

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE POST

WINTER 2020

Newsletter of the BYU Political Science Department



THE POLITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The politics of human rights have become increasingly internationalized and transnationalized over the past fifty years. Since the early 1970's, states have signed and ratified an ever-growing number of human rights conventions, more carefully monitoring a variety of abuses, and even intermittently penalized some of the worst violators. Intergovernmental organizations have adopted new methods of investigation and reporting and have expanded the array of abuses they track. Nongovernmental organizations dedicated to human rights have experienced explosive growth and have mobilized campaigns on behalf of the oppressed all over the world. As a result, domestic groups and individuals suffering repression now routinely seek political, moral, and financial support from international patrons and provide the international community with crucial information on the nature of repression.

Of particular interest to **Professor Darren Hawkins**, in

his book *International Human Rights and Authoritarian Rule in Chile*, is the importance of shaping state behavior, especially influencing the behavior of repressive, authoritarian governments. Human rights pressures on repressive governments center on moral condemnation, backed up only occasionally by limited uses of economic and military power. However, some liberal theorists argue that domestic politics shape state preferences, not external pressure. Different states react differently to human rights pressures in predictable ways related to domestic political and social structures.

An example used by Professor Hawkins that might be applied to current repressive states, was the brutal regime of Chile from 1973 to 1990 during Gen. Augusto Pinochet's regime and afterward, where the government routinely terrorized its population by murdering, torturing, exiling, and imprisoning tens of thousands of people. Current authoritarian regimes that abuse their citizens include Syria, China, North Korea and Venezuela.

Professor Hawkins argues that steadily mounting pressure from abroad concerning human rights did, in

fact, make Pinochet more vulnerable over time and helped stimulate Chile's movement to a liberal democracy. Such international expectations could not be ignored by Pinochet, and they gradually and cumulatively made themselves felt. By 1975 some Chilean officials were adopting the discourse of human rights and claiming their adherence to international norms; two years later the government's security apparatus responsible for the reign of terror was reorganized, and disappearances in Chile nearly ceased.

In 1980 the regime abandoned its insistence on unlimited authoritarian rule and approved a constitution that set term limits and promised future democratic institutions; Pinochet lost a constitutionally mandated plebiscite in 1988 and ultimately left office in 1990. Hawkins contends that these changes not only were internally driven but reflected an ongoing response to an international discourse on human rights.

Professor Hawkins' study provides ample testimony of the far-reaching effects of international human rights work, and that external pressure can change state behavior.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



3 EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Read about the recent events on and off BYU campus.

5 PEOPLE

Spotlights on students, professors, and alumni alike. Hear more about professor publications.

11 POLITICS

Read more on faculty's discussion of politics through Julie Rose's Top of Mind

12 ENGAGED LIVING

Learn how to become more involved with the aims and mission behind BYU Political Science.

BYU | POLITICAL
SCIENCE

The BYU Department of Political Science, consistent with the aims of a BYU education, intends to foster “Lifelong Learning and Service.”

We hope to provide our alumni with intelligent, thoughtful and sophisticated analysis of important issues, and to act as a catalyst for service in our communities, neighborhoods, nations and the world.

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EVENTS & PROGRAMS



GLOBAL GOVERNANCE JOURNAL IN NEW YORK CITY ON OCTOBER 15, 2019

The Global Governance Journal, which is hosted by BYU Political Science until 2023, under the direction of Professor Kendal Stiles, who is co-editor in chief, hosted an author discussion series on October 15, 2019, at the Australian Mission to the UN in New York City. Author Courtney Fung from the University of Hong Kong, and an Australian citizen, spoke about Chinese participation in Peacekeeping Missions by the UN. The event was conducted and presented by BYU Kennedy Center and BYU Political Science.

PAS ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM WITH DR. BRENDAN NYHAN ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 2019

PAS Annual Symposium, Dr. Brendan Nyhan of Dartmouth College spoke on the Causes and Effects of Fake News, on Thursday, November 7th at 11 AM in B192 JFSB. Professor Brendan Nyham spoke about the idea of “fake news.” Nyham suggests that our democracy is vulnerable, and that Facebook is porous, and so we need to keep a watchful eye on what influences us both internally and externally. Thank you, Brendan Nyham, for a fascinating discussion.

DEBATE NIGHT ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 2019

The College Democrats versus the College Republicans, Thursday, November 7, 2019, at 7 PM in W112 Benson Building, wherein they debated current topics of the Iranian nuclear deal, carbon emissions, gun control, and democratic socialism.

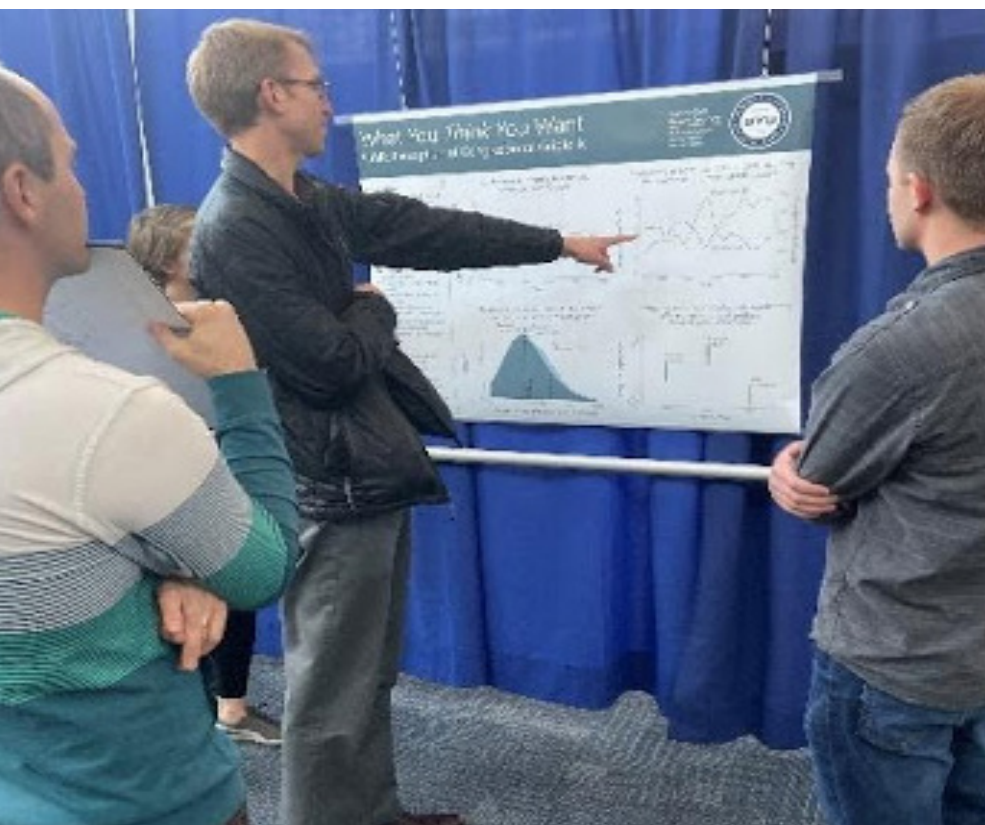
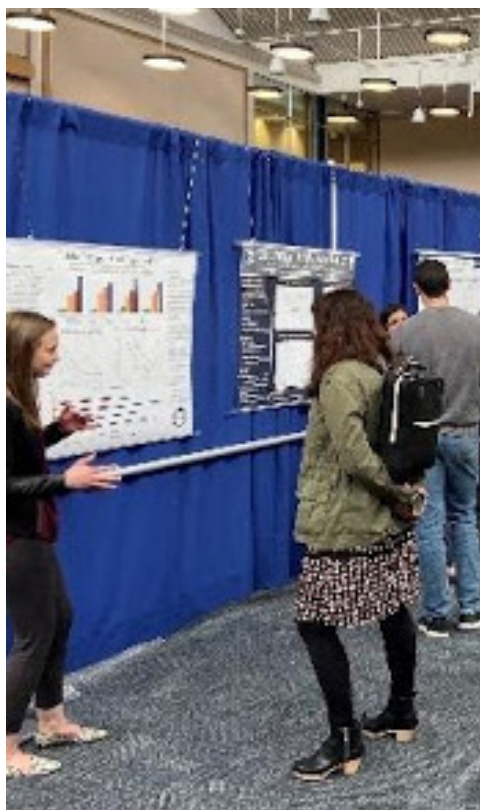
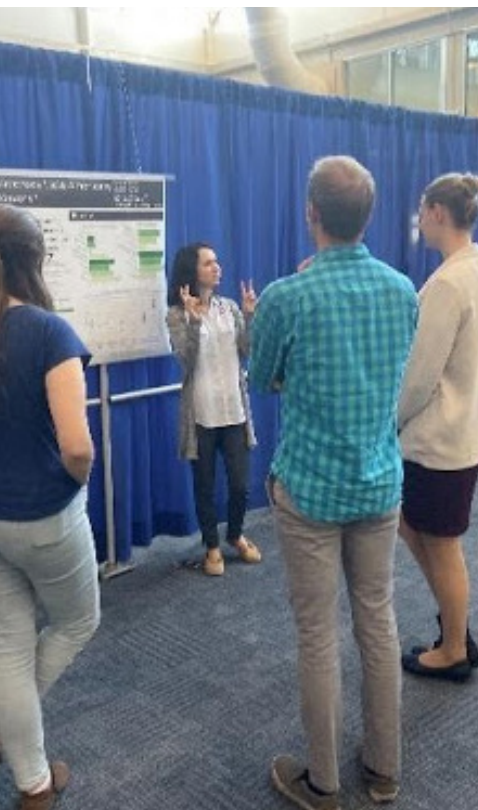
U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY FORUM BY ROBERT C. O'BRIAN ON DECEMBER 9TH, 2019

Current Trump Administration U.S. National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien was on campus answering questions about national security on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 10:30 AM at the Varsity Theater. The event was sponsored by the BYU Political Science Department and BYU President Worthen was in attendance. Mr. O'Brien reiterated that the U.S. wants to have great relations with China that are fair. He said that we need to be so strong that any country opposing us, including China, understands that consequences will be devastating.



POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT POSTER CONFERENCE 2019

Tuesday, December 10th, 2019



The 2019 PSSPC was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, from noon to 3 PM in the Wilkinson Center Garden Court. The Poster Conference is an opportunity for students to engage in “experiential learning,” which helps them focus their ideas and present them in a public forum. Approximately 90 students participated in this year’s event and 18 students either received awards or were recognized for their honorable achievement.

WINNERS LIST

Professor Chad Nelson was the judge for the poster conference. He made the following awards:

First Prize (\$300):

Katrina Cole, Margaret Jarvis, Pearce Solomon:
“Deep State & Dark Money: Partisan Conspiratorial Thinking”

Second Prize (\$200):

Camilla Alarcon, Annie Jarman, Taylor Petersen:
“Electoral Fraud: Who Cares? How Partisanship Influences Perceptions of Electoral Fraud”

Third Prize (\$100):

Madeline Beck, George Garcia, Jessica Powell:
“What Influences Latin American Policy Makers?”

Honorable Mentions (in alphabetical order by first author’s last name) :

Jacob Harris: “Getting Tough: The Relationship Between Racial Resentment, Religion, and Positive Attitudes”

Janessa James, Layla Shaaben: “Follow the Prophet: Political Signaling by Religious Leaders”

Annie Jarman, Kunmi Ogunfeibo: “Do Americans Just Vote for the Hottest Candidate?”

Natalie White: “Uncertainty and Populist Rhetoric: What are the core elements of populist rhetoric?”

Abby Woodfield, Tayla Ingles, Audrey Stacey:
“Nature: the Great Equalizer”



Political Philosopher

ROBERTO UNGER

Roberto Mangabeira Unger; (born 24 March 1947) is a Brazilian philosopher and politician who is Professor at Harvard Law School. He has developed his views and positions across many fields including legal theory, philosophy and religion, social and political theory, progressive alternatives, and economics. Dr. Unger gave a lecture on Brigham Young University campus on January 22nd, 2020, at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at noon.

In natural philosophy he is best known for his 2015 work *The Singular Universe and the Reality of Time* which “presents, in the context of an engagement with cosmology and physics, the vision of a universe in which everything, including the structure and the laws of nature, changes sooner or later”. In legal theory he is best known for his work in the 1970s–1990s as part of the Critical Legal Studies movement, which helped disrupt the methodological consensus in American law schools. His political activity helped the transition to democracy in Brazil in the aftermath of the military regime, and culminated with his appointment as Brazil’s Minister of Strategic Affairs in 2007 and again in 2015. His work is seen to offer a vision of humanity and a program to empower individuals and change institutions.

At the core of his philosophy is a view of humanity as greater than the contexts in which it is placed. He sees each individual possessed with the capability to rise to a greater life. At the root of his social thought is the conviction that the social world is made and imagined. His work begins from the premise that no natural or necessary social, political, or economic arrangements underlie individual or social activity. Property rights, liberal democracy, wage labor—for Unger, these are all historical artifacts that have no necessary relation to the goals of free and prosperous human activity. For Unger, the market, the state, and human social organization should not be set in predetermined institutional arrangements, but need to be left open to experimentation and revision according to what works for the project of individual and collective empowerment. Doing so, he holds, will enable human liberation.

Unger has long been active in Brazilian opposition politics. He was one of the founding members of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party and drafted its manifesto. He directed the presidential campaigns of Leonel Brizola and Ciro Gomes, ran for the Chamber of Deputies, and twice launched exploratory bids for the Brazilian presidency. He served as the Minister of Strategic Affairs in the second Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva administration and the beginning of the second Dilma administration. Unger is also the subject of the feature documentary *Visions for the Future* directed by Robert Rippberger chronicling his work in Brazil in the Amazonian state of Rondônia putting theory into practice.

[Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Mangabeira_Unger; See also “Politics: The Central Texts” by Roberto Unger]

ALUMNI



CHASE J. FOWERS

Chase is a data analyst at WPA Intelligence in Washington, DC 214 Fourth Street, SE, and does sales and marketing at Aptive Environmental. He studied Political Science at BYU and is from Augusta, Georgia. He went to Lakeside High School in Evans, Georgia. In the Fall of 2019, Chase gave advice

to BYU students for finding jobs in DC, including the following: First: Workshop your resume. Poli sci students might find it difficult to describe/quantify their work as undergrads, but it can be done. BYU's Poli Sci department is first class and requires its students to become excellent writers, researchers, and analysts. Second: Work as a research assistant. Begin building a professional network and skill sets. Third: Talk to EVERYONE. LinkedIn is a good platform for that. If you can find BYU alumni or people with whom you have mutual friends, that is gold. Thank you, Chase, for your excellent advice.



ALLYSE MEANEA

Graduated in August 2019, Allyse is studying in Kings College in London, a Master in European Studies. She did an internship with State Department summer 2019, and was on Beyond BYU 2019 in Washington, DC.



CATE STOLWORTHY KLUNT

Government Affairs Director at Utah Association of Realtors. Cate studied Political Science and Communications at BYU. While here, she started working in communications for the first female Speaker of the Utah House, Becky Lockhart, and has since had an almost unhealthy obsession with Utah politics. She went on to work as the lobbyist for

the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools, and most recently she worked at World Trade Center Utah where she took a legislative diplomatic delegation to China and didn't lose a single Senator. She also has a dog names Pancakes.



YEAH SAMAK

Yeah Samak is the Country Director at Empower Mali, and Mayor of Ouelessebouyou. He was the former language and cultural facilitator at Peace Corps Mali. He studied Public Policy at BYU and lives in Ouelessebouyou, Koulikoro, Mali and is married to Marissa Coutinho Samake.

He was recently honored

as a distinguished alumni at BYU, after which he said: "After the honors by BYU Alumni Association that I have accepted with humility, I find happiness under the mango at my home in Ouelessebouyou. Big thank you to all for the family, material and moral support!" Congratulations to Yeah for all his good work.

STUDENT



ELIZA BENNETT

Eliza grew up in Sandy, Utah and wants to work for a development agency in Washington, DC such as the World Bank or CARE international working in international development policy with a focus on gender: women and men

in the developing world. She recently traveled to Malawi and worked at the School of Agriculture for Family Independence (SAFI) and ran a research project to determine the effect that the gender of students was having on their educational experience. She found that 75% of men finished their coursework, while only 25% of women finished. She is working to find solutions to this problem. Her family history includes her grandfather, former Utah Senator Bob Bennett. At BYU she has worked at the Global Politics lab and is the advertising chair for BYU's Political Affairs Society. She was student body president at Jordan High School and was a finalist in the Sterling Scholar Social Science sector in Utah. She would like to pursue a Master's in Public Policy (MPP) at Georgetown University.



REBECCA RUSSAVAGE

Rebecca Russavage is from China Hills, California and graduated in December 2019 with honors in the double majors Political Science and Sociology, with a double minor in International Development and Women's Studies. She has had a busy undergraduate

career: living and working on five continents, co-founding an NGO called "Girls Lobby" that teaches high school girls about civic engagement, participating in four Model United Nations conferences, and presenting to the UN at the Civil Society Conference during the summer of 2019. She says that she can get excited about basically everything: international relations, books, ice cream, Star Wars, and especially food. However, she chose her academic paths because she loves people and politics. She thinks it is so fascinating to not only try to understand why people are, who they are, and do what they do (hence my Sociology major), but also what they do with that identity and how they choose to manage the world (Political Science). She is off to Washington, DC in January 2020.

IN MEMORIAM



WADE JACOBY 1964-2020

Students, colleagues and friends around the globe are mourning the tragic loss of Professor Wade Jacoby, who passed away without warning on Saturday, February 29, 2020. At the time of his death, Wade was mountain biking—one of his many, many passions—with close friends and colleagues at the university. Wade has an extensive network of relationships, and we know that hundreds, even thousands, are mourning this great loss. Tributes to Professor Jacoby will be included in the next issue of the Political Science Newsletter.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Darren Hawkins grew up in Salt Lake City and went to Olympus High School. When he was growing up he had a newspaper route, and he and his mother delivered newspapers from the back of her station wagon. They delivered 180 Deseret Newspapers, and while delivering, he says, he used to read the headlines. This began his interest in political science. He went to the University of Utah for undergraduate work, then served a mission to Uruguay. During his mission, Central America was in a time of civil war in Nicaragua and El Salvador, with the Sandinista's and Contra's. He began to love the culture of Central America through Uruguay, where there were no riots or strife, and no blood shed as in other central American states.

Darren received his PhD at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and specialized in Human Rights and Central and South America. After his PhD, he brought his wife and two year old to Santiago, Chile to do research. One of the key moments of his research was to be an interview of the Commander of the Chilean Air Force, Rodolfo Stange, who was a member of the Government Junta that ruled Chile during the dictatorship period from 1973 to 1990, representing the police force. On the day he arrived for the interview, he got out of the subway and found that the armed forces had surrounded the building where his interview was to be, with automatic weapons. It appeared to be a coup d'état. Darren walked up to the military line and showed his credentials and said he was to interview Stange. They let him through, and he made it to the waiting room for the general, but he found out that Stange had been indicted by the courts for Human Rights abuses, and that the military and police force had stepped in to protect him, by surrounding the building, something that would never happen in the U.S.A. While he was waiting in the office, 20-30 women supporting Stange showed up. Stange needed to meet with his supporters, so Darren never got the interview. It was a standoff between the courts and the military and police, and Stange never appeared in court. Darren learned the reality of power and how it works in the South American countries, in a way unfamiliar to people in the western democracies.

Darren is the vice Chairman of the Board for LDS Earth Stewardship, a non-profit for members of the Church of Jesus Christ of LDS and other interested parties, promoting conservation and stewardship over the earth. Anyone who would like to be involved can find out more at ldsearthstewardship.org.

One of Darren's favorite quotes comes from Sharon Eubank, of the LDS Relief Society Presidency:
"I thought I would share what I consider to be the intersection between humanitarian work—the subject I live and breathe every single day—and earth stewardship, which all of us here tonight care so much about. The conversations on this topic have become polarized, easily devolving into politics represented by two cable channels. That is a shame. What is useful to me would be to find new ways of discussing the subjects of how to protect and care for the planet where we live in ways many more people can engage with."



DARREN HAWKINS

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Ph.D in Human Rights at
University of Wisconsin at
Madison

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Assistant Professor Chad Nelson grew up in the Bay Area and came to BYU as a Philosophy undergraduate. He was interested in big questions. During the summer of 2001, after his undergraduate work at BYU, Chad decided to take a world tour, starting in Jordan, and weaving through the Middle East and Asia. He left for Iran on a Cargo ship from the United Arab Emirates, and travelled to Afghanistan with a young man who turned out to be a member of Al Qaeda. The man spoke broken English, and Chad had a beard so he didn't know that Chad was an American. After Afghanistan, Chad went through Oman, Iran, Uzbekistan, China, India, Thailand, and Nepal. Preceding the world tour, he worked on the Union Pacific rail road for nearly a year, in Idaho, as a laborer, 10 hours a day, pounding spikes into rails. He had to hit the head of the spike right in the center or the sledge hammer would miss and hit the metal rails or plates, causing injury to his hands and arms.

After his world tour, Chad studied at Columbia University toward a Master's degree and was in New York City on September 11, 2001. He was on the subway at 168th Street going uptown, and noticed that they had closed all subways going downtown. He exited the subway and heard about the World Trade Center attack, and decided to walk down town from Columbia to see if he could help. When he arrived, Tower 6 was still on fire and had not collapsed yet. He left before it did, as there was little he could do and the fire and police departments had cordoned off that section of town. He received his PhD from the University of California Los Angeles, and his research now focusses on the international effects of revolutions, the interaction between domestic instability and international politics, and the rise of great powers. His current book project (hopefully published in 2021) investigates how revolutionary states can act as platforms and models in spreading a new regime type in the international system, and how other states respond to that possibility.

Chad is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Brigham Young University and has received continuing faculty status. Chad recieved his B.A in Philosophy at Brigham Young University. He went on to complete his doctrate in Political Science at the University of California in Los Angeles.

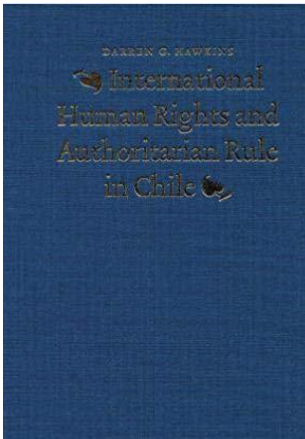


**CHAD E.
NELSON**

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**B.A. in Philosophy at
Brigham Young University
Ph.D from University of
California Los Angeles**

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

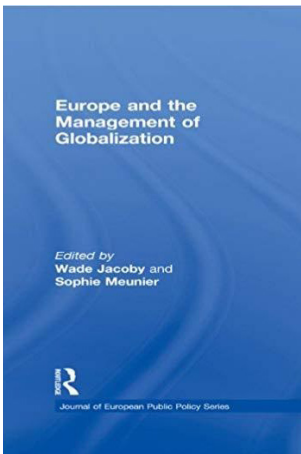


International Human Rights and Authoritarian Rule in Chile

DARREN HAWKINS

What is the influence of international human rights activism on authoritarian governments in the modern era? How much can pressure from human rights organizations and nations affect political change within a country? This book addresses these key issues by examining the impact of transnational human rights organizations and international norms on Chile during Gen. Augusto Pinochet's regime (1973–90) and afterward.

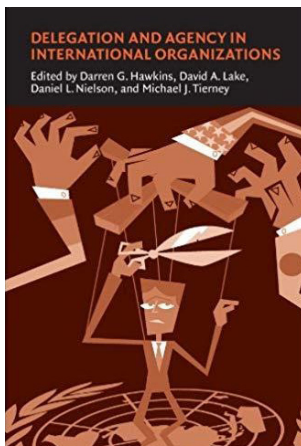
Darren G. Hawkins argues that steadily mounting pressure from abroad concerning human rights did, in fact, make Pinochet more vulnerable over time and helped stimulate Chile's movement to a liberal democracy. In 1980 the regime abandoned its insistence on unlimited authoritarian rule and approved a constitution that set term limits and promised future democratic institutions; Pinochet lost a constitutionally mandated plebiscite in 1988 and ultimately left office in 1990. Hawkins contends that these changes not only were internally driven but reflected an ongoing response to an international discourse on human rights.



***Europe and the Management of Globalization* (Journal of European Public Policy Series) 1st Edition, Ed.**

WADE JACOBY

European politicians often speak of their efforts to 'manage globalization.' At one level, this is merely a rhetorical device to make globalization more palatable to citizens and prove that policy-makers are still firmly in control of their country's fate. This volume argues that the advocacy of managed globalization goes beyond rhetoric and actually has been a primary driver of major European Union (EU) policies in the past twenty years. The EU has indeed tried to manage globalization through the use of five major mechanisms: 1) expanding policy scope 2) exercising regulatory influence 3) empowering international institutions 4) enlarging the territorial sphere of EU influence, and 5) redistributing the costs of globalization. These mechanisms are neither entirely novel, nor are they always effective but they provide the contours of an approach to globalization that is neither ad hoc deregulation, nor old-style economic protectionism.



Delegation and Agency in International Organizations

DAVID LAKE, DARREN G. HAWKINS, DANIEL NIELSON, AND MICHAEL TIERNEY

Why do states delegate certain tasks and responsibilities to international organizations rather than acting unilaterally or cooperating directly? Furthermore, to what extent do states continue to control IOs once authority has been delegated? Examining a variety of different institutions including the World Trade Organization, the United Nations and the European Commission, this book explores the different methods that states employ to ensure their interests are being served, and identifies the problems involved with monitoring and managing IOs. The contributors suggest that it is not inherently more difficult to design effective delegation mechanisms at international level than at domestic level and, drawing on principal-agent theory, help explain the variations that exist in the extent to which states are willing to delegate to IOs. They argue that IOs are neither all evil nor all virtuous, but are better understood as bureaucracies that can be controlled to varying degrees by their political masters.

FACULTY IN THE NEWS



Julie Rose's Top of Mind

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Chris Karpowitz had a great chat about the American Family Survey on "Top of Mind" on September 17, 2019! We've seen growing income inequality and national protests about racial inequality. In the midst of all of this, how are American families faring? Answering that question is the aim of the American Family Survey from BYU's Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy. Here's the link: <https://bit.ly/32Ep587>

OCT 17, 2019

Wendy Pearlman did come on – the same day Chris Karpowitz came on in October, actually. Political scientist Wendy Pearlman has spent the last 8 years speaking with Syrians at length about their motivation for protesting, their hopes and regrets and the war drags on. In 2017, she published excerpts of those interviews in a book called "We Crossed a Bridge and it Trembled." Listen to it here: <https://bit.ly/396IRNK>

NOV 21, 2019

Which side is winning –if there is any winning when impeachment is on the line? Chris was on again in November re: impeachment. Listen to it here: <https://bit.ly/2QuBhF6>

DEC 17, 2019

Quinn Mecham has been on almost monthly in December. Here he talked about topics beyond US borders for a few minutes. Here's a link to listen along to: <https://bit.ly/3bgp0fg>

DEC 19, 2019

President Donald Trump has been impeached by the US House of Representatives. Michael Barber came on to discuss the implications of the impeachment in December. Listen here: <https://bit.ly/2QxUC8h>

JAN 7, 2020

Regular Top of Mind contributor Quinn Mecham gives his predictions for what he thinks we might see in world political events in 2020. Here's the link: <https://bit.ly/2whCWHo>





ENGAGED LIVING

Serving our communities and country can bring fulfillment and can easily be part of a well-rounded life. Take advantage of the local and national opportunities to serve. Local BYU Political Science Alumni Chapters, such as those in New York City, Washington, DC, and in the Bay Area can help assist in the desire to serve.

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FACULTY QUOTE

“A church worldwide in spirit--whatever else it is--reflects the minds and hearts of its individual members. It requires members who are sensitive to other people’s sensitivities; members who share psychologically and materially with each other as well as in a common transcendent vision; members who are empathic and therefore capable of putting themselves in their brother’s [and sister’s] shoes; and above all members who do not confuse their personal preferences with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Becoming a worldwide religion in spirit as well as in organization is much more than building organizations and translating documents and scriptures, and sharing them with other peoples in their own languages. Now we see that if we Mormons are to experience the universal brotherhood [and sisterhood] we seek, then all of us must make some alterations in our views of one another. This will mean an increased giving and taking--one that is as psychological and material as it is spiritual. We will need to increase our empathy and cross cultural sensitivity and progressively discard prejudices incompatible with brotherhood. Gospel ideas are revolutionary for this life as well as the next because they embody hope for those who have despaired and they promise opportunity for those who have lacked it.”

-LaMond Tullis, Professor Emeritus of BYU Political Science

BYU Studies Quarterly, Volume 16 | Issue 2 Article 3, April 1, 1976, Mormonism and Revolution in Latin America, 235-249.