

A CLOSER LOOK

NEW PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

NEW INSTITUTES, CENTERS & PARTNERSHIPS

NEW RESEARCH

NEW FACULTY & LEADERSHIP

ABOUT SPA



SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC



Each fall, with the start of a new academic year, we at SPA reflect on recent accomplishments and look ahead to new challenges. As I complete my first year as dean, I am so proud of who we are as a school and what we are doing. A few recent highlights:

The Sine Institute of Policy & Politics: A \$10 million gift from Jeff and Samira Sine has established the Sine Institute in AU School of Public Affairs. The Institute is unique in its focus on how the private and nonprofit sectors, along with international perspectives, can work with the public sector to develop solutions to complex policy issues.

Center for Data Science + MS in Data Science: In today's global economy, data is used to make better management and policy decisions. Led by **SPA Distinguished Professor Jeff Gill**, SPA's new MS in Data Science offers students the skills needed to thrive in this area, and its Center on Data Sciences will drive new research.

SPA's Analytics and Management Institute: SAMI was created to provide SPA graduate students practical workplace skills through zero- and one-credit courses. Classes are taught by industry experts, including **Urban Institute Economist Jonathan Schwabish** and **Vox News Editor Libby Nelson**. Students come away from courses prepared to write for the digital world, produce quality presentations, learn ways to work with media, and hone their oral presentation and critical thinking skills.

Diversity Alliance: SPA is pleased to be the **founding partner in the Public Affairs Diversity Alliance**. Launching with five partner schools, the Alliance seeks to create and sustain a diverse pipeline of candidates for faculty positions in criminal justice, policy, and public administration. Each institution will commit to hiring up to two postdoctoral Alliance fellows annually and will appoint both an internal and an external mentor to maximize networking and professional development.

Home to Five Research Journals: SPA is proud to serve as host to five academic journals: the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* (Editor, **Erdal Tekin**), the *American Journal of Political Science* (Interim Editor, **Jan Leighley**), *Political Analysis* (Editor, **Jeff Gill**), the *Journal of Behavioral Public Administration* (Editor, **Kenneth Meier**), and *Congress & the Presidency* (Editor, **Jeffrey Crouch**).

New Faculty: We are incredibly proud of our new faculty, including **Kenneth Meier**, **SPA's Inaugural Distinguished Scholar in Residence**. See Page 7 to learn more about 10 new faculty members who joined SPA in 2018.

Of course, this is just a fraction of our work. Read on. Take a closer look at what's new at SPA.

Sincerely,
Vicky Wilkins
Dean, American University, School of Public Affairs

SPA is pleased to offer augmented reality content in this booklet.

HOW TO ACCESS AR CONTENT



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Download the
HP Reveal app.



2
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tap the button to
go to scan mode.



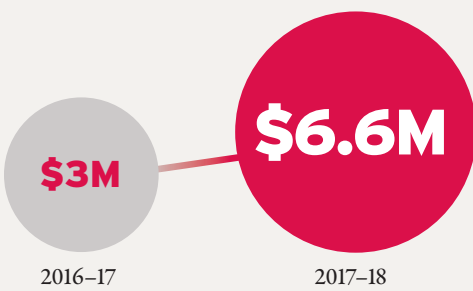
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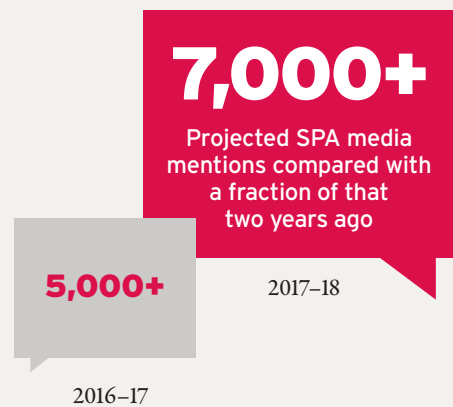
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SPA BY THE NUMBERS

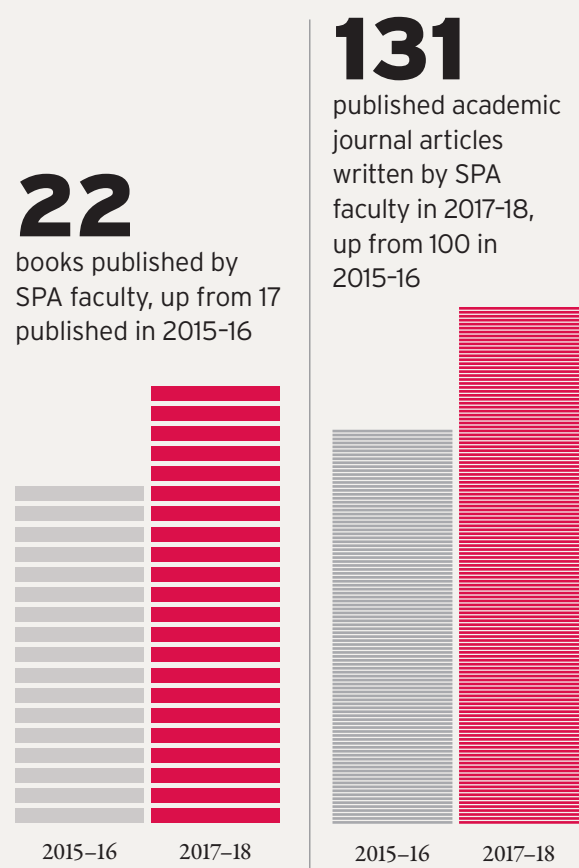
External Funding



Media Mentions



Double the Impact



SPA Graduates Thrive in All Economic Sectors

Six Months after Graduation



4

John Gaus Award winners for lifetime achievement in political science and public administration, more than any other university

In Sept. 2018, SPA received a

\$10M Gift

to establish the **Sine Institute of Policy & Politics**

Notable Rankings

Ranking for institutional impact in the field of public administration, *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 2014

#1 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

#3 IN THE UNITED STATES

#5 IN THE WORLD

TheBestSchools.org 2018

#2

for online master's in public Administration degree program

Graduateprograms.com rankings by students, 2015

#3 for public administration

#13 for public policy

Forensicoutreach.com, 2015

#10

for Masters in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security

U.S. News & World Report, graduate program rankings, 2019

#18

overall ranking for schools of public affairs

#6 for public management and leadership

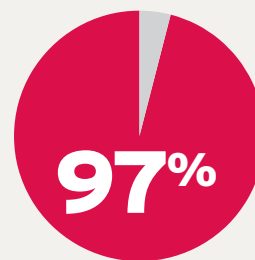
#14 for nonprofit management

#21 for criminology

#23 for public finance and budgeting

#24 for public policy analysis

Post-Graduation Success



of graduates are employed, in graduate school, or both, within six months of graduation, as reported in 2017

33%

of SPA graduate school alumni make

>\$66K

within six months of earning their degree

American University is ranked as

#1 for politically active students

by *The Princeton Review*, 2018

CURRENT STUDENTS

1,900+

alumni

23,000+

average class size

17



New Faculty & Leadership

DEPARTMENTS

Government
Justice, Law & Criminology
Public Administration & Policy

RESEARCH CENTERS

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies
Center for Data Science
Center for Environmental Policy
Justice Programs Office
Metropolitan Policy Center
The Washington Institute for Public Affairs Research
Women & Politics Institute

INSTITUTES & INITIATIVES

Sine Institute of Policy & Politics
First Ladies Initiative
Political Theory Institute
Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute
SPA Analytics and Management Institute

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

Political Science
Justice and Law
Legal Studies
CLEG: Communications, Legal Institutions, Economics & Government

UNDERGRADUATE MINORS

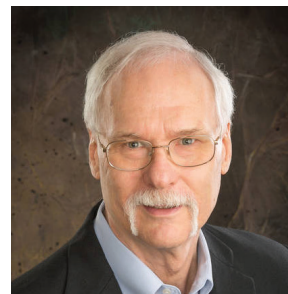
Political Science
Justice
Legal Studies
Public Administration and Policy

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Leadership
Community-Based Research Studies
Politics, Policy & Law Scholars
Women, Policy & Political Leadership

GRADUATE DEGREES

MA Political Communication
MA Political Science
Master of Public Administration
Master of Public Administration (Key Executive Leadership)
Master of Public Administration & Policy (online)
Master of Public Policy
MS Data Science
MS Justice, Law & Criminology
MS Organization Development
MS Terrorism & Homeland Security Policy
MS Counterterrorism & Homeland Security Policy (online)
PhD Justice, Law & Criminology
PhD Political Science
PhD Public Administration & Policy



Kenneth Meier
Inaugural SPA Distinguished Scholar in Residence

AU School of Public Affairs welcomes Meier, who was named the most productive political science researcher in a 2017 *PS: Political Science & Politics* study of nearly 50,000 scholars. Meier is internationally recognized for his research on public administration and policy. Common themes in his studies include representation, institutional governance, equity, and institutional interaction. Meier is a former editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* and current editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Behavioral Public Administration*.



Elizabeth Peters
SPA Scholar in Residence

Peters is a renowned economic demographer whose work examines the impact of social investments and public policies on children, youth, and families. She is an institute fellow in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute; serves on the policy council of the Association of Public Policy and Management; and is a member of the board of directors for the Council on Contemporary Families. At Cornell University, Peters was a professor and founding director of the Cornell Population Center.



Andrew Ballard

Assistant Professor, Department of Government

Ballard focuses on American politics with an interest in legislative politics, text analysis, machine learning, representation, online advertising in campaigns, and campaign finance. He received his doctorate in political science from Duke University where he was part of the Political Institutions and Public Choice Program. His dissertation investigated how Members of Congress choose what to say and how to vote based on the texts of public statements and bills. He has been published in *The Journal of Politics* & *PS: Political Science and Politics*.



TaLisa Carter

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology

Carter's work is dedicated to understanding the interactions of deviance, social organizations, and race. After earning her B.A. in criminology from the University of Pennsylvania, Carter worked as a deputy corrections officer in Savannah, Georgia. She earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in criminology at the University of Delaware. Carter has received funding for her research from the National Science Foundation and has presented her findings at conferences including the American Society of Criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the American Sociological Association.



Lallen Johnson

Assistant Professor, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology

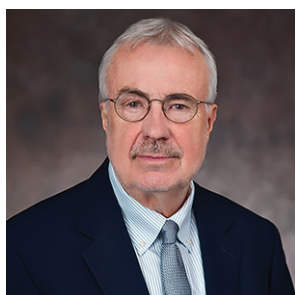
Johnson's work examines illicit drug markets and the violence that occurs around them. It also attempts to develop an understanding of how community and municipal structural disadvantages correlate with spatially clustered violent crime outcomes. He is a past fellow of the National Institute of Justice and the Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute at The Ohio State University. His research has appeared in *Crime and Delinquency*, *Security Journal*, *Journal of Criminal Justice*, *Environment and Planning A*, and *Policing*.



Janice Iwama

Assistant Professor, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology

Iwama's research interests involve the impact of crime on communities, disproportionate minority contact, prevalence of hate crimes, racial and ethnic issues, and the victimization of immigrants. She was an assistant professor at UMass Boston before coming to SPA. Iwama worked as a project manager at the Criminal Justice Policy Center and Institute on Race and Justice. She was also a research analyst at the Justice Research and Statistic Association in Washington, D.C. Iwama's Ph.D. in criminology is from Northeastern University.



John Firman

Professor of Practice, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology

Firman has extensive experience in the criminal justice field that includes police, courts, and corrections with a focus on introducing innovative concepts and evaluation. He was director of the Research Division at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the world's oldest and largest police leadership organization, before retiring in 2018. He worked on the national and international law enforcement policy research and evaluation program for the association. Firman managed its National Law Enforcement Policy Summit Series. Prior to IACP, he served as associate director of the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority.



George Hawkins

Professor of Practice, Department of Public Administration & Policy

Hawkins has worked in the environmental industry for years in several roles, including as a lawyer and a regulator. He served as general manager of the Washington, D.C. Water and Sewer Authority from 2009 to 2017. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and has taught environmental law and policy at Princeton University. Hawkins has held positions with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and was head of the District of Columbia Department of the Environment.



David Malet

Assistant Professor, Department of Justice, Law & Criminology

Malet's research includes political science and international relations topics from bioterrorism to foreign fighters to international security. Before joining the faculty at SPA, he was director of the Security Policy Studies program of the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. Malet served as a defense and foreign policy aide to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. He is the author of *Biotechnology and International Security* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2016). Malet's articles have appeared in *Defense Studies* and *Foreign Affairs*.



Claudia Persico

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration & Policy

Persico is a multidisciplinary policy scholar whose research focuses on environmental policy, inequality, health, and education policy. Her research on school finance reform was featured in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. Persico's current work examines the social and biological mechanisms underlying the relationships between poverty, the environment, and children's cognitive development and health. She was formerly an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Persico received her Ph.D. from Northwestern University in human development and social policy.



Alison Jacknowitz

Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Professor of Public Administration and Policy

Jacknowitz is the new Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for SPA. Her research interests focus on children’s well-being, particularly food insecurity, poverty, food assistance, and early childhood education. Her research has been supported by several organizations including the University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Institute for Research on Poverty, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and Feeding America. Her work has appeared in a variety of journals including *Demography*; *Journal of Nutrition*; *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*; *Pediatrics*, *Social Service Review*; and *The Journal of Human Resources*. She is a member of the Technical Advisory Group of Feeding America.



Betsy Fischer Martin

Executive Director, Women & Politics Institute

Fischer Martin is an Emmy-winning journalist and TV news executive. During her 20+ year career in television news, she was the managing editor of NBC News Political Programming, where she was responsible for the development and execution of network political coverage. Before being promoted to the executive role at NBC News in 2013, Fischer Martin was the executive producer of the top-rated Sunday morning public affairs program “Meet the Press” for 11 years. Her tenure with the program extended over 22 years, beginning as an internship during her senior year at American University. Fischer Martin serves on the board of directors of Washington’s International Women’s Forum and the National Press Club’s Journalism Institute. She is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a member of the Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum.



Jeff Gill

Inaugural Director of the Center for Data Science
Distinguished Professor of Government

Gill’s research interests range from political behavior and institutions to statistical computing and Bayesian inference applied to health issues. Gill holds a partial appointment in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and he serves as a member of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience. Gill was formerly with Washington University, St. Louis. He serves as Editor-in-Chief of *Political Analysis*.



Saul Newman

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education
Associate Professor of Government

Newman received his Ph.D. in 1989 from the Department of Politics at Princeton University. Since then he has taught at American University and at Bar-Ilan University in Israel. His publications include “Ethnoregional Conflict in Democracies” as well as journal articles on nationalism, ethnic politics, and terrorism. Presently, he is conducting research on the decline of settler nationalism in South Africa, Northern Ireland, and Israel and its impact on resolving disputes between settler and native nationalist movements.

SPA Hosts Five Research Journals

SPA now hosts five journals that span public affairs, government, and law subject matter. Our faculty expertise is a draw for these journals, and we are honored to play a leadership role for these excellent publications.

American Journal of Political Science

Editor, SPA Professor Jan Leighley

Congress & the Presidency

Editor, SPA Assistant Professor Jeffrey Crouch

Journal of Behavioral Public Administration

Editor-in-Chief, SPA Distinguished Scholar in Residence Kenneth Meier

Journal of Policy Analysis and Management

Editor-in-Chief, SPA Professor Erdal Tekin

Political Analysis

Editor-in-Chief, SPA Distinguished Professor Jeff Gill

Select Journal Publications

CRIMINOLOGY

Addington, L. (2018). Students' feeling of safety in school: Does frequency of victimization matter? *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 43(1), 26–38.

Freiburger, T. L., **Jordan, K. L.**, & Hilinski-Rosick, C. M. (2018). A multivariate analysis of incarceration and sentence length decisions for older defendants. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.

Gould, J., & Leon, K. (2017) A culture that is hard to defend: Extralegal factors in federal death penalty cases. *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*.

Tanner-Smith, E. E., Fisher, B. W., **Addington, L.**, & Gardella, J. (2018). Adding security, but subtracting safety? Exploring schools' use of multiple visible security measures. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 43(1), 102–119.

HEALTH POLICY & MANAGEMENT

Amirkhanyan, A., Meier, K., Holt, S., & McCrea, A. (2018). Diversity management and performance in U.S. nursing homes. *Public Administration Review*.

Amirkhanyan, A., Meier, K., O'Toole, L., Dahwe, M. & Janzen, S. (2018). Management and Performance in U.S. Nursing Homes. *The Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, 28 (1), 33-49.

Morrissey, T., & Wolf, S. (2017). Economic instability, food insecurity, and child health in the wake of the Great Recession. *Social Service Review*.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Asal, V., Phillips, B., Rethemeyer, R. K., Simonelli, C., & **Young, J.** (2018). Carrots, sticks, and insurgent targeting of civilians. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

Bacon, T., & Arsenault, E. G. (2017). Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State's break: Strategic strife or lackluster leadership? *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*.

Getmankys, A., Sinmazdemir, T., & **Zeitzoff, T.** (2018). Refugees, xenophobia, and domestic conflict: Evidence from a survey experiment in Turkey. *Journal for Peace Research*.

Malet, D., & Hayes, R. (2018). Foreign fighter returnees: An indefinite threat? *Terrorism & Political Violence*.

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

AboutAssi, K., Bauer, Z., & Johnson, J. M. (2018). Collaboration, Venus and Mars: The gender factor in intersectoral relations. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.

AboutAssi, K., & Tschirhart, M. (2018). Organizational response to changing demands: Predicting behavior in donor networks. *Public Administration Review*.

Faulk, L., & Steward, A. J. (2017). As you sow, so shall you reap? Evaluating if targeted financial capacity-building improves nonprofit financial growth. *Nonprofit Management and Leadership*.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Anderson, D., Rees, D., & **Tekin, E.** (2018). Medical marijuana laws and workplace fatalities in the United States. *International Journal of Drug Policy*.

Gershenson, S., & Papageorge, N. (2018). The power of teacher expectations. *Education Next*, 18(1), 65–70.

Morrissey, T., & Vinopal, K. (2018). Center-based early care and education in children's school readiness: Do impacts vary by neighborhood poverty? *Developmental Psychology*, 54(4), 757–771.

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

Favero, N., Anderson, S. C., Meier, K., J. O'Toole, L. J., & Soren, C. W. (2018). How should we estimate the performance effect of management? Comparing impact of public managers' and front-line employees' perceptions of management. *International Public Management Journal*, 21(1), 105–130.

A recent study explores the direct impact of bullying on students of different sexual orientations.

BELOW SPA researchers found that managers who consider diversity and hire employees skilled in caring for diverse clientele have better facilities with fewer regulatory violations. Another study found that medical marijuana was associated with a reduction in workplace fatalities.



Favero, N., & Molina, Jr., A. L. (2018) Is active bureaucratic representation an organizational-level process? The indirect effect of bureaucrats on clients they don't directly serve. *American Review of Public Administration*, 48(1), 3–17.

Piatak, J., **Romzek, B.**, LeRous, K., & **Johnston, J.** (2018). Managing goal conflict in public service delivery networks: Does accountability move up and down, or side to side? *Public Performance & Management Review*, 41(1), 152–176.

Song, M., & **Meier, K. J.** (2018). Citizen satisfaction and the kaleidoscope of government performance: How multiple stakeholders see government performance. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.



POLITICAL SCIENCE

Barker, D. (2018). Cognitive deliberation, electoral decision making and democratic health. *Social Science Quarterly*, 99(3).

LeBas, A. (2018). Can polarization be positive? Conflict and institutional development in Africa. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 62(1), 59–74.



New research by SPA Associate Professor Seth Gershenson finds that white teachers have far lower expectations for black students than they do for similarly situated white students.

SPECIALTY AREAS — NEW RESEARCH

Nyhan, B., & Zeitzoff, T. (2018). Conspiracy and misperception belief in the Middle East and North Africa. *The Journal of Politics*.

Suhay, E. (2018). Science, sexuality, and civil rights: Does information on the causes of sexual orientation change attitudes? *The Journal of Politics*, 80(2), 692–696.

SOCIAL POLICY

Addington, L. (2017). What is the effect of being bullied? Comparing direct harms of bullying experienced by LGB and non-LGB students. *Journal of Family Strengths*, 17(2).

Hardy, B. (2017). Income instability and the response of the safety net. *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 35(2), 312–330.

Morrissey, T., & Vinopal, K. (2017). Neighborhood poverty and children's academic skills and behavior in early elementary school. *Journal of Marriage and Family*.

PUBLIC FINANCING AND BUDGET

Flink, C. M. (2018). Predicting budgetary change: The effect of performance gaps. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.

Flink, C. M. (2018). Ordering chaos: The performance consequences of budgetary changes. *The American Review of Public Administration*, 48(4), 291–300.

Select Books

Amirkhanyan, A., & Lambright, K. *Citizen Participation in the Age of Contracting: When Service Delivery Trumps Democracy*. (Routledge)

Bacon, T. (2018). *Why Terrorist Groups Form International Alliances*. (University of Pennsylvania Press)

Dreisbach, D. (2016). *Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers*. (Oxford University Press)

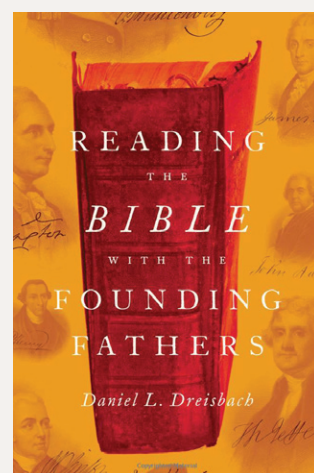
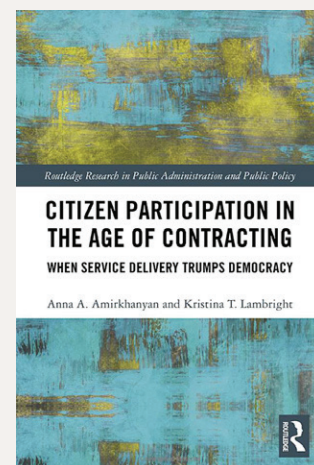
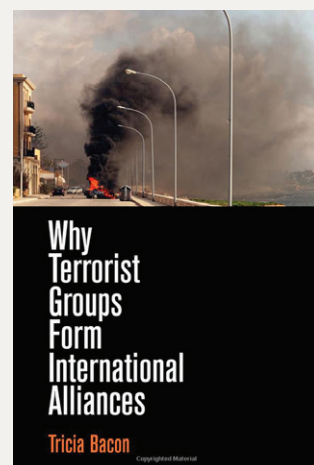
Fiorino, D. *Can Democracy Handle Climate Change?* (Wiley)

Levine, A., Merrill, T. W., & Stoner, Jr., J. R. *The Political Thought of the Civil War*. (University Press of Kansas)

Rosenbloom, D., Malone, P., & Valdez, B. (Eds.). (2017). *The Handbook of Federal Government Leadership and Administration: Transforming, Performing and Innovating in a Complex World*. (Routledge)

Nelson, C., & Thurber, J. *Campaigns and Elections American Style: The Changing Landscape of Political Campaigns*. (Routledge)

Thurber, J., Campbell, C., & Dulio, D. (Eds.). *Congress and Diaspora Politics: The Influence of Ethnic and Foreign Lobbying*. (SUNY Press)



LEFT SPA Dean Vicky Wilkins with Jeff and Samira Sine.

RIGHT AU President Sylvia Burwell talks with Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN) during the Sine Institute launch.

New Institutes, Centers, & Partnerships

The Sine Institute of Policy & Politics was made possible thanks to a \$10 million gift from Jeff and Samira Sine.

The Sine Institute stands apart through its focus on how the private and nonprofit sectors, along with international perspectives, can work with the public sector to develop effective solutions to complex policy issues. From its home at the American University School of Public Affairs, the Sine Institute will bring together cross-sectoral experts to work on these pressing challenges in a way that promotes common ground.

“At American University, we understand that good public policy is not achieved by dreaming alone, and progress will only come with inspiration and vision,” said SPA Dean Vicky Wilkins. “This Institute is a place where our energy, motivation, and commitment to excellence will shine through.”

Each spring, the Institute will host six in-resident fellows from the United States and around the world, bringing expertise from government service, politics, journalism, the nonprofit sector, and business. The fellows will collaborate with students and AU scholars to inform cross-sectoral solutions.

Rooted in academic excellence, located at the epicenter of politics and policy, and accessible to leaders in the public, private, nonprofit, and media sectors, American University is the perfect home for the Sine Institute.

To learn more about the Sine Institute, visit american.edu/sine-institute.



The Madison Prize for Constitutional Excellence will honor legislators who recognize the necessity for compromise in our politics and have shown that the public interest is more important than party doctrine.

CENTER FOR DATA SCIENCE

Across public, private, and nonprofit sectors, big data is making a big difference. Distinguished Professor Jeff Gill is leading SPA's new Center for Data Science, which is working to coordinate and support empirical research across the campus by developing links with federal agencies, providing research support to faculty and graduate students, and building infrastructure to handle large and complex datasets.

SPA ANALYTICS AND MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

The SPA Analytics and Management Institute (SAMI) was created in 2018 to further prepare SPA graduate students by sharing practical, cutting-edge skills to work in and lead multidisciplinary teams after graduation. The institute brings leading experts from outside and inside academia to offer students a variety of skills including mapping, compliance with regulations, creating effective presentations, policy writing for a general audience, media skills, and writing blog posts. SAMI was designed to help students develop an innovative mindset for a changing world.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: THE HILL'S NEWSMAKER SERIES

At a time when Washington is seen as being at its most partisan, there are leaders in Congress who still believe in the value of bipartisanship. The AU School of Public Affairs has partnered with *The Hill* and *The Hill Latino*

to convene bipartisan congressional leaders for a series of conversations exploring their values, leadership styles, and vision for the nation.

"Leadership in Action: The Hill's Newsmaker Series," has already been host to U.S. Reps. Nanette Barragán (D-CA), Mia Love (R-UT), Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Peter King (R-NY), and U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), among others.

THE MADISON PRIZE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE

At a time when gridlock on Capitol Hill has too often replaced negotiation and public approval of Congress has reached historic lows, it is good to take notice of those who, despite the times, have worked across the aisle to resolve difficult issues. SPA's new Madison Prize for Constitutional Excellence will honor legislators who recognize the necessity for compromise in our politics and have shown that the public interest is more important than party doctrine. The Madison Prize, endowed by former Rep. David Skaggs (D-CO) and his wife Laura Skaggs in partnership with SPA, will be awarded after the end of each two-year congressional session to recognize one Member of Congress from each major political party who best exemplifies respect for the institutional values of Congress and the need for compromise in a democratic society, traits outlined by James Madison in *Federalist 10*.



Editor-in-Chief of *The Hill*, Bob Cusak, speaks with Rep. Nanette Barragán (D-CA.) about bipartisanship as part of an SPA event in April 2018.

New Programs & Initiatives

MS IN DATA SCIENCE

Data scientist has been ranked the number one job in America for the last three consecutive years. In response to the increasing demand, SPA and AU College of Arts and Sciences together launched a new Master of Science in Data Science degree program in 2018 to prepare students for this expanding field. SPA Distinguished Professor Jeff Gill serves as one of the program's co-directors. The new degree offers students these skills through a diverse set of courses in a flexible, innovative learning space that takes full advantage of the Washington, D.C. location. Coursework focuses on statistical methods and programming, regression, statistical machine learning, and political analysis.

MS IN COUNTER-TERRORISM AND HOMELAND SECURITY (ONLINE)

Since 9/11, terrorist and homeland security threats have grown increasingly complex, as have the responses to counter them successfully. To keep the public safe as a law enforcement or intelligence professional, the United States needs interdisciplinary skills and focused expertise in the phenomenon of terrorism as well as those legal and policy responses

to counter it. SPA's new online Master of Science in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security builds these capabilities and prepares students for work and career advancement as a homeland security specialist. This flexible online program focuses on counterterrorism across areas that include national security, intelligence, domestic and international law and policy, cybersecurity, and theories of political violence. Students will learn how to develop strategic, policy-based security solutions at all levels of government.

DIVERSITY ALLIANCE

SPA has launched a new Public Affairs Diversity Alliance, uniting schools across the country who share a commitment to encouraging, mentoring, and promoting diverse scholars and public affairs leaders of tomorrow. The alliance seeks to create and sustain a pipeline of candidates for faculty positions in criminal justice, policy, and public administration. SPA will chair the Public Affairs Diversity Alliance for a two-year term with five other schools participating as inaugural members. They include the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, the Sanford School of Public



SPA's new Project on Civil Discourse encourages and supports students in understanding speech, not only as a matter of rights but also of responsibilities, values, and opportunities.



Policy at Duke University, the Price School at the University of Southern California, and the Evans School at the University of Washington.

THE PROJECT ON CIVIL DISCOURSE

SPA's new Project on Civil Discourse encourages and supports students in understanding speech, not only as a matter of rights but also of responsibilities, values, and opportunities. Launched in the fall of 2018, the project works on the principle that each of us must be the architect of our own voice, choosing to use it in service of our goals and values and in a manner that contributes to our learning community. The Project on Civil Discourse supports students in developing as listeners and as speakers. The project, which was recently featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, includes events featuring visiting speakers, teaching resources, classroom exercises and readings, a "Building My Voice" toolkit, and student-facilitated discussions.

ABOVE LEFT SPA Assistant Professor Khaldoun AbouAssi teaches a class on nonprofit management.

LEFT SPA Associate Professor Bradley Hardy talks with students.



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