



FACULTY

Joe Wright was awarded the 2023 American Political Science Association Migration and Citizenship Section Best Book Prize for his new book with Abel Escribà-Folch and Covadonga Meseguer, *Migration and Democracy* (Princeton University Press).



Daniel Tavana's dissertation "The Origins of Opposition: Elections, Identity, and Order in the Middle East" received Honorable Mention for the best dissertation from the [APSA Middle East and North Africa Politics Section](#).



Bruce Desmarais and **Kevin Munger** recently received a National Science Foundation Collaborative Research grant to assemble a database about public online discussions with prominent U.S. public figures across a variety of online platforms. Professors Desmarais and Munger will use the data set to create measures that will allow the analysis of the transparency, responsiveness, and accessibility of online behavior



Ray Block has accepted a joint appointment at the [RAND Corporation](#), having been named its inaugural Michael D. Rich Chair for countering Truth Decay. As the inaugural Rich Chair, Ray will continue building RAND's truth decay agenda, develop new research streams, and expand the impact and reach of its research. Ray will remain a member of Penn States's faculty during his appointment with RAND. [Full story](#).



WELCOME

The department welcomes two new assistant teaching professors this year. [David Bracken](#) (UC Davis Ph.D.), who's teaching and research focus on polarization, public opinion, and social identity, both in the United States and in a comparative context. [Justin Crofoot](#) (Florida State Ph.D.), who's research and teaching interests include state and local politics, the policymaking process, and interest groups.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

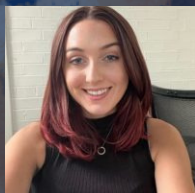
Tuba Sendinç has been awarded the College of the Liberal Arts's Milton B. Dolinger Graduate Fellowship in the World War II Era for the 2023-24 academic year. Tuba's research focuses on understanding how leader psychology affects foreign policy decision-making, more specifically war and peace in international relations.

Maya Dalton received the 22-23 [National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship](#). As the oldest graduate fellowship of its kind, the GRFP has a long history of selecting recipients who achieve high levels of success in their future academic and professional careers. [Full story](#).

Morrigan Herlihy, a third-year Ph.D. student in American Politics and Social Data Analytics was chosen as the inaugural recipient of the [Eleanor Roosevelt Fellowship](#) in the [McCourtney Institute for Democracy](#). [Full Story](#).



Tuba Sendinç



Maya Dalton



Morrigan Herlihy

Want to know more about what our graduate students are up to? [Get to know them here.](#)

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Outstanding Political Science Graduate Student: **Michael Burnham**
- Robert S. Friedman Award for Excellence in Teaching: **Nathan Morse**
- Best Political Science Master's Essay: **Lingbo Zhao**, "Global Value Chains and Corporate Opposition to Sanctions"

COLLEGE AWARDS

- **Seth Warner**, is the recipient of the 2023 Raymond E. Lombra and Roberta Lombra Outstanding Graduate Research Award in the College of the Liberal Arts for his recent article, "[Analyzing Attention to Scandal on Twitter: Elites Sell What Supporters Buy](#)," published in *Political Research Quarterly*.

UNDERGRADUATES

Penn State's Pi Sigma Alpha honors society won the 2023 Best Chapter Award from national Pi Sigma Alpha. This is the seventh year out of eight that they have won the award!

Luisina Kemanian-Leites, the May 2023 International Politics college marshal, was selected as first runner up for the Robert F. Guentter, Jr. Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award. Her thesis examines whether military interventions were successful in reducing mass killings and genocides. She is currently in Colombia as a Fulbright Fellow.

Charis Cheuk-Ling Liu was awarded a 22/23 Perreault Fellow. She is a third-year student studying International Politics and Comparative Literature. [Meet the Fellows](#) [Full Story](#).

Selected Student Internships (Spring and Summer 2023)

- Matt Cartwright Congressional Office
Lauren Smeraldo, PLSC B.A.
- U.S. State Department
Prachi Soni, PLSC B.A.
- Andrew Garbarino Congressional Office
Nicole Severino, PLSC B.A.
- CRU Group
Daniel Bard, PLSC B.S.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
Ethan Wolfe, PLSC B.A.
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Jaden Green, PLSC B.S.

ALUMNI DASHBOARD

[Access the Board of Visitors digital directory.](#)

NEXT CAREER WORKSHOP

**Thursday,
April 25**



NEXT BOV MEETING

**Friday,
April 26**

KEEP IN TOUCH

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