

FALL 2022 / WINTER 2023

# POLITICS

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DEPARTMENT OF  
POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO





**RYAN  
BALOT**

CHAIR  
UTSG

With a variety of new faces and the universal return to in-person learning, the St. George campus is vibrant this fall. We are delighted to welcome new colleagues to the Department: Brendan McElroy, Maria Mendez, Dani Nedal, Ato Onoma, Laura Rabinowitz and Madison Schramm. Our newest members are all accomplished scholars, dedicated teachers, and resourceful colleagues. We're also thrilled to be searching for five new faculty positions this fall: Black Political Thought, Canadian Politics, International Relations, European Politics, and the Politics of Development in the Middle East and North Africa. We are proud to announce the launch of the Indigenous Politics Collaboratory led by Professor Uahikea Maile. Undergraduates continue to appreciate our efforts, as enrollments rise and there is excitement over our offerings. In the wake of our successful curriculum reform, we are now focused more than ever on enhancing the undergraduate student experience through active and experiential learning and through new initiatives, such as a Methods Lab staffed by peer undergraduate tutors. Sidney Smith Hall has a renewed sense of energy that promises to keep us on an upward trajectory.



**STEVEN  
BERNSTEIN**

INTERIM CHAIR  
UTM

Apropos our full return to campus this fall, UTM Political Science celebrated its first ever in-person awards reception to recognize the myriad accomplishments of our students. We also have faculty awards to celebrate! Alison Smith was awarded the UTM Annual Research Prize in the Social Sciences, "for her outstanding contributions to the study of Canadian politics, welfare state, social protection, homelessness, poverty and inequality." Professor emeritus Graham White received the 2022 American Political Science Associations annual Mildred A. Schwartz Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Politics Section. And, in an important career milestone, Andrea Olive was promoted to full professor. We are also excited to welcome two new faculty members, Menaka Philips and Geoff Dancy, as well as our new academic advisor, Kristina McCutcheon. Stay tuned for the launch of our new student-hosted politics podcast, "Over the Podium," expected in January 2023!



**CHRISTOPHER  
COCHRANE**

INTERIM CHAIR  
UTSC

Campus life is back in full swing at UTSC. Our corridors on the 5th floor of Highland Hall are busy once again with students studying, finishing assignments, and catching up on time they lost during the past two years. The Department welcomed Mahdi Baratalipour, a visiting scholar from the Faculty of Law and Political Science at Kharazmi University in Iran. Colleagues continue their records of excellence in scholarship, teaching, and public engagement. Among them, Aisha Ahmad, who was elected to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists. Aisha joins her UTSC colleague Diana Fu, elected to the College in 2020. Lucan Way's highly anticipated book, *Revolution and Dictatorship: The Violent Origins of Durable Authoritarianism*, was published this year by Princeton University Press. Matthew Hoffmann and his team were awarded a 2021 Clusters of Scholarly Prominence grant for their project, 'Urban Just Transitions from Scarborough to the Globe.' Finally, graduate student Christopher Greenaway won a TA Award for his exceptional TA work and mentorship at UTSC.



**THERESA ENRIGHT** **MARGARET KOHN**

GRADUATE DIRECTOR &  
ASSOCIATE GRADUATE  
CHAIR, UTSG

TRI-CAMPUS  
GRADUATE CHAIR

This fall, the graduate program focused on revitalizing our intellectual community. As we return to campus amidst the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, we are rebuilding connections between graduate students and faculty and responding to the challenges of forestalled trajectories. Our incoming cohort—40 MAs and 26 PhDs—have added tremendous dynamism to the program and bring with them a wide range of experience, knowledge, and skills. Graduate students and faculty have instigated many new initiatives including research clusters, workshops, reading and writing groups, and social events. We are happy to be supporting travel as students return to the field and attend in-person conferences. Targeted top-up funding for doctoral students whose progress has been most impacted in recent years is another element of our strategy. Reflecting the continued strength of the program, recent graduates have been hired in tenure-track positions at the following universities: York University, Toronto Metropolitan University, St. Francis Xavier University, Carleton University, Northern Illinois University, University of the Fraser Valley, and University of Mohamed VI Polytechnique. We are keen to see our graduate community thriving!

# CAMPUS COLLOQUIES

*Updates from our students*



**Ana Djordjijevic**  
undergraduate student

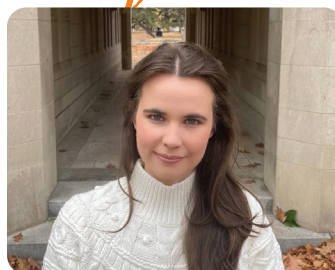
**Why did you decide to study Political Science, Public Policy and European Affairs?** I chose to combine Political Science and Public Policy to gain exposure to both the theoretical and practical approaches to politics. Political Science provides me with a solid theoretical foundation, while Public Policy enables me to visualize how to apply concepts and turn them into tangible policy-making efforts. The addition of my European Affairs minor allows for a more regional approach to these questions, particularly considering my European background and interest in the European Union as a supra-national entity.

**What have been the most rewarding and challenging experiences during university thus far?** The pandemic defined a significant period of my undergraduate experience, with online learning and Zoom lectures becoming the new educational norm. I found being away from my peers and being unable to interact with faculty exacerbated the day-to-day difficulties that college students typically encounter. However, I've been incredibly lucky to still find ways to remain engaged and involved with my program communities and, in particular, the Political Science Department. As Executive-at-Large for APSS last year, and now as Vice-President of Finance, I have had the opportunity to foster close relationships with faculty, administration, and fellow students through the many events

that we have hosted during the academic term. I'm incredibly grateful to the APSS team for truly redefining my undergraduate experience and making it both academically and socially more rewarding.

**What did you learn at university that you did not expect to?** When I got to university, I had only ever experienced the French educational system and I was struck by some of the differences between the system I had known throughout high school, and the more creative approach to academia that I encountered here. In university, I felt that I had more room to explore ideas that I was passionate about and break out of the rigid mold I was used to. I definitely learned to think critically and conduct my own research in new and innovative ways, but I was struck by the extent to which university really taught me to find answers for myself. Rather than retaining information about complex Hegelian concepts, I feel that I am now equipped to come to my own conclusions about any readings, lectures, and material that I'm exposed to.

**What do you plan to do after graduation?** I'm currently applying to graduate programs in Politics and International Studies, Comparative Politics and European and International Public Policy. I hope to study in Europe and apply both my Political Science and Public Policy backgrounds to issues in the region, particularly in the wake of Brexit. After completing my graduate degree and working for a few years within the European Union in an official capacity, I hope to conduct legal studies to complement my previous educational experience, which may provide me with important skills for policymaking.



**Elizabeth McDermott**  
graduate student

**Please explain your research and its main findings thus far.** I research the Russian philosopher Peter Chaadaev and his critique of Russia. Chaadaev is known for sparking the debate in the 1830's between the Slavophiles and Westernizers, about whether Russia ought to be part of the "West", or if its Slavic nature differentiates it in a positive way and should therefore be preserved and developed. So far, I have evaluated the various interpretations of his work. As his complete works were only discovered in 1935, the scholarship on him fluctuated depending on access to his writings as well as the ideological moods of the Soviet Union, and then Russia. In English scholarship, writings on Chaadaev tend to focus on his most famous work, the *First Philosophical Letter*. I've worked to develop his ideas throughout his life from his entire writings. I'm fascinated by his motivations in constructing a criticism of Russia, which, though received as a fatalistic verdict at the time, was based rather on his religious worldview and belief that only through truthfulness and constructive meditations on his country's history and cultural mores, could Russia positively contribute to the world.

**Why did you decide to research this particular area and what intrigues you the most about it? What impact do you hope your research will have? Any surprising findings?** For my MA, I researched Chaadaev's

influence on Alexander Herzen, the "father of Russian Socialism". I was struck by the dearth of in-depth research in English on Chaadaev, whom many scholars recognize to be of pivotal importance to Russian history. I was intrigued and felt that there was more to be discovered in our understanding of this seminal figure. I hope to do justice to Chaadaev's works, which at times were misunderstood and trivialized, and to stimulate further research into the influence he has had on perceptions of Russia. I'm continually surprised at how a single work can be interpreted to support vastly different ideologies, rather than allowing the author to speak for himself as much as possible.

**What are the drawbacks of researching the work of a philosopher whose work is not fully published?** The main drawback is that I depend on the published works of scholars who had access to the archives that contain Chaadaev's writings, and whether they have published everything that would be relevant to my work. I'm unable to travel to the archives in Russia due to the war in Ukraine, but if I eventually access them, I'd be interested in any writings of Chaadaev that mention the French writer Astolphe de Custine, who plays a role in the second part of my research. Custine wrote the book *Russia in 1839*, which was a success not only at the time of publication but again at the end of the Cold War. The next step in my research will be the influence of Chaadaev's conception of Russia on Custine, and into the modern age.

**Future plans post PhD?** Alongside my research, the experience of teaching in tutorials has been meaningful and inspiring to me. I hope to continue my teaching career and to accompany students in their questions and encounters in learning.



# INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES

*Two of our Indigenous faculty discuss their recent research endeavours*

Professor **Dale Turner** discusses his latest academic roles, and his aspirations to write a novel

**Congratulations on your new appointments as Academic Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Research and as Director of the Indigenous Research Network. What are you most looking forward to and what are you hoping to achieve in these positions?**

I'm looking forward to learning more about the Indigenous research being conducted at U of T. Being the Director of the Indigenous Research Network provides an opportunity to work with a team dedicated to bringing together non-Indigenous and Indigenous scholars at U of T who work on Indigenous issues. Our three-year mandate includes: generating a globally accessible online Indigenous research network, developing our own institutional Indigenous research protocols, and helping to create an international Indigenous research consortium.

**You are only the second person to be appointed as Academic Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Research. What are you hoping to build on?**

I hope to build on U of T's commitment to implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Steering Committee's (TRSC) Calls to Ac-

tion; in particular, the calls to develop our own Indigenous research ethics protocols while nurturing healthier community relationships within U of T.

**What are you currently working on with regard to your research?**

I'm working on two projects. The first is a Cambridge Elements monograph on the politics of Indigenous translation. The second project is a novel about an Anishinaabe boy who grows up to defend his community's land claim case against the Canadian government. The story weaves together Anishinaabe storytelling, the history of Western European political thought, and contemporary Indigenous politics. I'm very fortunate to have a fellowship this year at the Jackman Humanities Institute to write this novel.



photo by Diana Tyszko

## Ziibiing Lab: Professor Uahikea Maile introduces us to U of T's newest hub of Indigenous research and collaboration



**Tell us about the Indigenous Politics Collaboratory and how and why it came to be. What was your vision?**

Ziibiing Lab is the official name, proposed and chosen by the Governing Council, for the Indigenous Politics Collaboratory. There are a few important things to note about the name. "Ziibiing" is the Anishinaabemowin word that specifically refers to the waterway in Toronto known as Taddle Creek. In the late 19th century, the river, flowing from north to south toward Lake Ontario, was dammed to create McCaul's Pond for a recreational site next to University College. Later, it was encased underground during the city's urbanization as part of the sewage system. Ziibiing has been considered lost to modern settlement and

development, but its waters return and flow through the university, reminding us of an enduring and irrepressible presence. Additionally, "ziibiing" generally refers to being at, or near a river. Taken together, Ziibiing Lab's goal is to relate, remember, and reciprocate to the river as we work near it. Like Indigenous peoples, politics, and power, Ziibiing has not disappeared, but continues to rise and resurface. Our vision is to reproduce such a defiant resurgence in our research.

**What is the primary purpose of Ziibiing Lab and what are you anticipating for future research?**

Ziibiing Lab is an international Indigenous politics collaboratory, which takes seriously the global and transnational nature of Indigenous politics through a collaborative approach to both governance and research. What makes the lab unique is its international scope and collaborative focus. We pursue critical research concerning Indigenous politics, policy, and praxis in Canada and internationally. For instance, Dr. Sardana Nikolaeva, the inaugural postdoctoral fellow in Ziibiing Lab, is crafting a new report about arctic

Indigenous politics in the Sakha Republic in relation to the international political economy of diamonds extracted from that region of the Russian Federation. This research is just one of many projects developing in the



Research Council. As an interdisciplinary hub for collaboration, the Research Council is a tri-campus group of professors, graduate students, and community members working on Indigenous politics across U of T's three campuses. The objective of the Research Council to design and execute international Indigenous politics research, is guided and supported by the lab's Governing Council. Led by Indigenous professors in the Faculty of Arts & Science—from Political Science, Indigenous Studies, History, Geography, English, Religion, and Women

and Gender Studies—the Governing Council collectively deliberates and determines the direction, strategy, and operation of Ziibiing Lab. The collaboratory is revolutionizing how social science research labs engineer and perform collaborative research.

*Photos by Diana Tyszko. Background watercolour entitled "University College in 1876" by Lucius O'Brien showing McCaul's Pond on Taddle Creek with University College in the background, courtesy of University of Toronto archives.*



# RALLYING FOR JUSTICE

Whether on campus or at city hall, members of the political science community, both past and present, are rising up



photo credit: Polina Teif

## MA student **Maryam Rahimi Shahmirzadi** on finding her voice through student protests

### Why did you decide to pursue an MA in Political Science and International Relations?

I had a wonderful experience completing my undergraduate studies in Political Science at U of T. It was a place where I had the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals who were as passionate about politics and current affairs as I am. I was continually pushed beyond my comfort zone and because of that, it felt like an environment where I could continue to thrive both academically and personally. Moreover, the political science faculty have always inspired me, which is why I ultimately decided to pursue my MA degree here.

### Tell us about your involvement in organizing the Iran protests on campus?

Prior to organizing the October 6th rally in front of Sidney Smith, I had no previous experience organizing protests. I initially got involved because I thought it was my duty, at the very least, to help raise awareness, albeit on a minuscule level, about what is happening to students in Iran. They are being beaten, raped, and murdered on campus grounds by a regime that has no respect for human life or dignity. As an Iranian student at the University of Toronto, I recognize the privilege that

I have, to voice my dissent without being persecuted or killed for merely expressing my opinion. I have stood in awe of the boundless bravery and inexplicable courage of my fellow brothers and sisters in Iran. They inspire me, and I continue to learn from them as this revolution continues to unfold.

Throughout this time, I have been very lucky to meet many like-minded Iranian students at U of T from a variety of departments. They genuinely care about what is happening to their fellow compatriots and we continue to work together to ensure that the Canadian student body hears the voice of the people of Iran.

We ask that the University of Toronto continues to stand in solidarity with the people of Iran and for different Faculties to release statements condemning the persecution of Iranian university students by the Islamic regime.

### What are your plans once you graduate?

I currently work as a policy advisor and researcher at a non-profit organization that advocates for the presence of more women and gender diverse folks in Canadian politics. I plan to continue working with this organization upon graduation, but I also hope to continue my academic journey by pursuing a PhD in political science.

dropped literature, talked to their friends, and voted.

We also made history again! In 2014, when I was elected Toronto District School Board Trustee, I became the first hijab-wearing Muslim woman to be elected to public office in Canada. This year, I'm the first to be elected to Toronto City Council.

### Tell us about your political career trajectory. Any advice for graduating students with aspirations to enter politics?

As so many activists and organizers before me have realized - none of us can do our work alone. My roles have been varied: in the student movement at the University of Toronto on equity issues, democratic engagement and accessible education; in labour, organizing for fairness for working people; in international development, at the Stephen Lewis Foundation with women at the front lines of the HIV/AIDS crisis; in education, as a Trustee of the Toronto District School Board; and most recently, as Director of Advocacy and Organising at the Atkinson Foundation. These experiences have all shaped this point of view.

For me, elected representation and electoral politics are a crucial piece of a bigger puzzle for the change that we want to see. I want the best people elected, who listen and lead with us, who care about social justice and act for our collective well-being. Whether you aspire to make a difference in politics or another field, what I know for sure is that creating meaningful relationships is at the core of how change is made, and how power is shifted.

### What are you hoping to achieve in the next four years?

I'm excited to take my local knowledge and experience to make sure that our downtown communities have a champion on City Council.

I've heard repeatedly how people are struggling as our city becomes less affordable every day, especially when it comes to housing.

My priority is to address the housing crisis with the urgency it requires, protecting renters and investing in full spectrum and diversity of housing, from supportive housing with onsite social services to affordable rentals, co-ops, and condos, with the necessary parks, libraries, and public transit.

In a city like ours, all of us should have what we need to thrive: affordable housing, reliable green transit on safe roads, accessible community services, childcare, more parks and public spaces, and good jobs. I believe that together, it is possible.



photo by Alexis MacDonald

## Ausma Malik: A Champion at City Hall

Alumna Ausma Malik discusses her recent election to Toronto City Council and how she is breaking barriers as the first hijab-wearing Muslim woman to be elected

### Congratulations on being elected to Toronto City Council! What was your reaction when you heard about your win?

I'm so honoured that my neighbours put their trust in me to represent them at City Hall. Campaigns are a team effort, so my first reaction was absolute joy and gratitude for everyone who canvassed, called, contributed,





**What research was involved in writing your latest book “Multiple Barriers: The Multilevel Governance of Homelessness in Canada?”**

Researching this book involved conducting interviews, archival research and some participant observation. I interviewed elected officials, bureaucrats, advocates, and service providers who are involved in making and implementing responses to homelessness, to better understand the power dynamics that shape governance relations in the field of homelessness. The majority of the interviews were conducted in 2014 as part of my PhD dissertation, followed by further interviews in 2018 after I was hired at U of T. I had my first child right after finishing my PhD, so by the time I started to work on the book, there were considerable changes to the housing and homelessness policy landscape that I wanted to account for, notably the announcement of the National Housing

## The Importance of Being Experienced:

**Alison Smith** discusses her UTM research prize, her latest book and how lived experts can benefit the housing policy process

Strategy in 2017. Travelling around big cities to meet with people and talk about their efforts to combat homelessness was an incredible privilege.

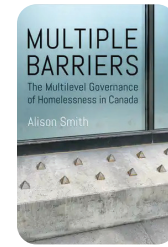
**Were there questions raised in the book that you plan to explore further?**

The main question I had following my research is why lived experts, people who are, or who have been unhoused, are so marginal in the policy-making process, and how their expertise can be more fully brought into the solutions that are developed. Their inclusion and collaboration in housing policies and homelessness interventions is essential to just and enduring solutions. I'm also interested in better understanding governance and policy-making dynamics outside of big cities. My next research project, funded by a SSHRC IDG, will look at homelessness governance and policymaking in suburban, mid-sized, and Northern communities, and what role lived experts play.

**Who is your primary audience and what do you hope they will take away from it?**

I hope my book is of interest to academics who work on social policy, governance, and the role of ideas in policymaking. In

terms of literature on the welfare state, housing and homelessness is quite under-



studied in political science, so I hope my book helps to fill some of those gaps. I hope it is also of interest to policymakers and community leaders. I hope that these people will learn a little about their own communities, and that they learn from the stories from other communities as well.

**Congratulations on winning a UTM research prize! What does this kind of recognition mean to you both personally and professionally?**

I'm so grateful to everyone who took the time to support my nomination, including Steven Bernstein who at the time was Associate Chair, Research at UTM. I have a young family, so the past few years have been very “interrupted”. I was in a privileged position during that time, but my research agenda was impacted. I had to make big changes to planned projects, and the time I had to do research was diminished considerably. This award means so much to me and motivates me to keep going with my next projects!

photo by Louisa Rayside



## Writing into Retirement:

**Professor Emeritus David Rayside** on the newfound pleasures of writing

By the time I taught my last class, now over a decade ago, I was more than ready to retire. Though exiting the working world at the age of sixty-six came as a surprise to some, and in some ways held a personal tinge of sadness, the

pressures of thirty-nine years as an academic had worn me down. I needed to follow a different path and try something different.

The transition was jostling. Up until then, I had always described my occupation as teaching politics, and now I'd need a new identity. The first few years were preoccupied with completing scholarly projects I had already committed to, but beyond that, I imagined filling my time with writing but outside the constraints of academic publishing.

Mostly, I wanted to slow down and make more room for spontaneity in my life with my long-time partner Gerry Hunt. Alongside that, the question became what kind of writing would I undertake? I had nothing of the inventiveness required for fiction, but some competency in non-fiction storytelling. Eventually I found myself turning toward social history and decided to begin creating heavily illustrated essays to be posted online. No deadlines, no annual activity reports to file, no publisher asking how things are going.

The principal subject of my initial scribbblings became a small village in Eastern Ontario and a single house with which I've had a long and familial connection. In the 1780's, white settlers arrived in what is now South Lancaster. Among them were two Scottish teenagers who built a store and dwelling on the St. Lawrence River. It still stands as one of the oldest houses in Ontario and is now in the hands of my twin brother Ron and his family. One of my essays chronicles the story of the building itself and the families who have occupied it since the 1790s, combining my interests in architecture and community history. Another is a critical take on Upper Canadian history through the lens of this village, aided by conversations with historians and friends Ian Radforth and Mark McGowan. A third piece follows the life of my great aunt Edith Rayside, who became one of two matrons-in-chief of Canadian military nurses in the First World War, and the first woman given an honorary degree by the University of Toronto (though, pathetically, only a Masters in, of all things, Household Science).

In none of this have I cared much for how small my audience may be. Writing is difficult and confronting the dreadfulness of any first draft can be discouraging. On the positive side, I get to dip into archival material no one else has consulted, choose old photographs that dramatize the prose, and solve hundreds of little puzzles along the way to what results in a coherent narrative. If Ron, Gerry, and a handful of other readers find the stories illuminating or entertaining, I'm fine. I think...



# A PORTRAIT OF TWO ARTISTS

*How the pull of creative passion led two of our alumnae to a life in the arts*

**Why did you decide to study political science, economics and psychology and how has it benefitted your career as an artist?**

I loved thinking about systems to guide my thoughts about historical incidents. I had some great professors, who brought real urgency to what we were studying. I appreciated that political science, economics, and psychology all went beyond my traditional high school education of English Literature, Mathematics and History. For me, it was a new way of looking at the world.

I still view my time - delving into my undergraduate course work and subsequent two years of graduate study in political science at the University of California, San Diego - as when I learned how to read; cracking the deep code of an author's point of view, beyond just content. It still influences how I first read a play. I became a smarter reader.

**How does your background in political science influence the plays you choose to direct? Any regrets about not pursuing your PhD?**

I have no regrets. In my brief pursuit of a PhD in political science, I came to the important realization that I needed to follow a course I was truly passionate about. I had been told - literally and by society - that only the savants can be artists. If you can do anything else, do that other thing. I had also been told that art is an unserious pursuit. Political science seemed more adult, more serious. It took stepping into graduate study to see that the content of the thing I was to pursue did not matter, but my relationship to it needed to matter. I learned I could be serious about art, about theater, about directing. I'm sure my liberal arts education influences what scripts I am drawn to, but not in a clear-cut way.

**What advice would you give a new graduate considering becoming an artist or working in the creative arts in general?**

Follow your passion. Find your community. All you need are three like-interested folk to activate an idea and really be creative together.

**What do you enjoy most and least about your job?**

I love that it is never the same. I love working with new people on each project along with bringing a few people along who I've worked with over the years.



photo by Zack DeZon

**Pam MacKinnon, Tony Award Winner**

**BA, 1989**

Artistic Director, American Conservatory Theater

**Why did you decide to study political science and how has it benefitted your career as an artist?**

I chose to study political science because I initially wanted to pursue a career in journalism. I felt that an education in the humanities, especially political philosophy, would help me understand how the world works, and the origins of human civilization. I was particularly drawn to political theory and learning about how great ideas can change the course of history.

One of my greatest influences is Marshall McLuhan. I was drawn to his theories about the media and technology. It was his theory, "the medium is the message" that influenced my philosophy of *Techism*, which is a derivative of his teachings about our relationship to digital technology.

I wrote the *Techism* manifesto in 2014 which calls for the collaboration of artists, engineers, and technologists to create humane culture. I witnessed the negative effects of surveillance capitalism and social media on the mental health of generations since the smartphone was invented. Now, we are witnessing a transformation through the empowerment of the creative class through NFTs and the dawn of a creator's economy. I believe the meta-verse is where we will all end up, and *Techism* is more relevant than ever as we navigate socio-economic disruption and the unknown.

**You went on to study art at graduate school. How important was this in arming you with the right artistic tools?**

By 2005, I could no longer ignore my vocation as an artist. I was living in Tokyo, studying art, and being influenced by Zen philosophy in my practice. I decided to create Zen art by transforming the screen into a mechanism of meditation and well-being.

It was during my studies at La Salle College of the Arts in Singapore, where I began to fully discover and explore the creation of digital Zen art and meditateness. I found it very helpful during that time, to dive in and immerse myself in understanding who I was, and how my creations and theories were relevant to the history of art.

**What advice would you give a new graduate considering becoming an artist or working in the creative arts in general?**

If you want to pursue a career in the arts, you must have a great sense of self. The ancient Greek axiom, "know, thyself" will always ring true. I learned and discovered who I was through daily meditation. I also suggest that you study every great artist that you admire—know their techniques. Learn to trust yourself as a creator. Create without fear. Make sure that what you create is a pure expression of who you are.

**What do you enjoy most and least about your job?**

I love what I do because it is an authentic expression of who I am. I enjoy the reaction of others to my work and the connection that is created between myself and the public. I also enjoy collaborating and sharing ideas with talented collaborators from around the world. I really don't have any complaints about what I do. I'm grateful every day.



**Krista Kim**

**BA, 2004**

Contemporary Digital Artist and Founder of the *Techism* movement



# EVENTS



**1** Joseph Wong with co-author Dan Slater (L) and former PhD supervisor Ed Friedman (centre) at their book launch.

**2** Lynette Ong discusses her latest book *Outsourcing Repression: Everyday State Power in Contemporary China* at the book launch.

**3** Peter Loewen with Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly following her speech on Indo-Pacific partnerships.

**4** APSS President Ciara McGarry (L) and Associate VP Grace Yang met prospective students at this year's Fall Campus Day.

**5** (L-R) Jacques Bertrand, Alexandre Pelletier & Ar-deth Maung Thawngnhmung at their book launch.



photo credit: Jamie Napier



photo credit: Jamie Napier



photo credit: Jamie Napier

**6** Graduate secretary Louis Tentsos joins (L-R) Koji Shiromoto, Baher Hussein, Yitao Chao, Xiyuan Chen, Steven Han, Borna Atrchian, Zach Gorman and Cera Cruise at their MA convocation.

**7** Robert Vipond joined MPPs Mitzie Hunter (L) and Jessica Bell (R) at our 'Campus to Careers' talk.





# ASSOCIATIONS



**APSS** / Association of Political Science Students  
**CIARA MCGARRY**, PRESIDENT

This past semester, APSS hosted three socials: a picnic in September, a pub night in October, and a trivia night in November, all of which had much higher attendance rates than last year. In early November, we also hosted an academic panel featuring Professors Leonid Kosals and Matthew Light from U of T's Centre of Criminology and Sociolegal Studies entitled, 'Russia's War with Ukraine and its Impact on Ethnic Minorities.'

Beyond academic and social events, we successfully kicked off our annual junior mentorship program, with over a hundred student participants, and have hosted training sessions as well as a social event to introduce new mentors and mentees.

Finally, we are excited to announce a semesterized version of our undergraduate research journal *POLIS: The Undergraduate Journal of Political Science*. After a highly competitive submissions and recruitment process, we hired our editorial board and selected eight essays to be featured in this semester's issue. We are really excited about its forthcoming publication!

We look forward to hosting more events, panels, and organizing other opportunities for undergraduate political science students next semester!



Marie Henein and the Rt. Hon. Richard Wagner

photo credit: Kurtis Law

**PSAA** / Political Science Alumni Association  
**ANTHONY FERNANDO**, ALUMNUS

On Oct 21st, the Political Science Alumni Association hosted "Why is Access to Justice Critical to our Democracy?" at U of T's Faculty Club. Attendees, including alumni, students and faculty joined guest speakers Marie Henein, Partner, Henein Hutchison LLP, Supreme Court Chief Justice, the Rt. Hon. Richard Wagner and the Hon. Doug Downey, Ontario's Attorney General. A seated dinner followed the discussion.

Additional guests included political science alumna Denise Andrea Campbell, Executive Director, Social Development, City of Toronto, David Corbett, Deputy Attorney General, Ontario Government, David Field, President and CEO, Legal Aid Ontario, political science alumna Mattea Roach, best known for her 23-game winning streak on *Jeopardy!* and now a host on the podcast *The Back Bench* on the news site *Canadaland*, and Selina Young, Director, Indigenous Affairs Office, City of Toronto.

We'd like to thank Department Chair, Professor Ryan Balot for supporting this event and Professors Linda White and Melissa Williams for attending. We'd also like to acknowledge the support of the Faculty of Arts and Science's Advancement team, particularly Jennifer Wells and Ramine Haider, along with the guidance provided by our Student, Alumni and Advancement Coordinator, Elizabeth Jagdeo.

Please contact Anthony Fernando if you're interested in helping organize future alumni events: [anthonyfernando@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyfernando@gmail.com).



**GASPS** / Graduate Association of Students in Political Science  
**HAYLEY RUSSELL**, CHAIR

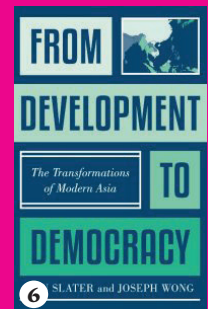
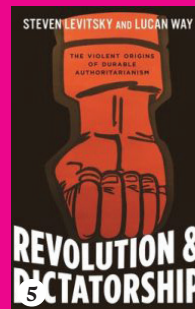
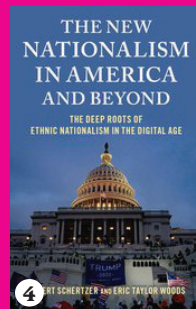
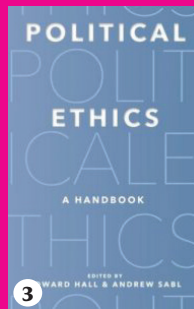
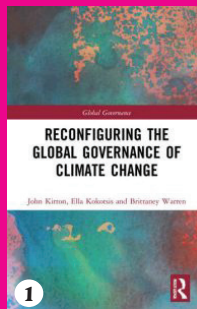
With the return to in-person learning and events, GASPS has been delighted to play an integral role in rebuilding connections between graduate students and revitalizing the academic and social environment in the department. We welcomed the incoming cohort of students during orientation with a series of information panels, campus tours, and social events. Throughout the fall semester, GASPS continued to host a variety of events including our Halloween party providing graduate students with the opportunity to socialize. Our area group representatives have worked hard to plan and host various potlucks and mixers, facilitating intellectual exchange between professors and students. GASPS has also been able to provide graduate student representatives to sit on most departmental committees, ensuring the unique needs and perspectives of graduate students are adequately represented. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and remain committed to working alongside the department to represent and support the interests of our graduate students.

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Ryan Balot, Mahdi Baratalipour, Steven Bernstein, Christopher Cochrane, Geoff Dancy, Ana Djordjijevic, Alexander Dyzenhaus, Theresa Enright, Anthony Fernando, Krista Kim, Margaret Kohn, Sarah Lachance, Pam MacKinnon, Beatrice Magistro, Uahikea Maile, Ausma Malik, Kristina McCutcheon, Elizabeth McDermott, Ciara McGarry, Nikola Milicic, Sardana Nikolaeva, Menaka Philips, Maryam Rahimi Shahmirzadi, David Rayside, Hayley Russell, Tony Scott, Alison Smith, Oskar Thoms, Clareta Treger, Dale Turner.

**POLITICS**

**Editorial:** Jennifer O'Reilly, Julie Guzzo, Elizabeth Jagdeo  
**Design and front cover:** Cora Endean





**All the latest  
faculty and  
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and publications**

# POLITICS & BOOKS & BITES

## FACULTY

**Aisha Ahmad** was appointed to the Royal Society of Canada's college of new scholars, artists, and scientists.

**Ryan Balot** was appointed Chair, UTSG.

**Jacques Bertrand** was appointed as the Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Visiting Fellow for 2022-23.

**Steven Bernstein** was appointed Interim Chair, UTM.

**Christopher Cochrane** was appointed Interim Chair, UTSC.

**Michael Donnelly** was appointed Director of Professional Masters Programs at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy.

**Theresa Enright** was appointed Graduate Director and Associate Graduate Chair, UTSG.

**Dickson Eyoh** was appointed Interim Director of the Centre for Caribbean Studies, U of T.

**Randall Hansen** received an inaugural FAS Dean's Research Excellence Award.

**Matthew Hoffmann** and his team were awarded a 2021 Clusters of Scholarly Prominence grant.

**Caroline Shenaz Hossein** was named a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair of Africana Development and Feminist Political Economy.

**Margaret Kohn** was appointed Tri-Campus Graduate Chair.

**Ron Levi** was appointed Special Advisor on International Graduate Partnerships, Faculty of Arts & Science.

**Kanta Murali** was appointed Interim Undergraduate Director and Associate Chair, UTSG.

**Kate Neville's** article "Slow Justice: A Framework for Tracing Diffusion and Legacies of Resistance" was awarded the 2022 Britta Baumgarten Memorial Prize by the journal *Social Movement Studies*.

**Lynette Ong** received a Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society (SRI) fellowship, and her article "Thugs and Outsourcing of State Repression in China" was shortlisted for a Routledge Area Studies Impact Award.

**Ayelet Shachar's** book *The Shifting Border* was shortlisted for the C.B. Macpherson Prize.

**Alison Smith** received UTM's annual research prize for 2021-2022.

**Dale Turner** was appointed Academic Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Research and Director of the Indigenous Research Network.

**Graham White** was awarded APSA's Mildred A. Schwartz Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Politics Section.

**Sylvia Bashevkin, Jessica Green, Stefan Renckens** and **Linda White** each received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) 2022 Insight Grant.

**Phillip Lipsky, Lynette Ong, Alison Smith** and **Nicole Wu** each received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) 2022 Insight Development Grant.

## STUDENTS

**New PhD's:** Zain Asaf, Eve Bourgeois, Michael Braun, Emile Dirks, Anna Kopec, Kevin Luo, Milena Pandey Szekeres, Travis Southin.

**Ontario Graduate Scholarship (Domestic PhD):** Thomas Bergeron, Charles Buck, Etienne Cardin-Trudeau, Isabela Dos Santos, Taylor Jackson, Anna Johnson, Erica Kunimoto, Isaac Lawther, Stefan Macleod, Mher Mamajanyan, William O'Connell, Catherine Ouellet, Natalie Playford, Schuyler Playford, Jenna Quelch, Marc-Antoine Rancourt.

**Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral):** Natasha Goel, Jacob Winter, Cara Peacock.

**SSHRC (Doctoral):** De-Zhi Gabrielle Lim, Mary MacDonald, Jay Hyun Park, Caroline Reyes-Marques, Lucia Nalbandian.

**Vanier:** Riley Yesno.

**BOOKS:** 1. *Reconfiguring the Global Governance of Climate Change* • John J. Kirton, Ella Kokotsis, Brittaney Warren • Routledge Books 2. *Innovations in Tax Compliance: Building Trust, Navigating Politics, and Tailoring Reform* • Wilson Prichard, Anna Custers, Stephen R. Davenport & Roel Dom • World Bank Group 3. *Political Ethics: A Handbook* • Edited by Andrew Sabl and Edward Hall • Princeton University Press 4. *The New Nationalism in America and Beyond: The Deep Roots of Ethnic Nationalism in the Digital Age* • Robert Schertzer and Eric Taylor Woods • Oxford University Press 5. *Revolution and Dictatorship: The Violent Origins of Durable Authoritarianism* • Lucan Way and Steven Levitsky • Princeton University Press 6. *From Development to Democracy: The Transformations of Modern Asia* • Dan Slater and Joseph Wong • Princeton University Press



# NEW FACES



**Mahdi Baratalipour** (PhD, Kharazmi University) joins UTSC as a Visiting Professor. His research focuses on elections, public opinion, voting behavior, sociopolitical movements and social justice in the Middle East. His recent books include *Politics of Difference in Multicultural Societies* and *After Consensus: Critical Challenge and Social Change in Iran*. His forthcoming book is *Moral Republicanism and Social Constraints in Contemporary Iran*.



**Alexander Dyzenhaus** (PhD, Cornell University) is a SSHRC postdoctoral fellow working with Antoinette Handley. His research focuses on understanding both the obstacles to, and the effects of, land redistribution in South Africa.



**Beatrice Magistro** (PhD, University of Washington) is a postdoctoral researcher at the Policy, Elections, and Representation Lab (PEARL) at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. Her work is at the intersection of political economy and political behavior. She is interested in how different transformations to society, including those resulting from trade, immigration, and automation, affect democracy, politics, and policies.



**Nikola Milicic** joins UTSG as Digital Learning Coordinator. Nikola assisted faculty and TAs with online and hybrid teaching during the pandemic and continues to provide hybrid teaching support. He is looking forward to running workshops and preparing a newsletter on new digital learning trends. He is also creating instructor-friendly digital learning modules and resources that can be used in any type of teaching delivery.



**Menaka Philips** (PhD, Northwestern University) joins UTM as Assistant Professor from Tulane University. She works on issues relating to the politics of interpretation in historical and contemporary political thought, with particular focus on feminist and gender studies, postcolonial politics, and democratic theory. Her forthcoming book is entitled *The Liberalism Trap: John Stuart Mill and Customs of Interpretation*.



**Oskar Thoms** (PhD, Princeton University) is a postdoctoral fellow working with Geoff Dancy. He has previously worked as an instructor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University, and was the Simons Research Fellow in International Law and Human Security at Simon Fraser University. His research interests focus on human rights, transitional justice, and political violence.



**Geoff Dancy** (PhD, University of Minnesota) joins UTM as Associate Professor from Tulane University. His research on human rights, political violence, and the politics of accountability has been published in *American Political Science Review*, *International Organization*, and *American Journal of International Law*. He currently directs a Global Affairs Canada-sponsored project on the evaluation of transitional justice.



**Sarah Lachance** (PhD, University of British Columbia) joins the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy as a post-doctoral fellow working with Professor Peter Loewen. Her work focuses on political psychology and political behaviour. Her main research focus is the influence of institutions on the decision-making process of elites and voters as well as elections, campaign effects and representation.



**Kristina McCutcheon** joins UTM as the Undergraduate Academic Advisor. A student service professional with over ten years of academic advising experience, she has a passion for supporting students to realize their potential despite any personal and academic challenges they may encounter along the way.



**Sardana Nikolaeva** (PhD, University of Manitoba) is a postdoctoral fellow working with Dr. Uahikea Maile at the International Indigenous Politics Collaboratory. Her research projects focus on the politics of Indigenization in extractivist activities in the post-Soviet Indigenous Arctic, with a philosophical and praxis orientation of land-based education explored transnationally.



**Tony Scott** (PhD, University of Toronto) is a postdoctoral fellow working with Matthew Walton. His research investigates the role of Buddhism as a contested site in the struggles of mid-twentieth century Burma, with a focus on political writings by monks. He situates these struggles in an emerging Pan-Asian Buddhist network that connects Burmese, Japanese, and Indian intellectuals (re)defining the role of religion in the Cold War era.



**Clareta Treger** (PhD, Tel Aviv University) is a postdoctoral fellow at the Policy, Elections, and Representation Lab (PEARL) at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. Her research focuses on voters' and elites' attitudes toward government intervention and coercion, and specifically on the determinants of support for government paternalism.



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Illustration by Cora Endean

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