

# Political Science

## Happenings

### Political Science Faculty and Staff, 2022-2023

**Dr. Michael Morgan**  
Thomas 307  
Phone: 376.4660  
Email: mam003@marietta.edu  
(focus on international relations, comparative politics, and research methods)

**Dr. Mark Schaefer**  
Thomas 314  
Phone: 376.4801  
Email: mes001@marietta.edu  
(focus on U.S. and international politics)

**Dr. Mike Tager**  
Thomas 308  
Phone: 376.4898  
Email: tagerm@marietta.edu  
(focus on U.S. and comparative politics and political theory)

**Ms. Chelsea Yerex**  
Thomas 216  
Phone: 376.4633  
Email: crs007@marietta.edu  
(Administrative Coordinator)

Have items of interest to the Political Science community at Marietta College? Please let Dr. Tager know. This newsletter is published twice a year, or as the news warrants.

## Moot Court

This past fall, moot court students in Dr. Tager's POLS 215/315 course worked on the hypothetical case provided by the American Moot Court Association, *DeNolf v. Olympus*. The case involved warrantless surveillance of an RV that police suspected of involvement in drug trafficking. That surveillance led to the arrest of 15-year-old William DeNolf for beating his ex-girlfriend in the RV. DeNolf was convicted of attempted murder and received a 50-year to life sentence. DeNolf sued Olympus, claiming that warrantless drone surveillance constituted an unreasonable search violating the Fourth Amendment, and that his 50-year to life sentence constituted cruel and unusual punishment violating the Eighth Amendment. Based on actual case law, students developed appellate legal arguments for both parties on both issues in the litigation.

This past fall four students in two teams (**Kyra Eaton '25, Abby Scott '25, Grace Wharton '24, and Michaela Medich '23**) competed at the Midwest Regional Moot Court Tournament at Wooster College in Wooster Ohio on November 11th. Another four students in two teams (**Gabe Hehr '23, Jason Panas '23, Jacob Milliron '25, and Jack Wallace '24**) competed at the Eastern Michigan Regional Moot Court Tournament at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti Michigan on November 19th. Each tournament attracted a strong field of teams from prominent colleges and universities. The Midwest Regional was won by a team from the University of Chicago, and the Eastern Michigan Regional was won by a team from Duke University.



Midwest Moot Court Tournament participants (L to R) Kyra Eaton '25, Abby Scott '25, Michaela Medich '23, Grace Wharton '24.



Eastern Michigan Moot Court Tournament participants (L to R) Jack Wallace '24, Jason Panas '23, Gabriel Hehr '23, Jacob Milliron '25.

# Notable Student Activities

**Natalie Johnson '22** was interviewed on WTAP-TV in early November for her views on Ohio Issue One, a constitutional amendment about bail on the November ballot for ratification by the public. She was working part-time for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) last semester focusing on the issues of criminal justice reform and reproductive rights. In the WTAP-TV interview she explained that the ACLU opposed Issue One since it basically “constitutionalizes cash bail,” which she said represents “a wealth-based system of detention.” Washington County Prosecutor Nicole Coil explained her support for Issue One in this same news segment.

**Cole Longcor '22** and **Andrew Novak '22** were inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science honor society. **Michaela Donnelly '24**, **Andrew Novak '22**, and **Elizabeth Stern '23** were inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, the national Leadership honor society. **Elizabeth Vigue '23** serves as the Marietta College ODK Treasurer.

**India Flores '23** studied at Universidad Veritas in San Juan, Costa Rica, through AIFS last summer from May to July. She attended an intensive program in Spanish, and traveled around the country.

**Jacob Milliron '25** and **Landon Thompson '26** attended the Reagan Day Dinner sponsored by the Washington County Republican Party last October. The event was held at the DBRC, and speakers included Ohio Senate candidate JD Vance and U.S. Senator Ted Cruz. The dinner raised funds for local Republican candidates.

**Sydni Wilson '23** received the Ronald F. Carlson Experiential Education Endowment Award and used it to attend the International Leadership Association’s 2022 Global Conference in Washington, DC, last October with a group led by Dr. Alexandra Perry, Dean of the McDonough Leadership Program. The theme of the conference was wisdom and its role in times of crisis.

**Aria Hawks '24** and **Sydni Wilson '23** attended a fall break trip to Alabama to learn more about the history of slavery and the Civil Rights Movement. The trip was led by Tony Mayle, the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Diversity & Inclusion. They visited sites like the Legacy Museum, the Selma Interpretive Center and the SPLC Civil Rights Museum and Memorial. They also walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the scene of a famous protest in 1965. Sydni termed the trip a “powerful experience” through which to grasp some truths about U.S. history.

Last fall, **Hunter Sheets '23** interned at U.S. Congressman Bill Johnson’s Marietta office, and **Andrew Novak '22** continued to intern (virtually) at the Campus Vote Project.



*India Flores '23 at the Irazu Volcano National Park in Cartago Costa Rica.*



*At the Reagan Day Dinner (L to R) Landon Thompson '26, David Fraizer '25, U.S. Congressman Bill Johnson, Cali Barnes-Pierotti '24, Jacob Milliron '25.*



*Sydni Wilson '23 in Washington, DC, in front of the White House.*



# Political Science Capstone

In POLS 420, senior Political Science students work on original research projects using methods and the Stata software they learned about in POLS 320, Research Methods. This past fall, the senior student research projects included:

**David Beattie '23**, "How Does Regime Type Affect Economic Growth?"

**William Bentley '23**, "How Does Internet Use Influence Trust in Government?"

**Natasha Didytch '23**, "Power, Disparity, and Protest Activity"

**India Flores '23**, "How Does Citizen Partisanship Influence the Number of Legal Immigrants Admitted to the U.S.?"

**Rebecca Guhde '23**, "The Effect of Government Spending on Life Expectancy in Post-Soviet States"

**Emilee Hinkle '23**, "Cohorts in the United States: How Generational Cohort Influences Affective Polarization"

**Johannah James '24**, "Connections Between Trust in Media & Trust of Government"

**Natalie Johnson '22**, "Pocketbook Voting in U.S. Congressional Elections"

**Alexander Lersch '22**, "The Combat Potential of Retired Rebels: Rebel-Originated Pro-Government Militias and Civil War Severity"

**Cole Longcor '22**, "Piracy and Polity: A Study of Maritime Target Selection and Attacks"

**Logan McPherson '23**, "How Does Regime Durability Influence the Frequency of Domestic Terror?"

**Andrew Novak '22**, "Social Welfare and the Outcomes on Overdose Rates"

**Jason Panas '23**, "Voter Turnout Affected by Misery and Education"

**Jackson Petty '23**, "Opinion Matters: How Does Public Opinion Influence the President's Use of Executive Orders?"

**Hunter Sheets '23**, "How Does Political Regime Impact a State's Willingness to Import?"

**Benjamin Stenson '23**, "Violent Crime and Republican Voter Turnout"

**Elizabeth Stern '23**, "College Degrees: Influence on Partisanship in Pennsylvania"

**Elizabeth Vigue '23**, "How Does Armed Conflict Affect Food Security?"

**Jack Wallace '23**, "How is Trust in the United States Federal Government Affected by Violent Crime Rates?"

All the research projects were directed by Dr. Morgan, with assistance from Dr. Schaefer.

## Model United Nations

Seven students and Dr. Morgan attended the Lake Erie International Model United Nations conference November 10-12, 2022. The conference was held at the Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, Ohio, and consisted of three simulated committees. The Security Council had an open agenda, the Human Rights Council considered the situation in Afghanistan, involuntary disappearances, and rights related to recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, while the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed relations with Ukraine, cyber-defense, and security/peace issues related to women.

Security Council, Albania: **Jeffrey Dolby '26** and **Phoebe Smith '26**

Human Rights Council, Venezuela: **Aria Hawks '24** and **Sydni Wilson '23**

North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Belgium: **Natasha Didytch '23** and **Alexander Lersch '22**

North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Greece: **Landon Thompson '26**

**Aria Hawks '24** and **Sydni Wilson '23** received the Excellent Award from the LEIMUN staff for their performance representing Venezuela in the HRC.



LEIMUN delegates (L to R) Alexander Lersch '22, Natasha Didytch '23, Phoebe Smith '26, Landon Thompson '26, Aria Hawks '24, Sydni Wilson '23, Jeffrey Dolby '26.

The Marietta College Model United Nations Club is open to all students interested in learning more about global issues by attending simulated UN sessions where students role play diplomats from different countries. Please contact any Political Science professor for more information.

# Political Science Alumni News

**Natalie Johnson '22** is working for the Ohio American Civil Liberties Union and is based in Athens Ohio.

**Sam Welch '18** entered UCLA's Professional Program in Writing for Television this past fall. She is a Senior Copywriter for the media firm 1000heads, a scriptwriter for the web series "Unsafe for Work," and a comedian in Los Angeles.

**Maria Stickrath '17** joined the law firm of Cook, Craig and Fancuzenko in Fairfax, Virginia where she focuses on employment law. She previously clerked for a Circuit Court Judge in Virginia, and received her JD from the College of William & Mary Law School.

**Daley Buckwell '16** recently started as the Resident Coordinator at the Dover Children's Home in Dover New Hampshire. She previously was a Customer Relationship Advocate at Fidelity Investments in Concord, NH.

**Casey Peel '16** is now a Deputy District Attorney in the Denver DA's Office in Colorado. She received her JD from the University of Arizona College of Law.

**Danielle Chirdon '15** is now in the Office of Legal Counsel at HSBC in Chicago. HSBC is a multinational bank and financial services company headquartered in London, UK. She previously was an attorney in the Chicago law firm of Reed Smith. She received her JD from Michigan State University College of Law.

**Sean Kuhn '15** is now Head of Subscription Strategy and Analytics at Defector Media, which runs a sports and culture website. He previously worked as a product analyst, data scientist, and supply chain planner at The Athletic, Root, and L Brands. He received an MA in Applied Economics from The Ohio State University. He double-majored in Political Science and Economics at MC.

**Eric Miranda '15** is Director of Reimbursement Policy for Fire Arrow, a Washington DC consulting firm advising businesses in the health care field. He formerly worked as a Policy Advisor in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He received a MPP from George Washington University.

**Zach Eddy '14** is now an Associate Attorney in the Dayton office of the law firm Taft, Stettinius & Hollister. Before going to Taft, he was an attorney at Bricker & Eckler, a law firm based in Columbus, Ohio. He received his JD from Michigan State University College of Law.

**XiuYe (Tony) Zhao '11** entered the PhD in Public Policy program at Tsinghua University in Beijing this past fall. Tsinghua is one of China's top universities. He previously worked as the Director for Asia Operations at the State Legislative Leaders Foundation in Washington, DC.

**Sean Paulhus '08** was reelected to the Maine House of Representatives this past November with 70% of the vote to serve a third term. He also continues to serve on the Bath City Council, where he is the Vice Chair.

**Rebecca Gehring '05** recently took a position with Pfizer, doing vaccine education and communications. She previously has held a variety of public health positions, including Vaccine and Outreach Manager for the New Mexico Immunization coalition, Immunization Program Analyst for the National Association for County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Program Manager for Adult Immunization Projects at the American College of Physicians, etc. She received an MPH from the Northwest Ohio Consortium of Public Health (a University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University joint program), and served in the Peace Corps in Morocco.

**Sarah (Clapp) Work '04** ran for State Treasurer of South Carolina this past November for the Alliance Party, a small centrist third party. She lost, but received 20% of the statewide vote. She double-majored in Political Science and Accounting at MC, received a Master's in Taxation from Capital University, and is a CPA in the Charlotte metro area.

## PRE-LAW

Considering law school after Marietta? If so, please see the MC Pre-Law advisor Dr. Schaefer. He can help you navigate the pre-law process whether you're a senior preparing for the LSAT or a first-year student wondering where to begin.

There will be a virtual event on the law school application process with a dean from the Cleveland State University College of Law on February 22nd, stay tuned for more details.

## WASHINGTON SEMESTER

Interested in studying at American University for a semester and getting an internship in Washington, DC? Please contact Dr. Tager for more information about the Washington Semester Program (WSP) and see also [www.american.edu/spexs/washingtonsemester/](http://www.american.edu/spexs/washingtonsemester/).

## PIZZA AND POLITICS

The Political Science Department sponsors a series of forums on current events with free pizza. Last semester's Constitution Day session featured many good questions and comments from students on a variety of constitutional issues. If you have ideas for Pizza and Politics topics and events, please contact Dr. Morgan, who directs the series.

## INTERNSHIPS

Please contact any Political Science professor for information about Political Science internships. Students can do them locally during the fall and spring semesters, or further away during the summer.



[marietta.edu/political-science-department](http://marietta.edu/political-science-department)



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