Professor of Political Science Jean Robinson, winner of University-wide Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Service Awards, and recently named Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for Undergraduate Education.
Professor Hanson’s primary interests lie in the area of political philosophy and American politics. He is especially concerned with the historical development of liberalism in the United States, and with the way in which that development affects prospects for democracy.

Engaging Rafia Zakaria
Attorney, doctoral candidate, John Edwards Fellow in the Political Science department of Indiana University.
Research focus: Muslim women’s identity as it relates to Sharia law initiatives and multiculturalism in Western societies.
On the Middle East Country Group of Amnesty International.
Board member of Ibtida, an NGO that builds schools in rural Pakistan.
Columnist for Pakistan’s Daily Times.

© Chris Eller Photography

I am continually impressed not simply by the quality of the research and teaching being done in the Political Science department, but by the relevance of this work to the public missions of Indiana University.

Bennett Bertenthal, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences
Indiana University, Bloomington

For more information about our programs or to make a gift, call the Office of College of Arts and Sciences Development Programs at (812) 855-7934 or visit us online! Go to:
http://www.indiana.edu/~iupolsci/

Why support Political Science at Indiana University:

- The courses the Political Science department offers are essential to a classic and well-rounded liberal arts education. Beyond that, the Department has played—and will continue to play—a critical role in educating tomorrow’s leaders by teaching them the critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills that they will need to excel in the professions, in local, state, and national government, and in not-for-profit and business organizations.

- My liberal arts education at IU was the greatest bargain I ever received. As an in-state student, with an Arthur Metz Scholarship, I essentially attended IU tuition-free. And I reap the rewards of that education every day. So it is really my pleasure to be able to “return the favor” for some of today’s students. I believe this is particularly important today, as students bear an increasing percentage of the cost of their education through tuition charges.

- My political philosophy and business orientation have been deeply shaped by the solid liberal arts education I received at IU. For example, my interest in international economics and political thought was fostered by the solid political science education I received at IU. And it is because of this education that I am in the position today to advance the political and economic interests of my country and the world.

- I support Political Science at Indiana University because I believe it is essential to a well-rounded education. Beyond that, the Department has played—and will continue to play—a critical role in educating tomorrow’s leaders by teaching them the critical thinking and communication skills that they will need to excel in the professions, in local, state, and national government, and in not-for-profit and business organizations.

- Why Steve Patton (BA ’75) gives to Political Science:

- Why IU Political Science is important to students, to Indiana, the country, and the world:

- Why support Political Science at Indiana University:

- Why I am continually impressed:

- “Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.”

- John Dewey

- “Paying It Forward: One Donor’s Commitment to Political Science at Indiana University”

- “Indian University: Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences”

- “The public missions of the Political Science department, but by the research and teaching being done the quality of the research impressed me not simply by...”
William R. Thompson, Rogers Professor of Political Science, is one of the foremost political scientists writing on international relationship theory, processes of conflict escalation and resolution, and international political economy. The winner of numerous awards, he served as the 2005-06 president of the International Studies Association, and is the new editor of International Studies Quarterly, which is housed in the department, and run by an editorial team that also includes professors Karen Rasler and Sumit Ganguly. He is the author of scores of articles and author or editor of over 20 books, including, most recently, Strategic Rivalry: Space, Position, and Conflict Escalation in World Politics (Cambridge University Press, 2008), with Karen Rasler and Michael Colaresi, and Coping with Contemporary Terrorism: Origins, Escalation, Counter Strategies and Responses (State University of New York Press, 2008), with Rafael Reuveny.

Inspiring Public Service: Tim Tilton

For over 30 years Professor Timothy (“Tim”) Tilton brought honor to the department through his deep commitment to public service, which informed his widely recognized research on Swedish social democracy, his acclaimed teaching, and his many involvements in local politics and in the reform of the planning process in Monroe County. For this reason Tim was the obvious choice to become the first faculty director of LESA when that program first came to the department. Tilton retired in 2007, though those who know him will know that he is as active as ever. In recognition of his contribution, the department has created a “Tim Tilton Public Service Fund,” to support teaching and research that advances the public service mission of Political Science.

The discipline of political science goes back to the ancient Greeks. From its inception, it has centered on a dialogue with and about democracy. Under what conditions do democratic communities flourish? What are the rights and duties of citizens in a free society? Political science at its core is about educating democratic citizens, in classrooms, in media outlets, and in scholarly publications through which new forms of knowledge can be shared and new perspectives on the challenges of good governance can be discussed.

The Political Science Department at Indiana University has always been a center of such discussions. We have a long and distinguished history as a site of teaching and learning, and we are proud that thousands of students have passed through the doors of Woodburn Hall on their way to successful and fulfilling lives as citizens.

We are also proud that while the department has always been a top institution of learning about American and state politics, it has likewise played a leadership role in the development of IU’s world-class area studies and global studies centers. We have a cosmopolitan student body and a cosmopolitan faculty. We teach about racial and ethnic conflict in the streets of Baghdad and in the streets of Los Angeles. We are a place where you can study Indiana statehouse politics or parliamentary politics in the Ukraine, or Lebanon, or Germany, or Mexico.

The department is home to world-renowned scholars, and it has long been regarded as one of the top 20 research institutions in the discipline. At the same time, the department has an extraordinary record of engaged, distinguished, and award-winning teaching. The site of a state-of-the-art experimental laboratory funded by a $1 million grant from the National Science Foundation, Woodburn Hall is also home to the recently created Leadership, Ethics, and Social Action (LESA) Program, an innovative service-learning minor that supports hands-on research and service collaborations joining together local social service agencies and IU undergraduates.

Our department’s mission: to educate the next generation of students, teachers, writers, and leaders—of citizens—about the challenges and prospects of democratic politics in a constantly changing world. Our mission is simple and it is enormous. We are preparing our students to take their place in a state, nation, and indeed, a world where democracy matters.

—Jeff Isaac

Jeffrey C. Isaac, PhD, Rudy Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science and Director, Indiana Democracy Consortium.
Scholarly

Research, that makes a difference. In a world of ceaseless change.
The young alumni profiled here are but a few recent examples in a long history of exemplary graduates. Whatever path they choose, our graduates go on to careers in government or in the corporate sphere. Many of our graduates succeed in the military. Many of our graduates are ready for exceptional leadership and dedicated service.

The Department has a tradition of regularly hosting renowned guest speakers—relevant, provocative, distinguished in their fields. Our most prestigious lecture series is the Charles S. Hyneman Distinguished Lectureship in American Government funded by an endowment set up to honor the late Charles Hyneman, Distinguished Professor of Political Science (1961-1985) and former president of the American Political Science Association. In spring 2008 the Hyneman Lecture was delivered by Wendy Brown, Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley, recipient of the 2004 D.C. Prize for exceptional writing and teaching in American politics.

Among our other recent visitors:

- Steven Lukes, Professor of Sociology, New York University
- Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and Director of the Center for Democracy and Development, Stanford University
- Paul Sniderman, Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor of Public Policy, Politics, and American Government, Princeton University
- John H. Pippin, Associate Professor of Political Science, Duke University
- Amartya Sen, 1998 Nobel Prize Winner in Economics and the Lamont University Professor at Harvard University
- Stathis Kalyvas, Arnold Wolfers Professor of Political Science and Director of the Program on Order, Conflict and Violence, Yale University
- Jeremy Jennings, Professor of Politics, Queen Mary, University of London
- Dennis Chong, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University
- Sidney Tarrow, Maxwell Upson Professor of Government and Sociology, Cornell University
- Theda Skocpol, Victor S. Thomas Professor of Government and Sociology at Harvard University
- Frank Baumgartner, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University
- Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and Director of the Center for Democracy and Development, Stanford University
- Wendy Brown, Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley
- Paul Sniderman, Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor of Public Policy, Politics, and American Government, Princeton University
A democracy is more than a form of government: it is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience.

- John Dewey

The Workshop: Carving a Legacy at IU

Vincent Ostrom is author or co-author of over 300 books and articles on institutional analysis and design, environmental economics, and democratic governance. His work is widely cited in the fields of political science, economics, and environmental science. Ostrom's research has been instrumental in the development of the concept of the "commons," which refers to the shared resources that are essential for human well-being. His work has also contributed to the understanding of the role of institutions in the management of natural resources and the provision of public goods.

Elinor Ostrom is a world-renowned expert on collective action, institutions, and natural resources. She is the co-author of the influential book "Governing the Commons," which examines the effectiveness of institutions in managing common pool resources. Ostrom's work has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, the National Medal of Science, and the US Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The Workshop at IU was designed to allow faculty members and students to collaborate in productive research efforts to explore these profound questions. The Workshop has been instrumental in advancing the understanding of the role of institutions in democratic governance, and in fostering a vibrant community of scholars who are committed to the pursuit of knowledge in this important field.
A Quiet Haven for Research, Discovery, and Contemplation

The Political Science Research Collection has long been a haven and an inspiration for the thousands of undergraduate and graduate students who have made it a place of study. Under the leadership of Fenton Martin, the department's distinguished and beloved librarian, the Research Collection became a first-class reserve library and a space for first-class research and writing. Fenton has always been more than a librarian. A teacher and a mentor to our students, her example has set the tone for the Research Collection and contributed greatly to the department's reputation as a top teaching department.

Over the years the Research Collection has managed to incorporate change—new materials, new databases, new computer facilities—and to retain its core identity as a welcoming space of learning beyond the classroom. In addition to housing an invaluable reserve collection, the space currently houses the editorial offices of the American Political Science Association's Perspectives on Politics Book Review (edited by Professor Jeffrey C. Isaac), and is used to host high-level seminars such as the ICPSR (Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research) summer research methods program.

Leadership, Ethics, and Social Action

Leadership, Ethics, and Social Action (LESA) is an interdisciplinary academic minor housed in the Department of Political Science. LESA's focus: developing civic skills for organizing in the community to help undergraduates participate actively in democracy and build leadership strengths.

LESA took root in the course "Beyond the Sample Gates"—created by LESA Assistant Director Jolene Bergonzi—which has earned some recognition as a unique undergraduate experience. Students participate in community projects to build civic skills while, according to the model of deliberative dialogue, they probe issues with stakeholders with different perspectives.

LESA participants are pushed to confront the all-too-common desire to avoid conflict, a reluctance that often forms the basis of a "culture of disengagement" among students. In its place, students are encouraged to engage with ideas and with each other in order to practice a richer form of community decision making.

Pictured below: LESA Director and Political Science Professor Marjorie Hershey teaching a LESA class. Students who minor in Leadership, Ethics, and Social Action (LESA) take one credit hour of L405 in the spring of their junior year and three credits in the fall of their senior year as they plan and carry out their LESA capstone projects. A capstone project is an individual student's effort to make a lasting contribution to meeting a community need (see box).

Recent LESA capstone projects include:

- A policy proposal for mediation and restorative justice as opposed to suspension in Indiana public schools, presented to local legislators.
- "Growing Food, Sustainability, and Community: School Gardening at Fairview Elementary."
- "Change a Light, Change the World," an example of community-based social marketing, distributes CFL bulbs to an economically disadvantaged neighborhood in Bloomington, IN.
- The development of an assessment matrix for evaluating skills learned in the LESA program.
- A study of cooperative businesses and other organizations to develop a model for university communities.
- Youth-focused projects in Cape Town, South Africa and in Kenya.

Students who minor in Leadership, Ethics, and Social Action (LESA) take one credit hour of L405 in the spring of their junior year and three credits in the fall of their senior year as they plan and carry out their LESA capstone projects. A capstone project is an individual student's effort to make a lasting contribution to meeting a community need (see box).
Where do researchers test social science theories? In the new Interdisciplinary Experimental Lab directed by James Russell (at left). One of the few labs of its kind in the country funded by the National Science Foundation, our Interdisciplinary Experimental Lab joins scholars from political science, economics, anthropology and the other social sciences in critical research projects. The Political Science Department has its own data lab equipped with state-of-the-art technology staffed by top-flight data management and information technology experts.

This lab and the support staff make Woodburn Hall a hub of social science research on the campus, bringing together undergraduate and graduate students with cutting edge research and cutting edge researchers at every level of the educational process. Indiana University is committed to leadership in information technology and our Interdisciplinary Experimental Lab plays a significant role in the University’s commitment to advancing the frontiers of research and the public understanding of the results of that research and the public understanding of the results of that research and the public understanding of the results of that research.

The IE Lab: Hub of Discovery

A Seminar for Leaders

The Political Science Department prides itself in the rigor of our honors program, and Y480 represents the culmination of that program. Designed for seniors in the process of writing their honor theses, Y480 focuses on first-class independent research and prepares students for law school, graduate and postgraduate training. The students of Y480 are our society’s future leaders and knowledge producers. Honors Director Professor Gerald Wright’s seminar holds its students to the most rigorous standards of political science inquiry.

Supportive Guiding Students on their Journeys

Of our experienced faculty and staff, half have access to the Fulbright and consularUnderstanding Israeli and Palestinian students and what it means for our studies in the Middle East. When studying the Middle East, the students and the faculty share in the findings of their research and the findings of their research and the findings of their research.

A Seminar for Leaders

The Political Science Department

Supportive