Diversity
A Core Value of the College
College of Social Sciences and Public Policy

March 2018 Newsletter
A wrap-up of the latest from the college

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Greetings Alumni and Supporters of the College!

I hope you’ve noticed how media outlets throughout the world regularly feature the data, insights and perspectives coming out of our outstanding departments and institutes.

In this academic year alone, our faculty has been featured more than 30 times in reports about the cutting-edge evidence-based research we do on public policy and the issues society deals with every day.

These news reports reflect the diversity of interests, ideologies and people that make our college such a dynamic and far-ranging academic ecosystem, whether it’s:

- A Collins Institute report on the trend toward "credongomation in Florida’s schools.
- A working paper on civil asset forfeiture by Economics professors Shaun Kambr and Carl Kitchens and Ph.D. student Steven Pawlowski.
- A sustainable aquaculture study published by lead author Assistant Professor of Geography Sarah Lester, et al.
- Ongoing research on various aspects of hurricanes, including Geography Chair James Elshner’s take on "warming ocean currents," the "multidisciplinary approaches," coming from faculty and students within our Pepper Institute and Sociology Department to help reduce the harm and alleviate the suffering hurricanes can bring to their older victims.

Our undergraduates get a lot of attention, too, with FSU spotlights on the stellar achievements of such students as Salesha Ellis and Sarah Warren.

Sign up for our quarterly email newsletter.
Contact rmixon@fsu.edu

Check our website for news stories, upcoming events, alumni updates, and general info.
coss.fsu.edu
Our Mission

“The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy is dedicated to providing students with the highest quality instruction, offering opportunities for professional development, and performing first-class research to serve society.”

Our students and faculty generate new knowledge that enhances the discussion of important social, economic, and public policy issues and leads to innovations in industry, government, and nonprofit organizations. We prepare our students for meaningful careers, advanced professional training, and an active role in public life.

The college’s strategic plan is built on our existing strengths to:

- transform the educational experience for our most outstanding students;
- enhance new programs to help prepare tomorrow’s leaders in business, politics, government, and the nonprofit sector for a global society;
- build world-class research and teaching programs focusing on issues related to equality of opportunity, aging, and health that are critical to the state of Florida;
- develop an international research and teaching program on the impact of culture and social and political institutions on such issues as poverty, economic growth, terrorism, and international relations;
- use our path-breaking research to generate innovative solutions to economic, political, and social problems;
- achieve top quartile status among public institutions for all of our doctoral programs.
Dear Friends,

Earlier this year, I began writing posts on the college’s core values for our blog. The first value I decided to write about is one that is very important to me personally and as dean of this college – diversity.

Diversity of people, of course, matters immensely. As the third largest college at FSU, granting one in six degrees university-wide every year, we’re very proud of how many of our students are from traditionally underrepresented populations, making us one of the most diverse colleges on campus.

This diversification is happening in all of our programs, even those that have traditionally enrolled fewer women and students of color, such as economics and political science. Last year COSSPP had more female graduate students than male graduate students for the first time in the college’s more than 40-year history.

On this extremely important level, diversity is about bringing greater numbers of students and faculty of color into our classrooms and programs. This goal is at the forefront of the college’s faculty and student recruitment efforts. With the support of the central administration, the last four years have seen the hire of seven new African-American faculty as well as several other hires of faculty of color. The college has also seen the appointment of outstanding females in the roles of Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Community Engagement, Assistant Dean for Development, and Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs.

There’s more to this core value, however, than just demographics. Diversity is and must also be about welcoming and celebrating the marketplace of ideas that shape Florida, the U.S., and the world.

Universities are sometimes described as “liberal bastions” where students are not exposed to the full range of ideas to be found in society. Having come to know this place very well in my 18 years on the faculty, I know this simplistic assertion does not apply to our college.

COSSPP is what I like to term “society writ small.” Our demographic and intellectual diversity reflect the world around us. In this great college you will find students, staff, and faculty from all walks of life and with the range of worldviews to be found in society.

Coursework on public health policy, homeland security, racial/ethnic disparity, personal finance, successful longevity, environmental challenges, gender inequity, and regulatory reform can be found throughout the college’s curriculum. These courses are taught by faculty with years of training and deep expertise, allowing them to educate students effectively on topics that can sometimes be difficult or uncomfortable to engage in a classroom setting.

As I meet with donors and friends of the college, I describe COSSPP as a place where some of the most conservative faculty and students and some of the most liberal faculty and students are to be found. The college celebrates and promotes a marketplace of ideas, and this will remain a core value in COSSPP. This value is reflected in our increasingly multidisciplinary curricula, the mix of outside speakers we bring to campus, and the support of student groups from across the spectrum of worldviews.

The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy is committed to embracing, recognizing, and celebrating diversity. This core value is a thread woven throughout the college, and under my term as dean I will continue to assert that COSSPP is truly society writ small.

All the best to you and, as always, Go Noles!

Tim Chapin
Dean
Dear Fellow Alumni,

Strength, Skill, and Character. Do these words sound familiar? They are more than just the motto for our beloved institution. They are part of our history, ingrained in our moral compass, especially during difficult times that drive us even harder to innovate and create transformative solutions to address modern day challenges.

We are in the midst of unprecedented change and disruption. This pace, for better or for worse, is literally changing lives and communities and reshaping industries. However, in order to grasp these opportunities and address these challenges, it will require strategic risk, courage to hear a diversity of thought and opinion, and a strong entrepreneurial spirit to convene and engage with nontraditional partners. The complexity and interdependency of our society will require collaboration across public and private sectors. Solutions will indeed need to be multisectorial.

As one of the first students in the master’s program at the Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy, I cannot begin to tell you how my experience has shaped my perspective for addressing challenges and leveraging new opportunities. At AARP, I lead a strong team in developing policies and innovative solutions to advance health care, caregiving, long-term care, and livable communities to support people’s desire to age with options.

For example, during the battles to drastically reform the Medicaid program last year, we produced nearly 200 policy reports and analyses to influence the health care debate. These reports changed the conversation, shifted the narrative, and increased people’s understanding about the number of people who would lose health coverage, as well as how much states would lose in federal funding should these proposals get enacted.

We convened leaders and organizations from various sectors and industries. And just as important, we heard the stories – the fear and, in some cases, just utter despair – from people whose lives depended on getting health insurance to cover much-needed treatment and support. We wanted their voices heard and we shared those stories. What was at stake was more than just data points – this was a matter of life and death. This was about our humanity and our collective values.

The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy provided me with the strength to push forward ideas and solutions to improve the lives of the vulnerable and marginalized, skills to navigate the complexity of the unknown, and the character to listen and hear from those I might not agree with but whose perspectives I can understand.

Policy, in its basic form, is about changing behavior whether it’s at the individual, organizational, or societal level. Policies impact our lives in direct and sometimes indirect ways. They set the parameters in which we govern. Embedded in the development of policy are certain values. This is why our motto is so important.

The tools we learned while at Florida State University have equipped us for this moment in time.

Strength, Skill, and Character. Let these three words guide you to your highest potential and the impact you are destined to have.

Jean C. Accius, Ph.D.
Teaching Cultural and Political Tolerance Through Interdisciplinary Research Skills

by Lisa Turner de Vera
We are all aware of the political and social divisions in our country right now. As scholars and researchers, we in the social sciences are acutely sensitive to the consequences of polarization.

Yet while higher education promotes greater tolerance for diverse viewpoints, the reality is that the most highly educated of us are also the most rigid and inflexible in terms of political and social ideology.

According to the Pew Research Center, holding a graduate or post-graduate degree indicates a high likelihood of holding consistently and “predominantly liberal positions along a range of political values.” Those with high school or bachelor’s degrees are more likely to express interest in “a mix of conservative and liberal opinions.”

With this in mind, the question of tolerance, flexibility, and the ability to use ethical consciousness in teaching is a salient point for introspection among scholars. As teachers, we must take responsibility for helping our students learn to appreciate differences and to seek an integration of perspectives and worldviews. For many of us, it means putting our own positions aside long enough to allow a deeper study of perspectives we do not understand and, sometimes, perspectives we do not agree with.

The most interesting classes I teach involve multicultural urbanism and interdisciplinary studies, maybe because both courses ask students to understand their own perspectives and to appreciate diverse perspectives and different ways of knowing the world.

In multicultural urbanism, they are asked to step outside their social worlds long enough to learn how they themselves, as well as others, have been impacted by a long history of polarizing social and economic policies.

In the interdisciplinary classes we learn to understand the basis of disciplinary research, the value of disciplinary learning, and opportunities to integrate various ways of understanding and interpreting research and knowledge. Through interdisciplinary studies, students bridge concepts and perspectives from economics, sociology, political science, geography, urban studies, and other social sciences to develop skills and knowledge for problem identification, problem solving, and policy analysis related to complex social issues.

These classes also recognize opportunities lost because of isolated perspectives. There is a clear application of interdisciplinary skills and practices that set the stage for teaching an appreciation for diversity, a tolerance for dissonance, empathy, and building trust in the perspectives we do not share.

Growing share of college grads are consistently liberal
% with political values that are..

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Note: Ideological consistency based on a scale of 10 political values questions.
Source: Survey conducted Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015 (N=6,004)
The Darker Side of Civil Asset Forfeiture

by Shawn Kantor, Carl Kitchens, and Steven Pawlowski
Civil forfeiture allows local police to seize assets if any federal crime is suspected, transfer the proceeds to the federal government, and then receive upward of 80 percent of the seizure in return (known as “equitable sharing”). Because many crimes are both state and federal offenses, the federal adoption clause provides broad powers to local law enforcement, even if state law is restrictive. Police often cite civil forfeiture as a powerful crime-fighting tool, while proponents of civil liberties note the potential by police to abuse the power and respond to the financial incentives. The recently expanded powers and changing state laws create a degree of uncertainty moving forward.

In a recent paper, we go back to the height of the War on Drugs and the crack epidemic, when Nancy Reagan said “Just Say No,” and when federal legislation was passed opening the doors for forfeiture to be used widely across the nation. We examine the impact that the initial expansion of civil asset forfeiture had across the country when the Comprehensive Crime Control Act (CCCA) of 1984 first allowed for federal adoption of locally seized assets. Most state laws regarding civil asset forfeiture were fairly restrictive prior to the CCCA, so the law’s equitable sharing provision allowed all local police agencies to profit from seizing assets.

Our analysis documents five key effects of the expanded forfeiture powers in the CCCA: violent crime didn’t decline, property crime fell by about 17 percent, drug arrests increased about 34 percent, police manpower didn’t increase despite the new source of revenue, and vehicular deaths increased.

Our findings suggest that expanded forfeiture powers do little to take down drug kingpins or reduce violence in cities. Instead, consistent with recent reports from Chicago, where the median value of a seizure is around $1,000, forfeiture is most likely to impact small-time crooks. Limiting petty theft is not a bad thing, but the reduction in petty crime isn’t without cost.

What few consider is that police respond to the economic incentives generated by the expansion of forfeiture. Our evidence shows that police respond to forfeiture expansion by reallocating efforts toward drug crimes because that’s where the cash is. Indeed, in Chicago, about three-quarters of all seizures over the last five years were in the form of cash.

This shift in focus has unintended consequences. With a fixed number of officers, allocating more officers to fighting drug crimes means fewer officers patrolling roads and highways. At the same time, drivers are sensitive to enforcement, so the reduced police presence on roadways leads to more dangerous driving and more accidents.

Using U.S. Department of Transportation assumptions about the value of a human life, we find that after the passage of the CCCA, the average U.S. county experienced additional traffic fatalities costing at least $30 million per year. Yet only about $6.5 million worth of property crime per year was averted in the average county because of expanded forfeiture powers.

Our research provides one of the first measures of the benefits and costs of civil asset forfeiture, highlighting the various incentives that future reforms to forfeiture may alter.

Shawn Kantor is the L. Charles Hilton Jr. Distinguished Professor of Economics and director of the Hilton Center; Carl Kitchens is Assistant Professor of Economics; Steven Pawlowski is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Economics.
A faculty member and a grad student from the college brought a contemporary issue into a local school to help students understand the complexities of social change and find ways to formulate and respectfully express opinions.

Professor of Sociology Deana Rohlinger and sociology Ph.D. candidate Cynthia Williams conducted an exercise focused on the Take a Knee movement, engaging students in seventh grade civics classes at Tallahassee’s Swift Creek Middle School last February.

The practice of professional sports players kneeling rather than standing during the national anthem has become a high-profile and contentious means of protesting racial difficulties in the U.S. The exercise was intended to defuse the often heated reaction to this practice on both sides and to help students understand that social change can be difficult and controversial, according to Rohlinger.

“Our goal is to help them better understand social change, which students typically associate with the past rather than the present,” Rohlinger said. “The exercise reminds them that change is hard, the tactics individuals use are almost always controversial, and respect and compromise are central to the process.”

Each student was asked to take one of nine pre-set roles in the exercise, e.g., an NFL player who agrees with taking a knee or a politician or veteran who opposes it. Students then worked in small groups to compose a tweet announcing their position and their reasons for either supporting or opposing the practice.

As background, Rohlinger prepared a PowerPoint presentation that contextualizes the Take a Knee movement in the broader civil rights movement. She and Williams also created position sheets, including quotes from real-life people, on why the movement may be right or wrong, along with questions to guide the role play.

“I think this is important so you stay informed and you get to talk about it with other people,” said seventh-grader Kamaya. “You get to see different aspects of what they think.”

The PowerPoint is now being used in all seventh grade civics classes at the school. Rohlinger said the exercise fits with units on political participation, the Bill of Rights, and the criminal justice system.

“Middle school is a great time to talk to students about the serious issues happening in our society because they’re old enough to form their own opinions and they’re old enough to begin to critically analyze new information and figure out how it fits into their worldview,” said Williams, a former middle school teacher.

Rohlinger’s research focuses on political participation and how collective movements effect change. As an invited member of the research network of the National Institute for Civil Discourse, she strongly advocates critically analyzing one’s own opinions and the opinions of others rather than lashing out uninformed.

She also maintains that, in addition to the positive effects of learning civil discourse, this exercise provides students with a new appreciation of the social sciences and fits solidly into the way other sciences are now taught in schools.

“Our goal is to help them better understand social change, which students typically associate with the past rather than the present.
Women Can’t Win: Ongoing Offensives Against Maternal and Reproductive Health

by Miranda Waggoner

While attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA, or “Obamacare”) have not, up to press time, been successful, this does not mean that women and mothers in America are safeguarded from having key components of their health care – or dignity – stripped away.

For some time now, opponents of Obamacare have vehemently targeted family planning services, as witnessed by the Trump administration’s recent expansion of religious exemptions for contraceptive coverage. At the same time, GOP lawmakers have also argued that maternity care services are not “essential.”

This two-pronged hostility – pointedly disregarding both maternity care and general reproductive health care – is somewhat curious because maternity care has characteristically been considered politically “safe,” while reproductive care, in its association with contraception and abortion, has been deemed politically “toxic.”

Tracing the trajectory of these two reproductive silos in my book, “The Zero Trimester” (University of California Press, 2017), I show how health care professionals have sought to expand the time period of a healthy pregnancy, from the typical nine months to twelve months, by creating a “zero trimester” period during which women are defined as “pre-pregnant.” In doing so, non-pregnant women’s health care is defined in terms of maternity care.

The rise of the “zero trimester” was in part predicated on the assumption that policymakers care about mothers and babies – that they are in the “safe” zone. Yet, in a political environment that does not value maternity care or reproductive care, such an approach seems destined to fail.

This approach is also unfair to women. The thrust of “zero trimester” initiatives promoted by health professionals and government agencies has been public service announcements and health campaigns aimed at alerting individual women who are of reproductive age that they inhabit a perpetual zero trimester and must act “responsibly.” One of the most controversial of these messages was the 2016 announcement by the CDC that all women of reproductive age not using birth control should avoid alcohol.

How can we best navigate a political climate that is hostile to maternity care but that simultaneously tends to define women by their maternal capacity? Taking away women’s health care services is obviously not a step in the right direction but neither are individual-level recommendations to women that make them feel guilty about their everyday behaviors.

Comprehensive health care coverage for all potential reproducers – both women and men – across their life course is one important piece of the solution to improve health, especially maternal and child health, in America. Policies that enhance population health, such as paid parental leave or reducing toxic pollution, would also spur vast and positive change in maternal and child health in particular.

The stakes are high: women in the U.S. continue to die of birth-related complications at a much higher rate than do women in other rich nations, and babies in the U.S. are more likely to die in their first year than in comparable countries.

If we cease working toward social policies that value the health of all citizens – of women and men, of mothers and fathers, of babies and children – the most fitting image for the state of health care in this country will continue to be a thumbs-down.

Miranda Waggoner is an assistant professor of sociology. Her research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. This piece is reprinted with permission from the University of California Press.
How do LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) people experience different kinds of environments? That’s the focus of research projects developed by faculty and graduate students in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, looking at how this marginalized community experiences the evolution of particular urban spaces, often referred to as queer spaces, both in the U.S. and abroad.

As a professor and researcher in the department, I have done considerable work in the past analyzing the ways that LGBTQ citizens of the Atlanta metropolitan area have experienced the rapid growth of inner ring suburbs. More recently, research I conducted with former grad students Tony Lacolla (M.S.P. ’00) and Marissa Salas (M.S.P. ’99) examined the role of urban planning in the evolution of LGBTQ commercial and residential areas in the Ybor City neighborhood of Tampa.

Since World War II, this neighborhood has experienced a series of economic booms and then busts. Historically, when rents have been low in Ybor City, LGBTQ individuals have been attracted to the area, along with artists and other bohemians, helping to rehabilitate some of the old cigar worker housing called casitas. After the anti-government protests of the Gezi Park movement, which brought 100,000 people from diverse backgrounds to Istanbul Pride 2013, the LGBTQ event was banned due to “safety concerns.” Attendees and protestors nevertheless filled the streets of the Beyoglu district in 2015, and residents decorated their houses with pride colors to guide participants running from police attempts to break up the gathering.

URBAN SPACES, SAFE SPACES, QUEER SPACES

by Petra Doan
During the most recent economic recession, the GaYBOR District Coalition was created to promote Ybor City as Tampa’s most LGBTQ-friendly neighborhood. Our research project explores the role that urban planning may have played in these cycles of gentrification and decline. Furthermore, since urban planners have had a mixed history in other cities with non-normative and minority neighborhoods, a second objective of this research is to examine the ways that planning has hindered or enabled the development of Ybor City as an LGBTQ neighborhood in Tampa.

Ozlem Atalay entered the doctoral program in urban and regional planning in fall 2017. The focus of her research is on the ways that LGBTQ individuals in parts of the Global South, especially in the Middle East, continue to struggle to cope with such issues as housing and employment discrimination, both in the city and rural areas, and limited access to safe public spaces.

In her study of LGBTQ spaces in Istanbul, Atalay is analyzing several inclusive queer spaces and neighborhoods to understand the effects of national and local government politics, especially the urban planning decisions that lead to rapid gentrification and displacement of individuals from their settlements. She is interested in learning how this community experiences the threat of displacement and in understanding the key elements of urban renewal that have forced such large scale relocations of highly marginalized groups like the transgender community in Istanbul.

In addition, she wishes to study where displaced community members move after displacement and what kinds of difficulties they encounter in this process. In her study she is focusing on several neighborhoods in the Beyoglu district of Istanbul, one of the important places for the LGBTQ community throughout history and today.

One of her study sites is the neighborhood of Tarlabası, which hosts minorities from different backgrounds, including immigrants from Africa, Kurds, and transgender people, most of whom live below the poverty line. Different from the dynamics of “traditional” gentrification theories, Tarlabası has been the recipient of fairly sharp interventions by the municipality as well as private real estate developers.

After the district was announced as an urban renewal area for further development, local residents were displaced to make room for new developments apparently intended for potential clients for upper-class luxury condos and offices.

Angela Lieber entered the doctoral program at the same time as Atalay. She is interested in analyzing the ways that LGBTQ people experience the U.S.-Mexico border region, in particular the direct consequences of border enforcement for queer/ed bodies and relationships more generally.

Since the mid-1990s this border region and the individuals and groups attempting to migrate through it have experienced dynamic changes precipitated by a U.S. Border Patrol strategy known as Prevention Through Deterrence. Border checkpoints have been concentrated in increasingly militarized urban areas, forcing individuals who are compelled to cross the border clandestinely (i.e., without documentation) into the physically lethal deserts of rural southern Arizona.

In addition to using the landscape as a weapon, the state-sanctioned enforcement strategies of Border Patrol agents in this region are uniquely antithetical to migrant agency and interdependence (including that of queer migrants). These strategies have included denial of health care to injured migrants; sabotage of the administration of humanitarian aid in the desert, such as water distribution; apprehension methods used to disband migrant groups and scatter individuals in the desert; and sexualized violence that continues to take place in U.S. migrant detention centers against gender and sexual minorities.

Analyzing the politics and interventions of border enforcement in the Arizona-Sonora border region, as well as data derived from in-depth interviews of border crossers who identify in some way as LGBTQ, Lieber seeks to examine the experiences and spaces of the border region as ways U.S. sovereignty and national identity are asserted and maintained.

She is particularly focused on the sexualized and gendered mechanizations of border policing that have manifested in violent assaults against queer bodies. With her research, she hopes to contribute theoretically as well as politically to a critique of U.S. border policing and the ways it both produces and enacts violence against queer bodies and figurations of community.

Petra Doan is a professor and director of the Ph.D. program in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. This year, she was elected president of the Faculty Women’s Interest Group of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, which seeks to encourage and support women faculty and graduate students in urban and regional planning as well as those conducting research and outreach on planning issues critical to women.
Co-Principal Investigator Richard Feiock of the Askew School is leading a team of multidisciplinary researchers from the college in a project to advance understanding of how cities and communities can improve quality of life through innovations in computing, engineering, information and physical sciences, social science, and education.

The research grant from the National Science Foundation through its Smart & Connected Communities initiative includes other U.S. universities and FSU faculty members Dean Tim Chapin (Urban and Regional Planning), Professor of Sociology Anne Barrett (director of the Pepper Institute), Professor of Geography Mark Horn, and graduate students and post-doctoral researchers from the Askew School.

After nearly 20 years on the faculty at Florida State University, 15 of them with the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Rebecca Miles is retiring. Named a Fulbright Research Scholar in 2016, Miles’ research interests include neighborhoods and health, rapid urbanization and aging populations, planning and public health, and development and social policy. Miles was also a research associate with the Center for Demography and Population Health within the college and FSU’s Institute for Health and Human Services Research.

Professor Emerita Rebecca Miles lecturing in India as part of her Fulbright Scholar grant in 2016

Entrepreneur-in-Residence Bruce Manciagli with Kailon Thompson, the student who nominated him for the Transformation Through Teaching honor

Four college faculty members were honored this year by the Transformation Through Teaching program of the FSU Spiritual Life Project: John Felkner (Urban and Regional Planning), Bruce Manciagli (Interdisciplinary Social Science), John Reynolds (Sociology) and Annette Schwabe (Sociology). The program was established to recognize those who have had an intellectual, inspirational, and integrative impact on their students’ academic life.

Professor of Sociology Deana Rohlinger has been appointed to a newly created position, Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Community Engagement. In this capacity, she is leading efforts to raise the visibility of the college in the community and taking charge of the college’s faculty development and mentoring initiatives.

She has already contributed greatly in this area. In 2016 her public outreach proposal developed into the well-attended monthly Policy Pub series, bringing highly relevant insights and perspectives to the community beyond campus and highlighting the college’s work on real-world challenges facing contemporary society.

Rohlinger also frequently speaks to local, state, and national media on politics, mass media, social movements, and political participation. She regularly publishes commentaries and articles on these subjects aimed at nonacademic audiences.
Three members of the college faculty are among eight from FSU this year who will research and teach abroad after receiving grants from the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program.

Anne Barrett, professor of sociology and director of the Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy, received her Fulbright grant to conduct research at the University of Trento, Italy, this past summer. Her research will examine the impact of the country’s population trend on services to older adults. Italy’s population is aging at a fast rate, making it one of the oldest populations in the world. Barrett noticed how many towns and communities were affected by the rapid aging during her years of teaching at FSU’s Florence study program in the summer.

“The teaching abroad really turned my attention, as a scholar of aging, outside of the U.S.,” Barrett said. “Of course, other countries are aging—and many are responding in ways that are different from the U.S. I see this opportunity to begin a new, more globally-focused stage of my research career.”

Barrett’s research will have impact beyond Italy. It will address questions of relevance to the world’s aging societies—how, and by whom, care should be provided for older adults. Her work on the Fulbright grant will be a first step toward integrating cross-national frameworks of care provision and their implications for older adults’ well-being.

Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning Christopher Coutts, who also teaches in the college’s multi-disciplinary Master of Public Health program, will teach at Mzuzu University in Malawi and conduct research to support the critical role of nature conservation in the country’s public health and sustainable development. He will also lecture on the health benefits of conservation.

“The natural environment is the earth’s life-support system, and I will work with Malawians in the field to identify and inventory natural elements that support citizens’ most fundamental daily needs,” Coutts said. “I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Malawi from 1998 to 2000, and I made myself and my Malawian friends a promise when I left that I would return to contribute to the sustainable development of Malawi and the well-being of its people.”

Laura Kitchens has been hired as the college’s new contracts and grants (C&G) analyst to help generate salary support for faculty, provide more research assistantships for graduate students, and secure additional funding for new technology, research travel, and the dissemination of research products. In this position, Kitchens will create and deliver trainings and workshops, develop C&G resources, and connect individuals with appropriate resources in the FSU Office of Research. She has been with the Department of Economics staff since 2014.

Fall and spring semesters of the 2017-2018 academic year saw another round of stimulating, engaging public sessions in the college’s Policy Pub series featuring faculty experts’ presentations on key public policy issues followed by questions and discussion.

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Health disparities by education level impact the social fabric in the U.S., from rising health insurance premiums to voting patterns in the last presidential election. The U.S. is unique, even compared to nations similar in many other ways, because of higher health care spending, higher income inequality and lower health profiles and life expectancy.

“Put simply, if you look over the life span, the health gap between the ‘haves’ and the ‘have nots’ widens considerably as we approach later life, even to very old age,” Taylor explained. “We can learn more about why health inequality unfolds, and how we might address it in our country, by studying our neighbors to the north.”

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Dave Heller, FSU Communications, contributed to this article.
Thirty-three students with at least one major in the college were among the record-setting 289 new inductees into FSU’s prestigious Garnet & Gold Scholar Society for spring semester 2018. Over the course of all three semesters for the 2017-2018 academic year, there were 53 students from the college among the 376 students inducted. Established in 2010, the Garnet & Gold Scholar Society recognizes undergraduate students who excel within and beyond the classroom in at least three of five areas: international experience, internship, leadership, research, and service.

Various units and administrative branches of the university gave out their annual awards in spring 2018, and the following students of the college were well represented among those honored for their achievements.

- **Samantha Kunin** (International Affairs) - The college’s honoree at the President’s Undergraduate Humanitarian of the Year awards luncheon in March has served as an interpreter/legal assistant working with detained asylum seekers. She also co-founded the Migrant and Refugee Education Alliance student organization where she coordinates tutoring partnerships between college students and refugees in local schools.

- **William Vince Dewar and Lillie Sullivan** (International Affairs) - Global Citizen Award for students who have been actively engaged in intercultural initiatives and/or who have exemplified leadership in promoting and supporting a global community among FSU students over the past year.

- **Jack Shenton** (Political Science) and **Erika Rivera** (International Affairs) - Outstanding Student Leader Award for their involvement with various student activities

- **Thomas Rohrlack** (International Affairs) - Union Board Member of the Year Award

- **Giuliana Truppi** (Sociology) and **Shaun Gabrielli** (International Affairs) - Student Seminole Award for special contributions in leadership and service

- **Andrew Melville** (International Affairs) - Sean A. Pittman Award for outstanding leadership and dedication to the student body, university, and community with significant contributions to the welfare and support of African-American students

- **Taylor Zuccarello** (Political Science) - Academic Leadership Award presented to one student in each college, based on academic performance, university service, and other contributions both in and out of the classroom

The following graduate students of the college received grants and awards from national organizations. Those who received their award announcements earlier in
the semester were recognized for their achievements at the annual Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence.

- **Levon Mikaelian** (Geography) - Federal Highway Administration Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program

- **Joshua Scriven** (Political Science) - Fulbright U.S. Student Program research grant

- **Dylan Rettig** (International Affairs) - Florida Gubernatorial Fellows Program

- **Kimberly Diaz** (Public Administration and Policy) - Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Program for Continuing Education

- **Stephanie Urena Salas** (Sociology) - P.E.O. Scholar Award

- **Adela Ghadimi** (Public Administration and Policy) - American Society for Public Administration Section on International and Comparative Administration David Gould Scholarship

- **Abby Kinch** (Public Administration and Policy) - Student Veterans of America-NBC Universal Scholar

- **Megan Jones** (Sociology) - Alpha Kappa Delta Student Research Travel Grant

- **Emily Saras** (Sociology) - Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Research Grant

- **Joel Mendez** (Urban and Regional Planning) - McKnight Dissertation Fellowship

- **Hadley Peterson** (Urban and Regional Planning) - American Planning Association Judith McManus Price Scholarship

Four graduate students from the college were selected from an unprecedentedly high number of applications as Mayoral Fellows for 2018: **Wisnerson Benoit** (Urban and Regional Planning), **Kirsten D’Souza** (Applied American Politics and Policy), **Daphne Green** (Urban and Regional Planning) and **Terrie Hookfin** (Applied American Politics and Policy).

The Tallahassee Mayoral Fellowship Program offers a yearlong opportunity for exceptionally high-performing graduate students to engage with key areas of city government and serve in invaluable front-line positions alongside top leaders of City Hall. Fellows are given critical responsibilities in line with their interests and skill sets; they design, develop, and execute an original policy or program proposal while serving.

The World Affairs Program (WAP) had another successful year, winning Best Delegation awards and numerous individual delegate awards at Model UN competitions and crisis simulations throughout the eastern U.S. and Canada.

Ranked this year #12 among the top teams in the country, this student-led organization promotes increased awareness of the global community and encourages personal, social, and political growth through speaker and mentor programs, campus political activity, and these national competitions.

WAP raised funds during FSU’s Great Give last spring to increase their competitive opportunities to the West Coast. Their achievements were celebrated at the annual WAP banquet in April, featuring among others U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz, an alum of the program.
Students at the Forefront of Social Entrepreneurship

Four years ago the college launched an initiative that offers opportunities for our students and the promise of better things for the world. The Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation initiative was designed to nurture potential agents of change in our student population by providing them with skills and mentorship for developing social enterprises that take on some of the world’s toughest challenges.

Students from the college have taken advantage of leadership opportunities offered by the college’s interdisciplinary social science program and FSU’s Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship, established in 2017. Their projects have garnered awards and widespread attention, launching them into new careers that will bring positive social change to their communities and the wider world.

International affairs major Hannah King, a 2018 Social Science Scholar who minors in social and commercial entrepreneurship, is no stranger to success in this field. She won first place in the Moran School’s InNOLEvation Challenge in 2017 for developing the prototype stage of Woven Futures, an enterprise that ethically promotes the trading of artisan crafts by women in Guatemala in order to support their economic endeavors.

Last November, King also won the inaugural Turkey Tank competition against the University of Florida, in partnership with psychology and African-American studies double major Geranise Dorce. The two developed a program called Read to Rise, designed to increase literacy rates in Haiti. That project won this year’s InNOLEvation award for strongest social/environmental impact.

At the end of the fall 2017 semester, King was one of two students from the college chosen as Innovation Hub interns for the spring 2018 semester. The new Innovation Hub is the result of a $2 million investment from the provost to deepen FSU’s commitment to continuous innovation.

King took on an internship in social entrepreneurship, and Danielle Hunter, a student in the Emergency Management and Homeland Security program, was selected the Unmanned Aerial Systems intern. They were responsible for providing insight and support for student projects in their areas of expertise.

In January of this year, King was selected to participate in the 2018 Future Founders cohort, a nonprofit fellowship that empowers the development of top student entrepreneurs across the country. She is participating in a yearlong program geared toward the advancement of young entrepreneurs and their businesses through retreats, mentorship, volunteer opportunities, and a connected network of fellow student entrepreneurs.

On the statewide level, economics major Molly Cloonan won first place and a $10,000 prize at MuniMod, Florida’s largest civic tech competition, for her development of Social Safe, an app to reduce intimate partner violence. The hackathon-style event hosted by the Florida League of Cities, in collaboration with Domi Station, tasks students with finding innovative ways to better their communities on a range of issues that local governments face. Participants work alongside advisers in order to refine the app and develop a pitch.

Social Safe aims to empower potential victims to reach out securely to friends and family before a situation escalates. The app includes functions designed to alert local law enforcement and provide crucial information through text messages that allow the potential victim to be located while gathering audio and video evidence of the incident.

“I was motivated to create the app by all of the amazing women around me and in the media who have suffered tremendously from incidents of sexual assault,” Cloonan said. “I created Social Safe to offer a way for young women to utilize their existing social networks to help increase their personal safety and stay connected.”

Cloonan and her app also received the most scalable business award in the 2018 InNOLEvation Challenge.
Undergraduates Move Forward with National Awards

Ten students with majors in the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy received major national awards and fellowships for their academic work this year, providing support for international research and study, graduate school, and public service. These students truly represent what we mean by “Engaging Today’s World, Producing Tomorrow’s Leaders.”

These awards not only bring prestige to the college and the university, they also prove the value of our approaches both within and beyond the classroom: a multidisciplinary, global outlook; advanced research opportunities for undergraduates; and mentorship from faculty, alumni, and fellow students.

Two of the recent awardees were members of the 2017 cohort of Social Science Scholars, the college’s signature Get More Than a Degree program for the most outstanding juniors. The program offers leadership training and guidance and preparation for summer projects that, thanks to generous sponsorship donors, students are able to undertake throughout the U.S. and the world.

Mackenzie Teek, a sociology major with minors in public administration and Portuguese, used her sponsored Social Science Scholars stipend in summer 2017 to conduct a mixed-methods research project on black racial identity in Brazil (see p. 18). In April 2018, she won an award from the Fulbright Program, the flagship international educational exchange sponsored by the U.S. government for the purpose of increasing mutual understanding between the U.S. and other countries. The scholarship will allow her to return to Brazil to continue and expand upon her research.

Joan Joseph is another 2017 Social Science Scholar who has made the most of her opportunities at the college, culminating in a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship supporting her advanced degree studies at MIT in fall 2018. In November 2017, she was named a Ralph Bunche Summer Institute scholar by the American Political Science Association. She was also selected as a fellow in the Advanced Empirical Research on Politics for Undergraduates Program at Ohio State University on the basis of her summer project assessing the legacy of colonial institutions on modern corruption.

Undergraduates with majors in the college are frequently winners of the David L. Boren Scholarship, and this year is no exception. Boren Scholarships, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provide unique funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and under-represented in study abroad programs.

This year’s Boren winners are international affairs (IA) majors Mane Grigoryan and Stephanie Reid. Each will use their award to reside abroad while studying Russian: Grigoryan in Kazakhstan and Reid in Latvia.

Other COSSPP students will study language thanks to the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS), an overseas language and cultural immersion program that fully funds selected students: Akice Agwa (IA, studying Arabic in Oman), William (Brett) Crawford (Economics, Arabic in Jordan) and Tatum Shannon (IA, studying Chinese at the Dalian University of Technology in China).

Matthew Hebron, a 2018 Social Science Scholar, will use his CLS to study Russian in Kyrgyzstan. His summer Scholars project will take him out west to conduct research on national parks.

Another IA major, Brittany Robinson, will study abroad thanks to the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, which offers grants for undergrads to pursue academic studies or internships in other countries. Such international exchange, according to the program, is intended to better prepare students to assume significant roles in an increasingly global economy and interdependent world.

The Public Policy International Affairs (PPIA) Junior Summer Institute is an intensive seven-week summer program that focuses on preparing students for graduate programs in public and international affairs and careers as policy professionals, public administrators, and other leadership in public service. Roberto Flores, a double major in interdisciplinary social science and music, received both the PPIA and the 2018 Pat Cox-Humanity in Action Fellowship. Flores was also named a John Lewis Humanity in Action Senior Fellow in June 2017.

2017 Social Science Scholars Joan Joseph and Mackenzie Teek

FSU Photography Services

FSU Photography Services

Roberto Flores

FSU Photography Services
Social Science Scholars
What Did You Do Last Summer?

The college’s Social Science Scholars program offers undergraduates amazing opportunities to conceive research and service projects that match their interests and carry them out around the U.S. and the globe. Two of our recent scholars from the 2017-18 cohort shared their experiences on the college’s Wicked Problems, Wicked Solutions blog, reflecting the diversity of the students in the program and the type of real-world issues they feel strongly about.

Political science and international affairs double major Zachary Jones interned in Washington, D.C., over the summer with the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC), the public policy arm of the Southern Baptist Convention. The ERLC’s role is two-fold: to be a voice to churches and Christians about cultural and political matters and to be a voice for churches in the legislative process.

“As I see it, the rights of religious people and religious groups—rights afforded to us by God and enumerated in the Constitution—are slowly eroding,” Jones wrote on the blog.

This conviction informed a number of articles and internal memos he wrote covering issues of human dignity, marriage and family, and justice, as well as his participation in meetings with elected officials and allied organizations to discuss and develop policies and strategies. The capstone of his internship was work on ERLC’s Malaysia initiative. Throughout the summer, he researched problems facing religious minorities in that country, among them blasphemy and apostasy laws that prohibit individuals from leaving the Muslim faith, forced conversions, and rehabilitation camps for religious dissenters. According to Jones, upcoming legislation in Malaysia threatens to remove the legal protections non-Muslims have to be tried before civic courts rather than Islamic courts.

Jones helped launch ERLC.com/Malaysia and the initiative associated with it. He planned a trip with the organization’s Vice President of Public Policy to meet with current and former diplomats, Islamic and Christian scholars, politicians, pastors, and human rights victims in Malaysia.

“I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity Social Science Scholars afforded me to work with the commission,” he said. “I was able to do work that I truly loved and given public recognition for it. I found a new passion—Malaysian religious freedom—and am on the cusp of being a major player in the international religious freedom industry.”

Sociology major Mackenzie Teek, who minored in Portuguese and public administration, decided that for her Scholars project she would study race in Brazil during summer 2017. Her initial plan was to shadow researchers who work on territoriality, race, and identity and compose a paper detailing the differences between race research in the U.S. and Brazil.

Teek spent nearly six months preparing and reading for this project but found her plans changed quickly upon her arrival in Brazil. Encouraged by her supervising research professor and a Ph.D. student peer mentor, she began her own ethnographic study. She spent time living in a quilombo, a community of individuals descended from enslaved Africans that maintains religious and cultural traditions and practices from pre-abolition.

In this community she conducted ethnographic research and led a focus group of quilombola black women on racial identity, gender identity, and entrepreneurship.

She hoped to learn whether a pro-black political identity precluded or encouraged normative feminine gender behavior in relation to economic self-sufficiency.

“‘In essence, do quilombola black women, despite being the household matriarchs, express traditional or non-traditional beliefs or behaviors towards gender?’ she explained.

Teek credits the Social Science Scholars program and the teachers, mentors, and other students she has worked with for giving her this unique opportunity to expand her awareness and academic interests. She is continuing her research with the Fulbright award she received this spring (see p. 17).
DEPARTMENTS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

African-American Studies  
Patrick Mason, Director  
coss.fsu.edu/aas

“American history that doesn’t incorporate the black experience is a false history.” Those words were uttered by the late William Jones, FSU’s first director of African-American Studies. The program hosted a commemorative event in April 2018, “On the Shoulders of Giants: Celebrating 40 Years of Black Studies,” highlighting the program’s history and success.

The celebration featured a panel discussion moderated by Billy Close, Jones’ former student and assistant professor of criminology at FSU. Featured panelists included Na’im Akbar, professor emeritus, consultant, and a clinical psychologist who pioneered Afrocentric approaches to modern psychology and mental health among African Americans; Serena Bradshaw, a second-year double major in psychology and African-American studies and the political education chair for the FSU Black Student Union; James B. Stewart, author, professor emeritus, and former director of Black Studies at Penn State; and current program Director and Professor of Economics Patrick Mason.

The celebration also honored the late founding director Jones and Shamuna Malik, the program’s administrative assistant for much of its history, who was present for the event.

The program, an interdisciplinary unit of the college, began with a handful of classes in spring 1970, following student protests and campus organizing fueled by the black campus movement of the 1960s and 1970s. In January 1977, Jones was hired, and the first course to carry an official African-American Studies identifier was offered at the beginning of the 1977-78 academic year.

Today, the program offers a thriving and varied curriculum studying ethnicity, identity, human relations, and cultural dynamics. The curriculum also focuses on educational and social policy issues.

Over the past few years the college has invested heavily in the program, recently hiring four new instructors to serve as core faculty members. Dean Tim Chapin said his team continues to take a deep look at curriculum and at reinvigorating and strengthening the partnership between the college, the program, and the Black Student Union.

Assistant Professor Shantel Buggs and Associate Professor Katrinell Davis, both of sociology, along with Assistant Professors Adam Bledsoe and Willie Wright of geography, are the new hires. They join associated faculty from disciplines outside the college, such as criminology, education, history, music, psychology, social work, and modern languages.

New classes, including an online course, are planned for the 2018-2019 academic year.

ASKEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY
Keon-Hyung Lee, Director  
askew.fsu.edu

Professor James Bowman has been elected as a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan organization established in 1967 to assist government leaders in building more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent organizations. Fellows are the academy’s primary resource for addressing emerging issues and contributing to the intellectual and popular discourse on government.

Under the direction of Professor and Senior Practitioner in Residence Gary VanLandingham, Master of Public Administration students Luciana
Polischuk and Jing Peng provided valuable services to Florida’s Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) program as it works on improving its systems of representation of children in foster care. In an Askew School course on policy development and administration, the two worked on a policy memo that presented GAL with alternative models of representation used by peer organizations in California and Texas. In a class on program evaluation, the students developed a logic model of the GAL program an impact evaluation design to assess the organization’s pilot representation model.

Jon Van Til, Professor Emeritus of Urban Studies and Community Planning at Rutgers University, delivered a talk and took part in a panel discussion as part of the school’s annual Joe Cresse Ethics in Government Lecture Series, November 3, 2017. Van Til, whose talk and panel centered on public service, is one of the pioneers in research on nonprofits, voluntary and community associations, self-help groups, and social enterprises.

ECONOMICS
Mark Isaac, Chair
coss.fsu.edu/economics

Manoj Atolia, the Bernard F. Sliger Professor of Economics, has been named chair of the department beginning fall semester 2018. Atolia, who received his Ph.D. from Indiana University, joined the FSU faculty in 2004. He has served as a consultant for the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization in Rome, Italy (2009) and as senior economist in the research department of the International Monetary Fund (2015-2017). As chair of the department, he looks forward to collaborating with faculty and college administration on such areas as governance, diversity, and development.

Students in the applied economics master’s degree program presented their final projects at the program’s annual symposium, July 28, 2017. Working in teams in the capstone course, students gained experience in performing practical economic research from start to finish, as commonly found in consulting projects or government agency reports. This year’s cohort presented on such topics as the cost of mandated disability and caregiver insurance, optimal wholesale-to-retail product mix, and the economic impact of a proposed Northwest Florida conference center and Medicaid expansion in the state.

Awards were presented for outstanding individual students to Corrie Hodges, Vincent Tan, and Mitchell D’Sa and for Outstanding Project to Brooke Dinwiddie, Joshua Jackson, and Vincent Tan for their team presentation, Forecasting Seminole Electric Cooperative Electricity Demand.

The department welcomed new faculty this past academic year. Assistant Professor Zachary Grossman received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a microeconomist who studies the impact of social and psychological phenomena as well as cognitive processes on economic decisions. Assistant Professor Luke Rodgers earned his Ph.D. at the University of Texas. His primary research focuses on the effects of tax policy, including childcare tax credits and tax deductions. He will be affiliated with the L. Charles Hilton Center and will assist the department in creating a new specialized gateway course for Ph.D. students working in applied microeconomic policy.

The department’s Academic Program Specialist Elizabeth Kistner was presented with the Undergraduate Advising Award at the university’s annual Leadership Awards ceremony in April.

Associate Professor John Hamman received a fellowship from the Université de Lyon in France to spend a year on sabbatical at the school’s prestigious Collegium de Lyon. Hamman and colleagues propose to develop both field and laboratory experiments to study channels of organizational influence, for which faculty and lab resources at the university’s business school and economics department will provide critical support.

The research opportunity allows him to collaborate with 14 other social science researchers from around the world, as well as acclaimed scholars at the French university. In June, Hamman and one of those colleagues won an award from the Thomas Jefferson Fund to help support the research they will conduct in Lyon.

Professor of Economics and the DeVoe L.Moore Eminent Scholar Keith Ihlanfeldt was named a Halbert Smith Honorary Fellow of the Weimer School of the Homer Hoyt Institute. The Florida-based institute is an independent, nonprofit research and educational foundation established in 1967 to help improve the quality of public and private real estate
decisions. The Weimar School is the organization’s academic arm. Every year, the institute selects a scholar for special recognition for their broad body of work. Ihlanfeldt was the Weimar faculty’s unanimous choice for his many contributions to the field of urban economics, including his widely known and respected research on the disparity between where low-income households reside and suitable job opportunities. The phenomenon has been seen as primarily affecting African Americans as a result of residential segregation, economic restructuring, and the relocation of employment opportunities to the suburbs. The institute cited his research on the effects that low-skill job suburbanization has had on the inner city poor and his work on the unintended consequences of urban land use regulation.

**GEOGRAPHY**

James Elsner, Chair
geography.fsu.edu

Assistant Professors Willie Wright and Adam Bledsoe have been awarded the Urban Geography Journal Workshop/Seminar Award. Along with a colleague at Goucher College in Baltimore, they will conduct a workshop there titled “The Future of (anti)Blackness in the American Metropole” during the Fall 2019 semester. The two-day workshop will convene leading scholars and organizers to discuss the exploitation of majority Black municipalities and Black communities under the “neoliberal revolution.” The organizers seek to dialogue and devise ways communities may self-organize to foster social, economic, and political enfranchisement. Wright and Bledsoe joined the department this year and are also affiliated faculty with the African-American Studies program.

A study published last summer by geography doctoral student Jihoon Jung and Assistant Professor Chris Uejio examined the impact rising temperatures have on Twitter activity and how government officials use the social media tool to warn the general public of heatwave conditions. They found that in Atlanta, Los Angeles, and New York City as temperatures rose, the number of temperature-related tweets increased. “If more agencies start to include social media and tap into what people are actually experiencing in real time, they can improve their extreme-heat early warning systems,” Uejio said. “We are also hoping that these government groups will start to include more health information in their social media messaging.”

Assistant Professor Stephanie Pau was awarded a grant for her research on tropical forest phenology and climate change by the National Geographic Committee for Research and Exploration. Phenology, often referred to as “nature’s calendar,” is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events, such as the timing of plant bud bursts or bird migrations, and how these are influenced by seasonal and inter-annual variations in climate, as well as habitat factors such as elevation. In January 2018, other research led by Pau revealed a surprising relationship between surging atmospheric carbon dioxide and flower blooms in a remote tropical forest. Pau and her team, studying the rich tropical forests of Panama’s Barro Colorado Island, found that rising temperatures and climbing rates of carbon dioxide have set the stage for a multi-decade increase in overall flower production. The study was supported by the Smithsonian Institute’s Environmental Sciences Program.

Assistant Professor Sarah Lester was awarded a grant as part of national funding for a series of projects on new technologies for monitoring and evaluating environmental restoration projects. Lester received $365,699 for research to address the lack of standardized approaches for measuring ecosystem service benefits. Her research team includes geography Ph.D. student Jennifer McHenry and master’s student Tyler Lynn and Andrew Rassweiler, assistant professor in the FSU Department of Biological Sciences. Seagrass habitats have long been experiencing degradation from human impacts yet offer substantial environmental advantages when healthy. Restoration is therefore a major priority for the Gulf of Mexico.

Lester is also leading a study on environmentally sustainable ocean industry management. She and her colleagues propose a planning strategy that accounts for and quantifies relevant environmental, industrial, and societal interests in a given area, allowing for planning that supports a variety of harmonious, economically productive activities without condemning a region to ecological disaster.

Stephanie Pau at a research site in the Laupahoehoe Forest on the Big Island, Hawaii
INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCE
Robert Crew, Director
coss.fsu.edu/iss

Interdisciplinary social science undergraduate Victoria Kinley created a new phone app called Green House that offers valet recycling services to students living in off-campus student apartments that don’t offer recycling. Through the app, students can hit a button when their recycling bag is full and another student will come pick it up. Students also gain incentives to recycle through a point system redeemable through partner companies for free or discounted food, beverages, and other needs. The app also includes an education tool allowing students to search which common household items can and cannot be recycled.

Two new faculty members have joined the program beginning fall semester 2018. Radha Modi comes from the Global Asian Studies Program at the University of Illinois-Chicago, where she was a postdoctoral research fellow. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Modi has collaborated with SAALT, a national nonprofit civil rights organization, by authoring a report that documents hate violence against South Asian, Middle Eastern, Arab, Muslim, and Sikh communities after the 2016 election. As specialized teaching faculty for the program, she brings interdisciplinary perspectives to real-world problems for her students to examine in her courses.

Alexandra Cockerham graduated FSU in 2017 with her Ph.D. in political science and spent the past year in that department as a visiting professor. Her research interests focus on executive power and the limitations that institutions impose on directly elected executives. She will use her political science background to teach courses about the interdisciplinary effects of political institutions and public policy. While her courses vary in material covered, she encourages all of her students to engage with the scientific part of social science.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES/INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Lee Metcalf, Director
coss.fsu.edu/inaprog

Undergraduate Sterling Strmel received $1,000 from the college for travel and other expenses to compete in the International Genetic Engineering Machines (iGEM) Jamboree in Boston in November 2017. Strmel provided a social science and public policy perspective to the FSU iGEM team of students majoring in engineering, biochemistry, business, and film. Their project, a cell-based therapy for Celiac disease that would remove the negative effects of eating gluten, took the bronze medal at the jamboree. Strmel first learned about the competition in the Foundations of Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation class taught by Bruce Manciagli. Her participation helped the team, she said, “create the most human-centered solution” and consider its effect on the world and vice versa.

The International Affairs Annual Film Series honoring Dr. Robert Dailey presented the Academy Award-nominated documentary “Last Men in Aleppo” on April 11. The screening was in conjunction with the FSU Center for Global Engagement’s Engage Your World Intercultural Dialogue Series.
Students in the department’s Research Intensive Bachelor’s Certificate (RIBC) program presented their work in an end-of-year event May 2, 2018. RIBC is a small-group educational experience for undergraduates who wish to gain high-caliber research skills and practical experience working in an academic research environment. Students must complete 12 hours of research-oriented classes and internships to earn the certificate. The program is limited to 25 students each year and admission is competitive.

At the department’s annual awards night in spring semester, the following students were honored: Allison Lang (Thomas Dye Scholarship), Isabella Moreira (Charles Billings Public Service Award), Jessica Parsons (Charles W. Pruet Jr. Award for Best Seminar Paper), Kevin Fahey (Political Science Graduate Student Teaching Award).

The department brought on one new faculty member this past year and welcomed two visiting professors. Assistant Professor Douglas Ahler’s research focuses on American politics, representation, public opinion, and political psychology. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 2016 and held a postdoctoral fellowship at Vanderbilt University. Visiting Assistant Professor Alexandra Cockerham earned her Ph.D. in political science at FSU in 2017. Her research centers on executive power, with an eye toward the limitations that institutions impose on directly elected executives. Her teaching interests are in comparative politics, American politics, and political methodology. Visiting Assistant Professor Kevin Fahey earned his Ph.D. from FSU in summer 2017. He studies political institutions and elite behavior, with specialization in subnational politics.

College alum and former U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire was in town April 10, 2018, in part to participate in a Village Square event focused on his book, “Dead Center.” He also stopped by the Master in Public Health program, as he does every year, to present the annual award named for him and his wife Kelly to a student in the program who has demonstrated academic success, ambition, maturity, leadership, internship, and community service. This year’s winner was Michelle White, 2017-2018 president of the Public Health Student Association.
The program offered its students a Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) training and certification class instructed by Teaching Professor Steve Ramsier, from the Department of Statistics in the College of Arts and Sciences. The program has been training students in IBM’s leading statistical software, SPSS, but students also requested the opportunity to learn SAS.

The university has approved a Bachelor of Science in Public Health program. The new undergraduate degree track is currently in curriculum design and will be launched in fall semester 2019 under the direction of Associate Professor of Sociology Amy Burdette, who is affiliated faculty with the public health interdisciplinary program.

SOCIOLGY
John Reynolds, Chair
coss.fsu.edu/sociology

Professor Kathryn Tillman has been named the new chair of the department beginning fall 2018. She is the 18th department chair in its history and the third female to hold the post. Tillman earned her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2003 and joined the FSU faculty that year. She has been the director of graduate studies for the department for the past three years and a research associate with the Center for Demography and Population Health since 2003. She studies the social and health-related outcomes of adolescents and young adults, with a particular focus on the adaptation of immigrant youth and the influence of family and interpersonal relationships for individual development, health, and risk-taking behaviors.

The department hired two new faculty members for the 2017-2018 academic year. Assistant Professor Shantel Buggs earned her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in the Department of Sociology, with portfolios in the departments of African and African Diaspora Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies. Her research interests center on how race and ethnicity, gender, and sexuality shape family and romantic intimate relationships, identities, and social inequalities. Much of her work focuses on multiracial/mixed-race life course processes and the representation of race, gender, and sexuality in popular culture. She is affiliated with the college’s African-American Studies program.

Associate Professor Katrinell Davis earned her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 2008. She studies racial inequality in labor markets and in low-income communities. The University of North Carolina Press recently published her book “Hard Work is not Enough,” and she is writing a second book on the recent water crisis in Flint, Mich., the subject of her Policy Pub talk in February 2018. She is also affiliated with the African-American Studies program.

Four other new faculty members have been hired beginning fall semester 2018: Mathew Hauer (specializing in climate change and sea level rise), Patricia Homan (gender inequality and health/mortality), Sourab Singh (democracy and politics in India), and sociology alum Teresa Roach, who will be a teaching professor helping to develop a joint Bachelor of Science degree internship program in sociology and public health.

Assistant Professor Miranda Waggoner published a book this year on women’s reproductive health and public policy, “The Zero Trimester: Pre-Pregnancy Care and the Politics of Reproductive Risk” (University of California Press). The book was selected by the Society for the Study of Social Problems as a finalist for its annual C. Wright Mills Award. (At press time, the winner was scheduled to be presented at the society’s conference in August 2018.) Read her article based on the book’s premise on page 9.
The department received a seven-year reaccreditation from the Planning Accreditation Board this year. This is the maximum term for accreditation and an indicator of the quality of the program and its high standing among all planning institutions.

The department has hired two new faculty. Kerry Li Fang (Ph.D. Maryland ’08) researches land use planning and economic development. Minjee Kim (Ph.D. MIT ’18) researches real estate development and land use.

The American Planning Association Florida awarded its 2017 Minority Scholarships to DURP students Daphne Green and Wisnerson Benoit. The scholarship fosters increased interest in the field of planning by providing financial support for students who are members of underserved ethnic groups and who attend an accredited planning institution or program actively seeking accreditation in the state of Florida. Green is focusing on neighborhood planning and community design. Benoit is concentrating on economic development. Green and Benoit were two of the four students from the college chosen to be Mayoral Fellows this year. (See Students section on p. 15.)

The department’s Florida Planning and Development Lab (FPDL), which gives students the opportunity to work on applied planning projects for real-world clients, won the annual Outstanding Student Project Award from the Florida chapter of the American Planning Association. It is the fifth time the department has received the honor.

The award was presented for the St. Johns County Passive Park and Recreation Master Plan Enhancement, an applied project undertaken in the spring 2017 semester by the graduate-level studio. The FPDL studio team was hired by the Florida county (home of St. Augustine) to provide professional planning services in order to protect the area’s abundance of natural and historic assets that have served as the basis of a thriving tourism industry.

Several graduate students conducted a Box City exercise in two Tallahassee-area schools during the spring 2017 semester. Box City is a program that connects planning students with elementary school students to introduce basic principles of community growth and development through a series of fun, interactive activities.

The students from Bond Elementary and the Havana Magnet School were given the opportunity to design their own model communities based on sound planning principles. Using cardboard boxes and other materials, students constructed their model city by placing the structures they made on an oversized map. The exercise concluded by comparing their completed model community to their real community to develop a basic appreciation and understanding of the complications facing real-world planners.

Box City is a project of Synoptikos, the department’s graduate student organization.
**CENTER FOR DEMOGRAPHY AND POPULATION HEALTH**
Karin Brewster, Director
popcenter.fsu.edu

At the end of summer 2018, Karin Brewster stepped down as director of the center after eight years in the position. Professor of Economics Carl Schmertmann, a longtime faculty affiliate of the center, is the new director beginning with fall semester. In other personnel news, Assistant Professor of Geography David Folch joined CDPH as a research associate in spring 2018. Brewster is now serving as president of the Southern Demographic Association.

Margaret Brandenburg is this year’s winner of the Serow Prize for outstanding promise in applied demography. Last fall, Alex Henesey was awarded the Serow Scholarship. He graduated in May 2018 and is now working as an analyst at the U.S. Department of Elder Affairs. Both prizes were named for the late director of the center, Bill Serow.

Following in the footsteps of many other demography alumni, Lauren Medina (’16), went to work at the U.S. Census Bureau after graduation. This past year, she was the co-writer on a new census report that said by 2030, for the first time in U.S. history, immigration and not births will be the main driver of the country’s population growth. NPR spoke with her about it for a report on the aging U.S. population.

The center celebrated its 50th anniversary last October with the presentation of the annual Charles B. Nam Lecture in the Sociology of Population, a panel of alumni talking about how their experiences at the center helped their careers, and a celebratory dinner with featured speaker, Professor Emeritus Charles Nam.

**CENTER FOR DISASTER RISK POLICY / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM**
David Merrick, Director
cdrp.net em.fsu.edu

Nine students of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS) program traveled with faculty member Judith Cuadra and Outreach Coordinator Bobby Duggleby to Nepal in spring 2018. Students had unique opportunities to learn about how Nepal manages large-scale disasters, such as the 2015 earthquake that affected much of the country. Students also put their education into practice by helping teach basic disaster management practices to local students and scouts in rural areas of Nepal.

Cuadra and Duggleby also led a trip to Belize in June 2018 with six recently hired student researchers to conduct field research on disaster planning relating to infrastructure and access to resources. The project was conducted in partnership with the Belize Association of Planners.

The center’s Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) program continues to lead in the innovative use of “drones” for public safety. The program has entered into a partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to explore the use of UAS imagery for post-disaster damage assessment. In summer 2018, the FSU UAS team demonstrated the viability of using drone imagery to supplement traditional boots-on-the-ground assessment. The demonstration, conducted on the university campus and around Tallahassee, was attended by officials from FEMA and the State of Florida Department of Transportation and Division of Emergency Management, as well as faculty, staff, and students from the EMHS program.

Thanks to expertise in disaster assessment, rescue, and recovery support, the EMHS program has been actively involved in a number of efforts across the U.S. Many of these involved the program’s nationally recognized capability in the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS, aka drones) technology.

- Supporting statewide preparations for Hurricane Irma in September 2017, including the placement of student volunteers to support emergency hotlines and enter shelter management data; running the critically important Virtual Operations Support Team (VOST), which tracks trends and rumors on social media and alerts authorities to potentially dangerous or erroneous information; assisting with the State Emergency Response Team Air Operations mission in order to facilitate airspace
coordination, communication and integration; and deploying to South Florida following landfall to help with urban search and rescue operations and work with FEMA to conduct damage assessments of impacted areas.

- Partnering with Texas A&M Center for Robot-Assisted Search and Rescue to perform damage assessment of critical infrastructure and support emergency management teams in assessing the conditions of 145,000 evacuated homes in Houston following Hurricane Harvey.
- Assisting a Utah county sheriff’s office on a missing person case in March 2018.
- Supporting the Hawai‘i County Incident Management Team and researchers from the University of Hawaii in Hilo with UAS data and imagery of the Kilauea volcano eruption in spring 2018, including thermal mapping, multi-spectral imaging, and video recording.

Faculty member Rob Duggleby went to the Republic of Panama to set up a new study abroad opportunity for students seeking the U.S. Intelligence Studies certificate. Starting in 2019, EMHS students will be able to travel to Panama to take several intelligence courses and learn from local experts.

Program Coordinator Alissa Bell was invited to teach as an adjunct faculty member at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. She also acted as a gender advisor for the center’s Seminar on Regional Security, training 15 students on the importance of gender mainstreaming and peace building.

**L. CHARLES HILTON JR. CENTER**

**Shawn Kantor, Director**
coss.fsu.edu/Hilton


The 2018 Cliometrics Conference featured extensive discussion of new and innovative research in economic history, a significant field of scholarship that emerged in the 1960s.

The conference attracted 60 participants from across the U.S. – including several from FSU, primarily within the Department of Economics – as well as scholars from as far away as Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, England, and Canada.

About half the participants were graduate students who received nearly complete stipends for travel, hotel, and meals, thanks to funding from the National Science Foundation, with additional support from the Hilton Center.

The Hilton Center focuses on research designed to enhance the understanding of how legal, social, and political institutions influence market transactions and, thus, the level of income, the rate of economic growth, and economic opportunity within and across geographic regions.

Faculty and graduate students conduct research in a broad range of areas, including law and economics, public economics, public choice, industrial organization, regulation, economic geography, new institutional economics, and economic history and development.

The center also brought notable speakers to campus this academic year. In October 2017, author and Mercatus
Center Research Fellow Adam Thierer focused on government policy on emerging technologies. In April 2018, a presentation by Victor Claar, associate professor of economics at Florida Gulf Coast University, raised questions about the purported benefits of the fair trade movement. Mark McNees, director of social entrepreneurship at FSU’s Jim Moran School, gave a response.

DEVOE L. MOORE CENTER
Sam Staley, Director
coss.fsu.edu/dmc

Students affiliated with the center presented their work as part of an undergraduate research poster competition at the Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE) annual conference in Las Vegas, April 2018. All four of the center’s student team were accepted into the highly competitive competition, out of 30 presenters APEE selected from more than 60 submissions nationwide.

The students – N’Namdi Green, Matt Laird, William Reynolds and Nicholas Spaunburgh – were chosen to represent FSU and the DeVoe Moore Center (DMC) after a day-long session of more than a dozen proposal presentations. The selection panel included center Director Sam Staley; DMC Policy Group Manager Catherine Annis; Adam Millsap, assistant director of the Hilton Center; Joe Calhoun, director of the Stavros Center for Economic Education; and Department of Economics faculty Randy Holcombe and Katie Sherron.

The students gained valuable career development experience presenting their research to academics and think tank professionals. The center is working with three of the students to generate policy-relevant research on the topics of state tax policy and population migration (Spaunburgh), measuring the true extent of poverty in Florida (Laird), and the role of private faith-based institutions in revitalizing the historic Tallahassee neighborhood of Frenchtown (Green).

Reynolds’s project (the effects of political lobbying and competition on the price of an auto-injector for diabetics) was not directly in the center’s mission focus on local and state urban policy issues, but several representatives of think tanks approached him about refining his analysis and potentially publishing a version of his paper through their organizations.

Support for this ongoing free-market-oriented and policy-centered research by students comes from a grant provided by the Charles Koch Foundation, which enables them to attend conferences such as APEE, interact with professionals, and receive the kind of mentoring that prepares them for the professional world. The center has supported 12 students through this grant since first receiving funding in 2013. The first of these, Colin Harris, completed his Ph.D. at George Mason University in spring 2018 and was hired for a full-time faculty position at St. Olaf College in Minnesota.

LEROY COLLINS INSTITUTE
Carol Weissert, Director
collinsinstitute.fsu.edu

This year the institute released two reports in its ongoing series “Tough Choices Facing Florida Governments.”

The September 2017 report, “Patterns of Resegregation in Florida’s Schools,” examines patterns of resegregation in Florida’s schools since 1994. It concludes that while our state has become much more diverse over that time, the schools have become more segregated. The percentage of intensely segregated schools (those with 90-100 percent nonwhite students) doubled over the past two decades to 20 percent of the schools in the state. Similarly, segregation by both race and poverty is increasing in Florida. About 83 percent of low-income students are in intensely segregated schools. Intergroup contact is limited, meaning students of color or living in poverty are less likely to be exposed to white middle-class students, and vice versa.

“All Floridians deserve equal access to a quality education, regardless of race or economic standing,” said Collins Institute Director Carol Weissert, the LeRoy Collins Eminent Scholar in the Department of Political Science. “We hope this report encourages additional dialogue and helps chart future actions on this important subject.”
In February 2018, the institute released “Benchmarking Debt Obligations in Florida Cities and Counties,” which evaluates the long-term debt obligations of all 67 Florida counties and the largest 162 municipalities. The report found that most of Florida’s cities and counties have relatively stable debt levels and appear to be structurally solvent. However, the study also shows significant variation in debt levels among Florida cities and counties—a variation that has grown over the past five years.

“We hope this report helps Floridians educate themselves on the debt obligations of their local city and county, and that citizens will continue to prudently monitor local government spending,” said Lester Abberger, chair of the institute’s board.

PEPPER INSTITUTE ON AGING AND PUBLIC POLICY
Anne Barrett, Director pepperinstitute.fsu.edu

The Pepper Institute and the Claude Pepper Center, along with support from the college and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at FSU, is now sponsoring weekly “Aging Today” segments on 88.9, WFSU-FM, in Tallahassee. The one-minute segments began in February 2018, highlighting critical aging-related trends, issues, and policies, with an emphasis on social science research. Recordings are archived at wfsu.org/agingtoday. Institute Director Anne Barrett said, “We’re hoping this initiative will spark more discussion about not only the challenges but also the possibilities of an aging society.”

Two researchers affiliated with the institute received a $50,000 grant from the Gerontological Society of America and the WALTHAM Centre for Pet Nutrition, the fundamental science center for Mars Petcare, to determine if, how, and under what circumstances companion animals benefit older people. Assistant Professor of Sociology Dawn Carr and Natalie Sachs-Ericsson of the Department of Psychology will tap into data on human-animal interaction collected as part of the Health and Retirement Survey, a long-term study of more than 20,000 individuals 50 years old or older.

The institute celebrated its 40th anniversary last October with an event featuring keynote speaker former U.S. Sen. Bob Graham, also former governor of Florida. The program concluded with an announcement of a $2,000 donation from the Pepper Institute to the Bob Graham Center for Public Service’s Rise Above Campaign, which encourages engaged citizenship.

Institute Director and Professor of Sociology Anne Barrett addressed the spring luncheon of the Association of Retired Faculty at Florida State, May 3, 2018, on the history of the Pepper Institute and on safe mobility for older drivers, highlighting such issues as the right time for aging drivers to give up the keys to the car. She was also a featured speaker in the university’s Faculty Luncheon Series in September 2017, talking about her historical research into the activism of older feminists in London.

GUS A. STAVROS CENTER
Joe Calhoun, Director coss.fsu.edu/stavros

The center’s annual workshop, Creative Teaching Ideas for Your Basic Economics Course, co-sponsored with the Stavros Center at the University of South Florida, took place at FSU, February 2, 2018. Presenters included Stavros Director Joe Calhoun and former director James Gwartney, along with economists from universities in Alaska, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and elsewhere in Florida. They spoke on such topics as team-based learning, stock prices, and economics in a virtual world. Participating teachers from a number of universities and high schools also had an opportunity to share teaching ideas and innovations.

Kim Holder of the University of Alaska presents “Teaching for Tomorrow” at the Stavros Center workshop.
For the second year in a row, a graduate of the Master of Public Health program was selected for the national Health Policy Research Scholars program. **Deanna Barath** (B.S. ’10, M.P.H. ’14) joins a diverse group of scholars from across the country to collaborate on researching solutions to persistent health challenges. Barath’s focus is on improving health equity for vulnerable populations. In 2016, M.P.H. graduate **Patrice Williams** was selected for the first cohort of the program. Both Williams and Barath received $120,000 grants.

Two alums of the college helped FSU move forward on the path of solar sustainability. **Chris Diaz** (Social Science ’88) and **Scott Minos** (Political Science ’84), along with College of Engineering alum Justin Vandenbroeck, provided and installed 12 solar panels, all pro bono, mounted on top of the FSU Sustainability Hub at the Seminole Organic Garden. Minos said he felt that the Sustainability Hub, an outdoor learning center to educate students about renewable energy sources and promote sustainable living, should be powered by renewable energy: “It’s not only a showcase of what renewable energy is capable of doing but also acts as a very public gesture of ‘walking the walk’ that promotes ongoing sustainability measures on campus.”

Minos, who coordinated the project with FSU Sustainable Campus, is a senior policy and communication specialist for the U.S. Department of Energy. Diaz, the principal and executive vice president of Business Development for Seminole Financial Services, raised the financing through his company.

Florida State University honored the 100 fastest-growing Seminole-owned businesses in the U.S. at a celebration on campus in March. Eleven alums of the college own businesses that were part of this year’s honorees: **James Taylor**, Auto Data Direct (Tallahassee, Fla.); **Christopher Lanza**, Dorsia (Boca Raton, Fla.); **James Frazier**, Fan Fest (Franklin, Tenn.); **Jeffery Collins**, Global Sales (Gibsonston, Fla.); **Stuart Norman**, G.M.F. Industries, Inc. (Lakeland, Fla.); **Bobby Pittman**, Kupanda Capital (Washington, D.C.); **Joy Owenby**, Owenby Law (Jacksonville, Fla.); **Bennet Napier**, Partners in Association Management (Tallahassee, Fla.); **Anthony Prieto Jr.**, Synergy Settlement Services (Orlando, Fla.); **John D. McFarlain**, Tal Research Group (Tallahassee, Fla.).

**James Kassaga Arinaitwe** (Master of Public Health ’11) delivered the keynote address at the Tallahassee Community College commencement, May 5. He is the co-founder and CEO of Teach for Uganda, which works to expand educational opportunity to all children in that country. The first fellow of the college’s William A. Kerr Intercultural Education and Dialogue Initiative, Arinaitwe received the Reubin O’D. Askew Young Alumni Award from FSU in 2017.

**Jacqueline Rojas** (B.S. ’15), who graduated with degrees in international...
Jacqueline Rojas, a political science graduate, was one of 10 students nationally to be awarded a 2017 Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship. As a Payne Fellow, the native of Ocala, Fla., is pursuing a master’s degree in global human development at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service.

Bertha Henry (B.S. ’77, M.P.A. ’78) was a 2017 Honoree of Governing Magazine, a widely read and respected publication for the public administration field. Henry, the Broward County, Fla. Administrator, was praised for her fiscal responsibility and for protecting county workers during hard economic times. She received her undergraduate degree in political science and her Master of Public Administration from the Askew School.

Former U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire (B.S. ’90) has had a runaway success with his book "Dead Center," an insightful look at how Washington has become more polarized and dysfunctional. He highlights the reasons why centrists in both parties have disappeared and why compromise is regarded as a four-letter word by factions on both the left and the right. Critics have praised the book’s "unique mix of academic rigor and personal experience" and a "recipe for civic recovery, from civic education to reducing the influence of money in politics to encouraging timorous citizens to become active participants – maybe even candidates – for public and civic leadership." Altmire, a political science graduate who worked in the health care industry for years after his time in Congress, is a great supporter of the college’s Master of Public Health program. He and his wife Kelly endowed a fund that provides an annual award for public health students.

Eugene “Gene” Stearns (Political Science ’66, Law ’72) was selected as a Grad Made Good by the FSU Alumni Association. He is founder and board chair of the Tallahassee law firm Stearns Weaver Miller et al., and has been frequently recognized in such lists as Top 100 Trial Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers in America and Florida’s Legal Elite.

The FSU student body president in 1967-1968, he also served on the staff of the Florida House of Representatives during the state’s Constitution Revision Session that resulted in the Constitution of 1968. Stearns co-authored, in 1970, the Fair Share Tax Plan, which became the principal campaign theme for the successful gubernatorial campaign of Reubin Askew (also a COSSPP alum who was student body president and later a Grad Made Good).

Gerald Ensley (Political Science ’80), who passed away February 16, 2018, was one of the Tallahassee Democrat newspaper’s most popular writers ever. The Pediment publishing company has put together 45 pieces he wrote showcasing the quirks and customs, heroes and villains, struggles and triumphs of the city and its surrounding area. Proceeds from the book, “‘We Found Paradise’: Gerald Ensley on the History and Eccentricities of His Beloved Tallahassee,” go to the Gerald Ensley Emerging Journalist Award.
Remembering those struggles, Eric takes time now to help current students chart career paths and make the professional connections they need to start their careers. He organizes an annual career day to bring current students and alumni together in Washington, D.C., where he lives and works. Eric frequently travels to Tallahassee to take part in alumni panels to expose students to career options in international affairs. Thanks to his dedication, many students have connected with alumni and potential employers across a range of organizations.

Much of his engagement has been with the World Affairs Program (WAP). This student-run academic program within the college promotes an increased awareness of the global community and encourages personal, social, and political growth among the students who participate in its activities, notably Model UN and Crisis Simulation conferences and competitions. The very active group has brought home numerous Best Delegation awards and ranks in the Top Model UN teams in North America.

Having served as WAP director 1990-1991, Eric remains very connected to the organization as a member of its advisory board; a donor; and a mentor, guide, and inspiration to students. He describes the World Affairs Program as exemplifying the Get More Than a Degree initiative of the college.

“If was where I gained the practical skills of research, negotiations, problem solving, public speaking, and organizational management that were just as important in a career as academic knowledge,” he said.

Eric’s dedication to our students is all the more remarkable considering his busy life. He oversees Chemonics’ global operations, including nearly 5,000 staff in 80 countries, working on such large-scale projects as improving fairness and transparency in Albania’s justice system, helping Colombia pursue conservation and rural sustainability, accelerating educational access in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and boosting investment in Sri Lanka’s economic future.

Today, Eric lives in Alexandria, Va., just outside D.C. with his wife Jennie and their children Claudia, 7, and John Porter, 5. But the FSU roots are strong for this first generation college student, and the college is grateful for his support and proud to name him our Distinguished Alumnus.

“It am honored and humbled to be selected as the college’s Distinguished Alumnus for 2018. I feel very fortunate to have a career that allows me to help improve the lives of millions of people around the world. It has been very rewarding to give back to the university to help connect students with opportunities in their chosen careers.”
DEVELOPMENT

The college concluded FSU’s Raise the Torch Capital Campaign with more than $23,550,000 in new gifts and commitments. We are grateful for all of our alumni, friends, foundations, and corporations who made gifts during the past eight years. These gifts support our academic departments, centers, and initiatives and provide much needed financial support for our students.

During the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, a total of 725 donors contributed $2,400,780 to the college. Of that total, $882,560 was cash or securities, $1,192,740 in bequests and other planned gifts, and $325,480 in new pledges.

**Department Support**

Mark and Marianne Barnebey pledged $100,000 to name the studio space in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. The Mark and Marianne Barnebey Planning and Development Lab and Studio will provide much needed support for the students and faculty in the department. The naming ceremony will take place during the spring 2019 semester.

The Kaul Foundation of Tampa, Fla., continued its support for the applied economics master’s degree program with another “Award of Excellence” gift of $100,000. To date, the Kaul Foundation has contributed $1,300,000 in support of this program.

Tim and Kate Gunning of New York, N.Y., pledged an additional $50,000 for the Thomas S. McCaleb Scholarship Endowment Fund in the Department of Economics. The Gunnings created this endowed fund in 2010 to honor Professor McCaleb, and they continue to grow the endowment.

Jeralynn Cossman added an additional $15,000 to her bequest that will create the Jeralynn S. Cossman Endowment Fund supporting graduate studies in the Department of Sociology.

**Social Science Scholars**

This unique program continues to attract new and returning donors to fund the 18 Scholars selected each fall. A gift of $6,000 is needed annually to support each Scholar and more than 20 alumni and friends of the college made contributions to support our Social Science Scholars last year.

Tom and Eileen Culligan of McLean, Va., created the Thomas M. and Eileen R. Culligan Social Science Scholars Endowed Fund with a pledge of $130,000. For the next five years $6,000 of their contribution will be used to support a current Scholar.

New five-year/$30,000 commitments were made by Kent and Lynn Shoemaker of Naples, Fla., and Steve Clein of Weston, Fla.

Marshall Cohn renewed his annual support and also donated more than $30,000 to begin the program’s permanent endowment. He hopes other donors will add to the endowment of this outstanding program.

Richard Henry of Bernalillo, N.M., and David Rancourt of Puerto Rico each made a $6,000 gift to become a first-time Social Science Scholars sponsor.

**The Center for Demography and Population Health**

Charlie Nam contributed an additional $25,000 to the Charles Nam Scholarship Endowment for Demography and Population Health to celebrate the center’s 50th anniversary. During the anniversary celebration weekend, which featured presentations from many alumni of this program, more than $20,000 was pledged to the endowment, bringing the total cash and commitments to this fund to more than $120,000.

Ron Cossman added more than $150,000 to his bequest provision for “The Pop Center” to support future graduate students.

**Student Veterans**

Charles and Sylvia Haworth and the Haworth Foundation of Tallahassee, Fla., made an additional gift of $25,000 to provide our student veterans with scholarships for their undergraduate and graduate studies. The Culligan Endowed Fund for Student Veterans also provides scholarships for students enrolled in master’s degree programs in the college.

**Global Peace Exchange**

Inspired by his own experience working abroad, John Slavic was intrigued by the student-run Global Peace Exchange. With a pledge of $30,000 he created the John Slavic Endowment Fund to support the group’s mission: Engaging students in global partnerships to help communities in need become more sustainable and self-sufficient.

Mattox Hair (right) of Jacksonville, Fla., has honored his parents with a $1,000,000 bequest to create the Frances and Horry Hair Distinguished Endowed Professorship in the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy. Mattox and his parents (at left) have a long history of public and community service, as well as a personal relationship with Governor Askew. Like Governor Askew, the Hair family believes that public service is the right calling for individuals interested in bettering communities and improving the lives of everyday citizens.
The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy gratefully acknowledges the following leadership donors as Bellamy Society members. Their generous annual unrestricted and current support gifts and pledges of $1,000 or more during the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, provide support either college-wide or to one of our departments, programs, and centers.* Thanks to their generosity, the college continues to enhance and improve the quality of our students’ academic experience.

**GOLD LEVEL**
Gifts/pledges of $5,000 and higher

- Florence Helen Ashby
- Mark P. and Marianne P. Barnebey
- Nicholas J. and Angela Culligan
- Donors Trust, Inc.
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**GARNET LEVEL**
Gifts/pledges between $2,500-$4,999

- Robert B. Auslander and Melody Mendoza-Auslander
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- Simone Marstiller
- Mulligan Park Gracious Retirement Living
- Jason D. and Lauren M. Sato
- Dongjun Shin
- Westminster Oaks

**BELLAMY LEVEL**
Gifts/pledges between $1,000-$2,499

- James H. and Ruth A. Alexander
- J. Scott Bartholomew
- B. Dan and Aimee E. Berger
- Frances S. Berry and William D. Berry
- David L. and Rebecca T. Bibb
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- Patricia S. St. Angelo
- Michael G. Stephens
- John R. Taylor and Cynthia Tie
- Marvin Thurston
- William G. and Carol S. Weissert
- Stanley and Ramona S. Wilcox
- Ronald L. and Annette A. Wilson

*Gifts made by donors to endowment funds are not included in the Bellamy Society; they are recognized as President’s Club members (if their cumulative lifetime giving is $10,000 or more) and they are listed under the appropriate gift range in the 2017-2018 donor list.
On behalf of the faculty, staff, and most of all the students of the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy, we express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the many alumni, friends, and organizations who made charitable gifts during the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, to help support the college. To each of you, we say thank you very much for your ongoing support and generous investment.

The lists below include the names of those who made current support, endowment, estate, and deferred gifts; pledge payments; stock transfers; corporate matching; and real estate gifts that were received by the college during the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. Gifts and pledge commitments received on or after July 1, 2018, will be included in the 2019 edition of Engage. All donors to the college of deferred and estate gifts are members of the James D. Westcott Legacy Society and donors who have cumulative lifetime giving of $10,000 or more are members of the FSU President’s Club. These donor honor rolls are listed on our website at coss.fsu.edu/presidents-club.

Please know that your gift or pledge commitment is very important to us. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If any name is misspelled, omitted, or listed incorrectly, please contact Assistant Dean for Development Cindy Michelson (850-644-1920, cmichelson@fsu.edu) so that our records can be corrected. Thank you very much.

$100,000 and above
The Kaul Foundation
Winston-Salem Foundation/BB&T

$50,000 to $99,999
Thomas M. and M. Eileen Culligan
Charles Koch Foundation
Schwab Charitable Fund

$25,000 to $49,999
Marshall S. Cohn
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Charles T. and Sylvia E. Haworth
Bruce W. and Melanie A. McNeilage
Charles B. Nam

$10,000 to $24,999
Nicholas J. and Angela Bergan
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Ronald A. and Ruth A. Hedge
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Walton County Sheriff’s Office
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Frances S. and William D. Berry
David L. and Rebecca T. Bibb
Warren E. Bowers
Robert A. and Patricia A. Browning
The Brunetti Foundation
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Capital Health Plan
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Joshua D. Curry
Sachi G. and Shefali S. Dastidar
Pamela H. and Thomas J. Espenshade
Alexander Fals and Monica B. Cunill-Fals
Ruth S. and Richard C. Feiock
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Nancy D. Joyner
Raymond G. and Patrice E. Kerr
Colin L. E. Kresse
Christi A. and Jeff Lawson
Harry J. and Reva J. Lerner
Luis G. Loret De Mola
Jane S. Love
Simone Marstiller
Michelle Mattox
Thomas S. and Lynda M. McCaleb
Lee K. Metcalf
Tonja Guilford (right), the dean’s chief of staff, also serves as adviser to the college’s Student Leadership Council (SLC). Here she is at FSU Day at the Capitol in February 2018 with SLC members (left to right) Eliza Chase, Dante Grieco, and Austin Diaz.
The 2018 cohort of the Social Science Scholars program: Thanks to training seminars and opportunities for research and service throughout the world, the program has proved to be valuable preparation for undergraduates who want to pursue advanced degrees or take on leadership positions in government, business, and nonprofits. Donor support makes the program possible.

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Ramona L. Quillet
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Rory C. Rowan
Jonathan R. and Corianne P. Scally
Barry G. and Melissa Segal
Mark A. Shedd and Jo A. Jackson
Anthony J. and Tracie L. Snipes
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Wayne S. Dictor
Noella Dietz
Peta L. Doan
Kathryn L. Fanning
Patricia K. and William A. Farrelly
Nicholas W. Fendig
COSSPP students Alex Ball, Kevin DiMatteo, and Matt McSoley were key players in the February 2018 launch of Remove the Mask, a campaign by the student-led Mental Health Council to legitimize mental health concerns and reduce the negative stigmas associated with them. Pictured here: an exercise to raise awareness in which students respond to questions about mental illness with their phones.

Erma D. Clem
Stephen M. Cleneay
Khandis J. Cline
Charles W. and Frances A. Conaway
Edward R. and Sheri L. Coven
David B. and Dana E. Cozad
James W. Crain
Charles W. Crum
Bryan G. Cruse
Cathleen M. Current
Tilden J. Curry
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Alumni and friends of the college help us achieve our place among elite public universities by enhancing opportunities for undergraduate students through our Get More Than a Degree initiative, facilitating the recruitment and development of the nation’s best graduate students, and helping us recognize the excellent teachers and productive scholars on our faculty. Ask us about the many naming opportunities for physical spaces in the college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Giving Opportunities</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Endowment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enhancing Undergraduate Experience</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Travel Award</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internship/In-Depth Foreign Study Award</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Science Scholar</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recruiting/Developing Graduate Students</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s &amp; Doctoral Student Prize/Award</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s &amp; Doctoral Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s &amp; Doctoral Fellowship</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recognizing Faculty</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Named Professorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Named Distinguished Professor</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Named Eminent Scholar Chair</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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</tbody>
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*Amounts listed represent minimum donation threshold for each gift.*

**New Multi-Year Pledges**

**$5,000 and above**

- J. Scott Bartholomew
- Mark P. and Marianne P. Barnebey
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- Saeed N. Zarifa
- P. D. Zimmerman
The college’s signature initiative for enhancing the undergraduate educational experience and future career success

“Through our Get More Than a Degree initiative, our students excel outside their regular coursework by engaging with the world beyond campus. They gain unique opportunities for research, service, and experiences that transform their awareness and expand their future life and career options. Thanks to private support from alumni and friends, we’re not just turning out graduates; we’re producing leaders ready to take on the challenges of an ever-changing world.”

- Dean Tim Chapin

While state funding covers classroom activities and materials, it cannot be used to support all of the activities and organizations that are vital to enhancing the educational experience for our students and assuring their future success. Your generous, tax-deductible gifts to the following college-wide and departmental general development funds enables the college and its departments, programs, and centers to sponsor symposia and conferences, offer travel grants and applied master’s degree scholarships, schedule events where students can meet notable scholars and experts in their fields, fund professional development activities such as networking at conferences and meetings, and support student groups, such as the competitive Social Science Scholars program, among many other unique opportunities in our Get More Than a Degree initiative.

You can contribute to any of these funds online (coss.fsu.edu/giving/make-a-gift) or by contacting the college development staff for information and assistance: Cindy Michelson (850-644-1920, cmichelson@foundation.fsu.edu), Ryan Hurst (850-645-9549, rhurst@foundation.fsu.edu)
AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The African-American Studies program celebrated its 40th anniversary in spring 2018.

The program had its inception with a handful of Black studies courses offered in spring 1970. Dr. William Jones was hired as director in January 1977. The first course to carry an official African-American Studies identifier was offered at the beginning of the 1977-1978 academic year.

The development and growth of the program was chronicled in the pages of what was then the official student newspaper, the Florida Flambeau.