A Letter from the Chair

Hello,

I’m delighted to send you our third more-or-less bi-annual newsletter from the Government Department, providing lots of news and other bits of information about our faculty, PhD students, and recent alumni. As a special bonus, we also include a link to the 2017 Christmas spoof/skit produced by our talented G2s, and a link to the winter panel on “Trump: The First Year” featuring some of our equally talented faculty. My thanks to Prof. Steven Levitsky for organizing this panel, the third in a series on the Trump presidency. If I can persuade him to continue in this role, we will continue to mount this sort of session annually.

As you can see, a lot is happening in the Government Department. We have hired two new professors, Christina Davis (IR) and Kosuke Imai (Methods), and a new assistant professor, Stephen Chaudoin (IR). Sarah Hummel also joins us as a Visiting Assistant Professor in fall 2018. We have established three committees to begin implementing the department’s Strategic Vision – one to promote institutional linkages within Harvard, and two to scan the horizon for exciting junior and senior faculty, in any field, who will promote the goals of the Strategic Vision. We are working on the endless process of systematizing the curriculum and making annual course determination fully equitable and more efficient. We have recently enrolled 19 students for next year’s G1 class, about whom we are very excited.

Thanks to GSAS, we can now also provide you with something of a technological link to one another. According to Jon Pettit, the GSAS Director of Alumni Relations and Events,

“the University has launched a new alumni directory, available at community.alumni.harvard.edu. It’s also available to students and allows individual alumni to connect to one another and students to connect with alumni. It’s accessed with the HarvardKey, a relatively new identity verification system implemented to protect your privacy and identity. Alumni have the ability to claim a HarvardKey. We have assigned all alumni a unique “HAA ID” (Harvard Alumni Association ID) that is included in the footer of
the Alumni Bulletin and other emails sent on behalf of the Graduate School Alumni Association. Questions or issues in claiming your HarvardKey can be directed to haa_alumnihelp@harvard.edu. More about Harvard alumni association can be found here, https://gsas.harvard.edu/alumni-association/connect

All of you know about the recent allegations of sexual harassment against Jorgé Dominguez. As you would expect, these allegations shook the current and former members of Government badly, and repercussions continue. I sent a Statement to all PhD alumni in March and have talked directly with many of you; faculty and students have also been in touch with alumni as well as each other. (You can find the relevant documents about the allegations at https://gov.harvard.edu/news/statement-principles-and-moving-forward and https://gov.harvard.edu/statements-about-sexual-harassment-and-misconduct)

Professor Dominguez is retiring as of June 30, 2018, while the Office of Dispute Resolution continues to investigate whether he violated the university’s Title IX policy. The Government Department held several town hall meetings with undergraduates and graduate students in March, and we subsequently established a Climate Change Committee. It is comprised of faculty, PhD students, undergraduates, and departmental staff; Steven Levitsky chairs it. He describes the committee’s mandate as “exploring aspects of our department’s institutions and culture that may have enabled harassment and other misconduct to go unreported for decades, and to propose reforms aimed at creating a more inclusive and less hierarchical department.”

The committee met twice in April, and has set up seven working groups, emerging out of the lists of demands in the graduate and undergraduate student open letters sent in the aftermath of the allegations. The working groups will:

1. Organize an external audit to investigate why mechanisms of departmental oversight and communication broke down, and how to improve them (chairs: Steve Levitsky and Jennifer Hochschild)
2. Explore department-level steps to prevent misconduct and facilitate reporting when misconduct occurs (chair: Steve Levitsky)
3. Explore ways to promote departmental diversity among faculty and graduate students through recruitment and retention (chair: Melani Cammett)
4. Recommend steps to create a climate that supports the flourishing of all members of the Government community, regardless of background (Chair: Ryan Enos)
5. Explore appropriate ways to change what is widely, though not uniformly, viewed as an overly hierarchical department (Chair: Jeffry Frieden)
6. Explore ways to expand and improve our graduate mentoring system (Chair: Danielle Allen)
7. Explore ways in which our undergraduate program can better serve the needs of a more diverse community (Chairs: Cheryl Welch and Dustin Tingley)

The working groups have begun to meet and organize themselves; we will report on their progress next fall.

Let me thank the many PhD alumni who have gotten directly in touch with me around the Dominguez issue; your comments range from furious to reassuring (or both), and are illuminating and helpful.

I wish you a warm (but not too warm) and wonderful spring and summer. For myself, I finally got off the erg and onto the Charles River so I am now practicing bowing a double or quad without hitting a bridge and with an earlier roll-up for the starboard oar. Please be in touch with comments, questions, news, or anything else of interest.

Best to all,

Jennifer

Jennifer Hochschild
Harvard University
Henry LaBarre Jayne Professor of Government, and Professor of African and African American Studies
Chair, Department of Government

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Faculty News

New Faculty Appointments

Christina Davis

Christina is currently a Professor in the Department of Politics and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton. Her expertise is in the field of international political economy and international relations, with a focus on trade policy. Her research interests span politics and foreign policy of Japan, East Asia, and the European Union and the study of international organizations. Much of her work has focused on Japan’s international trade negotiations. She has studied the domestic politics of agriculture in Japan, research that involved extensive interviews with Japanese officials and farmers. She has written *Food Fights Over Free Trade: How International Institutions Promote Agricultural Trade Liberalization* (Princeton University Press, 2003) and *Why Adjudicate? Enforcing Trade Rules in the WTO* (Princeton University Press, 2012).

Kosuke Imai

Kosuke is currently a Professor in the Department of Politics and the Center for Statistics and Machine Learning at Princeton. He serves on the executive committee of Princeton's Program for Quantitative and Analytical Political Science (Q-APS). He also is Professor of Visiting Status in the Graduate Schools of Law and Politics at The University of Tokyo. His expertise is in the development of statistical methods and their applications to social science. Kosuke is also the author of *Quantitative Social Science: An Introduction* (Princeton University Press, 2017). Kosuke will have a joint appointment in the Statistics Department.

Stephen Chaudoin

Stephen is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Illinois. He is interested in international institutions, international political economy, and formal and quantitative methods. He received his PhD from the Princeton University Department of Politics. His
theoretical work examines how the preferences, political strength, and strategic behavior of domestic actors facilitate and constrain domestic enforcement mechanisms. His empirical work has tested these theories in settings ranging from international trade and the WTO to war crimes and the ICC as well as environmental contexts.

Sarah Hummel

Sarah will be an Acting Assistant Professor in the department for three years. Currently, Sarah is an assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She received her PhD from Princeton University’s Department of Politics. Her research focuses on the internal and external politics of authoritarian countries, with a regional focus on post-Soviet Central Asia. She focuses especially on international resource management, and political protest.

Accomplishments and Achievements

Danielle Allen

Danielle recently published *Cuz: The Life and Times of Michael A*. It was widely reviewed and praised, and excerpted in *The New Yorker*.

Also, Danielle is a recipient of honorary degrees from Amherst College and Pomona College, as well as the recipient of the Illinois Humanities Council's Public Humanities Award.

Bob Bates

Bob has a new book out with Princeton University Press, entitled *The Development Dilemma*. He also has a new paper, co-authored with Steven Block, published in the *Oxford Economic Papers*. 
Matthew Blackwell

Matthew is the winner of this year's Gosnell Prize, the biggest prize in political methodology, for his paper "Instrumental Variable Methods for Conditional Effects and Causal Interaction in Voter Mobilization Experiments". The Gosnell Prize for Excellence in Political Methodology is awarded for the best work in political methodology presented at any political science conference during the preceding year. This award is the fourth in five years to Harvard or Harvard-trained methodologists.

Daniel Carpenter

Dan together with Clayton Nall (Ph.D. '12) and Benjamin Schneer (Ph.D. '16) has a new article in the American Journal of Political Science, entitled "Paths of Recruitment." It offers new methods for analyzing petition data, as well as some sobering lessons about how canvassing patterns may exacerbate existing political inequalities and segregation.

Dan gave the Rothbaum Lectures in Representative Government at Oklahoma in October 2017, on "The American Petition: Sinew of Our Democratic Republic." Previous lecturers include Morris Fiorina, Jennifer Hochschild, Samuel Huntington, Jack Rakove, and Theda Skocpol.

Ryan Enos

Ryan Enos recently published The Space Between Us, with Cambridge University Press. In it he explores how geography shapes politics and how members of racial, ethnic, and religious groups think about each other,
Katrina Forrester

Jeff Frieden
Jeff was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Peter Hall
Peter was elected a Corresponding Fellow of The British Academy and was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Also, Peter was awarded the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship for his project “Renegotiating the Social Contract: the Politics of Economic Growth and Decline

Josh Kertzer

Josh also won the best paper award for the 2016 annual conference from the American Political Science Association’s foreign policy section.
Gary King
Gary, together with Benjamin Schneer and Ariel White, PhD students form our department, published “How the news media activate public expression and influence national agendas,” in *Science.*

He also published together with Jennifer Pan and Margaret E. Roberts, current and former PhD students respectively, “How the Chinese Government Fabricates Social Media Posts for Strategic Distraction, not Engaged Argument,” *American Political Science Review.* This paper won the Best Paper Award from the International Communication Association, 2017.

Both papers were extensively covered in the international press.

Gary also published, with Patrick Lam and Margaret E. Roberts (2 other recent PhDs from our department), “Computer-Assisted Keyword and Document Set Discovery from Unstructured Text,” in *the American Journal of Political Science.*

Also, Gary was elected a Miembro Vitalicio (Lifetime Member) of Asociación Mexicana de Ciencias Políticas (Mexican Political Science Association), 2017.

Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt
Stephen and Daniel are the authors of the new book *How Democracies Die,* published by Crown Press.

As part of a wide publicity program, Stephen and Daniel joined Morning Joe to discuss why they wrote about the danger of leaders “who subvert the very process that brought them to power.”

*How Democracies Die* has been widely reviewed and praised, is a *New York Times* bestseller, and ranks in the top 50 Amazon.com books.
Elizabeth Perry

Elizabeth has a forthcoming volume with Harvard University Press, co-edited with Prasenjit Duara of Duke University, entitled *Beyond Regimes: China and India Compared*.

Paul Peterson


Michael Rosen

Michael was awarded the Gold Medal of the Charles University in Prague.

Michael Sandel

In 2018, Harvard University Press published *Encountering China: Michael Sandel and Chinese Philosophy*, a volume of essays exploring points of contact between Sandel’s philosophy and the Confucian and Daoist traditions:

To launch the book, the Harvard-Yenching Institute hosted a panel discussion, chaired by Elizabeth Perry, including Sandel and scholars from China, S. Korea, and Japan:

During the past academic year, Sandel gave lectures in Gdansk (Poland), Toronto, Rome, Bogota, London, Sydney, Berlin, Vienna, and in Moscow, where he spoke in the venue where, a few weeks earlier, Vladimir Putin delivered his state of the nation address to the Russian parliament:

The BBC produced another episode of “The Global Philosopher,” a series in which Sandel leads video-linked discussions on ethical issues with participants from 40 countries. The latest episode, on free speech, included participants from Iran, China, Russia, Somalia, Turkey, Pakistan, as well as Europe and North and South America:
Working with Dutch public television, Sandel gathered a group of millennials from Europe and the U.S. in an ancient amphitheater near Athens for a series of five Socratic dialogues (“What’s the Right Thing to Do?”) debating global issues including immigration, robotics, discrimination, inequality, and privacy:

**Kenneth Shepsle**

Ken recently published *Rule Breaking and Political Imagination* (at the University of Chicago Press, 2017). His contributions to the New Institutionalism will soon be the subject of a plenary session of the Public Choice Society.

**Dan Smith**


**Latanya Sweeney**

Nancy Pelosi appointed Latanya as a Commissioner on the new U.S. Commission for Evidence-Based Policy Making.

Latanya was a focus of a *Harvard Gazette* article on how faculty deans create community with ‘extended family’ of students

Latanya’s debate with the Secretary of State for Digital Commerce was televised on French national television. She was also invited to dinner at the President’s Macron palace, during which he announced that there will be open data in France; all AI algorithms used by the French government for decision-making will be made public. This innovation will have ramifications
throughout the EU, and if successful, around the world.

**Dustin Tingley**

In addition to serving as Director of Graduate Studies, faculty director for the Vice Provost for Advances in Teaching Learning Research Group (VPAL), and various other appointments, Dustin has forthcoming articles in *British Journal of Political Science, Review of International Organization, Political Psychology*, and *Journal of Statistical Software*.

**Cheryl Welch**

In addition to being Director of Undergraduate Studies Cheryl recently published “What Donald Trump has in common with Napoleon III” in *the Boston Globe Magazine*.
Rush Doshi

Rush published an article on “What Kim Jong Un’s trip this week tells us about China” in the Washington Post in March 2018.

John Harpham

John gave one of the highly competitive Harvard Horizons lectures in April.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HOyRFAKxEY

Dana Higgins

Dana is the winner of this year's Best Poster Award at the 2016 Summer Political Methodology Meeting for her poster, “Disaggregating Data Using Multiple Imputation: Battle Related Deaths”.

Tae-Yeoun Keum

Tae-Yeoun was interviewed for the Los Angeles Review of Books in March 2018, in a blog on “Context-Dependent Discretion, Mood-Reading, Personal Charisma.”

Ranjit Lall

The Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS) review committee has awarded Ranjit a Leamer-Rosenthal Prize for Open Social Science in the Emerging Researches category. This is the premier award for transparency in the social sciences. The award recognizes “his outstanding efforts to advance and exemplify reproducibility, openness, and credibility in the social sciences.”
2017-2018 APSA Minority Fellowship Program, Spring Cycle Recipients, include:

Kanesha Johnson, a first year PhD

Kaneesha's research interests include inequality, social policy, identity politics, and the criminal justice system. She hopes to continue to teach in those areas as a professor. Kaneesha is a co-author of *Deadly Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2017). In the summer of 2017, she taught a class in Mississippi with Freedom Summer Collegiate on mass incarceration and the death penalty in the United States.

Pamela Nwakanma, a second year PhD student

Pamela’s research investigates the intersection of women's empowerment and the political economy of development in Africa and other parts of the developing world. She works with the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Pamela serves as a freshman dean's office proctor and a mentor through the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program. Next year, she will teach courses on political economy and Africana studies.

Shannon Parker, a second year PhD student

Shannon studies Chinese politics with a focus on political behavior, particularly with respect to education, privacy, and digital politics. She is passionate about innovative, inclusive teaching on these issues, as well as quantitative methods.

Dissertation Awards:

Yue “Iza” Ding

Daniel Koss


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Recent Alumni Updates

Sheena Greitens
PhD ’13, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Missouri

Sheena’s book, *Dictators and Their Secret Police: Coercive Institutions and State Violence*, published by Cambridge University Press, is the co-winner of the 2017 International Studies Association’s annual Best Book Award. The committee was impressed with the book’s ambition, clear and persuasive theoretical logic, and exceptionally rich case study evidence.

Yascha Mounk
PhD ’15, Lecturer on Government at Harvard University, recently published *The People vs. Democracy: Why Our Freedom Is in Danger and How to Save It* (Harvard University Press, 2018). It was ranked #30 in Amazon.com’s books of political philosophy.

Jen Pan
PhD ’15, Assistant Professor at Stanford University

Jen’s article "Sources of Authoritarian Responsiveness: A Field Experiment in China" (with Jidong Chen and Yiqing Xu) won the 2017 *American Journal of Political Science* Best Article Award, given by the Midwest Political Science Association.
Molly Roberts
PhD ’14, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of California, San Diego

Molly was named one of the “Top 30 Thinkers under 30” by the Pacific Standard, based on her research on social media and Chinese government censorship. Her book manuscript on censorship in China, tentatively titled Fear, Friction, and Flooding: The Surprising Impacts of Incomplete Censorship expands on her dissertation on the same subject.

Kris-Stella Trump
PhD ’13

Kris-Stella joined the Social Science Research Council as the Program Director of the Anxieties of Democracy project. SSRC is a U.S.-based independent nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing research in the social sciences and related disciplines.

Above and Beyond

- **Jennifer Brea** wrote and produced a documentary about her health struggle. It is entitled “Unrest”, and was shown at Sundance and in select theatres last fall.

- **Skocpol good news**
  Theda and Bill Skocpol are proud to announce that their son, Michael Skocpol, has been selected as one of four 2018-19 clerks by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. A graduate of Stanford Law School, Michael clerked last year for federal District Judge Gary Feinerman in Chicago and is clerking this year for DC Circuit Appellate Judge Nina Pillard. He will start his SCOTUS duties in July 2018, and plans a career in public interest law.

- **Ben Schneer** (PhD, 2016) will become an assistant professor at the Harvard Kennedy School in fall 2018. He joins, among others, Maya Sen (PhD, 2012).
Event Highlights

On February 14th Faculty from the Department of Government gathered to discuss the Trump Presidency

A Panel of Faculty from the Government Department Discuss the Trump Presidency

Ryan Enos • Joshua Kertzer • Eric Nelson
Robert Putnam • Theda Skocpol • Daniel Ziblatt

Wednesday, February 14th
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
CGIS S010 (Tsai Auditorium)

Free and open to the public

Participants were Ryan Enos, Joshua Kertzer, Robert Putnam, Theda Skocpol, Daniel Ziblatt

The video recording can be found here:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yN2Bx3rDsSmBrMzN4ol43t4bTqBMdkNu/view?usp=sharing
Government Department

2017 Holiday Skit

The holiday skit is viewable here:
https://youtu.be/axQXCioBEz4