctors Freeze >

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In June of 2021 the Political Science department said goodbye to Professors Kent and Melanie Freeze. Kent and Melanie made an indelible impression on our students for nearly a decade, teaching courses on Research Methods, Chinese Politics, International Relations, and American Politics. The Freeze family moved to Arlington, Virginia, where Melanie's gardening was only interrupted by winter weather for two months this year. Melanie is employed as a senior researcher at Gartner, Inc., a research and advising company that offers expertise to business and industry executives. Melanie leads a team working on automation in the Information Technology, Infrastructure, and Operations field. She conducts surveys, writes case studies and interviews business leaders from across the globe. Other Carls already are employed at Gartner and Melanie hopes to add to their numbers. She is eager to talk with alums and can be reached at [melanie.freeze@gartner.com](mailto:melanie.freeze@gartner.com).

Kent has also seen a couple of alums and former students since moving to Virginia. He transitioned to a job as a Senior Data Analyst at USAID. He manages the analytics team that assesses Chinese public and private investment around the globe. Kent ([freezekent@gmail.com](mailto:freezekent@gmail.com)) looks forward to seeing former students who are in the DC area. We miss them and wish them well.

## Farewells, cont'd

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Prof. Richard  
Keiser  
celebrates  
retirement  
from Carleton

Rich Keiser obtained his PhD from UC Berkeley in 1989. After two years at the University of Denver, he joined the Carleton Political Science department in 1991. For 31 years, he's challenged students in a wide range of courses and projects from introductory politics to their capstone projects in comps. Students regularly commented about the hard work required of them in class, but that it was well worth their time and effort. We wish him well in this next stage!

## New Department Assistant

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Julie Buchwald joins the  
Carleton POSC  
department as its  
newest staff member

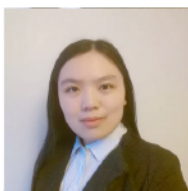
Julie Buchwald received her AAS in Business from Bryant & Stratton College in Richmond, VA, and has spent most of her career in Administrative Assistant positions in large and small businesses and academia. She has depth of knowledge and experience in handling day-to-day office operations, event and travel coordination and planning, social media, project management, publications, and presentations. Julie understands and encourages networking and ship (relationship, partnership, sponsorship, friendship) building through her experience with local Chamber of Commerce Ambassador programs and wide-ranging volunteer work.

Julie has been a freelance writer for many years whose work has been published locally in Southern MN Girlfriends Magazine, Northfield Wedding Guide, and THE Entertainment Guide. She is currently writing two books, one inspired by her dogs.

In addition to her professional experience, Julie has a deep personal connection to Carleton. Julie's father, Ed Buchwald, is the McBride Professor of Geology and Environmental Studies, Emeritus, and taught in Carleton's Geology Department for decades.

## New Faculty

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Huan Gao completed her PhD in Government at the Harvard University in 2019. Her dissertation title was *Spatial Control and State Power in Disaster-Stricken Cities: China's 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake*. Huan will teach Democracy and Dictatorship and Comparative Civil Society during 2021-22, as well as offering two new courses: Politics of Contemporary China and Mansions and Shantytowns: Politics of the Spaces we Live In. Gao is most looking forward to teaching the Mansions and Shantytowns course stating that "studying the political and social impact of roads, parks, and urban development can be interesting and relevant to students from any discipline, as it can help illuminate problems and areas for improvement in our daily environment. I hope the course will inspire students to be more aware of seemingly ordinary but impactful matters in their own communities, be it a new commercial development or affordable housing policies, and be more active in decision-making processes that shape their communities."

As a young scholar, Gao encourages students to always pursue problems that seem truly interesting and important to them, rather than compromise with the perceived "what can be done." She adds that "practical difficulties should never stop anyone from asking the big question. We can learn and develop new methods, gather new data, and mobilize new support to overcome the challenges of research, but a bold, significant question worthy of pursuit and capable of holding the researcher's interest can only come from true curiosity."



This is Juan Diego Prieto's second (and sadly final) year as Oden Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Political Science. Last year, he particularly enjoyed teaching 'Latin American Politics and Social Welfare in a Time of Crisis' and working with Carleton students as research assistants. While at Carleton, he coauthored USAID's Democratic Decentralization Programming Handbook, with Kent Eaton, Sarah Shair-Rosenfield, and Cynthia Clapp-Wincek, and has been working on a research project on how state and local governments in Colombia and Brazil responded to the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19. This year, he is looking forward to teaching a new course called 'Contemporary Capitalisms', which will examine the intersections between political and economic power across the global north and south, and continuing to work with political science majors on various research projects. This summer, he was adopted by two kittens, Benito and Orfeu, so you should expect to see lots of pictures of them if you ever come across him.



Brian Harrison came to Carleton in the fall of 2021. After completing his PhD at Northwestern University in 2013, he did a post-doc at Yale and then has taught courses at Wesleyan, Northwestern, the U of MN, and Macalester. He is thrilled to be a part of the political science department at Carleton again this year! Over the summer, he organized a group of students to start discussions about how to engage Carleton students to register and to turnout to vote in the November election. Student-led efforts will ramp up at the beginning of the school year and will include tabling, in-classroom student presentations on how to register, and civic holidays like Voter Education Week and Early Vote Day. Brian won a Campus Takeover mini-grant from the Alliance for Youth Action to help fund some of these activities. He's looking forward to working with students this year to institutionalize best practices for increasing student civic engagement.

He also won a major grant from the Student Vote Research Network to conduct a nationwide study into how best to turn out lower-propensity voters at community colleges, HBCUs, and Minority-Serving Institutions. The study will go live in September or October, leading up to the November election.

Brian has an article under review, looking at young voters' perceptions of political candidates based on their sexual orientation and race and is writing a new book called LGBTQ Life in America, under contract and slated for publication in 2023. Finally, he's about halfway through a draft of his second novel, *Before We Knew It*, a contemporary dystopian about an authoritarian American president coming to power and enacting sweeping changes to life as we know it.

Carleton faculty  
facilitate a  
community  
discussion of  
Russia's invasion  
of Ukraine

## The Invasion of Ukraine: Its Causes & Consequences

**Wednesday, March 2 | 4-5pm | Leighton 305**

Please join faculty from Political Science, History, and European Studies for a panel discussion on Ukraine that explores the role of misinformation, nationalism, the economic and geopolitical impacts of the crisis, and more. Light refreshments will be available!

*Co-sponsored by the Political Science Department, the Center for Global and Regional Studies, and Public Policy. This event will be in person and **not** recorded.*



Christina  
Farhart  
*Political Science*



Dev  
Gupta  
*Political Science*



Adeeb  
Khalid  
*History*



Greg  
Martleot  
*Political Science*



Tun  
Myint  
*Political Science*



Paul  
Petzschmann  
*European Studies*

# Honors and awards for the class of 2022

15 students received Distinction in  
their integrative exercise (Comps)

**Will Bausch**, "Analyzing Variation in US NATO Policy: A Role Theory Approach to the Clinton and Trump Administrations"

**Carly Campana**, "The Green Machine: Urban Greenspaces, Environmental Gentrification, and the Modern Growth Machine"

**Leander Cohen**, "Progress or Power Grab? Gender Reform and Protest Masculinity in the Saudi-Iran Proxy Conflict"

**Vince Cone**, "Leadership and Risk in Territorial Disputes: Exploring the Asian Great Power Rivalry in the Cases of Xi, Modi, Hu, and Singh"

**Anna Gwin**, "Politics in Partnership: Economic & Epistemic Positionality in North-South NGO Working Relationships"

**Arlo Hettle**, "Red and Blue, Stars and Stripes: The Partisan Design of Political Logos"

**Anna Hori**, "Minnesota Television Coverage of Female Candidates in 2008 and 2016"

**Nina Kaushikkar**, "Revolutionary Belonging: Theorizing a Feminist, Activist Citizenship in the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria"

**Finnegan Keilty**, "The Two-Level Authoritarian Game: A Case Study of Xi Jinping's China, Intraparty Competition, and Populist Methods"

**Kapani Kirkland**, "Fatal Eggs, Mad Scientists, and Carnival Galore: Satirical Narrative as Political Expression"

**Yuki Nagaoka**, "Globalized Sustainable Development and Local Resistance: Public Participation in a Politicized Thai Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)"

**Yicheng Shen**, "Justified Cause? Assessing the Humanitarian Outcomes of U.S. Foreign Aid and Intervention Since the Cold War"

**Jacob Smith**, "Reclaiming God: An Investigation into the Use of Religious Rhetoric by Democrats After the Election of Donald Trump and 'Homeless Voters'"

**Annette Shumway**, "The Motherland is Bleeding: Militarism and Menstruation in Afghanistan"

**Jesse Sufro Zletz**, "Updating Leng's 'Bargaining and Learning in Recurring Crises' for the US-Russia Rivalry in the Post-Cold War World"

The **Phi Beta Kappa** national honorary scholastic fraternity was founded in 1776. The Carleton chapter was established in 1913 and elects its membership from students who rank in the highest 15 percent of the graduating class as well as meet other criteria.

## 2022 inductees:

Anna Hori  
Moses Jehng  
Evan Lieberman  
Naomi Lopez  
Hana Mensendiel  
Yicheng Shen



**2022 inductees:**

Nina Kaushikkar  
Logan Knutson  
Jacob Smith  
Molly Zuckerman



The **Mortar Board** is a national honor society for college seniors. Membership is contingent upon being nominated during winter term of junior year. Carleton's chapter of Mortar Board works in conjunction with Northfield, Faribault, and its other surrounding communities to promote the national organization's stated values: scholarship, leadership, and service.

**Hana Mensendiek** was awarded the **Lee Sigelman Prize**, which recognizes the best paper written by a POSC major during their junior year. The award is given in honor of Lee Sigelman '67, who was a professor of PoliSci and Editor-in-Chief of the discipline's flagship journal, American Political Science Review, from 2001 – 2007.

**William Bausch** received a **Fullbright** fellowship, which is a student program began in 1946 that offers US citizens the opportunity to spend an academic year in a foreign country of their choice.

**Anna Gwin** received the **Hyme Loss Award for Global Engagement**. This is given to seniors who demonstrate excellence beyond the existing Global Citizenship graduation requirement. Established in 2019 to honor Prof. Hyme Loss, it encourages students to go deeper in their foreign language acquisition, cultural immersion, global perspective-taking, and cross-cultural learning.

**Grace Hague** was awarded the **Toni Award in the Arts**. Established in 1996, it honors the memory of Antionette Sostek, Carleton dance instructor from 1971–1996. It is awarded to a junior or senior who most aptly reflects the spirit of Toni's teachings and philosophy of not letting personal limitations or conventional wisdom discourage creative expression.

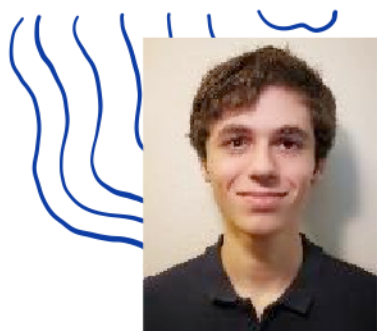
**Arlo Hettle** is this year's recipient of the **Dana Award for Personal Achievement**. Established in 1949 by Ellis H. Dana, it recognizes a male student in the senior class who has shown superior personal achievement in developing a balanced combination of high scholarship, exceptional leadership abilities, and outstanding Christian character.

**Kapani Kirkland** and **Kristin Miyagi** were given the **Pat Lamb Award**, recognizing outstanding senior female athletes who have achieved athletic excellence at the varsity level and a high level of academic achievement. It honors Pat Lamb, Carleton's first Director of Women's Athletics (1970–1985).

**Nina Kaushikkar** received the **Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship**. This is the centerpiece of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's initiatives to diversify the faculty ranks of institutions of higher learning. The fellowship is committed to supporting talented students from underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in pursuing a PhD and becoming a professor in the humanities or humanistic social sciences.

## Meet the new SDAs for 2022-2023

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Quinn  
Buhman



Hana  
Horiuchi

## Off-Campus Study in Myanmar and Thailand

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### Was That an Ox Cart? Reflections from a Term in Southeast Asia

By Amanda Mosborg and Rose Delle Fave

When you are always on the move — whether by plane, bus, boat, rickshaw, or ox cart — your classroom is wherever you can make it. On Professor Tun Myint's Political Economy and Ecology OCS in Southeast Asia, we held lectures en route, interviewed locals in tea shops and markets, discussed readings on rooftops, and presented our research while floating down the Irrawaddy River. Our program revolved around collaboration at these critical junctures, yet we each had our own unique experience because we had different homestays, translators, and independent adventures. While on-site learning was chaotic at points, it also led us to embrace spontaneous learning opportunities that we never could have imagined on campus. In this article, Amanda Mosborg ('21) and Rose Delle Fave ('21) share a few stories and reflections from their time in Myanmar and Thailand.



Professor Myint and students engage in a group discussion on the rooftop of the Royal Khattar Hotel in Yangon, Myanmar

**Time Culture and Social Change — Amanda Mosborg**

Sitting in a conference room at Naypyidaw, the capital of Myanmar, we were told by government ministers what they desired for the country's future citizens. Using terms like "efficient" and "powerful," they presented capitalism's productive, dynamic pace of life as a goal they hoped their country to achieve. But when we ventured out of Naypyidaw's complex, I soon realized that everyday life in this country, especially in the rural villages, didn't match the minister's vision of a capitalist time culture. Life in my village – Sonywa – was utterly slow. Over the few weeks I was there, I realized what made it so:

1. A fusion of work and home life.

Ma Nwe, one woman I spoke to in Sonywa, claimed she "rests" every afternoon for roughly three hours, hitting sunflower seeds or getting feed for the cows. Because her time at rest and time spent working often overlap, there is less of a sense of stress and rush in her everyday life.

A group of students  
extracting sunflower  
seeds for oil — a  
common chore in the  
rural landscape of  
Myanmar



2. A drop-in, casual gathering culture.

Kyaw Kyaw, the schoolmaster of a nearby village, asked me once: "As students, why do you need to schedule your days? If being stressed and scheduled won't make you money, then why do it?" In Sonywa, we could walk from our home base to any compound for a tea chat, uninvited. No need to plan!

3. Villagers are not traditionally ambitious.

One businessman I spoke to, Phoe Toe, had a shop, but no desire to expand it, a transportation business, but didn't want to hire more drivers; and many acres, but felt no need to acquire more land. In the village time culture, and stability trumped entrepreneurship.

However, as Myanmar modernizes, this slow pace of life is being challenged. Increasingly ambitious youth are out-migrating to other countries to make their living, clock-time is becoming increasingly important, especially with the popularization of TV. I saw similar developments during my homestay in Thailand's border lands, whose Akha hill-tribe villages are roughly 30 years more developed than those in rural Myanmar.

By the end of the trip, I was asking myself: how can the time-tested traditions of the Burmese people be reconciled with seemingly inevitable capitalist modernization? Myanmar, like the Thai border lands, is undergoing a massive transformation. While this change threatens the fusion of work and home, drop-in culture, and the valuing of stability over ambition, these major tenets of traditional time culture are, to date, still maintained. Enriched by the learn-by-doing style of this OCS, we experienced life on the precipice of change.



Amanda Mosborg ('21)  
and Karen Chen ('21)  
with a group of novice  
monks and other  
village boys in Sonywa,  
Myanmar

### **Environmental Ethics in Andaw Village — Rose Delle Fave**

In my host village in Myanmar, nature is everywhere. Plants grow wherever they want to — under and through tables, around man-made walls and fences. For several days, every square inch of my host family's yard was covered with piles of harvested peanut plants, and women gathered around to pick them. Kids and adults alike spent most of their days outside. Work, play, relaxation, and socialization all revolved around the outdoors.

Over the course of our stay in Andaw village, my research partners and I began to discover the complexity and nuance of the villagers' relationship with their environment, which we called the local environmental ethic. For example, a farmer named Daw Tin Mar Saw explained to us that her family planned on taking care of their old cow until it died, instead of selling it once it could no longer produce calves. She said she felt she owed this to the mother cow because of all she has given to the family during her life in the form of baby cows. We realized this was a form of reciprocity, or mutual give-and-take relationship, between farmers and their animals.

We also observed the role that Buddhism plays in how people interact with their environment. One woman, Daw Aye, told us that she preferred to sell her pigs rather than kill them herself. This helps her abide more closely to one of the Five Precepts of Buddhism, which is the respect for all living beings. By selling the pigs for slaughter rather than killing them herself, Daw Aye incurs less negative consequences in what Professor Myint refers to as the calculus of karma. Daw Aye explained that karma is a consideration in many aspects of agriculture in Andaw, such as how the burning of leftover crop materials must be offset by other positive actions (such as donating to the temple) because it kills all the insects and small animals that live inside of the pile of lentil stalks and other waste. All of this showed us how intentional villagers are in their actions while living with nature.

Yet, at a time of rapid modernization, we also sensed that there are new strains on the relationship between Andaw's villagers and their environment. Increased demand for consumer products and snacks created piles of single-use plastic and packaging at the edge of the village, the best available substitute for a waste-management system. Ma Swe Khaing Thin, the village's English schoolteacher, gave us a tour of the nearby forest, which she told us was now empty of the big, healthy trees they used to rely on for construction. We learned that people used to take only what they needed from the forest for firewood, but now many families cut additional trees to sell. The extra income is necessary in years of poor crop yields, often caused by the irregular rainfalls which are associated with climate change. The village monk, U Tan Law Kah, told us he believes the irregular rain is karma for man's greed in destroying forests.

Marketization, climate change, and rapid development will fundamentally alter how villagers interact with their environment in Andaw in the near future. However, many recent changes are really improving people's way of life. In 2018, the construction of a water tower gave the entire village access to clean water. In 2019, electricity was introduced in the village and is now available in 40 of the 245 households. Still, the experience of working side-by-side with farmers, connecting with people over tea chats, and being immersed in the village's culture showed me that there are important aspects and traditions of the local environmental ethic which risk being shifted, or even replaced, as a result of rapid economic change.



Rose Delle Fave ('21) and Jack Schill ('21) help local farmers harvest chili peppers outside the village of Andaw in the Sagaing region of Myanmar.

# Alumni Updates

(Please note: updates come from the last couple of years because a newsletter didn't go out during the pandemic)

## 1969

**Jeff Bergner**, Visiting Professor at Batten School of Public Policy, U of VA in Charlottesville, VA.

Publication of latest book *The Vanishing Congress: Reflections on Politics in Washington*. Book talk at Harvard University, filmed and available on C-SPAN.

## 1978

**Valerie Ifill**, Teacher, Cambridge MA

## 1979

**Leann Hogie**, Retired Foreign Service Officer, Hood River OR

In the spring of 2017 I decided it was finally time to get off the sidelines and run for office. After a well run campaign by my spouse, that included one email and one Facebook posting, I was one of 4 new people elected to Hood River's country transportation district. One small step – and probably the last one – but it has been fun so far.

## 1981

**James E. Snoxell**, CEO/President of Henningson & Snoxell, Ltd, Maple Grove, MN

Our law firm celebrated it's 40th year in 2021!  
[www.hennsnoxlaw.com](http://www.hennsnoxlaw.com)

**Huntington Starkweather Mason**, Analytic Manager for the CIA, Falls Church VA

I have retired from the CIA after 37 years of service. I will continue to reside in the Falls Church area of northern Virginia and am happy to meet and mentor current and former Carleton students, especially those interested in careers in government and public service.

**Sonja Trom Eayrs**, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, Minneapolis, MN

In my professional life, I am a matrimonial attorney and assist clients with divorce, custody and other family law related matters. The work is challenging and yet very rewarding.

In my personal life, I am a ready advocate for rural America. Our family farm in rural Dodge County, Minnesota is surrounded by 11 swine factory farms in a 3-mile radius. My family has had a front row seat to the transformative and destructive power of industrial agriculture and their heavy-handed tactics. In honor of the late Paul Wellstone who tirelessly fought for the common good, I am actively involved with our citizens group, Dodge County Concerned Citizens, which fights corporate agriculture.

## 1986

**Michael Alvarez**, Professor of Political and Computational Social Science, CalTech

My research group at Caltech has in recent years been doing a lot of work on election integrity and security. Some of our recent research is discussed in a new book, forthcoming in September 2020 from Cambridge University Press, "Securing American Elections: How Data-Driven Election Monitoring Can Improve Our Democracy" (co-authored with Nicholas Adams-Cohen [Stanford University], Seo-young Silvia Kim [American University], and Yimeng Li [Caltech]). We are now using these election security methods in a number of states and counties, helping them prepare for the presidential elections this fall.

## Alumni Updates

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### 1987

**Elissa McBride**, Secretary-Treasurer for AFSCME, Washington, DC

I am in my 4th year as a national elected officer for my union, AFSCME. We represent city, county, state and other public service employees all over the US, including in Minnesota. In fact, I have reconnected with some of the AFSCME leaders I spoke to for my senior thesis research back in 1986-7. Most recently, I have been serving on the AFL-CIO Task Force for Racial Justice, strengthening the connection between labor rights, civil rights, and racial equity.

**Emily Wallace-Jackson**, Executive Director of Seven Dreams Education Foundation, Plymouth, MN

I just started a new job as the Executive Director of Seven Dreams Education Foundation, a non-profit that funds innovative programming in the Robbinsdale Area Schools. I also continue to volunteer as a pro bono lawyer with the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, representing DACA and U.S. citizenship clients.

My husband, David Wallace-Jackson (also a political science major, '87), and I have three children. Our oldest, Andrew, just graduated from Carleton and our youngest, Grace, will be a freshman this fall. We're excited that two of our children are continuing the family tradition (and glad that our son Daniel is charting his own course).

### 1988

**Tony Abboud**, Executive Director of Vapor Technology Ass'n, Washington DC

Building and leading the national trade association defending vapor products on issues that have taken center stage in the media, the halls of Congress and state legislatures across the country, has been quite an accomplishment and incredible ride. But, one thing I never anticipated while finishing comps was that I'd be sitting in the Roosevelt Room of the White House, directly across from the President of the United States, flanked by opponents from every major health group in the country, having the opportunity to lay out a comprehensive plan to protect kids AND preserve adult access to those vapor products which are helping adults quit smoking. Lesson of the past 10 months: Good policy should be enough. But, sometimes even good policy needs some good old politicking to push it through.

**Bob Beatty**, Professor and Chair of Political Science, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Professionally: I'm in my 20th year as a professor of political science at Washburn University and third year as chair of the department. I am the political analyst for KSNT-TV in Topeka and moderated the 2018 Kansas Governor's debate and the 2020 congressional primary debate in House district #2. I also am the host for the statewide PBS program, "I've Got Issues" and write a monthly column that appears in 16 newspapers across Kansas. In 2019 I produced the documentary, "North Korea: Behind the Curtain," which aired nationwide on PBS.

Personally: Married to Stacey (class of 1985) and three children ages 23, 20, and 16. Alec graduated from Macalester College (!) in 2019 where he was named a Division III football All-American wide receiver. Over his four year career he scored eight touchdowns against Carleton!

## 1989

**Kimberlee Bell**, US Foreign Service Officer, USAID, Washington DC

I just completed a year embedded with Coalition Forces in northeastern Syria, providing oversight and management of the U.S. assistance programs, including the provision of humanitarian and stabilization programs supporting more than four million vulnerable Syrians.

## 1990

**Allison Keeley**, Head Volleyball Coach, Columbia University, NY

Accepted a position coaching at Columbia and living in NYC.

## 1992

**Nathan Henderson-James**, Climate Advocacy Lab: <https://climateadvocacylab.org/>

As of late April, 2020, I'm the new (and first!) Digital Manager for the Climate Advocacy Lab. I feel lucky that in a time when 14% of the population is unemployed and some groups are facing 50% or higher unemployment rates, that I got a dream job of sorts after being laid off from my previous job 9 months before. The Lab is a five-year-old organization dedicated to helping the climate advocacy community build grassroots power and win

through evidence-based advocacy. And when we talk about "evidence-based advocacy," we mean work that: (1) builds on lessons learned from past campaigns, (2) leverages insights from social science insights research, and (3) uses data to increase efficiency and allow for evaluation.

My role is to help build a training curriculum on digital advocacy, project manage the Lab's digital assets, and provide digital consulting services to Lab members. It's been a lot of fun so far.

The other big news is that, at the age of 49, I welcomed my daughter into the world. She's now 10 months old and keeping her 5 year old brother company during our stay-at-home time due to COVID-19. This has been a real joy.

On the other hand, while this has been an opportunity to be together as a family in a volume that would otherwise be impossible without a parent quitting and being a full-time caregivers, it is also patently clear that it is 100% impossible to be a parent to young children and have a full-time job under these circumstances. A functional society requires more resources for parents, so they can work, reduce stress, and provide quality parenting. And that's in a situation in which struggles I've experienced – with continued access to health care, two full-time jobs with benefits, a healthy family, the ability to be physically distant and work from home, white skin privilege, and generational family resources – pales in comparison to those faced by single parents, essential workers, low-income workers, and BIPOC communities.

It's been a rollercoaster so far in 2020. Stay healthy, everyone.

## 1994

**Vishant Shah**, City of Memphis Fire services  
Analytics Lead

It's an election year here in Memphis. We also celebrated our bicentennial. I really enjoy working for the Fire Department and living in the South is awesome.

## 1996

**Jeanne Briggs**, Sr Transition Advisor, USAID

From August 2019 to March 2020, I was traveling overseas quite frequently in a position consulting for USAID, focusing primarily on facilitating strategy workshops for assistance teams working in complex political transition environments. With the onset of COVID-19, I've been working from home in the DC area, and have been learning how to do projects that would have been field-based in the past through virtual and remote technologies. I'm also training to become a professional coach. We adopted a rescue pup and are living quietly and safely in leafy green Cheverly, Maryland.

## 1997

**Carrie (Zwiebel) Bloss**, Executive Director of Heights and Hills, Brooklyn NY

I was recently appointed as Executive Director of Heights and Hills which provides services to older adults and their caregivers in Brooklyn. It has been an interesting time changing roles in the middle of the pandemic – months later I still haven't met most of my colleagues or even most of my board member in person. But the work is incredibly compelling considering the vulnerability of our clients during this time.

## 2000

**Brent Cusher**, Assoc Professor of Leadership and American Studies, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA

I've just published a new book with my friend Mark Menaldo with Routledge Press, titled *Philosophy and Leadership: Three Classical Models and Cases*. Otherwise, I am looking forward to June 2022, when I will resume taking students from Christopher Newport University to Maastricht, The Netherlands for a Study Abroad program. I was part of the Maastricht program with Carleton led by Norm Vig in Spring 1999! If you were on that trip with me, please be in touch: [brent.cusher@cnu.edu](mailto:brent.cusher@cnu.edu). It would be terrific to catch up!

## 2001

David Strandness, General Counsel, Lumosity, San Francisco, CA

Our daughter, Lillian Nora Strandness, was born July 10, 2020.

## 2003

**Joel Schlosser**, Chair and Assoc Professor of Political Science, Bryn Mawr College

After years of itineracy, my wife and I bought our first house and moved to Ardmore, PA in June 2021 with our son, Jai. I became chair of the Bryn Mawr College Political Science department and my second book, *Herodotus in the Anthropocene*, was published by University of Chicago Press. But most exciting and important was the arrival of our second child, Sage Lulu, in November 2020.

## 2006

**Rebecca Herst**, Director of Sustainable Solutions Lab at University of Massachusetts, Boston

I was awarded the 2020 Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership Prize.

Here's coverage in the Boston Globe:  
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/05/26/metro/researcher-umass-boston-awarded-100000-leadership-prize/>

## 2007

**Liz Skree**, Sr Manager, Stakeholder Communications, Greater Twin Cities United Way of Minneapolis

In 2019 I started a new job with Greater Twin Cities United Way in Minneapolis. After 11 years with Environmental Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., it's both exciting and fulfilling to be back home in the Twin Cities working for a local, community-based nonprofit organization.

## 2008

**David Schraub**, Assistant Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark Law School

I got a tenure-track job as an assistant professor at Lewis & Clark Law School, and so I and Jill Rodde '09 are moving to Portland, Oregon!

**Brian Klaas**, Associate Professor in Global Politics and columnist for the Washington Post

I've got a new book coming out on November 9th, published by Simon & Schuster, called "Corruptible: Who Gets Power and How It Changes Us." It's a book that explores the complex relationship between humans and power, complete with insights from political science, psychology, economics, biology, and neuroscience —

and my interviews with bioterrorists, CEOs, homeowners association tyrants, several former heads of state — and even a ski lesson with Paul Bremer, the former viceroy of Iraq.

## 2011

**Trevor Hill**

I graduated from Harvard Business School in May 2020 and started working for Nomura Greentech, an investment bank focused on sustainable technology and infrastructure, in their San Francisco office in July.

**Moshe Emilio Lavi**, MBA candidate at the Wharton School and MA candidate in International Studies at the Lauder Institute of the U of PA

I returned to the US from Israel in June 2021, ten years after I graduated from Carleton College as

I was awarded a Friends of Israel MBA Fellowship and a Lauder Institute fellowship to pursue an MBA at the Wharton School and an MA in International Studies at the Lauder Institute of the University of Pennsylvania, focusing on Business, Energy, Environment, and Sustainability.

## 2017

**Malcom Fox**

Just finished managing a state house campaign in Virginia.

**Michael Schneekloth**

Recently wrapped up my first year at Harvard Law School! I'm spending the summer working at Vladeck, Raskin & Clark, PC, a New York labor and employment law firm.

**Thet-Htar Thet**, UNESCO Junior Consultant

I am about to start my new job in Yangon Myanmar as a Junior Consultant for the UNESCO Project Office - working on the Strengthening Pre-Service Teacher Education (STEM) Project to revamp and reframe the teacher-education curriculum.

**2018****Connor Webber**

I graduated Vanderbilt Law School in May and will continue working with the Office of the District Attorney in Nashville, where I have worked for the past year as an extern with the Conviction Review Unit.

Are you missing **Faculty Updates?**

The faculty have been busy with their research, publications, teaching during past couple of years with Covid and also preparing for moving to our new building this summer. Full updates from the faculty will be coming in the next newsletter, so please stay tuned for that!

**2019**

**Jonathan William Dahlsten**, College point coach

**Anna Gergely**, social studies teacher, St. Paul, MN

I recently accepted a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant grant in Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand. I will be in Thailand until October, teaching English to students in grades 4-6, and learning as much as I can about the culture, education system, and food(!) of Thailand. I am so excited and grateful for this opportunity!

**2020**

**Jonas Lindholm-Uzzi**, 257 Mill Rd, Germantown NY 12526