A welcome to our new faculty, the BYU Political Science Department is excited to welcome both Professor Beesley and Professor Mecham to our faculty.

Celeste Beesley started at BYU in the Fall of 2013; she spent a year teaching at Lawrence University, Wisconsin and finished her dissertation last year. Her main area of interest is the political impact of globalization, specifically the politics surrounding Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs), focusing primarily on Eastern Europe, namely the Ukraine. Within this, Professor Beesley studies the impact of FDIs on corruption and on both individual economic security and individual political participation. Accordingly, her dissertation focused mainly on economic security and welfare policy preferences among workers who work at multinational corporations. She finds this a particularly interesting field of study because whereas employees of multinational corporations are winners of globalization - to an extent - it appears that they worry more about losing those jobs and have a preference for the state in providing education benefits, unemployment services and so on, using Ukraine as a case study. Professor Beesley speaks both Russian and Ukrainian and she recently conducted a survey in Ukraine in December 2013 which in part investigated the reasons for division within Ukraine - whether those were rooted in cultural differences or differences in individual economic advantage. She is excited to be a new member of the Political Science department.

Quinn Mecham is Assistant Professor of Political Science at BYU-Provo. His research interests include political Islam, identity politics, civil conflict, electoral behavior, and democratic development. His publications include articles on Islamist parties in Turkey, on the development of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, and on comparative Islamist movements. He has done ethnographic work on Islamist movements and parties across the Muslim world, including in Morocco, Bahrain, and Senegal. His primary research examines the comparative processes of political mobilization by religious actors in the Muslim world from 1970-2010. He is the co-editor of a forthcoming volume on the behavior of Islamist political parties. Quinn served as Franklin Fellow on the policy planning staff of the U.S. Department of State in 2009-10. He has been a visiting scholar at George Washington University and an Academy Scholar at Harvard University. He received MA and PhD degrees in Political Science from Stanford University.