

The Political Science Post

Newsletter of the BYU Political Science Department

SPRING/SUMMER 2018



GERMANY'S ECONOMICS & U.S. TRADE

The U.S. and most European countries want Germany to reign in its economic policies. As the strongest economy in the European Union's 28 countries, with roughly one fifth of the total EU GDP, at 3.6 Trillion dollars (4th in the world), versus the US GDP at 19.3 trillion (1st in the world), Germany is Europe's economic powerhouse. For all its differences with the Obama administration, the Trump White House has reiterated U.S. concerns about Germany's very large current account surplus, now in its fifteenth year and exceeding 8 percent of German GDP. Both

administrations have worried that Germany's surplus hurts the U.S. economy. Neither has successfully convinced German leadership a serious problem exists. In this, they join a long line of European officials who have sought changes in German policy.

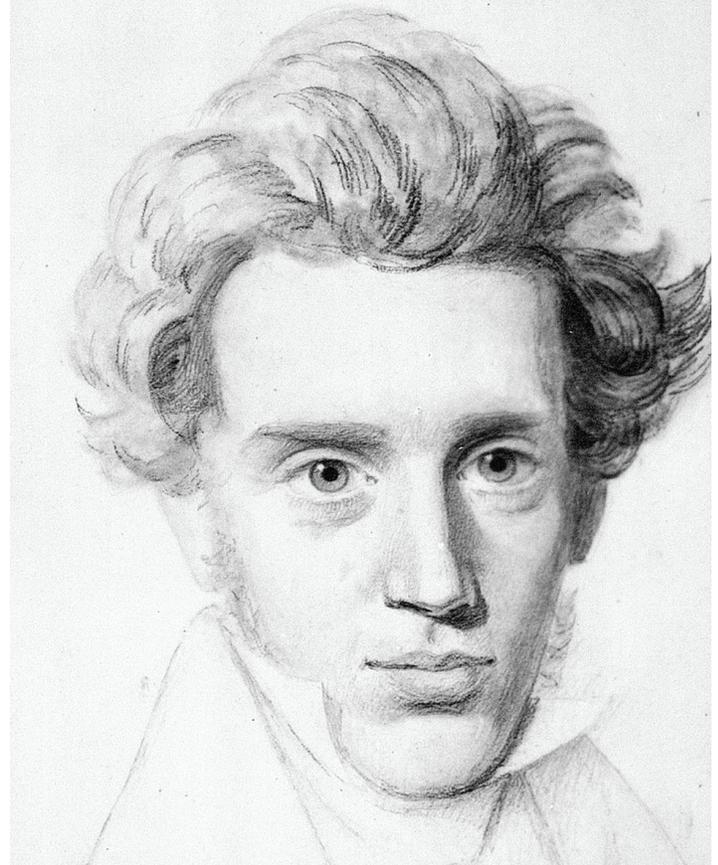
Professor Wade Jacoby has spent years researching the European Union and the specific politics of European countries. His research has found that, for its part, German leadership has honed two complementary rhetorical techniques to deal with charges that its policies hurt the U.S. and EU Economy. The first is to characterize trade outcomes — whether their large surplus or other countries' deficits — as a simple matter of differences in competitiveness.

The second is to manage any objections with a technique he calls “normalize and apologize.” That is, officials prefer to stress that the German economy is basically just like any other advanced economy and that its competitiveness is available to any state willing to do the right policy reforms. When pushed to acknowledge that Germany enjoys unique benefits or when asked to change policies that negatively affect Germany's partners, officials then become apologists, articulating and defending Germany's uniqueness and purported inability to change.

Trade balances are not driven simply by “high quality at low prices,” as the Germans like to say. They are driven also

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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



Speed Mentoring Event: Utah State Capitol

On Thursday evening, January 25th, 2018, forty-four professionals from government, law and business met with appx. 50 BYU Political Science students at the annual “Speed Mentoring Event” at the Utah State Capitol. BYU students received hands-on mentoring at five-minute intervals, with as many professionals as time would permit, discussing advice on their careers and education. Prior to the mentoring event, students toured the beautiful Utah State Capitol building and received advice from three professional panel members. The event was exciting, practical, and supremely beneficial to students as they plan their professional lives. Thank you especially to the Michael and Liz Mower family for organizing and overseeing this amazing event.

Political Science Student Poster Conference

On Wednesday, December 13, 2017, The First Annual Political Science “Student Poster Conference” took place in the Garden Court of the Wilkinson Center. In a well-attended event open to all BYU students and faculty, sixty-one (61) Political Science students presented extensive research on timely topics condensed into elaborate, well-designed, informative 3’ X 4’ posters related to courses taught by Professors Goodliffe, Beesley, Monson and Preece. Topics ranged from: The State of Small Business in American, to Gendered Federal Finance Aid Use; from Gun Control to China as the solution to North Korea to Parenthood and Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. Professor John Holbein judged the poster conference, and he went through all 60+ posters, awarding the following prizes:

1st place (\$300): Connor Kreutz, Does Endorser Gender Affect Candidate Electability?

2nd place (\$200): Matt Easton, Can Conservatives Find Love?

3rd place (\$100): Mandi Eatough, Congress and The Gendered Benefits of Social Media in Elections

Congratulations to all participants and winners. Because of its success and pedagogical usefulness, Professor Jay Goodliffe and the Political Science Department plan to expand the Conference again next Fall, 2018.



BYU Political Science Community Projects

Professor Hinckley
Jones-Sanpei



POLI SCI 339R

One of the newer classes offered in the Political Science Department is a Community Projects course. Professor Hinckley Jones-Sanpei has worked with organizations along the Wasatch Front for over ten years developing relationships and opportunities for student projects, including projects for school districts, government organizations, community advocacy groups, and politicians. During the semester, the students meet with their clients, discuss the clients' needs, and decide on a semester project that will help the clients fulfill their organizational missions, then they collect and analyze data, write a professional report, and present their findings to their client(s). Frequently the clients then use the information to change practices and policies in their organization or to advocate for other policy changes.

During Fall 2017 semester, student groups worked with the 4th District Problem Solving Courts, the Utah County Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse and Prevention, and Timpview High School.

The 4th district problem solving courts help individuals charged with crimes who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. These programs provide treatment and other services as an alternative to jail. The students worked with court administrators to analyze data and provide feedback on program processes and outcomes. Sydney Roper, Tyler Saunders, and Makenna Whitworth presented their findings to Judge Taylor and Mark Udall, the 4th District Court Administrator.

A second group of students worked with the Utah County Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse and Prevention to explore banking issues among their clients. They found that over 50% of the people in addiction treatment were unbanked when they started treatment. In other words, they had no personal bank account or access to banking services. A follow-up study learned that many of the clients were using creative alternatives to banking for a variety of reasons. After presenting to their clients, Charley Humphries and James Lee were asked to do a second presentation to the Utah County Commissioners.

A third group of students analyzed a survey of students at Timpview High School on school climate and student engagement. Schools across the country are looking for ways to measure and evaluate school climate. Working with the school administrators, we created a survey to collect baseline data on school climate and student engagement. Rethaeh Beers and Alex Gale analyzed the baseline findings and after presenting initial results to the school administrators, were asked to return and presenting their findings to the entire faculty at Timpview High School.

Projects for Fall 2018 are currently being developed. Projects being considered are analysis of the second year of data at Timpview High School, an immigration project, and other criminal recidivism study. Alumni with suggestions for projects please contact Hinckley A. Jones-Sanpei (hinckley_jonessanpei@byu.edu).

SPEAKERS



Public Affairs Lecture Series: Neylan McBaine

Neylan McBaine, Co-founder and CEO of Better Days 2020, and founder of the Mormon Women Project, delivered an inspiring presentation for the Political Affairs Lecture Series on Thursday, February 8, 2018, at the Kennedy Center conference room, 238 HRCB. She spoke about being raised by an opera singer and a Wall Street attorney in New York City, studying at Yale University, and working at Walmart.com in digital marketing. Currently she heads up the Better Days 2020 organization, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of women first voting in Utah (the first women to vote in the modern United States of America) and the centennial of the 19th Amendment, offering women the right to vote, and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement in the US. She is helping pass legislation to send the statue of Martha Hughes Cannon, Utah's first female State Senator elected, to Washington, DC to stand in place of Philo T. Farnsworth (the "father of television") in the main National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Congress on Capitol Hill, not far from the statue of Brigham Young.

She advised BYU students that it is possible to do something so interesting, and so different, from your original plan and formal education, different than anything you have ever planned before, and she wished she had been told that as a young student. She was raised to become a doctor, lawyer or investment banker. Those were her only options, at least that's what she thought, as a Yale student with professional parents in New York City. Being an advocate for women was not on the table. She became a primary parent of three daughters while her husband worked, and as he studied at Harvard, and she had no model for how to juggle a career and marriage and a family.

Her advice to students: Get a strong foundation with the best education available, and the best job possible at the beginning of a career; find out what makes you happy; determine what success means to you (this takes courage), and it might be something other than making money, like, family, public speaking, managing people, teaching, etc.; be the kind of person you want to be, no matter your profession, things will build on each other if you are true to yourself; and be grateful for the unscripted changes that force you to be creative and to find out what makes you happy. Finally, she learned how to write well, and that was the most important thing to do in order to become a professional: learn how to craft an argument and write concisely.

Thank you, Neylan, for a wonderful presentation.



2018 Durham Lecture: Mehrsa Baradaran



Mehrsa Baradaran, Professor of Law at the University of Georgia, was the speaker for the annual G. Homer Durham Lecture on Thursday, February 22, 2018, in room 250 SWKT. She provided BYU students and faculty with an intriguing history lesson entitled, The Color of Money: Black Banks and the Racial Wealth Gap. The overarching point of the lecture was to report on today's continued prominent racial wage and wealth gap, and to illustrate how difficult it is to change since poverty is "expensive." Banks and other lenders charge higher interest rates for those who are financially unstable, and therefore it is difficult for a poor person to get out of poverty by borrowing or relying on banks. However, Mehrsa offered encouragement going forward. Her presentation helped open our eyes to the problems this racial banking and wealth gap perpetuate.

SPEAKERS

Political Affairs Society Fireside: Ally Isom

On Sunday, March 4, 2018, Ally Isom, Director of Institutional Messaging for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and a BYU Alum, presented a fireside at a beautiful home in Sandy, Utah. Julie and Derek sang and played the piano, then Ally began by speaking about “asylum” and how she was on an emotional frontier, and altered permanently, by the death of her daughter. At the time, she was emotionally seeking refuge. The frontier is where we learn the most, she said: the power of identity, and the power of voices.



We are commanded, she said, to hearken to the voice of the spirit, and referenced Alma 29, about sorrow and joy. We are called to right the wrongs caused by sin in a sequence of sorrow, warning and grief. Our voices can be either a balm or a weapon, she said. If we control the vocabulary, we control the debate. Words are a vehicle for meaning, and until you know someone’s heart, you will not know what their context is and what words mean to them. Our words can be part of the Savior’s grace, especially in public dialogue. On the “frontier,” I understood voices and spaces of time, she explained. In sacred text, space means both time and space. God’s light fills the immensity of space. On the frontier of grief, she learned that the light can enter our lives. Predatory darkness was real when her daughter died, and she asked, “How do I not be consumed by darkness?” In addition, she discovered that we should do something every day that brings light

into our lives. The light caught her up in the darkness, and it filled her and helped her find god’s love. She also referenced D&C 88:7, the light.

The frontier can also help us find out who are we at our core—the fundamental identity of every one of us. Our identity drives our paradigms. Grief takes you to your knees and forces you to ask who you are, she said. She came to know, through grief, that she is God’s, with the seeds of infinity. In politics, every day can be a frontier, and light can be obstructed. We must be the leaven in the loaf. We must sound like we are disciples. She also referenced Neal A. Maxwell’s discourse on patience and meekness (“Meekness Drenched in Destiny”). Some people are without compassion, she said. The high road is often the hard road. Seeing things as they really are is also important, as referenced in the book of Jacob in the Book of Mormon. Discipleship is the way the gospel plays

out in the real world—the way to fight with civility. Love should be our walk and our talk, and the process may be more important than the outcome—who we touch in the process of life—people nurtured—not being right all the time, but in being disciples.

Ally finally referenced St Francis of Assisi, who wrote: “Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.”

Thank you, Ally Isom, for wonderful lessons and an inspiring fireside.



Mentored Research Abroad: London

Winter/Spring 2018

During the Winter and Summer Semesters of 2018, nearly 30 students embarked on a Mentored Research trip to London, England with the goal of developing a body of evidence that could be used for analyzing current compelling European issues. The students each created semi-structured interviews with members of Parliament, and local citizens on the street, with the goal of producing papers worthy of publication in a national journal, and hopefully influencing policy. This year there were five project areas: Relationships between Refugees and Local Populations; Factors

that drove Brexit; Why the Increases in Regional Fracturing Across the UK; Developing New Measures for Discovering who is likely to be violent against disliked groups; and the Rise of Populism, a movement based on Manicheanism. Based on their research, each student will write their own separate paper using statistics, data, interviews, and additional research as a basis for their own individual analysis. Professors Josh Gubler, Quin Mecham, Joel Selway, Kirk Hawkins, Darren Hawkins and Chris Karpowitz all advised and mentored students in their work.



“Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.”

Foundational Political Philosopher

SORREN KIERKEGAARD

Sorren Kierkegaard, (1813–1855) was a Danish philosopher, theologian, poet, social critic and religious author who is widely considered to be the first existentialist philosopher. He wrote critical texts on organized religion, Christendom, morality, ethics, psychology, and the philosophy of religion, displaying a fondness for metaphor, irony and parables. Much of his philosophical work deals with the issues of how one lives as a “single individual”, giving priority to concrete human reality over abstract thinking and highlighting the importance of personal choice and commitment. He was against literary critics who defined idealist intellectuals and philosophers of his time, and thought that Swedenborg, Hegel, Goethe, Fichte, Schelling, Schlegel and Hans Christian Andersen were all “understood” far too

quickly by “scholars”. Kierkegaard’s theological work focuses on Christian ethics, the institution of the Church, the differences between purely objective proofs of Christianity, the infinite qualitative distinction between man and God, and the individual’s subjective relationship to the God-Man Jesus the Christ, which came through faith. Much of his work deals with Christian love. He was extremely critical of the practice of Christianity as a state religion, primarily that of the Church of Denmark. His psychological work explored the emotions and feelings of individuals when faced with life choices.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS



Emily Ekins

Emily Ekins is a research fellow and director of polling at the Cato Institute. Her research focuses on public opinion, American politics, political psychology, and social movements. She leads the Cato Institute project on public opinion in which she designs and conducts national public opinion surveys and experiments. She is the author of “Policing in America: Understanding Public Attitudes Toward the Police,” which investigates the drivers of public opinion toward the police and reform. Emily’s other publications include “The Libertarian Roots of the Tea Party” and “Public Attitudes toward Federalism: The Public’s Preference for a Renewed Federalism.”

Before joining Cato, she spent four years as the director of polling for Reason Foundation where she conducted national public opinion polls and published specialized research studies. In 2014 Emily authored an in-depth study of young Americans, “Millennials: The Politically Unclaimed Generation.” Prior to joining Reason, Emily worked as a research associate at Harvard Business School, where she coauthored several Harvard Business Case Studies and helped design and conduct research experiments and surveys.

She has discussed her research on Fox News and Fox Business, and her research has appeared in the Washington Post, Politico, the Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, and the Washington Times. Emily is an active member of the American Association of Public Opinion Research and the American Political Science Association.

She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles and a BA in Political Science from BYU. Her dissertation examined sources of support for the tea party movement and the moral values undergirding public demand for limited government.

Emily is also a Barlow Center Washington Seminar alum and was a RA for Dr. David Magleby during BYU undergrad.



Matthew S.
Holland

Matthew S. Holland was selected as UVU’s sixth president by the Utah State Board of Regents in the spring of 2009 and officially began his tenure on June 1 of that year, succeeding interim president Elizabeth Hitch. Following the transition from a state college to a university in the summer of 2008, Holland became the first president of the university. Prior to joining UVU, Holland was an associate professor in the political science department at Brigham Young University (BYU) in Provo. Holland was valedictorian of BYU’s political science department when he completed undergraduate work there in 1991. He studied early American political thought at Duke University in Durham, N.C. where he earned a Ph.D. in political science in 2000. Holland also received an academic fellowship to study at Princeton University as a James Madison Fellow, and at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem as a Raoul Wallenberg Scholar.

Building on his dissertation, Holland published *Bonds of Affection: Civic Charity and the Making of America* with Georgetown University Press in 2007.

On November 6, 2017, Holland announced that he would leave his position at UVU in June 2018 to serve as a mission president for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church).

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS



Austen Larsen

JUNIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Austen is from Safford, Arizona and grew up in the church, but fell away during his teen years. He came back to full fellowship after graduating Safford High School and realizing what kind of life he wanted to live. He first attended college at The University of the South: Sewanee, in Tennessee, before serving his mission in Hungary, Budapest. While he was there, he became interested in politics because of the refugee crisis, and he wanted to understand better exactly why all these people were being uprooted, and what could be done about it. When he got home that led him to change his major from business to political science. Austen's current plan is to attend law school after graduating from BYU. He plans to apply for the Utah Senate internship Winter semester of 2019. Austen wrote an inspiring article called "Grandma's Tree" for BYU Magazine, Winter 2018. We wish Austen well in his future plans.

Rehtaeh Beers

SENIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Rehtaeh Beckwith Beers grew up in Anchorage, Alaska, and started her academic career as a biochemistry student after her mother talked her out of culinary school. Once at school she was drawn to political science, after taking a couple elective political science classes, she discovered a drive to understand people and how they function in a political world. She is a political science major on the research and analysis track and a minor in political strategy. Interested in public opinion and American election policy, Rehtaeh would like to pursue a Ph.D. in Political Science, and intends to become a political statistical consultant. She has had many research opportunities in the political science department. She has published a research paper, participated in the Utah Colleges Exit Poll, and presented researched with CSED at the Mary Lou Fulton conference. She is the current President of BYU PAS and Pi Sigma Alpha chapter Beta Mu. Rehtaeh believes strongly in being well rounded and spends her free time drawing, painting, cooking, hiking, outdoor rock climbing, and practicing martial arts.



Rebecca Formica

SENIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Rebecca is from a small town in Southern California and is a senior majoring in Political Science and minoring in Communications. She loves all sports (especially volleyball), games, reading, warm weather, and people. Last year she went on a study abroad to Tanzania with the Geography Department where they climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, went on a safari, and spent time at a wildlife college learning about the professors' research. What really interests her about political science is studying how diverse groups of people can live together peacefully. She has discovered a passion for encouraging dialogue between diverse groups. She believes communication and compromise can help us develop the best solutions. Rebecca and a few friends are starting a social media campaign for one of their classes to encourage others to have constructive conversations about politics! Their campaign is called "Tales of Why." Their focus is seeking to understand why someone believes what they do, rather than shutting them out. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram and check out their website!

Instagram: @tales_of_why website: <https://talesofwhy.wixsite.com/home>
Facebook: Tales of Why





WADE JACOBY

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- BA BYU, 1987
- Ph.D. MIT, 1996
- Braudel Fellowship from European University Institute, 2010.
- Professor of the year from Pi Sigma Alpha, BYU Chapter, 2007.
- DAAD Prize from American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, 2006.

PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT

Wade grew up on livestock farms in Washington State and Alaska. He came to BYU as a student in 1982 as a convert to the church. He likes the outdoors, especially fishing, bow hunting, biking and canyoneering. During high school and college, his summer job took him to Alaska's Yukon River delta, where he skippered a 30-foot aluminum 'tender' that hauled salmon bought from native fisherman to a processing barge. He fished in native Alaskan villages like Russian Mission, Alakanuk, and Emmonak. The best fish were always sold to the Japanese, the next best to the Scandinavians, and the worst stuff offloaded on the American market. At BYU, he became interested in Europe and in the German language. He later pursued American football in the German pro league, where he played quarterback on a German first division (Bundesliga) professional team. His first team—the Bonn Jets—were one of 25 first division squads scattered across the country. His second team—the Konstanz Falcons—won the national championship in his second year. Though the talent level was far lower than in the U.S., one of his teammates did later make the NFL and another played in the NFL Europe (which came up later). Wade has three daughters (Taylor, Clementine, and Kendall) and met his wife Kindra at BYU. She works as a Physician Assistant in a Provo neurology practice and still speaks German from their time there together.

Wade Jacoby was a Senior Fellow at the Transatlantic Academy and a Professor of Political Science at Brigham Young University. His books include *Imitation and Politics: Redesigning Modern Germany* (2000) and *The Enlargement of the EU and NATO: Ordering from the Menu in Central Europe* (2004). Jacoby has published articles in many journals including *World Politics*, *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Politics and Society*, *The Review of International Political Economy*, *The Review of International Organizations*, and *The British Journal of Industrial Relations*. Jacoby previously was an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Grinnell College (1995-2000) and has been a visiting professor in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Bonn, Berlin, Brussels, Copenhagen, Cagliari, and at the European University Institute in Florence. He received a PhD in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1996 and a BA in European Studies from Brigham Young University.



CELESTE BEESLEY

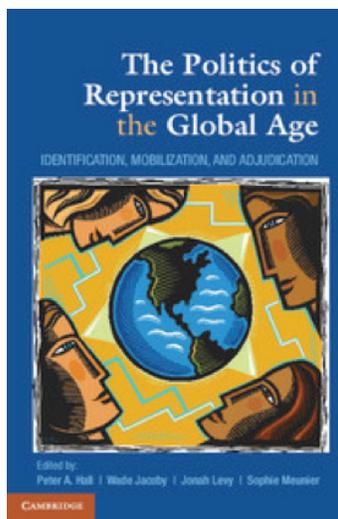
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- Ph.D., University of California-- San Diego, 2013
Department of Political Science
- M.A., University of California, San Diego. 2008
Department of Political Science.
- A.B., Princeton University. 2002
- Department of Economics,
Magna cum laude.

PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT

Celeste Beesley grew up in California, New Jersey, Maryland, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Washington State. Her father was in the military and she graduated from High School in Washington State. Her dad was with Fort Lewis. Because she moved a lot, she saw 46 of the 50 US states before she was 16. She went to Germany in High School, and visited Luxembourg and France. Then in college at Princeton University, she began studying Russian, which was her passion. She is fluent in Russian since she spent a summer during her undergraduate work in St Petersburg on a Fulbright Fellowship, and then a year after graduation in Moscow. While there in Russia, she studied the transition to teaching Western economics in Russian universities. While studying in Russia, she traveled via the “Trans-Siberian Railway” from Vladivostok, on the Sea of Japan, to Moscow. After completing her Fulbright Fellowship, she served in the Baltic Mission where she spent 2 months in Riga, Latvia, and 16 months in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 2003 – 2005. In April of 2005, she began her Ph.D at U.C. San Diego, and met her husband who was studying there as well in a Masters of History. They all spent one year in the Ukraine when Celeste was doing her dissertation research on foreign investment in the Ukraine. They had two children at the time. She worked from 2011-2010 for the Department of Defense in Mechanicsburg, PA outside of Harrisburg. She received her Ph.D in 2013 from the University of California San Diego. Her research focuses on how globalization affects individual’s political attitudes and behavior. She loves Pushkin (Eugene Onegin) and Dostoevsky (Brothers Karamazov), and sometimes, she cooks Borscht (beet soup) for her husband and five children.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



The Politics of Representation in the Global Age EDITED BY PETER HALL, WADE JACOBY, JONAH LEVEY & SOPHIE MEUNIER

How has the process of political representation changed in the era of globalization? The representation of interests is at the heart of democracy, but how is it that some interests secure a strong voice, while others do not? While each person has multiple interests linked to different dimensions of his or her identity, much of the existing academic literature assumes that interests are given prior to politics by a person's socioeconomic, institutional, or cultural situation. This book mounts a radical challenge to this view, arguing that interests are actively forged through processes of politics. The book develops an analytic framework for understanding how representation takes place - based on processes of identification, mobilization, and adjudication - and explores how these processes have evolved over time. Through a wide variety of case studies, the chapters explore how actors identify their interests, mobilize them into action, and resolve conflicts among them.

CAMBRIDGE, 2014



Euromaidan and the Role of Protest in Democracy BY CELESTE BEESLEY

Protest can be seen as a highly democratic expression of popular opinion. However, protest is also a non-representative, extra-institutional process for political change. In hybrid regimes, such as Ukraine, the legitimacy of effecting change through mass protest is a subject of debate. Do elections, even if flawed, confer legitimacy on leaders? Or do flaws in the electoral system render other methods of holding leaders accountable necessary and legitimate? Because mass protests have changed government leadership in Ukraine twice in less than a decade, individual citizens' views on the democratic legitimacy of protest are potentially important in both their perceptions of their government's legitimacy and in their personal investment in the electoral process. Using original survey data from three key Ukrainian cities in December 2013, this article finds that satisfaction with the functioning of democracy, partisanship, and the oft-cited regional divide are important determinants of approval for the specific Euromaidan protests. However, neither region of residence or partisan preferences, make Ukrainians significantly less likely to view protest as important in keeping government accountable in a democracy. However, among those Ukrainians less committed to democracy, protest is more likely to be seen as illegitimate.

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND POLITICS, 2017



Government & Opposition BY WADE JACOBY

Government and Opposition is one of the world's leading global comparative politics journals. They publish papers dealing with any part of the world, and on any theme, to do with comparative politics, liberally defined.

Professor Wade Jacoby published an article entitled: *Grand Coalitions and Democratic Dysfunction: Two Warnings from Central Europe*, in the comparative politics journal: *Government and Opposition*, Vol 00, No. 0, pp. 1-27, 2017.

CAMBRIDGE, 2017

FACULTY IN THE NEWS



Published in The Washington Post

PROFESSOR WADE JACOBY

On May 30, 2017, Professor Wade Jacoby wrote an article for The Washington Post's Monkey Cage: entitled: "President Trump Just Threatened German Over Trade."

Julie Rose's Top of Mind

WITH PROFESSOR ADAM DYNES

On January 31st, Dynes spoke with Rose on President Trump's 2018 State of the Union Address, analyzing his efforts to unify the nation. Here's the link to their conversation:

<https://goo.gl/aZ71Dj>

WITH PROFESSOR DAVID MAGLEBY

Professor David Magleby was on Top of Mind with Julie Rose on January 3, 2018. They commented on Utah Senator Orrin Hatch's announcement of his retirement from office at the end of his term. Follow the link to the interview:

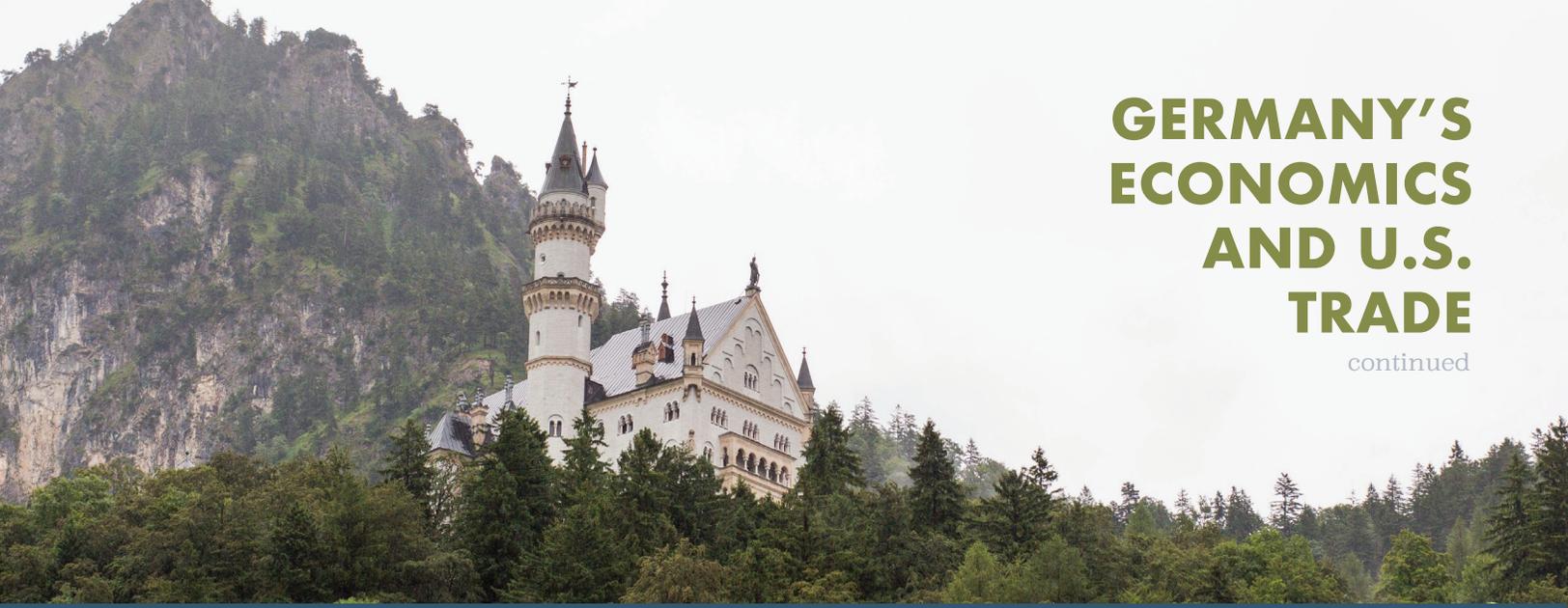
<https://goo.gl/j7CYw3>

WITH PROFESSOR Quinn Mecham

Speaking with Rose on January 10th, Quinn Mecham reviews his world affairs predictions for 2017 and makes new predictions for 2018. Use this link to listen:

<https://goo.gl/wRozVc>





GERMANY'S ECONOMICS AND U.S. TRADE

continued

[Continued from Page 1]

— and often much more — by financial flows that reflect policy-driven changes in incomes, consumption, savings, and investment. Of the three usual sources of growth — consumption, investment, and trade — Germany has grown disruptively reliant on the latter and has used policy instruments that tend to restrict the other two. This is what must change.

Once these underlying mechanisms are brought more clearly into view — Germany's “normalize and apologize” tactics ought to become much harder to defend. German public officials generally do not understand these dynamics and so are genuinely puzzled when confronted with them. Even those who recognize Germany's savings surplus tend not to link it to disruptive effects abroad. Germany's most important official economic institutions — including the Bundesbank — often resist discussing the financial-cum-trade dynamics, choosing instead to enable the “normalize and apologize”

tactics of non-economists. Thus, Germany's “man on the street” and its woman in the Chancellery share the same misguided diagnosis.

In policy terms, the diagnosis is clear: the government urgently needs to reduce taxes on labor and consumption (such as value-added tax), take a much more aggressive stance that moves public investment from the low end of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to the higher end, and find ways either to reduce soaring national savings rates or improve the investment climate for firms or both. Special investment funds — such as that already envisioned for transportation — might also be established for schools and hospitals. Minimum pensions could be established. Investments in refugee training, housing, and medical care could be enhanced substantially, and Germany could more aggressively take the lead in European-wide initiatives in defense, refugee integration, border protection, and research and development. Germany's fiscal situation would likely

worsen, as has the fiscal situation of every country obliged or inclined to accept savings inflows in excess of what can be profitably invested.

This is a hard message for German politicians to hear in an election year. It's also a hard message to deliver: if Germany's friends are too blunt, they risk being ignored. If they're not blunt enough, they risk being misheard. While the policy menu is flexible, the core message is not: the dynamics of financial flows are extremely powerful and disruptive. Germany can normalize and apologize to its trading partners for only so long. At some point, the world will be unable to absorb its capital surpluses (and those of several other countries). Another painful correction will follow, during which the preservation of the liberal international order cannot be assured. As a surplus country, Germany is highly vulnerable to an erosion of the liberal order. In that sense, change — however difficult — is in Germany's core interest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BYU PHOTO

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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SCIENCE

Faculty Quote:

“The faith of Latter-day Saints is not the product of the kind of speculation that has traditionally been known as “theology,” the speculation about the divine flowing from a philosophical culture. The Saints have always looked to events, to accounts of actual encounters with God, for their understanding of divine things, and not to philosophical speculation.”

-Dr. Louis C. Midgley

Louis C. Midgley is a retired professor of political science at Brigham Young University, where he taught for 36 years, from 1960 to 1996. Since his retirement he has been closely involved with the Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies. He received his Bachelor's degree and Masters from the University of Utah and holds a Ph.D. from Brown University. While a professor at BYU Midgley taught a class on the Constitution and its ratification at least once a year. He also wrote about Dostoevsky.